



ON THE VINE

THE IVY CLUB NEWSLETTER

Spring 2015



Photography by Andrew Wilkinson



Promoting a Culture of Mutual Respect

| *By Caroline Shifke '12*

“Forget about having it all, or not having it all, leaning in or leaning out – here’s what you really need to know that nobody is telling you. Find a husband on campus before you graduate. Yes, I went there.” *Susan Patton, Princeton '77*

In 2013, Susan Patton wrote a controversial letter to *The Daily Princetonian*, in which she advised undergraduate women at Princeton to use their time wisely and find a husband while at school. The article, which gained national attention, sparked heated debates about gender equality on college campuses. A year later, President Obama released a public service announcement with a staggering statistic – one in five women on college campuses is sexually harassed.

Questions about gender and women at colleges are increasingly central not only to the national dialogue but also to undergraduates themselves.

When I visited Ivy in February for a Roundtable discussion, I spoke with a group of undergraduate members who were eager to raise important questions about female leadership on campus. I was excited by the vibrancy and energy the students brought to the conversation – and was more than a little nostalgic for the years I spent as an undergraduate member of the Ivy Club.

“This year, there has been a lot of conversation across Princeton’s campus about the lack of women in leadership positions,” said Eliza Mott '16,

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Graduate President's Report

By Jim Q. Griffin '55

Photography by James G. Cole



[above] James Q. Griffin '55

Without a formal mission study, the Board has encouraged Ivy to adjust to an evolving University without altering our core values of an open, civil, safe and optimistic association.

Upon the admission of women and an increase in membership, we built a new wing for a second library and Great Hall using traditional materials and finishes and created a perfect complement to the 19th century gem of the original building. The combined structures highlight the continuity of old to new and recognize that undergraduates increasingly study and compute at Ivy far more than in prior generations.

Our undergraduates are looking beyond the campus as Ivy expands our weekly roundtable dinners, our unique leadership series, the entrepreneur programs and crews at Henley. Ivy continues to attract our fair share of the best the University has to offer. An able eclectic membership in itself provides a challenge to each student; peers can be as daunting as faculty.

Ivy continues the “ten card” bicker system which plays a vital role in creating the chemistry underlying our vitality and for many, provides one of life's building blocks.

We are part of a unique Princeton commonwealth as we strive to help in the mystery of developing the whole individual.

Promoting a Culture of Mutual Respect

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newly elected Ivy Undergraduate President. “In that context, Ivy has been an especially active and open place for discussing issues of gender and leadership. I think the club's fostering of discussion and personal growth, as well as our environment of acceptance, has made Ivy a leader amongst the eating clubs and at the University in general.”

It was clear to me that Ivy continues to foster a culture of open dialogue and mutual respect. The conversations in which the undergraduates are engaging are important, and the Board of Governors is as committed to the significant questions raised by the membership.

Ivy's Board of Governors reflected on the recent harassment challenges on campus during its winter meeting, and affirmed its commitment to ensuring personal safety, equality and inclusion at the Club. Board and undergraduate officers are working together to identify preventative measures that deter harassment and strengthen the Club's supportive culture. As Board Governor Charles Lowrey '79 expressed, “Culture is everything. The tone of an institution is created by its members through a combination of their attitudes and the innate character of the environment. At Ivy, we attempt to create an atmosphere of mutual respect that discourages incidents of harassment and provides an open, comfortable forum for the discussion of issues.”

Ivy, like its namesake vine, is a living institution that constantly strives to adapt and grow. We might not have solved all the issues of gender equality in one fell swoop; we are, however, committed to ensuring Ivy is and continues to be an institution that all members – regardless of gender or sexuality – can call home.



Princeton's First Eating Club

Eating clubs are unique to Princeton. They were created by students as an alternative to the limited dining options then available to undergraduates, in an era when the University had banned fraternities. Formed in 1879, Ivy was the first eating club, and its founders helped to establish the club system which became, and remains, the center of dining and social life for most Princeton upperclassmen.

The Ivy Club is an independent, non-profit association whose members are or have been Princeton University undergraduates. In addition to meals and social gatherings, the Club sponsors educational programs and seeks to provide its members a comfortable, supportive environment that encourages intellectual and personal growth.

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A New Look on the Web

Ivy's new website is now online at theivyclub.net. In addition to new photographs of the Club House, there is improved payment functionality for graduate dues, undergraduate fees and contributions to the Ivy 1879 Foundation.

The site's primary purpose is to acquaint Princeton undergraduates and new Ivy parents with the Club's history and organization and with the purpose and activities of the Foundation. As before, the website provides the ability for graduate members to log in and access a database of the Club's members. It is expected that Ivy's internet home will continue to grow and improve. Suggestions are welcome, and may be sent to Molly Jones (consul@theivyclub.net).

New email addresses are also in effect for our Steward, Betty Rascher (steward@theivyclub.net) and Executive Chef Paul Chiara (chef@theivyclub.net).

We want to extend special thanks to Board Governor Corbin Miller '71 for his assistance with this project.

Restoration of Iconic Stained Glass

Photography by Jeff Tryon



[above] Stained glass to be restored

Originally designed in the late 1800s by the renowned stained glass artist Maitland Armstrong, the stunning windows which adorn the foyer staircase will be removed this June for a desperately needed restoration. The lead work has well outlived its 80- to 100-year anticipated lifetime and has begun to show

signs of fatigue. Artwork painted on the glass also shows the fade of time and will be restored to its original vibrancy.

The restoration will be conducted by Peters Studio, LLC, the highly reputable firm that recently built and installed the new Great Hall window in honor of Robert Bennett '82. Peters conducts its restoration work out of Paderborn, Germany, so the windows will be removed and flown abroad to ensure the finest attention is given to their restoration.



[above] Depiction of Ivy's coat of arms

We are in need of support for this project.

A generous matching contribution has been made for up to half of the project's anticipated \$30,000 cost. Please consider a personal gift in support of this long-standing iconic artwork of our dear Ivy. Contributions to The Ivy Club for this project can be made by mail or online at theivyclub.net.

Thank you for your consideration of support.

News from the Ivy 1879 Foundation

Full-Year for Roundtable Program

*By Liz Lian '15 and Tyler House '15
Roundtable Co-Chairs, 2014-15*

During the 2014-15 academic year, The Ivy Club Roundtable (RT) continued its tradition of inviting especially interesting guests to gather with members over dinner and drinks in the upstairs Music Room.

Our inaugural RT featured Frank Bruni, former restaurant critic and current op-ed columnist for The New York Times and visiting professor of journalism at the University. Mr. Bruni shared many stories from his career in journalism and offered advice to members in a packed Great Hall.

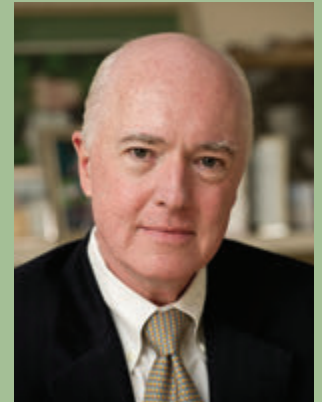
In October, we continued the tradition of inviting Ivy's very own, the beloved Betty Rascher, to a very special RT for junior members to meet her and hear stories from her many years with the Ivy Club.

Next, the Warwick University Rowing Team, who made a splash with their charity calendar, visited the Ivy Club to speak about rooting out homophobia in sports and creating a culture of allyship.

In February, we welcomed back former Ivy President Caroline Shifke '12, who spoke about the vital issue of representation of women in leadership positions. Ms. Shifke also fielded recommendations from current members about strengthening the relationship between Ivy alumni and the current membership.

For our final RT, we will invite David Bradley, owner of the Atlantic Media Company. Mr. Bradley is credited with, among other things, improving the business model and editorial

quality of The Atlantic. Prior to entering the media and publishing industry, Mr. Bradley founded two research companies and was a Fulbright Scholar in the Philippines. He is also the father of a current Ivy member, Carter Bradley '15.



[above] David Bradley

My Co-Chair, Liz Lian and I have treasured the opportunity to lead the Roundtable program and will graduate knowing that we have left it in very able hands. Tyler Starr and Guy Johnston, both members of the section of 2016, will undoubtedly host many successful Roundtables. We look forward to hearing wonderful things.

A Strong Run of Great Leaders

*By Hannah Swenson '16 and Alice Inchauspe '16,
Leadership Committee Co-Chairs*



[above] [left to right] Jan Buck '67, John McNeel '68, Patrick Bernuth '62, James Griffin '55, Secretary James Baker '52, John MacMurray '61

The Ivy Leadership Committee was excited to welcome Secretary James A. Baker III (Ivy '52) on April 3, who gave a presentation on leadership and then answered numerous questions from the audience. The talk was well attended, with nearly



[above] Secretary James A. Baker III packs the Great Hall

100 members and guests seated in the Great Hall of the Ivy Club. “Know what to do and then do it,” Secretary Baker implored of the students and alumni seated before him. He emphasized that leadership comes from the ground up, rather than from the top down, and that we therefore must focus on leadership in our personal lives every day.

talk in the library. He touched on hiring the right people, feeling humbled by failure, and being truly passionate about his work.

We are eagerly anticipating our final event of the year – a panel with General David Petraeus, Dr. Alan Huffman, and Professor Bernard Haykel – on oil and politics in the Middle East. This event will take place on April 30 (after this newsletter has gone to print) in the Great Hall. With the amount of buzz already taking place within the Club, members are clearly excited and the Ivy Leadership Committee is expecting high attendance.

Video links to the Secretary Baker and Kevin Ryan programs are available on the Educational Events page of our website, theivyclub.net



[above] Secretary Baker with guest Peter Erickson, a graduate student at the Woodrow Wilson School and active duty United States Army officer



[above] [left to right] Sara Malamut, Leadership Co-Chair Hannah Swenson, Presenter Kevin Ryan, Leadership Co-Chair Alice Inchauspe, Visala Alagappan

On April 9, the Ivy Leadership Committee invited tech entrepreneur Kevin Ryan to inspire young entrepreneurs and give insights into building a startup. Ryan is known as a “serial innovator,” having created multiple billion-dollar companies in New York City including Gilt Groupe, Business Insider, and MongoDB. Following a dinner in the Ivy dining room, Kevin gave a more intimate

Ivy Welcomes Its Second Female Undergraduate President



[above] Eliza Mott '16

Dear Ivy Alumni,

My name is Eliza Mott and I was elected Undergraduate President in February. I have thoroughly enjoyed the job so far, and I think we are going to have a wonderful year at Ivy.

I grew up in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, just outside of the great city of Detroit. I am a Junior in the Department of Art and Archaeology, and therefore am one of Ivy's least hireable members. However, I am happy to have a conversation with any and all of you about Cézanne. On campus, I am also an editor-in-chief of the Nassau Weekly, a tour guide at the Princeton University Art Museum, and one of the leaders of SpeakOut, a student group that works to raise awareness about consent and interpersonal violence.

The former officer corps—Nick, Andrew, Cliff, Chris, and Tobias—did a tremendous job this past year. They set a great example for me and the other new officers; I can't imagine Ivy without them. That being said, I feel very lucky that I will be living and working with such a great group of my friends next year. The new Vice President, Jack Hilger, has already proven himself to be a fantastic right hand man. Sterling Sipp is our new Treasurer, and we aren't broke yet, so she is clearly doing a good job. Our new Bicker Chair, Michael Moorin, will certainly demonstrate his capabilities in the fall for our next round of bicker. Danielle Mills, the social butterfly that she is, is our wonderful new Social Chair, and finally the talented Billy Cohen is our new House Manager.

Ivy remains a lively place for study, friendship, and fun. The membership is deeply involved in all aspects of club life, and the building is always

being put to good use. At any given moment of the day you'll find members in a heated match of ping-pong or pool, studying by the stained glass window in the Great Hall, or talking over a meal in the dining room. This spring, we have had some incredible Leadership Council speakers and Roundtable guests to rival the University's guest speakers.

This past February, we admitted a new section of sophomores. They have a wide range of personalities, talents, and interests, and come from very diverse backgrounds. They are also not by any means shy, and are already integrating incredibly well. This is lucky for us, because their vim and vigor has already contributed greatly to Club culture.

I hope I have clearly conveyed how precious Ivy is to its current members. You, our graduate members, are equally as valued and we hope that you'll stop by the house sometime soon to chat. We all love hearing stories from Ivy's past.

Sincerely,
Eliza Mott

2014-2015 OFFICERS

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Undergraduate Governor – Andrew Mills

House Chair – Tobis Citron

Treasurer – Cliff Bersani

Social Chair – Chris Murphy

2015-2016 OFFICERS

Undergraduate President – Eliza Mott

Undergraduate Governor – Jack Hilger

Bicker Chair – Michael Moorin

House Chair – Bill Cohen

Treasurer – Sterling Sipp

Social Chair – Danielle Mills



Irreplaceable Ivy

| By UG President Nick Martin '15



[above] Nick Martin '15

The prospect of graduating in a few short months is, at once, exciting and terrifying. Our class will soon enter into the “real world,” a place where we must plate our own dinners and pay for our own Greek yogurt. We are asking ourselves many of the same questions we

asked as we jumped from high school to college four years ago: where exactly will I be living? Will I be able to handle the workload? Will I even make any friends?

Among all the uncertainty of what life beyond the orange bubble will hold one thing is for sure, it will be impossible to fill the void where Ivy once was. In the past couple of months, as independent work has driven many seniors into isolation, the Club’s unifying force has become more important

than ever. Even as we slave away at our dreaded theses, we set aside time to spend at Ivy, because we recognize how enriching and truly one-of-a-kind this community is. The Club regularly hosts, in an intimate setting, guests who could easily fill an entire auditorium, from former Secretaries of State to world-class violists. Yet, no matter how renowned these guests may be, the lifeblood of this institution will always be the membership.

We are all incredibly grateful for the bonds we have formed here, and we can only hope to preserve them as we make way for another class. What is perhaps most exciting about the road ahead is getting to see what our fellow members will do.

Finally, I would like to thank those who have made these past two years possible. The alumni, for their commitment to the Club’s current and future members. The staff, who cook, clean, serve, and repair every day, and, of course, the only person I’d follow blindfolded, Betty Rascher.

Thank you all for this invaluable experience.

Highlight: Ivy Club 2015 Reunion Schedule

Friday, May 29, 2015—The Club will be open until midnight for the general membership. There will be no food service, but refreshments of beer and soda will be available.

A cocktail reception for the women of Ivy will be held in the Lower Library from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. All are invited to enjoy the comradery and view the new Women of Ivy stained glass window.

Saturday, May 30, 2015—Brunch for members and their guests will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 per person. Children under 10 years old are free.

Following the P-rade, food and beverages will be available from approximately 4 to 6 p.m. Refreshments of beer and soda will continue through the evening. The Club closes at midnight.

Sunday, May 31, 2015—No events are scheduled at the Club on this day.

**The Board of Governors requests that members do not bring their own alcoholic beverages into the Clubhouse.*



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