PHILLIPS BROOKS HOUSE
Center for Public Service and Engaged Scholarship at Harvard College
Fall 2016 - Summer 2017 Annual Report
Also available on our website: www.publicservice.fas.harvard.edu
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ABOUT THE
PHILLIPS BROOKS HOUSE
Center for Public Service and Engaged Scholarship

MISSION STATEMENT
The Phillips Brooks House Center for Public Service and Engaged Scholarship is the hub and department that provides support for all public service efforts at Harvard College. It is home to the Center for Public Interest Careers (CPIC), Mindich Program for Engaged Scholarship (MPES), 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 students with a rich variety of volunteer, internship, coursework, and postgraduate opportunities in public service. The Phillips Brooks House also provides coordination, funding, and planning for public service, supports public service efforts in the freshman yard and houses, and leads collaborative efforts such as the first-year Day of Service, Public Service Recruiting Day, and the Public Interested Conference.

OUR HISTORY
Phillips Brooks House opened its doors in 1900. Named in honor of an influential preacher and overseer of Harvard College, the Phillips Brooks House soon became home to five religious groups and Harvard's Social Service Committee. These groups championed “charity, piety, and hospitality,” virtues the building upholds to this day.

Since 1900, students have become increasingly involved in public service. Through the Phillips Brooks House Association and other student groups, Harvard conducted hundreds of community service programs throughout the Boston area and even overseas. During World War I and II, the house even hosted ROTC, Red Cross, and Cambridge Draft Board programs. Since that time the building has served as a center for both community service groups and the study of religion.

The house continues its mission of service. Throughout their tenure, two out of three Harvard students are involved in everything from running the homeless shelter, mentoring area youth, providing literacy training, teaching English as a Second Language, to operating summer camps for low-income children. The building enjoyed a centennial re-dedication ceremony in January of 2000.

The Phillips Brooks House is now known as the Phillips Brooks House Center for Public Service and Engaged Scholarship thanks to a generous donation that will allow us to further connect academic endeavors with public service. It is the hub for all public service efforts at Harvard College.
“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.”

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 collaborate closely with the Institute of Politics (IOP) and Office of Career Services (OCS) to provide a rich array of opportunities for students to become engaged in public service during both the academic term and summer and to also explore postgraduate public interest opportunities.

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. Thanks in no small part to Dean Khurana, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Standing Committee on Public Service, and the National Advisory Board for Public Service at Harvard College, participation in service is increasing as we launch exciting new initiatives.

To cite only a couple of examples from the 2016-17 academic year, we launched the Mindich Program for Engaged Scholarship to forge a connection between the passion of our students for public service and academic coursework and research. We also continued to make great progress in strengthening and engaging more students in our transformative Harvard College Summer Service opportunities. I am extremely proud of my colleagues and student leaders in the various public service offices/organizations for the progress that is being made. By meeting regularly, we are imagining a more vibrant public service campus and working together to make it a reality. 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
WELCOME TO YOUR HOUSE

A guide to the Phillips Brooks House Center for Public Service and Engaged Scholarship’s structure
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PHILLIPS BROOKS

BY THE NUMBERS

Over 1800 students participated in ongoing public service programs in Cambridge and Boston during the 2016-2017 academic term.

90 public service events took place in the Harvard Houses and freshman yard during the 2016-2017 term.

Over 400 students from the incoming Class of 2020 participated in the inaugural Day of Service.

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

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

Over 100 undergraduates, faculty, and staff participated in Engaged Scholarship and Social Justice Conference.

SUMMER SERVICE

CPIC paired over 115 Mindich Summer Fellows, Liman Fellows, and post-graduate fellows with Harvard alumni mentors across the country.

PBHA’s Summer Urban Program hired 70 students as camp directors and senior counselors.

The HCRP Research-Mindich Program in Engaged Scholarship Award pilot provided funding to support six undergraduates in conducting summer research with community engagement.
The 2016-2017 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 December, the 11th 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. Held in Currier House, over 100 students and public service professionals were in attendance.

Public Service Recruiting Day
The 3rd Annual Public Service Recruiting Day was organized for the Class of 2017. This day was created in response to student feedback that consistently asked for more opportunities to interact with public interest employers.
Public Interested Conference
The 6th annual Public Interested Conference invited Tara Houska, a lawyer and activist, as its keynote speaker, in addition to other inspirational speakers who shared how they pursued their passions for public service professionally after graduating from college with students. Over 300 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 Harvard students.

Engaged Scholarship and Social Justice Undergraduate Research Conference
The 2017 Engaged Scholarship and Social Justice Research Conference brought 34 undergraduates from 17 institutions from across the country to present original, socially engaged independent research. Dr. Doris Sommer, the Ira Jewell Williams Professor of Romance Languages and Literature, served as the Faculty Chair for the conference. Dr. Danielle Allan, James Bryant Conant University Professor and Director of the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University, served as the keynote speaker and inspired many to pursue this work. This is unique collaborative event that bridges academic and co-curricular communities was sponsored by the Dean of Harvard College, the Phillips Brooks House, the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, and FAS Standing Committee on Public Service.

The goals of this conference were: 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 second annual First-Year Day of Service, which engaged over 400 incoming first-year students, faculty, and staff in service across 20 Boston public schools, parks, community centers, and main streets. This effort provided an introduction both to the community in which Harvard is embedded and opportunities to remain engaged. The day served as an important milestone in students’ introduction to Harvard.
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 FAS Standing Committee on Public Service provided support and did important work around the implementation of the new Mindich Program for Engaged Scholarship designed to integrate public service with academic coursework and research. Another focus of the year included an examination of efforts to measure the impact of our programs. This focus represents work to develop common metrics for measuring student development, aligned with the mission of Harvard College to educate citizens and citizen leaders, and community impact. The committee reviewed reports and made recommendations around several evaluation instruments including: The Student Experience Survey (used by academic term programs of PBHA and PSN); summer assessments of the Mindich Service Fellows (CPIC), Summer Urban Program (PBHA), and the Director’s Internships (IOP); and explored the possibilities of utilizing the National Assessment of Service and Community Engagement (NASCE), a nationwide tool to gauge institutional support for public service at institutions of higher education.
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. The National Advisory Board for Public Service at Harvard College meets annually to provide advice on the long-term vision and strategies for public service at Harvard College. Members of this advisory board have also been key partners in progress towards expanding public service at Harvard College.

BOARD MEMBERS
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David Ackert
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David Belluck
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Shirley Sagawa
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Tammy Tai
**CENTER FOR PUBLIC INTEREST CAREERS**

**MISSION**

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**

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 in internships with leading nonprofit organizations. CPIC also paired these students with alumni mentors.

In addition to receiving professional guidance from alums and staff, summer interns participated in a 10 week online pre-professional discussion series, where they learned 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. This online programming was made available to the nearly 120 students who were pursuing summer projects through CPIC.

CPIC’s Post-Graduate Fellowship program also greatly expanded in size and scope this year, as we made programming available to all graduating seniors pursuing public interest work. We 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 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 fairs 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.
“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
PUBLIC SERVICE NETWORK

MISSION
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
The 2016-2017 year saw significant innovations in programming. Below are highlights from programs that are an example of how students are working with community partners to produce high quality programming that provides transformational experiences for both students and community.

Harvard College VISION experienced many successes in the 2016-2017 academic year. They raised $2,266 for a clinic in Ghana, which provided 45 people with cataract surgeries, collected 1100 pairs of eyeglasses, which provided sight to many with poor vision acuity, and hosted the first annual Global Health and Leadership Conference with over 50 high school students attending and 20 community projects implemented across the country. This program has been recognized by Unite for Sight who named them as a “Global Health Society of the Year” for their contribution to optical care.

Harvard College Rural Health Association traveled to Trenton, Georgia to both learn and participate in rural health in primary care and specialty settings. The highlight of the trip was a health fair organized by HCRHA, where there were several community organizations in attendance. At the fair the students had the opportunity to take blood sugar and blood pressure, as well as conduct mini-mental health interviews. There were 30 patients in attendance.

Kidney Disease and Screening Program expanded its membership to more than 20 members and added the Turkish Cultural Center and a Haitian Church to its rotation of six sites. Due to robust membership, the groups was able to arrange in-service training and professional development opportunities to shadow local nephrologists and a site visit to the US Renal Care Quincy Dialysis Center.

MIHNUET has had a very successful year with important changes that have improved the way they serve the older adult community in Boston. Both the volunteers and the nursing home residents have reported that the shared experience of sing-alongs has helped them build stronger connections with each other. MIHNUET was asked to present their program at the American Society for Aging National Conference and has been recognized by the Harvard Office of Student Life.

VeriTutor was recognized in spring 2016 and launched full time in fall 2016 as a free, phone-based essay tutoring to high school students across the region. VeriTutor works with classroom teachers who refer students to the service to schedule an hour-long tutoring session online. The program is provided free of charge, and designed to be convenient yet have impact for both volunteers and students; all tutoring takes place over the phone on a monitored hot line.

“Students are working with community partners to produce high quality program that provides transformational experiences for students and communities.”
“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 MIHN-UET, I hope to continue serving through music even after my time at Harvard.”
- Ryan Song, MIHNUET
MISSION

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 endeavors to meet community needs while advocating structural change. PBHA seeks to promote social awareness and community involvement at Harvard and beyond.

HIGHLIGHTS

Even when it’s not easy, it is important to stand up. Especially when it’s challenging, it is important to stand in hope and love, to stand with community and conviction, and to stand for what is right. In so many ways during 2016, PBHA stood for our mission of developing student leaders in partnership with the Greater Boston community to address gaps in opportunities and resources and advocate for positive systemic change. Through service and social action, we stood for a vision of this world as a more just place and the potential we each have to contribute to that vision.

In 2016 PBHA’s new Y2Y Harvard Square Shelter opened for its first full season, taking a stand every day to provide a safe sanctuary for young adults (18-24) who are first experiencing homelessness and taking a stand long term for the right of every young person to have a pathway out of homelessness. Along with its continued work to champion equal access to academic opportunities, PBHA’s Summer Urban Program stood up for the importance of educating the whole child through a new Socio Emotional Learning Initiative which guided campers in areas such as responsible decision making and self-awareness. The students of the Student Labor Action Movement led the campus in standing in solidarity with the Harvard Dining Hall workers. In partnership with the Harvard Islamic Society, PBHA admitted its newest program, the Harvard-Rindge Muslim Youth Program, a mentoring program for Muslim high school students that explores Muslim identity, coming of age in immigrant families, civic engagement, art, and other interest areas of participants in a group mentoring setting. Given the discrimination and current political climate faced by young Muslim students, this program fills a vital need in communities with which PBHA has rarely previously engaged.

Organizationally, PBHA continued to stand for the importance of building an inclusive community and accessibility to serve for all students. We met with Alumni across the country to build the case for sustaining Stride, a mission critical program which provides low income students with mentoring and financial support so they can participate in service at the same leadership level as their peers. Student leaders worked to improve internal structures of community building and grassroots students leadership, holding an inclusive semi-formal event, increasing the number of reflective study breaks held in the houses, and restructuring the content and frequency of student director Cabinet meetings.
“Service work has allowed me to make a tangible impact on those living outside of the Harvard community. Rather than reading about other people making change in the books I read during class, I’ve been able to put down the books and make change myself, by participating in Keylatch Mentoring and forming a sincere and lasting connection with my mentee. Not only has it served as a reprieve from the intense academic environment that Harvard is known for, but it has allowed me to learn new things from my mentee and their family/community, that I would never have been able to fully understand by reading a book. Overall, my work with Keylatch has been one of the most rewarding and challenging experiences that I’ve had at Harvard so far.” - Keylatch Mentoring Director

“I enjoyed learning about the history of these programs and their peaks/lows when working with Nicole. It was incredible to see how these programs changed in terms of their structure(s) to best meet the needs of the changing Boston communities that they worked with!” - Makeda Daniel, ’19, After school Programming Group Officer

PBHA Summer Urban Program Directors celebrate a transformative summer during the annual Mid-Summer Celebration at Stonybrook Park.
MINDICH PROGRAM FOR ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP

MISSION

The Mindich Program for Engaged Scholarship (MPES) brings together academic work and community engagement through hands-on learning experiences in/with a community context. By linking academics to real-world questions, problems, and opportunities, Engaged Scholarship challenges students to integrate intellectual content with community perspectives, knowledge, and expertise. Through courses, research, projects, and partnerships, Engaged Scholarship promotes engagement across academic disciplines, sectors of civic and community life, through collaborations that engage students, community, and faculty beyond the Harvard context.

HIGHLIGHTS

The Goals of Engaged Scholarship are to:

• Increase academic opportunities for students to engage with community
• Connect what students learn in and beyond the classroom
• Develop 21st century competencies among students
• Habits of mind that can relate education to life and the world
• Collaboration skills and the ability to dialogue across differences and sectors
• Creativity, critical and systems thinking that can draw on multiple perspectives, forms of information, and knowledge domains to innovate and problem solve
• Develop appreciation for the knowledge and expertise present in community beyond the academy
• Strengthen connections between Harvard (through students, faculty, and institutional/administrative structures or programs)

Engaged Scholarship courses were offered in seven departments this past academic year, including: SOC-STD 68 EC: Education and Community in America: Universities and Community Engagement, 1890-2016, SPAN59: Spanish and the Community, PSY1009: Psychology of Women, SOC-STD 68CT: The Chinese Immigrant Experience in America, MUSIC176r: Music and Disability, and Expos 231 & 232: Segregation and Boston Schools: The Fight for Equality

In partnership with the Mathematics Department, an experiential service component was developed for the Emerging Scholars program. Harvard Emerging Scholars worked with middle school students through the Breakthrough Greater Boston program at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School.

Engaged Scholarship also includes summer research opportunities for students:

• Independent Research and Community Engagement (RCE) Award: With mentorship from Harvard faculty, students conduct independent projects that combine public service with student-initiated research. Five students will be funded in summer 2017. Five students were funded for the summer of 2017
• Program in Community Engaged Research (PCER): A small team of undergraduates work with Harvard faculty on a community-engaged inquiry project with local communities. Two students were funded in summer 2017.

“Engaged scholarship courses were taught in seven departments this past academic year.”
“The experience of Engaged Scholarship challenged, shaped, and affirmed our values, prompting important questions and catalyzing creative interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary explorations. Putting theory into practice through building meaningful relationships and experiences in the community reflected back in the students’ work in the classroom, translating to a deeper understanding and greater passion for the subject matter.”  - Andrew Clark, Director of Choral Activities, Senior Lecturer in Music

I had never known how gratifying it could be to see the tangible impact of public service work until I began volunteering with PBHA Chinatown Citizenship. As I became more involved and began directing the organization, I quickly realized that any future career I might want to pursue would be related to public service. However, I felt an uncomfortable tension between the work I hoped to do after graduation and my academics, which did not directly relate to or support my interest in public service. Taking Professor Newendorp’s Engaged Scholarship course on the Chinese Immigrant Experience in America filled this gap in my education, tying together rigorous academic study on community history with focused reflection on our responsibility as service providers, pushing me to become much more thoughtful about my impact within the community I was serving. This course also helped me to explore the landscape of community-based organizations and nonprofits serving my community, introducing me to a wide range of opportunities for intersectional and interdisciplinary work that I had never considered before.  - Sally Chen
SERVICE TO SOCIETY: Integrating Public Service into Harvard Residential Life

In an effort to expand participation in public service, the Service to Society Fellow position was created in the Fall of 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 upperclassmen houses and the Service to Society Freshman Council in the freshman yard.

This initiative has grown significantly since inception. During the 2016-2017 academic term, there were over 140 purposeful event opportunities that took place in the Harvard houses and freshman yard. These events include dinners organized by the public service representatives and the tutors in the houses, volunteering opportunities with community members, advising nights, and collaborative events with CPIC, IOP, PBHA, and PSN offices. These students are also learning of ways to remain engaged in public service through ongoing opportunities. Public service is now touching the lives of more and more students in their residential settings.

'16-'17 Residential & First Year Events

- **72** Advising Events
- **32** Volunteering Opportunities
- **48** Dinners
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