



ON THE VINE

THE IVY CLUB NEWSLETTER

Fall 2012

Shaping the Individual

| By Gwen McNamara, Special Writer

More than just a place to eat, study, and socialize, the Ivy Club has a far greater impact on its members. Across generations, the Club has intrinsically sought to nurture the whole individual. But how? Here Ivy alums share their insight.

Values & Tradition

From the formality and richness of its physical environment to its time-honored traditions, the Ivy Club makes an impact without saying a word.

“The physical environment of the Club demands respect,” said James Griffin, ’55. “When you respect your physical environment, you respect your peers and fellow students.” Without a written code of conduct, the Ivy Club’s unspoken standard of behavior creates a civil and engaging environment that fosters harmony.

“What I think about are the values that are part of the fabric of the Club,” said Rob Engel, ’86. “They really help shape and nurture how people conduct themselves and think about the world.”

“There is no hiding in Ivy,” added Allison Bridges, ’96. “When you arrive at the Club for a meal, you do not choose any seat at any table, but instead are expected to sit at the next available seat. Ivy is structured to force its members to socialize with everyone in the Club and not just immediate friends.”

While this system may seem intimidating to some, in the end everyone benefits. “Communications skills are so critical and Ivy pushes its members to hone theirs,” Bridges said. “The life skill of being able to talk to – and actually enjoy the company of – a wide array of people is so important.”



Photography by Jeffrey E. Tryon

[above] Students gather to study in the Upper Library

“At Princeton it’s easy to get stuck in the minutia of your workload, balancing athletics, academics and extracurriculars,” said Antony Taylor, ’01. “Ivy is a place where you can get out of the myopia and be a part of a shared experience that’s truly unique and different than the rest of the college experience.”

Friendship

“I think the whole concept of friendship is at the heart of what Ivy is all about,” said Engel. “Through Ivy I’ve developed incredibly strong friendships, which is nurturing in a lot of different ways. When you have that level of richness and deep connection it’s very powerful. It becomes part of your development as an individual and a key cornerstone for life.”

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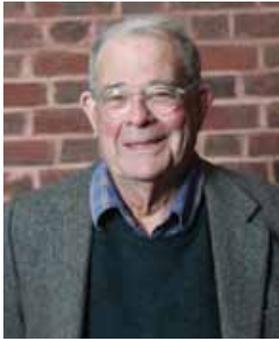
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Graduate President's Report

By Jim Q. Griffin '55

Photography by James G. Cole



During the last four years, the University along with the Graduate and Undergraduate Interclub Committees has been exploring ways to make the Club admission process more understandable and accessible to sophomores.

[above] James Q. Griffin '55 Approximately 65 percent of the sophomore class applies for Club membership. There are currently 11 clubs; six are selective, four non-selective and one semi-selective. All have different admissions procedures, but only two – Ivy and Tower – have extensive individual interview systems.

The task of developing a system which coordinates these various approaches as well as introducing a dual-club bicker option has tested the undergraduate leadership. Complicating the problem is a requirement to coordinate the choices of 850 sophomores via a computer program with in a one-week timeframe.

The Undergraduate Interclub Committee has approved three principals to guide the process. They include:

1. Outreach to undergraduates
2. Synchronization of admissions between sign-in and bicker clubs
3. A multi-club bicker selection process

Ivy's undergraduate officers and our Board fully support points 1 and 2. Ivy and Tower have concluded that the personal interview process, and in our case separate evaluations for each candidate, is critical to finding those who will complement our membership. Our time-tested approach ensures that individuals are taken one by one and not affinity group by affinity group.

We recognize that Ivy must cast a broad net to find the rare person who does not fit on a bell curve. We plan to hold a series of buffet dinners for freshman and sophomores to expose them to our membership.

Ivy will closely monitor the evolving process and will continue to reach out to as many candidates as we can interview.



Photography by Jeffrey E. Tryon

“Ivy is a place where you can get out of the myopia...”-Taylor '01

Shaping the Individual

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“Other organizations on campus are strong affinity groups – football, Triangle Club – you join to be a part of a specific group, because of a shared interest,” said Griffin. “Ivy focuses on the individual to create an eclecticism that keeps the place vibrant.”

“To some Ivy carries an elitist label, but the Club actually teaches more about inclusion than anything else,” added Engel. “Our members are incredibly diverse. They are pursuing different passions and come from different backgrounds. This experience really enables you to develop a far greater appreciation for other people’s thoughts and opinions.”

Taylor agrees. “When I bickered, the conversations during the interview process were some of the most interesting I’d had in college” he said. “I was floored. People looked you in the eye and spoke with passion and conviction. It was inspiring. When I got back to my dorm room, I immediately called my mom and said ‘I have to tell you about this place.’” Since joining, the friendships he made at Ivy have transcended graduation. “My closest friends were at Ivy and we have remained great friends all these years later.”

Enrichment

From programs that expose students to the opera or other cultures, to its new Leadership Program, the Ivy Club strives to create opportunities for members to learn and grow.

According to Engel, these opportunities are invaluable. “It can’t help but impact people,” he said. “Being able to spend time with a great leader who is providing a snapshot of all the experiences they’ve had – the good, the bad, what they’d have done differently – that’s some of the best education you can get.”

“My hope is that as students are able to hear the stories of these great leaders, they will understand that they too can make a difference in the world,” added Bridges. “Much of leadership is being willing to take risks and make hard decisions while staying true to what you believe in. The more young people hear about that element of leadership, the more likely they are to have the courage and will power to become true leaders themselves.”

A Lifelong Impact

In so many ways – both tangible and intangible – Ivy seeks to develop the whole individual. Time at Ivy comes at a period in life when members are malleable and experiences can truly impact who they become.

“It’s tough to pinpoint specifically what makes Ivy, Ivy,” said Taylor. “College isn’t just about academic achievement or athletic achievement, but it’s more about rounding you out as a person. It’s rare to find a place that does that – Ivy did that for me.”

New Faces Join Governing Boards

Ivy recently welcomed new members to both the Ivy Club’s Board of Governors and the Ivy 1879 Foundation’s Board of Trustees. Here’s a look at our two more recent additions:



[above] Allison Bridges '96

Allison Bridges, '96 first served on the Board for a short stint just after graduating. “It was a neat entre to the Board and a great experience for a young alum,” she said. An art history major, Allison earned a Bachelor of Arts at Princeton before heading

off to New York City to pursue management consulting and eventually equity research. She graduated from the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia in 2001 and later moved to Richmond, Va., where she worked for a merger and acquisition firm. Since leaving the firm to raise a family, she has helped her husband, a physician, sell his high-profile clinical lab business and overseen a variety of commercial properties.

As she’s grown professionally and personally, Bridges has made it priority to stay in touch with the Club. She recently helped with the capital campaign for the Griffin Wing and is assisting with the commissioning of a stained glass piece representing women and the Ivy Club. Now as a newly appointed Club Board member, she’s hoping she can do even more to reconnect Ivy with other women alum. “It’s important for every Board to have a mix of members – male, female, young, old,” she said. “To keep more women alum engaged, the Club needs to have women on the board.”



[above] Antony Taylor '01

A graduate of the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, **Antony Taylor**, '01 works as a tech entrepreneur and investor in New York City. “I love everything about start-ups,” he said. His latest project is a public-private partnership with U.S. State Department and USAID – a platform connecting U.S. investors with emerging market entrepreneurs.

He credits Ivy with setting the foundation for his leadership skills. “When you are surrounded by others that want to learn about your story, it can only have a positive effect that drives you to achieve and do so over the long term.” On the Foundation Board, Taylor looks forward to activating his fellow 30-somethings. “Ivy was a big part of my undergraduate life and the number one experience I enjoyed at Princeton,” he said. “Now on the Board, I can give back and ensure that the Club’s most meaningful traditions persist for many more years to come.”

News from the Ivy 1879 Foundation



[above] Prof. Nannerl Keohane with student moderator Eve Levin

Strong Start to “Leadership in Crisis” Series

| By Andrew Scott '14

Now in its second year, the Ivy Leadership Program invites world-class leaders from a wide range of fields to come to the Club to discuss their experiences and views on leadership. Since September the program, which is focused this year on Leadership in Crisis, has welcomed two outstanding leaders, Peter R. Kann, Publisher of the Wall Street Journal and Chairman and CEO of Dow Jones & Company, and Professor Nannerl O. Keohane, a Woodrow Wilson Professor and former President of both Wellesley College (her Alma Mater) and Duke University.

Kann began his talk by articulating what he perceives to be the critical five traits of being a great leader. First, you must give credit where credit is due and accept blame for your mistakes. Second, he commented that being on the unpopular side of an issue is often the “right” side. The institution is more important than you are and don’t take yourself too seriously were his third and fourth rules. And finally, true to his journalist background, his fifth point was that you should learn to write better than you speak.

During the discussion, Kann went on to detail the challenges facing the print industry and broader world of communication due to the progress and lifestyle changes brought on by

technology. He shared that national newspapers are truly becoming the “charity branch” of news corporations as on-line stories and freely available information have made it difficult for these historic providers of news to be profitable. He did note that community papers do still provide a benefit to the community and are quite financially healthy. Overall Kann’s experiences working for the family-owned Dow Jones & Company and with the Wall Street Journal provided great examples of an industry in crisis and the evolving steps that are being taken to adapt for survival.

On October 19 members got the chance to speak with Professor Nannerl O. Keohane about the current state and future of female leadership. Keohane started the conversation by defining what a leader is to her: “someone who defines goals for a group of individuals and mobilizes their energies to accomplish that goal.”



[above] Prof. Nannerl Keohane

She then turned to discussing the history of female leadership and the recent progress that has been made. She mentioned our own Shirley Tilghman as one example of this development. Keohane says it is easy to project that this trend will continue and we will eventually reach parity between men and women in leadership opportunities. However, she cautioned the audience that this was a dangerous assumption to make. She believes there are still numerous obstacles that must be overcome to achieve true equality.

One major obstacle facing potential female leaders which Keohane's studies have identified are gender stereotypes that portray women as too weak or submissive to make the hard decisions. However, if a woman seems too strong-willed or tough she is often criticized for being insensitive or hard. It is a fine line for female leaders to walk. A second obstacle she mentioned is the lack of mentors for young female leaders. Because there are few women in leadership roles today, it can be hard for potential female leaders to find role-models and advisers. Keohane ended the afternoon with a Q&A session. She fielded questions from the audience on topics including the potential impact of a future female U.S. president and whether she ever felt the need during her many years as a leader to "turn off her femininity." Keohane focused exclusively on female leadership which isn't in crisis, but does have obstacles to overcome and therefore aligns in some ways with the theme of this year's Leadership Program series. She provided a unique discussion that was valuable to female and male members alike.



[above] 43 Prospect Avenue



[above] Great Hall window which will honor Bob Bennett

Bennett Tribute Window Taking Form

In mid-October, Ivy hosted graduate member Brody Neuenschwander '81 for a long weekend of reconnecting with Ivy, its traditions, the current undergraduates, and his fellow section members. Brody, a world renowned artist particularly in the field of calligraphy, and friend of Bob Bennett will be leading the artistic design of the Bennett tribute window. Bob Bennett was the Undergraduate President of the Section of 1981 who prematurely passed away in 2011. Bob's Ivy friends and those from beyond have generously contributed towards the creation of a stained glass window in the Great Hall to honor his memory. Since his visit, Brody has drafted some inspiring ideas for the window's design and refinements to the concepts are now underway as they evolve towards their final form.

Jason Ramirez: A Letter from the Undergraduate President



[above] Jason Ramirez '13

Dear Graduate Members,

Hello from the Ivy Club. I'm excited to share with you some updates about the Club. Earlier this fall, we welcomed eight terrific new members from fall bicker. These members come from a variety of backgrounds and have added to the Ivy community.

As many of you know, Ivy's undergraduate officers and graduate Board have been working with the Interclub Committee (ICC) and Graduate Interclub Committee (GICC) about admissions reform. The goal was to provide a more transparent and equitable street-wide process. The final formulation of the admissions reform consisted of three components: (1) to provide organized opportunities for sophomores to get to know the clubs before bicker so that they can make informed decisions, (2) to synchronize the timeline of all the clubs regarding admission and notification, and (3) a dual-club bicker option.

The undergraduate officers and graduate board spent hours reviewing the proposal and determining the best response. At this juncture, Ivy is enthusiastically supporting the new admissions reform by participating in the first two components of the proposal. Last spring, Ivy was the first bicker club to host an open house for undergraduates to learn more about the many facets of the Club. The event was a success and we received a lot of positive feedback from both our own members involved in the event and the undergraduates who participated. The Club is holding similar events this fall. The goal is to provide students from all over campus exposure to Ivy so that the Club can continue to attract a diverse group of students. In addition, Ivy will sync up its admission schedule with the ICC.

Ivy is currently abstaining from the dual-club bicker component of the proposal. While the Club agrees with the theoretical tenets of a multi-choice

bicker system, it is focused on protecting the integrity of its trusted 10-interview bicker process. Ivy is continuing to evaluate the dual-club bicker system and to consider ways to accommodate parts of the new system if appropriate.

Ivy continues to be a place where its members learn and grow. The Club has hosted a number of successful Roundtable and Leadership Series sessions this fall, including a Roundtable with Brody Neuenschwander (Ivy '81) and Professor Nannerl Keohane.

On behalf of all the undergraduate members of the Club, I would like to thank you for your continued support and generosity. The clubhouse is in great shape and is enjoyed by all of us every day. As always, if you find yourself in the Princeton area, please stop by and say hello.

Sincerely,
Jason

Tragic Loss of Bill Sword '76



[above] Bill Sword '76

More than 1,800 people, at least 30 Ivy members among them, crowded into the memorial service on November 3 to pay tribute to Ivy graduate member William H. Sword, Jr. '76. Bill was tragically killed when a tree fell on him outside his home during Hurricane Sandy.

A lifelong resident of Princeton, Bill was the Managing Director of William Sword & Company, an investment banking company started by his late father. As demonstrated by the outpour of support at his service, Bill was a much respected and beloved member of the community that served on numerous non-profit boards and stood as a highly regarded business leader. Bill was an active presence at Ivy for much of his life and served as Board Treasurer from 1988 to 2007. During his tenure on the Board, he was highly instrumental in professionalizing the Club's internal management. Bill was a great man who will be deeply missed.

A Touch of Ivy History



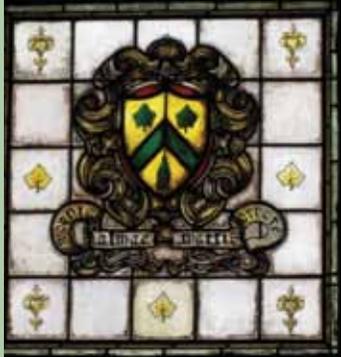
NASSAU		PRINCETON		IVY CLUB		NEW JERSEY	
JONATHAN DICKINSON	WILLIAM SMITH	JONATHAN BELCHER	AARON BURR	EDWARD SHIPPEN	NATHANIEL FITZ RANDOLPH	OLIVER ELLISWORTH	HENRY LEE, JR.
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ORANGE TREE LANTERN OF NASSAU		JOHN WITHERSPOON		JAMES MC COSH		TIGER LILY IVY CLUB PIN	

**ALGERNON BROOKE ROBERTS MEMORIAL WINDOW
KEY**

- Jonathan Dickinson.....First President of Princeton 1747
- William Smith.....Trustee 1746-48, 1748-69
- Peter Van B. Livingston.....Trustee 1746-48, 1748-61
- Ebenezer Pemberton.....Trustee 1746-48, 1748-54
- Jonathan Belcher.....Gov. of State of N.J. 1747-57
- Aaron Burr.....Second President 1748-57
- Jonathan Sergeant.....Treasurer 1750-77
- John Reading.....Trustee 1748
- Edward Shippen.....Trustee 1748-67
- Nathaniel Fitz Randolph.....Donator of College Grounds
- Richard Stockton.....Class 1748, Trustee 1757-81
- Benjamin Rush.....Class 1760
- Oliver Ellsworth.....Class 1766
- Henry Lee, Jr.Class 1773
- William Bradford, Jr.Class 1772
- Morgan Lewis.....Class 1773
- John Witherspoon.....President 1768-94
- James McCosh.....President 1868-88

The Roberts Memorial Window is located above the foyer staircase in the Cope & Stewardson portion of the historic Clubhouse.

Photography by Jeffrey E. Tryon



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Paying Your Dues or Making a Donation

If you'd like to pay your graduate member dues or make an Ivy 1879 Foundation tax deductible donation, you can utilize the Club's website at theivyclub.net or contact us at (609) 924-2236. Thank you for your support!

