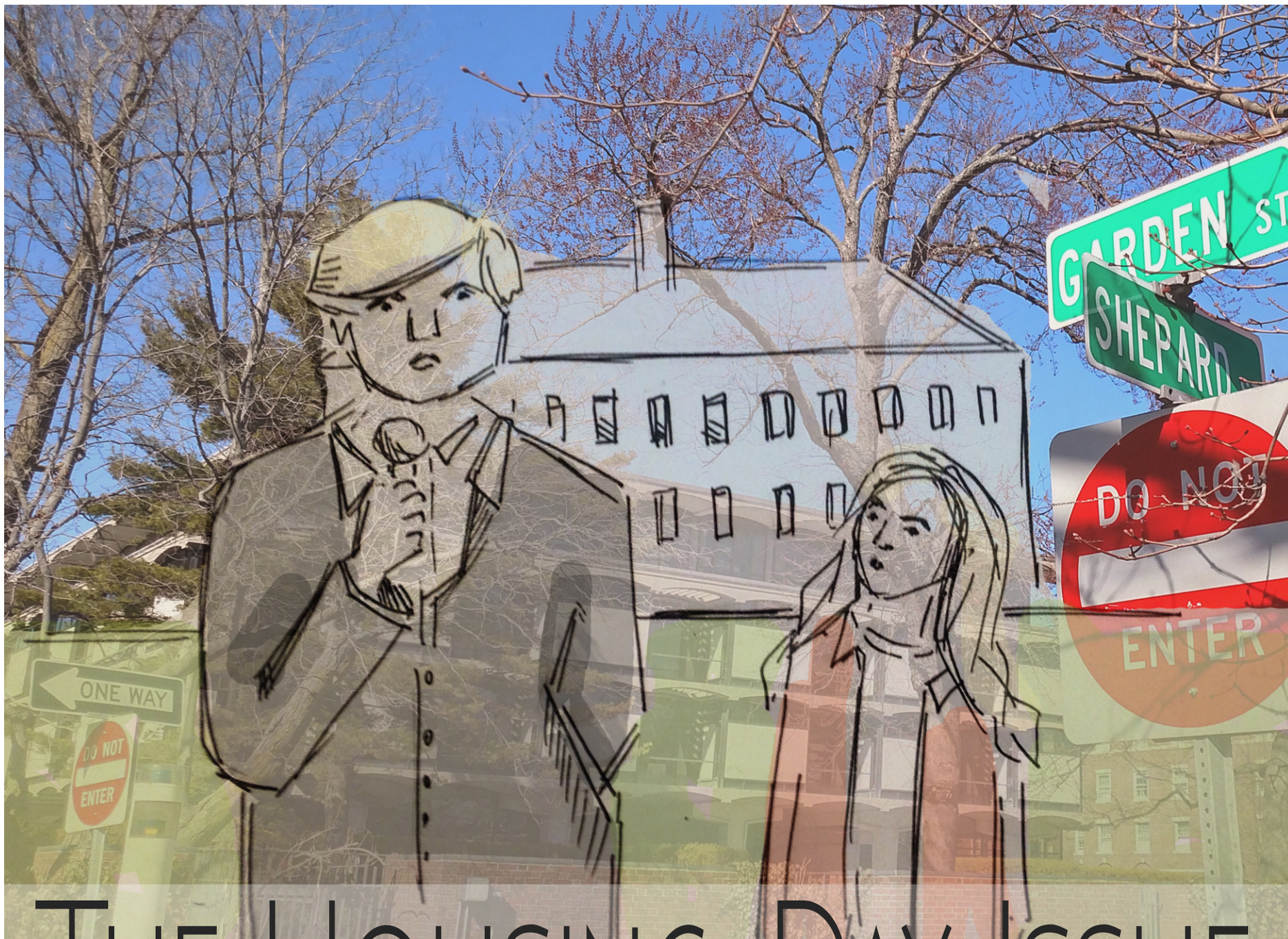


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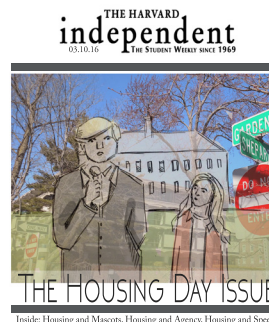
THE HOUSING DAY ISSUE

Inside: Housing and Mascots, Housing and Agency, Housing and Speech

03.10.2016

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As Harvard College's weekly undergraduate newsmagazine, the *Harvard Independent* provides in-depth, critical coverage of issues and events of interest to the Harvard College community. The *Independent* has no political affiliation, instead offering diverse commentary on news, arts, sports, and student life.

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What Neighborhood Do You Truly Belong In?

By AUDREY EFFENBERGER

The Indy tries its hand at some housing lottery magic.

Housing letters may have gone out today, but in between dorm storms, celebrating (or commiserating) with your blockmates, and another year of new House bonding, you may have had a fleeting thought or two (or many, if your House lies on Shepard Street). Does your heart belong in a slightly different part of Cambridge? Do you wonder what it'd be like to have a different mascot and chant a different name on next year's Housing Day? Take this extremely unscientific quiz to find out where you truly belong!



The app you use most on your phone is...

- A) *Spotify* - your playlists keep you going. Always.
- B) *Facebook* - you have your finger on the pulse of what's happening on campus and off. (Thanks, Mark!)
- C) *Instagram* - when section for your A&I GenEd gets boring, you curate your own aesthetics.
- D) *The Omni app* - if you miss the shuttle again, you might give up on going to class for today.

Your favorite color is...

- A) *Red*
- B) *Blue*
- C) *Green*
- D) *Black*

Your caffeinated beverage of choice is...

- A) *An energy drink* - caffeine might not be the healthiest, but you like to tell yourself the electrolytes help.
- B) *Coffee* - the superior beverage, unlike hot leaf juice.
- C) *Tea* - the superior beverage, unlike burnt bean juice.
- D) *Whatever* - you don't really care.

It's the weekend and you have no homework! (At least, not any you're going to do by Monday.) You are...

- A) *Out with friends* - maybe trying out a new restaurant or exploring outside the Harvard bubble.
- B) *Partying all night* - you're a work hard, play hard kind of person.
- C) *Maybe Netflixing, definitely chilling*

- with some friends, bae, or just you, yourself, and you.

- D) *Up to something fun* - after all, what happens in the Quad stays in the Quad.

You have an unlimited budget and it's spring break! You take a trip to...

- A) *Someplace warm* - you've had enough of Cambridge winters and Canada Goose jackets.
- B) *New York City* - you feel invigorated after sleepless nights in Lamont by visiting the city that never sleeps!
- C) *Small town MA* - who said there weren't hidden gems just outside the Harvard bubble?
- D) *Home* - not your House, but your real house. After sleeping off the semester, you can do whatever you want... okay, you'll just be sleeping.

Your favorite late night haunt (that is, food-wise) is...

- A) *Felipe's* - fast service and filling burritos you can count on.
- B) *The Kong* - you don't notice drunk patrons because you and your friends are probably having too much fun yourselves.
- C) *IHOP* - your late nights are so late that everything else is closed.
- D) *A House Grille* - you have just enough Board Plus left for some mozz sticks!

INDY FORUM

A Letter to the House I Left Behind

By MEGAN SIMS

I know it's hard, but it's time to say goodbye. You and I have been together far too long, and I think we both know it. For all the bright moments, there were far too many dark ones.

You were a godsend. When above and below me, I heard the gorilla cries of Mather, you came to my rescue on housing day. That looming monstrosity to the far east of the river was my nightmare. You, green and warm, saved me from that hellish fate, quieting yourself down outside the door as though I hadn't heard you coming up the stairs.

But we never belonged together. I spent my year in the quiet of my single. Beautifully air conditioned, I still felt alone behind my bunny-

bedecked door. I spent the year enduring your side-eyed glares in the dining hall, fearing your demons who lived across the street. My room was my hideout, yet I was always running away.

Still, I will miss you. I will miss the tutor on my floor with her makeup swatches and freshly baked goods. The ever-forgiving advisor who gave away plants. Those few kind interactions with people who won't quite be friends but still sometimes smile at me when I see them.

I am going far away, to Cabot. There are more fish in the sea, they say, so I'm finding one. There are friends there, quiet courtyards and open arms. I have loved her for far longer, loved her far deeper than I

ever loved you.

But you will always hold a special place in my heart. I will forever say I am half bunny half fish. I am grateful for the things that happened in your walls, the late nights in my room, the warm and comforting study breaks in the evenings. We have lived together in some strange discord that still sounds something like a tune I once heard.

Yours,
Megan Sims

Megan Sims '18 (megansims@college.harvard.edu) hopes that she and Leverett House can still be friends.



INDY FORUM



Ready to face your Housing fate?

If you got mostly As...

Your true House lies in River West (Eliot, Kirkland, Winthrop).

For you, the phrase “river run” probably refers to actually running along the Charles, to which you have great access - Eliot, Kirkland, and Winthrop are all at the intersection of Anderson bridge, and lend themselves naturally to leaving the Harvard bubble proper, along Memorial Drive and across the river. If running isn’t your style, you have the MAC in your courtyard and the shortest route to the athletic facilities in Allston. All in all, the stereotype that the westernmost River Houses are the most athletic would probably hold true for you!

If you’re mourning the proximity to your favorite workout place, don’t worry - your House probably has its own gym. And if you really want a long running route, skip the shuttle and factor in distance from the Quad.

If you put mostly Bs...

Your true House lies in River Central (Lowell, Adams, Quincy).

You’re always at the center of things - in addition to four classes, you probably run four clubs, are applying to four jobs at the same time, and/or have four parties on your calendar for this weekend. Being right in the midst of the hustle and bustle of the Harvard Square area is just your style. Your dhalls get the most traffic and have the strictest interhouse dining policies for a reason - they’re the place to meet new people, and that’s where you want to be.

Even if you happen to live a little farther from Mount Auburn Street, your naturally outgoing personality will help you feel right at home in your House community!

If you answered mostly Cs...

Your true House lies in River East (Leverett, Mather, Dunster).



These far-flung river houses might get some flack for their non-traditional appearance, but you happen to appreciate the art in unusual everyday things. You might include the word “aesthetic” in conversation, and your aesthetic might include the Brutalist concrete piers of Mather. You work when inspiration strikes, regardless of the hour. These houses have sweeping views of the river and long lists of artistic alumni that serve as your ideal inspiration.

With a creative perspective, you’ll be inspired anywhere! The arts are alive and well all around Cambridge, and Harvard’s museums are no exception - the Fogg, Carpenter Center, and Museums of Science and Culture are fascinating and free for all your undergraduate years.

If you chose mostly Ds...

Your true House lies in the Quad (Pforzheimer, Currier, Cabot).

While River denizens may mock the Quad Houses relentlessly for being almost a mile away from the Yard, you aren’t bothered by the peace, quiet, and availability of singles on Shepard Street. You might not have everything figured out, but you don’t need to play by the stereotypes that made up this quiz. You’re independent. And just like the Indy, you belong in the Quad. (Come say hi to us in the SOCH!)

Audrey Effenberger '19 (effenberger@college.harvard.edu) is a Quadded soul according to this quiz, but hopes the College disagrees.

How to Avoid Rooming Drama

A foolproof guide.

By CAROLINE GENTILE



As a freshman, Housing Day reminded me of Christmas. The night before and in the early morning, I was so excited to see what fate held in store for me that I couldn't sleep. For the first time in my whole, albeit short, college career, I got up long before the crack of dawn, anxiously awaiting the dormstormers much like I used to Santa Claus.

The weeks leading up to Housing Day, much like those leading up to Christmas, were not quite as exciting. "Stressful" is a word I would use instead. Housing Day's version of holiday family drama is blocking drama.

But even if you and your blockmates make it through the blocking process unscathed, rooming may be where the drama begins. To help your blocking group avoid rooming drama, here are some foolproof tips:

1. Set a time and a place that is convenient to your entire blocking group to discuss rooming. Ideally, this meeting will not be at a time when everyone is on the strugglebus with papers and midterms. The goal is to minimize stress when having this conversation. Make sure you are at this meeting to protect your interests. If this sounds like an "every man for himself" kind of situation, that's

because it is!

2. Before said meeting, make a list prioritizing the aspects of rooming that are most important to you. Do you simply HAVE to have a single, for at least a portion of the year? Would you be okay living in the common room if it meant everyone could have a single for the whole year? Do you care if your roommate is a little messy? Do you want to host a lot of pregames and parties in your room? Do you value having roommates who are on the same sleep schedule as you? Are you and another member of your blocking group a package deal? These are all things to consider. Think about the things that you need out of your housing experience in order to maintain your sanity, but also figure out what you would be willing to give up to get those things.

3. Be prepared to compromise. It is highly unlikely that you are going to get exactly what you want, so do not expect that you will. Pick your battles! The fewer battles, the less drama.

4. Pick your roommates based on your rooming compatibility, not your compatibility as friends. My wise PAF warned me of this back when I was a freshman, and I wish I had heeded her advice. Sophomore year, I lived with one of

my best friends at Harvard. Unfortunately, we were terrible roommates. While I went to bed at 11pm and got up at 7am, she went to bed at 3am and woke up at 10am. We were always waking each other up, resulting in cranky, sleep-deprived interactions that resulted in conflict. This year, we both elected to live with different members of our blocking group who had more similar habits, and we are better friends because of it.

5. Once you have established your rooming groups, establish rules for the entire room. Do you care if your roommates have late-night guests? How long is too long to take out the trash? What happens if one roommate drunk-eats another roommate's food? These are all important questions. Make sure everyone in your room knows the answers!

6. If you have a problem with a roommate, talk to them about it. Pent-up anger + the straw that broke the camel's back = huge blowout. If one of your roommates is doing something that frustrates you, have a mature conversation about it.

7. If your rooming situation is not working out, do something about it. A junior in Currier House recounts how despite having multiple conversations with her roommate about their issues, rooming with her was simply not working out. "We tried to be open about issues, and said that we preferred to know when something was bothering the other rather than someone bottling it up, but it didn't work. We had a couple conversations to try to talk things out, but were never successful." After talking to her tutor, this junior transferred to another house, where she now lives with more compatible roommates. Don't waste time being miserable.

Caroline Gentile '17 (cgentile@college.harvard.edu) followed these tips and lived happily ever after with her blockmates in Kirkland House.

INDY FORUM

Heard in the Yard

Freshmen thoughts on a few defining characteristics of the houses.

“**Mather**, brutalistic; **Quincy**, exclusive; **Adams**, prestigious; **Cabot**, far; **Lowell**, protective; **Currier**, confusing; **Dunster**, gorgeous; **Pfoho**, nice; **Winthrop**, reliable; **Leverett**, unknown; **Eliot**, classy; **Kirkland**, neutral.”
Elias Tuomaala '19

“I really hope to get **Dunster**, because I've had the fortune of spending a lot of time there doing Problem Sets, and I absolutely love the library!”
Pulkit Agarwal '19

“**Mather**: lots of walking, good community, and Puerto Ricans.
Eliot: preppy heritage.
Kirkland: greatly under appreciated, but with a neo-Confederate seal.
Quincy: the grille, and generally unattractive buildings.
Adams: incredibly convenient.
Leverett: dumping ground for varsity athletes.
Cabot: Fish and Rakesh.
Pfoho: puns and the better of the Quad houses.
Currier: the Quad house everyone forgets.
Dunster: renovations and a hotel lobby atmosphere.
Lowell: inconvenient renovations.”
Jacob Link '19



“I like **Lowell** because I've heard great things about Lowell tea; it seems like it creates a sense of community in the house and is a really nice tradition. With **Winthrop** you'd have the advantage of getting to live in newly renovated housing for your last two years, which is definitely appealing.”
Elizabeth Duncan '19

The current generation of Harvard college students is one that grew up with the Harry Potter books by J.K. Rowling. Whether most Harvard students consider themselves fond of the books, one cannot deny that in the past 10 years or so, Harvard as a college has often been compared to aspects of the stories. It might be the comparison of Annenberg Hall to the Great Hall. In fact, just heard in the yard on Monday was a conversation between a touring millennial couple: the woman pointed to Annenberg in the distance and said, “Look, that’s the big dining hall for students!” To which the man responded, “What – do they have floating pumpkins, too?” Other than the induced chuckle of yours truly, the quip received no further discussion or questioning – or at least none I could divine on my hurried way to class.

Perhaps equally as prevalent among comparisons of Harvard to Hogwarts, is the house system. This system is one in which a student’s house becomes more than just his or her residential dwelling, but a source of pride, a pool of resources, and a network of peers to call on in times of need. However, as it stands today, the Harvard house system holds one major quality in great contrast to that of our beloved magical school: at Hogwarts, students may choose their houses.

Nay – you say – the Sorting Hat does the choosing and the sorting for the students. Actually, I think you will find (after an examination of the text) that the seventh book includes the line, “The Sorting Hat takes your choice into account.” The magic of the current Housing Lottery Algorithm does no such thing.

In the early days of the Housing systems, after the students spread from the yard to other Harvard owned buildings in Cambridge, students would have to go through House Master interviews in order to be hand selected for each house. Student agency and empowerment became a higher priority by the 1970s and this led to students ranking their top choices of houses. Students even developed strategies to ensure their placement in a specific house or to safeguard against placement in an undesirable neighborhood. At the time, that neighborhood was the Radcliffe Quadrangle.

In 1975, the joint Harvard-Radcliffe admissions office began to admit female and male students. In 1977, an agreement was signed by Harvard and Radcliffe outlining their new education system and partnership. It is at this point that Quad houses became a more prominent part of the housing system. Over 20 years later in 1999, Radcliffe College and Harvard University finally officially merge. The question of whether these spaces have

Systems of Choice

A discussion on student agency in house lottery.

By CAROLINE C. CRONIN

been perfectly integrated since then is a major source of tension in the house lotteries.

Adams House Master Sean Palfrey ’67 has seen Harvard transition through many stages. According to him, houses had “individual characters” that were created by both the “applications of the students and the traditions of the masters,” before randomization. Even though these characters were “defined over decades”, Palfrey points out that the system “fostered inequality.” This inequality was met with a call for change and a leveling of the playing field. The administration thus moved to a completely random lottery under the leadership of (then) Dean of the College Harry R. Lewis ’68 in 1996.

What has this randomization accomplished? Each house is now viewed as a microcosm of the college in its constitution, and every student is equally defenseless in the face of an indiscriminating lottery algorithm. Perhaps something else is lost, though, in the process.

In many other facets of Harvard college life, students have deeply rooted agency. Harvard celebrates the intelligence and maturity of its students -- encourages exploration and self-discovery at every opportunity. Harvard celebrates the ability of its students to choose their own courses through shopping period, special concentrations, one-on-one seminars, and specialized fields of study. Students are free to join almost any conceivable interest group or community. Even the Undergraduate Council allocates resources to different student groups that petition for grants. Why then, is there no student choice in residences? According to Ms. Carina Myteveli of the Office of Student Life, the “lottery is designed to ensure impartial assignment of students to Houses and has done so successfully.”

The need for “impartial assignment” points to an unequal market in Harvard housing. Is this due to the vestiges of Harvard-Radcliffe disunion, or are there other pieces at play? Paternalism seems to be the solution the administration has chosen to combat whatever issues

they perceive – be it lack of diversity or favoritism among the houses. Many alumni and others over the years have criticized this paternalism of the College and wondered at the loss of self-selection and student agency. Even previous Associate Professors of Economics Kala Krishna and Susan M. Collins seemed surprised in concluding, “students appear to behave remarkably rationally” when it comes to housing, in a paper they published in the late 1980s. The economics paper was titled, “The Harvard Housing Lottery: Rationality and Reform.” Any system that procures tears on Housing Day may be in need of reform. Under this system, we have some students dreading assignment to the Quad and others transferring from the River to the Quad a year later.

But what can be done to reform this system? Multiple ideas have been discussed. Of course, there is the return to self-selection and complete student agency – a move that would require more faith in its students than the administration seems to have. This free market ideal has many opponents. One of which is a plan that would rid of us Housing Day all together. According to House Master Sean Palfrey, there is ongoing support for a system of assigning upperclassmen houses along with the freshmen residences starting freshmen year – similarly to Yale’s system of housing.

Whether you abhor paternalism, spit on self-selection, or the idea of being compared to Yale leaves a bad taste in your mouth, there seems to be no easy answer. The tensions that surround Harvard Housing are ones that have persisted for decades and will not be resolved overnight. In the meantime, students continue to enjoy the festivities of Housing Day not because of an arbitrary assignment to some building, but because of the experiences and friendship it creates among blockmates, housemates, and strangers alike. Happy Housing Day, Harvard!

Caroline C. Cronin ’18 (ccronin01@college.harvard.edu) wishes all the freshmen good luck – because luck of the draw is pretty much all you can hope for in this lottery.

Why Currier House Deleted Its Housing Day Video: The Full Story

By ADITYA AGRAWAL

Donald Trump may have won the Massachusetts Republican primary, but the real estate mogul and Apprentice star inspires little love at Harvard, as Currier House administrators learned the hard way this past week.

Currier has found itself at the center of a free speech debate after it released a Housing Day video Sunday that featured a student impersonating Donald Trump. The House decided to take down the video four days after it was uploaded, after House residents expressed concern with the video.

Harvard's twelve residential houses each release a House video in the lead up to the annual Housing Day when first year undergraduates are lotteried into a residential house for the remainder of their time at Harvard. This year's housing day is slated for Thursday, March 10th. Housing Day videos traditionally showcase unique aspects of individual house, with an emphasis on House facilities and community.

The video shows Trump, played by Joseph Hall '16, surveying Harvard property. "We're here at Harvard - it's a very, very lucrative business opportunity," says dummy Trump in the video. "I have spoken to President Faust; I am going to donate 500 million dollars and buy one of the Harvard houses."

After nitpicking over each of the other eleven houses, the Trump-impersonator ultimately chooses Currier House. "This is the one for me. Everything here is huge," he says.

A group of Currier Residents first approached Currier race relations tutor Avik Chatterjee, with concerns that "the video did not reflect the diversity and vibrancy of the Currier community."

Currently the Republican Presidential frontrunner, Trump has achieved notoriety for his xenophobic and anti-Islam remarks through this entire election cycle. In June,

Trump claimed that he would force Mexico to build a wall across the US-Mexico border to stem the tide of illegal Mexican immigrants into the United States. He recently called for a ban on all Muslim travel to the US. His rhetoric has carried far beyond TV screens and political rallies: in August, two



white men beat up a homeless Hispanic man said they were inspired by Trump's message on immigration.

After Chatterjee received the complaints, he called together a meeting of all Currier race relations tutors and Currier Faculty Deans, Elizabeth and Richard Wrangham. The group ultimately decided that the video be taken down from the official Currier House YouTube channel.

"To have a person, who has endorsed racism, endorsed by Currier...Currier to the larger community was not looking positive," said Chatterjee at a townhall meeting Thursday evening.

Soon after the decision was taken, Chat-

terjee sent out an email to Currier residents Tuesday evening. "We have heard that there are concerns about the Currier housing video. Currier is a diverse and vibrant community, and especially going into housing day we want to make sure that everyone's views are heard," the email read.

The removal of the video, however, was never mentioned in the email. Students discovered that for themselves, when they tried to access the video after receiving the email.

A town hall was announced for Thursday night, with the aim of "hearing the views of a broad cross section of students and making a plan so incoming sophomores know that they are joining a welcoming house."

Strictly off the record, over sixty Currier residents attended the town hall. Entire blocking groups crowded the Currier Fishbowl, a massive common space that greets students upon their entry into the House. Student pulled up chairs from the nearby dining hall, while latecomers struggled to find even standing space.

Currier Faculty Dean, Richard Wrangham, prefaced the discussion with the remark that "there was no intention to offend," and commended the Currier House Committee(HoCo) Housing Day Chair, Katherine Barton, '16 for her efforts in creating the video. As the Housing Day Chair, Barton is responsible for planning and executing all Housing-Day related activities for Currier. Barton was the only other person from the House who appeared in the Trump video, featuring as a news interviewer interviewing the dummy Trump.

During the course of the town hall, Chatterjee revealed that the video had in fact been both pre-screened and approved by both a committee of Tutors and the Faculty Deans.

Tensions ran high through the hour long discussion, with spirited back-and-forths.

INDY NEWS

By the end, all parties reached a collective decision to film an alternative Housing Day video on the spot. Chatterjee, alongside a group of Currier students, had stayed up late the previous night, penning Currier-themed lyrics to the tune of Bob Marley's No Woman, No Cry.

Half an hour after the town hall ended, a group of three hundred odd Currier residents stood huddled, arm-in-arm, swaying to the lilt of Marley's evergreen melody.

*"Everything's gonna be all right -
Everything's gonna be all right -
You're gonna be a Currierite!"*

If only all conflicts could end with a good song or two. The larger implications of the video's removal did not escape many observers, both residents and non-residents of Currier.

Echoes of the 'safe space' debate that paralyzed Yale and Mizzou last year resonated in discussions on social media. One Currier resident wrote on Facebook:

The safe space propaganda on campus is starting to reach dangerous limits - in a world in which we criticize Trump for trying to solve existing problems by just banning everything and everyone, how are we putting ourselves at a higher respect by banning a video which ridicules him and his 2016 political campaign?

At time of going to press, the status had picked up a 113 likes. A comment that read "never too late to transfer" received 23 likes, while another reading "This is actual bullshit" received 19. Others summed up the situation in pithy phrases as "cry bullies," or observed that "at least they were graduating before it gets worse."

Yet, the arguments to keep the video were tempered well by arguments on the other side. One of the people interviewed, who did not wish to be identified by name in the article, said that Trump's rhetoric has "real, dangerous implications for those it targets - Muslims and Latinos specifically."

They observed that the video, while

painstakingly made and of genuine artistic value, was not fit for the purposes of a Housing Day video specifically.

"The purpose of a Housing Day video is to bring together the entire House Community, to reflect the values of the community. If this video offends even some of our House members, can it claim to represent our House as whole?"

The debate also highlighted the possibility of larger systemic problems. Several persons interviewed after the town hall claimed they had wished to act or par-

by University President Dean Faust's visit.

Currier has a special place in President Faust's heart: it is the only House on campus she has ever spent a night in.

Faust had dinner with a select group of Currier residents, after which she spoke to general students in a forum-style event. She spoke with particular pride of the diversity that Harvard has been able to achieve in the recent decades.

What she didn't talk about upon was responsibility.

"How do you readjust the parameters of socialization, of interaction, of education really, on campus to account for a newly diverse student body? How do you make sure that you don't get just diverse individuals, but diverse individuals who understand and learn from one another? It's a hard question to conceptualize, harder still to answer. But the implications are real, as the case of Currier and Donald Trump may so unfortunately show."

ticipate in the Housing Day video, yet the House Committee(HoCo) did not actively reach out to them. The Trump video that was eventually taken down only starred two students, both white.

This is the second year in a row that questions have been raised about the Currier Housing Day video, though the backlash was much more dispersed in 2015. The 2015 video was set to the song Hanging Tree from The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part I. The song, many claim, has its roots in Jim Crow era lynchings of Black people.

One person claimed that the Currier HoCo, as a majority white body, did not engage with the needs and concerns of minority House members.

The town hall, which started at 09.30 PM, was not the only crowd-puller in Currier that evening. It was preceded shortly

For with diversity comes responsibility. In an institution awash with slave-holding, eugenicist and anti-Semitic legacies, it may not be enough to simply get diverse individuals on campus.

How do you readjust the parameters of socialization, of interaction, of education really, on campus to account for a newly diverse student body? How do you make sure that you don't get just diverse individuals, but diverse individuals who understand and learn from one another?

It's a hard question to conceptualize, harder still to answer. But the implications are real, as the case of Currier and Donald Trump may so unfortunately show.

Aditya Agrawal '17 (adityaagrawal@college.harvard.edu) is still excited for Housing Day despite all of the controversy surrounding Currier's Housing Day video.

On the Variation of Cookies within their Own Species

As anyone who stalks the dining halls of Harvard regularly knows, not all cookies are created equal – even within individual cookie recipes, there exists tremendous levels of intra-species variation in terms of size, doneness, and density of additional ingredients. Granted, the question of selection at this point depends on a wide variety of factors ranging from such mundane considerations as personal tastes to important decisions such as how many cookies you want to eat. The Indy (or at least the author) proscribes the following: cookies should be medium in size, with a gentle crunch which offers the best combination of doughy yield and stiff snap-back and an even but not excessive distribution of toppings/ ancillary ingredients.



Chocolate Chip: The classic cookie as rendered by Harvard usually hits all the right notes – its distribution of chocolate chips is generally even, and the dining halls often achieve the trick of keeping the edges crispy and browned while retaining the moist squish of a doughy inside. Much of this is accomplished via the use of baking soda, which imparts that greater squidginess so sought-after by the author. The balance of flavors works too: the gentle notes of vanilla extract that overlay the creamy and deep bites of chocolate are sufficiently sublime such that I can forgive their use of margarine (come to my arteries, sweet, sweet butter!) and wheat flour.

Carnival Cookie: This color-spangled cousin of the good ol' chocolate chip cookie presents an interesting twist, what with its substitution of M&Ms (or what the HUDS ingredients page simply calls 'Candy') for chocolate chips. The

Crackling Cookies

A look at the doughy discoid treats HUDS has to offer.

By ANDREW LIN

substitution works, however: the crunch of the rainbow outer candy coating reveals chocolate nuggets which serve much the same function as the chocolate chips in the aforementioned cousin cookie. And compositionally, the cookies are more or less identical, featuring the same baking-soda-based doughiness of their chocolate-chip brethren.

Oatmeal Raisin:

The black sheep of the cookie family, this fruity interloper in the world of cookies is often slandered and disliked by many. But its darker, subtler flavors are to this author reminiscent of the burnt sugar and wholesome oats of sachets of oatmeal past. Much of that complexity is owed to a dollop of molasses

in the dough mixture, a dollop which again conceals the same margarine and the same enriched bleached wheat flour. Texturally these cookies intrigue as well: full of wholesome oat pieces and juicy, plump raisins, these cookies offer a complicated and delightfully raffish alternative to the straightforward sweetness of its chocolate-based competitors.

Double Chocolate Chip: Studded with white chocolate chips over a background luscious in its darkly chocolatey appeal, the double chocolate chip cookie means business for anyone with a sweet tooth to sate. Compositionally, however, it is effectively identical to its inverted chocolate cousins in almost every respect aside from the additional chocolate with which its dough is spiked. But that doesn't mean this cookie isn't exciting; its bold, simple flavors mingle well with the creamy

richness of the white chocolate chips to make a powerful statement of intent in just 120 calories.

Ranger Cookie: For many semesters, I personally was never fully sure as to what a ranger cookie was -- its origins and constituent components were a mystery to me -- and I only knew of its cracked-rice and coconut contents. But the ranger cookie is no newcomer or HUDS invention. Its popularity peaked in the 1950s and 60s before steadily decreasing in the face of more mainstream cookies. The ranger cookie itself is another oat cookie like the oatmeal raisin, featuring rolled oats, coconut, and crisp rice for texture along with more prosaic stand-ins such as the ubiquitous margarine and enriched bleached wheat flour. Nonetheless, it works as a whole for its flavors and textures form a welcome break from some of the more orthodox items on offer at the dessert rack, and the ranger cookie is a beloved component of the HUDS dining experience for many.

Sugar Cookie: The ever-present sugar cookie, arguably the most unique of all out of the cookies we've discussed today for its lack of interloper ingredients, is a true classic in American culinary history, and HUDS does it well. With its doughy center and gentle sugar/high-fructose corn syrup flavor (check the ingredients), the sugar cookie has no pretense and hides nothing. And at 108 calories, it's certainly one of the slimmer cookies on the menu – an important consideration for this author, especially after his dedicated sampling of the cookie varieties on offer here.

In addition to cookies, Andrew Lin '17 (andrewlin@college.harvard.edu) also inhaled far too many Gimbal's jelly beans this week.

house mascots...



- Quad
- n+1 housing
- Quad Grill
- Spfa



- Close to yard
- roommates forever
- cigars on housing day



- Quad
- Aquarium parties
- Dean Khurana



- Incest Fest
- DeWolfe
- Small population



- Newly renovated
- Large dhall
- Diversifying tutors



- Bells
- Rock climbing wall
- Walk-throughs



- Singles forever
- Mather shuttle
- Mather Lather



- Asbestos
- Next up for renovation
- Brain Break



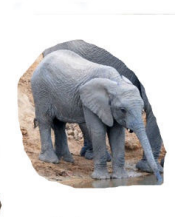
- Qube library
- Painting & ceramics
- Quincy Grill



- Singles for 3 years
- Great food
- Retirement home-feel



- Lev Towers
- Corgis
- Physics night



- Fete
- Eliot Grille
- Cockpit parties

A.K.A...



- only eats Quad Grille
- pf-annoying
- hasn't left the quad in days



- "Privacy is a social construct"
- always home
- reminds you you aren't supposed to be in their dhall



- hasn't been back to the quad in days
- Rakesh is their BFF
- "At least we aren't Swai"



- avoids brunch
- east amount of effort but puts name first on the project
- dated 2 of their blockmates. Twice.



- "It took a year & I still don't have a single?"
- "LOOK AT OUR FANCY PLATES"
- legs toned from walking home



- BFF with roommates
- war flashbacks when bells ring
- hasn't left the hammocks



- architectural nerd
- gets pink eye at mather lather
- won't stop mentioning Conan O'Brien



- makes asbestos puns 24/7
- worries about the asbestos 24/7
- turn ons: renovation



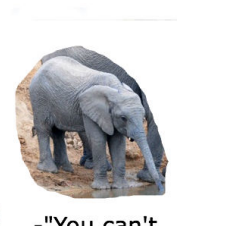
- "New Quincy is actually the older part. Forgive me."
- "Who are these people in my dhall?"
- everything they own has a penguin on it



- only hangs out in their single
- gained 10lbs from dhall
- being too good horticultural fiend



- hops as transportation bunny yet
- still trying



- "You can't sit with us"
- in shape from long walks home
- twisted ankle from cobblestone

by Hunter Richards