



# ON THE VINE

THE IVY CLUB NEWSLETTER

Fall/ Winter 2016

## Ivy Debuts “Off the Record” Career Networking Event

“Success is personal, so follow your own path. It is hard to know what that looks like when you are just graduating, so try to learn as you go, and take a break between jobs to get perspective.” This was the insightful advice that Sepandar Kamvar ’99, Associate Professor, MIT Media Lab, offered to the 40 undergraduates who attended Off the Record—Ivy’s first-ever fresh take on a career networking night.

Aptly named “Off the Record,” the career-themed fall event provided an informal opportunity for undergraduate Ivy Club members to mingle with Ivy alumni recently graduated but with a few years of working-world experience to their credit.

Held on September 25th, 2016, the program began with a casual cocktail reception, followed by dinner in the Great Hall. The goal of the evening was to provide each attending undergraduate ample time for relaxed career path-related discourse with the invited graduate guests. Ten Ivy alumni attended as the program’s career advisors, each taking a turn during dinner to stand up and share frank, poignant job advice as it related to their particular field.



[above] Undergraduate members Nick Jonsson ’18 and Natalia Perina ’17 connect over dinner with White House policy adviser Kevin McGinnis ’11



[above] Back row, left to right: Scott Daubin ’05, Ryan Salvatore ’02, Kevin McGinnis ’11, Katherine Shifke ’18, Jonathan Shifke ’10, and Michael Wood ’08 Front row, left to right: Nina Sola ’18, Nicole Acheampong ’17, Caroline Griffin ’17, and Rebecca Kahn ’18

The undergraduate members sat at tables designated by industry and hosted by the graduate members. Ivy Bicker Chair, Natalia Perina ’17, with the support of her fellow officers, coordinated and executed the evening program with the help of two graduate members—Antony Taylor ’01 and Ryan Salvatore ’02, both Ivy board members.

The advice shared at the program was well thought-out, relevant, and meaningful. Especially informative was advice architect Ryan Salvatore ’02 shared: “The next 2-3 years don’t matter. Gain experience and then take the plunge to your idea. Failure can be more informative than success.”

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## Graduate President's Report



[above] Dominic Moross '90

It is with great pleasure that I write my inaugural letter, which I hope captures the spirit of the many events that have taken place at our club this past year.

Ivy is in fine form, both physically and pastorally, as a peaceful haven away from the hustle and bustle of daily student life. Students flock to the Griffin Wing as a quiet place to study, marvel at the serene Women of Ivy Window, and enjoy our club's many unique nooks and crannies which will serve as nostalgic personal mementoes in the years ahead.

As a governing board, we spend much time debating contemporary issues, focused on how best to improve the undergraduate experience while maintaining our traditions and unique status on the street. Our graduate house committee, comprised of Regan Kerney '68, Corbin Miller '71, and Caroline Shifke '12, visit the club regularly to meet with undergraduate members, serving as a sounding board for any pressing issues.

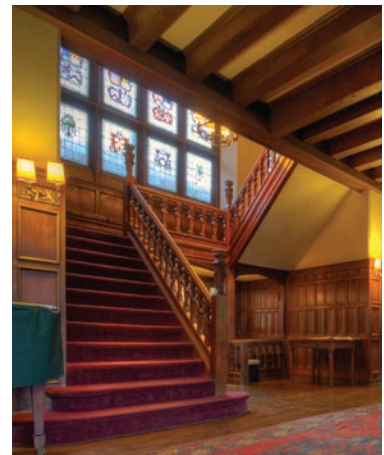
The Club has been buzzing with activity and positive change. Our new chef, Jean Giunta, started in September, raising our kitchen's culinary bar much to the pleasure of our undergraduate members. We have successfully transitioned to the multi-club Bicker process. Last year, 140 students bickered, of whom 75 were accepted as new members—a ratio consistent with past years. In addition to our leadership program, we launched "Off the Record" night, a highly successful initiative organized by Ryan Salvatore '02 and Antony Taylor '01, focusing on career perspectives.

Our Fall Alumni Dinner, held at the Racquet & Tennis Club, was well attended. As always, it was wonderful to see so many familiar and new faces.

I don't think I have ever seen the Club looking better, thanks to the valiant efforts of our board's building committee, who oversaw the full refurbishment of the Cloak Room, restoration of the ceiling in the second floor Writing Room, roof work above the Winter Room, the repair of the terrace steps, and a number of other exterior projects.

We look forward to another busy year. I hope that you will be able to stop by the Club, have a meal and enjoy the new facilities—you will be most impressed. Please feel free to reach out with any thoughts or ideas about activities or speakers, both on and off campus, or if you would like to become more involved in any way.

All the best,  
Dominic Moross '90



Photography by Andrew Wilkinson





[above] The Alumni Dinner at the Racquet and Tennis Club in New York was well-attended and enjoyed by all

## Alumni Dinner in New York

On the evening of October 5th, 165 Ivy members filled the ballroom of the Racquet and Tennis Club in New York for Ivy's bi-annual Alumni Dinner. The event pulled together members from a diversity of sections of Ivy membership, including more than 20 undergraduates who were bussed up from Princeton to enjoy the evening. Strong attendance and a delightful venue provided the perfect mix for networking with new acquaintances and connecting with long-time friends.

Graduate Board Treasurer Corbin Miller '71 opened the evening's remarks with a warm welcome to the newly appointed Board of Governor's Chairman, Dominic Moross '90. Once at the podium, Moross reflected on his excitement about leading Ivy into a new chapter.

We were delighted that so many Ivy members were able to connect at this dinner and hope to see you all at future alumni events to come!

## News from the Ivy 1879 Foundation

### Consider a Gift to the Griffin Fund



[above] Long-time Ivy Board Chair Jim Griffin at the podium during the 1983 Ivy Alumni Dinner at the Maryland Club

The generous support of 45 Ivy members has kickstarted the Griffin fund with \$100,000. We are looking to build the fund into an endowment to support the Club's educational initiatives and its building's maintenance needs.

Jim Griffin's life-long dedication to the Club was focused on the development of "the whole individual" through Ivy's educational programs and the upkeep of our iconic building. We hope you will consider a donation to the fund in Jim's honor.

Donations can be made online, via the enclosed remittance envelope, or by sending a check made out to "Ivy 1879 Foundation" to 43 Prospect Avenue, Princeton, NJ 08540. Please specify that your donation is for the "Griffin Fund."

## Ivy Debuts "Off the Record" Career Networking Event

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Furthermore, Kevin McGinnis '11, Program Examiner, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President of the United States, asserted that "Title doesn't matter; it is the experience that counts."

After the event, Perina reflected: "I think the biggest success of the night was opening communication between alumni and students and having an open forum for students to receive advice on careers, but also on life in general. It was reassuring to hear from so many alumni that, as life will take surprising directions no matter what, your first job is not necessarily the most important!"

Undergraduate attendees shared that most students don't seek much job advice through the Ivy network, relying instead on Princeton's Career Services, friends, or family members for guidance. It

goes without saying that one of the true strengths of Ivy Club membership is the network formed between its members and the willingness of Ivy alumni to assist other members as they come up in the ranks. Liz Baker Plosser '01, Deputy Editor of SELF Magazine, stated it perfectly when she encouraged the undergraduates to "leverage your Ivy relationships. Paths will intersect. The Princeton network is extremely valuable."

Both members involved in the planning of the event and those who attended hope that Off the Record will become an annual fall event, repeated for years to come to benefit future Ivy members for whom graduation is on the horizon. Thank you again to the graduate members who participated! If you are interested in helping at a future program, please send us a message at [consult@theivyclub.net](mailto:consult@theivyclub.net).



## Ivy's Splendid Sibling

| By Corbin Miller '71 and George Knight '89



[above] Constitution Hill, another beautiful Princeton property designed by Ivy clubhouse architect Cope & Stewardson

If the photo above induces a sense of déjà vu, it should. Few members may have visited Ivy's Jacobean Revival sibling in Princeton, but most will be struck by their similarities, from the red brick and St. Bees English sandstone to the interior oak paneling. Constitution Hill was designed for Junius Morgan (Ivy '88, and president of the Club from 1906 to 1909) by the Philadelphia firm of Cope & Stewardson, who were also the architects of Blair Hall on the Princeton campus. Walter Cope, then at the peak of an illustrious career, took great interest in the Ivy project, and the board selected his design in 1897, while Constitution Hill and Blair Hall were still being built. The construction manager for both was engaged to oversee the work of building Ivy's new home.

The Club's Building & Grounds Committee recently toured Constitution Hill with Junius Morgan's grandson, A. Perry Morgan, Jr. (Ivy '46), a distinguished architect who grew up in the house, and whose Princeton firm oversaw several significant projects for the Club. In 1980, the Morgan family sold the estate, and Perry Morgan designed condominiums within the mansion and a number of very attractive homes on the site. Following the tour, a luncheon in Perry's honor was given by Daphne Townsend, whose late husband Charlie (Ivy '48) was president of the Club from 1977-81, in her Constitution Hill home.

The land on which the Morgan house was built, originally owned by William Penn, was purchased

by John Stockton, who was instrumental in bringing the College of New Jersey to Princeton, primarily by donating other parcels of land to the College. His son Richard, of the Class of 1748, was a trustee of Princeton, and a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

While all three of Cope & Stewardson's Princeton buildings are significant in the history of American architecture, it should be noted that Ivy is an important component of the Princeton Historic District, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

## Introducing New Executive Chef, Jean Giunta

| By Maddie Meyers '17, Food Chair



Our new chef, Jean Giunta, is such an incredible addition to the Club. Chef Jeanie started out the year by bringing a much-needed new menu and new energy to Ivy. I am so happy to be Food Chair and to get to work with such a charismatic and

talented woman. Every week, Chef Jeanie sends out a menu to the entire Club, including more variety than we've ever had before. My personal favorite is her filet of salmon with brown sugar and mustard glaze with a side of rosemary roasted potatoes, but it's hard to choose when every week she is expanding the menu and adding new and inventive dishes. Beyond her food, Jeanie is a joy to see at meals. She is always checking in with us and accommodating our food requests with a smile, as well as supporting us in our various projects on campus. (She's even trying to come to the musical I'm acting in next week!) We are so grateful Jeanie has joined the Ivy staff, and look forward to a yummy future!

## Message from the Undergraduate President



[above] Mina Para '17

Dearest Ivy Alumni,

Salutations, again! It has been a busy fall at Ivy, indeed! With a few new faces in the Club, cool-but-not-cold weather, and an Ivy League championship-winning football team (including Nico Bayless '18), it has made for a great autumn at the Ivy Club.

Among the new faces is our new Executive Chef, Jean Giunta. Jean has been cooking up some incredible stuff in her short time at the Club. My personal favorite is her hearty, not-to-be-underestimated lentil soup. It's unstoppable. Her jovial presence and enthusiasm for cooking have been an enormous addition to the Club, and we are all so glad to have her.

We also added seven new members through our fall Bicker process. They are all juniors and have seamlessly made themselves part of the Club since their initiation in early October. Fall Bicker continues to provide an excellent opportunity for the Club to come together early in the year and make some great additions to our membership.

Perhaps the greatest addition to the club, however, is Beatrice. Using an Ivy tie-dye t-shirt sale as a fundraiser, the Club raised over \$800 for The Cow Sanctuary, a non-profit organization in nearby Shiloh, NJ that provides an animal sanctuary on their 77-acre farm. In return for our donation, we received a "cowch" (a portmanteau of cow & couch)—a life-size, fluffy orange floor pillow made to the likeness of a real cow that we've named Beatrice. Embroidered with the Ivy crest on its side, Beatrice is sure to be a great lounge item for Ivy members present and future.

As I begin the final leg of my time at Princeton, I find myself reflecting about my time here, the people I have met, the experiences we've shared,

and the institutions we will leave. I believe much of this sentimentality has been spurred by you, our alumni. One thing about being Undergraduate President here is that I more frequently interact with our alumni than most members. Hearing stories from our alumni about their undergraduate experience and how Ivy was an integral part of that has forced perspective on my last year here. I brace, knowing that a "real world" outside of this place awaits, but am more excited than ever to enjoy my dwindling time at Ivy—a place that despite an ever-changing university and world, remains a special place to all its members and alumni. I look forward to seeing you all around. Don't hesitate to stop by for a meal!

Sincerely,  
Mina Para '17

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### Make the Ivy 1879 Foundation your charity of choice on Amazon smile!

Just follow these easy steps, and a percentage of each purchase will go to Ivy's educational work:

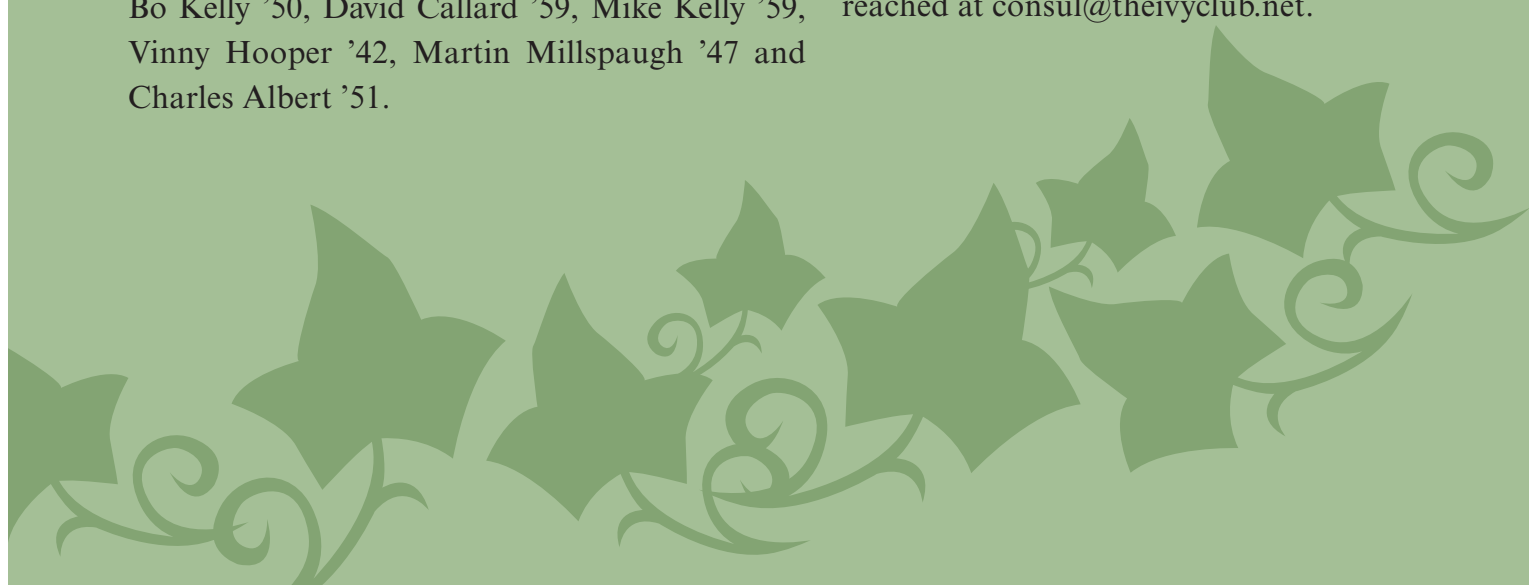
- Visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)
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- Click on the orange box to confirm Ivy as your charity of choice
- Be sure to go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) for all future purchases!



## Great Ivy Moments

In 1983, Ivy hosted its annual Alumni Dinner at the Maryland Club in Baltimore, Maryland in a hope to connect with more of its members residing in that area. Pictured left to right here are: Bo Kelly '50, David Callard '59, Mike Kelly '59, Vinny Hooper '42, Martin Millspaugh '47 and Charles Albert '51.

Were you at this dinner? We want to hear about your favorite Ivy memories. If you have photographs of Ivy gatherings or times with Ivy friends, please share them with us! We can be reached at [consul@theivyclub.net](mailto:consul@theivyclub.net).





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## **Dues Payments and Donations**

If you haven't already made your dues payment for this year, please do so on our website at [theivyclub.net](http://theivyclub.net) or by contacting us at (609) 924-2236.

Tax deductible donations to the Ivy 1879 Foundation can also be made online or by phone. **Thank you for your support!**

