PHILLIPS BROOKS HOUSE

Center for Public Service and Engaged Scholarship

SUMMER 2015 - SPRING 2016 Annual Report
A transformative year of service.
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Phillips Brooks House Center for Public Service and Engaged Scholarship is the hub for public service on campus. The department provides support, coordination, and strategic planning for all public service efforts at Harvard College. It is home to the Center for Public Interest Careers (CPIC), Mindich Program for Engaged Scholarship, Phillips Brooks House Association (PBHA), and Public Service Network (PSN), and collaborates closely with the Institute of Politics (IOP) and Office of Career Services (OCS) to provide Harvard undergraduates with a rich variety of volunteer, internship, and postgraduate opportunities in public service. The Phillips Brooks House also supports public service efforts in the freshman yard and houses, and leads collaborative efforts such as Public Service Recruiting Day and the Public Interested Conference.

MISSION

The Phillips Brooks House opened its doors in 1900. Named in honor of Phillips Brooks, an influential preacher and overseer of Harvard College, the Phillips Brooks House was built to provide an administrative center to support the growing interest of students in public service. The building furthered the causes of “charity, piety, and hospitality” on campus.

Over 100 years later, the Phillips Brooks House continues as the department and building at Harvard College that supports all public service efforts on campus.

Recently, the Phillips Brooks House was renamed the Phillips Brooks House Center for Public Service and Engaged Scholarship to convey exciting new efforts to connect public service to academic coursework. Students will increasingly benefit from the opportunity to forge a connection between academic courses and public service engagement.
Dear Harvard Community:

Harvard College provides an abundance of opportunities for students to serve others and address social issues. Service opportunities abound through campus organizations housed in the Phillips Brooks House Center for Public Service and Engaged Scholarship, the Center for Public Interest Careers (CPIC), Mindich Program for Engaged Scholarship, Phillips Brooks House Association (PBHA), and Public Service Network (PSN). These organizations, along with the Institute of Politics (IOP) and Office of Career Services (OCS), also provide a rich array of opportunities for students to explore public interest careers during the summer and following graduation.

It is an exciting time for public service at Harvard College. As Dean of Harvard College, Rakesh Khurana, inspiringly conveys the mission of Harvard College is, “to educate the citizens and citizen-leaders for our society.” Public service is thus at the center of the vision for a liberal arts education at Harvard College as never before thanks to efforts on behalf of Dean Khurana, the Faculty on Arts and Sciences, and the National Advisory Board for Public Service. Participation in service is increasing as we launch new initiatives, such as providing additional summer opportunities and opportunities to connect engagement in service to academic coursework and research.

Most of all, I am proud of my colleagues in the various public service offices/organizations. By meeting regularly, we are imagining a more vibrant public service campus. There is increasingly a sense of common purpose and many collaborative activities and events.

As Harvard College’s long-standing tradition of public service expands and grows, I hope you will join our efforts!

Yours truly,

Gene Corbin
Assistant Dean of Harvard College for Public Service

“Public service reminds us of our human connection to others, our moral responsibility to respond to needs and issues in the community in which we are embedded and beyond, and provides the experiences that bring academic learning to life.” - Gene Corbin, Assistant Dean for Public Service
OUR STAFF

Courtney Woods, Programs Fellow, CPIC | courtneywoods@fas.harvard.edu

David Dance, Director of Programs, PBHA | david@pbha.org

Flavia Perea, Director, Mindich Program for Engaged Scholarship | flaviaperea@fas.harvard.edu

Gene Corbin, Assistant Dean for Public Service | corbin@fas.harvard.edu

Heidi Wickersham, Department Administrator | wickersham@fas.harvard.edu

Jesse Leavitt, Manager of Student Development and Evaluation | jesse@pbha.org

Kate Johnsen, Deputy Director, PBHA | kate@pbha.org

Kelly Sullivan, Community Relations Fellow, CPIC | kellyannsullivan@fas.harvard.edu

Kerry McGowan, Director of Programs, PBHA | kerry@pbha.org

Kevin Buckley, Building Maintenance Technician | kbuckley@fas.harvard.edu

Louise Wills, Senior Development Coordinator, PBHA | louise@pbha.org

Maria Dominguez Gray, Class of 1955 Executive Director of PBHA | maria@pbha.org

Mary Cate Curley, Nonprofit Management Fellow, PBHA | marycate@pbha.org

Matt Roper, Financial Administrator | mroper@fas.harvard.edu

Nicole Young, Director of Programs, PBHA | nicole@pbha.org

Phyllis Fallon, Accounting Assistant | fallon@fas.harvard.edu

Robert Bridgeman, Director of Programs, PBHA | robert@pbha.org

Robert Julien, Service to Society Fellow | rjulien@fas.harvard.edu

Robert Kelly, Building Manager | rskelly@fas.harvard.edu

Shaquanda Brown, Nonprofit Management Fellow, PBHA | shaquanda@pbha.org

Steve Griffin, Building Maintenance Technician and PBHA Van Manager | sgriffin@fas.harvard.edu

Travis Lovett, Director, CPIC | tlovett@fas.harvard.edu

Varsha Ghosh, Director, PSN | vghosh@fas.harvard.edu
PHILLIPS BROOKS HOUSE
BY THE NUMBERS

Over **1500** students participated in ongoing public service programs in Cambridge and Boston during the 2015/2016 academic term.

**90** public service events took place in the Harvard Houses and freshman yard during the 2015/2016 term.

CPIC paired over **100** Mindich Summer Fellows, Liman Fellows, and postgraduate fellows with Harvard alumni mentors across the country.

Nearly **400** students participated in trainings offered through the Public Service Academy.

The HCRP Research-Mindich Program in Engaged Scholarship Award pilot provided funding to support six undergraduates in conducting summer research with community engagement.

Over **400** students from the incoming Class of 2019 participated in the inaugural Day of Service.

Over **400** students and alumni participated in the annual Public Interested Conference.

Over **150** undergraduates, faculty, and staff participated in Inaugural Diversity, Inequity, and Social Justice Research Conference.
The 2015-2016 academic year was an extremely productive year for public service across Harvard College. The Phillips Brooks House Center for Public Service and Engaged Scholarship coordinated several events with the Center for Public Interest Careers (CPIC), Phillips Brooks House Association (PBHA), and Public Service Network (PSN), and collaborated closely with the Institute of Politics (IOP) and Office of Career Services (OCS) in order to expand opportunities for students in public service.

**Institute of Politics Fellows Reception**

Each year the Institute of Politics (IOP) selects highly qualified political practitioners to serve as fellows at Harvard College. IOP Fellows are responsible for leading a not-for-credit study group, engaging in dialogue with students and faculty, and completing a project with undergraduates. Many students have sought the advice of IOP Fellows and built strong mentoring relationships. In 2016, Phillips Brooks House welcomed the incoming cohort of IOP Fellows to a reception where students could foster informal conversations and explore ways to connect direct service and politics.

**Careers in Public Service Dinner**

In the month of November, the 10th Annual Careers in Public Service Dinner was hosted for juniors and seniors interested in learning more about public service opportunities available to them beyond their time at Harvard. It was the largest iteration of this event that had been held in the last 9 years. Over 120 students and public service professionals were in attendance.

**Public Service Recruiting Day**

In order to continue expanding our efforts to better connect seniors with postgraduate public service employment, the second Annual Public Service Recruiting Day was organized for the Class of 2016. With a 25.6% increase in student participation from last year, 119 seniors were chosen to participate in informational interviews with 30 public interest organizations looking to hire accomplished Harvard students. As a result, more than 25 students were offered full-time positions. This day was created in response to student feedback that consistently asked for more opportunities to interact with public interest employers. This innovative initiative leveled the playing field by making it possible for public interest organizations to recruit in a structured and early manner similar to the private sector.
Public Interested Conference

The 5th annual Public Interest Conference featured Michael Smith of My Brother's Keeper as its keynote speaker, in addition to other inspirational speakers who shared with students how they pursued their passions for public service professionally after graduating from college. Over 250 students and 150 alumni registered to participate in the conference.

Twenty different public service organizations tabled at the Public Interested recruitment fair, offering jobs and internship opportunities to thriving Harvard students.

Engaged Scholarship and Social Justice Undergraduate Research Conference

The 2016 Engaged Scholarship and Social Justice Undergraduate Research Conference attracted 40 undergraduate student applicants from 12 institutions, of which 30 were chosen to present and reflect upon socially engaged independent research. Evelyn Higginbotham, Victor S. Thomas Professor of History and African and African American Studies at Harvard University served as the keynote speaker and inspired many to pursue this work. This was a collaborative event involved the Dean of Harvard College, Phillips Brooks House, Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, and FAS Standing Committee on Public Service.

The goals of this conference were to: 1) collaborate with faculty to create more integrated conditions for intellectual transformations, 2) provide students with opportunities to engage with their peers regarding research activities (social and intellectual transformations), 3) develop students’ public speaking skills, 4) prepare students for graduate school/academia/presenting at conferences, and 5) recognize students for their academic achievements.

First-Year Day of Service

During the calendar of opening days for entering students, the Phillips Brooks House Center for Public Service and Engaged Scholarship also organized the first annual First-Year Day of Service, which engaged over 400 incoming first-year students, faculty, and staff in service across 15 Boston Public Schools and 2 Boston Community Centers. This inaugural effort provided an introduction both to the community in which Harvard is embedded and opportunities to remain engaged.
Committee Members

**CO-CHAIRS**
Jim Kloppenberg
Caroline Light

**FACULTY**
Anya Bassett
Scott V. Edwards
Ryan Enos
Marshall Ganz
Elizabeth Hinton
Laurence Ralph
Carlos Diaz Rosillo
Dustin Tingley
Doris Sommer
Chris Winship

**STAFF**
Gene Corbin
Varsha Ghosh
Maria Dominguez Gray
Laura Hess
Travis Lovett
Robin Mount
Stephanie Ralston Khurana
Michael Ranen
Maggie Williams

**STUDENTS**
Joanne Crandall
Austin Sowa
William Greenlaw
Kirin Gupta
Shaquilla Harrigan
Paul Lewis
Andrea Ortiz
Farris Peale

**EX-OFFICIO**
Rakesh Khurana

**Purpose**

The FAS Standing Committee on Public Service is composed of faculty along with public service student and staff leaders. Once per month during the academic year, the committee meets to discuss how public service and volunteer programs can enrich the academic lives of students. The committee has devoted extensive time to developing identifying and proposing to bridge students’ academic and public service experiences. In addition, the committee advises the Assistant Dean of Harvard College for Public Service and may make recommendations to the Dean of Harvard College on all aspects of public service programs and activities.

**Highlights From the Year**

The past year was full of excitement around the new Mindich Program for Engaged Scholarship at Harvard. The Faculty of Arts and Sciences Standing Committee not only provided support for recruiting the new Director of Mindich Program for Engaged Scholarship, but the committee members also fostered meaningful dialogue around how to define and implement engaged scholarship. To cite only one example of the dedicated work of this faculty committee, Dustin Tingley developed new evaluation instruments to measure outcomes for both engaged scholarship courses and immersive summer service experiences.
**Board Members**

**CO-CHAIRS**
Cheryl Dorsey  
Mark Gearan

**BOARD MEMBERS**
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David Ackert  
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Joseph Barrett  
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Tim McManus  
Andrew Mandel  
Julie Menin  
Eric Mlyn  
Agnieszka Nance  
Tracy Palandjian  
Shirley Sagawa  
Ian Simmons

**Purpose**

The National Advisory Board for Public Service was founded in 2012 as Drew Gilpin Faust, President of Harvard University, made public service an institutional priority. Founded in 2012, the National Advisory Board for Public Service at Harvard College meets annually to provide advice on the long-term vision for public service at Harvard College and on strategies. Members of this advisory board have also been key partners in progress towards expanding public service at Harvard College.

**Highlights From the Year**

The National Advisory Board for Public Service at Harvard College developed and adopted the “Service to Society” Initiative—a strategic plan for expanding participation in public service at Harvard College. This initiative continues to guide efforts and planning and has resulted in much progress.

Engaged scholarship was the focus of the fall 2015 meeting. The National Advisor Board members were joined by Dean Rakesh Khurana and members of the FAS Standing Committee for presentations on models that best forge a connection between academic coursework and service from University of Pennsylvania, Tulane University, and Cornell University. This initiated dialogue on best measures and practices for ensuring long-term sustainability of public service programs.

The partnerships formed and strengthened due to this effort have helped to inform how the National Advisory Board can more concretely have a role in improving opportunities for public service at Harvard College. To cite one example of the strong relationships established through the National Advisory Board, Phillips Brooks House hosted a meeting of public service professionals from various universities who travelled to Boston for the Campus Compact 30th Anniversary conference. This collaborative effort represents the intentional effort to build relationships and share best practices across peer institutions.
The Center for Public Interest Careers (CPIC), a public service initiative of Harvard College, offers summer fellowships, post-graduate fellowships, and professional development opportunities for Harvard College students and recent Harvard College graduates to explore public interest work. CPIC staff engages Harvard’s vast alumni/ae network to sustain community partnerships and create opportunities for Harvard College students to serve.

**Highlights From the Year**

The Center for Public Interest Careers (CPIC) greatly expanded summer opportunities this past year as we launched the Mindich Summer Service Fellowship program. This program sponsors 75 students to work on 10 week service projects in eight metro areas across the U.S. during the summer. CPIC staff work closely with a diverse array of community partners to create meaningful summer projects for students. Student participants are paired with over 100 alums who serve as mentors from our alumni/ae network and they participate in three in-person meetings as a cohort in their respective cities during the summer.

In addition to receiving professional guidance from alums and staff, all of our students will be participating in a 10 week online pre-professional discussion series, where they will learn about goal setting, building relationships, values and motivations for service, identity and context, mission statements, theories of change, understanding the roles of stakeholders, and engaging communities. As a core part of the Mindich Program for Engaged Scholarship, students also learn how their service work can be enhanced through academic and professional development. This online programming was made available to nearly 120 students who are pursuing summer projects through CPIC.

CPIC’s Post-Graduate Fellowship program is also greatly expanding in size and scope this year, as we make programming available to all graduating seniors pursuing public interest work. We currently have 62 Post-Graduate Fellows registered with the program for the 2016-2017 academic year, compared to 38 Post-Graduate Fellows the previous year. Post-Graduate Fellows are matched with mentors and participate in community service activities organized by Harvard alums in their respective metro areas throughout the year.

In our efforts to further engage alumni/ae, CPIC organized three nonprofit board recruitment fairs in partnership with the Harvard Club of New York City, Harvard Club of Boston, and Harvard Club of Chicago. CPIC staff worked with the Harvard Alumni Association (HAA) and each Harvard Club to advertise the program to alums. CPIC also cultivated partnerships with local public service organizations who were seeking board members. Over 130 organizations tabled at these fares and we had nearly 900 alums register to attend. Next spring, we will be organizing a board recruitment fair in partnership with the Harvard Club of Seattle.

This past year, CPIC engaged over 300 community partnerships through our winter break, summer, and post-graduate programs. Community engagement is a critical component of Harvard’s liberal arts education and CPIC has charged forward with an ambitious agenda that strives to fulfill Harvard College’s mission of supporting the intellectual, personal, and social transformation of our students to go forth and serve others.
CPIC facilitated a pre-departure orientation to better prepare over 100 Mindich Summer Fellows, Liman Fellows, and federal work-study recipients gearing up for their transformative summer internship experiences.

CPIC co-organized Public Service Recruiting Day, which attracted 30 leading employers to campus to conduct one-on-one interviews with graduating Harvard College seniors. We had 181 student applicants from the class of 2015, an increase of 37 applicants over the previous year.

“Shadowing attorneys interview real world families, attending court sessions to advocate for immigrant youth, and preparing life-changing Visa applications for the government to review, I learned that being an immigration lawyer is more than knowing the laws for practice-- it is about being passionate and dedicated to the people and community you serve.” - Daishi Tanaka, Immigration Center for Women and Children

“I worked on the legal strategy team for death penalty appeals, corresponded with prisoners currently condemned to die in prison (some of whom were sentenced as young as 13 and 14), and authored content on lynchings in the United States for the Race and Poverty public education program.” - Bailey Colfax, Equal Justice Initiative

“My experience with CPIC these past two summers has been phenomenal; I have been given the opportunity to give back to the community that gave me so much and got me to where I am today. By working with young kids, I introduced them to the teaching style we have at Harvard; I taught them how to teach themselves.” - Hernan Cepeda, Independent College Awareness at Pine Shadows Elementary
The Phillips Brooks House Association strives for social justice. As a student-run organization, we draw upon the creative initiative of students and community members to foster collaboration that empowers individuals and communities. Through social service and social action, PBHA endeavours to meet community needs while advocating structural change. PBHA seeks to promote social awareness and community involvement at Harvard and beyond.

Highlights From the Year

On October 30th 2015, PBHA held its ninth annual Robert Coles “Call of Service” Lecture and Award, presented to Alicia Garza, Special Projects Director for the National Domestic Workers Alliance and co-founder of #BlackLivesMatter. Garza addressed a full house at Memorial Church after hosting a forum of 40 local youth leaders and Harvard students, all electrified by the power and relevance of #BlackLivesMatter to their own lives. After receiving her award, Ms. Garza shared her story of the events that led to the creation of #BlackLivesMatter, saying, “In the grief, in the rage, in the disbelief [following the Trayvon Martin case], it felt necessary to make an intervention, to say that our lives do matter. To celebrate the resistance that is blackness. To conjure love, deep abiding, non-conditional love for one another.”

Two young adults who have been long-time participants in PBHA programming were honored by First Lady Michelle Obama at the 2015 Beating the Odds Summit in Washington, DC. Henry Santana and Wen Ping Gao, both counselors for PBHA’s Summer Urban Program camps, took part in this annual summit celebrating underrepresented youth who have overcome substantial obstacles to persist through high school and make it to college.

The nation’s first student-run homeless shelter for young people opened its doors on December 22nd, 2015. The shelter represents years of planning, fundraising, dreaming, and laboring on the part of PBHA students and a broad and committed Advisory Network that includes young people affected by homelessness. The project began with a call from this community for safe, accessible shelter for 18-24 year-olds, and this winter that dream became a reality, with a fully-renovated, gender-neutral facility in First Church of Cambridge offering sanctuary and support to young adults experiencing homelessness.

PBHA student leaders and staff had the opportunity to visit PBHA alumni in Chicago and Seattle this year. In both cities, over lunches and dinners, alumni shared stories of how their PBHA experiences shaped their understanding of social justice and impacted their work across various careers, including mental health advocacy, education, prison reform, and more.

While PBHA’s alumni mentoring program has gone through many iterations, this year students reinvigorated the model to focus on creating a reflective community in addition to one-on-one support. The PBHA Alumni Mentoring Program brings together alumni and current undergraduates to learn from each other and grow in their understanding of how they can fight for social justice. Participants in the program are paired based on shared areas of interest, and commit to meeting one-on-one about once a month. The entire mentoring group gets together for group reflection and celebration two to three times a year.
Students lead Senator Elizabeth Warren on a tour of Y2Y Harvard Square, the nation’s first student-run homeless shelter for young adults. Y2Y Harvard Square opened its doors this fall.

Campers and counselors enjoy each other’s company at PBHA’s Summer Urban Program.

“STRIDE helped me discover what I want to do with the next step of my life. STRIDE has given me personal transformation in the area of managing emotions, building relationships, and growing alongside people.”

- Jing Qiu, STRIDE participant and Summer Urban Program Director

“PBHA is by far the most important part of my college experience. PBHA raised me to be more compassionate, be more comfortable with my identity, and be a more critical thinker about social issues. The children, families and other volunteers I met have made a deep impression on my college career and future aspirations.”

- Shaquilla Harrigan, PBHA Student Officer

“SUP taught me some of the most essential things for my career: how to work in partnership with communities for a vision of social change, how to intentionally develop leadership from within the community being served; how to be a leader when it’s needed and a listener when it’s not.”

- Jessica Ranucci, Summer Urban Program Alumna

PBHA Core Values

- Love and Compassion
- Social Justice
- Community Building
- Growth of People & Learning
- Diversity
- Stewardship
The Public Service Network (PSN) reflects a wide diversity of meaningful opportunities for students to serve with local non-profit partners, international service opportunities or raising awareness of critical global issues on campus. This office provides technical assistance and training to public service student leaders in the following areas: volunteer management, community engagement, and fundraising.

Highlights From the Year

The Office of the Public Service Network advises independent student organizations who partner with non-profits off campus, in Boston, Cambridge and overseas; as well as student-led efforts to raise awareness on critical issues within the Harvard community. Much of the work focuses on supporting student organizations engaged in direct service and advocacy locally and globally. Student leaders of program have access to resources including grants, access to space, copiers, printers and technical assistance for fundraising, volunteer training and management and program development.

The 2015-2016 year saw the addition of seven new programs. This office coordinates a student-staff committee to facilitate the recognition process for student organizations. New student organizations are approved based on community need for the program, and non-duplication of existing programs. The programs below highlight a trend in public service programming, which focuses on using technology for society and advocacy on policies which effects communities worldwide. Over the past three years, new student organizations have increasingly sought to harness technology to meet local and global community needs; and use other events to raise awareness on campus of critical issues and participate in larger advocacy campaigns taking place in the US or abroad. In addition, students are increasingly using their involvement with Public Service Network programs to explore careers in public service. The new programs founded in the 2015-2016 academic year are:

Harvard College Hygiene Campaign Club: The focus of this student organization is raise awareness about the gendered inequalities in health care through events and donation drives for feminine hygiene products for local women's shelters and provide refer volunteers to the local domestic violence and homeless shelter networks.

Harvard College Rural Health Association: The Harvard College Rural Health Association (HCRHA) focuses is on the health burdens faced by rural communities in the United States. HCRHAs two-fold mission is to promote the critical discussion of rural health issues on campus and to provide opportunities for students to work directly with rural communities and rural health organizations during school breaks.

DirecTutor: This program matches low-income high school students across the country with Harvard students for tutoring over the phone as well as academic/college advice online.

Harvard College Partners for Education in Africa: This program partners with existing non-profits and/or government organizations to help support curriculum development, lesson planning, research and policy work.

Harvard Undergraduate Association of Pediatric Pals: Student volunteers are trained to be mentors to transplant patient from Boston Children’s Hospital.

Writing and Public Service Initiative: With the support of the Harvard College Writing Center, Harvard undergraduate student volunteers counsel under-resourced high school seniors through their college applications, help senior citizens write memoirs, or staff a writing lab at Brighton High School.
“Waking up before dawn several times so we could manage to travel and ask presidential candidates how they will support the annihilation of HIV via PEPFAR or the Global Fund in front of hundreds of people, broadcasted to thousands, and observed by millions via social media. We got to know each other’s motivations.” - Rodrigo Murillo-Bravo, Partners in Health Exchange

“Health Leads offers me the great privilege of listening to and participating in stories, witnessing both awe inspiring smiles and heartbreaking tears, and being connected to a communal spirit that is ineffably human. I joined Health Leads with a theoretically driven academic interest in understanding social determinants of health. When I leave it will be not only with a vivid understanding of holistic health care, but also with an undeniable understanding of what it means to be human.” - Arifeen Rahman, Health Leads Advocate

“Watching residents of a nursing home smile and sing along as I sang oldies songs or see children eagerly request top 40 music at trips to children’s hospitals has validated my conviction that music isn’t just a therapeutic tool but also a means to connect others across different generations. I feel so privileged that I’ve been able to share my music with the Boston community, and thanks to MIHNUET, I hope to continue serving through music even after my time at Harvard.” - Ryan Song, MIHNUET
In an effort to expand participation in public service the Service to Society Fellow position was created in the Fall 2013. The Fellow works directly with the Assistant Dean of Harvard College for Public Service to develop strategies to better communicate public service opportunities on campus and to ensure that public service touches the lives of all students through residential activities. The Fellow is responsible for managing the Public Service Representative Board in the Harvard upperclassman houses and the Service to Society Freshman Council in the freshman yard.

This initiative has grown significantly since it first started. During the 2015/2016 academic term, the number of activities continued to increase by 25% since the second year, with 90 events and activities that took place in the Harvard houses and freshman yard.

As illustrated in the chart below, public service is now touching the lives of more and more students in their residential settings. These students are also learning of ways to remain engaged in public service through ongoing opportunities.
SPECIAL THANK YOU

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The Arthur Liman Press at Phillips Brooks House is an endowed fund in honor of Arthur C. Liman ’54. Publications from the Arthur Liman Press promote lives of service and honor the life and commitment of this influential attorney. Although Mr. Liman represented an impressive array of clients including Time Warner and Michael Milken, he spent much of his career defending the rights of the poor. He served as advisor to four governors, two mayors, and counsel to Secretaries of State and U.S. senators. He was chief counsel of the Iran-Contra hearings. Liman also led an investigation of the Attica prison uprising, an investigation that many say changed the way the criminal justice system is viewed in America. He was also on the Board of Overseers at Harvard University from 1988-1994.