



YALE CLUB of THE SUNCOAST

bluELines



Fall 2017

Volume 13 Number 3

President's Message



Dear Fellow Members of the Yale Club of the Suncoast,

I am delighted to welcome you back for the 2017-18 season of the Yale Club of the Suncoast. A great schedule has been arranged for you by our Program Committee. Foremost in the schedule are two outstanding Yale faculty speakers, one in December and the other in March. We will be offering a few weekend events for our working members this season. The West Coast Black Theatre Troupe will perform for us on Saturday, January 20, 2018 and an event is being planned at the Bradenton Planetarium on a weekend in April. Details will be available soon. We will again support the Veteran's Stand Down in April and Yale Professor Murray Biggs will be offering a theatre weekend in February.

Our Welcome Back cocktail party on October 27th celebrated our 60th year as a Yale Club in the Sarasota area. Ten former presidents were in attendance and led the group in a Yale sing along. A delicious cake was enjoyed by all.

Our first lecture on November 14th featured Patty Ragan from the Center for Great Apes. Over 60 persons were in attendance and all were fascinated by her most informative presentation.

I hope that some of you were in attendance at Libby's on November 18th when Yale beat Harvard to win the Ivy League Championship. Nick and Danielle Gladding and I were fortunate to attend "The Game" and see Yale bring home the championship, the first since 1980!

Our luncheon meetings will again be held monthly at the Sarasota Yacht Club on John Ringling Boulevard. The price of our monthly speaker luncheons will remain at \$25 per person. Reservations are required. Cancellations may be made up to 24 hours before event.

The Alumni Schools Committee (ACS) Book Awards Program represents our Club's most visible support for Yale College and has been successful in inspiring students to give serious consideration to Yale. In addition, our members continue to interview all local applicants to Yale. Our ACS team is headed by Patrick Whelan and in recent years has generated a number of acceptances to Yale College.

Our Club is committed to community service and has annually supported the Veteran's Stand Down. The Yale Club of the Suncoast was recognized for its community outreach by JFCS (Jewish Family & Children's Services of the Suncoast) at its annual Breakfast celebrating individuals and groups that make a difference in the community.

Your participation and suggestions to make the Yale Club of the Suncoast the best it can be are most welcome. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or other Board members or officers if you have any ideas about ways to improve our programs or activities.

I look forward to meeting you at a Club event.

*Warmest regards,
Elaine Gustafson, MSN '86 President*

During the Offseason (June – October)

Club Honors Book Awardees at Father's Day Brunch

Six recipients of our Yale Club's Book Awards and their families joined Patrick Whelan, Peter French, Oliver Janney and Liz Spahn of the Alumni Schools Committee

at the Father's Day Brunch at Stoneybrook Country Club last June. The students and their families appreciated Patrick's discussion of Yale's admissions procedures and the benefits of attending Yale. Peter, Oliver and Liz recounted meaningful experiences they had at Yale. While the later than usual date resulted in fewer attendees than in the past, the sumptuous buffet and intimate setting made the event a particularly effective means to introduce top students to Yale.

- Oliver Janney '67



Area Freshman Starts the Year Impressively

Vanessa Yan, an incoming Yale freshman and former student of our ASC Director, Patrick Whelan, was recognized as a Presidential Scholar, one of 161 such students in the nation. She nominated Patrick as a Presidential Scholars Distinguished Teacher. As a freshman she has been accepted to serve on the staff of the *Yale Economics Review Journal* and has already been published in two scholarly journals for her work in economics and history.

- Oliver Janney '67

Summer Luncheons

Each year on the second Tuesday of the summer months (June through October) we welcome all YCS members and their guests to the Yale Club table in Marina Jack's second floor for an opportunity to relax among friends and enjoy a nice lunch and some great conversation. Below are pictures from one of the events this past summer. If you haven't every attended and are in town over the summer months, please stop by.



YALE vs. HARVARD

2017 was a great year in two major sports competitions between the two universities as **Yale triumphed in both events.**

First, on June 10 the **Yale Crew Completes Perfect Season with Win Over Harvard.**

Yale not only won the 152nd rowing of the annual Harvard/Yale regatta but went on to win the National Championship. As icing on the cake, the Bulldogs swept all three races in the regatta for the first time since 1996.



Next up, on November 18th, **Yale won the Ivy League Title outright for the first time in 37 years and beat Harvard for the second year in a row.** At least 17 Yale alumni watched The Game at Libby's Bar; included among the celebrants were: John Bullock, Stephen Dahl, Art Ferguson, Oliver and Suzanne Janney, Mark Magenheim, Jamie McLane, Clarissa Moore and her husband, Mike Petrino, Irv Perlmutter and Myra Rakoff, Ken Schneier, Jeff Sell, Liz Spahn, Fritz and Barbara Thiel and Dyer Wadsworth.



Fall 2017 Club Events

Welcome Back Party

This year's Party, held at the Sarasota Yacht Club on October 27th, doubled as a celebration of the Club's 60th Anniversary. Here are some pictures of the good times shared by all.



Speaker: Patti Ragan
November 14, 2017



Our guest speaker for the first Yale Club lunch of the 2017-2018 Season was Patti Ragan, President and Founder of the Center for Great Apes in Wauchula, Florida. Founded in 1993, the Center's mission is to provide a permanent sanctuary for orangutans and chimpanzees that have been rescued or retired from the entertainment industry, medical research or the exotic pet trade. Occupying almost

10 square miles in a wooded area one hour east of Sarasota, the Center currently houses 47 great apes ranging in age from a few years old to over 50 in open air geodesic dome structures up to 45 feet high. The domes are connected by overhead walkways that also lead to protected sleeping quarters and medical facilities for the animals.

The apes arrived in Wauchula from a wide variety of backgrounds and include Michael Jackson's favorite pet chimpanzee and Clint Eastwood's sidekick in the film *Every Which Way But Loose*. Also there are apes used in other movies and as large scale and roadside circus performers. Many of the rescues came from horrific circumstances of abuse and neglect including years in small cages with no sunlight or company, beatings and limited grooming or medical care. All now have spacious homes, climbing and swinging structures, healthy food, enrichment and friends. Many have paired off into caring, monogamous relationships that have lasted for many years. One resident is without arms, one without functioning legs and another with a form of cerebral palsy; all have learned to survive, navigate and enjoy their new environment. The palsied chimp rides around the premises with his caregiver in a golf cart.

Patti Ragan, the creator and driving force behind the Center for Great Apes, first encountered what would become her life's work on a volunteer trip to Borneo in the 1980s, where she cared for injured orangutans and the infants of apes killed in the pet trade. She returned home to run an unrelated family business in Florida, but she began to study the predicament of great apes in the U.S. and learned their stories. Prevailed upon to care for a young orangutan, she quickly realized this was not an easy task.

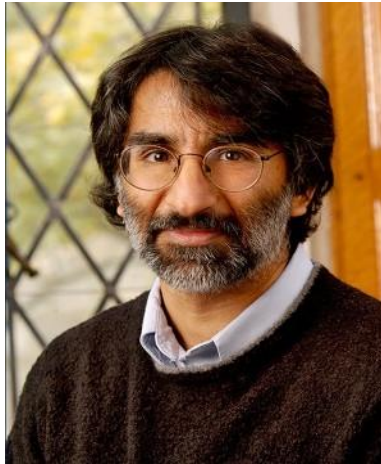
Shortly thereafter, Patti located the core parcel of what is now the Center for Great Apes and commissioned the early buildings. In an amazing collection of photographs and films, she introduced us to many of the orangutans and chimps she has rescued and cared for over the past 25 years, as well as the progress and growth of their home in Wauchula. Through an amazing network of connections and referrals, Patti tracked and followed dozens of captive apes throughout the U.S., prodding their owners – and waiting many years in some cases – to release their pets or performers into a wonderful retirement. The brutal **before**, and healthy, happy **after** pictures were astounding.

My wife, Cynthia Craig, has been a supporter of Patti and the Center for about six years, and we have visited the site and helped arrange tours for interested parties many times. We have one or two in the works now for any Yalies who may be interested.

- Ken Schneier '74

Speaker: Akhil Reed Amar

December 12, 2017



Professor Amar Holds a Class on the Constitution

At our luncheon on December 12th, Sterling Professor of Law and Political Science Akhil Reed Amar converted our luncheon into a class on the federal Constitution. Sharing with Guido Calabrese the distinction having been made a faculty member in his twenties and a Sterling Professor at a young age, Professor Amar is a *Summa Cum Laude* Graduate of Yale College and a graduate of Yale Law School. He clerked for Judge (now Justice) Stephen Breyer. Professor Amar teaches classes in constitutional law in both the Law School and Yale College, and regularly sends his teaching assistants to become clerks for Chief Justice Roberts. In 2008 he received the DeVane Medal – Yale’s highest award for teaching excellence.

The author of many articles and books, he responded, when asked which of his books we should read first, that a mature reader should read *America’s Constitution: A Biography*. For younger readers with short attention spans, he recommended *The Constitution Today*, which he described as a series of op-ed sound bites on issues of the past 20 years.

Professor Amar opened the “class” by stating that he would give us some information about last year’s election and ask for questions that would determine the direction of discussion. He asserted that last year’s election was the first time since the 1860s that either party could have won the presidency, control of both houses of Congress and put a new justice on the Supreme Court. It would have been the first opportunity since the 1930s for the Democrats to have five Democratic justices on the Supreme Court.

He then threw the session open to questions. The first was how he would define Justice Scalia's originalism. Professor Amar responded by explaining that Scalia cannot be an originalist, because he is a judge. He explained that judges do not have time to delve deeply into history. He noted that, in fact, only a couple of cases involving constitutional issues come up each year. He stated that Scalia is not obsessed with history, but he, Amar, is obsessed with history and fully understands the text of the Constitution and its amendments. He explained that the original Bill of Rights was designed to reign in only the federal government. It took the Fourteenth Amendment to extend the Bill of Rights to state and local governments. In Professor Amar's opinion, it takes an historian, like him, who has spent 40 years thoroughly researching what the original drafters of the Constitution intended and then what the drafters and proponents of the Fourteenth Amendment intended. He noted that the last "originalist" justice was Hugo Black.

The next member asked about the implications of the case of the baker in Colorado that is currently before the Supreme Court. He replied that it is a statutory, not a constitutional case. He asserted that the Constitution does not provide exemption from any laws. He described the Colorado law as stupid but not unconstitutional. He suggested that acceptance of gay marriage is more likely if we don't ram it down people's throats and that whether people will sing and dance at a gay wedding or bake a cake for it is an individual issue.

In response to a question about polarization by the Supreme Court on political issues, he explained that we live in a divided society. This is not the first time it has happened. He pointed to the race between Jefferson and Adams in 1800 and the polarization over the Fourteenth Amendment. He showed us electoral maps from the 1896 and the 2008 elections, which were remarkably similar. He pointed out that today the Democrats have become the party of Lincoln and the Republicans have become the party of the South. He traced the history through which after the election of President Lyndon Johnson, the first Southern President since the Civil War, Blacks moved to the Democratic Party, which led conservative Southern Democrats to migrate to the Republican Party. Both groups moved their adopted parties away from the center. The result, he posited, is total ideological polarization today.

The next question concerned the tendency of the public to look to the courts to solve political problems. He first addressed the historical arrangement that the Congress is the *primus inter pares*; its organization and operation is set forth in Article I of the Constitution. Its initial building was huge, to express its importance. Article II sets forth the powers of the executive branch; the President was given a "modest house." Being consigned to Article III, the Supreme Court was the youngest child and did not even have its own building for many years. He pointed out that the President and Congress pick judges; the judges don't pick Presidents and members of Congress.

He then stated that today the Court has invalidated two Acts of Congress. The Court's role has increased, while the roles of the President and Congress have sagged.

The next question was why anyone can buy weapons, including assault weapons. Professor Amar explained that we have to look at the history of the Second Amendment. Citizen militias had fought against the imperial authority. Citizens insisted on retaining the right to keep weapons to protect themselves against the government. On the other hand, after the Civil War, the "good guys" central government had beaten the Southern militias, and the Blacks and other potential targets of extremists needed to have weapons to protect themselves against the Klu Klux Klan. He reiterated that most of citizens' rights under the Constitution came from the extension of the Bill of Rights to the states and local governments through the Fourteenth Amendment during Reconstruction. He noted that many state constitutions also protect the right to bear arms for self-defense, as well as for recreation and hunting.

At the end of the lunch, Professor Amar said that he would love to visit us again and invited us to invite him back. A repeat visit would be most welcome.

- Oliver Janney '67

Upcoming Club Events

SAVE THE DATE #1
SATURDAY, January 20, 2018
with the
Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe

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***The Yale Club of the Suncoast presents a mid-day program for all Yalies in the Suncoast region featuring the nationally acclaimed Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe***

***Venue: The Sarasota Yacht Club***

***11:30 – Socializing***

***Noon – Luncheon***

***1:00 – Performance by Members of  
The Westcoast Black Theatre Troup***

This event offers an opportunity to attend a post-holiday event uninterrupted by personal work schedules. It is for all alumni, both recent and less recent.

If you have heard and seen the WBTT perform then you can renew your support for dramatic artistic excellence. If you have not experienced a WBTT program, Google them and be enchanted. Mark down January 20<sup>th</sup> on your calendars and plan to be part of the Yale gathering for this exciting Saturday luncheon and performance.

The cost of the luncheon is \$30 payable at the door. To reserve your place contact Ken Schneier at [kschneier@live.com](mailto:kschneier@live.com) and provide name, number in your party and class year.

**SAVE THE DATE #2**  
**Wednesday, February 28, 2018**  
***Annual Visit to the Ringling Museum***

Once again this season members of the Yale Club of the Suncoast and their guests are invited to come to the Ringling Museum of Art for a private tour followed by lunch at the museum's Muse restaurant. On the morning of Wednesday, February 28, docent Bob Hunter, who did such a fine job for our group last year, will guide us on a tour of "Stars of the Collection." He will discuss the masterpieces of the permanent collection and enhance our understanding of their artistic and historical importance.

Full details will follow in January, including information on signing up and the menu choices at the Muse. There will be one important difference from past years. We are no longer able to schedule our private tour on a Monday, the only day with free admission for all. Consequently, all individuals who are not members of the Ringling Museum, and who cannot pair up with someone who is a member and can take a guest, will be obliged to pay an entrance fee of \$15. This fee will have to be paid when signing up for the event and paying for lunch at the Muse.

- Frank Samponaro '62

## **Miscellany**

### **Report of 77<sup>th</sup> Annual AYA Meeting**

November 16-17, 2017

Nick Gladding, AYA Representative, Yale Club of the Suncoast

On a cloudy day in mid-November, 2017, hundreds of Yale Alumni delegates, class officers, and the Presidents of clubs and special interest groups ("SIGs"), along with their guests, gathered in New Haven to spend two days of intensive discussion exploring the Association of Yale Alumni ("AYA") 2017 theme of "Creating Communities at Yale." Last year's AYA theme had been "Teaching to Our Strengths." The Wednesday evening before, Danielle and I had joined a wonderful group of my YC '67 classmates at Mory's for a fun-filled dinner organized by our Class Treasurer, Peter Petkas. What a great way to set the stage for the 77<sup>th</sup> Assembly by a kick-off with some of our own Class of 1967 community!

Peter Salovey, Yale's President, opened Assembly LXXVII with his introduction, saying that upon his inauguration four years earlier, one of his top priorities had been to

“create a more unified Yale.” Although he acknowledged that there were certainly challenges in unifying an enterprise with such size and scope as Yale, it remained his goal to create what he termed “One Yale.” Of significance, President Salovey mentioned the importance of the residential college communities which he characterized as the “signature strength of Yale College for over 80 years.” He also mentioned the large number of building projects underway, including the new Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking at Yale (“Tsai City”), and some new residential options for graduate school students.

The first of two panels of the day discussing the concept of “Yale communities,” featured the Dean of the School of Music, the dean of Yale College, the dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the dean of the School of Public Health. It was moderated by Kimberly Goff-Crews, who is secretary and vice-president for student life. Ms. Goff-Crews emphasized Yale’s resolution to standardize and improve student life by, among other things, providing more mental health professionals, including “peer wellness champions,” and new pilot programs focusing on “happiness, wellbeing and mindfulness,” in order, hopefully, to positively impact overall student health.

Sten Vermund, the dean of the School of Public Health (YSPH), emphasized prevention, particularly with regard to public health threats of emerging infections, chronic diseases, opioid addiction and obesity. He said that Yale is only one community that the YSPH reaches out to, along with the world community and the local community. Lynn Cooley, the dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS), mentioned that the GSAS has over 60 degree programs in which 2,792 Ph.D. students and 244 master’s degree students are working. She stated that the “graduate students are literally everywhere”, including the central campus, the West Campus and the medical school. While acknowledging that this dispersion meant that the graduate students were contributing to the greater Yale community every day, it also posed a challenge to develop a centralized graduate student community. Graduate students are now living alongside undergraduates in the residential colleges and will soon also have housing in the “L.L. Bean dorm” on Elm Street above the storefront which will house L.L. Bean. Perhaps the new McDougal Center will help be a place for graduate students to get together and enhance their community.

Marvin Chun, the dean of Yale College, like President Salovey, emphasized the strength of Yale’s residential colleges, which he characterized as the “central community” for Yale undergraduates who arrive in New Haven with different backgrounds, interests and nationalities. He expressed excitement about the new communities forming around two new majors in Statistics and Data Science and Neuroscience, along with the two new colleges, Pauli Murray and Benjamin Franklin. The new colleges opened smoothly and on time and “already have a strong sense of community” according to Dean Chun. Robert Blocker, dean of the School of Music,

mentioned that over 35% of Yale students continue to be involved in some sort of musical activity. He characterized the “entire purpose of his school was to foster community.” There are only 200 majors in the School and 40% of them are international. Dean Blocker mentioned that the School of Music provides practical instruction to undergraduates and streams performances from Sprague to the larger world.

The next panel discussion on Yale communities featured the directors of some new initiatives discussing the creation of new communities within Yale. This panel included the director of the Wright Laboratory, the director of the Office of International Students and Scholars, the executive director of Tsai City and the director of the Office of LGBTQ It was moderated by Charles Bailyn, head of Franklin College and the former inaugural dean of faculty for Yale–NUS in Singapore. Bailyn led off the discussion asserting that one of the greatest challenges to building a community he faced in Singapore was an architectural one: with land severely constrained, they had to build up instead of out, which made the traditional entryways where students passed each other frequently in a Yale residential college an architectural impossibility. However, they designed the vertical dorms to have the elevators stop only on every third floor where they built common rooms. The students living above and below these areas would then pass each other on a daily basis to get to their individual rooms.

Karsten Heeger, director of the new Wright Laboratory which formerly housed the nuclear accelerator described how the space has been refurbished to create a state-of-the-art facility housing various science applications. He asserted that “science is a social activity” and the new Wright Laboratory would serve as a place for individuals to come together under “a shared understanding of science.” Ann Kulhman, director of the Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS), defined her community based on the legal status of students who came to Yale on non-immigrant visas. She mentioned that they number over 6,000 students, representing 120 countries. This means that 21% of all the students at Yale are international, including 11% in Yale College, 30-40% in the graduate school and 40% in the School of Music. There are many more international scholars and researchers in Yale’s international community. Much of the work of OISS involves assisting with visa and immigration compliance, so that the international students and scholars may continue to study and work at Yale. She also mentioned a popular program called “Understanding America” and described outings to neighboring Connecticut towns with Yale transportation. Andrew McLaughlin, executive director of Tsai City (the Center for Innovative Thinking at Yale) , and Trumbull, YC ‘91, said he was simply a “start-up, investor guy,” who had been asked to return to Yale to “justify it all.” Apparently, he had a history of bemoaning to Yale about how few Yalies became involved in start-up ideas and projects, so Yale asked him to come back and “fix the problem.” Mr. McLaughlin was an engaging speaker and reminded many of Steve Jobs in his enthusiasm and even

his appearance. He envisions the yet to be built Tsai City as not only a place to support for-profit startups, but also to provide valuable training and skills to students launching non-profits. Tsai City will take students through the process of prototyping their product because according to McLaughlin, they are “very good about talking about and presenting their ideas, but they are weaker at prototyping and taking the next step.” He also mentioned that Tsai City would be soliciting support from alumni mentors in industry. Interestingly, the name and major support for Tsai City came from Joseph Tsai, YC ‘86, and co-founder of the Chinese e-commerce giant, Alibaba.

Maria Trumpler, director of the Office of LGBTQ, spoke of the creation of her new community space on the first floor of the old School of Management Building, directly below the new graduate student McDougal Center. She asserted that “it means a lot to have a space on campus that reflects this point of identity for people who study, teach, work and do research at Yale.” She characterized the Office as what the media might refer to as a safe space although she does not use that term. It includes a lounge, a kitchen and a place to screen movies.

After lunch on the first day, there were a number of breakout sessions and tours of some of the new community spaces, which AYA delegates and others were encouraged to attend. These included Tsai City, Wright Laboratory, The Office of LGBTQ and the two new residential colleges. I chose the presentation and tour of the new Benjamin Franklin College. It is spectacular and seems very much in place with Yale’s older residential colleges. The brief presentation by Dean Jessie Royce Hill and the Q&A were held in the beautiful new college. Ms. Royce Hill’s most significant statements concerned the number of members of the football, rowing and lacrosse teams whom had chosen to live together in Franklin and the surprising revelation about how many total Yale undergraduate juniors and seniors were now choosing to live off-campus. She stated that 30% of Yale juniors and 40% of Yale seniors were now electing to live off-campus because of the costs of room and board, the ability to more easily get alcohol and other factors. Yale no longer requires undergraduates who are unmarried or non-locals to live in the residential colleges and it clearly is one of the biggest obstacles to maintain the sense of undergraduate community fostered by Yale’s residential colleges. The tour afterward was enlightening and enthralling. What a beautiful architectural masterpiece!

The Yale Medal Dinner on Thursday evening was held in Payne Whitney Gymnasium because Commons was closed during the renovation to construct the new Schwartzman Center. I had never seen Payne Whitney look better, sumptuously decked out in regal blue and white.

On Friday morning, the day began with breakout meetings for Yale clubs, shared interest groups (“SIGs”), Yale College Classes and the Yale Alumni Fund. Our Yale Club of the Suncoast President, Elaine Gustafson, and I attended the session on Yale

Clubs and were pleased when the AYA staff person gave us a “shout out” for having model bylaws for other clubs to emulate! Apparently, all Yale Clubs are once again housed under one “AYA roof.” The staff mentioned that 25% of clubs have an updated website and many don’t even have a website!

The next presentation on Friday was President Salovey’s update to the Assembly on “University Priorities and Academic Investments.” He opened his presentation by remarking that Sports Illustrated had named Yale 9<sup>th</sup> out of the “top 100 sports schools.” Now, that is a change from the Levin years! With regard to Yale’s academic priorities, Salovey challenged Yale to be “the best version of itself.” He characterized the priorities as follows: the Arts have to be able to connect with the rest of Yale and they need more teaching space. He mentioned that on the West Campus, the Arts students were able to work next to wood cabinet makers and it enabled them to study the effects of climate change on materials. He mentioned that one recent Yale College graduate who had majored in Art & Architecture and Computer Science had designed a three dimensional hologram you can see on stage. He stated that Yale needed to build a home to house drama and hire more Arts faculty.

For the Humanities, President Salovey mentioned the reimagining of HGS as a new humanities quadrangle where the students will “collide with each other.” For the Social Sciences he asked: how do you use data-driven research to impact broad public policy? He made reference to Yale’s climate change and public opinion work, asserting that “John Kerry being at Yale is not an accident.” For Science and Engineering, he stated that within ten years we want to have an impact on quantum computing competing with Google in as yet unnamed areas. Saying the future of science is interdisciplinary, Salovey added that it was “broader than Science Hill” and there was a need for teaching and research in every building. Praising the start of the Tsai Center, he said it would be between Grove and Trumbull streets. There were already 19 teams working, even without an official building center!

President Salovey answered a question about the movement off campus by undergraduates and acknowledged that he was worried about it, although he stated that it had come down a little this past year. He asserted that he and Dean Chun were looking at more flexible dining hours and more single rooms as ways to help stem the off-campus movement. He mentioned that the Yale football coach required the juniors on the team to live on-campus together. In response to a question regarding freedom of speech on campus, he stated that Yale had not had any speakers heckled and he did not want to have a political litmus test for the faculty. He noted his concern for the US House taxation plan, saying that it would include a tax on Yale’s endowment of about \$25-35 million dollars. Yale annually spends 5% of its endowment, so its return on investment annually would need to increase to 8% in order to maintain the spending levels Yale has enjoyed.

When asked about Yale student costs, President Salovey answered that it costs more for the average student to attend a public university than it does to attend Yale and 85% of Yale College students graduate with NO DEBT! A final question concerned “what is Yale doing in New Haven?” He responded that the positive economic impact on the city included hiring for university construction projects; buildings which are not academic are subject to local property taxes; Yale voluntarily makes an \$8 million payment to New Haven; Yale funds scholarships for local high school students to attend their choice of a Connecticut college; \$5 million in permitting fees; and Yale physicians are provided free of charge to local residents. Finally, he noted that some 1,400 New Haven students were working on various Yale projects.

After The Assembly & Convocation lunch where awards were presented to alumni leaders, Weili Cheng, the AYA Executive Director and YC '77 addressed the Assembly on “Creating Communities Beyond Campus.” Ms. Cheng spent a good portion of her presentation discussing the recent survey of alumni. The foremost conclusion was that the AYA did not have the right level of resources to successfully carry out its important mission. The survey identified priorities as building relationships and increasing listening engagements; driving volunteer stewardship and alumni leadership; organizing clubs and associations better after the success of the major cities initiative; and increasing the value of the clubs by assisting with career counseling. The survey had a 17% response from Yale College and reflected a drop-off of alumni’s rating of the alumni experience with 34% saying they would like to be more involved but 45% of those under age 45 who want more involvement.

The alumni survey reflected that the major barriers to involvement as a volunteer included time, cost, approval of the programs and lack of awareness of the programs. When asked what they were interested in, the answer was programs that appeal to diverse audiences. Age made the most difference but programs that involved career/professional development, social connections, service programs and diversity inclusion awareness were mentioned particularly by those under 45. Whereas personal relationships were key for those under 45, those over 45 wanted more institutional programs with professors. Ms. Cheng ended on the high note of “Beat Harvard.”

The rest of Friday afternoon was devoted to more individual breakout sessions with dinner on your own. The next morning, despite forecasts of rain, the sun came out for the 134<sup>th</sup> meeting of Yale and Harvard in “The Game”. I personally remembered my first time in New Haven in 1963 when The Game was postponed because of the tragic assassination of President Kennedy and also my last YC Game when Yale took the Ivy League football crown in 1967. I was hopeful for a 50 year repeat and was not disappointed when Yale tromped Harvard to take undisputed first place of the Ivy League football crown by the score of 24-3.

Go Bulldogs! It was a great 77<sup>th</sup> Assembly with a perfect Saturday conclusion.

**Message from Yale President Salovey  
On Sexual Harassment & Misconduct**

**From:** President Peter Salovey <[president@yale.edu](mailto:president@yale.edu)>  
**Date:** December 15, 2017 at 11:06:25 AM EST  
**To:** "All Faculty, Staff and Students" <[itscomm2@yale.edu](mailto:itscomm2@yale.edu)>  
**Subject:** Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policies and Resources

To the Yale Community,

Our nation is in the midst of a serious reckoning concerning sexual harassment and misconduct. In recent months, individuals representing nearly every industry and sector, including the academy, have come forward with accounts of harassment and abuse, spanning decades.

In this moment of focused public attention, I write to reaffirm that sexual harassment and misconduct are antithetical to our purpose and have no place in the Yale community. Such behaviors deeply harm those who experience them and undermine the values of trust, respect, and collaboration that are essential threads in the fabric of our community and critical to achieving our shared goals.

I would also like to take this opportunity to encourage anyone who has been affected by sexual misconduct to take advantage of Yale's resources that provide support and accommodations and Yale's mechanisms for reporting incidents. We recently revised the Sexual Misconduct Response and Prevention website (<https://smr.yale.edu>) to make these resources and processes more visible and more accessible. And we have expanded the [Bulldog Mobile](#) (LiveSafe) app to include options for on-line communication with the Title IX Office and the SHARE Center.

These recent initiatives build on years of focused efforts to prevent and address sexual harassment and misconduct on our campus. Our efforts have benefited from the strong and growing engagement of our community, such as the 2,000 students, faculty, and staff who have participated in the newly developed graduate and professional schools' bystander intervention workshops, created in partnership with graduate and professional students and informed by the existing Yale College program.

I ask that you join me in speaking out against sexual misconduct and fortifying our efforts to ensure that Yale is a safe, respectful, and inclusive campus where all can learn, work, and thrive.

Sincerely,

Peter Salovey  
President and Chris Argyris Professor of Psychology

### **Ivy League Club Celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

The Ivy League Club held its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at Michael's on East on March 17<sup>th</sup>. About 145 members attended the bash. 35 members of the Ivy League Club are Yale alumni.

In addition to many Club activities, the Club has two luncheons at the Field Club each month throughout the year (reservations are not required). The two November programs featured a performance by Sarasota Opera singers and an analysis of the election by former Congressman Dan Miller. The Club also arranges for group attendance at baseball games and performances by the Sarasota Ballet, the Sarasota Opera, the Asolo Theatre Repertory Company and the Manatee Players. It also features monthly Tuesday breakfasts of the Economics Club at Plymouth Harbor during season. (These presentations permit members to stay informed about current trends in international economics.)

- *If you would like more information about the Ivy League Club, please contact Oliver Janney.*