A Place For the Uninvited
Exploring thorny questions around immigration

Ted W. Love ’81
Pioneering a new therapy for sickle cell disease

New LEAF
Heidi Witmer ’02 on helping kids learn from the land

HAVERFORD
The Magazine of Haverford College

SPRING/SUMMER 2017

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Haverford magazine is also available in a digital edition.
CHECK IT OUT AT haverford.edu/magazine

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TALE OF TWO MARCHES

Congratulations to the 120 who went to Washington for the Women’s March [winter 2017, Main Lines]. In May 1970, the college pretty much closed down and students bused to D.C. to protest the surge into Cambodia during the Vietnam War. It was my first trip to the capital and first visit to my congressman’s office. ‘Twas a neat experience for a 20-year-old!

—Paul Herrmann ’71

ABOUT THOSE BLACK SQUIRRELS…

On page 9 of your recent, excellent new Haverford magazine I noticed “New Look for the Black Squirrel” and its fun photos. When I lived on campus, I was not aware of any black squirrels. Then, after two years at Haverford, I went to the University of Toronto for summer school to make up my Russian language credit, and there I saw my first-ever black squirrels. My recollection of the amazement I felt helps me know that there were not any black squirrels on campus when I was at Haverford. So, when did they arrive? How? When did they become the mascot of Haverford?

Thanks again for the great magazine you produce and share with me, with us.

—Robbie Anderman ’70

The editors respond: Despite our best efforts, we could not pin down the exact era when the black squirrels first arrived on campus. (They would have to have been introduced. Their black coats are a genetic mutation, and two gray squirrels can’t make a black one.) What we did learn is that team names and mascots came up in a Plenary discussion in the late 1980s, and while “black squirrels” was mentioned, it didn’t get enough votes to beat “the Red Wave.” A 1995 issue of this magazine revealed that somewhere around 1990 the baseball team began calling itself “the Black Squirrels.” The nickname caught on with other teams, reported the magazine, “and hundreds of T-shirts adorned with Haverford College artists’ renditions of feisty little beasts” were sold by teams and Students’ Council. The original mascot suit (which looked more like a chipmunk) was purchased in 1999. And last year, the new and improved black squirrel costume was unveiled.

REMEMBERING

DAVID WILSON KRAFT ’78

David majored in anthropology at Bryn Mawr and received the Frederica de Laguna award at graduation for excellence in his chosen field. He was a quick study and much brighter than he wanted people to believe. Case in point: We took art history together in freshman year and were required to apply Heinrich Wolfflin’s theories to two pieces of art that we had studied in class. I spent weeks laboring over my paper. A day or two before the assignment was due, David asked me for a synopsis of Wolfflin’s theories and pulled an “all nighter” to write his paper. I received an “A” for my efforts; David received an “A-“. Being David’s friend could also be maddening.

Attending Haverford meant a great deal to David, not merely because it provided him with a generous opportunity to exercise his prodigious mental gifts (he was not much into exercising the rest of his body) but because the college, along with Bryn Mawr, created a safe place for him to express his often unconventional passions and interests.

At David’s funeral, I was struck by how many of his friends, some from elementary school and some of more recent vintage, all said the same thing: “No one could make me laugh like David.” Indeed, my wife, Beth, and my children always knew when I was on the phone with my friend; my uncontrolled laughter would reverberate throughout the house and, more often than not, I would be dizzy or crying from the onslaught of his hilarious observations, some leveled at his own perceived shortcomings and many leveled at my real ones. Nothing, however, was said in malice and nothing was, at its core, untrue.

For David, there were never enough opportunities to honor the people that he loved. No birthday was forgotten.
Many were frequently celebrated with cards of sequined and glittered angels, always in gold or silver, always containing invitations to visit and warm wishes for the coming year. They were followed with a phone call and often with an email. His homemade gifts are among my most cherished possessions.

Haverford is a source of many blessings. One of its greatest gifts to me was my deep and abiding friendship with an extraordinary human being, David Wilson Kraft. If you want to honor my friend, laugh freely, deeply, often—and with abandon. —Carl H. Shuman ’78

THE GREAT DIVIDE
I am concerned that Haverford has changed to become only an extremely liberal institution that doesn’t provide the current student crop with a balanced exposure to the conservative side of today’s “deeply divided” American society (as I recall reading somewhere in the winter edition of Haverford magazine).

All the articles in [that] edition seem to have a decidedly liberal slant/bias inherent in the way they present their story; e.g., the article on “Fake News” fails to mention that well over 90 percent of today’s “journalists” not only support in their writing, but also contribute only to the Democratic Party; the global climate change article, while noting there were ice age and heating cycles roughly 300 million years ago, chooses not to highlight there were no humans around then to contribute to that phenomenon—just the opposite of today’s idea touted by liberal thinking that man is the primary cause.

—Vincent S. Averna ’56

The editors respond: We believe that our “Fake News” story presented a balanced view of the phenomenon, and we could find no substantiation of the claim that journalists are overwhelmingly Democrat. As reported on Politico, a 2013 study by Indiana University professors Lars Willnat and David H. Weaver showed that 50.2 percent of full-time journalists identify as independent—the highest percentage since the survey began in 1971. The number identifying as Democrat dropped to 28.1 percent (down from 35.5 percent in 1971); 7.1 percent identified as Republican; and 14.6 percent identified as “other.”

Regarding the article on Assistant Professor of Biology Jonathan Wilson’s research on the ancient CO2 record: Past ice age cycles were driven by geological and geophysical processes. These are still in operation today, but what scientists have learned is that the rate and magnitude of human effects on global climate are faster and larger than those driven by the planet and solar system. Wilson and his colleagues’ deep-time reconstructions, using fossilized leaves and soil-formed minerals, revealed previously unknown fluctuations of atmospheric carbon dioxide at levels that are projected for the 21st century. The key findings: While present-day climate change could bring the loss of tropical forests, that loss of plant life could also, in turn, amplify the effects of climate change and make it even more severe and unpredictable. “These results do not have a political orientation or make a policy recommendation—they are simply scientific facts,” says Wilson.

CORRECTION: In the obituary for William Wistar “Wis” Comfort ’54 last issue, we erroneously stated that William Wistar Comfort 1894 was Wis’s father. He was his grandfather. Wis’s father was Howard Comfort ’24, a distinguished scholar and athlete who taught classics and coached cricket at the College. Thanks to Bill Kaye ’54 for the correction.

TALK TO US
If something you read in this issue inspires a question, a comment, a polite rebuke, or a paean, send it along. What would you like to see more of in the magazine? What would you like to see less of? Let us know. Have you got a great idea for a story? Tell us about it. Do you have a question you want to ask about Haverford history or Haverford now? Ask away.

Send us an email at: hc-editor@haverford.edu

Or send a letter to: Haverford magazine College Communications Haverford College 370 Lancaster Ave. Haverford, PA 19041

Check out the digital edition of Haverford magazine at haverford.edu/magazine.
[President Kim Benston’s remarks at Haverford’s 179th commencement urged our new graduates to find ways to overcome the divisiveness that besets our nation and others. We are publishing his address for the benefit of readers who were unable to attend the event. —The Editors]

Congratulations to our graduating class on this long-anticipated day!

The cheers we all voice today echo the ones you uttered four years ago.

It was a beautiful Wednesday night in August 2013, and I was working in the Provost’s office in Founders, when I started hearing roar upon roar erupt from Marshall Auditorium, across the quad. Those were your voices, raised in unison as you took possession of your Haverfordian identity: the Class of 2017. You were celebrating something not yet fully real: your sense of belonging to this place. You were expatriates from a multitude of high schools around the world, pledging yourselves to build a community in this new realm.

That community was grounded in your eagerness to dwell in the spaces of this campus—to walk beneath its trees, to roam its trails, to enter its classrooms, labs, studios, practice rooms, athletic fields, and cultural spaces with an uplifting confidence that they were your very own.

Granted, a great deal of your work in college has been carried out in what we call virtual space—the conceptual sphere we build for ourselves, independent of the physical environment. But your life as a community has been far from virtual. You have collaborated, debated, performed, eaten, danced, and played together in real space. Individually, you have soaked up the idiosyncratic details of our landscape: the stone arch between the upper campus and the Dining Center, where cooking aromas waft through; the bells in the cupola of Founders, telling you to sprint, slow down, or simply pause to savor a moment of your life; the sea of pinwheels sparkling on dignified Founders Green; the distinctive wooden crack! of the cricket field; the flight of geese (ah, yes, those irrepressible geese) circling for a landing on the pond, reminding you that there are others who know our world in a different way.

In sum, like all of us here, you have been blessed in holding a kind of title to this special place, an empowering citizenship—a right to its spaces. I am led to observe that we are living in a time of huge, tectonic shifts in the political, economic, and cultural exercise of such rights. This is a time when even the most securely rooted person can see how abruptly anyone can be dis-placed, made homeless, whether by personal financial hardship or by malevolent larger forces. And perhaps what matters most about this community, whose protections and privileges we have all enjoyed, is that it sustains an outward-looking concern to remedy disparities in basic rights, including the fundamental right to dwell. The safe belonging that has been ours here, we wish for others.

Our concern cannot be enacted simple-mindedly; we are navigating among competing narratives, unwieldy histories, disinformation campaigns, and ideologies constructed to demonize certain groups or set whole populations against one another. We encounter totalitarian thinking in many guises; and it is arising in places we might once have thought immune. But as citizens of this College, we have sunk our roots deep in the belief that critical thinking and ethical vigilance can foster a productive attention to the rights of all others who occupy this planet along with us.

Your future endeavors lie in many directions, and in many fields. But I know that your knowledge, and your generosity, will be put to helping others find their own place of shelter, belonging, and self-realization. Give your compassion free rein to cross the boundaries erected between groups, between peoples—and between species. Let your sojourn here at Haverford inspire your dedication to the possibility that those who today are uprooted, or confined, or disregarded shall one day find home.

I know that this place will always dwell within you. May the spirit of empathy, hope, and reason find renewal whenever you walk these spaces, whether virtually or in the full embodied presence with which you have graced us these past four years. I wish you all the very best.

Kim Benston
Continuing a Century-Old Tradition

One hundred years ago, several members from the Haverford Class of 1867 fulfilled a graduation pact and met for dinner with the graduating Class of 1917. Half a century after that first dinner, the Class of 1917 came together for another dinner, this time with the Class of 1967, and in May, in the dinner’s third iteration, the soon-to-be-graduated Class of 2017 ate with members of the Class of 1967. That initial meeting, between men molded in the Civil War era and those shaped by the First World War, inaugurated a semi-centennial pattern of jubilee dinners between each class of ‘17 and ‘67.

For its latest occurrence, sponsored by Haverford’s Office of Institutional Advancement and organized by Chuck Hardy ‘67, roughly 20 students and alumni convened at the White Dog Cafe near campus. “It’s such a bizarre, wonderful thing,” said Hubert Herring ‘67. “I think it’s terrific.”

Because it happens so infrequently, the 100-year-old tradition remains “a well-kept secret,” said Bill Schauman ‘67, and each meeting is markedly different from the last. This year’s dinner, for example, was the first to feature women. (Haverford was not yet co-ed in 1967.)

But despite such differences, there are also plenty of similarities. All four classes that have attended the dinner attended Haverford, respectively, during the Civil War, World War I, the Vietnam War, and the current, ongoing...
conflicts in Syria and Afghanistan. At one point, Schauman took out his phone and displayed a scanned document, written by late Professor of Physics Bill Davidon, a faculty member who helped mastermind a 1971 break-in at an FBI office in Media, Pa. The document contained advice to Haverford members of the Classes of ’67 and ’68 on how to avoid the military draft. Schauman was just one of the many students the letter addressed.

But the main topic of discussion was everyone’s shared alma mater. The Fords, both old and young, were eager to discuss what has remained constant about Haverford, as well as what has changed drastically over the last half-century. Herring, for instance, wondered when exactly the school went co-ed (the answer: 1980), and how it had changed the relationship with Bryn Mawr. And everyone enjoyed looking through Commencement programs from 1867, 1917, and 1967, as well as the Bryn Mawr and Haverford yearbooks from 1967.

“I always love hearing about the history of Haverford,” said Krohn, who, with a Haverford alumnus for an uncle and a Bryn Mawr alumna for a mother, is part of a Bi-Co legacy of her own. “I feel like I often don’t get to hear about people’s lived experiences here. I’m proud of Haverford for what it’s been able to hold on to and what it’s improved on.”

Bob Gorchov ’67, a philosophy major, was the only alum in attendance who attended the previous dinner as a senior, and he brought notes that he had written at the event 50 years ago. “There were five of us, and I forget how many from the class of 1917, but they were very distinguished,” he said. “There was a professor and a doctor and a financier and someone who worked for the Wall Street Journal… It was neat.”

“That was really cool to see what their dinner was like, and see what they reported on. After reading that, I thought, ‘I definitely want to be a part of that 100 years later,’ ” said Willa Gutfreund ’17.

It’s hard to say where Haverford or the world will be in 2067. This year’s graduating class is sure to have a say in it—the now-alumni, with Haverford degrees under their belts, have their whole professional careers ahead of them. No matter where they end up, the young Fords at the dinner said they hope to keep the dinner tradition alive, and look forward to, in 50 years time, eating with graduating seniors who haven’t been born yet. In the meantime, they got the opportunity to dine with a group of Fords that came of age amidst counterculture, political unrest, and revolutionary pop music. Perhaps the class of 2067 will be saying the same thing about the class of 2017.
—Michael Weber ’19

On April 4, Haverford joined nearly 200 art house movie theaters across the country (and in five international locations), in an event screening of the 1980s film 1984, based on the dystopian novel of the same name by George Orwell. The film chronicles one man’s dawning rebellion against a society whose government manufactures facts, demands total obedience, demonizes foreign enemies, and promotes “doublethink,” telling citizens: “War is peace,” “Freedom is slavery,” and “Ignorance is strength.” The 1984 national screening was conceived as a protest of President Donald Trump’s proposed plan to eliminate humanities agencies such as the National Endowment for the Arts, and as a way to spark community conversation. Participating theaters that charged admission donated a portion of the proceeds to local organizations or used the funds for future community-related programming. The Haverford screening was sponsored by the John B. Hurford ’60 Center for the Arts and Humanities.
The jurors for the sixth annual Tri-Co Film Festival had a daunting job this year: selecting just 17 films out of the more than 50 submitted by students at Haverford, Bryn Mawr, and Swarthmore for screening at the Bryn Mawr Film Institute.

This year’s fest offered students with varying levels of filmmaking experience the chance to showcase their work and receive feedback from jurors Sally Berger, a former curator at MoMA, and filmmaker Stephen Winter (Jason and Shirley), who gave out six awards.

Of the eight films by Haverford students that were screened, four received awards. *Puerto Rico = Colony* by Connor Cassidy ’17 earned the prize for creative nonfiction, *Sousedi* by Holden Blanco ’17 won the award for narrative, and *ACE* by Saket Sekhsaria ’20 received an honorable mention. The audience award, voted on at the event, went to *Hardwork Movement—On the Rise* by Forrest Reid.

“The festival is an amazing opportunity to have your work shown to the wider community,” said Cole Sansom ’19, who screened his investigative documentary *Vector & Me*. Other Haverford films in the lineup were *Cuckoo* by Katie Rodgers ’18, *Welcome to The Stand* by Caleb Eckert ’17, and *S-Chords: An A Cappella Documentary*, a second submission by Holden Blanco.

Many of the student works emerged from a burgeoning film and media curriculum on campus, led by Huford Center for the Arts and Humanities Visual Media Scholars Vicky Funari and John Muse. Sansom, for example, produced his documentary in Funari’s “Advanced Documentary Production” class; Blanco also worked on *S-Chords* in the class.

*Harlow Figa ’16*, who co-directed this year’s festival with fellow Haverford Center Emerging Artist in Residence *Sarah Moses ’16*, expects to see it continue to prosper, especially with the upcoming opening of the Visual Culture, Arts, and Media (VCAM) facility in the fall and the addition of a visual studies minor.

“I imagine the festival will see an increase in the number and quality of submissions,” said Figa. “I hope that students from all three schools will take advantage of Haverford’s VCAM, and that it will become a hub for more Tri-Co collaboration.”

—M. W.
When Max Stossel ’11 put his “video poem” Subway Love up on YouTube in July 2015 he had no big expectations for the lyrical three-minute piece, which features him speaking over footage of strangers on a train who end up in an intimate tango on a New York City subway platform. But in no time at all, the video went viral, garnering news coverage in 12 languages. To date, it has attracted about two million views. Not bad for a guy who only started writing poetry three years ago, and has gradually been inventing his own genre; he recently had business cards made up that read “poet + filmmaker.”

Stossel, who lives in New York and is the son of TV personality John Stossel, got the idea for his first video after he performed his “Subway Love” poem in front of a crowd at a dance party: “It was received really well and lots of people started asking, ‘Can you send me that?’ But as soon as I entered the words on the screen, it was different. So much was lost in the process.” It dawned on Stossel, who had worked as a media strategist, that video was a way to retain the spoken-word flavor while getting the poem out into the world in a big way.

Since the success of Subway Love—whose larger message has to do with being present in the moment and the value of human connection—Stossel, a psychology major at Haverford, has shifted careers. “Telling stories that matter” is the tagline of his website, and he has gone on to shoot a number of other video poems, including commissioned work for clients. Among these: a piece on survivors of child sexual abuse (Whose Side Are You On?) for Jewish Community Watch; a poem about autism (See the World Differently) for the shoelace company Hickies; and another that helped launch a campaign to galvanize world anti-poverty efforts (Together. Stronger.) for Caterpillar.

If you’re sensing a theme, you’re right. Stossel sees part of his role as being a “digital activist.” His video poem Stop Making Murderers Famous became the center of a movement calling for national media organizations to take responsibility for the contagion effect around mass shootings. He also created This Panda Is Dancing-Time Well Spent, which uses humor to critique the current “attention economy” that works to keep us glued to our screens, and asks the question: What if technology and media were designed to help us live by our values?

Stossel acknowledges this is a big shift for a guy who once made a living as a social media marketing expert, creating strategies for Dove and several other major brands, including Budweiser, for whom he achieved a 3,400 percent increase in average engagement. “That was really a lot of my wake-up about where the tech industry has gone wrong,” he says. “I was doing a lot of the things that I’m pointing out in This Panda Is Dancing. It was my job to try and make you lose your focus and come into my world and keep your attention.”

The video launched along with Time Well Spent, a movement aimed at aligning technology with humanity. “This is not a ‘throw your smart phone away and disconnect’ movement,” he says. “Technology is this amazing, magical thing. Why can’t we change the measure of success from being about how long we can get you to spend on this product or this app, to ‘How can we best improve your life?’ ”

For the future, he sees no shortage of important stories to tell and a growing role for his brand of digital activism. Says Stossel, “It feels like a lot of things need rethinking right now.”

—E. L.

More information: maxstossel.com

THE QUAKER AFFAIRS OFFICE hosted environmental activist Eileen Flanagan as Friend in Residence in March and April. During class visits, workshops, and a public talk, Flanagan, the clerk of the Board of Earth Quaker Action Team, spoke about the organization’s campaign to pressure a local utility on sustainability issues, and about nonviolent direct action to address climate change.

FYI
Haverford students are nothing if not confident and resourceful. So when Greasepaint, the Bi-Co’s student-run musical theater company, began working on a production of *Ghost Quartet* by Dave Malloy (creator of current Broadway hit “popera” *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*), director Hannah Weissmann ’17 did something a little audacious. She reached out to Malloy himself for advice.

The writer/composer/performer/arranger must have been impressed by that email exchange because there, on opening night, out in the audience in the DC’s Black Box Theater, was Malloy—accompanied by several members of the original *Ghost Quartet* production.

“I had been emailing [Malloy] about the score, and I invited him to come see the show if he was available,” says Weissmann. “He thought it was a great idea and brought along the other members of the original cast [Gelsey Bell, Brittain Ashford, and Brent Arnold], as well as their director Annie Tippe and lighting designer Christopher Bowser.”

Weissmann, who was also a *Ghost Quartet* cast member, calls the experience of performing the work in front of the people who originated it “a magical experience.”

“They had never seen the show before, so it was exciting for everyone involved,” she says. “They were so supportive and enthusiastic about our version of the show, and we were really excited to share it with the people whose songs we had been listening to since December.”

Past Greasepaint productions have included the comedy *Avenue Q* and the rock musical *Spring Awakening*, but *Ghost Quartet*, a song cycle about four friends who meet in the afterlife and share interwoven stories about past lifetimes, presented some real musical challenges. Along with experimental vocal sections and tricky harmonies, the production also required the four-member Greasepaint cast to play various musical instruments, including cello, violin, keyboard, and guitar. Joining Weissmann on stage were Caleb Connor ’20, Jake Bernstein ’19, and Veronica Walton BMC ’19.

Getting Malloy to campus for that late March opening night was also a bit of lucky timing for the Greasepaint crew. The following month, he began gearing up for his Broadway performing debut, stepping into the role of Pierre—usually played by Josh Groban—for 10 performances in May and June. Also big news for Malloy: *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812* garnered more Tony nominations than any other show—a whopping 12, to be exact. (It won two at the June 11 ceremony.)

—E. L. and T. B.
After two years of planning and development, the Board of Managers adopted the SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIC PLAN as a companion to the Plan for Haverford 2020. A project of the College's Council on Sustainability & Social Responsibility (CSSR), the Sustainability Plan sets priorities around sustainability for the years ahead. Looking to 2017-18, several focused working groups are being organized to address the following:

**Academic and public engagement:** making and sharing knowledge around sustainability issues. (Curriculum, scholarship, and public advocacy.)

**Carbon mitigation and resilience:** charting a path to carbon neutrality. (Energy, emissions, carbon pricing, offsets, etc.)

**Sustainable campus:** fostering a community of thoughtful practice. (Water, waste stream, ethical purchasing and contracting, etc.)

**Community connections:** civic engagement around sustainability. (Bringing together campus and community partners.)

The working groups, which will be made up of interested students, faculty, and staff, will convene in the fall. More information: haverford.edu/sustainability/reporting.

**CAMPUS SAFETY** purchased its first gas-electric hybrid patrol vehicle. The Toyota RAV4 Hybrid gets 31 mpg vs. 24 mpg for a conventional RAV4, making it 29 percent more fuel efficient, with a commensurate reduction in emissions.

**FACILITIES MANAGEMENT** installed 10 new water bottle filling stations, bringing the campus total to 14. The goal is to make it easy to shift away from disposable bottles, which have to be trucked to campus and then end up in the waste stream. Each bottle-filler has a meter on it that shows how many disposable bottles are being avoided through the use of the station, and the one in the Gardner Integrated Athletic Center is up to well over 10,000 bottles in its second year of existence. A generous gift from a donor will allow the College to install one additional bottle station each year for the next five years.

**THE GREEN FUND FOR SUSTAINABILITY** helped support the purchase of the hybrid vehicle and the installation of those water bottle filling stations. The initiative, launched this year, allows donors to specify that Haverford will invest their gifts in a fossil-fuel-free fund whose proceeds support campus sustainability initiatives, especially those identified in the Sustainability Strategic Plan. Anyone interested in supporting the fund can contact Vice President for Institutional Advancement Ann West Figueredo ’84 at 610-896-1001 or afiguere@haverford.edu.

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**The Club Life @ HAVERTORD**

One in a Haverblog series on the many and varied student clubs on campus. (To read more, go to blogs.haverford.edu.)

**Dungeons & Dragons**

**WHAT:** For the uninitiated, Dungeons & Dragons is a role-playing game with few requirements: All you need is a polyhedral dice set, some sheets of paper with each player’s character information, and your imagination. Every game session (also known as a campaign), is hosted by a Dungeon Master (DM), who creates and monitors the plot and setting. Players tell the DM what they want to do, then roll the dice to determine whether they have succeeded at their task or not. The plot, setting, and actions can be anything that the group decides on, and the game itself is open to endless possibilities, making each campaign a unique and creative gaming experience.

**WHO:** The club was founded by Oliver Maupin ’18, who wanted to get more people involved and spread his love for the game on campus. “Getting a private group of friends together is pretty easy, but I also wanted to encourage and organize other students to play as well,” he said. “Dungeons and Dragons is escapism at its finest. All you really need are some friends, dice, a pencil, and paper.” The club currently has 17 members spread across four different D&D subgroups.

**DID YOU KNOW:** Member Jay Colon ’18, who will take over leadership of the club at the start of the fall term, has a job writing for a third-party publisher of a D&D spin-off called Pathfinder. He spends his time working on new settings, characters, and monsters to be compiled in books and sold to other Dungeon Masters for use in their campaigns.

—Jenny Ahn ’17
On Saturday, May 13, the 294 members of the Class of 2017 became the newest members of the Haverford College alumni community. Despite a steady downpour outside, inside the Field House there was, according to President Kim Benston’s opening remarks, “sunshine in our hearts.” The packed crowd—friends and family of the graduates, as well as the staff, students, and faculty who helped shape their Haverford experience—listened to a short speech from the student-chosen speaker, Housekeeping Supervisor Eva Wilson, who said that her impending retirement, after 17 years, made her feel like a member of the Class of 2017 too. They also heard an address from political science major Michael Furey ’17, whose speech on passion, nerdiness, and the importance of using knowledge to “lift people up” included a dig at Star Wars’ Galactic Senate for its lack of checks and balances. Another part of the commencement ceremony was the awarding of two honorary degrees. One went to acclaimed Nigerian novelist and short-story writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (top left), who is also famous for a TEDx talk (“We should all be feminists.”) that was later sampled in Beyoncé’s song “Flawless.” Adichie spoke about her “favorite cliche”: “Life is short.” What it means, she said, is that to be alive is to hold something fragile and precious in your hands and decide not to waste it. The second honorary degree went to climber-turned-entrepreneur Yvon Chouinard (middle left), founder of eco-conscious outdoor clothing and gear purveyor Patagonia. The company, which Chouinard started in 1973, gives one percent of its total sales, or 10 percent of profits (whichever is more) to environmental groups each year. “Business can do more than just be restricted by social mores,” Chouinard observed. “It can intentionally define [them] to reshape capitalism.” See more photos of Commencement on the Haverblog at hav.to/29r. Watch a video of the event at haverford.edu/commencement/video.
Late on a weekend night in April, an odd object appeared in front of Founders Hall: a bed, complete with linens and a pillow. Inside, Founders Great Hall looked like a dormitory, with 16 beds arrayed across the distinctive black-and-white tile floor. Echoing through the large, open room was the sound of many voices, all speaking at once.

This was the scene at Dearbed, an art installation/performance piece engineered by Yoshifumi Nomura ’18. The installation featured monologues from Tri-Co students that were recorded by Nomura and played on small digital devices hidden inside the pillows on the beds. The event opened at 8 p.m. on a Friday night and continued until 11:59 p.m. the following Saturday, welcoming audience members to enter and leave at their leisure and stay as long as they liked.

Dearbed’s monologues illuminated aspects of students’ lives that Nomura says are covert or rarely discussed. Among the topics explored were “the freshman 15” weight-gain phenomenon, depression and insomnia, the experience of a one-night stand, and dealing with boredom.

Nomura, who hails from Tokyo, received funding from the John B. Hurford ’60 Center for Arts and Humanities and the E. Clyde Lutton 1966 Memorial Fund for his project. His goal, he says, was to have the audience interact with his display—something he achieved by encouraging visitors to actually climb into the beds to listen to the recorded monologues.

“Some people lay down and stay there … and listen to the echoey sound.” said Nomura during an opening night interview, as he observed visitors wandering in and out, some speaking, some not. “If you take a step back and look at the audience, it’s really performing—it’s like an ensemble piece.”

—M. W.
Journalist Dave Levitan spent his teen summers working in neuroscience labs, dissecting squid and learning the value of basic scientific inquiry. Though he ultimately chose English over physics for his Haverford degree, that scientific curiosity followed Levitan through his early work as a medical writer, and as the first person ever hired by FactCheck.org to track the errors—deliberate or otherwise—that politicians make when they talk about science. The lessons he learned at that gig led to Levitan’s first book, Not a Scientist: How Politicians Mistake, Misrepresent, and Utterly Mangle Science, which was published in April by W.W. Norton. The book outlines 12 common tactics he’s identified that politicians regularly employ to butcher science, including “the Cherry-Pick,” “the Literal Nitpick,” and “the Oversimplification.” Cat Lazaroff ’89 caught up with Levitan, who lives outside Philadelphia with his wife, Jamie, to talk about the book.

Cat Lazaroff: How did Not a Scientist come about?
Dave Levitan: The idea for the book arose while I was on staff at FactCheck.org in 2015, where I was tasked with explaining why politicians were getting science wrong. I started to notice pretty quickly that there were patterns—that many politicians were using the same rhetorical devices, or making the same mistakes, if we’re being charitable, over and over. I thought it could be useful to gather all these devices and tactics in one place, so we could really see what politicians are doing when they talk about science.

CL: What’s the most egregious anti-science tactic you’ve uncovered?
DL: The obvious answer is the last tactic [I talk about in the book], “the Straight-Up Fabrication,” but that’s actually not that interesting—even though we’re seeing more and more of it these days, from President Trump. The tactic I find absolutely offensive to my core, because it undermines the public’s faith in science, is “the Ridicule and Dismiss.” Politicians use “the Ridicule and Dismiss” to get throwaway laugh lines, and then they try to eliminate funding for foundationally important scientific research. This has taken the form of Mike Huckabee laughing off the effects of climate change as a “sunburn,” or Rand Paul joking about fruit fly research into healthy aging as it relates to the flies’ sex lives. Some of this research, like that funded by the National Institutes of Health, for example, is the reason we now live 30 years longer than we used to. But if politicians can make the public think of research in ridiculous terms, they won’t support it.

“The Certain Uncertainty” is also egregious because it feels so silly to me: We don’t know everything, so we should do nothing. It’s a bit of misdirection based on a misunderstanding of how science works. Obviously we act on uncertainty all the time. It’s like the quote in the book from [cognitive scientist and psychologist Stephan] Lewandowsky, who observes that saying we shouldn’t act on climate change because of uncertainty is like driving 80 miles an hour into a brick wall, because you might not die.

CL: You mentioned that President Trump uses a lot of “Straight-Up Fabrication.” Do you wish you could have included more about him in the book?
DL: I wrote this well before our new president was really on the radar. The book is about the more subtle ways that politicians get science wrong, and those can be tough to see through. But what Trump says is not remotely subtle, there’s no nuance to it. He’s just saying demonstrably untrue, ridiculous things. I’d rather focus on the examples that are useful, that require more debunking than just saying “this is absolutely untrue.” But some of his cabinet members—Scott Pruitt, Rick Perry, for example—the things they say would have fit right in. So while Trump himself isn’t really worth debunking, he’s changed the landscape in such a way that there’s a lot more to debunk.

CL: Do you worry the book might be seen as partisan?
DL: To say that one party gets it wrong on science more than another isn’t really taking a position or a stand. It’s just stating a fact. Some people might say that’s a partisan statement on its face. But there is objective truth out there. And if one party is consistently on the wrong side of that objective truth, it’s not partisan to say that. Plus, the book isn’t just about...continued on page 18
of ancient environments and the ecological history of life through geological time. This textbook covers the fundamental approaches that have provided the foundation for present paleoecological understanding, and outlines new research areas in paleoecology for managing future environmental and ecological change. Bottjer is a professor of Earth sciences, biological sciences, and environmental studies at the University of Southern California.

TODD S. GARTH ‘81: Pariah in the Desert: The Heroic and the Monstrous in Horacio Quiroga (Bucknell University Press). This is the first monograph in English on Horacio Quiroga (1878-1937), a Uruguayan playwright, poet, short story writer, and film critic who is best known for his gothic tales of suffering and despair and for his vivid, Kipling-like children’s stories of preternaturally clever animals. But Quiroga’s remarkable diversity of writings also touched on immigrant life; Hollywood film; gender conflict and convention; science, medicine and technology; and the education of children. This study examines the author’s work through the lens of his singular ideas on heroism. Garth is an associate professor at the U.S. Naval Academy, where he teaches Spanish language, Spanish culture and Latin American literature and culture.

JOHN MAJOR ‘64, and Constance A. Cook: Ancient China: A History (Routledge). The field of early China studies is being revolutionized by a wealth of archaeologically recovered texts and artifacts. The authors draw on this exciting new evidence and a rich harvest of contemporary scholarship in a survey of ancient China and its antecedents that begins with the Neolithic period and continues to the third century CE. Major, who taught East Asian History at Dartmouth College from 1971 to 1984, is an independent scholar based in New York City.

DAVID SALNER ’66: Blue Morning Light (Pond Road Press, 2016). “Whether elegizing his grandfather’s skill with a scythe, reinterpreting the images of realist painter George Bellows, or capturing the rhythm of the American worker … David Salner is a writer with vision, with an ear for beautiful sound,” wrote one critic about this new collection of poems. Salner’s poetry has appeared in Three Penny Review, Prairie Schooner, North American Review, and other literary journals, and has been performed by radio host Garrison Keillor on NPR. He worked for 25 years as an iron ore miner, steelworker, and laborer. This is his third book. To read some of his writings, go to dsalner.wixsite.com/salner.

JONAH SALZ ’78: editor, A History of Japanese Theatre (Cambridge University Press). This comprehensive history provides an overview of Japanese theater, one of the oldest and most influential performance traditions in the world. The book covers the full range of dance-theater genres that have evolved in Japan over the past 1,500 years, including noh, kabuki, bunraku puppet theater, and vanguard butoh dance. Salz is a professor of comparative theater at Ryukoku University in Kyoto, and the director of the Noho Theatre Group.

PETER SHAW ’90: The Passion of the Scrum: Life Lessons from Rugby (CreateSpace). The author, who learned to play rugby in his sophomore year at
Haverford, uses his experience as a rugby player and obsessed fan to share the principles he has learned from the sport that he sees as the keys to leading an honorable, productive, and meaningful life. (“If that’s too heavy and New Age for you,” Shaw says, “then just read this book for the rugby anecdotes.”) Shaw is a pediatric hematologist/oncologist in Tampa. Proceeds from the sale of the book go to support a nonprofit youth mentoring program run by a Pittsburgh rugby club that uses the sport to teach values.

JAMEL VELJI ’01:
An Apocalyptic History of the Early Fatimid Empire (Edinburgh University Press). The Fatimids, a Shia dynasty that ruled much of North Africa from 909-1171, came to power on the heels of an apocalyptic revolution that promised an imminent utopia to those who supported it. This history traces the evolution of Fatimid apocalypticism, how it was used to galvanize support for their cause, and how the Fatimids adjusted their theology when the end of the world, and the promised utopia, failed to arrive. Velji was a member of Haverford’s religion faculty from 2010–2015, and is now an assistant professor of religious studies at Claremont McKenna College.

Music

This is a very rich life,” says jazz pianist Bert Seager ’77, who has been able to make music his profession, and his passion, for more than 35 years. He is well-known, but not famous; he is widely recorded, but not a bestseller; he has steady gigs and is always in demand, sometimes as a bandleader, sometimes as a sideman, sometimes as a teacher. Put all these pieces together, and Seager’s calendar is always filled with music.

He’s been a fixture on the Boston music scene since the 1980s. He moved to the city to study at the New England Conservatory of Music, where he is now on the faculty, and quickly landed plum gigs. His 1987 debut album, Time to Burn, was named a “Jazz Album of the Week” by The New York Times.

Since then, Seager, who is married to former Boston Globe editor Renée Loth and has a son who works in natural resources management in Ecuador, has recorded more than a dozen records as a leader, and some others as a sideman. His extensive touring schedule has included 17 tours of Japan, playing with drummer Kazumi Ikenaga and bassist Masa Kamaguchi, and recent trips to China and Israel. And he has a number of steady Boston-area gigs that have helped him build a local jazz community.

It’s that local scene that birthed Seager’s newest CD, Tetraptych. Pronounced “Tet-trup-tick,” it’s the word for a four-paneled painting, and it’s also the name of his band, a quartet that features tenor saxophonist Hery Paz, who introduced Seager to bassist Max Ridley and drummer Dor Herskovits at a house concert. Almost immediately, the four musicians began creating new music and pushing each other in new directions.

Seager credits Paz with opening him up to a multi-tonal approach that changes how the band plays Seager’s compositions. “He plays very melodically, but in a different key from the rest of us, to create tension,” he says. The energy and adventure are audible across Tetraptych’s six tracks, including the 13-minute “Equanimous Botch,” which is the only tune Seager didn’t write—instead, it’s the sound check the band played while warming up in the studio. Despite being a freely improvised exploration, there’s a comfortable groove to the music that balances close listening and musical openness among the players.

Seager is eloquent when he talks about his life and music. He writes and sends short essays to his fans before shows, “sort of a Dharma message about life before every gig,” and says that going to Haverford (where he was a double-major in economics and music), instead of to a big university or undergraduate conservatory, “helped me become a more articulate, thoughtful person.”

Forty years later, he is always thinking about how to play and compose and collaborate, but the “why” of his musical life is clearer than ever. “I get to be around people who are inspiring and are inspired by me. I’ve gotten to meet and play for and with people from all over the world,” he says. “I am so grateful that I’ve had this life as a musician.”—Brian Glaser

For more information: BertSeager.com
When Tatiana Hammond ‘15 went home to Long Beach, Calif., during winter break of her first year at Haverford, she wasn’t just kicking back until school was starting again. Instead, Hammond and her father, Doug, started a band: Daisy House, which just released its fourth album, Crossroads.

“I was an untrained 18-year-old, and my dad said, ‘I’ve got this song idea—it’s really folk-rock, and I imagine Sandy Denny singing on it,’” says Hammond. She’d always sung along to Denny’s vocals with iconic 1960s British folk-rock band Fairport Convention, so she took up her dad’s challenge. It took three weeks, recording all day every day, for the duo to complete “Ready to Go.”

That song appears on Daisy House’s 2013 self-titled debut record, which features Hammond singing lilting melodic parts over the beds of instrumentation that Doug, who is a professional musician based in Southern California, recorded for a dozen tracks. “My dad’s the genius who writes all the songs,” she says. “When he was 12 he got his first guitar, and music has been his religion ever since.” (Her mother, Jamie Hammond, is a dancer and the founder of Pony Box Dance Theatre, whose logo is based on a drawing Tatiana made as a child.)

After that first session, Doug would have new recordings ready for Hammond to sing on whenever she came home from college. The 10-song Beaus and Arrows followed in 2014, and after graduation they fell into a rhythm of recording, refining, and releasing their music: Western Man came out in early 2016, followed by Crossroads in January 2017.

“I’ve gotten a lot better at singing and have developed my own sense of how I imagine a song should sound in the end,” Hammond says, noting that over time Daisy House has become more of a collaboration between her and her father. “And it’s a whole lot more fun—I think you can hear that in the last two albums especially.”

Hammond, who is now 24, lives in the south of England with her husband and teaches math at a local school (she majored in mathematics at Haverford). She travels to California often to work with her father on new material. The recent Crossroads is the most mature Daisy House record to date, and Hammond says the band has evolved from its folk-rock origins to a more modern sound—albeit one that still radiates the sunshine of ’60s-era California rock.

“Folk is an excellent founding principle, in the sense that it means you make sure the lyrics are compelling and articulate, and that the song itself should be good enough on its own to listen to acoustically,” she says. But now Daisy House’s music is expanding from the folk-driven approach. “We’re no longer insisting on having old English string instruments twinkling throughout our songs.” Indeed, Crossroads is full of up-to-date electric guitars, keyboards and driving pop rhythms.

Hammond says that the changes to Daisy House’s style upset some original fans, but she sees that as part of the price of progression: “The freedom to make whatever kind of song appeals to us has made the process and the albums more exciting.”

Hammond and her father have posted each of their albums online via Bandcamp (daisyhouse.bandcamp.com), and that global platform has created a fan base that extends way beyond the band’s native Long Beach. New York-based music magazine The Big Takeover praised Daisy House’s “pure pop that could have come straight from the 1960s,” and hundreds of people follow the band on social media.

The band is set to play the OC Fair and the International Pop Overthrow festival in Los Angeles this summer, and Doug Hammond is busy working on a new set of songs for the next Daisy House release. Tatiana doesn’t know exactly what to expect from her father’s musical imagination, but she’s clearly her collaborator’s biggest fan. “As each song comes on, you don’t know what you’re going to get, but you know it’s going to be good.”

—B. G.
When she took the helm as artistic and managing director at Allentown Public Theatre (APT), Anna Russell ’14 was clear that the plays she and her small ensemble of writers/actors produced would be for the people of Allentown. “If you’re not making art that relates to the community you’re serving, then your art is less accessible to that community,” she says. “And if you only do art in one part of town, and someone doesn’t have a car to get there or can’t afford parking, that’s not accessible either.”

To overcome those barriers, APT stages its performances all over the place—in schools, churches, parks, museums, and other public spaces in the small northeastern Pennsylvania city. Recent APT performances have included The Island, about two South African political prisoners (with an underlying commentary on mass incarceration in the United States), while this summer’s children’s play is an adaptation of Peter Pan, set in Allentown, whose characters deal with poverty and single parenting. The group is currently working on a piece about heroin addiction, another relevant local issue, and a summer workshop for kids and monthly play readings are also on the schedule.

APT also had a world premiere at last year’s Philly Fringe Festival with Then Athena. A collaboration between Russell and four other theater artists, Then Athena weaves together the stories of 14 women characters to explore the fraught identity of the “heroine” in modern American mythologies.

APT was founded in 2008 to provide a working venue for actors in a place that had few professional theaters. Russell was hired in 2015 to manage the company, and in addition to writing, acting, and choosing three productions each year, she’s in charge of all business aspects of the organization. Since taking the helm, she has expanded APT’s mission.

“We’re trying to bring art to people who might not experience it otherwise,” she says. “I think that [theater] serves an important community function: to lift a place up.” It’s especially important, says Russell, in a place like Allentown, where poverty and unemployment rates remain high, despite some redevelopment successes.

Raised in Lancaster, Pa., surrounded by cornfields, Russell had never experienced professional theater before she came to Haverford. Originally focused on chemistry and engineering, Russell took a theater history course at Swarthmore and was hooked.

After graduation, she did a yearlong apprenticeship at Touchstone Theatre in Bethlehem, Pa, and was hired soon after at APT. “I always knew I wanted to have my own company and do this kind of work, but I certainly wasn’t anticipating having a company handed to me,” says Russell, smiling. “I’m still learning, but I have a good sense of what I’m doing, and a good network of people willing to help out.”

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Q&A: Dave Levitan ’03
continued from page 14

Republicans. Democrats are among those who get the science wrong about GMOs, for example.

CL: What did you learn at Haverford that helps you now?
DL: At Haverford, I sort of sat on the fence for a while—I couldn’t decide between physics and English. Eventually, I couldn’t do the math for physics, so I settled on English. But all throughout Haverford, there was definitely an appreciation for scientific rigor.

If there was a Haverford professor who was really inspiring to me, it would be my physics professor, Jerry Gollub. He could explain a scientific topic in very easy-to-understand ways. And even though I didn’t go into science, I did go into scientific journalism, where there’s an urgent need to explain very complicated things in simple ways.

CL: What’s next for you?
DL: For the next little while, of course, I’ll be promoting the book. At the March for Science on Earth Day, at a teach-in ahead of the march, I talked about sniffing out these sorts of errors and generally bad science communication, along with a co-speaker who talked about how to encourage good, effective communication.

CL: And what do you hope people will take away from that, and from the book?
DL: I would hope that people maybe just have a little bit of increased skepticism when it comes to listening to political speech. Even when politicians sound convincing, when it comes to science, it’s pretty easy for them to dance around the facts, to sound right when they’re not.

The concepts that I try to get across are relatively universal. Many of these tactics have been used over time by both parties. Any time there’s a special interest group, there will be a politician twisting science to help that group. It could be the oil industry, or a certain constituency in rural Iowa. My hope is that if I can spread the word about the consistent ways that science gets misused, people will be more likely to try to hold their politicians accountable. Calling out these rhetorical tricks is a first step.

People tell me the book sounds very relevant today. There does seem to be a pretty sustained and dire attack on science in general. I hope the book can provide a little ammunition against that attack.

Find out more at davelevitan.com

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For Mike Mucci, the numbers paint the entire picture: Forty years spent coaching men’s basketball, 22 of them at Haverford. An all-time Fords-record 185 wins. Of the 16 players to score 1,000 points or more in their college careers, 10 did so on his watch. Four seasons with 14 or more wins. One Centennial Conference Championship game in 2007 that ended in a close loss to Johns Hopkins. One final two-point win over Johns Hopkins before retiring after the 2016-17 season.

Additionally, a jaw-dropping 71 of Mucci’s athletes were on the Centennial Conference Academic Honor Roll. He’s also been practically everywhere to find talent—he claims there are only three states in the country from which he hasn’t had a recruit.

Having accomplished so much and then some, Mucci sat down for a conversation with Haverford magazine to look back at his career and reflect on four decades as a coach, including stops at big-name schools, the trips that meant so much to him, and his most memorable moment with the Fords.

A coach from the start: I grew up in Cleveland and fell in love with the game of basketball as a kid. I played a little at a Catholic high school and at the park all the time. In the winter, I’d shovel my parents’ driveway to shoot at a hoop we had. I ended up at Villanova and was a manager for four years, then I stayed on for three more years, two as a graduate assistant and one as part-time assistant. Then it was on to Robert Morris for two years, to Yale for 13 years as assistant, and then 22 more at Haverford as the head coach.

A legend showed him the way: I worked under Villanova legend Rollie Massimino. He was a great coach. You had to be prepared all the time in everything you did, not just on the court but academically. He was a second father to me—my parents were much older.

Coaching basketball isn’t just about what happens on the court: When I’ve heard from former players, they’ve said, “You helped me with this job opportunity” or “You were so supportive of me through the four years,” and that’s Haverford. There’s that connection students have with each other. I’ve also heard, “Coach, you’ve helped all of us come together as a solid unit.” For me, that’s the most important thing. I also had so many people—including opposing coaches—tell me “Your players work so hard.”

Taking the team abroad: Those opportunities were great for the kids. With
The Mucci Influence

What made Mike Mucci so special to his players? We asked three alumni who played under him to tell us what the coach meant to them and to Haverford.

“As a player and later an assistant on Coach Mucci’s staff, I of course learned a great deal from him about the nuances of the game of basketball. More importantly, though, Coach so impressed me with his concentration on shaping players into human beings who are happy, intellectually curious, community driven, and understand the true import of treating everyone with equal concern and respect.”

—Tim Mulvaney ’00, a former assistant coach under Mucci

“Coach Mucci is a great person who cares for his players. He is naturally humble and frequently puts others ahead of him. I cannot thank him enough for the opportunity he provided me to play basketball at Haverford College. Coach Mucci taught me how important it is to care for your players and make sure they know that you have their best interests in mind.”

—Jason Polykoff ’06, who’s now head men’s basketball coach at Earlham College

“The greatest gift that Coach Mucci ever gave me was confidence. To me, that’s the mark of a successful leader. When you can empower those that you’re leading to think they can accomplish great things because of the confidence you have in them, you’re doing a great job.”

—Greg Rosnick ’09, who co-founded the DiverseCITY Hoops summer youth program at Haverford while he was a student. (It’s now in its eighth year.) He is the assistant men’s basketball coach at Colby College.

How he sold Haverford to potential players: The academics and the size of the school. But there were also opportunities. I’d point out that when you look at schools, you need to see if you can get playing time. At another school, kids might be ahead of you. But some of them don’t love small schools, so it’s about finding the right fit.

Some advice for his successor: They have to understand Haverford. They have to make sure they’re committed to the Honor Code and the academics. If a student is having academic issues, that’s more important than practice.

Why it’s time to go: Forty years is a long time; it wears on you, especially all those long days. It’ll give me more time to spend with my wife. We’re going to Paris in June. Maybe this is an opportunity to see different things.

His favorite moment? The game in which we almost beat Johns Hopkins in Centennial Conference Championship game in 2007. That team really jelled. There were other ones, but that memory was great. At the end of this year, we ended up beating Hopkins, so it was a nice finish for me.

—Charles Curtis ’04

Charles Curtis is a sportswriter for USA Today’s For the Win and an author of the Weirdo Academy series, published by Month9Books. He lives in New York City with his wife and son.

CRICKET REUNION: The annual alumni cricket game drew 27 former players to Cope Field on a rain-soaked Saturday in May. The alumni cricketers, who ranged from the Class of 1972 to the Class of 2016, split into two squads for a morning game, and then faced off against the current college team in the afternoon. No formal scores were kept, but legendary power hitters Gareth McVaugh ’04 and Munik Shrestha ’09 showed the current players their stuff, sending balls well over the tall trees that ring the field. Alissa Strayer ’14, who helped organize the event, also displayed her considerable bowling skills. Cricket has been played on the Haverford campus since the 1850s, and the College’s co-ed team is the only varsity cricket team in the country.
Women’s Fencing team co-captain Amira Abujbara ’17 (right) was selected to join the national team of her native Qatar.

Fencing in Qatar

Amira Abujbara ’17 was completely new to fencing when she joined the Haverford team in her sophomore year. But it wasn’t long before she began to excel in the sport. In just three short years, the foilist rose to the rank of team captain while her fencing prowess earned her a spot on the national team of her native Qatar.

Abujbara came to the attention of the national team coaches in her junior year, after she began working with a private coach in Qatar during the College’s break. Training with two teams at once, though, posed some challenges.

In February, for example, Abujbara found herself going straight from the Eric Sollee Invitational in Massachusetts to an almost-12-hour flight to Bahrain, where she was scheduled to fence for Qatar at the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Fencing Championships. (Started in 1986, the biennial athletics competition includes Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain, and Qatar.) At that event, Abujbara took home a bronze medal for her individual performance and helped lead the Qatar national team to second place in the team portion of the competition.

To finish out that same week, Abujbara jetted back to the United States to join her Haverford team at the Drew Invitational, where she won seven bouts and helped the Fords to wins versus The College of New Jersey, Queens, and Lafayette.

“It was pretty exhausting,” says Abujbara, who was thankful for the bye rounds that fencing provides. “I definitely napped during the competition.”

While such a meteoric rise in a sport is uncommon, natural athletic ability seems to run in her family. Her older sister, Tala, joined the crew team at Williams College as a beginner, became team captain, and went on, after graduation, to compete in four World Rowing Cups.

Though competing at an international level has been exciting, Abujbara credits her start in fencing at Haverford, under head coach Chris Spencer, as key to her growth and development in the sport. “I am just really grateful for the team here,” she says. “I have had so many great coaches, but also, my co-captain Alexandra Morrison ’17 has literally been there, teaching me, since I started fencing.”

Abujbara, who graduated in May with a degree in English and a minor in environmental studies, was recognized as an Eastern Women’s Fencing Conference Women of the Year honorable mention selection, was named a scholar-athlete by the National Intercollegiate Women’s Fencing Association, and was also honored as one of 16 Ambler Scholar-Athletes at Haverford, awarded to senior athletes with the highest GPAs. Post-graduation, her plan is to continue fencing. Already on her radar: the 2019 Asian Games.

—Eils Lotozo, with reporting by Justin Grube

Keep up with your favorite Haverford team at haverfordathletics.com.
There is a lot that is unique about Haverford. Conventional campus lore often highlights the College’s surprisingly high number of a cappella groups or unofficial mascot names. Cope Field is home to the nation’s only NCAA-sponsored collegiate cricket team. And of course, the student-administered, 120-year-old Honor Code is a relative rarity.

But on the western end of campus, sticking up over a collection of athletic fields, Strawbridge Observatory marks yet another uncommon attribute for a school of Haverford’s size. The building’s two-domed structure houses two Schmidt-Cassegrain telescopes, as well as shelves stacked high with scientific literature and classroom space. The Observatory is used regularly for classwork and public-viewing events, and astronomy remains a celebrated subject of study at Haverford. But did you know that its history at the College spans more than 150 years?

Back in 2015, when he was a sophomore, Victor Medina Del Toro ’17 decided to hit the archives and see how it all began. He was awarded the Joseph E. O’Donnell Student Library Research Internship, an annual position granted to students conducting summer research with library staff and a particular faculty advisor. During his internship, and beyond, he studied the history of astronomy at the College, and his two years of work culminated in Expanding the Universe: Astronomy and the Telescope, an exhibition he curated that is on display through July 28 in Magill Library’s Sharpless Gallery.

Working with Associate Professor of History Darin Hayton, Medina Del Toro started with a broad inquiry into the history of astronomy at Haverford, then centered his narrative on the development of the telescope and its role in astronomy.

The exhibition points out that the progression in telescope technology and the expansion of astronomical research did not share a linear relationship. Conceiving the universe, evidently, was a slow process. The College’s first telescope, purchased from renowned tele-
scope maker Henry Fitz in 1857, was an apt illustration of that. Though the telescope and its accompanying observatory structure were a huge upgrade from the 10-by-10-foot building used by then-Professor of Mathematics John Gummere, it received relatively little use for several decades.

“This was actually a problem in American education at the time,” said Medina Del Toro during a talk he gave at the exhibit’s opening. “Science wasn’t really present in education. Science was learned by trade.” Back then, astronomy was a practical or vocational skill used for the purpose of navigation. With a limited number of clear nights being divided among the telescope’s funders, students, and professors, scientific research was put on the back burner until the College acquired a second telescope in the 1880s. Thus, Strawbridge Observatory now boasts two domes.

Medina Del Toro drew from extensive archival material right next door to the Sharpless Gallery in the library’s Quaker and Special Collections. Aided by College Archivist Krista Oldham and Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts and Head of Quaker and Special Collections Sarah Horowitz, Medina sifted through materials ranging from publications by Copernicus to writings by former College President Isaac Sharpless. He leaned on an extensive support network that included Hayton, Librarian of the College Terry Snyder, Library Conservator Bruce Bumbarger, and Coordinator for Digital Scholarship and Research Services Mike Zarafonetis.

“As a historian of science, I was most interested in watching Victor move away from a simple story about how we are smarter now than we were then,” said Hayton. “I really like how he used the telescope—a social, political, economic, scientific thing—to tell his story about astronomy.”

Another way that Haverford is unique: Though the College offers no museum studies program, it gives its students from across the disciplinary spectrum many opportunities to play curator for exhibits. Medina Del Toro, a history major, is but one example.

Earlier during the spring semester, political science major Sophie McGlynn ’18 helped to curate an exhibit on the centennial of the American Friends Service Committee. And back in November, English major Courtney Carter ’17 co-curated another Sharpless Gallery exhibit of portraits by artist Riva Lehrer.

“Over two years, I learned how to write for the public, not a professor,” said Medina Del Toro of the curating experience. “I learned how to choose materials to build and illustrate the narrative. I learned how the precise spacing between lines of text and images affect the public’s enjoyment of the exhibition. I learned that some concepts are better shown than explained.”

—Michael Weber ’19

Farewell to Old Friends

Kaye Edwards, associate professor, Independent College Programs, retired in June. Edwards, who has a Ph.D. in molecular, cellular, and developmental biology, began her career at Haverford in the biology department and for the past 23 years has taught courses that explore various facets of social justice, including how they are embodied in the health of communities. She is the founding director of the new interdisciplinary minor in Health Studies, was director of the Center for Peace and Global Citizenship from 2003-2006 and is the founder of Haverford House, the CPGC’s post-baccalaureate community-action program in Philadelphia. A convinced Friend who serves on the Haverford College Corporation, Edwards has left an indelible mark on the College with her work, which aimed, always, to connect students to the wider world beyond the campus.

Professor of Philosophy Kathleen Wright also retired in June after 39 years at Haverford. A scholar with wide-ranging interests, Wright taught such courses as “Early Chinese Philosophy,” “Confucian Ethics,” and “Love, Friendship, and the Ethical Life.” At a retirement party hosted by Professor of Classics and Comparative Literature Deborah Roberts, some of Wright’s former students described her courses as both demanding and engaging, and said the impact of what they studied with her is still with them many years later. Says Roberts, “[Fords] across the many decades of her teaching remember her as a professor who was both brilliant and kind, who both challenged and supported her students, and who saw and brought out in them abilities they had not been aware of.”
Assistant Professor of Chemistry Lou Charkoudian ’03 has lots of books in her office, but two have particular significance: the chemistry textbooks she used when she was a Haverford student in the organic chemistry classes of professors Karin Åkerfeldt and Fran Blase (now provost), who are now Charkoudian’s colleagues. “They believed in me, and pushed me harder than I thought possible,” she says. “I fell in love with chemistry while I was holding these books. So they have a special place in my heart, and I still use them in my own teaching from time to time.” (Also in her office, and also still in use, is the mug she got as a first-year student during Customs.)

While her academic work as a Haverford undergrad helped set her on her career path, her extra-curricular activities also offered a formative experience, she says. “I played soccer and lacrosse, and being a student athlete taught me the importance of tenacity and determination. Those skills have served me very well.”

Charkoudian, who has a Ph.D. from Duke University, describes her research and teaching interests as lying “at the intersection of organic chemistry and biology.” Her lab, where she collaborates with student researchers, studies *Streptomyces* bacteria to understand how they biosynthesize structurally complex and therapeutically relevant molecules. In January, that work earned Charkoudian a prestigious CAREER Grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The awards honor professors who combine outstanding research with teaching excellence, and she will use the $560,681 grant to fund her project “Accessing Chemical Diversity through the Characterization and Redesign of Natural Product Synthases,” which seeks to engage students in new ways to create chemical diversity by learning and applying lessons from nature.
Pipe cleaner benzene crown and hand-drawn card: The crown was an award from my 2016 class, which declared me “the Nerdiest Professor.” They gave it to me after I announced I was pregnant [with daughter Mabel] and said I was starting a new project in my lab: The biosynthesis of a human. The card was made by two of my 2015 students, to congratulate me when I published a paper in *Science*.

Photo of her two children with husband, and fellow Haverford alum, Bryce Dickinson ’02, who is a structural engineer: Mabel is 12 months old and Everett is 4½, and they are already best friends. I met Bryce in my sophomore year at Haverford, and his faith in me and his unrelenting support have allowed me to chase down my dreams. I think we make a great team.

Old chemistry journal articles: Professor Emeritus of Chemistry Claude Wintner gave these to me. I didn’t have him when I was a student, but he and his wife have become great family friends. These are articles about chemists synthesizing molecules that are made in nature. When Claude was a graduate student, he worked on the total synthesis of vitamin B12, which took 12 years and the efforts of more than 100 students around the world. And yet soil bacteria are able to produce this molecule all day long. To me this is quite humbling, and reminds me that we as humans have a lot to learn from Mother Nature.

Her “I knew them before they were famous” photo album: I started this when I began teaching at Haverford. Every year I take pictures of every class I teach. My students are amazing, and I have no doubt they are going to go out and do great things!

Her running shoes: My parents instilled in me at a very young age the idea that there is nothing like exercise and fresh air to clear your mind. When I’m on a long run, I find ideas come to me. I’ve even taken my lab group on a run to a local diner and treated them to lunch.

Suggestion box: I keep this box outside my office so students can let me know what’s on their mind about class. Sometimes they’re too shy to talk to me in person, or they don’t want to wait for a formal meeting. Many of their suggestions are funny or sweet, and I keep some of those in my desk drawer and look at them for inspiration when I’m having a hard day.

Examples of “bioart”: In our lab we look at how bacteria make molecules, and some of the molecules are pigmented. On the left and right are pictures created by using a brush to pick up inoculated bacteria and then painting on a nutrient rich media in a petri dish. At first you can’t see anything, but as the bacteria grow over a few days, the painted image appears. The image in the middle was made by extracting the pigments, putting them in an acrylic medium, and using it as [paint] on canvas. We often use our bioart as outreach, to help people see the beauty of chemistry and biology. We’ve collaborated with MAST [a science mentoring program for Philadelphia high school and middle school students] as well as the Center for Creative Works, which serves adults with intellectual and learning disabilities.

—Eils Lotozo
Assistant Professor Jonathan Wilson’s “Economic Botany” course was already a unique experience. Bringing together 100-level students and 300-level biology majors, the class is a multidisciplinary exploration of the co-evolution and co-domestication of plants and humans. With Michael Pollan’s *The Botany of Desire* as a guide, the environmental biologist and his 18 students examine case studies of sugar, chocolate, bananas, tea, citrus, and coffee, among others, as a way to appreciate the complex, and intertwined, histories of humankind and plants. But for 10 of Wilson’s students, “Economic Botany” also took them on the adventure of a lifetime.

Thanks to the joint sponsorship of the Center for Peace and Global Citizenship and the Koshland Integrated Natural Sciences Center, more than half of Wilson’s 18-person class were selected, via a rigorous application process, to spend spring break in Trinidad and Tobago on a field study tour, experiencing firsthand the plants they studied in the classroom flourishing in their natural habitats.

“The main learning goal for the course is to get students to understand the botanical, social, and cultural history of the food and the plants they learn about,” said Wilson. “It’s looking at the history of humans domesticating plants, but also plants domesticating humans to spread themselves around the globe because they’re useful to people as food, as clothing, as fibers. But there’s a practical, hands-on type of learning from being ankle-deep in the mud on a trail going through a cacao grove. The knowledge and insight you get from that experience is complementary to what you learn in a lecture or from reading a book.”

The nine-day trip, which included visits to a green market, a hummingbird sanctuary, a nature preserve, and cacao cultivation facilities, was the result of a collaboration between Wilson and CPGC Program Manager Stephanie Zukerman, whose family hails from Trinidad. Zukerman, who has been traveling...
VCAM, our new center for visual culture, arts, and media, is nearly complete and will open in September. To watch a time lapse video of the VCAM’s upper levels being constructed, including the Film/Media Editing Studio on the first level and the Media Production/Object Study Classroom on the second level, go to hav.to/28o.

Detail of a daguerreotype of Brown, taken by African American photographer Augustus Washington in Springfield, Massachusetts, circa 1846–47.

CLASS NAME:
“John Brown’s Body”

Taught by: Associate Professor of English Christina Zwarg

Here’s what Zwarg had to say about the class: Martyr, fanatic, hero, revolutionary, terrorist, sage? Who was John Brown and what has he come to represent for our culture?

This course uses the spectacular life and death of abolitionist John Brown to examine a common set of issues moving across two centuries. These interests include the place of violence in the cause of liberty; the shifting terrain of civil disobedience and terrorism; the cultural work of fear and preemptive force; the relationship of aesthetic value to changing social and political claims; and the role of race and gender in the construction of emancipatory rhetoric and national histories, including the repressed history of the Haitian revolution. In so doing we follow the lead of W.E.B. Du Bois, who, in 1962 on the eve of the centennial of the Emancipation Proclamation, published a revised edition of his 1909 biography of Brown. Students follow the transformation of this story through a number of forms, including songs, critical essays, “confessions,” slave narratives, fiction, lectures, interviews, and poetry.

Read about more cool classes in our Haverblog series: hav.to/coolclass.

—Rebecca Raber
Assistant Professor of Economics Carola Binder was interviewed on NPR’s MarketPlace, discussing the Federal Reserve’s Labor Market Conditions Index, and was interviewed about wage and price growth in an era of low unemployment for a Washington Post article.

Ruth Marshall Magill Professor of Music Curt Cacioppo’s Elegy was performed by Italian violinist Francesco D’Orazio at the San Francisco Italian Cultural Institute, the Cleveland Museum of Art, and other venues. The Orpheus Duo gave the world premiere of Cacioppo’s Stories from the 7th Ward in Long Beach, Calif. He also completed a major work, Piano Variations on “Hail to the Chief.”

Visiting Assistant Professor Thomas Devaney was a featured speaker at the Double Take series at ApexArt in New York City in April. The theme of the talk was that all Philadelphia stories can be told through the lens of Rocky. In May he was featured poet at the Grand Army Plaza branch of the Brooklyn Public Library. Devaney was a featured participant in the Philadelphia #WritersResist: United for Liberty event at the National Museum of American Jewish History, and his essay “In Paterson, a snippet of the poet’s life,” about the Jim Jarmusch film Paterson, was published in The Philadelphia Inquirer.

Professor of Biology Rob Fairman’s protein assembly research was profiled in Scientia, an online magazine and outreach program that helps scientists publicize and explain their work to the wider world.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Fine Arts Christina Freeman ’05 worked with the Lower East Side collective ABC No Rio to develop the process-based, collaborative exhibition Against Competition/Towards Mutual Aid. The exhibition opened to the public on Feb. 8 at Flux Factory in Long Island City. Freeman was also invited to speak about the exhibition to a class on “New York City’s Alternative Spaces” at the New School’s Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts.

Assistant Professor of Physics and Astronomy Daniel Grin was awarded the Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics Scholars grant to fund summer research as a visitor at University of California, Santa Barbara over a period of three years.

Associate Professor of Music Heidi Jacob, as newly appointed associ-
ate conductor of the Chamber Orchestra of First Editions, conducted Professor Curt Cacioppo’s *A Meeting of Souls* for string orchestra and harpsichord at Haverford College and the Trinity Center in Philadelphia. In March, her *Metamorphosis for Cello and Piano* was performed in San Francisco as part of a performance by the contemporary music group Earplay, and her work for solo piano, *but time will tell*, was performed by Charles Abramovic as part of a performance by L’Ensemble in Bennington, Vt. On May 9, Jacob was guest conductor of The Dolce Suono Ensemble, conducting Steven Stucky’s *Canus* at the Curtis Institute of Music.

Professor of Physics Suzanne Amador Kane co-authored “Sneak peek: hawks use stochastic head motions to perform visual searches,” which appeared in *The Auk*. The article was widely covered in the news, including a Discovery Channel appearance on *Daily Planet*.

Andrea Lommen, the College’s newest professor of physics and astronomy, is part of a research team whose project was included on the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket (above) that launched from NASA’s Kennedy Space Station in Cape Canaveral, Fla., on June 3. The team’s X-ray telescope, known as NICER (Neutron star Interior Composition Explorer), was on the flight and is set to be installed at the International Space Station for a year and a half.

Associate Professor of Classics Bret Mulligan designed and launched CommentarySandbox, an open source Wordpress theme and plugin to create Dickinson College Commentaries-style commentaries. He also assumed directorship of Classicizing Philadelphia, a research and outreach project in the reception of the classics in Philadelphia.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Fine Arts Kaitlin Pomerantz has been selected to create a site-specific installation in Philadelphia’s Washington Square Park for Monument Lab, a public art and history project coming to Philadelphia next fall (co-curated by Visiting Assistant Professor of History Paul Farber). Pomerantz’s installation will collect front steps from demolished homes around the city, offering a place to sit and reflect on neighborhood history, culture, and architecture in a time of rampant urban development.

Visiting Professor of Health Studies and Independent College Programs Carol Schilling was guest co-editor of *The Journal of Medical Humanities* special issue on “Caregiving, Kinship, and the Making of Stories.”

Assistant Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures Erin Schoneveld participated in an artist lecture and video-based performance with Japanese experimental artist and filmmaker Shuzo Azuchi Gulliver at Vox Populi gallery in Philadelphia. The event was supported by a grant from the Andy Warhol Foundation.

Professor of Psychology Shu-wen Wang will be honored at the American Psychological Association’s 125th annual convention in Washington, D.C., in August. The APA’s Minority Fellowship Program will recognize Wang for her Distinguished Contribution to Science.

Assistant Professor of Biology Kristen Whalen was awarded a three-year NSF grant, “Collaborative Research: Building a framework for the role of bacterial-derived chemical signals in mediating phytoplankton population dynamics,” of which Haverford College received $356,028. Both Whalen and her senior research student, *Abigail Keller ’17*, presented at the Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii. Whalen visited the Norwegian Marine Biological Station run by the University of Bergen, Norway, with Anna Schrecengost ’18 from May 13 to June 2. They joined a team of 25 scientists from six institutions to study the physiological effects of bacterial natural products on phytoplankton blooms.

Assistant Professor of Chemistry Helen K. White and Haverford undergraduate students *Miranda Baker ’17, Chloe Wang ’17*, Cicy Geng ’18, and Owen Janson ’18 presented their research at the ASLO 2017 Aquatic Sciences meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii.
The science behind sickle cell disease (SCD) is cruel. For approximately 100,000 American children and adults (and 10-15 million people around the globe), a mutation in a single gene means a lifetime of unpredictable and excruciating pain—along with exhaustion, serious infections, and collateral damage to the brain, heart, lungs, and other organs. Anemia, strokes, pregnancy problems, kidney disease, and joint pain are common.

But the racial inequities that have hindered treatment advances for SCD—the most common inherited blood disorder in the United States—are far crueler. “I was at a conference recently where an older woman stood up and said she’d been in situations where she was effectively told, ‘Sickle cell disease is an African-American problem. It’s up to you guys to solve it,’” says physician Ted W. Love ’81, M.D., CEO of Global Blood Therapeutics (GBT) in South San Francisco. “But there’s no reason the greater society as a whole shouldn’t be solving this. And thankfully we’re starting to see it get the attention it deserves these days across the biotech industry and with drug regulators.”

In the United States, more than 90 percent of people with SCD are African-American. The average life expectancy is 40-45 (up from age 14 in the 1970s). U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved therapies are limited to a circa-1960s cancer drug with potentially serious side effects, or a bone marrow transplant—a cure that few opt for because it is risky, and donor matches are difficult to find. Children and adults with SCD who need relief for a crisis of acute pain wait 25-50 percent longer for emergency room care than others with severe pain, according to a recent study; too often, they’re dismissed as “drug seekers.”

Today, researchers and drug companies are investigating at least a dozen potential SCD therapies (from gene-editing to acaia-tree resin), aided with incentives from the FDA. Among the most promising is one that Love’s company has developed, the experimental drug GBT440. Love spoke to Haverford magazine about the drug and its promise in treating people with SCD.
How does GBT440 work?

GBT440 works by keeping hemoglobin molecules—the protein inside red blood cells that carry oxygen to cells throughout the body—from sticking together to form chains called polymers. This polymerization is the central problem in SCD; the polymers deform the shape of red blood cells. Normally red blood cells are round discs that glide through the bloodstream, but in SCD, they take on a crescent or sickle shape. These sickle-shaped red blood cells pile up in small blood vessels called capillaries, blocking blood flow and restricting oxygen to body tissues. That causes severe pain episodes that send people to the emergency room and body-wide tissue damage.

About one pound of an adult’s body weight is hemoglobin; its job is to pick up oxygen from the lungs and make it available to cells throughout the body. It works like a dump truck. When it travels to tissues, it delivers as much oxygen as possible into a tissue. That’s when polymerization happens in SCD. And that’s where GBT440 comes in. It essentially keeps hemoglobin molecules in a flatbed position inside red blood cells, so it can’t form polymers.

What have early clinical trials found?

We continue to study GBT440 in people with SCD, but the clinical trials we have conducted so far have shown that dramatically fewer red blood cells are sickling and healthier red blood cells are surviving, flowing through capillaries and delivering oxygen. Patients have less anemia, which should make them feel better. Almost anybody who understands the science behind GBT440 is excited about the potential of this investigational drug.

A pivotal Phase 3 GBT440 clinical trial is underway in adults and adolescents (12 to 17 years old), with plans to expand the program to younger children later this year. Why include kids at such a young age?

SCD is a lifelong, inherited condition; you have it from birth. In our earlier clinical trials, GBT440 has been shown to be safe. Now, in our phase 3 study, if GBT440 continues to have an excellent safety profile and can be shown to be effective, then arguably the greatest benefit effects will come from starting it very early, as soon as six to nine months after birth. Parents are very supportive and hopeful for a new option that can potentially help their child or children lead a normal life.

GBT440 got Orphan Drug Status from the FDA in 2016—the same year your company went public with a $1.2 billion IPO. That’s a huge vote of confidence from investors and the government. When might GBT440 be ready for the public?

That’s a few years away. We expect to report results of the current Phase 3 trial, which is designed to test whether the drug works in 400 people, in the first half of 2019.

You’ve called the need for better SCD treatments a social justice issue. Can you explain?

SCD was first described 100 years ago, and 60 years ago, the genetic basis was understood. Despite this, research into novel treatments has not kept pace with other diseases. When I was in medical school, patients with SCD were dying in their teens. Today, people still live only into their 40s. Right now, some people are treated with an older cancer drug called hydroxyurea, but it can cause concerning side effects. Complications of SCD are treated with hydration, pain relief, and pain medications. Bone marrow transplant is only an option for a few.

You were in retirement, living in California’s wine country after three decades in biotech, when you decided to head GBT. Why?

I was already on the company’s board but wanted to stay retired so I could devote my time to my wife and daughters. I’d had a good career working for biotech firms including Genentech, Nuvelo and Onyx, but the long hours and travel were brutal for family life. But I kept reviewing the GBT440 data from animal studies, and they strongly suggested it might work in humans. I was on a flight to Seattle and couldn’t get it off my mind. I called my wife, Joyce, and she said, “Just come home, we’ll talk about it.” She and my daughters [Samantha, Haverford Class of 2017, and Alex, Class of 2015] were absolutely adamant that I had to do this—it was a critical opportunity to help the African-American community and people around the world with SCD. My family provided, and continues to provide, enormous and wonderful support. I now know this was the right decision as the team I joined, and help continue to grow, is similarly inspired to find a solution to the inequity of SCD. Our team’s passion and drive, combined with the hope of the SCD community, keep me focused and motivated.

Other researchers are testing gene therapies for SCD. Would that make GBT440 obsolete?

Unlikely, as GBT440 would be taken as a once-a-day pill. We expect to announce top-line data from our Phase 3 study in 2019, meaning that GBT440 could potentially be available in the U.S. before gene therapies. In my opinion, patients will likely prefer to take a once-daily pill, and it may be more practical and affordable in areas of the world where people have less access to advanced medical care. If the SCD community gets to the point where people have several treatment options that directly target this disease, that will be a major win.

How do you feel when human volunteers take for the first time a drug that you’re developing?

I feel hopeful. Before the first human trial, there’s an enormous amount of work done to demonstrate that a drug is safe and has more benefits than risks. There are lots of precautions, including starting with very low doses in people. Both healthy volunteers and people with the targeted disease, in this case SCD, are critically important to the potential success of drug development. The people who volunteer usually will not get the benefits themselves—they do it to help others, potentially improving the lives of future generations. For that I am very grateful.

—Sari Harrar

Sari Harrar is a freelance health journalist published in national magazines, books, and online. She was a 2016 National Magazine Award finalist.
Every winning team has impressive stats, and Haverford’s winning team of student photographers is no different.

30,000: This is the number of photos our team took during the 2016–2017 school year.
236: The number of events they were assigned to photograph.
10: The number of students on our photo team.

At almost every hour of the day and night, Haverford is bustling with activities that can range from a folk dance club meeting in the GIAC to a comedy performance in Lunt Basement, from a talk in Special Collections to midnight breakfast in the DC. With so many events to photograph, our student photographers are a crucial resource that makes it possible for us to more fully tell Haverford’s story.

The approach I take with our photographers is a balance between manager and instructor. As their manager, I assign events that would be a good fit for them. We talk about the assignment, I give them a shot list, and they’re off with their cameras. They then have two days to submit their edited photos with full captions. As their instructor, I understand it’s not always easy to photograph events on campus. We have to navigate low-light situations, small spaces, and, sometimes, reluctant subjects (squirrels, bees). But by the end of the year it is my hope that, through conversations and reviews of their work, they can become stronger photographers—and I believe that they have. I see some of my more shy and introverted photographers now march into a room and take charge with their cameras. I see the technical improvements in their work evolve into vibrant images. I’m frequently impressed by their work and feel fortunate to be working alongside them.

This year’s final “assignment” proved difficult. We asked some of them to select only a few of their favorite shots of the year for publication in the magazine. And when you look through and appreciate the photographs in the rest of the magazine, don’t forget to check out the photo credits! You will find the names of all 10 of our student photographers: Holden Blanco ’17, Justin Brendel ’18, Caleb Eckert ’17, Lev Greenstein ’20, Victoria Merino ’20, Cole Sansom ’19, Claire Chenyu Wang ’20, Wanyi Yang ’20, Rae Yuan ’19 and Lily Xu ’19. Each has contributed images to sections and stories in this very issue. — Photography Editor Patrick Montero
(facing page) Awaiting the results on election night 2016;
(above) the Holi Festival at Haverfest 2017; (below) a member of the College Curling Club practicing on a tabletop curling game.

Claire Chenyu Wang ’20
(Above) Haverfest 2016; (below, left) the end-of-semester “De-Stress With Dogs” event; (below, right) students working on an art installation.
(left) A Philadelphia neighborhood captured on a College-sponsored street art tour; (right) an astrophysics guest lecturer giving a talk on dark matter.

Improv and sketch comedy group Lighted Fools in the grand finale of their show “Elephant in the Womb.”
When I donned the white astronaut-like beekeeper suit, I remember thinking two things: What happens if the bees get angry? and, What other jobs pay you to spend an afternoon taking photos of beekeepers? Afterward, I returned to my room with only one sting and a digital memory card full of images.

These kinds of moments have been fairly common since I started working as a student photographer for Haverford’s Office of College Communications in fall 2015. The camera took me on nearly 200 assignments and brought me to every corner of campus, as well as to Wynnewood, Media, Philadelphia, and New York City. From apple picking to speakers’ portraits, from exhibition openings to community-based partnerships, I was tasked with documenting pieces of the lives of Haverford students, faculty, and staff for the College’s website, publications, and archives. The tools given to me by my professors in anthropology, environmental studies, and documentary filmmaking, along with the mentorship of my boss, Photography Editor Patrick Montero, have shaped the way that I take photos. I have learned to keep an eye out for the layered histories, quiet moments, and close relationships between people and the spaces they inhabit.

Telling visual stories presents its own difficulties. Early on, I found myself needing to move differently through campus spaces to creatively portray what was happening. I had to un-see places that had become familiar to me as a student and instead inhabit a documentarian’s way of seeing. But more than that, the conversations I had with people being photographed also influenced the final images. Photography at Haverford was no solo endeavor. It was a dynamic process of storytelling undertaken with others.

During a recent talk in Philadelphia, writer Rebecca Solnit reminded those of us in the audience how crucial storytelling
is in times of uncertainty and change. Yet telling stories, Solnit said, is not enough. *Breaking* stories—shattering the conventional narratives of who we are and our relationships with one another—is also part of making the world we desire. In breaking stories, an invitation emerges to imagine otherwise. How might images gesture toward the complex lives of those being photographed? How might a camera unsettle expectations and express relationships? What is, and is not, being said? Throughout my time photographing for Haverford, such questions were entwined with more technical concerns about lenses and lighting.

Photographs, like some stories, can come full circle. I remember writing my college application essay on how photography communicates in multiple ways. I argued that exposure has as much to do with representation as it does with compassionate encounter. Now I graduate from Haverford with the camera intact (save for some wear and tear), but with my ways of seeing, representing, thinking, and making relationships with others transformed.

I am grateful for the opportunity to document glimpses of life here. There is so much that happens, seen and unseen, on Haverford’s small campus. I hope to have contributed a little to the memory of this place. Learning and unlearning, seeing and un-seeing, remembering—all are part of remaining curious, critical, attentive, and present with others and the world.

*Caleb Eckert ’17, an anthropology major with a minor in environmental studies, signed on as a College Communications-photographer early in his junior year. Before graduating in May, he had completed nearly 200 assignments, taking thousands of photos that have become a part of the College’s permanent record.*

To see more images taken by our photo team, go to hav.to/studentphotos.
Exploring thorny questions around immigration, forced migration, and globalization. **BY LINI S. KADABA**

The student grasped the benefits of immigration to the United States—in the abstract, at least. But when it came to his own work prospects in a country of more recent arrivals, millions without legal status, he wasn’t so sure.

As visiting assistant professor of writing Nimisha Ladva waits for her first-year writing seminar “Immigration and Representation” to begin on this spring morning, she recalls how a class discussion unfolded a few days earlier.
I see that it is good for the economy, the student said. But when I show up for a job, and there are people competing with me, then I'm a little more nervous.

“I thought that was a very good point,” says Ladva, who was born to Indian parents in Kenya, grew up in England, and came to America with her family when she was 12 years old. Now a U.S. citizen, Ladva explores some of these pivotal issues of immigration through the solo shows she writes and performs.

Uninvited Girl, her most recent work, tackles racism, her family’s temporary status in America as investors in a chicken restaurant franchise, and a fickle system that threatens deportation and then leaves her own and her family’s fates in the hands of a so-called hanging judge.

“It was an interesting conversation,” Ladva continues, “because even if in your heart you are pro-whatever, if it starts affecting you personally, that’s something to think about.”

Outside the classroom, such measured discussions of immigration seem in short supply. With President Trump promising to build a wall at the U.S.-Mexico border, the increasingly polarized discourse often starts and ends with oversimplified dichotomies: Immigrants good, wall bad; immigrants bad, wall good. As Paulina Ochoa Espejo, a Haverford associate professor of political science who teaches a course on the topic, puts it: “When it comes to borders, immigration and citizenship, discussion often sheds more heat than light.”

But step back from the rhetoric, and the central questions of the immigration debate turn more nuanced. Who should come into a country? Why do nations need borders? How should they be enforced?

Dig deep and solutions to America’s immigration concerns appear more achievable. At the very least, an approach steeped in critical thinking allows for the start of serious, fact-based conversations that strive to understand these issues roiling the country.

Remy Erkel ’20, one of Ladva’s students in the writing seminar, advocates for completely open borders. It is a radical opinion, but Erkel, who is from Pittsburgh, uses facts to argue vigorously. Most Latin American immigrants are less likely to commit a violent crime than native born Americans, he says, citing a New York Times article, and adds that immigration actually expands job opportunities for all—a point most economists confirm.

“Before this class I would say I was mostly ill-informed about the immigration debate and about the experiences of immigrants,” Erkel says. “The class gave me the perspective necessary to craft an informed stance regarding immigration.” Most eye opening, he adds, are the personal stories he has read. “It’s much easier to advocate for subhuman treatment of people whose experiences you have never encountered.”

According to those paid to teach and think about these things, to better understand immigration issues, turn to history, both within the United States and around the globe. Consider perceptions of race and culture. Acknowledge the costs of sudden economic downturns and globalized economies on blue-collar industries. Recognize the conditions of poverty and violence around the world, and Central America in particular, that force so many to flee. And so on.
“I think of the immigration conversation as this knotted ball of yarn,” Ladva says. “Every time you pull one string, it pulls other things knotted and tied to it. You try to undo that, but then it affects this other string. I think the effort to simplify is a detriment to both sides.”

ON the blackboard in Hall Building, three questions set the tone for the day’s discussion in the course “Refugees and Forced Migrants.”

Should we enforce our border?
Why is deportation a problem/risk?
Is it fair to (not) deport unauthorized immigrants?

“Deportation may not be an effective method of enforcing the border because people are going to try to return,” says Anita Isaacs, the Benjamin Collins professor of social sciences. She co-teaches the new class with Amy E. Pope ’96, a visiting assistant Professor of Political Science. The two created the course in response to a worsening refugee crisis, one that saw a record 65.3 million people displaced in 2015 alone, according to the United Nations.

An expert on Guatemalan politics, Isaacs outlines for the students the struggles deportees face when returned home: large debts to smugglers, few employment opportunities, and social and cultural dislocation.

“There are all sorts of thorny problems here,” she says.

Pope, who until Jan. 20 was the deputy homeland security adviser under President Obama and holds a law degree from Duke University, retorts: “The costs that have just been described are the costs of someone breaking the rules in the first place, right? … Yes, it’s terrible what people go through. But there are also millions of people who are going through the process and proper channels and waiting years, decades.”

She says she is partly playing devil’s advocate but also pushing students “to really think through … the on-the-ground impact.”

One student contends that deporta-

**JUDGE:** “Why are these people here for a hearing?
They don’t get a hearing. They are immediately deportable.
Get out. And I mean ‘pack your damn bags’ out.”
Another says deportation is not intended to deter border crossing but rather to work as an enforcement mechanism that determines who has the right to stay: “Without a form of deportation, we’re saying no matter what you do, if you commit a capital crime, you can stay here.”

Later, Isaacs continues the debate. Her recent research on “unauthorized immigrant” communities, she says, already presages dire consequences of the Trump administration’s hard-nosed deportation policy.

Border crossings are significantly down, and farmers from New Jersey to California wonder who will pick ripening crops. The economic implications don’t stop there. The rate of remittances has skyrocketed because many fear deportation and loss of access to bank accounts. Guatemala alone saw a sharp increase in money sent from workers abroad in March, up 18.8 percent from the same month last year for a total of $740 million, according to FocusEconomics.

That’s less hard currency spent in the U.S., and with many fearful to leave their homes, local businesses are taking even more of a blow. Worse, Isaacs says she has heard reports of families afraid to go to the doctor, even to vaccinate their children.

“That will have consequences,” Isaacs says. “It could create a mini health crisis and economic crisis. … Deportation is a blind strategy. We haven’t thought about the repercussions.”

Instead, she argues that the solution is simple, though politically complex: “Create conditions so people want to stay at home, and look at Mexico as an example.” Illegal crossings from Mexico have dropped in recent years as its economy has improved. “You could turn Kennedy’s ‘Those who make peaceful revolution impossible will make violent revolution inevitable’ into ‘Those who make sustainable development impossible, make immigration inevitable.’”

In February, Pope gave a talk at Haverford on “Migrants, Refugees, and National Security” and emphasized the importance of not alienating groups of people, whether abroad or at home, and thereby fomenting resentment. “I have been up close and witnessed every single piece of this puzzle,” she said. “I’ve taken it apart, put it back together again. … And what I walked away believing quite strongly is that the goal of protecting the United States and the goal of admitting refugees and migrants to our country are not mutually exclusive. In fact, they are reinforcing.”

As part of the Obama administration, Pope helped to enforce immigration laws. That meant deportations, earning the president the moniker “Deporter-in-Chief.” Still, care was taken to set priorities, focusing on recent border crossers and convicted criminals, she says.

Not perfect, by any means. “From my point of view, those are all Band-Aids to deal with the significant problem of 11 million in the country without status,” Pope says.

Under the Trump administration, however, that system of priorities has been abandoned. The wider ICE net has caught up people with deep roots here and clean records—except for crossing illegally—Pope says.

“I think that’s bad policy,” she says. “You’re just clogging up the courts with people who are not a threat to anybody, which means then that you don’t have the resources to go after somebody who might be more of a threat.”

Since her days working for California’s Sen. Dianne Feinstein from 2006-08, Pope has supported comprehensive immigration reform “to bring the undocumented out of the shadows” after seeing firsthand that legal channels for farm labor, for example, were not sufficient to meet needs.

Reality also has proven a sobering, if not frustrating, counterpoint to what Nava Kidon ’18, enrolled in “Refugees and Forced Migrants,” describes as her “idealistic view on how the world should handle refugees.”

The political science major with a concentration in peace, justice, and human rights takes issue with the Trump administration’s approach as
A Place for the Uninvited?

“both unjust and simply not practical for making our world a better place for all—including Americans.”

At the same time, Kidon, 20, of New York, says she sees “the most critical issue in the current immigration debate as how to balance what is ethical, what is owed to citizens of the world, with what is practical and possible. It’s clear that there’s a huge disconnect between my perspective as a college student who is searching for ways to change the current system and policy makers in Washington who have to ensure that the country is still running tomorrow.”

EUROPE—as well as the United States—is at a tipping point, according to Alexander Kitroeff, an associate professor of history at Haverford and Prof. Isaacs’ husband.

“We are teetering on whether to accept immigration or actually turn against it,” says the expert on nationalism and ethnicity in modern Greece who teaches “Topics of European History: Nationalism and Immigration.”

“We are in a moment,” he adds, “where we could go either way.”

Which way the seesaw tilts may well come down to the footprint of a newer type of prejudice called “neo-racism.” It is based not on biological differences but cultural ones. In Europe, many observers find the growing tensions over immigrants have made illegal immigration the primary focus, Kitroeff says.

Similar forces are at work in the United States, though America’s long history of welcoming different cultures has made illegal immigration the primary focus, Kitroeff says.

What’s the solution? Civic education, he says, is crucial to counteract nationalist tendencies. “Countries should explain to citizens that before Turks, we had, in the case of Germany, Polish people working here,” Kitroeff says. “In the case of France, before Algerians, we had Italians and Portuguese.”

In fact, migration—that is, the movement of people—is inherently human, says James Loucky ’73, a professor of anthropology at Western Washington University specializing in the Mayan diaspora.

“These people come from different cultures, and they are incompatible with us. Therefore, we have to preserve our own culture and exclude them.” Research, he says, shows that immigrants who look like the locals more easily assimilate and gain acceptance.

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“We’re bipedal,” says the author of the 2012 book Humane Migration: Establishing Legitimacy and Rights for Displaced People. “Humanity has always been on the move.”

Loucky, who views borders as artificial barriers that divide people, argues that strict enforcement has hampered the natural back-and-forth flow between Mexico and the United States. “We’re creating immigrants out of migrants,” he says.

The economic downturn, Loucky says, coupled with ramped up rhetoric and disinterest in more successful models (such as Canada’s system to assimilate immigrants) “has led to this conflation of immigration with security concerns and crime concerns.”

A stronger border, he maintains, will not create a safer country and solve all its problems. “It is a long-term perspective that we need,” Loucky says. “What does it mean to be a democracy? If we acknowledge that we’re interdependent on other people and ideas, then that gets us beyond these immediacies. … I call it seeing the humanity of migration in the migration of humanity.”

From Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science Tom Donahue’s perspective, there is another, much-neglected side to see as well—and truly address: globalization’s costs.

Donahue argues that while glo-
Globalization makes societies richer in the aggregate, its benefits have led most well-to-do people to ignore its real costs—the loss of many decently-paying manufacturing jobs, on the one hand, and skyrocketing wealth inequalities, on the other.

In fact, Trump’s working-class base “feels no one is listening,” he says. “The central issue of the [2016 U.S.] election was should we go for more globalization,” he says, “or should we try to radically rein it in? And I think it really is a choice. The reason we have these polarized politics is basically because governments and elites in so many societies have not faced up to the costs of globalization.”

LADVA, 47, had never publicly shared her story of immigration until March 2015 at a Freedom Seder, a community event held at the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia. “The political climate around immigration became so virulent, [it was] these conversations around ‘these criminals’ and ‘these undocumented,’” she says. “It just really bothered me that I was not saying anything when I was part of that group of people.”

Uninvited Girl, an iteration of that first-shared deportation story, was a chance to contribute to the conversation in a way she hoped would make an impact. When she performs the one-woman piece, she takes to the stage with only a wooden chair as a prop. Ladva gives voice to different perspectives: her parents, who got a business visa to invest in a chicken restaurant in 1982; the indifferent immigration officer ready to deport the family a decade later; the “hanging” judge; herself as a college student facing deportation.

“I’m nervous every time,” she says. “You never know what people are going to think.”

In large part, Ladva wants to put a human face on that knotty debate—her own through this intimate play but also any number of other, not-heard immigrant tales that she shares with her students through readings and class presentations.

“One thing we talk about is that all these conversations involve actual people,” she says. “You know? They’re not just statistical problems or policy issues. They’re actual people.”

Regular contributor Lini S. Kadaba, the daughter of immigrants, is a former Philadelphia Inquirer staff writer based in Newtown Square, Pa.

Amy E. Pope ’96, a former deputy homeland security adviser in the Obama administration, believes that the goal of maintaining U.S. security and the goal of admitting refugees and migrants “are not mutually exclusive. In fact, they are reinforcing.”
That 2005 winter break trip helped birth the Haverford Border Action Group, a student-led effort to raise awareness of immigration issues, and laid the groundwork for what would become an ongoing program at Haverford. Several years after that first borderlands journey, in the fall of 2009, members of Haverford’s Alliance of Latin American Students went to the CPGC with a proposal: They wanted to learn more about the realities of migration. Only then, they felt, could they be part of the change that they believed was necessary.

The CPGC-sponsored Migration Field Study program, now in its eighth year, brings students to the U.S.-Mexico border and to Mexico City to glimpse the human face of immigration. BY REBECCA RABER AND NATALIE POMPILIO

MORE than a decade ago, long before debates began about a Mexican border wall or a Muslim ban, eight Haverford students, led by Haverford House fellows JeAnne Reyes ’04 and Amalie Andrew ’04, traveled to the Mexico/Arizona border to learn more about the issue of immigration. With the help of funding from the Center for Peace and Global Citizenship (CPGC), Reyes and Andrew, who were then working with an immigrant rights program of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), led the Haverford delegation on visits to cities and towns on both sides of the line where they handed out blankets to migrants, saw an entire family deported, and interviewed a militia group leader who spoke of his belief that our uncontrolled borders “present a serious terrorist threat.”

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“They wanted constructive engagement, not just protests,” recalled Professor of History Jim Krippner. “They wanted to help educate people about migrants. They wanted to see the human face of the problem.”

What those students understood, said Krippner, is that “there is a lot of scapegoating and not enough paying attention to the real people involved. When you pay attention, you can find solutions that are more humane.”

Thus, in January 2010, the Migration Field Study trip was born, with Krippner as its first faculty mentor. The now-annual winter break program looks at the sociopolitical, economic, and ethical dimensions of migration and makes personal connections with people whose lives are touched by migration. The field study typically includes a trip to Mexico City, where students work with a Quaker nonprofit that provides services to migrants, meet with political leaders about the situation, and, most importantly, connect with migrants.

“They have stories every person with a heart should hear so they’d realize [migrants] are in no way interested in hurting this country,” said Lev Greenstein ’20, who was part of the most recent field study trip in January. “There’s a lot of hate out there for people who aren’t nationals of this country. This experience [has allowed] me to address those misconceptions about immigrants, whether it’s that they’re taking all of the Social Security benefits or they’re taking jobs.”

Eric Hartman, executive director of the Center for Peace and Global Citizenship, said an experiential learning opportunity like this gets students “thinking, feeling, being.”

“It’s always been a vital program, and it’s just become more important,” Hartman said. “The question of how to treat migrants with dignity has always been important, and the current political situation makes it even more so.”

Since its beginnings, the Migration Field Study has been open to eight to 10 students, who must apply for a spot. Pre-trip preparations include readings and discussion. Jason Lozada ’11, who helped start the project with classmate Eric Castillo ’11, said he and his fellow Alliance of Latin American Students members spent a lot of time crafting their applications to better articulate how the program would benefit them.

“Just saying, ‘Hey, I’m Hispanic, sign me up,’ was not what the CPGC was looking for, and it would have been a disservice to the people in Mexico City putting this together,” said Lozada, who had gotten a CPGC-funded internship with the American Friends Service Committee’s immigration office and wanted to better understand the issues. “[The program] was open to the whole campus, so anyone with an interest in immigration or refugee rights could participate.”

In some years, the Migration Field Study has involved a trip to the U.S./Mexican border in Arizona, where residents leave glasses of water outside for thirsty border crossers. Lozada, who now lives in Philadelphia, still vividly recalls a stop on the Mexican side of the border where migrants gathered before attempting to jump on northbound trains: “You’re talking to people from countries like El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico [who are] leaving their families to embark on this dangerous trip. … Surviving the distance, the train-hopping, the gangs looking to exploit them, Immigration & Customs Enforcement—it’s an immense physical risk to come here and then live in the shadows,” he says. “The main thing they asked for were gloves to wear when they would try to grab on the trains. Those are subtle things you might not get in an assigned reading.”

In 2015 the field trip was a collaboration with the Earlham College Border Studies Program that took the Haverford group to the Border Patrol station in Nogales, Ariz., as well as a Tucson courtroom. There, they witnessed 70 detained migrants in handcuffs each get just 30 seconds to hear charges, enter a plea, and receive a sentence. Accompanied by volunteers with the nonprofit No More Deaths, the group walked a rocky trail in the desert used by migrants and came across a makeshift shrine with pictures of saints and family members—a poignant plea for protection on the rest of what is often a dangerous journey.

This year, for the first time, the field study began more than 2,500 miles...
IMMIGRATION LAW IN A TIME OF FLUX

FOR three Haverford alumni attorneys, the front line of immigration is not the Mexico border, but the many courtrooms that ultimately decide who stays and who goes.

Mario Russell ’87 directs Catholic Charities of New York’s Immigrant & Refugee Services, one of the largest such programs in the country. As partner and founder of the law firm Sweet & Paciorek in Avondale, Pa., Lindsey (Pugh) Sweet ’03 represents immigrants in Chester County, Pa., where their labor keeps the mushroom-growing industry afloat. Elissa Steglich ’94, a clinical professor at the University of Texas School of Law’s Immigration Clinic, oversees students doing pro bono work on challenging cases of asylum seekers.

All three advocate comprehensive immigration reform that would entail some type of legalization for the upward of 11 million undocumented immigrants. Meanwhile, they help immigrants and refugees navigate a system that they say has become much more intolerant since the Trump administration took over the White House.

Calls from worried immigrants fearing deportation—including those with legal, permanent status—have soared; legal services clinics and immigration law practices are busier than ever, and community outreach on enforcement of immigration laws has grown. It is exhausting work, each says, but more necessary than ever.

“The needs and anxieties are really extraordinary,” says Russell, who also manages the Asylum Litigation Clinic at St. John’s University Law School in Queens. “Now is the time to respond to the calls for help and call to service.”

Since the day after the 2016 presidential election, his group has reached more than 3,000 people with 123 community events on basic rights, the impact of the executive orders that curtailed immigration from certain Muslim-majority countries and stopped refugees from Syria, and ways to prepare for the threat of deportation. Responding to the uncertainty caused by Trump’s initial Muslim ban, Russell led a team of attorneys offering help to those stuck in limbo at airports. The group continues to help in emergency situations.

Reaction to Trump’s immigration policies has “raised the amount of outreach work and on-the-ground community engagement we normally do to a level I have not seen in twenty years,” says the philosophy major who earned his law degree at the University of Maryland.

The Immigrant and Refugee Service’s hotline, which typically receives 2,000 calls a month, has seen its numbers almost triple since the start of 2017. In one 12-hour period, 1,700 people called for information.

Many fear that U.S. Immigration and Customs
said Rosemary Cohen ’18, a history major from Washington, D.C. She was in part inspired to apply for the trip by Associate Professor Andrew Friedman’s “Harvest of Empire” course, which studies the history and interconnection of U.S. foreign policy and migration.

For others, the trip had personal significance. Vanessa Morales ’19, a sociology major from Santa Ana, Calif., is part of the Haverford Chesick Scholars program, which provides academic mentoring and leadership training for exceptional students from under-resourced backgrounds. One reason Morales embarked on the trip was to better understand immigration policy in America, especially as it relates to people she loves.

“I am personally drawn to studying migration because I have family members who are undocumented back home in California,” she said. “Being worried about them every day, about something that can happen while I’m away from home, is stressful.”

All of the Haverford students agreed that they left Mexico City changed. Yes, they learned a lot about the facts, policies, and challenges of migration, but they also were deeply moved by the people they met and the stories they heard. Many returned home with a newfound desire to get involved at the local organizations they visited prior to the trip. Others have made new connections in their academic work or are inspired to think differently about their post-Haverford futures. (Morales, for one, now plans to return to Mexico after graduation to do more “radical hospitality” work with Casa.) But all were inspired to think deeply about the issues of immigration, citizenship, and borders, particularly as they relate to the new presidential administration.

THE CP GC’s Hartman said the college is continuing to develop curriculum related to migration issues, such as Professor Paulina Ochoa’s course “Borders, Immigration, and Citizenship.” Said Hartman, “We’re looking to support students in their ongoing learning experience before and after their field study experience.”

Lozada is thrilled that the Migration Field Study program is continuing to impact lives.

“America and Mexico will have these discussions for years to come,” he said. “As long as America touts its roots as a land of immigrants but restricts pathways to citizenship, this project will have relevance.”

Mario Russell ’87

Enforcement (ICE) will round them up for deportation. “Under Obama,” Russell says, “the vast majority were told we’re not going to come after you. All that has been erased. Now, nothing is a given.”

Sweet, a political science major who studied law at Rutgers University, works directly with undocumented immigrants and has seen her three-year-old practice experience a mini-boom because of fears around the wider net ICE appears to be casting. Consultations are up 50 percent since January, she estimates, averaging about 18 to 20 a week. Her calendar is booked out for more than a month.

Sweet also is spending considerable time on presentations at local churches and mushroom companies. “I’m trying to arm people with information,” she says, “because I think information stops the fear.”

Still, Sweet says, many are scared. “I spend a lot of time coming up with emergency plans,” she says of her practice. Sweet helps them gather documentation to prepare for possible ICE raids. She also helps figure out guardianship for clients’ children, often U.S. born citizens, if parents are detained or deported.

Like others who advocate for immigrants, Sweet has concerns over longer-term consequences of Trump administration policies that have caught up undocumented immigrants who are law-abiding but for the initial illegal crossing. “I don’t think the system has the capacity to handle what the law actually requires,” she says.

Already, courts are backlogged, and some Philadelphia immigration judges are being sent to border areas to help clear cases—slowing down the local process. “[Trying to] prosecute everyone doesn’t work,” Sweet says, “because no one gets prosecuted.”

The slower legal process has proven eye opening to Steglich’s law school students at the University of Texas. At school, they study constitutional law and the promise of due process. At the clinic, they often encounter asylum-seeking families—women and young children—held in jail-like detention centers in remote areas of Texas for long spells, she says.

“Students are learning the importance of social justice and access to counsel,” says Steglich, who previously worked for almost a decade with the American Friends Service Committee’s Immigrant Rights Program in Newark, N.J.

The clinic also has seen an increase in calls from worried immigrants, even those with green cards. “Am I going to be safe in my home? Am I going to be safe in my community?” she says they ask.

But something even more troubling, perhaps, also is afoot. “Border control is not even allowing these families to seek asylum in the United States,” she says. “It’s really disheartening.”

It also violates U.S. law, which holds that those who make it to the border and ask for asylum must be processed, not turned away, while the claim is heard.

“It’s very sad to me,” Steglich says, “to see an administration so bent on making people’s lives so much harder and igniting fear in communities already so marginalized.” —Lini S. Kadaba

Elissa Steglich ’94

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**How to Have a Healthy Lawn**

Claudia Kent started as a horticulturalist at Haverford 16 years ago and has served as Arboretum supervisor, grounds manager, and assistant director of Facilities Management. In May, Kent was named Arboretum director, taking over from Bill Astifan, who retired in May. Among Kent’s responsibilities over the years has been the task of keeping Founders Green (and many other grassy swathes of campus) as green as possible. While maintaining 216 acres that include turf playing fields requires all kinds of measures you wouldn’t take in a suburban yard, there are some basic principles of lawn care that Kent advocates and puts into practice at her own home. We asked her for her top tips on how to have a healthy, good-looking lawn.

**Ditch the chemicals.** “The average homeowner will go to Home Depot and pick up their bag of ‘weed and feed,’ which has chemicals that suppress weeds and also fertilize at the same time,” says Kent. “But that’s not healthy for the environment.” The excessive amounts of fertilizer and chemical herbicides the products contain can end up as runoff in our water system. The dust from the products, which have been associated with health risks, can be tracked indoors or blow over to your neighbor’s yard. “If you have pets and children, this is really not something you want to use,” she says.

**Fertilize right.** Stick to organic fertilizers, says Kent, who advises getting a small walk-behind spreader to do the job. “At a garden center, you can buy Garden-tone, or Milorganite, which is actually sewage sludge and is quite cheap. I use it all the time at home. It has a smell, but if you time your application for right before it rains, the rain takes away the smell.” And here’s another tip: Don’t overdo it. “A lot of landscaping companies will try to push you to fertilize your lawn four times a year,” she says. “But once a year in the fall is adequate, with maybe a little bonus in the spring.”

**Embrace your lawn’s seasonal cycle.** “Like any plant, grass changes from season to season,” Kent says. “In the spring, your lawn will be green and lush. It may have some weeds, but it will look great. In the summer, it dries out and goes dormant. It might look like it’s dying but it’s not. Then in the fall, it wakes up again. It’s better to be patient with the changes it goes through than to try to have a perfect lawn all the time, which takes a lot of chemicals to achieve.”

**Turn off that sprinkler.** “Instead of watering your lawn, it’s better to let Mother Nature do her thing,” says Kent. A misused sprinkler combined with summer heat can create fungal diseases that can wipe out your lawn. “If you have to water, do it in the early morning hours. That gives it the entire day to dry out.”

**Ease up on the mowing.** “Always mow your lawn so that the grass is about three inches high,” she says. “That makes it look neat, but it also makes the grass more competitive. You want to help the grass shade out some of the weeds. But you don’t want some weeds—they’re what stay green in summer. A nice mix of grass and weeds is what you’re going for.” And mowing once a week is generally enough for most lawns. “It will look like it needs to be mowed after five days, but do it after seven.”

**Don’t forget to aerate.** Aerating involves perforating the soil to allow air, water, and nutrients to get down to the roots of the grass. You can aerate manually using a spiked device you push across the lawn, rent a piece of power equipment, or hire a landscaping firm to do it. “At Haverford, we aerate a lot because our lawns get heavy use,” says Kent. “But for homeowners, every three years is probably enough.” Also key: Just after you aerate, spread some new grass seed to help make your grass thicker and improve the grass-to-weed balance.

**Less is more.** “Lawns are a monoculture and you really don’t want to have too much of that,” Kent says. “I live on half an acre and I’m in the process of replacing half of the lawn with garden beds. I always go for native plants, because they attract birds and insects. When you have less lawn and more trees, shrubs, and flowers, you create a richer habitat for wildlife.” And Kent has been putting that idea into action on campus as well. Since 2005, the grounds crew has converted 8.65 acres of lawn into meadows. “Down in the Pinetum, we planted mostly tall grasses,” she says. “Near the Duck Pond, we planted thousands of native perennial flowers. I really love the meadows on campus. They are just beautiful.”

—Eils Lotozo

**Photo:** PATRICK MONTERO
This year marks the 120th anniversary of Haverford’s Honor Code. And we’ve got the Class of 1900 to thank for it.

The idea for an “Honor System” that would allow examinations to be held “on an honor basis and [that would] have entire control in managing any possible cases of cheating” first came up in the fall of 1896, when the debating society made it a topic for argument. While those opposed to the idea won that debate, the Class of 1900 forged boldly ahead anyway and went to President Isaac Sharpless with a petition requesting the creation of such an Honor System.

On Jan. 7, 1897, Sharpless presented the faculty with the students’ petition, and so began a hallowed tradition … eventually. The petition wasn’t actually codified until a later date, and it applied only to exams. And it wasn’t even a school-wide code back then. Instead, each class created and agreed to its own Honor System each year.

Except when they didn’t. The Class of 1902, for example, refused to approve an Honor System that required students to report peers who were discovered cheating. The faculty, which had to approve each system, would not support a version that omitted the reporting requirement. So that class spent its entire four years with no Honor System, becoming the last Haverford class to take proctored exams.

A school-wide system was adopted in 1925, and in 1944 it expanded beyond exams to cover all academics. The first social aspects came about in the post-World War II era, when behavior standards regarding the use of alcohol and female visitors to the dorms were proposed. Self-scheduled exams—which have become an intrinsic part of the Honor Code—were first proposed in 1961, and became a permanent part of the system a year later. The turbulent late 1960s and early 1970s, when the College grew from 450 students to more than 1,000, ushered in other changes as well. The Honor System became officially known as the Honor Code during this era; time limits for women in the dorms were liberalized; and drug use was specifically and extensively addressed in various iterations of the Code. Through it all, the Honor Code has proved itself strong and malleable; the document’s capacity for change and need of reaffirmation each school year makes it a living, breathing part of campus life. So kudos to the Class of 1900 for planting the seedling that grew into the tree at the heart of a Haverford education.

—Rebecca Raber and Eils Lotozo
Learning From the Land

Heidi Witmer ’02, founder of the LEAF Project, brings together diverse groups of teenagers to learn about nutrition, cooking, and farming—and the values of hard work, entrepreneurship, and sustainable living. By Anne Stein

As summer internships go, working for the LEAF Project in rural south central Pennsylvania is as far from an office job as a teenager could get. Four days a week, from mid-June through mid-August, a crew of 14-to-18-year-olds spends a full day on farm and food-related tasks that take them from fields to kitchens, and from classrooms to markets.

The 24 students from school districts around nearby Carlisle, Pa., range from at-risk youth to young leaders to those in between. The goal, says founder and executive director Heidi Witmer ’02, is to connect them to each other and the land, and in the process develop leadership skills, self-confidence, and a deeper knowledge of how the world operates, all within the context of food and agriculture.

One day a week the group visits one of the six farms that partner with LEAF (which stands for Leadership, Education, and Farming). Among them is a large-scale vegetable operation that employs migrant workers. “They work alongside the migrant crew on a task like harvesting grape tomatoes, and sometimes there’s no common language,”
says Witmer, 37. “The goal is for them to understand the scale of our food system and the realities of the work.” Other days are spent milking cows, making cheese, and learning about raw vs. pasteurized milk. Interns also seed, weed, harvest, and package produce on the four-acre LEAF farm, which supplies produce to eight local restaurants. Each week one of the chefs creates a family-style meal and teaches the interns basic culinary skills. In the afternoon, LEAF interns take over a Salvation Army soup kitchen and make and serve that same meal to 150 people. Interns have also run canning workshops in nursing homes and cooking classes at nearby preschools.

**In the fall and spring,** youth leaders who have gone through the internship program have the opportunity to work with LEAF to hone their business skills. One group came up with LEAF kits, a box of two meals prepared by summer interns—using produce from the LEAF farm and partner farms—that they sell to local families. “They learned that time and convenience is what prevents many people, rich and poor, from eating better, so they designed these kits,” Witmer explains. “We’re hearing from people that it’s helping marriages and families, and in the process, the youth are running a great venture and getting thanked for it.”

And it’s a life-changing experience for them. “I just see food differently than I did at the beginning of the season,” says Gavin Anderberg, a LEAF intern. “I see farmers differently. I just see the world in a different light.”

Witmer, who grew up on a huge family farm shared by her father and his nine siblings in York County, Pa., has always found strength and wisdom digging in the dirt. At Haverford, the religion major worked with former grounds supervisor Eric Larson planting edible landscaping such as Swiss chard and herbs inside ornamental gardens on campus. “He loved intermixing vegetables and horticultural plants,” she says. “I learned so much from him.” After her junior year, Witmer traveled to the capital of Rwanda on a United Nations project through a summer internship with the Center for Peace and Global Citizenship. Each evening she worked in the public gardens in different Kigali neighborhoods and discovered the power of agriculture to rebuild community.

After graduation, Witmer ran an adventure therapy program for youth, then became a math teacher, horticultural therapist, and eventually an administrator at a high school for emotionally disturbed girls in Harrisburg, Pa. “It was frustrating to see what happened to kids over their summer break,” Witmer says. “They’d do nothing. So I encouraged them to volunteer or get jobs, but they were experiencing a lot of job rejections. Then they’d return to school in the fall, depressed, disengaged, and less capable.” She looked around for models of summer engagement and found the Food Project, in Boston. “I loved it. It was based on the belief that youth are an untapped resource, rather than something to be fixed or controlled, and they believed in intentional diversity, mixing up crews of urban and suburban youth.”

Witmer started working on developing the LEAF Project in 2011. It took two years to establish and recruit the first intern crew, and since then Witmer has partnered with local restaurants and a network of for-profit farms, making LEAF one of the few programs in the country that connects a diverse group of kids to the U.S. food system. She has slowly grown the program, going from 12 interns in a six-week summer program to 24 participants, who now work during the spring, summer, and fall seasons. In 2016, Witmer moved the LEAF Project from an incubator farm to its own home farm and built an on-site certified kitchen.

“Just two percent of people are directly involved in agriculture in the U.S., and often our young people have no connection at all to it,” says Witmer. “I wanted to encourage this incredible resource of young people to become engaged with the food system and use it as a way to understand their unique strengths and interests.”

And the interns reap the rewards of their harvest. In addition to a stipend, they bring home $10 worth of produce each week and are assigned to cook with it. For accountability, interns use their smart phones to send selfies with the food they have made to LEAF staff. “It’s fun to watch their skills and confidence grow, as well as the smiles in the pictures,” Witmer says.

Chicago-based journalist Anne Stein loves homegrown tomatoes and lettuce. She also wrote about Allentown Public Theater’s [Anna Russell ’14](https://www.haverford.edu/annarussell) in this issue’s Mixed Media section.
Tim Abbott ’90

Given my lifelong love of history and of historical research, it would have been my logical choice of major at Haverford 30 years ago. Instead, I opted for English. I confess I have only a hazy recollection of what I was thinking at the time. I was a good writer and had been inspired by some excellent high school English teachers, but I suspect the more prosaic explanation may be that I figured I could meet the major requirements and then take classes in other subjects that caught my interest.

Less by design than by default, I branched out as a generalist. I took a class in African philosophy and another on medieval European cities. I related what I was learning in both classes to what I was reading in English literature. I studied the life habits of the common starling and I fronted for a funk band as a charter member of the legendary Hiram L. Weinstein All-Star Memorial Funk Project. I had some earnest and heated seminar discussions about the relative merits of deconstructionism and whether e.e. cummings had it right that “feeling is first.” I was an anti-apartheid activist. It was all a bit messy—not a straight path in sight—but vital experience for someone not yet ready to turn away from the door to one possible future in order to walk through another.

It might seem a bit precious to have pursued education for its own sake back then, when today the value of a college education is so frequently quantified in terms of earnings potential offset by student debt. Values of a different sort are part of the education equation, however, and not all of them yield readily to the hard, clear lines of a formula or balance sheet. If life were all about rational choices made by free markets or social actors, we would have no need to study the humanities, but we also would not behave like actual human beings. I’m with Walt Whitman when he declares: “Do I contradict myself? Very well, then, I contradict myself; I am large—I contain multitudes.”

At Haverford I came to appreciate that an “obligation to dialogue” implies a process of mutual learning rather than scoring debating points; that “confrontation” involves testing one’s own assumptions as well as bearing witness; and that trust and respect—and a clear-eyed assumption of good intent until proven otherwise—are the hallmarks of an honorable community. I consider these lessons, as well as what I have learned since about conflict resolution, negotiation, and facilitation, to be central to the work I do now and how I have tried to behave as a father, partner, and member of society.

I went out into the world without a clear career path. Six months after graduation I went to Namibia to teach English during the country’s first year of independence. I later picked up a master’s degree in international development and went back to Namibia on a Fulbright. I embarked on what has now been a 20-year career in land conservation, most of it working in western New England and eastern New York, instead of internationally where I thought my postgraduate education would lead me. I see nature with the eyes of a social scientist, and the patterns and processes of human behavior through the lens of the naturalist. I make no claim to the full credentials of either discipline, but, like

continued on page 77
On a sunny Saturday, with spring semester classes over and Haverfest gearing up outside, 300 students, alumni, and friends packed Founders Great Hall for the 14th Annual Celebration of Scholarships—a gathering that President Kim Benston described as “one of the most moving and meaningful events of the year.” Like so many Ford get-togethers, laughter and spirited conversations echoed through the room, but this day also highlighted the special relationships forged by donors with the students who benefit from the scholarships they have established.

Shruti Shibulal ’06, who traveled with her parents from India to attend the celebration, got the opportunity to have a long chat with Arjun Khandelwal ’17, the latest recipient of the Shibulal Family Scholarship. Speaking on behalf of donors, Shibulal described the Celebration of Scholarships as an event that is “all about hope, gratitude, and the joy of sharing.”

“My parents come from humble backgrounds,” Shibulal told the crowd. “My mother received her first scholarship of 25 rupees in the eighth grade. I am proof of how scholarships can change not just one life, but generations. Haverford is integral in my life. It trained me to be a collaborator and manager. Friends and classmates inspired me to think about changing the world. As Gandhi said, ‘Be the change you wish to see in the world.’”

Having corresponded and met several times before, Fred Sanford ’62 and scholarship recipient Jenny Ahn ’17 enjoyed visiting again over lunch. Sanford endowed the Mary Sharpless Sanford Scholarship in memory of his wife shortly after her death in 2002. She had begun visiting Haverford during his student days and always looked forward to returning. “As we were leaving one of my reunions, Mary Jane said, ‘What an extraordinary group of people,’” recalled Sanford. “She felt just as strongly about Haverford as I do. I know she’d be pleased with this memorial, and very proud of the students who have held the scholarship. They’re also an extraordinary group of people.” Ahn, the fourth student to benefit from Sanford’s generosity, said, “I’m so grateful to have been named the Mary Sharpless Sanford Scholar for the past four years. It’s always a joy to catch up with Fred at the annual luncheon. I think Haverford alums are especially genuine and kind-hearted individuals who give back to the community, helping to foster connections with current generations of students.”

Sanford has stayed in touch with all four scholarship recipients, and has come to enjoy an enduring friendship with Tim Ouellette ’13. After sending regular reports and thank-you messages, Ouellette recalls receiving a personal email reply that inspired him—and highlighted how much he and Sanford had in common. Sanford, retired after...
a long career as a physician, has been a key adviser to Ouellette as he embarks on a similar career path. The two also share an interest in Civil War history and have visited battlefields together. Ouellette was “beyond surprised” when Sanford offered to include him on two vacations with friends touring Europe. “This was incredibly generous, and I was honored to be introduced to Fred’s longtime friends,” said Ouellette. “Fred has helped me out tremendously as a mentor and a friend. When I was working on my master’s and had a last-minute housing problem, he welcomed me into his home without hesitation. Words can’t express my gratitude for his friendship and kindness.”

“Without the scholarship, I wouldn’t have been able to afford Haverford, or would have been shackled by debt and unable to continue my education,” Ouellette said. “Haverford offers a huge advantage in life, and it’s a privilege to know the person who shared that with me, and to call him my friend.” Ouellette concludes. In May, when Ouellette graduated from Tufts University School of Medicine, Sanford cheered his achievement at the commencement ceremony. “Of course I wanted to be there,” said Sanford. “I’m grateful that the scholarship has helped people succeed, and I’m proud of Tim. Mary Jane would have been delighted.”

Two student speakers at the Celebration of Scholarships highlighted not only the financial imperative of their aid packages, but also the personal encouragement and motivation their scholarships provided. The Robert J.F. 1961 and Margaret M. Brobyn Endowed Scholarship recipient Steve Niesobecki ’18 remembered donor Robert Brobyn ’61, who recently passed away, noting that “Robert worked very hard to put himself through college. He believed it was crucial for students to contribute to their own education in this way. I imagine he must have known personally the potential students have to succeed despite difficult circumstances, and he acted to help realize this potential by endowing this scholarship.”

Niesobecki, who has worked as a house painter for the past five summers and in the College’s mailroom during the school year, also shared his father’s reaction when he was admitted to Haverford and offered a financial aid package that would make attending possible. “My father didn’t say anything when he read the letter, but I could tell that he was moved. This school’s generosity and its commitment to developing students’ potential have impacted many families the same way. It allows me and many others to see the world in terms of what can be done and what we can do to help, and to appreciate those who are doing their best to get by. No matter how dire and distant things seem, there are always people looking to help where they can.”

Amanda Jones ’17, the Jane and Solomon Lutnick Memorial Scholar, summarized the gratitude and deep sense of connection students feel toward their donors. “Your continued support and generosity have such tremendous impact on the lives of Haverford students and demonstrate your love for this college,” she said. “For all you do for a truly wonderful, one-of-a-kind community that has become my family and second home for these past four years, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

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**FAST FACTS on Financial Aid and Endowed Scholarships at Haverford**

- The Thomas P. Cope Fund, established in 1842, is Haverford’s first permanently endowed scholarship. Today, 286 endowed scholarships help meet the financial needs of 305 qualified students (24 percent of the student body; 46 percent of aid recipients).

- For 2016-17, tuition and fees totaled $66,490. Approximately 56 percent of students received some form of financial aid, and 50 percent received a college grant; the average award was $40,014.

- Improving access and affordability is an essential goal of Lives That Speak: The Campaign for Haverford. More than $44 million has been raised for student aid.

- Many scholarships are founded in memory or honor of a loved one. Donors and their families receive regular reports on the stewardship of their funds and personal updates from the students who benefit.

- Scholarship endowments can be established with a minimum commitment of $100,000, funded by cash, securities, deferred gifts, and bequests. Gifts in any amount can be made to existing endowments. To learn more, contact Vice President for Institutional Advancement Ann West Figueredo ’84 at afiguere@haverford.edu.
Spotlight on Fords in Finance

It’s been said that any two Fords meeting for the first time will find a kindred spirit and enjoy an interesting conversation. Affinity groups shortcut the process by bringing together alumni with shared interests and experiences. Fords in Finance (FiF) draws alums from across the industry to learn, network, help current students, and have fun.

“There’s a longstanding tradition of alumni networking and helping students and young graduates get started in the field,” says co-founder Angad Singh ’07. “About four years ago, a steering group held many meetings in conference rooms and dive bars where we planned the programming and discussed creating a self-sustaining volunteer structure. Senior-level alums suggested we do more to help current students, which really expanded our focus.”

FiF helps organize “Careers in Finance” sessions each semester to provide students with an overview of various fields, including investment banking, private equity, sales and trading, hedge funds, and compliance. [See “Campus Connections,” p. 65, for more about a “Careers in Finance” event.] Working closely with the College’s Center for Career and Professional Advising, alumni provide insights into job opportunities and career paths. Dean of Career and Professional Advising Kelly Cleary notes, “Haverford and other liberal arts colleges are not traditionally targeted by recruiters from the larger firms in finance, and in a very competitive environment for internships and entry-level positions, it’s imperative that we connect students with mentors. FiF has become a great partner.”

For the past few years, co-founder Jonathan Debrich ’05 has hosted 30-45 Bi-Co students for “Finance 101” site visits and alumni panels. “Haverford students are equipped with the analytical and communication skills, work ethic, and character to be successful,” he says. “They benefit from opportunities to see themselves in different roles, and from our advice on how to market their skills.”

Adds Debrich, “Alumni certainly helped me get started in finance, so it’s natural to ‘pay it forward.’ ”

On April 20, FiF sponsored a reception in Manhattan featuring an interview with Howard Lutnick ’83, CEO of Cantor L.P., conducted by host Norman Pearlstine ’64, vice chairman of Time Inc. More than 100 guests, representing seven decades of alumni, attended. The discussion and questions ranged broadly from the current geopolitical environment and its impact on markets, to reflections on Haverford and Board service, to the future of Bitcoin. At the event, Jake Kaminer ’15, Rachael Pardini ’09, and Audrey Saul ’12 officially joined FiF’s Leadership Team after serving as “junior” members and programming organizers. “I went to an event, and really enjoyed socializing with like-minded people,” says Saul. “The informal mentoring, friendships, and satisfaction in giving back to Haverford are great. I also feel I’m helping our industry by advancing the careers of qualified, ethical people.”

“Finance is a big industry, and FiF is not just about Wall Street,” notes Singh.

“We’re a diverse group of volunteers who have become friends. At the end of the day, we’re still Fords, trying to share what we value.”

—P. L.
A Look Back at
ALUMNI WEEKEND 2017
May 26–28

1. The Class of 2012’s 5th Reunion had the strongest attendance of Alumni Weekend with more than 130 alumni and guests on campus. Similarly, 2012 was the young alumni class with the highest rate of class participation, with 44 percent making a gift this year.
2. The Jacob P. Jones Society luncheon
3. The Music and Food Truck Festival, now in its third year, offered something for everyone.
4. Balloon hats—they’re not just for kids.

• More than 1,200 attendees
• 37 states and 8 countries represented
• More than 100 reunion volunteers
• 80 student workers staffed more than 100 events
• $20,397,566 raised through reunion class gifts

See more photos at hav.to/2a8
CAN’T WAIT TO RETURN TO CAMPUS? OCTOBER 27–29, 2017. Haverford will host Family & Friends Weekend, Homecoming, the dedication of the new VCAM, and a special Saturday evening celebration of Lives That Speak: The Campaign for Haverford.

SAVE THE DATE FOR ALUMNI WEEKEND 2018, JUNE 1-3. Visit hav.to/alumniweekend for updates. If your class year ends in 3 or 8, email alumni@haverford.edu if you would like to help plan your reunion.

1. The 19th Annual Fun Fair on Lloyd Green made parents disappear.
2. and 3. Fun with friends.
5. The Class of 1982 set the 35th Reunion record with gifts and five-year pledges exceeding $10.5 million. Their collective support of the Annual Fund, which totaled $295,773, is more than any other reunion class this year.
6. The Have-we-Mettes performing under the tent on Founders Green.
7. Class of 1987 chemistry majors reunited with Prof. Emeritus Colin Mackay in the renovated Sharpless Hall.
Lives That Speak: The Campaign for Haverford concluded its seven-year run on June 30. More than 15,000 donors gave more than $265 million, demonstrating the collective strength of our community.

A special September issue of this magazine will cover the campaign’s impact on our students, our campus, and the future we all share.

All alumni, parents, and friends are welcome to celebrate Lives That Speak with a special campus event on October 28.

haverford.edu/giving
Due to privacy concerns, the Class News section is not included in the digital edition of Haverford Magazine.
Due to privacy concerns, the Class News section is not included in the digital edition of Haverford Magazine.
I am a good generalist, I am informed by diverse perspectives and a curiosity to know more. I have been fortunate to be able to continue to pursue multiple areas of interest and follow where they lead. Only tangentially related to my profession, I have a passion for 18th century American history. I am researching the Central Atlantic Hurricane of 1782 and what it did to a British Fleet. I'm the president of a Revolutionary War reenacting group—Colonel Ogden’s First New Jersey. I’ve rowed across the Delaware, dragged cannon through the woods at Ticonderoga, and watched my teenage son attired as a youthful midshipman leading a British naval pressgang through the streets of Newport, R. I.

Would I have arrived at this place in life more directly had I majored in history, or perhaps specialized in conservation law? Paradoxically, I have found the crooked path, rather than the straight one, often proves the shortest distance between two points, if your notion of distance is temporal. Rivers behave this way, and so do our stories. Between the headwaters and the sea, a river may alter course, spread out in oxbows or cut deep through layers of sediment to make a new channel. Different choices may result in the same outcome, and the journey, and what we learn from it, is what matters in the end.

Tim Abbott is regional land protection & greenprint director with the Housatonic Valley Association, a watershed group and accredited land trust based in western New England and eastern New York. He writes several blogs, including “Another Pair Not Fellows: Adventures in Research and Reinterpreting the American Revolution” at notfellows.blogspot.com, and a biweekly column called “Nature’s Notebook” in his local paper, the Lakeville Journal. He lives in North Canaan, Conn., with his wife Talya Leodari BMC ’94, daughter Emily and son Elias.
John W. “Bill” Wieder Jr., 98, died March 28 in Cromwell, Conn. He enjoyed a 40-year career with Aetna Life & Casualty in Hartford, and held the positions of vice president and actuary of the casualty division when he retired in 1981. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, and worked for his local Republican Party for more than 25 years. He was an active member of First Church of Christ in Wethersfield, and for a time, church administrator. When the Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity chapter was formed in 1988, he was asked to be its treasurer and a board member. An avid bridge player, he and his wife, Jane, were frequently seen at the Hartford Bridge Club and at bridge tournaments. He could identify on sight almost any antique car by year, make, and model, and for many years enjoyed taking his 1929 Model A Ford out for a drive. He also enjoyed traveling and planting his vegetable garden. He is survived by his wife, S. Jane (Bracy) Kuhlen Wieder; sons, John III and R. Kelman; stepsons, David Kuhlen and James Kuhlen; two granddaughters; and two great-grandsons. Wieder was preceded by his first wife of 44 years, Lois, and by a daughter, Carolyn.

Donald J. Kester, 93, of West Chester, Pa., died at his home, surrounded by his family, on April 6. He lived most of his life in West Chester, attending Haverford until his father died and he took over as head of the family. A World War II bronze star veteran who served in the 7th army, Kester became an accountant in the Army Air Corps as a pilot of the B17 bomb. He became an amateur figure skater, spent weekends flying small aircraft, and made plywood boats. He loved to travel, cook, and engage in philosophical debates. His appetite for life was an inspiration.

Robert Anderson Klein died Feb. 5 from Alzheimer’s Disease. He was a grandson of former President of the College Isaac Sharpless. Klein served in the Navy before becoming an actuary, and eventually vice president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in New York City. Klein was a kind, sweet, and loving man who had a quick, dry wit and broad sense of humor. He lived in Pleasantville, N.Y., most of his life, until he and his wife retired to their beloved Jekyll Island where they enjoyed several very happy years. Klein is preceded in death by his wife, Joan, and his siblings, John Klein ’44 and Edwin Klein ’47. He is survived by his four children, Richard, Robert, Katharine Anderson, and Susan Murray; 12 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

An avid bridge player, he and his wife, Jane, were frequently seen at the Hartford Bridge Club and of the Wills Eye Hospital in particular,” said Lowen. “He was a kind and gracious man, and a true patriot of Philadelphia in general and of the Wills Eye Hospital in particular.”

Andrew Boyd died March 25. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, he married Anita Long, and the couple moved to Milwaukee, Wis., where he trained in obstetrics and gynecology. Boyd was an assistant professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin, and later, one of the 10 founding members of the Milwaukee Medical Clinic. He served three years in the U.S. Navy, and was on the boards of many local organizations and medical societies. Boyd loved working in his yard, reading, musky fishing, and tennis. He will be remembered as a man of integrity and humility. He was preceded in death by his wife of 63 years, Anita. He is survived by his three children, Andrew, Kathryn Casey, and Ann; and 9 grandchildren.

Edwin L. Brown died March 27 in Asheville, N.C. Edwin was a Fulbright Scholar at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece 1930–1931. A Conscientious Objector, he did alternative service with the Monuments in West Virginia and Chicago before working in Greece with the World Council of Churches on refugee resettlement. Brown completed his Ph.D. in classics at Princeton University and taught at Duke University before teaching in the classics Department for several decades at UNC-Chapel Hill. He became a strong supporter of Palestinian rights and freedom and, in time, a supporter of Jewish Voice for Peace. Brown, a Quaker, lived a full and remarkable life and will be missed by old friends and new ones made in the final years of his life. His wife, Nicolette, who died March 20, 2009, was the great love of his life. Brown is survived by his sons, Michael and Benjamin, and two grandchildren.

William Tasman, whom colleagues called “a true patriot of Philadelphia in general and of the Wills Eye Hospital in particular,” died March 28. He received his medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine and served in Germany at the 7100th USAF Hospital. Among Tasman’s contributions to ophthalmology are major advancements in the treatment of retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) as well as retinal detachment and diabetic retinopathy. In 1980, Tasman wrote The History of the Wills Eye Hospital. He was involved in training 139 retina fellows and 476 residents at Wills, and was the recipient of many awards. Tasman had a kind and gracious manner, and a wide range of interests,
which included being an astute medical historian, a voracious reader of both fiction and non-fiction, and a boater. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Alice; his three children, James, William, and Alice Morris; and five grandchildren.

52 Curt F. Fey, 89, died March 13 in Rochester, N.Y., after a long hospitalization. He grew up in Switzerland before moving to the U.S. to attend Haverford, the University of Pennsylvania for his Ph.D., and the University of Rochester for his MBA. He became a financial analyst and planner, working for Xerox until 2002, when he started his own small investment advising company. He retired in July 2016. Fey enjoyed hiking, politics, and vegetarian food. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Marion; his son, Carl; and two grandchildren.

David P. Willis, 86, died Jan. 20 at his home in Manhattan following a long illness. He studied public health at the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Pennsylvania before working and teaching at hospitals across New England and the Mid-Atlantic. He was also vice president of the Millbank Memorial Fund and editor of The Millbank Quarterly for 20 years. After his work at the Millbank Fund, Willis was appointed senior fellow at the National Institute on Aging of the National Institutes of Health and the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research where he was awarded The Secretary’s Citation for contributions to survey research on AIDS services. Throughout his life, he was an avid and discriminating collector of fine and decorative arts. He is survived by his beloved partner, Thierry Mahe.

56 George “Jack” Hamilton Fettus III died Feb. 20 at his home. He was a flight surgeon with tenures in Texas and Montana before becoming a head and neck surgeon at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland. After years of work that took him around the world and around the Washington beltway, he retired from the Air Force in 1984 and went to work for the HMO Kaiser Permanente, helping to set up its east coast head and neck and maxillofacial practices. After many full years, Fettus hung up his scalpel in 2007 but still continued clinical work until 2015. He enjoyed a family home in Margate, N.J., and spending quality time on the Atlantic Ocean. Fettus is survived by his beloved wife, Sharon; three children, Alison, Robert, and Geoffrey Fettus ’89; and six grandchildren.

Finn Hornum, a graduate of the College’s former Social and Technical Assistance graduate program, died of heart failure on March 21 at the age of 84 at his home in Philadelphia. He was a professor of sociology and criminal justice at La Salle University for 39 years and served as chair of the Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice. His research and publications centered on penology and criminal justice systems. As a child, he helped deliver Resistance newspapers during WWII, and as an adult helped promote cross-cultural understanding with Lisle International, and also worked with the American Friends Service Committee, and the Pennsylvania Prison Society. Hornum enjoyed traveling, the Atlantic Ocean. Fettus is survived by his beloved partner, Thierry Mahe.

GREG ROSEN
Former assistant squash coach Greg Rosen died March 28 at age 27, likely from complications of epilepsy. He studied history and religion at the University of Rochester, and was working to finish his degree at the time of his death. Rosen played varsity squash in high school and college, and joined Haverford as an assistant coach for the men’s team from 2013 until 2016, and the women’s team in 2015 and 2016. He was also a political campaign manager, helping to organize for the Working Families Party and for Neale Dougherty, a Democratic candidate running for a House seat in Bucks County. He fought passionately for social justice and will be remembered for his warm and generous ways. He was the son of Gary Rosen ’81 and Lisa (Stein) Rosen BMC ’80.

IN MEMORIAM

ROBERT GERMANY
Associate Professor of Classics Robert Germany died of a sudden cardiac arrest on March 7. He was 42 years old. Professor Germany was an exceptionally inspiring presence who will be profoundly missed by all who knew and worked with him. He came to the College in 2008 with a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, and brought with him an abundance of invigorating ideas and a refreshing perspective. In 2013, he told the magazine that he’d never planned on attending college but, after studying literature and philosophy independently following high school, decided to work toward a bachelor’s in classics at the University of Texas at Austin. Quite the polymath, he picked up minors in mathematics and German as well. At Haverford, he taught courses in Greek and Latin, the ancient novel, Latin literature, and ancient comedy. Germany received an Innovation in Teaching Award in 2011 for a class he co-taught with Associate Professor of Classics Bret Mulligan, Culture and Crisis in the Golden Age of Athens. He also hosted a weekly Greek reading group in his on-campus home. Students, colleagues, and friends will remember his relentlessly kind demeanor and his unbridled enthusiasm for all he pursued. Germany is survived by his wife, Dianna, and by their four children, Grace, Ada, Elias, and Jack.

WILLIAM W. LANDER
William W. Lander, 92, of Villanova, resident physician at the college for 25 years until the 1990s and a mainstay of the medical community on Philadelphia’s Main Line, died Jan. 6 of cardiovascular disease at his home. Lander graduated from Ursinus College and the University of Pennsylvania, then served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy before completing his residency at Bryn Mawr Hospital, where he worked for many years. He held many titles there including chief of family practice, staff president, hospital representative to the American Medical Association, and member of the hospital’s executive committee. He maintained a family practice until his death. Beginning in 1932, he was an active member of the Church of the Good Shepherd. He loved to garden, growing beautiful roses and hearty vegetables. His favorite vacation spot was a lake house in Sunapee, N.H., where he spent a month each summer with family, recharging his batteries.

Lander was preceded in death by his wife, Nancy, in 2012, and is survived by sons John, William, and David; 13 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.
Anthony (Tony) Bing died March 20, 2015. The Bing clan loved Tony’s Haverford stories, and added their own: Tony’s daughter Alison Bing ’91, nieces Sarah Bing-Owen ’91 and Deborah Bing ’94, and granddaughter Hanaan Bing-Canar ’15 also graduated on Founders Green. Tony earned degrees from Oxford University and the University of Michigan before becoming a professor and, eventually, co-founding Earlham College’s Peace and Global Studies program. Until retirement, he worked as executive director of the Peace and Justice Studies Association. He also led groups of college students abroad, and founded the Great Lakes College Association’s Jerusalem Program and Northern Ireland Program. Bing served on the national Board of the American Friends Service Committee and as clerk of Svannahoo Monthly Meeting in Black Mountain, N.C., after his retirement. He generally preferred singing protest songs to publishing his own writing, but did author two notable books about peacemaking: Israel Pacifist: The Life of Joseph Ablahle (1990) and, together with an international working group, When the Rain Returns: Toward Justice & Reconciliation in Palestine & Israel (2004).

John Gurdon Brewster, known as Gurdon, died April 7, following a heart attack and stroke in early February. He studied at Union Theological Seminary in New York, where he was invited by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to be an assistant minister during the summer at the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. He taught in Madras, India, before joining Cornell University as the Episcopal Chaplain, where he remained for 35 years. Upon retirement in 1999 he refocused on a lifelong love of sculpture. His work was widely exhibited, and his sculptures are part of many collections around the country. Brewster had a special place in his heart for the Epiphany Church of Trumansburg, which had become his home for more than ten years, and where he served as rector until his heart attack. Brewster also had a special reverence for music, dance, and nature, and could be found walking his farm or riding his tractor when he was not in his studio sculpting. Brewster is survived by his wife of 54 years, Martha; his four children, Mary Campbell, Ann, David, and Sarah; and seven grandchildren.

Robert J. F. Brobyn died Feb. 3. He was the beloved husband of the late Margaret M. Dear; father of Craig, John, and James; and loving grandfather of four. His brother was the late Richard Brobyn ’53.

Peter Platenius died May 15, 2016, in his 80th year. He was predeceased by his wife Inez (nee Pearce). He was the loving father of David and John, and the proud grandpa of three. He will be sadly missed by friends and family.

Former Congressman Tom Barlow, 76, died peacefully on Jan. 31 in Paducah, Ky. After a stint at Fidelity Bank, Barlow returned to Washington, D.C. (he grew up in Maryland), where he fought to protect America’s forests, wetlands, and waterways in the early days of the Natural Resources Defense Council. In the 1980s, Barlow relocated to his family’s home state of Kentucky, where he pursued his passion for politics and various business interests. Dubbed a modern-day “Mr. Smith” by The Wall Street Journal, Barlow served in Congress 1993–95. His proudest accomplishment of recent years was helping to expand the River City Mission homeless shelter in Paducah. Barlow’s family and friends will miss his kindness, gregarious laugh, vast and searching mind, and deeply loving spirit.

Robert Haymond died Nov. 15, 2013, after a yearlong fight with leukemia. Haymond lived in Europe for a time, during which he learned several languages and wrote many stories and poems. During the 1960s, he lived in Boston, where he met his former wife, Gayle. Together they travelled to Canada, where Haymond obtained his master’s degree and Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from the University of Alberta. He had a successful career as a forensic psychologist, and developed a strong spiritual faith after spending time with many aboriginal friends who generously shared their traditions. Later, he explored Judaism and developed a connection to Israel, where he lived for a number of years. He loved reading, great food, art, watching baseball and poker, meeting new people, going to the horse races, and playing cards. He is survived by his children, Lisa, Katrina, and Amanda; and ten grandchildren.

William Watson died March 14. He was a field organizer for the Democratic National Committee and lived in the District of Columbia for more than 40 years. Watson was a lifelong tennis enthusiast; he loved to play and to teach the game.

Henry Hart died Jan. 10 from complications of Huntington’s Disease at the age of 66. Hart remained strong and positive during his lengthy decline. After attending Haverford, he graduated from the University of Denver. A research grant brought him to Fort Collins in 1975 to work in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, and he was proud to be published in The Journal of Comparative Neurology for his participation in the research. Hart found his true calling as a sports car mechanic, starting at Poudre Sports Car. He continued his career at Ed Carroll Motor Company for 21 years, working on his favorite cars, Porsches. His summers were spent sailing, fly fishing, camping and hiking. Winters were spent downhill and backcountry skiing. Hart is survived by his wife of 34 years, Mary, and his daughter Allison.

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David Wilson Kraft, 60, of Princeton, died Feb. 18 at his home. Kraft did significant work toward his Ph.D. in cultural anthropology from Cornell University. Known for his wicked sense of humor, supreme intelligence, and wisdom, he was counted on for his loving companionship and wise support. Kraft retired in 2015 with more than 17 years of service as a human resources administrator with Continuum Health Partners. He is survived by his husband, John T. Milnes.

Michael J. Olecki, 58, died on April 4, following a sudden and unexpected illness. Michael received his J.D. from the University of Virginia, where he was the editor of the Law Review. A founding partner of Grodsky & Olecki, LLP, in Santa Monica, Calif., Olecki focused on business litigation with an emphasis on unfair competition, misappropriation of trade secrets, breach of contract, and fraud, and taught unfair competition law at the California Center for Judicial Education. When not in Los Angeles, Michael was at the ranch he loved in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada at the edge of the San Joaquin Valley. There, with his wife, Karen Bodner, and his dogs and cattle, Michael enjoyed hiking and the abundant wildlife of a beautiful place on this earth. His twinkling eyes and ready smile will be missed even more than his legal expertise.

Theresa “Terry” A. Hayden, 50, died Jan. 16 after a sudden illness. She held a master’s in social work from Boston College and worked as a senior student services administrator in the Computer Science Department at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for 22 years. She was a member of a service-exchange and community-building group called Troy Shares, and a DJ on the Manoa Folk program at WRPL.

Minh Dang died March 20. He was born in Saigon, Vietnam, and left with his mother and sister in the U.S. naval evacuation Operation Frequent Wind in 1975. They eventually settled near Boston, where he returned after college to work as a regulatory affairs specialist, field technician, and systems administrator. He also worked as the general manager of his family’s floor refinishing company. Dang completed a master of science in computer information systems at Bentley College in 2001. He volunteered for many years with the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence, Viet Hope (an organization that builds schools and raises scholarship money for students in Vietnam), and the IT department at Boston Medical Center, where he refurbished computers for refugees and taught community classes. Dang developed schizophrenia a few years after college and learned to manage the illness andcycles of treatment over the years. He had friends that supported him and that he supported in times of both joy and need. With his illness as a constant companion, he continued to work, study, volunteer and dream. Minh was kind, honest and generous, always striving to be true to whom he believed himself to be.
Long before it was renamed and expanded, Magill Library got its start as Alumni Hall, shown here in a photo taken in 1865, not long after it was completed. Originally proposed by the Haverford College Alumni Association as a place to hold meetings, the building took on a dual purpose when the Board of Managers suggested that a portion of the hall be used to accommodate the College’s library, which was then bursting out of a second story room in Founders Hall.

Magill Library, seen here in its current form, will be totally transformed by a renovation and revitalization that is scheduled to begin in January 2018. The building will be renamed Lutnick Library (for Howard Lutnick ’83, who gave a $25 million gift to help fund the project), and its new incarnation will include enhanced technology, open and flexible spaces, renovated book stacks, increased accessibility for special collections, and a café. Heritage spaces, including the Magill Wing and its historic façade on Founders Green, will be preserved.
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Boldly go where others have gone before…
During his lifetime and through his will Gordon Strawbridge ’23 supported the observatory that bears his name, enabling future generations of stargazers to seek out new worlds.