

Harvard-Cambridge

Spring 2016
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Scholarships

2015-2016 H-C Scholars Report from Cambridge



Adventures in Sport, Philosophy, and Travel

For **Greg Kristof**, Lionel de Jersey Harvard Scholar, the first term at Cambridge has been intellectually rewarding and an adventure. On his way over, Greg had stopped off in Iceland to take a three-day road trip with a friend and enjoyed the heart-stopping scenery and coastline. After landing in the UK, Greg spent several days seeing London before arriving in Cambridge to start his MPhil in Philosophy.

While at Cambridge, Greg has joined the university water polo team. Greg still doesn't know how he made it onto the team, as he had no prior water polo experience, no formal swim training, and no knowledge of the rules of water polo when he showed up for try-outs. (During the scrimmage, Greg acquired possession of the ball once – and within a second committed some kind of foul that required him to surrender possession of the ball to the opposing side.) Greg is thankful that varsity sports at UK universities are much more welcoming to neophytes than are varsity sports at American colleges.

Greg also runs regularly with the Cambridge Hare and Hounds, the university running club. Greg's prior experience as a runner only slightly exceeds his experience as an aquatic athlete, and he enjoys having his form corrected by his running mates. Both the water polo team and the running club have allowed Greg to grow in ways beyond the classroom, and have given him opportunities to forge ties with members of the undergraduate community.

Lastly, Greg really enjoys the company of the students he has met in the Emmanuel graduate student community. Although there are many recent Harvard grads among the Emma MCR, the community overall is one of the most international student groups Greg has ever been part of. Greg enlisted the help of his Scottish friends in the MCR to develop an itinerary for a trip to Scotland at the close of term. The unquestionable highlight of his four days in Scotland was exploring Edinburgh Castle.

An Intertwining of Old and New

To kick off his first experience abroad, **Christopher Magnani**, the John Eliot Scholar at Jesus College, made a brief stop in Iceland on his way over to England to hike across the crevasse between the North American and European continental plates in view of active volcanoes. Arriving in Cambridge, he marveled at the intertwining of historic and modern in England, where hot and cold faucets are perpetually separated and cow pastures sit adjacent to cutting-edge laboratories.

Chris typically begins his day with a walk through Jesus Green to the college boat club for a morning row before cycling to the lab. The flexibility of the Chemistry MPhil, which allows Chris to set his own hours, has enabled him to attend events ranging from a forum at the astronomy department about scientific fact and fiction in Ridley Scott's film *The Martian* to a baroque concert at London's St. Martin-in-the-Fields. He has also traveled to Bath to see the Roman ruins and managed to explore several of the London museums, his favorite being the National Gallery.

Chris thinks the new facility that houses his laboratory is like a setting from a science fiction movie, and for the first time he finds himself to be the only American on his research team. The non-traditional design of the



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building, which includes common spaces shared by several research groups, creates an unusually social work environment, and Chris enjoys learning from his colleagues about different countries' different approaches to science education.

Free evenings have been an opportunity to try his hand with a new language: French. Chris spent the winter holiday in France, visiting the Norman coast for Christmas with the intention of seeing where Guillaume le Conquérant made preparations to invade England and the beaches where Allied forces landed nearly a millennium later. Heading into the next term, Chris is eager to maintain his research momentum, continue exploring, and see what new adventures are in store.

An Eye-Opening Experience

For **Debbie Onuoha**, Lt. Charles Henry Fiske III scholar at Trinity College, being a part of the inaugural cohort of the World History MPhil (a group of 14 students from all over the world) has been an eye-opening experience. Having focused on using detailed local studies to make claims about society through anthropology, she is now learning how to make more global connections with her work. When they're not debating "the nature of the field" in class, Debbie loves organizing movie nights, going out dancing, seeing plays, and crawling pubs with the other members of her program.



Countless seminars, workshops, and campus lectures, have exposed Debbie to projects by other students and faculty outside her department. Joining an interdisciplinary study group on material culture and attending the famous "THINGS" seminar have prompted

her to write the biography of a fabric for her thesis. And through documentary and sound-design workshops, she has been able to connect with other filmmakers on campus to collaborate on screenings and short projects.

A couple times a week, Debbie escapes the bustling city sidewalks to take scenic walks along the Cam into nearby Grantchester. Once, outside the village's parish church, she was surprised to find a cast of strangely dressed actors, and a crew with very impressive-looking equipment. Without knowing it, she had stumbled on the set as filming wrapped up for ITV's hit series *Grantchester!* She has since become a fan of the show and when the new season airs in 2016, she will try to spot the scene from that early October day.

With only one class a week in the spring term, Debbie looks forward to seeing more of the UK and Europe in her free time; improving the little rugby and Portuguese that she picked up over Michaelmas; participating in her college's new book club; hosting the second installment of a sleepover for black women on campus; and, best of all, watching her favorite singer Adele in concert.

Her Most Restful Year Yet...

Governor William Shirley Scholar **Eleanor Parker** already has a lot to show for her first few months in Cambridge, successfully navigating six weeks of English literature seminars, five countries, four disciplinary infractions, three inadvertent media appearances, two children's birthday parties, and one hundred and five roundabouts.

Ellie studies the political implications of women's humor writing in the 20th century. Once hell-bent on exploding the myth of the "humorless feminist," she has since wondered if writing a 15,000-word academic dissertation will be the most successful way to kill the joke.

Troubled, she has distracted herself with travel. Ellie has inconvenienced friends in Nice-Monaco, Berlin, Venice, Paris, Oxford, and London, and dragged others to Nottingham and western Scotland. These last two were recklessly attempted via rental car. Ellie thanks the population of England for so preferring manual transmission that the rental company apologetically upgraded her and friends to a sleek automatic Peugeot with in-car GPS for both rides.

Undeserved rewards abound: "I hear you make a mean cocktail!" replied the porter-on-duty to whom Ellie apologized for her October birthday, mere hours after this porter shut the party down in the wee hours with threats of expulsion. Despite this hiccup, and efforts by the Emmanuel College porters to detain her fore'er within their walls one Saturday night, she remains at large: asleep on retired U-Bahn carriages and threatening courtyard humanity on her bicycle.

Investigators have reported sightings of Ellie in local television footage from the holiday Gendarmenmarkt in Berlin; in the latest commercial from Cadbury, enjoying the spoils of an English Faculty employee's contest win; and (unconfirmed) in the photo gallery for a Nottingham Uni student's Michaelmas Term project.

Police suspect that she is currently in hiding with her accomplices, twin second cousins in residence by Jesus Green. These five-year-old hardened radicals attend U of Cambridge Primary School and purportedly burst into "I'm Changing My Name to Chrysler" at the least provocation.

Ellie is exceedingly grateful for the experiences of this year, her most restful yet. ■



Scholars to Fellows (or from Cambridge to Cambridge, and back again...)

Recent years have seen a decided shift in our H-C community: a greater emphasis on true scholarship and a year that's less about punts and pubs than about labs and libraries. Earning an MPhil at the other Cambridge has become the norm and scholars increasingly enter PhD programs after their year abroad.

In a new "first," two former H-C scholars, **Alexander Bevilacqua** and **Kevin Holden**, are in the Harvard Society of Fellows at the same time. They shared their journey for the newsletter.

ALEXANDER BEVILACQUA

After an enriching year at Trinity earning an MPhil in Political Thought and Intellectual History, I moved back across the Atlantic and to a different area of study within the intellectual history of 17th- and 18th-century Europe. My goal was to understand how Europeans in the first great age of globalization made sense of non-Western peoples in general, and of Muslims in particular. Six years later, I am completing a history of the European study of Islam in the 17th and 18th centuries. Entitled *The Republic of Arabic Letters: Islam and the European Enlightenment*, my book, which is due to be published in 2018, reconstructs a period when Catholic and Protestant scholars fervently engaged with Arabic and Islamic texts, including the Qur'an. The fruits of their efforts informed Enlightenment views of religion and laid the foundations of the modern Western understanding of Islam.

There could be no place more agreeable for the task of writing a book than the Harvard Society of Fellows, where I am in the middle of a three-year term as a junior fellow. Given that the Society is modeled on Trinity's Junior Research Fellowship, it is unsurprising that my time here has often reminded me of my "year of grace" in Cambridge, England. Like the H-C scholarship, the Society of Fellows offers freedom to pursue one's intellectual interests, the promise of interdisciplinary conversation, and a wealth of social interactions among scholars of all backgrounds. My application essay for the H-C scholarship (which, fortunately, I can no longer recover on my computer) celebrated the English coffeehouse and the importance of

social spaces for free intellectual exchange. I feel profoundly fortunate to have benefited from so many such spaces over the past decade, both here and in the "other" Cambridge.

KEVIN HOLDEN

Recalling my interview for the H-C scholarship, I remember discussing the idea of fellowship in Kant. He describes it as an ideal to which all humans – as ethical and social subjects – should strive. Fellowship means communication, discourse with others who are similar to and different from ourselves, an honest sharing of ends and ideas. I found this kind of fellowship at the "other" Cambridge and am finding it now at the Harvard Society of Fellows, where I encounter conversations of all kinds – philosophical, aesthetic, political, scientific – with scholars from many different fields. As an H-C scholar, I met enthusiastic interlocutors from around the world, in classrooms and in pubs, in formal hall and beside the River Cam. My current experience as a Fellow is in many ways similar – the dinners, in particular, remind me of hall at Cambridge: the convivial and lively conversation often lasts deep into the night and the atmosphere is one of both academic seriousness and friendship.

The freedom to explore and collaborate across traditional disciplinary lines has been especially important for my work, which is interdisciplinary and is creative as well as scholarly. After completing an MPhil at Cambridge in Criticism and Culture, I went to the Iowa Writers' Workshop for an MFA

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Profile: Professor Jennifer Light, 1993 Lionel de Jersey Scholar



As a Harvard undergrad, Jennifer Light majored in history and literature with a focus on the Reformation and Renaissance – periods when the boundaries between fields were porous and human understanding expanded rapidly. Arriving at Emmanuel College in 1993, at a time when payphones in dorms were scarce and students still relied on handwritten notes to stay in touch, Light saw that e-mail – then a still new and relatively unfamiliar technology – offered a more efficient means of communicating and organizing social events. In this and other ways, Light's year as Lionel de Jersey Harvard scholar sparked an interest in the social and spatial implications of technology and launched a fruitful cross-disciplinary career that has led, some twenty years later, to an unusual dual appointment in MIT's Program on Science, Technology, and Society and the MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning. Light's work, which includes several published books and numerous articles, centers on the intersection of science, technology, and urban politics in U.S. history and has tackled subjects such as the influence of communications technology on urban planning and political activism and the role of Cold War military analysis and New Deal resource planning in shaping U.S. cities. After completing her MPhil at Cambridge University, Light returned to Harvard for a PhD in the history of science (in 1999); prior to accepting her current position at MIT (in 2014) she was a professor at Northwestern University. Light is currently working on a new book about the history of educational simulations and the transformation of childhood in America at the turn of the 20th century.

Community: *A Note from the Chair*

When we finished our spring terms at Cambridge, almost every one of us moved on – to travel, to graduate school, to internships, to jobs, to whatever we had planned, or not planned, to follow our “year of grace” in Cambridge. A few of us tried to stay in touch with one another, at least for a while. A few of us have served once or twice on the annual Selection Committee; 18 of us meet in Cambridge each February to interview the 12 finalists from whom we choose the four scholars who will serve the following academic year. A few of us have served on the Governance Committee, a group of 12 former scholars who meet twice a year to oversee the scholarship funds and the administration of our full-year and summer scholarship programs. A few of us have attended the winter dinner in Cambridge the night before final-round interviews or a spring dinner in Cambridge at which we introduce our scholars-elect. In 2011, many of us attended the celebration at the Century Club of the 90th anniversary of the first Harvard-Cambridge Scholarship, which was the first large gathering of former scholars in many years. For some of us, that event served as a reminder of the wide variety of talents, interests and accomplishments of our former scholars. It also served as a reminder that we do little, very little to take advantage of our community or simply to stay in touch.

There are now 163 former Harvard-Cambridge scholars and 4 scholars-elect. Of the total number of former scholars, 63 of them were Fiske Scholars at Trinity, 60 of them were Harvard Scholars at Emmanuel, 21 of them were Eliot Scholars at Jesus and 19 of them were Shirley Scholars at Pembroke. Last year we marked the 20th anniversary of the first year we sent a scholar to Jesus, and next year we will mark the 20th anniversary of the first year we sent a scholar to Pembroke. For some time, when we were only graduating two scholars a year from Trinity and Emmanuel, our community of former scholars seemed intimate and somewhat manageable. But as the years have gone on, and we have doubled the number of scholars we send to Cambridge each year, our community of former scholars has gotten larger. Although it is not a large community in terms of numbers, it is diverse both geographically and occupationally. It has also become increasingly apparent to us that we provide very few opportunities for former scholars to participate in the scholarships or to stay in touch with each other.

Only a few of us can play a formal role in the scholarship’s administration or our selection of new scholars each year. We want Governance Committee members to serve for several years and bring some historical perspective to the administration of our programs. We want to make sure each year that about half of our Selection Committee is comprised of former scholars who have served for several years on the Committee for the sake of continuity and also, due to winter weather challenges we seem to face more

often than we would like, we need to make sure a good number of our Committee members live near Cambridge. (If you’re a good cross-country skier it’s acceptable to live a few miles away.) Realistically that has meant we have fewer than a dozen opportunities each year to involve former scholars in our programs in a formal way.

We have decided we want to try to create some additional opportunities for a few more of us to participate in the scholarship programs, and some additional opportunities for us to get together informally, simply to enjoy each other’s company.

We are discussing adding a seat or two to the Governance Committee. We are also exploring ways that one or more Cambridge-based former scholars might help us with the summer scholarship program. We are also discussing ways former scholars might reconnect with the Cambridge college they attended.

We are also discussing ways in which we might sponsor some social occasions for whatever subsets of us might be interested or nearby. We could sponsor some events in key urban areas such as NYC, Washington, DC, San Francisco, or others, depending on how many former scholars we can identify in that area. These events could be casual dinners. They could be gatherings arranged around previously-scheduled meetings with, or talks given by, visiting Cambridge or Harvard faculty. They could also be nothing more elaborate than drinks.

If you are interested in reconnecting with the scholarships, let me know (marcgranetz@gmail.com). If you want to ask about serving on the Selection Committee, let Josh Goodman, our Selection Committee chair, know as well (jgoodman100@gmail.com). Let me know if you are interested in hosting a dinner or social event in your city. We can provide you with a list of former scholars in your area (our contact information is reasonably up-to-date but if our experience even in Cambridge is any guide, it is imperfect). We may even decide to solicit your views on all of this later this spring, so don’t be surprised if you receive a brief survey in your e-mailbox from SurveyMonkey or a similar service.

Once again this February, after a full day of interviews and deliberations, we selected our four scholars and two alternates. As has become our tradition, a gaggle of Selection Committee members put on their parkas and hats at dusk and walked to the Harvard houses where the scholarship winners lived. They knocked on each winner’s door and shouted, “Congratulations! You’re going to Cambridge!” Invariably someone added, “You’re one of us now.” Indeed. We continue to be a pretty remarkable and interesting community, however you choose to be part of it.

Marc Granetz
Chair, Governance Committee

Harvard-Cambridge Summer Fellows

Lane Baker '16 applied for the H-C summer fellowship in hopes of jump-starting his senior thesis research in medieval and early modern European history, while also immersing himself in British culture and traditions. His “absolutely wonderful” two months at Emmanuel College left him confident he’d accomplished both. A close relationship with Professor Carl Watkins helped Baker refine and ground his thesis research by focusing on a period in the mid-16th century when English, French, and German travelers first encountered – and began writing about – the far northern reaches of Europe. Baker is particularly grateful to Professor Watkins for providing excellent guidance and advice even as his research led him far afield of his original thesis idea. Baker’s summer was just as memorable, however, for the cultural and social experiences it brought, from the fine food, “splendid” accommodations, and warm camaraderie he found at Emmanuel, to memorable outings taking in the “quintessential” sights of London, hill-walking in northern Wales, and exploring Edinburgh Castle and misty Loch Lomond in Scotland.

For **Josh Blecher-Cohen '16**, the promise of new experiences, new things to learn and new people to meet, “never wore off” in his time as a summer fellow. The “highly personal and flexible” nature of the H-C fellowship helped Blecher-Cohen be “hugely productive in a sustained way” as he pursued thesis research in Plato’s

conception of law and legality. At the same time, the opportunity to connect with other students and scholars confirmed Blecher-Cohen’s strong interest in academia and reinforced his commitment to pursuing graduate work in ancient philosophy. Meanwhile, residential life at Emmanuel provided a sense of identity and a network of resources within the broader landscape of the university. Invigorating conversations, trivia nights at the local pub, reading and relaxing by the pool or in the gorgeous Emma Library, and low-key weekend trips to London, Oxford, Glasgow, and Edinburgh with other H-C fellows – all of it made for a “phenomenal” summer.

Michelle Guo '17 spent her summer investigating cellular mechanisms for the repair of the central nervous system. Working in Cambridge Professor Robin Franklin’s clinical neurosciences lab gave Guo a first-hand taste of life as an academic researcher and a first-time opportunity to design and test her own research ideas. Along the way she gained a deeper understanding of the scientific process, grew more comfortable asking questions and making mistakes, and forged close connections with fellow researchers from around the world. Other highlights of Guo’s summer: attending talks by preeminent neuroscientists, walking the history-soaked streets of Cambridge, concerts in the park, the stained glass at Kings College Chapel and the watercolors at the Fitzwilliam Museum, weekend outings to London and Oxford, meals

with other H-C fellows, and a trip to Cordoba, Spain to visit an old friend. Guo notes that, while abroad, she often felt like an ambassador for Harvard, helping others understand what it’s like to be a Harvard student.

Eesha Khare '17 describes her Cambridge summer in three words: “enriching, enthralling, enchanting.” Working in a research lab in the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy, Khare took on an independent project: designing and characterizing a new macro-material that could store mechanical energy efficiently and – like a Venus flytrap – respond to small stimuli with large energy outputs. The experience helped convince Khare to pursue a PhD in materials science and gave her an opportunity to work with other students from a wide range of disciplines in a research environment that was collaborative, supportive, highly creative, and sometimes a little “crazy.” Outside her wonderful lab community, Khare enjoyed the company of other H-C summer fellows – a “phenomenal group!” – whose favorite activities (besides dining together) included playing Heads Up by the banks of the mini lakes in Emmanuel College and tossing a frisbee on the fields. Khare’s advice for future fellows: get a bicycle, bring umbrella and raincoat, and make the most of the diverse academic and research resources available in Cambridge.

Initially, **Gal Koplewitz '17** was a bit apprehensive to learn that he’d be housed at Burrell’s Field, a relatively

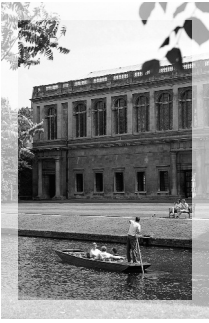


new section of Trinity College that is somewhat removed from central Cambridge. But the beautiful walk through gardens and courtyards to his spacious accommodations soon allayed any concerns. For the next two months, Koplewitz worked with Dr. Jasmin Fisher on a project in computational systems biology and with Dr. Hugh Hunt, who specializes in climate engineering. Collaborating with Dr. Fisher’s team allowed Koplewitz to apply prior coursework in genetics and computer science, while tagging along with Dr. Hunt on various “errands” – such as fixing the fantastically complicated “Trinity Clock” in King Edward’s Gate – offered insights into engineering principles and the inner workings of Trinity College alike. In addition, there was ample time for leisure reading, for bonding with other H-C fellows, for punting on the river Cam (“as fun and relaxing as it looks!”), for a trip to Berlin with Dr. Hunt to attend a climate engineering conference, and for a particularly memorable weekend camping and bicycling in the Cotswolds, a quaint hilly area southwest of Oxford.

For **Julian Salazar '17**, the H-C summer fellowship followed a year spent away from Harvard to gather new experiences and consider a

Memories of Cambridge

By *Eric Cervini, 2014-15 Lionel de Jersey Harvard Scholar*



Governance Committee 2016

John Gilmore
Trinity '71

Robert Shapiro
Trinity '73

Scott Mead
Emmanuel '77

Nathaniel Foote
Trinity '78

Marc Granetz
Emmanuel '79

Jacqueline Osherow
Trinity '79

Elisabeth Reynolds
Trinity '90

Clarence Mah
Emmanuel '93

Amanda Pustilnik
Emmanuel '00

Sarah Russell
Trinity '00

Joshua Goodman
Jesus '01

Jonathan Weigel
Pembroke '10

Looking back on my time at Emmanuel College last year, I'm struck by the drastic changes I saw in the university over the course of a single year. In winter, Cambridge was a profoundly different place – physically, socially, emotionally – than the warm, bright, and exuberant place it was in the summer. The first Cambridge pushed me to escape via travel and studies; the other pulled me into its unyielding spirit of revelry. Together, they created a collection of memories that are vivid, dynamic, and unforgettable.

In January 2015, the perpetual rain and dark and a weeks-long bout of “fresher’s flu” drove me to seek a few days’ escape to a warmer place. Since my MPhil in History was fully research-based I could work from anywhere. I chose Florence. Two days later, having survived my £13 flight, I quickly got to work: finding the best food, the best gelato, the best wine. Accompanied only by my Kindle e-reader and a dissertation outline, I soon found out how productive I could be with a Chianti in hand and the daily lives of countless strangers swirling around me. Perhaps Hemingway and Baldwin discovered a writer’s trick in fleeing to the Continent; my dissertation’s examiners would later report that the chapter written in Florence was my strongest.

I returned to Emmanuel rejuvenated and several pounds heavier, and soon learned how to properly angle my umbrella against the rains and how to navigate Cambridge’s hidden yet vibrant café culture. As the sun peeked with growing confidence from behind the hegemonic clouds, I occupied myself with my dissertation, with experiments in cooking inspired by my time in Florence, and with plans for another escape, this time to the Canary Islands with friends. While there over Easter break, I learned that my winter coping mechanisms would be needed again: I had received the Gates Scholarship to pursue a PhD in history at Cambridge.

By April, Cambridge looked little like its winter self. Sun now dominated the clouds and splashes of green began to block my view of Emmanuel’s ponds through the trees. Cambridge students began to emerge. My first social gathering of the term, themed after Truman Capote’s famous Black and White Ball of 1965, was the year’s most festive event until May Week. Dozens of Cambridge students and Harvard alumni from across England danced in black tie to sixties hits in the Harvard suite. Spring had arrived.

By mid-June, Cambridge was electric – at times nearly manic. A single week’s whirlwind of golden-hued memories could include daily garden parties, champagne and strawberries on the Cam, a May Ball themed after Pliny’s Natural History, the gathering of new and old friends at the Harvard Dinner, a farewell party in the suite that night, and a tearful departure the next day.

As I write, I’m on an airplane headed back to Cambridge in January. I’m sure I’ll soon be questioning why I left the warmth of my native Texas, but this time I’ll have an answer: without the winter cold, I would not have felt compelled to experience Europe, and the jubilation of June would not have felt quite so bright. Cambridge is a small place with large-scale contradictions and changes. I look forward to finding out where it pushes me this winter, how it pulls me back this spring, and what extraordinary memories I’ll have gained a year from now.

Accompanied only by my Kindle e-reader and a dissertation outline, I soon found out how productive I could be with a Chianti in hand and the daily lives of countless strangers swirling around me.



Charlie Ufford (Emma 53-54),
John Thorndike (Emma 64-65),
Liz Reynolds (88-89),
Glen Whitman (Emma 74-75)

Harvard-Cambridge Summer Fellows

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future in academia. His time at Emmanuel College “stunningly” exceeded expectations: in particular, working with Professor Timothy Grower, an eminent British mathematician and a “fantastically affable” person, on automated proof theory and techniques in machine learning was a perfect fit with Salazar’s skills. A typical day featured a picturesque bike ride across the Cam to the mathematical sciences complex, lots of structured but open discussion and productive collaboration with his research group, and dinner “without fail” back at Emma with the other H-C fellows. Indeed, making connections with other students he probably never would have met at Harvard was an essential part of Salazar’s experience. Meanwhile, being in the UK itself had a huge “multiplier effect.” Standout memories include hillwalking in Wales, sandcastles and fish-and-chips at the beach, pub quiz nights, late night punts on the river, a failed attempt at bhangra dancing, and the inner circle of Stonehenge at sunset. Salazar returned to Harvard with plans to continue research under Professor Grower and participate more actively in the Harvard math community.

Hannah Sears ‘16 used her fellowship to research the intersection between tort law and crime for Cambridge law professor Matthew Dyson, who is writing a book on the topic. This meant learning as much as she could about American and British law and many interesting discussions about legal questions and cases with Professor Dyson. Beyond the tight-knit group of fellow H-C scholars, joining “Strangeblue,” a club ultimate frisbee team, gave Sears a chance to meet locals of varying ages, while also honing her frisbee skills for the Harvard Women’s Ultimate team. Cambridge was also a jumping off point for shorter trips to Brussels, Paris, London, Scotland, and – at the end of the summer – a tour of Venice, Zurich, and Barcelona. Sears echoes the advice to rent a bicycle (an ideal way to get to Grantchester for tea, even if cows do occasionally block the path!) and travel light.

Despite missing the two quintessentially British activities on her list – watching a Shakespeare play and punting on the Cam – **Jeeyoung (Anes) Sung ‘16** describes her Cambridge summer as “rewarding and unforgettable.” Working with art history professor Dr. Alyce Mahon

on a project that examined the legacy of the Enlightenment in modern and contemporary art, Sung collected a huge array of sources, gained insight into the demands of life as an academic and scholar, and was inspired by Dr. Mahon’s diligence and passion in juggling her multiple roles as scholar, teacher, mentor, and mother. Sung also used her summer to conduct preliminary research for her senior thesis, which will focus on the video sculptures of Nam June Paik, a pioneering Korean artist. On weekends, Sung ventured to London, Amsterdam, Paris, and Strasbourg. She left Cambridge with plans to pursue graduate study and a career in academia – and with every intention of returning to the UK for the things she missed!

As an intern at London’s Gate Theatre, **Maggie Zier ‘16** could not have enjoyed her summer more. Though she missed Cambridge and getting to know the other H-C fellows, the experience of living and working on her own in London was “incredible.” For example, navigating London’s housing market was challenging, but allowed Zier to sample a smorgasbord of homes and neighborhoods. More importantly, fears that

“this would be a summer of grunt work for some hyper-experimental group in an underground theater” were quickly assuaged. Zier was won over by the Gate’s mission of bringing new, big-thinking work to its tiny stage and by the staff’s eagerness to make her internship meaningful and educational. A young theater staff made for an energized and welcoming work environment in which Zier was given big-picture projects that fit her interests whenever possible. Her primary project was a demographic analysis of the Gate’s audience; in addition, Zier assisted preparations for an upcoming show and worked with the development manager to redesign the theater lobby and plan a fall fundraiser. Fortunately (and in contrast to much theater work!), these tasks could be performed during work hours, which left plenty of time in the evenings to explore London and its surroundings. Zier came away from her Gates internship with professional skills that will be useful whatever career path she pursues and with new relationships and a familiarity with the UK that she hopes to continue to foster. ■

Scholars to Fellows

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and then to Yale for a PhD in comparative literature. Currently, I’m writing articles, translating a book of French poetry, and working on turning my doctoral dissertation, which concerns the nature of meaning in poetry from several European languages, into a book. As for my own poetry, I’ve published several chapbooks, and my first full-length book, *Solar*, won the Fence Modern Poets Prize and was released in January. The Society of Fellows, while primarily an institution of academic scholarship, encourages this work, not only as a scholar but as a creative writer as well. Like the “other” Cambridge it has offered true fellowship and further “years of grace.” ■

8 News & Events

*Updates from and about
former H-C scholars*

From Vera Keller (Pembroke, 2002-2003)

My first book, *Knowledge and the Public Interest, 1575 to 1725*, has come out with Cambridge University Press. I'm working on my second as an ACLS Ryskamp Research Fellow this year. And my daughter, Toby Haruko Takusagawa, was born in March!

From Nathan Dern (Jesus, 2007-2008)

This past year I secured a book deal with Simon & Schuster for a forthcoming collection of comedic stories and essays: <http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/funny-die-writer-lands-book-772273>

*We invite you to share your
updates with the H-C community!*
Please e-mail
hcscholarship@gmail.com with
news for next year's newsletter.

Summer



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