

FRANKLY SPEAKING

Olin's unofficial,
student-run news
source.

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FREE, AS IN BEER

'Hi' From Graham Hooton

Graham Hooton
Contributor

Hello from an alum! I've had the fortune of spending a lot of time at Olin since I graduated, and it's been my absolute pleasure to watch the community grow and grow with each passing year. Things have already changed so much since my day, and I'm excited for you to experience all of the opportunities at your disposal now, especially the ones you've chosen to make for yourselves.

Around this time of year, I can't help but remember my first few weeks of my first year, and how overwhelming it was (especially careening out of orientation) to pick and choose just what to actually do, out of all the exciting possibilities. Well, I'd like to offer some help on this front. I can't tell you what you want to do, but I did compile a few lists of Olin opportunities during my alumni weekend visit that I can share. Upperclass students, don't pass this over - maybe you'll see something new, or see something old in a new light.

Getting out: Leaving Olin can be hard. But did you know the MBTA has a

city bus that goes straight from Needham Center or Needham Highlands to the green line? The 59 is about a 25-minute walk from Olin, or a 5-minute drive/bike ride. You can transfer to the 70 at the terminus to go straight to Central Square, or the 71 to get to Harvard Square. Just be careful - it stops running around 7pm and has limited service on weekends! That said, Marco Morales has informed me that taking UberPool from downtown to Olin can cost under \$20, and a regular Uber is not much more! Could be worth it for the right-sized groups, and saves you the stress of a last-minute helpme, though this doesn't apply to trips that start at Olin. Depending on where you're going and your schedule, the Commuter Rail leaves Wellesley regularly even on the weekends, and later into the evenings, and costs the same as a T fare + gas money for your Oliner lift. The Babson shuttle has some perks, as does the Wellesley college Peter Pan bus. And it may be worth your time to get Olin Van trained in case your club wants to take an outing, but nobody has a car.

Food: Short but sweet.

The dining hall will gladly pack you a lunch if you ask a day in advance. Talk to a cashier! Trim dining hall opens at 9am on Saturdays, if you're awake then, but 11 on Sundays, so you're out of luck there. The Lulu Chow Wang dining hall at Wellesley admits all Olin students - just write your Student ID number on their sign-in sheet. Since the two colleges have different Thanksgiving and Spring breaks, this might leave you a little less stranded over the holidays than you'd have been otherwise!

Resources: I knew about some of these during my time at Olin, learned about others during happy chance encounters with Dakota Nelson and Meg McCauley, then filled in the list thanks to ideation with Alex Crease, and Ryan Louie - thanks all! Here is a sampling, dear reader. Did you know that all Olin Community members receive free entry to the ICA, MFA, and Isabella Stewart Gardner museums in Boston? You do! Have you tried the frisbee golf course? It's highly regarded by serious players as a top-quality course, and I recall one man come through whose mission

continued on next page

was to play a course in all 50 states... and he chose ours to represent Massachussets! In that spirit, many Babson and Wellesley sports are open to Oliners, including very low-committment intramurals, or simply the Babson Gym and ice rink or the Wellesley boat house. All three are definitely worth a visit, if only just to say you've been.

In a similar vein, poke your noses into the ECE and MECH:E stockrooms in the AC, try your hand at welding, and stop by your faculty/NINJA/writing tutor's office hours. For these last ones, you really don't need to come up with an excuse or reason to be there. They've set the time

"Poke your nose into a welding session, the ECE and Mech:E stockrooms, and your faculty/NINJA/writing tutor's office hours."

aside specifically to talk with you... who knows what great conversations might arise! Similarly, organizations such as SWE and the Foundry exist to help you. SWE is successful when people who didn't realize they wanted to go to conferences get to go to conferences, among other things. The Foundry has stand-up Fridays to help motivate, inspire, and facilitate

projects by Oliners. Talk to them even if you don't think you're interested in starting your own business. There's lots for you there!

"If Rick Miller is ever in the dining hall eating by himself, he welcomes students to sit with him."

Another organization that exists purely for your satisfaction is the Library. This is a cool one, because they have a ton of money to throw at making your studying/sitting/being experience as positive as possible. You can work in all kinds of spaces in the library. Meet, ideate, confer, pair-program, play music, chill... you name it, and there's a nicely curated place for it! I also personally believe that you're mistaken if you don't have at least one library book out on loan (in a rotation!) for your entire time at Olin. You can't read more if you don't have something to read. Check out inter-library loans for even more options.

Community: This is secretly the best part of the list. Congrats for finding it! In addition to being enjoyable in its own right, building relationships with other people makes you a more effective person. Talking with people in your community gets you input, insight, and influence that you wouldn't have otherwise. And don't for a second think that you're putting the

other party out by getting to know one another! Alumni set up the Banter program so we could reconnect with our beloved campus. Stay tuned for the launch in November - Email me for the FAQ. Staff and faculty are delighted to get to know the students on a more personal level. That's why they run co-curriculars and come out to SAC events! Last year, Ian Hill publicized a note from Rick Miller: If he's ever in the dining hall eating by himself, he welcomes students to sit with him. I did last month, the Friday of the reunion weekend. And unsurprisingly, he had a very interesting perspective to share with me about his projects and mine! Finally, there's me. If you know me, you should know you can always reach out to me about whatever you're up to/dealing with. If you don't know

"Talking with people in your community gets you input, insight, and influence that you wouldn't otherwise have."

me, maybe you could! I try to know a lot about how to get things done at Olin, so I might be able to help you out. What's in it for me? I want to stay connected and help others connect with one another. You can help me achieve that just by saying hi.

Updates from REVO

Luke Morris and John Sakamoto
Contributors

REVO's first month back has been a productive one. We currently have both the racing kart and the reverse trike we built last year running, as many of you may have seen at club fair. We also participated in the Boston Cup Classic Car Show in Boston Commons on September 20th, where we were able to show off our vehicles and discuss electric vehicles with passers-by, as well as enjoy the amazing collection of classic cars assembled in

the park.

Design of our formula car is progressing rapidly, and we are in the midst of finalizing our budget and putting the proper checks and balances in place to begin ordering parts. We hope to start fabrication in the next few weeks, starting with the front suspension.

John Sakamoto ('16) and Alix McCabe ('18) worked out the design of the front suspension, which comprises a dual control arm configuration with front steering, a 7075 aluminum upright, Wilwood High-Performance Disc Brakes, OZ Racing

Wheels, Hoosier Racing Tires, and a pull-rod suspension with Cane Creek DBair air spring damper.

Alix and John researched vehicle dynamics and tire characteristics in order to develop a design that would be optimized for the race track. They used static solid mechanical analysis to determine forces in maximum loading conditions and then applied these cases in Solidworks FEA to critical suspension components. If you have any questions or would like to see our designs, please feel free to contact either Alix or John via email!

#BOW (Sponsored Content)

Maggie Jakus
Contributor

Hey there!

I am your BOW ambassador. As ambassador, it's my job to host a few really awesome BOW (that's Babson - Olin - Wellesley) events, as well as facilitate cross campus club collaboration (I've mastered saying that five times fast.) We had a club and sushi event in September, which some of you may have come to (and noticed how little sushi and how few shirts we had.) We want BOW to be awesome for everyone; we want BOW to be the thing people can't stop talking about, and we want people to have new ideas for cool BOW things every day.

This relies on you.

As a member of BOW, you have the opportunity to make really cool things happen, and I will gladly help. We also have opportunities for you to get involved! We are working with the American Cancer Society to help set up a Relay for Life at Wellesley in the spring, and we are working with a Babson student who founded her own charity to host a really cool charity event (but this is top secret, unless you get involved with the planning.) There's also a volunteer opportunity with the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship - you and a team of BOW students could mentor and coach middle- and high-school students. And this is just the tip of the iceberg.

If you'd like to get involved with any of these volunteer opportunities (and you totally should), if your club is ready to get planning with BOW, or if you have the most amazing idea for a three-school event, let me know! The sky's the limit, and anyone can be involved to whatever degree they desire. We also will be making more BOW \$wagg, so you can be sure to get your own BOW shirt.

The school year has only just started - this year could be the year that BOW becomes a "thing." The only way it will, though, is if you get involved.

Happy BOWing!

Service Updates at Olin

Kelly Brennan
Contributor

Red Cross Blood Drive: Organized by Michael Resnick

On Friday, October 16th the Red Cross will be on campus from 11:00am to 5:00pm to collect blood donations!

To volunteer at the registration desk and snack table, which needs about 10 people, or to donate blood please see Michael's email for the sign-up sheet and more information.

Big Brother Big Sister College Campus Program: Olin and Babson College

2 Olin students are participating as Bigs.

The Bigs have been assigned and will travel to their Little's community for their first meeting in the third week of October!

E-Disco:

Adam and Doyung have spent the summer working on renovating the E-Disco/SERV stockroom to create a better space to support collaboration and ideation for their events and activities in the community.

The E-Disco team spent the summer restructuring the program. More experienced E-Disco members will mentor new members in designing a course, connecting with interested schools, and teaching their course.

E-Disco members will do weekly or bi-weekly activities, such as Bottle Rockets

and Storybook Engineering throughout the Fall.

Jimmy Fund Walk: Olin College Group organized by Sally Phelps

On Sunday, Sept. 27th, 8 members of the Olin community walked 13 miles (2nd half of the Boston Marathon) in honor of Michael Moody, Olin's former VP of Academic Affairs, as well as other friends and family members who have fought, or are currently fighting cancer!

You can still help the team by donating up until October 19th! Please contact Sally Phelps for the team page.

Hub on Wheels: Organized by Human-Powered Vehicle

On Sunday, September 20th, eight Oliners (and two alumni) volunteered at the Hub on Wheels bike ride in Boston, some helping at registration and others riding as bike marshals.

Peer Advocates: Team of Twelve Students; Led by Ellie Funkhouser and Jessica Diller

The Peer Advocates team has been busy getting trained and planning community outreach and education and seminar events within Olin and with outside advocate organizations like BARCC, REACH, and Babson and Wellesley peer advocate programs.

"Universal Access" Adaptive Biking Program: Led

by Mary Martin as part of Sara Hendren's Assistive Adaptive Work

Sara and Mary have proposed a new adaptive biking program in Cambridge (on Memorial Drive) for next summer to make the current weekly "Riverbend Park"—which closes all four lanes on Sundays from 12-6 in the summer—more accessible to people with disabilities who want to use adaptive biking gear and other "universal" wheeled mobility devices.

The volunteer program will connect people who couldn't ride bikes on their own with volunteers who can assist, creating both a fun activity for the people involved and raising awareness about accessibility. The work involves creating a volunteer training and schedule, working with accessibility experts and the park district, getting donated or funded bikes of all kinds arranged, etc.

Talk to Mary Martin or Sara Hendren if you would like to learn more about the proposal and development of the program.

The Food Recovery Network: Led by Mackenzie Frackleton with GROW

Partnering with the Food Recovery Network to donate uneaten, prepared food from the dining hall to the Salvation Army to combat both wasted food and hunger. Currently scheduling the first date for donation!

Reusable Travel Mugs

in the DH: Led by Ruby Spring, Celina Bekins, Anisha Nakagawa and Aaron Greiner with GROW

Waiting on the final purchasing permission to get reusable cups in the DH to reduce the number of disposable cups used. Will be looking for volun-

teers to help collect mugs from bins in the dorms and AC in the Fall.

SERV can make transportation more accessible for people doing service activities off-campus! Please contact us for more information on transportation methods

and support if you are interested. Do you participate in service-related activity within or outside of Olin? If so, and if you would like your work to be included in Service Updates in future Frankly Speaking issues, please email Kelly Brennan & Michael Searing.

FS Rewind: Choose Wisely

Eric Schneider

Curator

Kendall Pletcher '13

Contributor

When I thought back on past Frankly Speaking articles, two stood out starkly. I wanted to bring them back to print one more time, because Kendall said things worth saying, better than I ever could. This story and the one on the following page are about strength, and growth, and doing the uncomfortable. Read them! I hope they can teach you something too.

—Eric

So you want to study away. You're stoked, but where should you go? The world is full of choices, and it's overwhelming. I'll narrow the field for you: you should study away in a developing country.

First, be fearless. Think of all of the places you would want to go on vacation. Now, cross them all out.

Chances are, most of the "first world" is now off your list. When I chose my study away location, I circled the parts of the world that were so foreign that I would almost certainly never visit

them on my own, and I chose from those countries.

Study away is your chance to spend some serious time somewhere. Don't waste that opportunity on a tourist town. If you could show up in a country and treat it just like home, cross it off the list. Don't go somewhere easy.

Don't spend your time on vacation, that's a cop-out and not worthy of you. Choose without fear, in spite of fear, perhaps because of fear.

Traveling in a developing country is hard, especially if you are purposely avoiding the tourist-track. I once stood for the entirety of a six hour, un-air conditioned train ride. You will almost certainly get sick, but you're young and (presumably) healthy.

When you're older, climbing into a bus with more passengers than seats will not just be an inconvenience, it may be a deterrent.

You should study away in a developing country because it is a chance you may not be able to take advantage of in the future.

There's only one way to understand what it's like to live in poverty, and that is to live in it yourself for at least

a few months. Visiting a poor community for a week to build a library, while admirable, is not going to teach you much about what true powerlessness is like.

Live in the community, don't visit it. Go to a part of the world where you are not privileged. And don't let yourself be a spectator.

Experience oppression, become familiar with disenfranchisement. Learn what it is like to live in a country where you are officially second class based on your gender, race, or age. Live in a place where your religion is a minority—even a widely mistrusted one.

The insights that you will have cannot be gleaned in two weeks or even two months, but a semester can help show you experiences without which true understanding is impossible. This will make you more aware; some forms of oppression are much easier to recognize having experienced them first hand.

Study abroad, but don't go somewhere easy. Study someplace frightening and strange. Be fearless; Europe can wait.

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FS Rewind: Drowning in Attention

Eric Schneider

Curator

Kendall Pletcher '13

Contributor

This time last year, I was filling out the last of the application materials for my study away program, located in Rabat, Morocco. I knew it would be no walk in the park. The Arab Spring uprisings, threatening violence and upheaval even in typically stable Morocco, had me crossing my fingers that the program wouldn't be cancelled before my flight took off. My advisor was against it, though she signed the papers amid talks of a "plan b" and "looking at options". She may have known a little of what I would face, but for me there was no "plan b". I didn't want a walk in the park; I wanted a challenge—and I got one.

My greatest challenge in Morocco was undeniably my experience as a woman in an unashamedly patriarchal society, particularly street harassment—specifically *ghazal* and *syada*, the socially acceptable forms of street harassment.

In Morocco, there are five named categories of street harassment, beginning with compliments and ending in rape. The first two categories are considered socially acceptable and any female visitor to Morocco should expect to encounter them regularly.

The first category, con-

sidered the most harmless, is *ghazal*, the so-called romantic harassment. This generally takes the form of compliments, especially the admiration of the subject's beauty. Kissing noises would follow me down the street. Men would whisper "beautiful" in my ear as I passed. *Ghazal* was a daily encounter for me which I eventually learned to ignore so effectively that I sometimes ignored actual acquaintances.

"Syada is when a man is persistent in his pursuit."

The name of the second category of accepted street harassment, *syada*, derives from the Arabic word for hunter, and street harassment in this category is thus more aggressive, threatening. *Syada* is when a man is persistent in his pursuit. If he calls you six times in a row, shows up to your house uninvited, follows you for two blocks, demands that you respond to his comments. When men 'hunted' me in each of these ways, they were practicing *syada*. While this kind of attention can stray into the "unwanted" category, it is still tolerated.

In a seminar on street harassment, taught by one of my female Moroccan professors, this behavior was explained—by the professor and visiting Moroccan

men—by saying that women are expected to show their modesty by reluctance to talk to a man; thus, there is no response which will serve as a deterrent. The man sees his persistence as showing his strength.

I hope that, to a westerner, *syada*'s undesirability is obvious. During one of our conversations on the subject, a friend speculated that perhaps Moroccan women did not seem as alarmed by *syada* as we were because they did not fear that the situation would turn more serious. What may seem to me to be the actions of a deranged stalker, to them, could be admirable perseverance.

Although *syada* was sometimes frightening, it was actually *ghazal* which I had the most difficulty coming to terms with. It is difficult to explain the anger that comes to mind when I think of the so-called "romantic" street harassment. I remember the impotent rage I would feel at the end of the day. Sometimes, I wanted to hurt the men who yelled at me. In the Egyptian movie "789", the female lead stabs a man after being subjected to daily gropings. Some days, I imagined I could feel some small part of her fury.

Why would innocent, harmless, complimentary *ghazal* inspire so much rage?

Part of it was frequency. For the nearly four months I spent in Morocco, there was

not a single day when I was not approached by multiple men both physically and verbally. It was exhausting to be constantly ignoring people, avoiding eye contact in order to prevent ghazal from turning into syada, but also watching everyone around me so that I could move out of the way of the men who tried to block my path or split me off from my friends. If each interaction was a drop of rain, then I was in a thunderstorm, and I was drowning.

Second was the fact that every catcall, whistle, and comment was a reminder of my place as a woman in Moroccan society. I was under no illusion that my incredible beauty was the cause of the situation. The compliments were meaningless to me; they had been shouted to every woman before.

And that's it. Ghazal wasn't about me. It was about the men who harassed me.

They were using me to have some fun, to feel like a man, or just as practice. Every word shouted at me on the street was a reminder that I should be inside, that my place was not in public, that I had no power.

The worst aspect of ghazal was simply the feeling of powerlessness. From the beginning, we were warned not to react, not to engage, to avoid eye-contact. No matter how angry I was, no matter how much I did not want to be approached, there was nothing I could do, because any reaction would have encouraged my harass-

ers. Worse, not only could I not react, I could not control it. I couldn't turn it off with my clothes any more than I could turn it on. I couldn't cross the street to avoid the car mechanic who inexplicably liked calling me his "white alligator with blue eyes" because he would follow me. It was real powerlessness in a way that I had never experienced before.

My experience may be

"The worst aspect of ghazal was simply the feeling of powerlessness."

different from what others have experienced. In fact, it varied quite a bit from those of the other women in my program. This was for a few different reasons. First: during the course of my research, I often traveled alone. A woman alone is treated far differently than a man or a woman with a man. Many of the men who were studying away with my program claimed disbelief when told stories about the street harassment we'd experienced. They'd walked with us countless times and never seen a thing. I was in Essaouira when a perfect example of this occurred. A cart pushed by a woman was directly bisecting the road and a male friend and I each took our respective halves. Mine, of course, lead me past a group of young men who hooted and hollered and

catcalled at me mercilessly. Minutes later, we turned around and passing by the same group of men, in the company of a man, there was silence.

Secondly: I am quite obviously not Moroccan. My appearance—that of a clear outsider—certainly affected my experience. In fact, my flatmates who could, as a result of multi-racial ancestry, "pass" as Moroccans compared their experience with mine—they received very little attention on the street while alone. This, compared to the fact that I could not leave our apartment by myself without being approached dozens of times, made an argument for the fact that men were targeting me as a foreigner. This argument was further supported by their additional observation that the majority of the harassment they encountered was when they were in larger groups, in other words, clearly visitors themselves.

Over the course of my study away I was groped, solicited for sex, lied to, intimidated, complimented, proposed to, asked out, cursed at, and called over a hundred times by a man who called my phone on a wrong number and decided he liked the sound of my voice. Some parts were truly challenging and others were a dream. Being a woman in Morocco was, at times, extraordinarily difficult, but I could never have even begun to understand without actually experiencing what it was like.

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Community, Not Class

Mitch Cieminski

Columnist

Can you subtract by four? Could you switch out a single word from your daily discourse? Then you, my friend, are capable of making a language shift that will both change Olin's culture and better reflect who we are. I'm talking about "Community Identification."

"Stop identifying by graduating year, and instead identify by the year you started being part of the Olin community."

What is this change? Easy. Stop identifying by graduating year, and instead identify by the year you started being a part of the Olin community. For example, instead of saying that the current first-years are the "Class of 2019," we would say that they're "Community 2015."

Why would we want to do this? Firstly, it breaks the barriers between students and alumni in a way that reflects our Olin community. Identification by graduating

class separates students and alumni in a very simple way: current students have a date in the future, and alumni have a date in the past. The latter implies that alumni have left Olin completely. But just because somebody has graduated doesn't imply that they are no longer a part of our family; once an Oliner, always an Oliner. Under Community Identification, we recognize how long alumni have been a part of our larger community.

Second, Community Identification legitimizes alternative student experiences, such as LOAs and withdrawals. For example, I took a semester off, and no longer will graduate in 2016. Although I will technically receive a degree in 2017, I will stop attending Olin next December. To say that I'm a part of the class of 2017 is socially wrong, but to say

"So when people ask you 'what year are you?' you could simply respond with 'Community 2013'!"

I am a part of the class of 2016 is just factually incor-

rect. Most LOAers resolve this by calling themselves "Class of X.5," but that separates them from their entering community in a weird way. No longer will delayed graduation cause such a class identify crisis. I'm simply a part of the Community 2012, and when I graduate doesn't matter nearly as much as that fact.

"Community Identification legitimizes alternative student experiences, such as LOA's and withdrawals."

Thirdly (and I'm sure some people will find this contentious), it can recognize faculty and staff as Oliners. These people, employees of the college, are also part of our community. Students and faculty/staff who enter Olin in the same year have some shared experience, and that should be recognized in our language.

(Some people have pointed out to me that the linguistic difference between faculty and students is useful. I agree! I'm not proposing that we do away with the faculty/staff/student (or even

alumni!) community names, just that we adopt them as a part of the larger Olin community. One could identify as "Staff, Community 2010" or "Faculty, Community 2006." Or, in the case of students who work here later, they could say "Alumni and Staff, Communities 2008 and 2014, it's complicated.")

"This isn't a perfect proposal. But it's totally better than Class Identification."

You may wonder what Community Identification does to traditional class names, like Senior, Sophomore, etc. I'm not saying that we should necessarily do away with these names

altogether, but we could, in time, use community identification to replace them. So when people ask you "what year are you?" you could simply respond with "Community 2013" instead of "a Junior" and people would know how long you've been here (which is way more useful that knowing how much longer you have). The terms would probably co-exist, in practice.

This isn't a perfect proposal. But it's totally better than Class Identification. It's unifying language: it recognizes all of us as Oliners. And although it may be awkward at first, switching our language as a community would speak a lot about what Olin is. We're not just a college, we're a collection of people that grow every year and interact in new ways all the time.

"So let's stop measuring by endings and instead measure by beginnings."

So let's stop measuring by endings (that are honestly pretty arbitrary) and instead measure by beginnings. Try it for a month, see how you like it. Give me feedback on what it's like for you to use it, and we can modify this approach to fit us more as a community. This can be a living, growing effort, just like Olin itself.

/Thanks to Greg Marra and Marco Morales, who introduced this idea to me last year at SLACfest./

Hidden in Plain Sight: Honest Conversations about Diversity

tl;dr: come to the library on Friday, October 2, 3:30-5 for honest conversations about diversity!

Hi Students, Staff, and Faculty!

As part of OIE, first years went out into the world to experience something new, and they reflected on it in any way they liked (artwork, presentation, storytelling, blog post, etc.).

The library is hosting an event this Friday so they can share their work, hear about others' experiences, and spark conversations about diversity at Olin. We'd love to have you there! Bring your thoughts and feelings about diversity, and come help us grow in understanding as a community.

Questions or comments? Email Elizabeth.Doyle@students.olin.edu

Let's Talk About Race

Liani Lye
Contributor

LA's South Bay will always be my stomping ground. The predictable sunniness is more than heartwarming, and I have a soft spot for the grittiness of urban living. But, my favorite aspect is the amount of cultural cross-pollination that naturally results from being one of the most ethnically and socioeconomically diverse counties in America.

As much as I love Olin and as much as I have grown here, I can't help but think that last piece, diversity, is what's missing.

I don't have an overwhelmingly huge problem with Olin's racial diversity deficit. Administration is making an effort. This past August, Provost Vin Manno signed a White House/ American Society of Engineering Education pledge committing to increasing campus diversity and inclusiveness. Admissions Dean Emily Roper-Doten is working on, to quote her

recent email, "creating an admissions process that is equitable and supports students of all backgrounds, especially those from low-income families or those traditionally underrepresented in college."

No. What I find more troubling is the reluctance to learn from those fundamentally different from ourselves - outside of a small group of friends. We have no problem sharing the whacky, off-the-wall things we do inside and outside class. I'm always impressed! But, I want to get to know my peers as whole people, not just as engineers-in-training.

Changing the school's numbers on paper means nothing if we students don't know how to identify and embrace each others' uniqueness. I'm talking about here and now, not the fuzzy, distant future when administration's plans have been defined and executed. We Oliners value harmony, and naturally so. It's a tiny community. By refraining

from recognizing differences and sticking to safe topics, we reduce the risk of offending our friends, neighbors, peers.

The result is a clean, neutral space. But where is the vibrancy in that?

If we fail to acknowledge the impact that any axis of diversity - ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, religion, whatever - has on a person's background and experiences, we are invalidating chunks of identity. If we avoid our peers' differences instead of embracing them, then we are silencing what makes each individual unique. If I want to be a thoughtful human being, let alone an effective designer and engineer, I can't afford to ignore the dimensionalities of a person. I can't even abstain, because every conversation I abstain from means that I am losing knowledge and insight.

I don't have any formula or magic bullet. But I believe that if we can discard our discomfort, we can navigate this space together.

<u>Ethnic Group</u>	Class of '14	Class of '15	Class of '16	Class of '17	Class of '18
Asian	26%	15%	17%	16%	16%
African-American	1%	2%	0%	0%	1%
Latina/o	4%	3%	0%	5%	3%
Multi-racial	0%	0%	6%	5%	9%
Native American	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Non-U.S. Citizen	3%	5%	4%	12%	12%
Undeclared	21%	16%	13%	12%	7%
White	45%	59%	60%	50%	52%

For anyone that's curious, this is what the student body looked like last year. Data from former Dean of Admissions Charlie Nolan, compiled Summer 2014. These are percentages, which I understand might not be the best representation of a tiny student population. Quoting Charlie: "1) These are self-reported data as indicated on the Common App. 2) The Common App added "multiracial" for % 2016. 3) There are likely more underrepresented students who are more than one race or ethnicity or, who list themselves as multi-racial or don't declare a race or ethnicity."

Beyond Title IX: Examining Sexual Misconduct at Olin

Jessica Diller, Gabrielle Ewall, Ellie Funkhouser, Austin Greene, and Victoria Preston
Contributors

The last few years have seen an enormous change in how sexual misconduct is perceived and addressed at colleges and universities across the country, and Olin is no exception. Our college's culture has drastically shifted from "it can't happen here" to "shit, it does". Kate Maschan '15 created and published the results of a survey showing that in the sample (482 responses, drawing from the student body in 2013-2014 and alums), rates of sexual misconduct at Olin were easily on par with those of many colleges in the US (around 1 in 5 cisgender women and 1 in 20 cisgender men reported being sexually assaulted during their time at Olin). This led to the creation of the Peer Advocates for Sexual Respect and the first rumblings of discussion about consent culture at Olin.

High-profile cases nationwide pointed toward intimidating reporting processes and poor accountability in punishing these crimes on the part of colleges. This led to an enormous, government-driven legal scaffolding of handling reports of sexual misconduct on campus. This falls legally under Title IX (check out knowyourIX.org),

a law geared toward ensuring no student is denied an equal opportunity for education because of sex-based discrimination. Title IX and the Campus SaVE Act give colleges both guidelines and requirements for interacting with reporters of sexual misconduct and investigating their cases.

In light of the national stage on which this conversation is unfolding, we have to turn our attention to Olin. The Sexual Respect Team (SRT) comprised of representatives from several on-campus organizations have been working to research Title IX, the Campus SaVE Act, Olin College policies, and more. We, as this small group, hope with this knowledge to engage all of us, as the Olin community, to reflect and through actionable conversation improve upon the support the college provides. The team is Austin Greene, Ellie Funkhouser, Gabrielle Ewall, Jessica Diller, and Victoria Preston; our community is every student, faculty, staff, and administration member.

Given the huge expanse of topics to discuss yielded by research, we need to determine what questions we want to ask as a community. In a particular example, we could examine how Olin treats reporters - what are their rights, when are they informed of these, and what pressures act on them? Are they pushed to report to StAR but not the

police or Babo? Are they ever pushed to not report at all? What timelines are they given, and what support? What procedures need to be set in stone, or should all be at the discretion of StAR?

The dynamics around keeping our campus safe can be thorny, complicated, and intimidating in such a tight bubble. This stuff can be tough to engage in (especially considering the layers of law and precedent that coat it all) and a lot is still up in the air.

Olin is still figuring this stuff out, and we are in a position to shape our future policies and campus culture.

The SRT will be hosting a huge campus-wide brainstorming session in November around Olin's policies, particularly to determine that they align with what students (and faculty and staff) feel is crucial and fair. Look forward also to several October events: bystander training with BARCC, a Title IX and Campus SaVE overview with MIT's Title IX coordinator, and Honor Board hearing panel pool training.

As ever, if you have any questions, comments, concerns, anything - the R2s and PAs are happy to listen and provide information or advice as desired, the HB is always happy to answer questions about fairness and policy, and CORE wants to represent your interests to the administration.

"Save The World, Again"

Jayce Shea Chow
Editor-in-Chief

He lugged his bags inside the front door, thankful that he had been able to park his car so close. The tomes in his duffel bag wouldn't have done his back any favors over a long haul.

The "foyer" he stood in was simple; beyond it was a small living room with an "open concept" kitchen against the far wall. It was stupid, really. "Open concept" just meant that the developers had been too lazy to put in more walls.

But the house was good. Out of the way, no nosy neighbors to insist that he meet their grand daughter or ask him to help look for their wayward cat.

He could write in peace.

In just a few minutes, he had unpacked as much as was necessary: pens and paper were neatly arranged on the desk, the coffee maker in its new spot on the bare counter, his shoes tossed haphazardously in the general direction

of the door.

While he was trying to find a mug in the box marked "Stuff for Owning a House," the infernal portable cellular telephone blurted out a series of awful beeps and buzzes.

Shoving the box roughly across the floor, he wrenched the phone from his pocket, angrily pressing the green button.

"What?"

The voice on the other end was far too cheery for this egregious intrusion into his personal life. "So glad you managed to pick up! We've had a bit of an issue here; some of the prisoners esca—"

"How could you have let that happen?" he groaned. "You knew that I was going away. I told you, in no uncertain terms, that I wished to be left out of this from now on!"

The voice was back, oily and fake as always. "Yes, I know. But they are your nemeses, and we really can't afford more civilian casualties. What'd'ya say, champ?"

He yanked at his hair, trying to get his breathing under

control. "Fine. I'll clean up your mess, because you can't keep your prisoners under control." He quickly jabbed at the little sideways red "C" and chucked the thing clear to the other end of the house.

Why did this always have to happen? It wasn't enough that he saved these people from the ne'er-do-wells of society that they themselves had created. But now they couldn't even keep the villains contained.

He marched over to the smallest box, already hidden under the bed. He'd hoped he'd never again need what it contained. Slipping it on, the suit felt like a noose.

He didn't have to do this, that's what they'd always told him. It was his choice to be good, to save people from evil and from themselves. It hadn't really ever been a choice, but one of these days, he hoped it might be.

At least this time, he'd have a home to come back to.

Today, he would save the world. Tomorrow, he could write.

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