

Harvard-Cambridge

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Scholarships

2013-2014 H-C Scholars Report from Cambridge

A life that “might as well be a fantasy”

Charles Gertler, John Eliot Scholar at Jesus College, spends most of his days at the Scott Polar Research Institute or “SPRI” with other students pursuing their M.Phils in Polar Studies. Every morning and afternoon, the loud clang of the Terra Nova, the bell that accompanied Captain Scott to the Antarctic in 1910, calls the Institute together for tea and coffee. Gathering under the spar from Shackleton’s famous vessel Endurance and four small black-and-white photographs from Scott’s doomed expedition, students and faculty are keen to carry the torch of the original polar explorers. It’s all very British.

When not gathering for coffee and tea, the aspiring glaciologists work on their dissertations (Charles is characterizing the interactions between crustal deformation and ice dynamics in Iceland), attend seminars and lectures, and chat about ways to make it to one of the poles. As a group they are bound together by a love of the outdoors, a habit of over-romanticizing polar exploration, and a thirst to understand how our world works, not to mention a shared fondness for a pint at the end of the day and old yarns spun by the Institute associates – grey-bearded men with desks in the oldest part of the SPRI library, who’ve been going to the ends of the earth since 1950.

Apart from his world at the SPRI, Charles has found a home at the Cambridge University Squash Rackets Club – in fact, the “lads” on the squash team have become some of his best mates in Cambridge. The team trains about four times a week and has one or two matches – Charles says his game is greatly improved and he’s fitter than ever, but it’s more manageable than playing a varsity sport at Harvard. He’s especially looking forward to the varsity game against Oxford in February.

Jesus College is Charles’s third home in Cambridge, where he’s housed at Little Trinity on Jesus Lane – rumored to be a

haunted former brothel. Habits include a casual meal in the graduate hall on Wednesday night, a very medieval-feeling enclave. Formal halls are equally noteworthy and, when Charles gets a chance, he dons his gown and brings friends to eat and drink in the great hall. Overall Jesus isn’t as grand as some of the other colleges, but its less imposing architecture has a calming effect. Adding to that sense of calm, Charles has found the university to be seeped in a contagious reasonableness that makes it feel, for lack of a better word, more civilized.

So when friends and family ask, “How’s Cambridge?” Charles can’t help but confess that the lifestyle is “amazing.” After all, he has time to pursue work he’s passionately interested in, to participate in a sport that is fun and feels good, and to spend time with new friends that feel like old ones. All in all, the year has already done more than bought time for Charles to figure out what he wants to do – it’s actively influencing how he wants to live.



2013-14 H-C Scholars: Rediet Abebe (Pembroke), Charles Gertler (Jesus), Aziza Suleymanzade (Emmanuel), and Will Rafey (Trinity)

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2013-2014 H-C Scholars Report from Cambridge

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A Cornucopia of “Maths”

Trinity College has been “a wonderful place” for Charles Henry Fiske III Scholar **Will Rafey**, providing a home base from which to enjoy time with friends, learn and do mathematics, row on the River Cam, and launch peregrinations within the UK and further afield.

As a candidate for the Master of Advanced Study (MASt.) in Mathematics, Will has found that Trinity College is a particularly exciting place to deepen his understanding of his chosen field. Already his mathematical literacy has grown tremendously and he’s been (in the words of one fellow student and friend) “seduced by the Cambridge probabilists,” taking courses in subjects like advanced probability, percolation, stochastic calculus, combinatorics, graph theory, and complex analysis. For his own part, Will is currently writing an essay about random processes living on rhombic lattices.

Best of all, there are at least forty other Trinitarians taking Part III of the mathematical tripos at Cambridge with Will, half of whom are in their fourth year at Cambridge while the other half hail from all over the world. For Will, this has meant making new friends from places as far flung as Uruguay, Greece, Germany, Estonia, Australia, and Belgium and spending many an evening drinking port while listening to eminent mathematicians. (Two Fields medalists, Wendelin Werner and Michael Atiyah, are among the famous scholars who have given talks to the Trinity Mathematical Society during Will’s time there.)

Beyond his colleagues in the math program, Will has also found close friends among Trinity students who are studying a wide range of other subjects from physics to intellectual history, geography, and politics. With all this intellectual diversity, he finds that the New Court room at Trinity becomes an evening gathering place for an ever-changing collection of interesting people.

Life at Cambridge isn’t only for the mind, however, as Will has also been rowing a great deal for Trinity’s First and Third Boat Club. To his surprise, he made it into M1, the men’s top eight. They didn’t perform as well as they hoped in the Fairbairns race at the end of last term, but M1 is training hard (daily!) for the Lent “bumps” (races). Most important, Will has found rowing to be a great way to meet people in Trinity.

Will is also taking advantage of his Harvard-Cambridge year to get some traveling in, starting with two weeks in Paris before he arrived for the term. He’s since returned twice to Paris and spent six days skiing at Tignes and Val d’Isère in the French Alps on the Oxford-Cambridge ski trip at the beginning of December. Meanwhile, trips to London have provided a fast-paced contrast to the tranquility of Cambridge and an opportunity to hear favorite folk musicians play in Union Chapel, visit a host of museums, and explore one of the world’s great cities.

Adventures in Physics and Dance

As Lionel de Jersey Harvard Scholar at Emmanuel College, **Aziza Suleymanzade** divides her time between lab work and dance.

Arriving in Cambridge for a M. Phil in Physics, one of Aziza’s main hopes was to figure out what area of her field to focus on, for an eventual Ph.D. and beyond. Fortunately, she found what she was looking for at the AMOP (Atomic, Mesoscopic, and Optical Physics) Lab, where she is building a new machine that can produce two species of Bose-Einstein Condensate – a state of matter that can be achieved by cooling dilute gases to temperatures very near to absolute zero. Besides deepening her theoretical knowledge, Aziza’s time at the AMOP Lab has exposed her to many new things that can’t be learned in a classroom and given her multiple “transferable skills” in areas like plumbing, electronics and ultra-high vacuum maintenance. At the same time, she’s fitting in comfortably with her all-male lab group and finds herself quite enjoying their communal lunches, pub outings, bowling parties, and – most important! – a daily, post-lunch, “on this day” history quiz. By the end of the year Aziza expects to be much better informed, not only about her chosen field but about history as well.

As a member of Harvard’s Ballroom Dance Team, Aziza was very excited to learn that Cambridge University has the best Dancesport team in England (which is saying something, because England is one of the most competitive Dancesport countries in the world). At Cambridge, in fact, the women’s dance team has full athletic status. After trials in September, Aziza began training and competing with the team, which has made for a wonderful experience and a lot of hard work. Her Cambridge coaches and teammates have been so good, that Aziza has even sought out additional dancing opportunities outside the university. As a member of Britain’s top open Latin formation XS team (the 6-time winner of the British National Championship and currently ranked 13th in the world), Aziza is now practicing and competing for the UK at an international level.

Rounding out her adventures in physics and dance, Aziza has been enjoying travel, board games with friends and teammates, and Emmanuel’s resident ducks – she reports feeling very lucky indeed!

Chapel, Mathmos, and “Pempals”

Every Friday afternoon, **Rediet Abebe**, Governor William Shirley Scholar at Pembroke College, joins five other chapel clerks over a pot of (properly made!) tea to plan another week of activities at historic Pembroke Chapel. The chapel – a beautiful, Gothic building that dates to the 1600s – has provided a unique and vibrant connection with Cambridge and given Rediet the chance to participate in many memorable events, from the choral Compline and Sunday Evensong to chapel formal after Evensong and the almost inevitable bar outing afterwards. In fact, Rediet reports that the highlight of her term so far has been delivering a reading in front of a packed, candlelit audience during the Christmas Carol service (and being told afterward that her accent grew increasingly American as the passage went on).

Outside Pembroke Chapel, Rediet has found a diverse and active community in the Graduate Parlor, where she spends nearly as much time as she does in her room. The weekly BA dinners, Sunday tea, and Pembros knitting club have been special favorites. Once every three weeks, Rediet goes to London to visit an Ethiopian community. She enjoys getting to know the people there, most of whom are recent immigrants, and bringing back Ethiopian food for her Pembroke friends.

Of course, academics are also a big part of Rediet’s life at Pembroke, and here too her Cambridge experience is already proving transformative. When Rediet arrived at Pembroke she was planning to pursue doctoral studies in theoretical mathematics following her year abroad. But after taking several computer courses at Pembroke she found her research interests are better aligned with theoretical computer science.

Rediet credits her time in Cambridge with giving her the flexibility and time to explore different fields – and in the process, find a subject that she is even more passionate about than mathematics. She now plans to enter a Ph.D. program in theoretical computer science when she returns to the States.

Not that Rediet is quite done exploring yet. Besides her regular attendance at math department seminars, she tries to attend at least one talk each week on a subject that is outside her chosen field. Sometimes these forays prove unexpectedly relevant: attending a recent Marshall lecture by Professor Alvin Roth, Rediet found that Roth’s work on matching markets and market design to meet the demand for donated kidneys could be viewed as a matching problem on sparse compatibility graphs, which are objects ubiquitous in combinatorics!

Currently, Rediet is focusing most of her time on her master’s project, which involves cutting cake – or (in fancier terms) the division of a heterogeneous good, a problem at the interface of computer science, economics, and mathematics. She’s hoping that her study of algorithms and protocols to cut a cake among a small number of players in a way that is ‘fair’ will make her an invaluable guest at birthday parties.

For the rest of the year, Rediet looks forward to spending more time with Pembroke friends, continuing to prepare for graduate school, and working on her project. A near-term goal is to get involved with Pembroke House, a center set up by Pembroke students in 1885 to serve the community in southeast London. Rediet plans to spend the summer in Cambridge and hopes to visit more museums and cathedrals, in London and elsewhere afield. ■

Update on the *Scholarships*

You had recently graduated from Harvard College. You were embarking on one of your first overseas adventures, if not your first. You lived in a residential dormitory room in an old college in a city with medieval passageways. You tried punting; you drank real ale; you were enchanted by Evensong in the college chapels at sunset. Between terms, during the longest “vacs” you had ever known, you traveled to other places in the UK and in Europe. You stayed up all night at May Ball. You left Cambridge after your scholarship year remembering not the winter or the dining hall food but the people you had met and the sweet smell and endless light of Cambridge’s long, late spring days.

We all have our memories of our undergraduate years, and many of us also have memories of graduate school years and other intersections with some part of Harvard University. But all of us share something else that is very special: our year in Cambridge, courtesy of the Harvard-Cambridge Scholarships. For many of us it was one of the most formative years of our lives.

Harvard has embarked on a \$6.5 billion capital campaign in large part to continue to secure a future – with special focus on undergraduate financial aid, attracting and supporting a world-class faculty, and House renewal – that is even better than its past. We are at a similar place in the life of the Harvard-Cambridge Scholarships. We remain unique among Harvard College scholarships in that our scholarships are entirely overseen by a Governance Committee made up solely of former scholars; our annual Selection Committee each year selects our new scholars. We celebrated the 90th anniversary of our first scholarship in 2011, and we are only a few years away from celebrating our first century.

Along with Harvard, the Scholarships have grown a lot in recent years. More than two decades ago, thanks to the generosity of a handful of former scholars, the Scholarship endowment funds were greatly strengthened, and during

Memories and Friendships to Last a Lifetime...

A Report from the Summer Fellowship Program

In the summer of 2013, the Harvard-Cambridge Scholarships sent 13 undergraduates – one more than in 2012 and the most ever in the summer fellowship program’s history – to our four colleges at Cambridge University.

Weekly meetings with Cambridge history professor Peter Martland were the high point of the summer, and perhaps of his entire undergraduate career, for **Eric Cervini '14**. Dr. Martland guided Cervini to groundbreaking new source

material for his research into the early gay rights movement. Wide-ranging discussions with Professor Martland about history, literature, and current events taught Cervini more about the UK than he ever knew before and left him with a new appreciation for the

value of informal education and a re-invigorated passion for his thesis project. In addition to his “formative” and “mind opening” academic experiences, Cervini reports meeting “some of the closest friends of my life” and spending “countless hours” in the numerous cafes and lawns of Cambridge bonding with peers from all over the world.

For **Florence Chen '15**, the H-C summer fellowship offered a first taste of life as an

independent research scientist and marked a turning point in her undergraduate career. Though Chen had worked as a lab technician before, her collaboration with Cambridge professors Sasha Turchyn and Mike Bickle afforded a first opportunity to analyze and present data. Exploring the interactions between carbon and sulfur isotopes in rock formations taught Chen a deep appreciation for the detective-like aspects of the research process and

Update on the *Scholarships*

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the 1980s and 1990s income from the funds allowed us to make sure our stipend kept pace with the best-known national scholarships, distinguishing us from a number of other Harvard study and travel fellowships awarded to graduating seniors. It also allowed us to build up a modest surplus each year as our share of endowment income released by Harvard modestly exceeded our expenses. In the mid-1990s it became clear we could afford more than our original two scholarships, the Lieutenant Charles H. Fiske III Scholar at Trinity College and the Lionel de Jersey Harvard Scholar at Emmanuel College. In 1995-96, we sent Samantha Harvey, our first John Eliot Scholar, to Jesus College, and in 1997-98 we sent Ethan Tucker, our first Governor William Shirley Scholar, to Pembroke College. Five years ago we started a program for summer scholars, and we are now sending 8-10 Harvard undergraduates to Cambridge for summer study and research. We continue to provide our full-year and summer scholars very competitive stipends. Our relations with Cambridge, and in particular with the four colleges to which we send our scholars, remain strong.

However the last five years have brought us no fewer than three major sources of financial challenge: lower levels of income from our endowment funds; much higher fees for tuition and room and board for international students at Cambridge; and a new assessment from the Office of Career Services for using its services to help us with the administration of the scholarships. We run a very tight ship – most of what we do is done by members of our Governance Committee who volunteer their time and talents; we undertake almost no travel; we do not host fancy meals; we enjoy no boondoggles of any kind – but not surprisingly, given this increase in expenses and a reduction in income, we are now operating at a modest annual loss. The Governance Committee took a number of years to decide to add new scholarships and to initiate a summer program, and it did so slowly, over several years. The Committee will also take several years before deciding to curtail any of our core activities such as the amount of our stipends, our summer program, or the number of our scholars, but over time we do think we should fit our annual expenses to match our annual income. Our hope, however, is to continue our programs as they are if at all possible.

It is for this reason that I ask you, on behalf of the Governance Committee, to consider earmarking some or all of your contribution to the Harvard Campaign to the Harvard-Cambridge Scholarships (we can provide you with fund account details). You will receive full Campaign credit. Our goal is to raise \$1.5 million, an amount that we believe will provide sufficient additional income to set us up well for the next several decades. We have done almost no fundraising over the past few decades, and we will not have to do any for many more years in the future if we can raise funds successfully now. If it’s been a while since you were in touch with your community of former scholars, this is a great opportunity to reconnect. Let us hear from you.

Regards,

Marc Granetz
Chair, Governance Committee

opened doors to exciting research opportunities when she returned home. But there was more to the summer than long days in the lab. Says Chen, “From formal dinners in Trinity’s stately dining hall to Shakespeare plays in St. John’s Garden; from learning to ‘punt’ a boat through the River Cam to marveling at the beauty of King’s Chapel, the summer left me with not only with a unique research experience and opportunities to publish, but also with fond memories and friends who told me to make sure that I came back to Cambridge soon.”

The first thing **Harleen Gambhir ’14** did when she arrived in Cambridge after 15 hours of travel was to put on running shoes. That first day, she encountered a crowded “maze of wonder.” But the winding streets and picturesque sights of Cambridge soon began to feel familiar. Looking back, several memories stand out: the peace and quiet of studying in Cambridge’s libraries, cafes, and lawns; the kindness and support of Emmanuel’s staff; the “Harvard in the UK” dinner; long evenings of conversation with other H-C fellows; and those quintessentially Cambridge moments, such as punting on the Cam or sunset views from Castle Hill. According to Gambhir: “I had started the summer nervous about what (and who) I would find, and ended it with a new family and a new home across the ocean.”

For **Mary Hallowell ’14**, the H-C fellowship was a first opportunity to spend extended time in Europe and continue

studying over the summer. Cambridge surpassed all expectations with its beautiful scenery, stunning buildings, and welcoming, fascinating people. The setting was particularly resonant for Hallowell’s work on her senior thesis project: exploring the story of Adam and Eve in literary fiction. Studying at the same university as *Paradise Lost* author John Milton was a special thrill, as was the chance to work with Dr. Burlinson of Jesus College who helped Hallowell “immeasurably” and left her better prepared than ever to pursue independent research. Among the countless, “dreamlike” and unforgettable moments of the summer: learning from other fellows and cooking omelets in the dorm rooms, an overnight boat trip to Grantchester, and days exploring the sights and cultural treasures of London.

As a participant in the Pembroke-King’s Program (PKP), **William Horton ’15** tackled classes in three very different subjects: “Intro to Finance;” “Art, Emotion, and Morality;” and a supervision in Music Theory. All three and the opportunity to join the PKP Global Scholars Seminar with historian Peter Martland proved instructive and engaging. They also helped Horton realize that he wanted to continue pursuing a broader concentration on social studies, rather than focusing more narrowly on music theory. Horton left with a new love of the Cambridge college system and an appreciation for the “more refined side of British university life.” Other aspects of Cambridge life were perhaps more challenging – being

attacked by swans on the Cam, for example, or attempting (unsuccessfully) to unlearn a lifetime of baseball habits so as to be able to bowl decently at cricket – but overall, Horton describes his summer experience as “amazing” and one for which he is profoundly grateful.

For **Sandra Korn ’14**, a summer of independent study and archival research provided the foundations of a senior thesis and generated new perspectives on whether to pursue post-graduate study and an academic career. Working with Cambridge sociology professor Sarah Franklin, Korn researched the evolution of new reproductive technologies and explored the history of gender in human sciences in the second half of the 20th century. This included interviewing biologists and feminists who were involved in the sociobiology debates of the 1970s and 1980s and traveling around England to look at archives on mid-20th century evolutionary theory about human behavior. Meanwhile, the two conferences Korn attended during her fellowship offered a glimpse of life in academia and helped refine her research questions. Other highlights of the summer included Scotland’s famous Edinburgh Festival, weekend excursions to Amsterdam and London, and the white cliffs of England’s south coast.

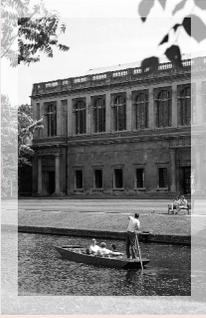
Benjamin Lorenz ’14 describes his time in Cambridge as “a really remarkable combination of intense, thoughtful engagement with a project and a sense of freedom to rest, explore, and make time for new experiences.” Lorenz

was working on outdoor theater under the guidance of the “inimitable” Professor Robin Kirkpatrick, who Lorenz describes as the best possible mentor: “astonishingly open,” “equally knowledgeable and curious, interested and interesting.” Other summer highlights: the Cambridge Shakespeare Festival; forays to London to see Kenneth Branagh’s *Macbeth* and the new Punchdrunk production, *The Drowned Man*; and a long weekend in Berlin with students in Harvard’s Visual and Environmental Studies program. The best parts of daily life included hours in the Trinity boathouse, dining with his new H-C friends and other Trinity ‘locals,’ and shopping at the Sainsbury grocery store (always cheap and fun) and at the market behind St. Mary’s. Lorenz’s advice for incoming summer fellows: “Wherever you are, working or relaxing, enjoy the freedom to try out new things and new thoughts.”

Matthew Shuham ’15 arrived at Emmanuel College with the intent of studying ties between European and American thought during the American Revolution. Surveying newspapers and trans-Atlantic correspondence of that time, he was intrigued by the books Thomas Jefferson shipped from Paris to James Madison in Virginia in 1786. These books, “the syllabus of a new nation,” profoundly influenced Madison and informed such foundational American texts as the Federalist papers and the U.S. Constitution. Along with Cambridge faculty advisor, Dr. Sarah M.S. Pearsall, the Cambridge libraries and his

Memories of Cambridge

By *Chenzi Xu (Pembroke '13)*



Reflecting on my year as a Harvard-Cambridge scholar more than six months after its end, I realize that – in many ways – my adventure has not concluded at all. While there is no replacement for that magical time of unfettered exploration and discovery I found in the “other Cambridge,” the experiences and relationships I gained there continue to travel with me, even thousands of miles from my beautiful room overlooking the inner courtyard of Pembroke College. As part of my history training during those months, I often pondered the causal connections between grand sweeping narratives of inexorable change and the specific contingencies of people, place, and time. In drawing out the narrative of my own year of grace and probing its history, I found it exceedingly difficult to disentangle my own stories from the stories of previous scholars who had studied in the same rooms, the stories of friends and travel companions, and the stories of people and places I encountered along the way.

When I first arrived at Pembroke’s Harvard room, I was prepared to inherit rain gear, books and housewares, but I was amazed to discover a wealth of souvenirs and mementos from years of concerts, talks, dinners, travels abroad and, of course, port consumed. Before the term started (and while tourists, not students, were still the ones mostly getting scolded by the porters for touching the grass), I spent many quiet evenings sifting through these fliers and brochures, familiarizing myself with the Stokes society, jazz at John’s, Evensong in King’s, and a host of dinners in the hall downstairs and at other colleges. Then, before I knew it, I had added to this collection my own mementos: a set of light blue hair ribbons from the first novice regatta of Michaelmas term, a self-fashioned storm trooper mask that miraculously survived a junior parlour bop, an inflatable mustachioed snowman of mysterious origins, and a bright pink yoga ball that drew either delight or derision from dinner guests when other seating options ran out. Formals in hall, concerts in chapel, wine over cheese and biscuits, and rowing at dawn down the River Cam became part of my weekly routine. Writing my thesis among the blooming crocuses, daffodils, and tulips with Earl Gray or Cadbury’s for sustenance, while running off to the occasional pub rendezvous for inspiration, became the norm as the weeks whirled by.

But one cannot write about a year in the H-C program without mentioning the six-week vacations that provide a perfect opportunity to travel beyond the Cambridge bubble. In York and Durham, I saw some of the oldest cathedrals in England. They provided both the standard for and a contrast to Gaudi’s fantastical Sagrada Familia in Barcelona. Another break yielded some of my favorite memories and an opportunity to visit the Amazon and Peru. At Machu Picchu, at the freezing altitude of 4600m, we paid tribute to Mother Earth and asked for the safe delivery of our hopes and dreams. The incredible difficulty of simply backpacking those cold trails gave me a new appreciation for what the Incas had accomplished, hauling tons of stone and grain to build and maintain their remote mountain outposts. And the surroundings couldn’t have contrasted more starkly with the warm abundance of the Amazon, where we had fished for piranha, caught caiman, and held sloths just a few weeks before. Our guides taught us basic survival skills, which ranged from conserving resources in the Andes to recognizing predators in the jungle. After weeks on dusty trails and in wild forest, my return to the neatly manicured lawns and afternoon teatimes of Cambridge delivered yet another jolt of transition and discovery in a year already brimming with new experiences.

I had gone to Cambridge ready to study the past and live in the present at a 14th century college where the rarest manuscripts were sometimes easier to find than the latest novel. What I learned there is that the old and the new, the historic and the contemporary are often one and the same. In the Sacred Valley’s villages and mines, on Paris’s wide boulevards, among Barcelona’s architectural wonders, and in hidden crypts in English cathedrals I found history and made my own in the form of new friendships and many stories worth the retelling. Looking back, I am so grateful that I could contribute my personal memories to the living legacy of the Harvard room, where hopefully future scholars will be as tempted as I was by the opportunities that are only a short walk, cycle, train, or plane ride away.

...I found it exceedingly difficult to disentangle my own stories from the stories of previous scholars who had studied in the same rooms...

Governance Committee 2014

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Jonathan Weigel
Pembroke '10

Memories and Friendships to Last a Lifetime...

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fellow summer scholars were a wonderful resource for Shuham's exploration of the "Republic of Letters" that existed between Enlightenment thinkers in Europe and America during the 18th century.

As a social studies student from Ankara, Turkey, **Arda Can Tekin '15** found his fellowship experience deeply colored by unsettling events at home – notably the Gezi Park protests that erupted in Istanbul in late May 2013. Events in Turkey prompted Tekin to change his summer research plans from a study of the reformation of the British Labour Party in the Blair era to a study of mass protests and their outcomes in different countries. Tekin found an invaluable mentor in Professor John Loughlin of St. Edmund's College who helped direct him to unfamiliar sources in the literature on public movements and political organizations. Other stand-outs of Tekin's summer experience: the kindness of the porters at Burrell's Field; the plays he saw; the endlessly interesting diversity of fellow students and researchers; and the crooked streets, vendors, pubs, and markets of Cambridge – not to mention the throngs of international students and tourists – all of which created an environment that felt more familiar than the United States in many ways.

For **William Whitham '14**, summer in Cambridge was the continuation of a spring semester as a student in the Social Studies program at King's College, an experience that already stood out – on "social, academic, and even aesthetic grounds" – as his

"favorite time" in college so far. This put Whitham in a position to "hit the ground running" when his fellowship started, and he was able to take immediate advantage of "all the richness that Cambridge offers, from its community of scholars to the resources of the University Library." Most important, the additional eight weeks of the fellowship allowed Whitham to enrich his relationships with several Cambridge professors and to substantially advance his research into the genesis of the modern socialistic labor movement in Europe. At this point, Whitham hopes to return to the UK for a master's program before beginning work toward a Ph.D. in history or political science.

Arriving just in time to attend the Harvard Emmanuel Dinner, **Honor Wilkinson '14** was grateful for a "fantastic" introduction to the traditions of Cambridge and the historic relationship between Harvard and Emmanuel College. The event set the tone for a "magical summer" of "heat waves, royal births, and life-changing experiences." For Wilkinson, it was a special thrill to know that she was following in the footsteps of figures like John Harvard, Isaac Newton, Francis Bacon, and Lord Byron as she explored the winding, cobblestone side streets of Cambridge. As a participant in the Pembroke-King's Program, Wilkinson was enrolled in two classes – "Shakespearean Drama" and "Art, Emotion and Morality" – as well as a supervision course with Dr. William Kynan-Wilson on her senior History of Art and Architecture honors thesis.

At Cambridge, Wilkinson had an opportunity to pursue her interest in medieval architecture in a new and more focused way, visiting numerous ruin sites and ultimately conducting primary research and writing four papers on her thesis topic, which will focus on changing perceptions and uses of Whitby Abbey and Fountains Abbey in Yorkshire, England. All in all, she is grateful for the opportunity to fully experience British culture while completing significant research for her senior thesis at the same time. Her main advice for future fellows: make friends with the porters and don't stay in your room!

For **Xue Ying (Linda) Zhang '15**, going from Cambridge to Cambridge offered a first opportunity to travel to Europe along with the kinds of meaningful experiences – including some expected and not-so-expected lessons – that "challenge you" and "push you to grow." At Cambridge, Zhang worked in the Embodied Cognition and Emotion lab where she was able to indulge her long-standing interest in the study of human behavior and develop the highly transferable skill of convincing strangers to participate in various psychological experiments. As Zhang puts it: "Learning to make a scientific study accessible and absolutely irresistible to the average person walking down the street" is a challenge that "needs to be surmounted more often in science." Besides her work at the lab, Zhang filled her time jogging and maintaining her own pop culture, tech and science blog (threescoops.net). She returned from Cambridge without a sexy British accent

but with a greater sense of certainty about pursuing psychology and several useful tips for future fellows: bring a travel adapter; always carry your passport, even when traveling within the EU; make sure you're on Facebook; get used to accessing thetrainline.com; be nice to the porters; reach out to a Cambridge professor early; and hope for lodgings at Emma.

As in past years, one Harvard summer fellow, **Eleanor Regan '13** crossed the Pond for an internship at the Gate Theater in Notting Hill. The experience left Regan feeling that "I'm understanding more and more what kind of art I respond to, how I define my own personal and artistic aesthetic." The pieces she saw over the summer dealt with pressing American issues (drone policy, healthcare, the U.S. relationship with China) and prompted many reflections on the meaning of terms like "political theater" or "American theater," and the elasticity of notions like distance or local-ness in the European vs. American context. Other singular experiences included spending a week at the Fringe Theater in Edinburgh, where Regan was surprised to encounter a live debate about the desirability of Scottish independence, and attending the last tour performance of the Handelbards, a troupe of four men who had biked across the UK, from Scotland all the way to London, putting on a show every night and carrying their set (consisting of camping equipment and their bicycles) with them. ■

*Updates from and about
former H-C scholars*

In the News

H-C Scholar **Scott Nathan** (Emmanuel '90) recently joined the U.S. Department of State as Secretary of State John Kerry's liaison to the business community. Scott's official title is special representative for the Office of Commercial and Business Affairs; in his new post he is charged with building bridges between the State Department and the business community. Prior to joining the State Department, Scott was partner and chief risk officer at the Baupost Group, Boston's largest hedge fund firm.

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would like to share,
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