



# HURAnews

HARVARD UNIVERSITY RETIREES ASSOCIATION

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## HURA to visit new Science and Engineering Complex in Allston

**T**he new Science and Engineering Complex (SEC) on Western Avenue in Allston houses the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. It is big but was expressly designed to foster a sense of community—one that feels fluid, open, and accessible. It is an exciting and pleasant place to be. In addition to the world-class research and teaching it facilitates, it is LEED Gold, and possibly Platinum (the highest level of sustainability under the worldwide green building certification program under the “Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design” rating system).

This state-of-the-art facility includes a maker space and teaching labs, flexible classrooms, laboratories for experimentalists and theoreticians, a library, café, student lounges, dedicated spaces for student organizations, copious community space, as well as administrative offices. An Engineering Yard and additional green spaces extend to the south. Across the street are the Harvard Business School campus, the Harvard Innovation Lab, Life Lab, and Harvard ArtLab.

The library on the second floor by the atrium in the SEC is a hub for engineering and applied science education and research at Harvard in Allston.



Home to the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS), the 544,000-sf building is a living laboratory for interdisciplinary research, learning, and innovation.

PHOTO REPRODUCED WITH PERMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL FIRM, BEHNISCH ARCHITECTEN

With a librarian on staff and multi-use spaces available to book, guests have access to all the benefits of a Harvard library while in the building.

### **How does the Complex fit into the Allston community?**

Harvard is committed to fostering a community in Allston that attracts business ventures and residents alike. The Science and Engineering Complex will help to anchor the proposed Allston Greenway, a 10-acre park featuring multi-use paths that will stretch from North Harvard Street toward the Charles River. The Allston-Harvard community includes Harvard Business School, the i-lab network, the Ed Portal, athletics facilities, retail tenants, and the adjacent Enterprise Research Campus.

### **What is the Enterprise Research Campus?**

The area known as the Enterprise Research Campus is a Harvard University-owned parcel in Allston Landing North. The University envisions this property as becoming a non-institutional center for innovation, collaboration, and entrepreneurship within the City of Boston and the region. By developing the Enterprise Research Campus, the University transforms a previously industrial rail yard into a green, pedestrian-friendly area in Allston for business and research. Given its proximity to Harvard Business School and Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, as well as peer universities, healthcare leaders, and Boston’s science and tech-

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# Science and Engineering Complex

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nology sector, the new development area has the potential to become a hub for anchor companies, incubators, startups, and social enterprises.

## What are the long-term plans for the old buildings in Cambridge?

Longer-term planning efforts, including faculty aspirations for these areas, will be coordinated with FAS. In the intermediate 5 to 15-year term after groups vacate to Allston, Gordon McKay Labs, ESL, and Northwest B1 will continue to be used for School of Engineering and Applied Sciences experimental research labs. A planning study is looking at the current and future program and renewal needs of Pierce, Cruft, and the Bridge.

See Coming Events below for information about HURA's walking tour of the Allston Campus.

The back story: John Alfred Paulson (b. 1955) is an American billionaire hedge fund manager. He leads Paulson & Co., a New York-based investment

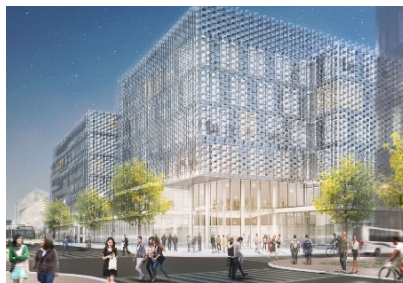
management firm he founded in 1994. He has been called "one of the most prominent names in high finance" and "a man who made one of the biggest fortunes in Wall Street history."

After a *summa cum laude* degree from New York University's College of Business and Public Administration, he went to Harvard Business School on a Sidney J. Weinberg/Goldman Sachs scholarship, earning an MBA as a George F. Baker Scholar (top 5 percent of his class) in 1980.

His prominence and fortune were made in 2007 when he earned almost \$4 billion and was transformed "from an obscure money manager into a financial legend." The *Forbes* real-time tracker estimated his net worth at \$4.2 billion as of May 2020.

In June 2015, Paulson donated \$400 million to Harvard's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, the largest gift received in the University's history. Following the donation, the engineering school was renamed the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

## COMING EVENTS



**Wednesday, March 16 Walking Tour of the Allston campus** with visit and lunch at the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

This is tentative, but if the virus is under control, we will proceed with this event.

Watch for updates on the HURA E-list.

**Thursday, April 28; 3:00-4:00 Stephan Puleo, author talk.** This event has been canceled because of COVID complications.

**Spring 2022 Rambles** Planning is underway for 2022 Rambles, which we hope will include visits to the Boston Harborwalk, Garden in the Woods in Framingham, and Fruitlands in Harvard, MA. Further information will be in the next issue of *HURA News* and on the HURA E-list.

# What happens to my retirement benefits if I go back to work at Harvard?

**HURA is sometimes asked** to post short-term and part-time job opportunities in the Harvard schools and departments that HR staff feel would be ideal for retirees. But, should you be concerned about the impact on your retiree benefits if you return to work? We asked.

HR responded that this is a challenging question and not as straightforward as it may seem to be. If you go back to work at the University as a temporary employee after retiring, there is no impact on the retirement

benefits you are receiving (pension or health insurance).

If you go back to work as a regular employee even part-time, but are benefits eligible, your existing Harvard retiree medical plan will terminate, and you will be eligible for the Harvard medical plan of an active employee. Even if you do not want the active-employee medical coverage, you cannot keep the retiree medical. It is also up to you, if over age 65, whether you cancel Medicare B and then resume it again when you leave the University.

If you are in pay status receiving a pension benefit, returning to work will not impact your current pension benefit. However, if you are eligible for and have not yet begun to receive a pension payment, you will not be able to begin receiving it while you are an active benefits-eligible employee.

In any case, HR recommends that a retiree returning to Harvard speak with Benefits staff about the specific position, including hours, to be sure you understand the impact on your individual current retiree benefits.

## A day in the life of an editor: spelling, grammar, punctuation

In a previous issue of *HURA News*, we discussed some of the issues concerning misplaced modifiers that HURA editors face. Here are some spelling rules and conventions that we try to observe.

### **DOUBLING THE FINAL CONSONANT BEFORE A SUFFIX**

#### **Is it traveller or traveler? Cancelled or canceled?**

Here's the rule—at least in the U.S.: with words of two-or-more syllables that end in a vowel-plus-consonant combination, this is the rule:

If the word is accented on the final syllable, then double the consonant before adding endings, such as -ed or -ing, as in

ConTROL: controlling, controlled, controllable.

reFER: referred, referring.

If the accent is not on the final syllable, then do not double the final consonant, as in

CANcel: canceled, cancelation, canceling

TRAVel: traveled, traveling, traveler

### **BUSES, NOT BUSSES?**

**Why is it buses and busing, not busses or bussing?** Bus is a shortened form of the word omnibus, a vehicle for public conveyance, and retains the singular “s” in the abbreviated form. Think of omnibuses and buses.

### **HE/SHE AND HE OR SHE ARE OUT;**

**THEY IS IN.** So says Merriam Webster that “they” or “their” may be either plural or singular and can replace the awkward he/she when the gender of the person referred to is not known or revealed.

If the teacher says to do it this way, they are always right.

A baby's sleep pattern becomes more regular as they get older.

Someone who devotes their life to the health of others...

### **A LOT vs. ALOT**

**The phrase “a lot” means “a large amount.”** (“There are a lot of children in the family.”) “Alot” is not a word, but it's a common misspelling of “a lot.” The word “alot,” however, has an entirely different meaning. It's a verb that means to apportion a share or task. (“Each child will be allotted one cookie before bedtime.”)

### **ALL RIGHT, ALRIGHT, ALREADY**

All right means satisfactory but not especially good; acceptable. The tea was all right. Alright, however, does not exist. It is not a word--unlike already, which means prior to a specified or implied past, present, or future time. He had already left when I called.

## IN BRIEF

### Patriots Day, April 18, 2022

Is it Patriot's Day, Patriots' Day, or Patriots Day?

In the case of this April holiday, it depends upon whom you ask. Since it is not a federal holiday, there isn't any national standard to go by. It is a state holiday in Maine and Massachusetts on the third Monday in April. In Maine it is Patriot's Day; it will be Patriots' Day in Massachusetts.

And to really confuse things, Patriot Day is September 11, which is also not a federal holiday. If you look at other holidays for standards, Veterans Day doesn't use the apostrophe. But Mother's Day really messes up the argument.

HURA editors prefer Patriots Day.

### Earth's population statistics in perspective

The population of Earth is around 7.8 billion. If you condense those 7.8 billion into 100 persons, the results are relatively easier to comprehend.

#### Out of 100

59.5 are in Asia

17 are in Africa

9.8 are in Europe

7.6 are in North America

5.6 are in South America

0.5 Oceania (Australasia)

86 can read

14 are illiterate

31 are Christians

25 are Muslims

15 are Hindus

6 are Buddhists

12 are other religions

11 claim no religious beliefs

### 2020 Census places U.S. population center in Hartville, Missouri

Based on 2020 Census redistricting data, the center of the U.S. population (as of April 1, 2020) is located about 15 miles from Hartville, Missouri, (population 594) in central southern Missouri.



Every 10 years, since the first census in 1790, the Census Bureau has calculated the “center of population,” a point (fulcrum) at which an imaginary, flat, and rigid map of the United States would balance perfectly if everyone were of identical weight and standing on the map where they live. Since 1790, the population has shifted steadily west, southwest.

### World university rankings

Unlike Forbes's top colleges ranking, which measures only U.S. schools, Times Higher Education (London) casts its net around the globe. The list emphasizes scholarship, research funding, and reputation, and does not consider things like entry requirements, graduation rates, professor ratings, or alumni salaries. The U.S. took eight of the top ten positions.

1. University of Oxford
2. Stanford University
3. Harvard University
4. California Institute of Technology
5. Mass. Institute of Technology
6. Cambridge University
7. University of California, Berkeley
8. Yale University
9. Princeton University
10. University of Chicago

In 2019, Harvard was 6th, and MIT was 4th. See more at <https://tinyurl.com/3ya79nfs>.

### Real ID deadline extended

The deadline for air travelers to have a Real ID to board a plane, even for domestic flights, has been extended to May 3, 2023. After that date, the regulation will be enforced at airports, federal facilities, and nuclear power plants. Everyone age 18 and older will need a Real ID-compliant driver's license or identification card or other accepted form of ID in order to fly on a domestic airline flight.

[www.forbes.com/advisor/car-insurance/why-you-should-get-real-id/](http://www.forbes.com/advisor/car-insurance/why-you-should-get-real-id/)

See earlier article in *HURA News*, March 2019, page 3.

### MBTA Senior ID Charlie Card renewals

This message came from a HURA member: I just renewed my expired MBTA Senior ID pass by telephone! (Not easy to discover that this is possible without going in person to the office at Downtown Crossing).

Just phone Customer Support at 617-222-3200. You'll eventually be connected to a human who will take down your information, and the new pass (with your old photo) will be mailed to you in a few weeks.

### Tiny URLs

If you have ever wanted to forward a URL to someone, but it is impossibly long—extending as much as 2-3 lines on the page, there is a way to shorten it. Copy the long URL. Click on <https://tinyurl.com/app> and enter the long URL in the box. Click Make tinyURL! and you will find a shortened version that is more manageable and still links to the source.

# Harvard Crimson vs. Cornell Big Red

## OCTOBER 9, 2021

Photos by Cathy Terwedow



Confused about which team to cheer for, HURA Director Diantha Brown and her brother Charlie, a Cornell grad, who brought a teddy bear for good luck. It didn't work. Harvard won 24-10.



Three generations celebrate another victory with HURA Director Henry Terwedow (left) and Cathy in the Harvard hat (far right).



Recent retiree Chenoweth Moffatt, third from left, with Kaye, David, and Tom enjoying their first HURA event.

## HEALTH MATTERS

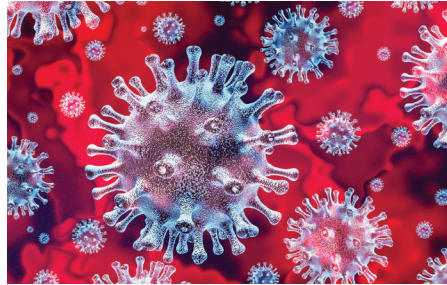
### COVID-19: Alpha to Omega

Are there other Coronavirus variants? Using the Greek alphabet to name them, Delta is the fourth, and Omicron is the 15th letter. Does that mean there have been 15 variants? Not quite. Some letters are not being used. Nu sounds like “new,” and introducing a “new” variant would cause confusion about a new virus. Xi is also the name of the Chinese president, Xi Jinping, so better not go there. We don’t need a Chinese virus.

But there are other “variants of interest” being monitored: Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Epsilon, Eta, Iota, Kappa, Mu, and Zeta. However, the “variants of concern” (a higher level) so far are just Delta and Omicron.

A recent variant has been referred to as “Deltacron”, but a World Health Organization health expert and others have tweeted that delta and omicron did not form a super variant. Instead, deltacron is more likely the result of a lab error in Cyprus.

The next variant to be named using the Greek alphabet will be Pi, unless those who name them fear comparisons with apple pie or geometry. After Pi come Rho, Sigma, Tau, Upsilon, Phi, Chi, Psi, and Omega. Which ones,



do you suppose, will be omitted? And where do we go after Omega? Alpha-Alpha?

Updated by the CDC Dec. 1, 2021

### Harvard regulations for visitors and retirees. COVID-19 Resources

The resources in this website inform and educate Harvard University personnel and reduce the on-campus risks associated with COVID-19. These resources include guidance documents, fact sheets, operational environmental control procedures (ECP), trainings, and COVID-19-specific services (e.g., remote workstation evaluations).

<https://www.ehs.harvard.edu/covid-19-resources/secure/activity-workplace-planning>

## HUECU: credit unions vs. banks

**Banks are owned by investors.** They operate as for-profit institutions and must make a profit for their investors. Customers do not have a vote or a say in how a bank is run, unlike a credit union, which has a membership. At a bank, you are a customer. At a credit union, you are a member. Credit unions are not-for-profit and are owned by their members, and according



to the Credit Union National Association, 120 million Americans belong to one.

The Harvard University Employees Credit Union (HUECU) offers products and services that are available to Harvard retirees and their family members, including spouses and qualified domestic partners.

HUECU is a registered 501 (c)14 corporation. Some of their services and products are worth a second look, even if you are already a member.

### Credit Card

The Platinum Rewards+ credit card has no maintenance fees or confusing reward structures. Its rewards make life easier, like earning 1.5% cash back on all purchases—gas, groceries, travel, etc.

### Checking Accounts

With Smart Rewards checking, there are no maintenance fees of any kind, just rewards you can count on. Get cash back every month or earn premium interest on your account balance.

### Mortgages and Refinancing

Whether you’re buying, refinancing, or tapping into your home equity, the home loans are designed to be straightforward. HUECU has expanded its radius for mortgages to include all of New England.

The **HUECU Blog** offers timely personal finance information, such as a description of Social Security survivor benefits or what you need to know about installment payment services.

Find information about membership and more at <https://huecu.org/>.

# HURA membership secretary is a quilter

**Carleen Farrell is HURA's membership secretary.** She is also a quilter. What that means was revealed in a conversation with your editor last December.

Quilting was a way to jump start my sewing talents. Having been brought up by parents who owned a tailoring and dry-cleaning business, for me sewing was a way of life. I made clothes for my dolls and then for myself. As I grew older and went away to college, there wasn't much time for sewing. I did, however, alter my own clothes and kept needle arts as part of my leisure activities. But quilting wasn't yet in my vocabulary.

Years later at the Harvard Business School (HBS), I grew close to staff members Janet "Pickles" Raymond and her sister, Anne O'Connell. I learned they were members of the Harvard Business School Quilters. Who knew there was such a thing? Although I didn't know a thing about quilting, I could sew. They introduced "community quilting" to the entire HBS faculty and staff. We volunteered to wash or iron the fabric, measure and cut pieces to make blocks, and sew blocks together into rows that formed the quilt top. It seemed by magic a quilt top went from department to department, and everyone added stitches until it was finished. These community quilts were made, year after year, and were displayed and raffled at our HBS Holiday Bazaar. Proceeds were donated to Brighton public schools. This project was incredibly social, lots of chatting, joking, and hijinks during the process. Everyone involved loved the camaradery, and I wanted more.

When former dean of Harvard Business School John McArthur retired in 1995, Anne O'Connell and Pat Hughes in the Dean's office imagined a tribute

quilt with blocks picturing HBS scenes as a parting gift for the dean—another huge community project for the HBS quilters.



Below, Carleen's quilt, Merry Mayhem "Regatta" pattern, hanging in a PBQ exhibition in Boston City Hall.



Anne and Pickles inspired me with their quilting and encouraged me to join their guild, the Proper Bostonian Quilters (PBQ). Could I ever do that? I learned to pick a pattern, choose fabric, measure and cut fabric, sew the fabric together, and do the things they did at HBS to complete the quilt. Quilting

was process oriented, and I loved it. (<http://properbostonianquilters.org/>)

Quilters are of all ages, and men quilt, too. Quilts have many forms:

pieced, applique, crazy, scrappy, paper pieced, art, modern, tied, and hand or machine quilted. Bed, crib, or lap quilts will be washed many times so cotton is preferred. Some wall-hung quilts can be made from many different fabrics like corduroy, velvet, silk, and wool. But no laundering, please.

When I pick a project, it's usually a pattern I like or part of a group challenge. Mystery quilts are done piecemeal with instructions sent by the project leaders incrementally over time. Many quilters make their own patterns. I have tried but find it's easier to follow an existing pattern.

My brain can only take so much free-styling. I can get lost for hours creating a quilt and listening to music.

Day camps at St. Therese's Church in West Roxbury or longer quilt camps in Kennebunkport, Maine, or Rindge, New Hampshire, bring quilting friends

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**HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
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## HURA membership secretary is a quilter

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together. We motor our paraphernalia to a designated place and set up our own “shop”. Well, we quilt, but there’s a lot of socializing and shopping! That’s the main point to these camps. Group bus trips with quilt-shop mystery destinations bring quilter friends together with lots of food and raffles, too. It’s great for the soul!

I have displayed quilts in PBQ biennial shows and at my former church in Winchester, Mass. The HBS Centennial Celebration in 2008 had two of my quilts as entries in the Community Art Exhibit. Many quilters are artists in their own right and have individual shows. There is so much talent in quilting!

During the holiday season last year, PBQ quilts—one of mine included (see photo)—were displayed in Boston City Hall atrium as Mayor Michelle Wu took her oath of office. Quilting continues centuries-old traditions that I’m proud to be a part of.



The quilt is ready for presentation to departing HBS dean John McArthur. HBS quilters and other staff with the finished quilt, include (holding the top of the quilt in front of the window on the left: Janet “Pickles” Raymond and her sister, Anne O’Connell). Pat Hughes, with glasses, is holding the right-hand corner of the quilt. In the back row center is current HURA Board member and editor, Ann Walter.

HURA is a tax-exempt 501 (c) 7 all-volunteer organization. Membership is open to benefits-eligible retirees of Harvard University and is complimentary until the renewal period the following June 30. Thereafter dues are \$20 annually. Visit HURA on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/HUretirees](http://www.facebook.com/HUretirees) or at [www.HURA.harvard.edu](http://www.HURA.harvard.edu).