Global Networking Night

On Wednesday, January 9, the Harvard Club of Southern California kicked off the new year with Global Networking Night (GNN). Twice a year, thousands of Harvard Alumni make new connections in cities around the world. This year, the HCSC held two events, one in Los Angeles and one in Ontario, bringing together nearly 350 local alumni.

In L.A., almost 300 alums gathered at The Parlor on Melrose Avenue. The event, co-sponsored by Harvardwood, included brief presentations by several Shared Interest Groups including the Harvard Asian American Alumni Alliance, First Generation Harvard Alumni, and Harvard Alumni for Education. Graduates of the college and many of Harvard’s graduate schools ate, drank, and networked for over four hours, making professional connections in the fields of finance, law, tech, healthcare, entertainment, and the arts.

The GNN in Ontario was co-sponsored by the Harvard Latino Alumni Alliance. Held at Gloria’s Cocina Mexicana Restaurant, the event was attended by over 40 Latino alumni and guests representing numerous education and civic organizations located throughout the Inland Empire. Jose Magana, director of student
and family programs at the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, shared information on the HSF’s resources and scholarships available for local high school and college students. In addition, Louie Rodriguez, associate professor at UC Riverside’s Graduate School of Education, was presented a Certificate of Appreciation for his excellent leadership work in support of local students and educators. Participants also engaged in a networking exercise that allowed them to meet each other both in affinity groups and individually. Attendees were treated to complimentary Mexican food appetizers and drinks throughout the evening.

Winternship Finance Trek 2019

On January 15 and 16, the Harvard Club of Southern California hosted a Winter Session Finance Trek for undergrads in Los Angeles and Pasadena. Corey Mazza ’07 hosted fifteen Harvard students, the majority underclassmen, at the J.P. Morgan Private Bank office in Century City. Throughout the morning, four panels of Harvard alumni, as well as recent grads from other colleges who are working in financial services, explained various career paths and answered the students’ questions.

Among the Harvard alumni who took part in the event was David Regan ’99, J.P. Morgan's Investment Team Lead for the West Region, who has been with the firm for 20 years. Matthew Luft ’10 spoke on behalf of IMT Capital, and Peter Ma ’10 represented Colbeck Capital. An investment management panel included Malcolm Johnson ’18, who just started at J.P. Morgan, and an Investment Banking session drew quite a bit of interest. The students had time to network and left the sessions with a better understanding of future opportunities in financial services on the West Coast. We look forward to hosting again next year and would love to add more Harvard alumni and companies.

In Pasadena, students visited Western Asset Management and PRIMECAP Management Company, where they met with portfolio managers, analysts, and others to learn about the investment management business. At East-West Bank, participants learned about career opportunities in commercial banking. We appreciate Willie Alford ’01, P.Y. Nicole Chang ’89, and John Wang ’88 for their help organizing the visits in Pasadena.
Annual Harvard-Yale Holiday Salon and Potluck

On December 20, nearly 70 revelers gathered at the house of HCSC board member Sonia Molina DMD ’89, MPH ’89 for the club’s annual Harvard-Yale salon and potluck. Sonia has been hosting this event since 1998, and this 20th anniversary edition featured piano players, singers, a stand-up comedian, and plenty of dancing.

Harvard Club Welcomes Class of 2023 Admits

On January 13, Gary Barkin ’86, JD ’93 and Haya Handel hosted a reception for the newest admits to the Harvard Class of 2023 at their Westside home. Admitted students and their parents spent the afternoon meeting future classmates and asking questions of current students and alumni. The Early Admits from Southern California numbered 50, of which over 40 students attended the reception, along with their parents, interviewers and board members from the Harvard Club of Southern California. More than 310 students from Southern California applied for early admission, an acceptance rate of approximately 16%. Nationally, Harvard received approximately 6,600 applications and accepted 935 students, an acceptance rate of 13.4%, well below last year’s rate of 14.5%, the lowest rate since the return of Early Action in 2011. Regular Action applications currently are being evaluated in what is expected to be another record year.

A Cappella Double Feature Sells Out Again - The Dins and Kroks Return to L.A.

Nearly 300 enthusiastic Harvard alumni and guests packed the Westwood Presbyterian Church on Saturday, January 19 for the third annual concert by two of Harvard’s most prestigious a cappella groups, The Din & Tonics and The Krokodiloes. Visiting Los Angeles on their Wintersession tours, the groups wowed the capacity crowd with their impeccable musicianship and irrepressible humor. The Harvard Yardbirds (a group composed of a cappella alumni) opened the concert with a well-received set. A post-concert wine and cheese reception gave the crowd a chance to meet these talented undergraduates and purchase copies of the groups’ latest CDs. We look forward to welcoming the group back to the southland next January for what has now become a HCSC tradition.
Upcoming Events

2019 Inter-Ivy+ Mammoth Ski Trip

Get ready for another fun-filled weekend of snow sports at Mammoth Mountain with alums and friends from all the Ivy schools. Adults of all skill levels are welcome.

FRI-SUN, FEB 8-10
Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort
$469 per person
Chi Bui, orthochi@yahoo.com

Dating and Mating in the Digital Age

Join us for a glass of wine and a fascinating talk by relationship expert April Beyer as she explores how social media and technology have changed the ways we meet, date, and relate. Light refreshments will be served.

SUN, FEB 10 @ 7:00PM
Private Brentwood Residence (address provided to attendees)
$15 members; $25 non-members
Gary Barkin, garybarkin@gmail.com

Signature Science Pub Series Event: A Visit to Amgen Headquarters (Members Only)

Visit the global headquarters of Amgen, one of the world’s leading biotech companies, with an introduction by Executive Vice President of R&D and Harvard alumnus David Reese ’85. Tour the lab of Dr. Cen Xu and the team of scientists behind Aimovig, Amgen’s latest medicine for the prevention of migraine. Aimovig was named as one of TIME’s Best Inventions of 2018. Space is limited.

MON, FEB 11 @ 9:30AM
Amgen Headquarters (Visitor Check In)
No charge (open to members only)
Ethel Laczko, etheledu@gmail.com
Upcoming Events

Alumni Talk: How I Became an Architect with Ed Ogosta MAR ’01

Please join us for this special event to hear (and see) how Ed Ogosta MAR ’01 became an award-winning architect. As a bonus, guests will take a guided tour of the “Rear Window House,” which has won local, state, and national awards from the American Institute of Architects. Refreshments will be served. Space is limited.

SUN, FEB 24 @ 2:00PM  
Participants will be given address upon registration  
$10, members; $15, non-members  
Albert Chang, AlbertChang@charter.net

2019 Harvard Varsity Club California Golf Tournament

Don’t miss out on the 2nd annual Harvard Varsity Club California Golf Tournament at MountainGate Country Club in Los Angeles. All Harvard alumni, family, friends, and golfing buddies are welcome.

MON, MAR 15 @ 10:30AM  
MountainGate Country Club  
$200 for HVC members; $250 for non-members  
RSVP at https://www.harvardvarsityclub.org/article.html?aid=1942

LA Opera, El Gato Montés (The Wildcat) by Manuel Penella, starring Placido Domingo

Join the Harvard Club of Southern California at the Los Angeles Opera for this very special performance of El Gato Montés (The Wildcat) with an optional pre-performance lecture one hour prior to showtime.

THU, MAY 16 @ 7:30PM  
Dorothy Chandler Pavilion  
$86, members; $96, non-members  
Kay Park, kayparkmd@yahoo.com
HCSC: What surprised you about being a student at Harvard?

DT: I was most surprised by the “small college” feel of the community and campus. The centrality of Harvard Yard both geographically as well as within the freshman experience creates a very close-knit community defined by unexpected yet fruitful encounters. Despite the large size of each class, somehow it seems like everyone knows each other.

HCSC: What was the first time you visited Harvard and what were your impressions at that time?

DT: I first visited Harvard the summer after my freshman year in high school, when my older sister was touring colleges on the East Coast. At the time, I was awestruck, and most definitely disoriented by the unending brick and what appeared to be identical buildings.

HCSC: What was your favorite class (or professor) and why?

DT: My favorite class so far has been Expos 20, the introductory writing course that all freshman take. Taught by Dr. Rebecca Summerhays and titled “Reading the Body,” the course from the very beginning pushed me out of my comfort zone and challenged what I had expected for a normal “college” class. Its first assignment entailed going to a museum and staring at a medical artifact of our choosing for at least half an hour—something I initially thought would be extremely tedious but in the end led to one of the most insightful essays I’ve written. The novel and frightening experience of being able to freely choose essay topics as well as the support and guidance of Dr. Summerhays made the course one of the best I have taken at Harvard.

HCSC: If you were President of Harvard, what would change?

DT: As cliché as this may sound, I have found Harvard to be an almost perfect place and would not change anything if I were president.
HCSC: What do you miss most about Southern California?

DT: I probably miss driving the most. Coming from a place where public transportation is almost non-existent and driving is the most prevalent way to get around, I did not realize how much I would miss the convenience of driving when trying to get around Cambridge and the greater Boston area by the T, walking, or using ride-sharing services.

HCSC: How do you think Southern California will figure into your future after Harvard?

DT: While I am open as to where I end up immediately after graduation, I do hope to eventually settle back in Southern California, even if only for retirement. After growing up here, I believe that people and culture of Southern California create the perfect place to live and raise a family—the weather is just the cherry on top.

Harvardwood 101 Reception

For the sixth consecutive year, twenty-eight Harvard undergraduates who were participating in the Harvardwood 101 “Boot Camp” attended a reception and met with HCSC members and other alumni at the Pacific Palisades home of Patric M. Verrone ’81 and Maiya Williams Verrone ’84 on January 8, 2019.

Now in its seventeenth year, the Harvardwood 101 program gives selected undergrads a week-long intensive introduction to the Hollywood film, TV, online media, and music industries, followed by placement in a “winternship” at a media company. The application process, though open to all Harvard undergrads, was so competitive this year that only seniors were selected to participate.

Among the industry alumni who attended and provided wisdom and counsel to the students were MSNBC host Lawrence O’Donnell ’74; entertainment executives Lisa Henson ’82, and Charles Hirschhorn ’79; screenwriters Jon Aibel ’91 and Jonathan Fernandez ’89; and TV writer-producers Nick Leith Baker ’07, Michael Borkow ’88, Carleton Eastlake HLS ’72, Jeff Melvoin ’75, and Max Pross ’79. All told, more than sixty alums and undergrads shared pizza, beer (they were all seniors after all), and experiences at the event. The Verrones hope to continue the annual event in 2020, so if other interested alums would like to be invited, it’s never too early to reach out at pverrone@aol.com.

We Want to Hear from You!

The Harvard Club of Southern California seeks to provide opportunities for social engagement among Harvard Alumni throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties. We are currently assessing our performance and would be eager to have your input. Would you take a moment to fill out a brief online survey to help us better serve the Southern California Harvard community? It can be found at https://tinyurl.com/hcscsurvey. Thank you!
### Calendar of Upcoming Events

For more information on events and general club news, visit the club website at [www.harvard-LA.org](http://www.harvard-LA.org). To recommend an event or volunteer for one, contact one of our Programs VPs.

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