



The
HARVARD FOUNDATION
For Intercultural and Race Relations Journal

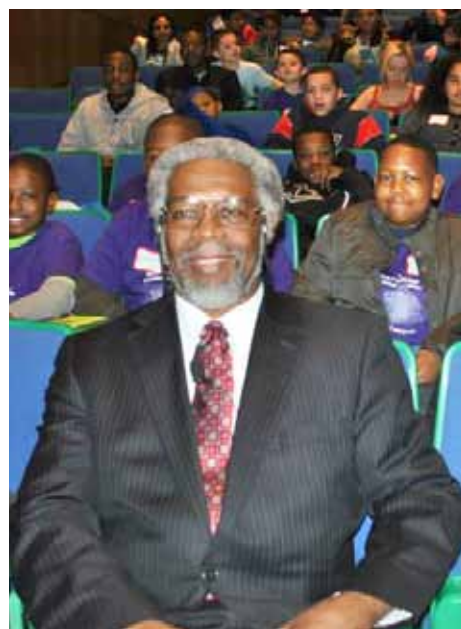
SPRING 2014

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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IN THIS ISSUE: LL COOL J *Cultural Rhythms Artist of the Year*, Physicist Dr. Jim Gates *Scientist of the Year*, *Evening of Remembrance*, *Artist in Residence* Laverne Cox, Panel: Asian-American Women and Mental Health, Annual Student/Faculty Award Ceremony.



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On the cover (counterclockwise):

Artist of the Year LL COOL J with Harvard Foundation interns; speakers from the panel discussion on the Holocaust, the Armenian Genocide, and the Rwandan Genocide: Carla Garapedian, Anna Ornstein, Aliza Luft, Allen Counter, and Charlie Clements; Scientist of the Year Professor Sylvester "Jim" Gates.

Harvard Foundation Team



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, cultural, and religious backgrounds in the ongoing enterprises of the University. The Foundation sponsors annual programs and activities that are designed to promote interracial understanding and intercultural awareness in the Harvard community, as well as highlight the contributions of students from all backgrounds.

The insignia of the Harvard Foundation consists of five interconnecting circles in black, brown, red, white, and yellow, symbolizing the diversity 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. It is designed to inform University members about Foundation-sponsored programs that address topics related to intercultural, racial, ethnic, and religious harmony. The *Journal* is produced by the Harvard Foundation's director, staff, and interns.

Director's Letter

To the students, faculty, and administration of Harvard University:

The students and faculty of the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations are pleased to have completed a spring semester of activities and programs that were designed to fulfill our mission of improving intercultural, interracial, and interreligious understanding and harmony at Harvard. Our annual flagship programs were conducted by our student interns with great enthusiasm and camaraderie. These included our annual Cultural Rhythms Festival, annual Science Conference: Advancing Minorities and Women in Science Engineering and Mathematics, and other programs that served to enlighten members of the Harvard community about aspects of culture, race, ethnicity, and tolerance.

I wish to commend Harvard Foundation interns Soyoung Kim '14 and Aubrey Walker '15 for their excellent work in hosting the annual Cultural Rhythms Festival, and Avni Nahar '17 and Kirin Gupta '16 for superb work in coordinating our annual Science Conference. Also, we thank Jesse Sanchez '14 and Min-Woo Park '16 for hosting the evening Cultural Rhythms show. My colleagues and I are grateful to the Harvard Foundation interns and all Student Advisory Committee representatives for their contributions to our programs. I thank the members of the Faculty Advisory Committee for their advice, guidance, and support throughout the 2014-2015 academic year.

Throughout the Harvard Foundation's existence, we have united student organizations to co-sponsor and support meaningful programs recommended by their ethno-cultural organizations. One of the highlights of the spring semester was a commemorative program co-sponsored by the Harvard Foundation and the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy titled, *An Evening of Remembrance: The Holocaust, 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, 20th anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide*. I was pleased to work with Dr. Charlie Clements, executive director of the Carr Center, in organizing this memorable program that included distinguished members of the Jewish, Armenian, and Rwandan communities. The program was well-received by the audience and appreciated by students and faculty of all backgrounds in the Harvard community. We are grateful to Sarah Peck and Carol Sutherland for providing administrative staff support for this program.

The Harvard Foundation was pleased to join the Harvard Black Men's Forum in hosting four of the best known contemporary professional football players in the National Football League for a remarkable panel discussion in Sever Hall called "The Modern Black Athlete: Panel Discussion on Race, Justice, and Sports." The athletes discussed a variety of topics regarding the culture of the African-American athlete, including public expectations, lifestyles, financial matters, and racism, before an audience of more than 200 students. The program was moderated by Dr. Brandon Terry '09.

We were pleased that University President Drew Gilpin Faust, at the invitation of Harvard Foundation students, attended a Student-Faculty Advisory Committee meeting on April 3, 2014. President Faust answered questions from Harvard College students of diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and reassured the students of her interest in listening to their concerns and having further discussion about their ethno-cultural and educational objectives.

This spring, Harvard College students of color launched the nationally publicized "I Too Am Harvard" campaign, and subsequently the Diversity Report initiative. The minority students protested what they perceive as "micro-aggressions" and "racial insensitivity" at the University. This culminated in a performance of "I Too Am Harvard," a play in Lowell Lecture Hall before an audience of over 200 persons. According to a Harvard Crimson article on April 21, 2014, some of the Harvard minority student groups are now calling for separate ethnic centers, and have said that "safe, physical spaces for racial minorities are a necessity if Harvard is to be an institution of belonging."

The Harvard Foundation has played a major role over the past 30 years in supporting Harvard's diverse ethnic communities and enabling our student ethno-cultural groups in their aspirations for cultural identity, recognition and expression. We must redouble our commitment to sustain the gains that the Harvard Foundation has made in intercultural education and race relations at Harvard over the years, and in reassuring our students of the College's support for their ethno-cultural communities. The Foundation will continue to develop the kind and quality of programs that the sensitive cultural needs and interests of all of our student ethnic communities. It is my hope, and that of the Faculty Advisory Committee, that in the 2014-2015 academic year, the Harvard Foundation will sustain its mission to support all student groups as they seek to continue the College diversity dialogue.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Harvard Foundation Annual Albert Einstein Science Conference

Advancing Minorities and Women in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics

The 2014 Albert Einstein Science Conference Advancing Minorities and Women in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics, commenced on March 28, 2014, with the annual Scientist of the Year Luncheon, followed by the conference the next day. The Science Conference is the Harvard Foundation's signature event focusing on minority representation in the sciences, and was sponsored in large part by Dean of Science Jeremy Bloxham.

By encouraging and recognizing women and minorities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and inviting them to speak to a diverse group of students from around the Boston area, the Science Conference promotes intercultural interaction and awareness in an exciting and exploratory academic environment.

A diverse group of students and professors met in Pforzheimer House to honor the 2014 scientist of the year,

Professor Sylvester James Gates Jr., the University System Regents Professor, John S. Toll Professor of Physics, and Director of the Center for String and Particle Theory at the University of Maryland. Professor Gates is also a member of President Obama's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and the Maryland State Board of Education. A renowned theoretical physicist, Gates conducts research on supersymmetry, supergravity, and superstring theory. His work inspired the theme of this year's Science Conference: "Threads of Existence." In addition to this award, Gates has previously received the National Medal of Science and the Mendel Medal.

Danielle Feffer '16, a human developmental and regenerative biology concentrator, delivered a

beautiful tribute to Gates, citing his many achievements alongside his passion for science education. Dr. S. Allen Counter presented Gates with a plaque signed by Harvard's president to commemorate his service. Following the award presentation, Professor Gates spoke at length about the importance of minority representation in the sciences, likening it to the development of jazz music. As he said, if African-



Dr. Allen Counter and Danielle Feffer '16 congratulate Scientist of the Year Jim Gates.

Americans hadn't gotten involved in music, the world would have never had jazz. If African-Americans and other minorities continue to be underrepresented in the sciences, who knows what developments and theories the world will miss out on? His words were thought-provoking, and inspired several questions and comments from the audience.

More than 200 hundred students from the Boston area descended upon the Harvard University Science Center on March 29 for a day full of interactive presentations and demonstrations with some of Harvard's distinguished faculty and impressive undergraduates in science and engineering. Clad in bright purple

T-shirts and clutching brightly colored pencils and programs, the students ranged in age from toddlers to seniors in high school, and came from schools and mentorship programs from all over Boston. They began their day with a presentation by the Harvard Foundation Scientist of the Year. Gates' described how he got involved in science and where it has carried him,

specifically referencing a time when he was featured on the same Web page as hip-hop artist Snoop Lion and President Obama.

After this exciting talk, Professor Andrew Berry of the Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology gave an engaging audiovisual presentation on the evolutionary history of the planet.

At this point, students split up into groups by age, and each group

attended different presentations by Harvard faculty and student presenters.

The K-5 group heard from Professor Alyssa Goodman of the Department of Astronomy, who delivered an exciting 3-D presentation on the wonders of the universe. They also heard from students Eric Lu '14 and Yolanda Borquaye '14, who led an interactive discussion on how science is involved in our everyday lives. Finally, Professor Zarin Machanda of the Human Evolutionary Biology Department talked about evolutionary differences between humans and chimpanzees, involving the entire crowd as she got them to practice making chimpanzee noises!

Students in grades 6–12 group got to hear similarly interesting presentations. First, Professor Jennifer Hoffman of the Physics Department spoke about waves and how they affect our understanding of matter, including live demonstrations of these effects. Then, Harvard undergraduate Eesha Khare '17 spoke about her Intel ISEF-winning science project in which she developed a supercapacitor that can charge electronic devices such as cell phones in 30 seconds or less. The students enjoyed hearing about her experiences developing and presenting the project, asking several questions after she was finished speaking. Finally, Professor Scott Edwards of the Organismic and Evolutionary Biology Department spoke about birds, telling students that birds are actually one of the last living descendants of dinosaurs!

At the end of the day, the students regrouped for an exciting and suspenseful presentation of chemistry demonstrations by chemistry demonstrators Daniel and Isabelle Rosenberg. The students were on the edge of their seats, cheering, gasping, and laughing as the Rosenbergs demonstrated light diffraction, fire tornadoes, and more.

Another incredible partnership with students and faculty from many different backgrounds, the 2014 Albert Einstein Science Conference was a fun and exciting day of scientific exploration and discussion. The visiting K–12 students left the conference happily discussing what they had just seen and heard, and everyone — students, undergraduates, faculty, and chaperones alike — were smiling. The conference was as a reminder of what can be accomplished when people come together, and served as an important celebration of the continuing value, relevance, and fascinating nature of science.

Avni Nahar '17 and Kirin Gupta '16

The Modern Black Athlete:

Panel Discussion on Race, Justice, and Sports

Sever Hall was packed wall-to-wall by students anxiously awaiting the arrival of NFL all-star players Richard Sherman, Arian Foster, Larry Fitzgerald, and former player Domonique Foxworth. Brandon Terry, a Prize Fellow at Harvard, moderated the panel discussion that followed.

Sherman is the starting defensive back for the World Champion Seattle Seahawks, Foster is the running back for the Houston Texans, Fitzgerald is the wide receiver for the Arizona Cardinals, and Foxworth is currently an M.B.A. student at HBS and former NFL player and president of the NFL Players' Association.

The discussion took place on April 23, almost three months after the Seahawks won the Superbowl and Richard Sherman's excited remarks ignited a media flurry and reactions across the Web, in which he was referred to as a "thug." Since the Super Bowl, Sherman has been vocal across the media about representations of black athletes.

During the discussion at Harvard, Sherman was joined by fellow NFL players to continue the conversation about the racially charged and biased language used to describe black players. Foster commented on how skewed the misconceptions are in reactions online,



stating, "If you call Richard Sherman a thug, you have never seen a thug."

The conversation eventually shifted to compensation of university players and long-term implications of the hazards of playing football in college. During the Q&A, the topic returned to perceptions of black athletes. A Wellesley College student asked how the depiction of black athletes can be changed and Foster responded, "You've got to tell me what the depiction is right now — it's your depiction." He ultimately placed the responsibility to change perceptions on the individual.

The event was sponsored by the Black Mens' Forum, Harvard Sports Analysis Collective, and the Harvard Foundation.



An audience member asks a question during the packed Sever Hall discussion on athletics.

Asian American Women and Mental Health *a panel discussion co-sponsored by University Health Services*

Five Asian-American women sat comfortably in a half-circle at the front of room 201 in Harvard Hall. On Apr. 9, 2014, Harvard University Health Services (HUHS) and the Harvard Foundation organized a panel discussion on Asian-American women and mental health on Harvard's campus. The event was inspired by growing literature documenting Asian American female college students as a group particularly vulnerable to depression and suicide in the United States.

The expert panel featured a mix of professionals and college students. Dr. Paul Barreira, director of HUHS, gave the opening remarks, explaining how the panel formed and the need for outreach. The professional panelists included Professor Josephine Kim from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and Dr. Xiaolu Hsi, clinical instructor in psychiatry from Harvard Medical School. In addition, the panel featured two stellar student mental health liaisons, C.C. Gong '15 and Angela Lee '14.

Maya Dorje '15 moderated the

panel in an informal, relaxed manner posing questions and allowing panelists respond among themselves. One question was "Asian-Americans are caught in the liminal space between Asian and American cultures. How would you all describe your quest to define yourself racially?" Another was, "How do you think Western culture, more broadly, sees Asian-American women, and how does it impact the mental health of Asian-American women?" Professor Kim explained the model minority myth and "off-white" concept depicting Asian-Americans, and the potentially harmful effects of these constructs.

Other themes that emerged were the stigma against mental health, intricate dynamics of Asian-American families, potential pressure from immigrant parents and generational gaps, as well as the exoticification of Asian-American women exemplified by the phrase "yellow fever."

In an open conversation, the audience agreed that there appeared to be a lack of unity within the Asian-American community on campus and

brainstormed ways to address mental health and provide more social support within it. The Harvard Foundation is looking to form a structure of support within the Asian Alumni Association. A list of 35 contacts from interested audience members was collected at the event and they look forward to continuing the dialogue.

Maya Dorje '15



Dr. Paul Barreira makes introductory remarks to begin the discussion on Asian-American women and mental health, joined by panelists C.C. Gong '15, Angela Lee '14, Dr. Xiaolu Hsi, Professor Hyeouk Chris Hahm, and Professor Josephine Kim.

Slang and Cultural Appropriation

More than 40 students gathered at the Harvard College Women's Center in the basement of Canaday Hall for a discussion on the use of culturally appropriative slang, both at Harvard and beyond. On Tuesday, February 5, 2014, members of the Asian-American Association, Black Men's Forum, Association of Black Harvard Women, and Fuerza Latina, among other groups, came together for the discussion, despite the 10 inches of snow on the ground.

After chatting over snacks and refreshments, students were asked to identify culturally appropriative slang terms they had heard or used recently. With a host of controversial words identified and their meanings clarified, they then delved into more substantial discussion.

First, participants explored how the use of slang impacted perceptions of people of other races, as well as people of the same race. Students concluded that such language could perpetuate stereotypes both interracially and intraracially. Despite some disagreements, the majority of attendees thought people of certain racial or ethnic groups had more license to use certain terms than others. Others talked about how the use of appropriated language influenced their experiences at Harvard, saying that certain words, regardless of who uses them, reinforce stereotypes.

The conversation then turned to how minorities' speech affected how others in the college community perceived them. Some felt pressure to code-switch, or alternate between two

language varieties, in order to disprove generalizations.

Having explored personal stories and experiences around the use of controversial language, the group discussed possible solutions to reducing the use of potentially offensive terms and foster friendlier intercultural relations. Students agreed that while determining whether certain terms were offensive remained a subjective matter, the offended should always speak up. Ensuring that all students feel comfortable voicing their opinions and defending their beliefs was deemed a critical element of upholding diversity and fostering community across races, ethnicities, genders, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Jonathan Sands '17

Artist in Residence: Laverne Cox

Cox's identity, career, and advocacy as a media pioneer and transgender woman of color

Laverne Cox, the first transgender woman to star in and produce her own television show, joined the Harvard Queer Students and Allies on Monday, February 24, 2014, as artist in residence. She talked during a presentation at Farkas Hall sponsored by the Office for the Arts, Harvard Foundation, Women's Center, Office for BGLTQ Student Life, and Harvard Gay and Lesbian Caucus. Cox attended a luncheon and reception with students from throughout the Harvard community, for a personal conversation reflecting her work as an advocate and asking students about their experiences at Harvard. The most prominent event of her day at Harvard, however, was the interview in Farkas Hall with Brianna Suslovic '16 and Maddie Studt '16. The performance venue was packed, eager to hear Cox hold forth on intersectionality, the prevailing transgender narratives in the media, the nature of storytelling, and the responsibility of being a "possibility model" for others.

Cox began by pointing out, "I am not just one thing." She engaged students in a deeper exploration of what it means to be transgender, working class, and black, and how to

“Let go of
preconceptions in order
to learn to absorb, listen,
and think critically from
new perspectives.”

bridge the different, but necessarily interlocked identities that comprise our beings. Fighting those battles on all fronts, she laughed that she has been telling these same stories for years, but it is now, with her recent success in the hit Netflix show “Orange is the New Black,” that “people are finally



Brianna Suslovic '16, Artist in Residence Laverne Cox, Office of BGLTQ Student Life Director Van Bailey, and Maddie Studt '16 during the discussion.

listening.”

Transgender people have been represented in the media throughout the past decades of cable TV, but Cox pushed the audience to investigate “what kind of representation” they have been given. She forced the questions, what narratives have been imposed upon presenters at talk shows? How has the transgender body, and moreover, the transgender body of color, become an object of fetishization and fascination?

A media focus on transitional surgery is a part of sensationalizing and objectifying transgender identities, Cox stressed. She then turned with a more hopeful tone to the future, in which more narrativization of transgender experiences has “taken the lead” from transgender persons themselves. Her imperative to those who do not share her identity — in one form or another — is an applicable lesson to many intersectional stories. For true allyship, she proclaimed, taking a cue from one of her favorite philosophers, Cornell West, one must “prepare to learn to die.” To die, philosophically, is the necessary task for one who wishes to be involved with acts of true allyship. “Let go of preconceptions in order to learn to absorb, listen, and think

critically from new perspectives,” Cox enjoined her audience. This is the only way to attempt to understand intersections around transgender identities.

Cox asked that we honor how a person tells his or her own story, not to impose our own narratives to make it “more accessible.” This storytelling is part of a larger project of justice that includes incarceration reforms and dealing with healthcare reform and safety on the streets — these are the primary issues which projects of narrativization are attempting to work on structurally. Cox quoted clear statistics to her audience, adducing the homicide rates for LGBTQ citizens, and noting that 75 percent of those homicides are people of color and 53 percent are transgender. The issues she raised, telling the story of CeCe McDonald, have to do with issues that transcend gender, sexuality, and race as individual categories and mandate a full understanding of conjunctures of identity. “Justice is what love looks like in public,” Cox finished, quoting West to punctuate her injunction to “tell human stories,” to find ways to humanize and care for persons of all marginalized identities.

Kirin Gupta '16

An Evening of Remembrance

Celebrating Survival: Harvard Pays Tribute to Survivors of Holocaust, as Well as Armenian And Rwandan Genocides

A program at Harvard University on April 27, 2014 commemorated the painful legacies of the Armenian, Rwandan, and Jewish people, as it celebrated their survival and resurrection.

The program, organized by the Harvard Foundation and the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy of the Harvard Kennedy School, took place on Yom HaShoah, or Holocaust Remembrance Day, at the University's Science Center.

The speakers representing the three communities linked their common histories of pain, but stressed the need for education as the means of preventing such tragedies. The stories were harrowing, but so were the demonstrations of personal strength and integrity.

The program included scholars as well as survivors from each group.

As there are few Armenian Genocide survivors now, Artyom Geghamyan, a fellow at the Carr Center, read a brief excerpt from Kerop Bedoukian's memoir, *The Urchin: An Armenian's Escape*. The words wove frightful images of death and cruelty, which caused most of the listeners, as well as the reader, to wince: the images of a child trying to nurse at the breast of his mother already dead from starvation in the desert; the rape of young girls as well as the decision of many to choose certain death rather than indignity.

Carla Garapedian, the director of the Armenian Genocide documentary "Screamers" and several other films, spoke about United Nations Ambassador Samantha Power's book, *A Problem From Hell: America and the Age of Genocide*. "Power's book broke the paradigm in the way we think about genocide — because it talked about all the genocides in the 20th century as one repeating problem, one repeating crime. Genocides recur because the international community has allowed them to recur," Garapedian said.

She credited the book with inspiring "Screamers," and said the book not only sought out what happened in so many countries in the 20th century, but "what didn't happen. No one stopped those genocides. No one stopped the mass murder."

The Ottoman process of finding just the right pretext for ordering the extermination of the Armenians under the cover of World War I, Garapedian said, set the tone for the Nazi government in Germany doing the very same to its Jewish population during World War II.

The organized killings were done fairly openly, to the point that *The New York Times* frequently covered the stories of the deaths or the tales of the survivors of the desert crossings. President Woodrow Wilson, she noted, spearheaded raising \$117 million in the U.S. and around the world to help the survivors, in the process funding Near East Relief.

The crimes were recognized at the time and as punishment Turkey was forced to give up part of its land.

"The intention of the United States and the international community was clear. We would not stand idly by. We would punish a nation — Turkey — for its crimes against humanity. The fact that this resolve slowly melted away — that, too, is the story of the 20th century," Garapedian said.

She also explained why many Armenians were disappointed with President Obama for not using the word "genocide" in his

April 24 message, instead opting for "one of the worst atrocities of the 20th century." "Both descriptions are true. But one takes us down the road toward justice and retribution. One of those words leads us toward international law, the Genocide Convention, reparations and the true path toward healing and forgiveness. The crime with no name. We know what to call it now. You know what that word is. Turkey knows. And the president knows, too."

Speaking as a survivor of the Holocaust was Dr. Anna Ornstein, the author of "Holocaust Memories of a Young Girl." The 87-year-old renowned psychiatrist was born in Hungary and eventually was deported to Auschwitz along with her mother.

"Young Jewish men were taken to labor camps to help the German war effort," she said. That was the fate of her two brothers, who at ages 20 and 22 were sent to such camps and never seen again.

Ornstein spoke about living in a small village, in a house filled with books and music. With the rise of the Nazis, the Jews were soon gathered in temporary ghettos. "My mom, dad, 96-year-old grandmother and members of my extended family were sent to Auschwitz. My mother held my hand for a year practically at the camp," she said.

She spoke about losing her father, "a very gentle, kind and sweet man who died in a shower that poured poison gas on him instead of water."

She and her mother were rescued by Russian troops in May 1945. Ornstein's boyfriend — and future husband — had also survived though he had lost his entire family, and the two married after she finished high school in Hungary. Eventually she and her husband made their way to the U.S., where they had three children and thriving careers.

She concluded her talk by speaking about the need for "Tikkun olam," a Hebrew phrase which means "Healing the world."

Aliza Loft, a Ph.D. candidate in sociology, next spoke about her grandparents, all four of whom were Holocaust survivors. She spoke of how strongly it affected her to see pictures of people "with faces that look like mine," endure such tragedies. "I feel a personal responsibility for keeping their stories alive. I try to learn from the past to make the future as humane as possible," she said.

Tying into the theme of the evening linking the commonalities of the horrors endured by the Jews, Rwandans, and Armenians in different parts of the world with very similar experiences, she recited Hitler's famous quote, in which he justified starting the Holocaust by saying, "Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?"

Chantel Kayiesi, a Rwandan genocide survivor, spoke about her horrific experiences, but one single statistic struck the audience: "It is still a shock to know that more than 1 million died in 100 days."

Her husband was "killed by someone he considered a friend," and her mother's arms and legs were bound before a grenade was thrown into her house. Her father experienced a more merciful death by paying for a bullet. "At least he had a clean shot," she said.

"We lost faith in humanity and in our fellow Rwandans. We gained fear," she said. "The same people who killed our families were released from jail and became our neighbors again," highlighting the incredible logistics in the aftermath of the Hutu majority's attempted extermination of the Tutsi minority.

"We smiled and said things were OK," she said. "It is the price for peace and harmony."

She added, "Sometimes you want to put down the burden that is in our hearts. We get tired of being stoic."

On a more positive note, she said, “To you all, to our friends, let us continue to advocate for our survivors. Let us pledge never again and mean it.”

Francis K. Gatare, a master’s student at the Harvard Kennedy School, spoke about family members who were killed and suggested that the plan to exterminate the Tutsi people through genocide was not an abrupt occurrence after the death of President Juvénal Habyarimana, as many have suggested. The process, he said, had taken time. For example, there had been government-issued identity cards that showed the ethnicity of the cardholder and markings on the homes of minorities. In the wake of Habyarimana’s death, the process was hastened, with certain radio stations broadcasting the names of Tutsis and some broadcasts even suggested that Tutsis were not quite human, had tails, or were cannibals.

Gatare did end on an upbeat note, suggesting, “Rwanda is on a course to normalcy. Its biggest asset: Our traditional values.” The country, he noted, is “playing its rightful part in the society of nations.”

An abridged version of the documentary “Two Who Dared: The Sharps’ War” was shown. Dr. Charlie Clements, co-executive producer of the film, as well as the executive director of the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, presented an overview. The film documents the lives of the young Unitarian minister, Waitstill Sharp, and his wife, Martha, who undertook the mission of helping refugees in Prague starting in 1939, the outset of World War II. The two young Wellesley residents eventually performed deeds of incredible daring and courage, rescuing Jewish children and adults from France, Germany, and Czechoslovakia, eventually receiving the title of Righteous Among Nations at Yad Vashem. The film captured the incredible sense of integrity of these young parents as they left their children behind in the safety of the U.S. to help save children facing certain death in Europe. The pictures of the young rescued children were contrasted with their present selves and their feelings were still as raw as when they were children.

The director of the film, the Sharps’ grandson Artemis Joukowsky, was present, as was (through Skype) documentarian Ken Burns, who served as the executive producer.

Burns said, “The film is a wonderful example of how one person can make a difference. We cannot wait around for others to take charge.”

He added, “I am always amazed at the human condition. I don’t know what makes a Waitstill Sharp or a Martha Sharp rearrange their molecules.”

Joukowsky said, “They were humanists. They viewed all of humanity as their friends. It comes from their Unitarian background.”

The film, available on the website of Facing History and Ourselves, is used for educational purposes.

The final speaker, Dr. Zachary D. Kaufman, a lecturer at Yale’s Department of Political Science, said Hitler was “one of the first comparative genocide commentators drawing lessons from the past.”

He had encouraging words about the future of Rwanda, from which he said he had recently returned. Among the positive changes are its high GDP growth rate of 8 percent, reduction in infant mortality, and having the highest percentage of women parliamentarians. In addition, he said that the Rwanda tribunals were the first to get guilty pleas to genocide charges and that it was the first time that a head of state had been found guilty of rape and murder.

“We often neglect to pay sufficient attention to ‘upstanders,’ as Samantha Power calls them,” Kaufman said. “Each of us can play a role in raising awareness. We should demand more from our media and religious institutions. We should be upstanders. Today we are all Armenians, Jews, and Tutsis.”

Dr. S. Allen Counter, the director of the Harvard Foundation and a professor of neurology at the Harvard Medical School made introductory remarks. To view the film, “Two Who Dared,” visit www.twowhodared.com or the website of Facing History and Ourselves, www.facinghistory.org.

By Alin K. Gregorian,

Courtesy of The Armenian Mirror-Spectator

In Memoriam

Maya Angelou, Harvard Foundation Honorary Guest

The students and faculty of the Harvard Foundation mourn the passing of the noted American writer and poet Maya Angelou, who died at her home in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, on May 28, 2014. Angelou visited Harvard as guest of the Harvard Foundation in 1994, when she received the Harvard Foundation Literary Arts Award. Her daylong program was hosted by the Foundation at Pforzheimer House, under the auspices of House Masters Woody and Hanna Hastings. Her honorary luncheon and poetry reading were attended by more than 200 students and faculty members, including Professor Dudley Herschbach, Professor Lawrence Buell, and University Marshal Richard Hunt. In addition to reading excerpts from her literary works, Angelou discussed her life story, and improving ethnic relations, and she encouraged students of all backgrounds to write their own personal narratives and expressions of cultural values. Born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri, and Stamps, Arkansas, Angelou became one of America’s most celebrated artists, and was widely respected as a poet, novelist, historian, and Civil Rights activist. She received numerous honorary doctoral degrees from American colleges and universities, including Smith College, Howard University, and Columbia University.

I first met Maya Angelou through our mutual friend Alex Haley in Santa Monica, California. Spending the day with these literary greats was a transformative and memorable experience. She was a most gracious and engaging person who held a worldview of promoting peace, tolerance, and compassion among all people. Just prior to her visit to Harvard, Angelou had graciously accepted my invitation to read her poetry at the installation of the Arthur Ashe memorial during a service that I organized at his grave site in Richmond, Virginia. It was a moving and spiritual presentation of her poetic work that was appreciated by the Ashe family, friends, government officials, and others who attended the memorial ceremony. Maya Angelou will be remembered fondly by our faculty, and (now) alumni, who met her at Harvard, and by many admirers throughout America for her beautiful soul, that found expression in her magnificent artistic gifts.

Dr. S. Allen Counter

Cultural Rhythms Festival

February is always an exciting time on campus. Just as everyone returns from rejuvenating winter breaks to kick off the spring semester, students spanning all cultural, ethnic, and religious backgrounds come together each year to perform in two dynamic shows and share their cultural cuisine at a food festival. Now in its 29th year, the 2014 Cultural Rhythms Festival was vivid, powerful, and memorable as it served to enrich the Harvard and greater Boston communities. Philanthropist, education advocate, rapper, hip-hop artist, and actor LL COOL J was recognized as the 29th Cultural Rhythms Artist of the Year on February 22, 2014.

In the afternoon, hundreds of students, staff, faculty, and guests filed into historic Sanders Theatre to celebrate and support the hard work of the student performers.

Mariachi Veritas de Harvard opened the show. The show was especially exciting as several performers graced Sanders stage for the Afternoon Show for the first time in their organizations' history, such as the Hellenic Society, Under Construction a Cappella, and Sadhana. KeyChange a Cappella and the Harvard College Kuumba Singers soothed the audience with their rich harmonies and dulcet tones;

Expressions Dance Company, the Harvard-Radcliffe Asian-American Dance Troupe, and Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán impressed with their brilliant choreography; and Harvard College Wushu and the Pan-African Dance and Music Ensemble brought audience members to the edge of their seats as performers backflipped through the air and filled the entire theater with

students and faculty alike sampling different cultural cuisines. This year, LL COOL J even stopped by the event and tried delicacies such as yakisoba at the Japan Society's booth. Students at the Food Festival expressed the "high that comes from realizing how diverse Harvard really is," and the pride they felt as they "cheered on my roommates, housemates, and peers in their amazing performances." This year, as in all years past, Cultural Rhythms truly served as a tangible and vital reminder of the rich diversity present here at Harvard.

Soy (Soyoung) Kim '14

Luncheon

Following the Tribute to LL COOL J in Kirkland Junior Common Room, approximately 120 undergraduates gathered in Kirkland

Dining Hall for the annual Cultural Rhythms Luncheon with the Artist of the Year. Luncheon coordinator Cary Williams '16 opened the event with remarks about LL COOL J's career and the impact he has had as a musician and activist. The Kirkland House Masters Tom and Verena Conley made welcoming remarks, followed by Dr. Counter and 2014 Cultural Rhythms Co-Directors Soy Kim '14 and Aubrey



Cultural Rhythms co-directors Soy Kim '14 (far left) and Aubrey Walker '15 look on as Dr. S. Allen Counter presents LL COOL J with the Harvard Foundation 2014 Artist of the Year Award at Sanders Theatre.

powerful drumming and dancing. Backstage before the show, LL COOL J expressed shock that all the performers were not professionals, but full-time Harvard students dedicated to making the campus a more inclusive and dynamic environment for intercultural dialogue and learning.

The food festival was further proof of the power of unity on campus, as the Science Center was flooded with

Walker '15.

As lunch was being served, Harvard College KeyChange provided a brilliant musical interlude. Led by co-presidents Antonia Hylton '15 and Amber Wade '16, KeyChange is Harvard College's only a cappella group devoted to performing songs from the African diaspora. All in attendance were struck by KeyChange's strong performance, and it set the tone for a day showcasing wonderful student talent.

The luncheon then moved into the tribute portion, which featured a number of speakers. Dennis Benzan, the vice mayor of Cambridge, presented LL COOL J with a tribute from the city celebrating his honor as the Artist of the Year. LL COOL J surprised the guests at the event and shared a few words of wisdom and thanks. To close the luncheon, students Jesse Sanchez '14 and Bethy Dereje '14 spoke. Sanchez focused on LL COOL J's humanitarian efforts, primarily Jumpstart, which seeks to provide early education to children in under-resourced communities. Dereje, a research assistant at the Hip Hop Archive, spoke to LL COOL J's career in the music industry, celebrating his accomplishments and groundbreaking work as an artist.

As is Harvard Foundation tradition, David Evans, senior admissions officer, closed the event. He offered a reflection on the changing demographics of the University and the important work the Harvard Foundation does to address the needs of an increasingly diverse student body.

Cary Williams '17

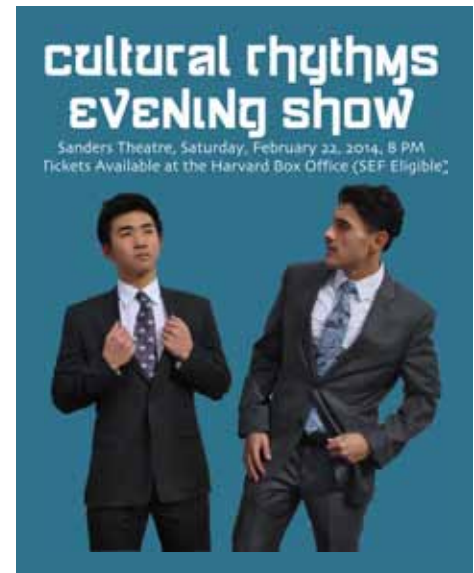


Under Construction performs during the luncheon.

Cultural Rhythms Evening Show

After an incredibly fun and delicious food festival (with a guest appearance by LL COOL J), the Harvard community reconvened in Sanders one last time for the final event of Cultural Rhythms, the Evening Show. Out of the many diverse elements of the Cultural Rhythms Festival, the Evening Show is perhaps the most student-centric, showcasing the talents of another collection of amazing cultural groups, facilitated by two student hosts who served as guests through the evening. This year's hosts were the incredible Jesse Sanchez '14 and Min-Woo Park '16. The dynamic duo kept the audience both thinking and laughing, as they alternated between jokes and informative commentary on the cultural background and significance of each of the performance groups.

A number of phenomenal cultural groups demonstrated their talents and heritage in front of undergraduates, faculty, and students from the



drew applause and appreciation, exciting the audience for Act II.

The second half of the show kicked off with a fun and colorful performance by Harvard Bhangra, which got the audience dancing in their seats. Then the crowd was treated to some spoken-word poetry

“This show is a kaleidoscope of customs,
a multi-colored, rainbow prism.
This, ladies and gentlemen, is Cultural Rhythms.”

Cambridge and Greater Boston communities. The Harvard Breakers started off the show with an energetic and intricate routine. Later on, the South Asian Dance Company united types of folk dance from three different regions of India into one cohesive and beautiful piece. A number of groups from the afternoon show also made an appearance, including Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán, Under Construction a Cappella, Harvard Wushu, and the Expressions Dance Team.

After the first half of the show, there was a brief intermission, during which the hosts led a dance-off between members of the audience. Three Harvard undergraduates showed off their moves to the tunes of “Teach Me How to Dougie,” “Single Ladies,” and some dance hall reggae in the form of “Murder She Wrote.” The performance

by Yesenia Ortiz '17, who delivered a beautiful piece about her mother. Next up, Harvard Philippine Forum took the stage, performing the national dance of the Philippines. Their piece involved graceful and agile steps with large bamboo poles and blindfolds, keeping the audience at the edge of their seats. The Middle Eastern Dance Company closed out the show with a dance that included incredible costumes, epic music, and beautifully precise and elegant movements.

All in all, the Evening Show was a wonderful conclusion to the Cultural Rhythms Festival, exemplifying all of the characteristics of the day. Thanks to our incredible hosts, Sanchez and Park, and all the cultural groups who performed.

Avni Nahar '17



Act I: Mariachi Veritas de Harvard, Sadhana, Harvard College KeyChange a Cappella, Asian-American Dance Troupe, Kuumba Singers of Harvard College, Harvard Band (reception).





Act II: Pan-African Dance and Music Ensemble, Harvard College Hellenic Society ,Under Construction, Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán de Harvard, EXP (Expressions), Harvard Wushu Club.



Faculty/Student Advisory Committee Updates

The spring semester saw the largest Harvard Foundation Student Advisory Committee in its history, with more than 80 cultural and racial organizations represented. Continuing this trend, by the end of the semester four additional organizations were voted into the SAC, including the Harvard College First Generation Student Union, Harvard Chinese Music Ensemble, Harvard College

Bolivia Association, and Harvard Thai Society.

The semester started with a successful social event in the Barker Center Thompson Room, during which SAC representatives were able to mingle and discuss their upcoming plans for the semester and the events they were working on over a delicious Thai dinner. In addition, we were happy to announce that President Drew Faust and College Dean Don Pfister had agreed to come to a special SAC meeting.

This social was a great way to start the conversation about what we really wanted to accomplish with the platform in this special meeting.

Each of the monthly SAC/FAC meetings went well. During one meeting we addressed different popular culture themes that had come up during winter break, including topics such as Katy Perry and “How I Met

Your Mother” portraying Yellowface and ew’s personaligy Megyn Kelly’s declarations on Fox News that Santa Claus “just is white” and “Jesus was a white man, too.” During our special SAC meeting in April, we were lucky enough to have Dean Pfister and President Faust attend. We were able to discuss many topics the SAC helped to develop, ranging from the perceived role of student groups on campus,

opportunity for the SAC to hear from President Faust and for President Faust to hear from the SAC.

The spring SAC grant cycle ran smoothly. Although the 45 SAC groups that applied for grants had requested a cumulative total of \$60,000, the Harvard Foundation was able to support them with \$25,000, which funded nearly 200 events and other programming related to the mission

of the Harvard Foundation. The average award to a group was \$555.

Overall, we have made many strides to our initial goal of cohesion between the Student Advisory Committee and the Harvard Foundation. Further, we have worked to elevate the Harvard Foundation Student Advisory Committee to a more prominent role on campus and have thus given the cultural and racial student groups under our purview

a stronger voice. We look forward to continuing our work next year and furthering the mission of the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations. It has been an honor to serve as co-chairs this year, and we wish the best for the upcoming SAC Board.

*HF SAC Board Co-chairs
Maya Dorje '16 and Irfan Mahmud '16*



Upper Right: Representatives of the Student Advisory Committee gather at a preliminary meeting in the spring. Upper Left: SAC board members Cary Williams '16 (secretary), Maya Dorje '15 (co-chair), Irfan Mahmud '16 (co-chair), and Christina Vourakis '16 (treasurer). Below: President Drew Gilpin Faust and Dean Donald Pfister join the April FAC/SAC meeting.

how student groups can increase recognition by the administration, and how to maintain a continued dialogue with upper level Administration and cultural groups on campus. Dean Pfister committed upcoming Dean Rakesh Khurana to meet on a semesterly basis, and this is something we hope to pursue in the coming year. The special meeting was a unique

SAC

Each semester, the Harvard Foundation provides grant funding to member organizations of the Student Advisory Committee. Any of the undergraduate student organizations 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. At the end of each semester, the organizations that received grants from the Harvard Foundation are asked to submit grant summaries. A selection of these summaries is included in the biannual *Harvard Foundation Journal*.

BLACK MEN'S FORUM

As the Black Men's Forum (BMF) seniors prepare to depart from the College, the forum bid them good-bye by reflecting on hilarious shared experiences. Members ate and laughed well and cherished their last moments with BMF class of 2014. BMF and the Association of Black Harvard Women (ABHW) organized a discussion on relationships and present challenges associated with college dating. The roles that race, class, and cultural background play in dating were examined. It is important to demystify to better understand the cultures. We helped do this for students during Visitas at Jollies and at XO, our Valentine's Day party. On April 14, 2014, BMF, along with 250 attendees came together at the Gutman Conference Center to applaud the strength of black women at the 20th Annual Celebration of Black Women Gala. This year the forum honored artist Janelle Monáe as Woman of the Year for her work in combating sexualization of women in the music and entertainment industries. Five Harvard College senior women dedicated to excellence and service were also recognized. BMF awarded a scholarship to an outstanding, college-bound, black, female high school senior from the Boston area. Lastly, we organized a discussion between Harvard alumni Dr. Cornell West and undergraduates interested in existentialism and how various cultures approach the theory.

HARVARD RADCLIFFE CHINESE ASSOCIATION

For our Make Your Own Ramen Night study break, we purchased different kinds of noodles and ramen for students to either create their own original ramen or try the different kinds of ramen available. We also had different types of soups that would go along with the ramen for the students to try. For our Taste of China study break, we provided dishes from different areas of China, including hotpot, a very famous Beijing dish, many of which were made by our own cultural co-chairs. The event was a success, with many students commenting on how it reminded them of their parents' cooking. Our dumpling-

making and tasting workshop allowed all Harvard undergraduates to learn how to make famous Chinese dumplings as well as try "different flavors" of dumplings. We bought the different ingredients from Chinatown, and pre-made some of the dumplings, but also had a separate table to teach the undergrads how to make them using the raw ingredients. The Chinese Speaker Series was very successful in addressing current cultural issues in China. Our Chinese New Year Banquet was our biggest event of the semester, including more than 10 performances from Harvard and MIT cultural groups. Our final speaker series with Elizabeth Perry who focused on the current political issues of China.



HARVARD SOUTH ASIAN MEN'S COLLECTIVE

During our Bollywood Movie Night we invited members of the Harvard community to enjoy the Bollywood film "Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham" with our organization and other Harvard students. Turnout was quite good and we expect to continue this tradition in the future.

We had a study break with samosas and chutneys to be enjoyed by students of all backgrounds, whether as a familiar comfort food or a new dietary experience. The event was publicized and circulated by members of the collective, who were encouraged to invite as many fellow students as possible to enjoy good food and company.

The Ghungroo Alumni Networking Night took place on Feb. 28, 2014 and was a wonderful evening in which we held a small social for SAMC Alumni who were also involved in Ghungroo. Samosas and kebabs were served in the Lowell Grille as undergraduates engaged in conversation with alums on internships and life in general.



HARVARD TAEKWONDO

HTKD had an excellent semester with its demo team this year! With coaching from Master Michael Tang and Master Jang, our team had very successful showings at the KA show, Korean Culture Society show (run by graduate students), TCS Night Market, China Care festival, and CSA banquet..

HARVARD ISLAMIC SOCIETY

This semester has been an incredible success for the Harvard Islamic Society. Our theme for the semester was diversity, and we were able to get the discussion going in our Islam in America Series. We kicked off the two-week series with a speech from Dr. Zaheer Ali on the African American Muslim narrative in the United States. We also heard from the renowned Imam Suhaib Webb on the status of the Muslim community in America, and his insight into dealing with American society. Additionally, the HIS was honored to co-sponsor a productive roundtable discussion with the Harvard College Faith and Action about racism in religion. We also enjoyed organizing a wonderful Poetry Night. Our biggest undertaking was our annual Spring Dinner. We were stunned to see more than 250 prefrish, College students, grad students, and community members come celebrate the success of the Islamic Society.



DHARMA

Harvard Dharma had a very active semester! We organized the biggest Holi festival of spring in the history of Harvard. We had over 1,300 packets of color, food for about 200 people, and over 500 participants — including Dean Pfister and incoming Dean Khurana! The discussion series, study break, and spiritual group had many students attend. One of our discussions and spiritual groups incorporated Hillel while we had a few interfaith activities in the others.



CONCILIO LATINO

This semester was a very special semester for Concilio Latino and the entire Latino/a community at Harvard. We were able to co-sponsor many amazing events with inspiring Latino/a speakers. One of the most remarkable moments was a meet-and-greet with Jorge Ramos, a Latino anchor who has been awarded seven Emmys and a Maria Moors Cabot prize. He encouraged Harvard Latino/as to start translating numbers into power, to mobilize our community to advocate for better institutional support and resources. With that in mind, we hosted the first-ever Latino Town Hall, which gave us a space to share our concerns with our experience here at Harvard, as well as what improvements we thought we needed to demand. Another highlight of our semester was Homenaje Latino, the Latino/a community award ceremony that celebrates the contributions of Latino/as on campus in different fields, ranging from research to the arts. It was an amazing celebration full of great food and music, but most importantly, it provided a space to recognize and learn about the great work that our peers do that result in a vibrant Harvard.

HARVARD SOUTH ASIAN ASSOCIATION

The Harvard South Asian Association has had a great year in terms of reaching out to Harvard's amazing and talented student body. We met many excited and interested pre-frosh, who can't wait to get involved with the cultural groups on campus. Balls of Curry was a fun way to get people outside with fun music, games, and bonding. Andaaz was a beautiful way to showcase South Asian fashion. We loved involvement from other groups and students on campus. Ghungroo remains the highlight of SAA's semester. We got the chance to see hundreds of students embrace South Asian dance, clothing, and music at Agassiz Theater. Ghungroo was an amazing way to build community, friendships, and memories. Lastly, we had our annual formal event, Soiree, at which we celebrated the year. We were excited to see many dancers from Ghungroo and others join SAA in celebrating all we've accomplished this year, reminiscing over the fun times we've had, and congratulating the seniors we will all dearly miss.



HARVARD TAIWANESE CULTURAL SOCIETY

This semester, we focused on our core mission: bringing a piece of Taiwan to Cambridge. We held study breaks, workshops, and our biggest event of the year, Night Marke — each centered around a portion of Taiwanese culture.

Food is an integral part of Taiwanese culture, and has several functions: meals are times for families to come together despite busy schedules, as well as a complement to the vibrant nightlife and social atmosphere of Taiwan. We found that the most popular study break we hosted was the Shaved Ice and Bubble Tea workshop (perhaps

because bubble tea is familiar to many college students already). We also had events featuring traditional Taiwanese breakfast food, mochi, and desserts.

The highlight of the year was the Night Market, at which we aim to bring a lively part of Taiwan — the whole experience of food, games, and street performers — to Harvard. This year, we had a large variety of Taiwanese foods, including scallion pancakes, sesame noodles, ma po tofu, sausage rice, and the like, as well as representative performers from Harvard Tae Kwon Do and the Asian American Dance Troupe. The event was a huge success, and it was wonderful to see everything go so well.

HARVARD COLLEGE IRANIAN SOCIETY

We held our first Nowruz Dinner, to celebrate Iranian culture. The Nowruz Dinner was a catered, with a professor-led historical talk, and live music. We had a large attendance and plan to make this an annual dinner.

BALLET FOLKLORICO DE AZTLAN

This spring has been a truly amazing semester for Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán (BFA). We held events from the Latino Showcase “Presencia Latina” to our participation in Arts First. We’ve used SAC grants to obtain better costumes, although given the transportation costs (most of our costumes and shoes come from Texas or California, and sometimes even Mexico) we still have some way to go with replacements. Events like the BFA social have allowed our team to come together and to plan together for the future.



HARVARD DOMINICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

On March 29, 2014, history was made at Harvard University. More than 550 Latinos, most of Dominican descent, congregated at Harvard for the eighth National Dominican Student Conference (NDSC). The NDSC is an annual conference that provides the highest quality in educational workshops, inspirational speakers, art exhibitions, and networking events — all of which serve to educate, uplift, and unite the Dominican student community. This was the first time that Harvard University hosted the conference, which had been previously held at universities such as Yale, Brown, New York University, and Cornell.

This year’s theme was “Diáspora de la Tambora: Celebrando Arte y Cultura!” which translates to “Diaspora of the Drum: Celebrating Art and Culture!”. Throughout the weekend, students were able to engage in discussions on how Dominican identity and issues are manifested in the United States and beyond. Students enjoyed panel discussions such as Music of the Spanish-Speaking Caribbean, From Haiti to Los Haitises, and Dominican Success Stories. In the latter, students heard the inspirational stories of Olympic gold medalist Felix Sanchez, award-winning manager Johnny Marines, and the U.S. Ambassador to Uruguay, Julissa Reynoso. The conference’s keynote artist was Josefina Baez.

HARVARD SOCIETY OF ARAB STUDENTS

Our first event of the semester was a film screening of the Palestinian Oscar-nominated movie “Omar” held at the Currier Fishbowl, followed by an awareness talk by Qusai Zakarya, a Syrian who survived a chemical weapons attack and

fled to the U.S. to raise awareness about the Syrian civil war. He also rose to prominence by staging a hunger strike to demand unhampered access for humanitarian agencies to deliver food throughout Syria. Our final event of the semester was a movie screening of critically acclaimed Lebanese movie, “Halla2 Lawen.”

Our weekly meetings are attended by the board members, and sometimes by other members of the SAS community. We hold these meetings in a different house every week, and share Arabic food together.

Finally, Arabic language tables were held at different Houses catering to the different dialects, over Middle Eastern food.



HARVARD VIETNAMESE ASSOCIATION

The events held by HVA this semester have contributed greatly to the Harvard’s cultural knowledge and Vietnamese pride on campus. In addition to events, Vietnamese language tables, and discussion groups have allowed native and non-native speakers alike to come together to learn more about Vietnam. The freshman study break was a highlight of the semester as it allowed the younger members of HVA to share pieces of their home life with friends and allies of the association. The Pho Workshop, Karaoke Night, and Paris By Night were all events at which members of the Harvard community could come see the unique musical and culinary aspects of Vietnam, from both traditional and pop culture. Senior alumni night served as a touching farewell to the outgoing members of our community and an opportunity for them to share with younger members of the club and the Harvard community advice on how to build cultural pride and integration within and around the community that they have cherished for the past four years.



FUERZA LATINA

This semester, we held a variety of events, ranging from our annual dance to important community dialogues. We started the semester with Encuentros, an event used to bring the Latinx community together after J-term. We cater this event to freshmen, who can often feel lost or fall through the cracks post-winter break. Various Latinx organizations and clubs introduced themselves and reached out to individuals who may be interested in participating in their organizations.

Following Encuentros, we had our Cena y Cine, a community bonding event at the end of March. We screened the film “Selena,” in honor of her memory on the anniversary of her death. Because Cena y Cine is held during dinner hours, we try to cater food, so we bought *empanadas* among other snacks.

Our biggest event of the semester was undoubtedly our third annual dance held in Adams Dining Hall: Brown Sugar. We had an amazing turnout this year, reaching around 400 attendees. Revisiting Shadism, karaoke, and Arts First were all held to help spread knowledge about our culture to other communities at Harvard that may not know, but are curious to explore.

HARVARD SANGEET

The study break was a definite success! We ended up getting *bhel puri* and *aloo chaat* instead of the typical samosas. We played folk music from several regions of India, but especially Bengal and Rajasthan. People wandered in and out for food.

Coffeehouse and senior farewell was a more intimate concert setting. We had performances by one of our graduating seniors, Harvard Mirch (South Asian a cappella), and other students.

ASIAN-AMERICAN DANCE TROUPE

This year the Asian-American Dance Troupe put on the 20th annual Eastbound in Lowell Lecture Hall. Aiming to showcase both ethnic and contemporary Asian performances, the afternoon and evening shows drew a crowd from the greater Harvard community of more than 700 people. This year, the show included ethnic performances from the mountainous regions of Tibet to the desert caves of Dunhuang, as well as contemporary and hip hop performances. This show wouldn't have been possible without the SAC and grants that allowed us to purchase new costumes and props, among other production costs.



ACT ON A DREAM

This semester, Act on a Dream has continued its mission of raising awareness of immigration issues that affect all ethnicities and cultures, providing resources for undocumented students at the college, and advocating for immigration reform. We held a scholarship hackathon to expand our online database of scholarships open to undocumented students. During hackathon, members enjoyed food while researching scholarships without citizenship requirements. We held a study break aimed at raising awareness of current immigration policy. Our largest event was our immigration panel titled “Immigration Reform: The Battles Won and the Fight Ahead.” Speakers included Sarang Sekhavat from MIRA, Sofia Campos from United We Dream, Dong Yoon Kim from NKASEC, and Carlos Rojas-Alvarez from SIM. They spoke about the state of immigration reform and how ethnic groups can join forces to solve the problems with America's current immigration laws.

HARVARD RAZA

For more than 40 years, RAZA has brought the Latin@ and Mexican-American communities together at Harvard, and this past spring has given us the opportunity to continue in that rich tradition. Through our weekly Mesas, we build the foundation for an intimately connected group that experiences all the joys of *familia* at Harvard. For the first time, RAZA brought a Quinceañer@ celebration to campus, and saw students take part in a rite of passage that plays an important role in Mexican-American and Latin@ families.

We honored the memory and work of Cesar Chavez and his allies, offering educational opportunities to students, in light of the recent film release. We also brought back a crowd favorite for its second year as a RAZA staple — Primal Swing — where students relived the joys of family fiestas through piñatas filled with treats. The semester concluded with a joint dinner between RAZA and Fuerza Latina, where prominent seniors in the Latin@ community were honored and allowed to share their parting words. This has been a great semester for RAZA, and we look forward to all the great times in the future.



NIGERIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

This semester, the Nigerian Student Association organized many events intended to foster community and celebrate and discuss Nigerian culture. Instead of the Gele Women's Brunch we described in our grant application, we used the funding to host many events throughout the semester that discussed issues related to Nigerian professionalism and Nigerian family and cultural themes that vary when carried over to the diaspora.

HARVARD JAPAN SOCIETY

Our Sushi Study Break had a big turnout as usual. We prepared \$500 worth of sushi for students, and we had so many participants that the sushi lasted for only an hour. We got fresh raw fish from New Deal Fish Market, and sushi rice from Cafe Sushi. We let the participants make their own roll of sushi. They had options of tuna, salmon, hamachi, and scallops.

The 3/11 Haiku Event event was important for us because, as the Japan Society, we really care about making sure that people remember about the earthquake that occurred three years ago. At three dinning halls, we asked participants to write a haiku about the earthquake.

Unfortunately the Wind Rises Trip event ended up not happening because the theater stopped showing it earlier than had planned. Instead, we hosted a weekly Japanese Table, where some of us who are fluent in Japanese talked to students who are interested in learning the language. We also had Japanese candies at each table.!



HARVARD HONG KONG SOCIETY

We had a great semester sharing the culture of Hong Kong with the undergraduate population at Harvard College! We discussed topics ranging from tea to martial arts, played mahjong, cooked, and ate a ton.



LATINAS UNIDAS DE HARVARD

This year's Latinas Unidas (LU) annual Latina Appreciation Dinner was a reception for both students and alumni to reconnect and celebrate the accomplishments of the Latina community at Harvard. Class representatives and two graduate students gave speeches on the influence of the Latino community thus far. Graduating seniors were honored with a special ceremony. The dinner was catered by El Oriental de Cuba.

The LU Night study break, Dip It Like It's Hot, featured a variety of fruits, veggies, chips, and dips. Open to all undergraduates, it was a wonderful opportunity for those in attendance to de-stress from midterms and foster friendships with students of the greater Harvard community.

Latinas Unidas' final Tuesday meeting featured a discussion with Professor Maria Luisa Parra and a delicious *empanada* and flan dinner. Professor Parra shared the story of the events that led to her becoming a professor at Harvard. She also spoke about her studies of Latinos in America and the changing role of bilingualism.

The Mass Incarceration of Women was an event co-sponsored with the Association of Black Harvard Women. The roles of the judicial system, activism, and community concerning the legal and social obstacles that lead to higher imprisonment rates for black and Latina women were addressed by panelists including Michael Skolnik, the political director to Russell Simmons and editor in chief of Global Grind; Northeastern law professor Alea Brown-Hoffmeister; and IOP Fellow Judge Mark Wolf.

HARVARD BLACK STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

This past semester has been very productive for the Black Students

Association (BSA). We had many great events and we really brought the black community together. Thank you so much for your support, it really allowed us to put on some great events that helped us discuss our place on this campus. We also had some events that allowed us to collaborate with other cultural organizations, which is important to taking advantage of the diversity on campus.

HARVARD KOREAN ASSOCIATION

This semester, the Harvard Korean Association had many successful study breaks, a culture show that involved more than 200 people, and many bonding moments for the Korean-American community at Harvard.

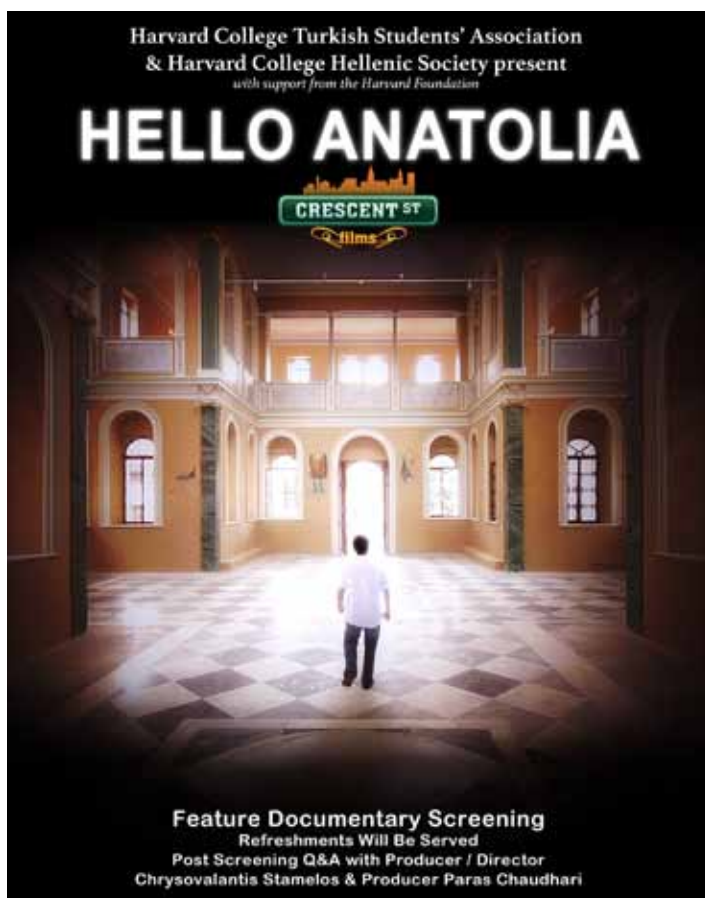
Our annual culture show brought the Harvard community all together under K-pop dances and delicious catered Korean food. Our study breaks involved many Asian foods from Allston, Bonchon, and Kaju Tofu house. The keynote speech and Korean Konnection inspired many participants and helped networking among the Korean community.

Overall, Spring 2014 was a great semester for the Harvard Korean Association with the help of Harvard Foundation SAC grant. Thank you very much, and we look forward to work with Harvard Foundation in the future!



HARVARD UNDERGRADUATE BRAZILIAN ASSOCIATION

Our Carnival party was held at the Queen's Head Pub and was a success. We had Carnival decoration, a band, and live dancers. Lots of people attended the event, including graduate students from the many Harvard Schools.



Top Right: Alexia Zagouras '16, Stella Pantela '14, Constantine Tarabanis '15, producer Paras Chaudhari, director Chrysovalantis Stamelos, Papatya Sutcliffe, and Cansu Colakoglu '15. Lower Right: Students and local community members listen to Stamelos' presentation about his documentary "Hello Anatolia."

Student Organization Collaboration Highlight:

Harvard College Hellenic Society & Harvard College Turkish Students Association

In March, Harvard College Turkish Students' Association (HCTSA) and Harvard College Hellenic Society (HCHS) had the opportunity to host a screening of "Hello Anatolia," a feature-length documentary about the experiences of director Valantis Stamelos. Stamelos is a young Greek-American who has relocated from New York to Izmir in search of his roots, and has now established a life and family there with his Turkish wife. Stamelos' cousin contacted HCTSA at the end of last year to draw the documentary to our attention, and we saw this as an ideal opportunity to bring the two communities together. The film has a powerful message of trying to build bridges between people from the two cultures by focusing on shared aspects of culture. It is a film about moving forward, 100 years after the conflict, with an open mind and desire to create a new and common history. With help and funding from the Harvard Foundation, we were able to bring Stamelos and his producer, Paras Chaudhari, from Izmir and New York to host the screening, followed by a stimulating question-and-answer session and Mediterranean food.

HCTSA and HCHS worked together to arrange and promote the event, not just on campus, but among the broader Greco-Turkish community of Boston and beyond. We were grateful to have the support of the Greek and Turkish consulates in doing this, and we thank the work of the whole team – the auditorium was almost full. Many people came to thank us afterward for sharing this positive message, and it was a great way to bring Greeks, Turks and interested Americans together, to educate and enlighten. It was one of the first joint events for HCHS and HCTSA for several years, so it was nice to strengthen bridges between the two student associations again. We believe that by taking small steps to appreciate and understand the culture and experiences of the other side, one day a broader dialogue between the two nations can be built. We are hopeful that our event was one of these small steps.

*Cansu Colakoglu '17
Constantine Tarabanis '16
Papatya Sutcliffe GSAS*

Harvard Foundation Award Ceremony

Every year, the Harvard Foundation holds an award ceremony to honor those who have contributed to intercultural and race relations on campus. The awardees include faculty, staff, and students from a variety of Houses and class years, all working to promote intercultural understanding on campus. This year, we received more than 80 nominations from House masters, resident deans, tutors, proctors, faculty, and students.

The Harvard Foundation Awards Ceremony and David S. Aloian Memorial Dinner is the largest event on campus to honor undergraduates contributing to intercultural and race relations. As such, the ceremony serves a special purpose in recognizing the importance of intercultural work and highlights the fact that the Harvard Foundation cannot further its mission without the help of these students. In honoring students in front of their peers, advisors, and faculty, we hope to show them our appreciation and inspire them in their future work.

The tradition of holding the award ceremony in Quincy House began over 25 years ago with the help of Quincy House Master David S. Aloian. The Aloian dinner bears his name as a tribute to his years of support for the Foundation. We are also grateful to his successors, Deborah and Lee



Harvard Foundation Insignia Award recipients.

Gehrke, who have graciously continued this tradition.

To kick off the event, Director Dr. S. Allen Counter welcomed attendees to the Harvard Foundation Awards Ceremony. Dr. Bruce Price, a member of the Faculty Advisory Committee, delivered the keynote speech. Student Advisory Committee (SAC) Co-chair Maya Dorje '15 provided a year in review for the SAC groups.

The ceremony began by honoring faculty and race relations advisors for their contributions to improving intercultural understanding in the Harvard community. William Gelbart, a professor of molecular and cellular biology, received the Distinguished Faculty Award for his service as a scholar, teacher, and mentor, and similarly, the Race Relations Advisor Awards were presented to Jonathan Gramling of Adams House and Tom Wooten of Quincy House for their enthusiastic service as tutors.

Thereafter, the student awards presentation began. Five categories of awards were given: Director's Award, Distinguished Senior Award, Senior Service Award, Insignia Award, and Certificate of Recognition.

This year, Asmaa Rimawi '14 of Lowell House was the recipient of the Director's Award, which recognizes a senior exceptional contributions to intercultural and race relations in the



Asmaa Rimawi '14 receives the 2014 Director's Award.

Harvard community during his or her four years. Herbert Castillo '14, Jesse Sanchez '14, Judy Park '14, and Leslie Montes '14 were presented with Distinguished Senior Awards to recognize them as outstanding leaders at Harvard.

The Harvard Foundation interns Yolanda Borquaye '14, Soy Kim '14, Eric Lu '14, and Bianca Okafor '14 were honored with the Senior Service Award for their outstanding service and commitment to the Foundation and the Harvard community throughout their time as interns.

The following students were recognized with the Insignia Award for their sustained contributions to improving intercultural and race relations on campus:

Daily Guerrero '14, Kirkland Robert Julien '14, Quincy Edward Escalon '14, Kirkland Humza Bokhari '14, Currier Nelida Garcia '14, Leverett Erin Drake '14, Quincy Daniel Lobo '14, Quincy

Ariel Churchill '15, Adams Diana Nguyen '15, Quincy Dorothy Villareal '15, Mather Tope Agabalogun '15, Dunster Kimiko Matsuda-Lawrence '16, Currier

The Certificate of Recognition was awarded to the following students, who have made notable contributions to the mission of the Harvard Foundation over the course of the academic year:

Ezekiel Adigun '14, Pforzheimer Imeime Umana '14, Lowell Joshua Zhang '14, Leverett Louis Cid '14, Currier Marc Shi '14, Adams Dora Tao '14, Cabot Harper Sutherland '14, Eliot Lanair Lett '14, Currier Bex Kwan '14, Dudley Opeoluwa Adebajo '15, Mather Christian Ramirez '15, Dunster Ketsia Saint-Armand '15, Cabot

Shannen Kim '15, Winthrop Michi Ferreol '15, Mather Constanza Vidal Bustamante '16, Dunster Sarah Cole '16, Cabot Alex Cox '16, Quincy Lana Idris '16, Quincy Yesenia Ortiz '17, Adams Julia Versel '17, Cabot Karishma Shah '17, Pforzheimer Olivia Castor '17, Mather

It was inspiring to hear about the contributions of many Harvard community members in improving intercultural and race relations during the ceremony. We look forward to seeing the continued work of the awardees, on campus and beyond. Thank you to the Quincy House masters and staff for their continued support.

Joanne Crandall '17

House Life

The Harvard Foundation

Student Associates

Interested in enhancing community dialogue around diversity in your House?

JOIN US as an associate!

For more information check out our website:

www.harvardfoundation.fas.harvard.edu

The Harvard Foundation Associates Program is designed to increase dialogue on diversity in the residential communities through student-led initiatives and programming. Through events planned by Foundation Associates in their own Houses and dorms, students continue to bring about diversity within the smaller, more intimate campus communities.

This semester, Foundation Associates engaged audiences in discussions through film. This aligns closely with the mission of the program to make race-relations and identity-examining discussions accessible to the larger Harvard community in comfortable, safe spaces. From “The Intouchables” (a French film) to “Beasts of the Southern Wild,” the Houses and freshman dorms have begun engaging in serious conversations about identity in their own spaces, in addition to the University-wide or affinity-group spaces. A range of students whom Associates talk to are visible at events like “Monsieur Lahzar.” These students are often exposed to new thoughts or ideas about cultural identity and are invited to discuss their reactions in an open space. The importance of smaller, community discussions that draw a diverse range of students cannot be underestimated. Students in under-represented communities have a difficult time engaging those outside their community on the issues faced by themselves and other members of the community without help. Providing opportunities for members of residential communities to discuss issues of identity and community membership is at the heart of the Foundation’s mission.

Race Relations Advisory Program

The Harvard Foundation oversees the Race-Relations Adviser Program in the Harvard Houses and Yard that aims to promote positive and amicable relations among Harvard College students. Harvard Yard proctors and Harvard House tutors are selected to train and to serve as race-relations advisers for first-year students in Harvard Yard and student residents of the Harvard Houses, respectively. Their collective responsibilities include facilitating discussions, coordinating House programs on race relations, and offering guidance following incidents of racial and ethnic conflict and distress. We are pleased with the effect and outcomes of our programs throughout the College, and the cooperation of the proctors and tutors. Included are a few examples of some of the advisers’ initiatives.

ADAMS HOUSE

This semester, the Adams Race Relations Team held a number of events with the goal of initiating discussions about race and intercultural relations throughout the House. We increased the number of Unity Tables — discussion tables held in the dining hall during dinner times – from once to twice a month, and held them at regular times so that there would be a regular space for anyone interested in discussing issues related to race. Through these discussions, we were able to talk to students about events outside campus that related to the state of racial equality and race relations in the U.S.; for instance, the recent Supreme Court affirmative-action ruling, and the various twitter campaigns around representation of Asian-Americans in the media.

In addition to these discussions, we held a number of separate events to generate discussion around representations of race and introduce students in the house to cultures they may not have had experience with in the past. For instance, we partnered with Adams HoCo to put on an

International Food Study Break. This study break was held in conjunction with the weekly Adams Stein Clubs, so a large number of Adams students were in attendance and able to enjoy the foods that their fellow students had suggested. Partnering with HoCo was a great experience, and one that we will hopefully continue to do in the future, as I think it will also allow the Race Relations to be more visible and have a greater presence in the house.

HARVARD YARD

Intercultural Dating

Intercultural dating has become an annual event that has always had a large turnout. This year, students focused on topics of class and religion. They were interested in discussing what it means to date someone from a different economic background, especially as it relates to dating culture and expectations. Religious difference also became a talking point, particularly for students who were thinking about how familial pressures factored into their perceptions of “suitable” dating partners.

Love, Cake, and Dating

Following up on the Intercultural Dating program, this event was hosted a few days before Valentine's Day to continue the conversation on the politics of dating culture as it relates to class. Participants considered how notions of class at Harvard are interpreted via material possessions, where someone is from, last name, and vacation locales.

Belonging at Harvard

This was a smaller event, but student participants seemed to appreciate it. During this discussion on "belonging" at Harvard, students interpreted what it means to "belong." Students discussed their feeling of an "achievement gap" — aka, everyone here is smarter and more talented. A student also shared that he had always lived in communities that were predominantly white and Christian; this made him very concerned that he would unintentionally do or say something offensive. The group discussed ways he could engage with those that were different from him.

Faculty Perspective

On behalf of the Harvard Foundation Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC), I want to congratulate staff of the Harvard Foundation, the student officers, interns, and the representatives of the 80 participating student groups for their leadership in promoting ethno-cultural identity, understanding, and respect throughout Harvard College and the broader Harvard community. The College has been enriched by the many illuminating ethno-cultural programs that you have conducted during the 2013–2014 academic year. I would also like to commend the students from each House and the race-relations tutors who received awards of recognition for their special contributions to the intercultural life of the College at the Harvard Foundation's annual student/faculty award ceremony and dinner.

The Harvard Foundation is an amazing organization committed to bringing people of different backgrounds together, a commodity

that is far too scarce in the world we live in. The Foundation provides many opportunities throughout the year to celebrate our many differences as well as our common humanity, and to promote dialogue instead of division when difficult issues arise on our campus.

Among the roles that the FAC plays are to advise the Director, Professor S. Allen Counter, and the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) officers, and to provide longer-term perspectives to the Foundation. I look forward to increasing the active role of the FAC, such as meeting with student groups so they can educate the FAC in additional ways that we can support their goals and aspirations. I wish you all a productive and joyous summer and look forward to seeing you at Harvard in the next academic year.

Sincerely,

William M. Gelbart
Chair, Harvard Foundation Faculty Advisory Committee
Professor, Molecular and Cellular Biology

Harvard Foundation Student Advisory Committee Member Organizations

Africa Business and Investment Club	Harvard Chinese Music Ensemble	Harvard Islamic Society	Association
Association of Black Harvard Women	Harvard College Act on a Dream	Harvard Japan Society	Harvard-Radcliffe Asian American Association
Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán	Harvard College Bolivia Association	Harvard Korean Association	Harvard Radcliffe Catholic Students Association
Canadian Club	Harvard College First Generation Student Union	Harvard Latinos in Health Careers	Harvard-Radcliffe RAZA
College Students for Bangladesh	Harvard College Irish Dancers	Harvard Organization for Latin America	Harvard Radcliffe Chinese Students Association
Concilio Latino de Harvard	Harvard College Latino Men's Collective	Harvard Peruvian Society	Holoimua O Hawaii
Dharma (Harvard Hindu Students Association)	Harvard College Lebanese Club	Harvard Philippine Forum	Iranian Association
Disorient Players	Harvard College Sangeet	Harvard Polish Society	Kuumba Singers of Harvard College
Dominican Students' Association	Harvard College Teatro	Harvard Queer Students and Allies	La Organización de Puertorriqueños
Fuerza Latina	Harvard Francophone Society	Harvard Society of Arab Students	Latinas Unidas de Harvard
Harvard African Students Association	Harvard Global China Connection	Harvard South Asian Association	Mariachi Veritas de Harvard
Harvard Asian-American Dance Troupe	Harvard GLOW	Harvard South Asian Dance Company	Native Americans at Harvard College
Harvard Bhangra	Harvard Haitian Alliance	Harvard South Asian Men's Collective	Nigerian Students Association
Harvard Black Men's Forum	Harvard Half-Asian People's Association	Harvard Taekwondo	Pan-African Dance and Musical Ensemble
Harvard Black Pre-Law Society	Harvard Hellenic Society	Harvard Taiwanese Cultural Society	Singaporean, Indonesia, & Malaysia Association
Harvard Black Students Association	Harvard Hillel	Harvard Thai Society	
Harvard BlackCAST	Harvard Hong Kong Society	Harvard Undergraduate Brazilian Association	
Harvard Bulgarian Club		Harvard Vietnamese	

THE HARVARD FOUNDATION TEAM

Staff, Interns, and Student Advisory Committee Officers



Yolanda Borquaye '14, *Intern*
Soyoung Kim '14, *Intern*
Eric Lu '14, *Intern*
Bianca Okafor '14, *Intern*



Grace Chen '15, *Intern*
Maya Dorje '15, *Intern*,
SAC Co-chair
Rahim Mawji '15, *Intern*
Aubrey Walker '15, *Intern*



Nader Daoud '16, *Intern*
Kirin Gupta '16, *Intern*
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Tiffany Ramos '16, *Intern*
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SAC Secretary



Joanne Crandall '17, *Intern*
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Christina Vourakis '16, *SAC Treasurer*

Staff: Dr. S. Allen Counter, *Director*; Loc Truong, *Assistant Director*; Heidi Wickersham, *Administrative Coordinator*

Faculty Advisory Committee Members and Acknowledgements

Dr. Ali Asani, Mr. Steven B. Bloomfield, Dr. Leo H. Buchanan, Dr. S. Allen Counter, Dr. John E. Dowling '57, Ph.D. '61, Dr. Scott Edwards '86, Mr. David L. Evans, Dr. Cassandra Extavour, Dr. William R. Fitzsimmons '67, Dr. William Gelbart (chair), Dr. Robin Gottlieb, Dr. Benedict Gross '71, Ph.D. '78, Dr. William A. Graham, Dr. Robert Lue, Dr. Michael McElroy, Dr. Xiao-Li Meng, Mr. Robert Mitchell, Dr. Sandra Naddaff '78, Ph.D. '83, Dr. Bruce Price '72, Dr. Michael Shinagel, Dr. Robert Woollacott.

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