



Parents Connection

Message from the Dean



Dear Harvard College Parents and Guardians,

This month, President Faust provided the Harvard community with a copy of the [final report](#) of the [Sexual Assault Prevention Task Force](#). The report details six

recommendations to help Harvard address the pervasive problem of sexual assault and harassment and support our ongoing efforts to create an environment where all students can thrive and take full advantage of the opportunities the College offers.

While the College has taken many important steps to improve sexual assault response programming and training this past year, the Task Force report underscores that our work is not finished. Now that we have received the Task Force recommendations, the College will develop a plan to address them, which we will submit to President Faust by the end of the academic year.

As outlined by the Task Force, the College will specifically address the issues raised in the report about unrecognized single-gender social organizations, and will convene a team to work in collaboration with the [Office of Sexual Assault Prevention & Response \(OSAPR\)](#), the [Title IX Office](#), and the [Office for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion](#) to develop annual sexual assault prevention training, resources, and programming which will occur every year of your students' time at Harvard.

I encourage you to speak with your students about this important issue, and I look forward to engaging with you as the College continues its efforts to address the troubling and pervasive problem of sexual assault.

Warmly,

Rakesh Khurana

Danoff Dean of Harvard College

Plan Ahead!



Commencement

May 26

Is your student graduating this year? Start planning ahead by visiting Harvard's Commencement Office for additional information. [Steven Spielberg](#) will speak at Harvard's Afternoon Program at its 365th Commencement.



Parents Webinar

April 29, 2:30-3 p.m.

Save the date for a webinar with Dean Rakesh Khurana and President Drew Faust. Email invitation to follow.

In Case You Missed It ...

The Harvard Gazette is the official news source of Harvard University. [Subscribe to the Daily Gazette.](#)

New 'Start-Up' Grants

For about one in five freshmen in the incoming Harvard College Class of 2020, there will now be new help to make the transition to college: a \$2,000 “start-up” grant awarded to students whose annual family income is \$65,000 or less. The grant is part of a three-year pilot program providing additional support to eligible incoming freshmen. [Read more](#)

To Speak, and Move Others to Act

Speaking at the U.S. Military Academy, Harvard President Drew Faust told an audience of about 800 West Point cadets and faculty members Thursday that an understanding of humanity — including what inspires people to action — is at the heart of leadership. [Read more](#)

Get Involved

[Help Your Student Explore the World »](#)

Harvard College is deeply committed to preparing your students to be responsible citizens and citizen leaders for our global society. Study abroad provides year-, term- and summer-long opportunities for students to immerse themselves in different countries and cultures, forming perspectives they can then bring back to campus. Please visit Harvard's [Office of International Education](#) for more information. Additionally, please visit [Global Support Services \(GSS\)](#) at Harvard University to learn about the tools and guidance GSS provides to travelers to help them as they go abroad.

[Help Students Connect to Jobs »](#)

Do you know of entry-level jobs or summer internships in your field or region? The [Office of Career Services](#) specializes in entry-level opportunities for current students and recent alumni, and parents can post positions for free and can opt to be a contact for Harvard College students. Visit the Office of Career Services for more information.

Did You Know?

[Widener Library](#), the second largest in the United States, consists of a whopping 10 floors with four of those underground. The library was named after Harry Elkins Widener who's mother donated \$3.5 million to Harvard to have a library built in her son's name; there was one condition however, the physical building of the library could never be changed. When they wanted to expand the library, some architects got creative and started constructing rooms underground. Now the books have a place to go and Harry's request is preserved.



STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Scenes from Harvard College Housing Day 2016

Harvard's House System is at the core of the College experience. Every spring, freshmen find out which of the 12 undergraduate Houses they will spend their upperclass years in, [through a day of celebration](#), pride, and camaraderie.

[WATCH THE CELEBRATION UNFOLD](#)

Resources

Parent Programs: (617) 495-8663

Financial Aid: (617) 495-1551

Harvard University Health Services (24 hour): (617) 495-5711

HUHS Counseling and Mental Health Services: (617) 495-2042

Faculty of Arts and Sciences Registrar: (617) 495-1543

Housing and Residential Life: (617) 496-2774

Harvard College Parents Fund: (617) 496-3819

Office of Student Life: (617) 495-1942

Freshman Dean's Office: (617) 495-7936

Additional Resources

NOTE: Are you receiving Parents Connection every month? Add parents@fas.harvard.edu to your address book or contact list to ensure the newsletter is delivered to your inbox without being placed in your junk or spam folder.