

ASSOCIATION OF MARSHALL SCHOLARS

---

# *Alumni Newsletter*

SPRING ISSUE 2023

## *The Ties That Bind*

A look at the importance and progression of US-UK relations

Also in this issue:

*Broadway History*

*Reimagining How We Hire*

*The War on Drug Prices*



## *From the Director*

In 2023, the Marshall Scholarship will begin a celebratory two years, marking the 70th birthday of the Act of Parliament that established the Scholarship (1953) and the 70th birthday marking the first class of Scholars to sail over and begin studies in the United Kingdom (1954). A member of this first class, Mr. Charles Whaley, was kind enough to share the following reflections:

*“As the 70th anniversary of the Scholarship’s creation approaches, so does my 95th birthday (in February, though there is no 29th this year). I think I must be the oldest living Marshall recipient, since I believe I was older than everyone else in our 1954 class.*

*I’ve no doubt that because of our Marshall Scholarship experiences those of us in that inaugural class of 1954 will never lose our feeling of love and connection with the UK. Only 12 of us were chosen in the whole wide US that first year, and the obligation to be worthy of that honor struck me forcibly as I joined the group for our voyage to England on the Queen Elizabeth.*

*The BBC and government officials were in London to welcome us (alas, the tape no longer exists), and we were toasted at dinner at the US Ambassador’s residence before being dispatched to our various universities. Feels like only yesterday.”*

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II’s coronation and public service began in 1953. Her passing this fall presented an important opportunity to reflect upon her legacy and the post-WWII era of an anchoring friendship between the United Kingdom and the United States that remains embodied by the Marshall Scholarship.

This December, the British government announced 40 new Marshall Scholarships awarded to the class of 2023, 85% of whom hope to pursue public service.

Looking back at 2022 and forward to 2023, the AMS has been focused on opportunities for Marshalls to come together with wider communities of experts and colleagues to consider topics of importance today. In May 2022, the AMS had the opportunity to bring US and UK Supreme Court Justices, judges, and lawyers together for a multi-day Forum on the Rule of Law in Washington, D.C., at the United States Supreme Court. This program followed a virtual day-long program on the Rule of Law that took place during COVID. In June 2022, the AMS co-hosted the London Marshall Forum with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office at Lancaster House, marking the 75th Anniversary of the Marshall Plan and bringing together leading experts and Marshall Scholars across a diverse array of fields.

This January 2023, we hosted our annual US-UK Legislative Exchange bringing members of Congress and Parliament together with experts and Marshall Scholars to share expertise and support dialogue between legislators from both nations. AMS regional events and collaborative programming with British Consulate Generals and the British Embassy are now resuming around the United States. We invite you to follow our monthly e-blasts to learn about these upcoming events and hope you can join our gatherings in your region.

A vital part of the mission of the AMS is to foster and support connections among alumni. We invite you to keep in touch by joining our events, reading our communications, and joining our online alumni directory ([marshallscholars.org/community](https://marshallscholars.org/community)).

In the fall of 2020, the AMS publicly launched its Marshall 2020 fundraising campaign to help institutionalize AMS efforts to strengthen the Marshall Scholarship program and transatlantic collaboration. With leadership of philanthropists and alumni across the globe; through a generous anchoring challenge grant by Reid Hoffman CBE (1990), and additional matching grants and new donor matches made by Anonymous (1983), Finistere Charitable Foundation (1965), and Marcus Ryu (1995); and with the support of 580 donors since 2019, including more than 165



Image courtesy of Quinn O'Loane (2021) from his travels to the UK. To read more of Quinn's story, see page 34.

new donors, the Marshall 2020 campaign has received commitments to meet its \$7.5 million goal. Thank you for your support!

We remain grateful to the hundreds of alumni volunteers who contribute their time and expertise to strengthen the Marshall Scholarship, the Marshall community, and US-UK ties.

We hope you will enjoy this Spring issue of the *AMS Alumni Newsletter*, and we are grateful to the alumni volunteers who help contribute to the content, including Katie Clark (2009) for the new *Newsletter* design. Thanks, too, to our *Newsletter* editor,

Maureen Harmon, and our own terrific communications team! Thank you!



*Nell Breyer is executive director of the Association of Marshall Scholars*

## REGION BY REGION

# POWERFUL QUESTIONS

On November 10, Marshall Scholars received a private tour of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston. Throughout the evening, Marshalls were asked to consider the museum's collection, its founder, and what the works said about ideas of power. Here, Marshalls discuss Botticelli's *Lucretia*. Botticelli laid out Lucretia's story in three moments: Lucretia's brutal rape, her suicide, which followed, and Brutus rallying his army to overthrow the corrupt regime as a result of the tragedies that befell Lucretia. This was just one of several regional events created by volunteers and the AMS in 2022.

*Interested in attending Marshall events near you? Please check [marshallscholars.org/regional-events](https://marshallscholars.org/regional-events) for the latest updates and information.*



# In This Issue ...



08

## *Shift in Perspective*

**INTERVIEW WITH ANNA LANDRE (2021)  
BY LORD STEWART WOOD**

Anna Landre (2021) spoke with Lord Stewart Wood about the work she has been doing in Ukraine to better assist people with disabilities—and the great amount of work left to do.



12

## *Pulling Back the Curtain*

**BY GARRETT TURNER (2012)**

*Thoughts of a Colored Man* was one of the first shows to reopen Broadway—and the first show in Broadway history ever to be performed, written, directed, and lead-produced entirely by Black men.

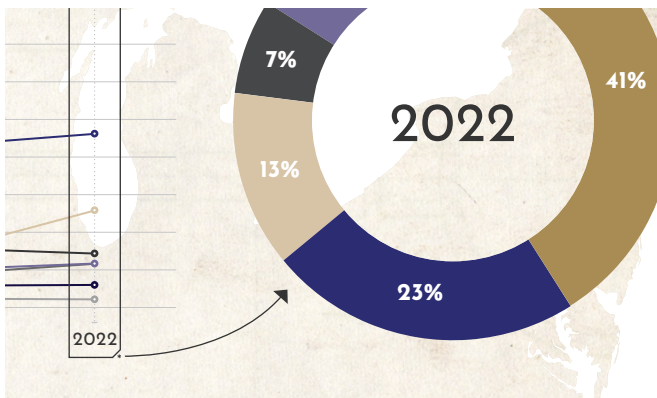


15

## *A New Kind of Drug War*

**BY DIANA COOGLE (1966)**

Alex Oshmyansky (2005) was angry about the exorbitant pricing of drugs, so he started a public benefit corporation to lower the cost of much-needed medication.



18

## *The Ties That Bind*

**INFOGRAPHIC BY PATRICK KIRCHNER**

Every year, the AMS partners with Emerson College Polling Center to conduct a poll that highlights major current issues and public perceptions about US-UK ties. View details from the 2022 report.



20

## *Music Fit for The Queen*

BY CHRISTOPHER MORRONGIELLO (1990)

In 1990, Christopher Morrongiello, lutenist, had a chance to play “God Save the Queen”—for the Queen herself.



21

## *Honorary Patron*

The former Prince of Wales has been the Honorary Patron of the Association of Marshall Scholars since 1989. We share comments on the US-UK bond from the then-Prince.



22

## *Work Smarter*

BY BYRON AUGUSTE (1989)  
AND RYAN ROSLANSKY

Byron Auguste (1989) and LinkedIn CEO Ryan Roslansky make the case that degrees may be dated indicators of top employees.

24

## *New Class*

A look at the Marshall Class of 2023

28

## *Class Notes*

News from the Marshall community

FROM THE FORUM

## OVERHEARD IN LONDON

**O**n May 31 and June 1, 2022, the Association of Marshall Scholars co-hosted the London Marshall Forum with the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office at Lancaster House. The two-day event featured discussions on past and present innovations in technology, finance, and data affecting the future of transatlantic cooperation, global peace, and security.



“If we learned the lessons Marshall taught us and what he gave us, and recognize where we are in the world today, we are going to need to build a new world order, a 21st-century world order. And we are building it now. That’s happening now. It’s always going to be bumpy.

–Chuck Hagel, former US Secretary of Defense

“One of the methods of venture capital is not to make companies, but to find talent.

–Megan Smith, Former Chief Technology Officer of the United States

“Do not be apologetic about ambition.

–Reid Hoffman CBE (1990), co-founder of LinkedIn and Venture Capitalist

“As a defense and security relationship, the US-UK relationship has never missed a beat.

–Stephen Lovegrove, UK’s National Security Advisor

“We know that the problem [climate change] is solvable from a technological point of view, the issue is currently with geopolitical instability.”

–Sherry Coutu, CBE, Entrepreneur and Investor at London Stock Exchange, Founders4Schools



To see video from the London Forum, scan this QR code, or visit our YouTube page at [youtube.com/@associationofmarshallschol9736](https://youtube.com/@associationofmarshallschol9736)





FEATURE

## SHIFT IN PERSPECTIVE

*It is estimated that 6 million people in Ukraine have a disability—and the war there has shown just how ill prepared countries and humanitarian organizations are to help disabled people through emergencies and crises. Anna Landre (2021) has spent the last several months assisting people with disabilities in Ukraine through her work with the US-based Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies and Ukrainian NGO Fight for Right. Landre, who is a wheelchair user, spoke with Lord Stewart Wood about the work she and her colleagues have been able to accomplish—and the great amount of work left to do.*

INTERVIEW WITH ANNA LANDRE (2021) BY LORD STEWART WOOD



Images from Ukrainian NGO Fight for Right



**For the last few years, you've been involved with a group called The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies. What exactly are the problems this group is trying to address?**

The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies was created by people with disabilities to help address the needs of our community in disasters and emergencies. It'll probably come as no surprise that disabled people are far more likely to die or sustain a critical injury in an emergency situation. This is, of course, partly due to the biological and physical nature of disability, but our organization also draws attention to the social constructs and marginalization that cause disabled people to be at such outsized risk.

Right now, we're doing work in Ukraine, and we're seeing a lot of everyday barriers for people with disabilities that can become deadly in an emergency—things like trains not being wheelchair accessible; or bomb shelters not being accessible; or border officials refusing to let people evacuate when they don't quite look disabled enough; or elderly people who can't leave their apartment building because they can't climb seven flights of stairs now that the lift is no longer working. The Partnership seeks to draw awareness to these issues and to mitigate these risks in order to save people's lives.

*Right now, we're doing work in Ukraine, and we're seeing a lot of everyday barriers for people with disabilities that can become deadly in an emergency.*

**This is a blind spot in the way that we treat disabled people. We may come to their assistance in stable times, but when times are not stable, we don't really have a systematic approach to protect this population.**

Exactly. There are logistical access barriers for people with disabilities who are trying to access the protection and resources they need in an emergency. But there's also a very real attitudinal issue among those who respond to these emergencies. When we speak to big humanitarian organizations in Ukraine, for example, we might say, "This is a gap in your work, this is something you need to fix, and we're here to help." But their response seems to be, "Well, it's a war. We can't do these things. They're too hard."

But it's truly not that difficult. We need to do things like ensure that a certain amount of an evacuation vehicle fleet is wheelchair accessible. We need to make sure shelters have ramps and ensure that there are a few staff members to help people who need daily personal assistance. These are things that are quite possible to do, but many organizations have this idea that they're too hard, that these people—disabled people—just aren't built to make it in an emergency.

**I want to take you back to late February 2022, when the war in Ukraine began. Talk to us about those first few days and what inspired you to take action.**

Like everyone else in the world, I was watching the invasion through social media and the news. As I was scrolling through Twitter, I saw a tweet from a Ukrainian disability rights organization called Fight for Right saying that they were starting to pivot from their typical disability rights activities and were looking to support people who either wanted to safely shelter in place or needed to evacuate from the country. They, of course, needed help because this isn't what they normally did, and they didn't have the funding to support it. They were essentially putting out a call for assistance and asking people to join them in this pursuit. I immediately brought this to the directors of The Partnership and said, "Look, I know this is far out of our wheelhouse. I know that we've only worked in the Western hemisphere. I know that we have never worked in a conflict zone. But can we just reach out and see what we can do?" They immediately said yes.

The disability community has this really strong tradition of being willing to help one another, largely because we know that one of us struggling in an emergency

**D**isability is a far more common, pervasive, and universal experience than most people realize.



situation could be any of us. We saw ourselves in other disabled people on the other side of the world because of our shared experience of marginalization and vulnerability.

Our first step was to go to the people who work in these situations—people who are experts in conflicts and evacuations, who are funded to do this, and who have done it for decades. But when we shared the needs of this particular community, they said, “We’re not doing evacuations,” or “We don’t have the capacity to evacuate people with those needs.” These were consistent answers across organizations. The humanitarian field too often assumes that if people are in trouble, they’re going to move. But often the people who are in the most trouble are the ones who cannot move.

**Can you give us an illustration of someone that you’ve been able to help?**

I can tell you about one of our current case managers, Tanya. She is a wheelchair user, and within the first days of the invasion, she knew that she was going to have to leave because the bomb shelters in her city weren’t wheelchair accessible. She couldn’t even get on the train going out of her city. Fight for Right helped coordinate volunteers in the area to help her. When she got to the border, there were more problems. For example, the buses at the Polish border that were going to the

refugee center were not accessible, and the centers themselves didn’t have provisions for disabled people either. So we had to help her find shelter. Eventually, Fight for Right was able to help Tanya get out of Ukraine and find stable housing.

And as soon as Tanya got to safety, she started working as a Fight for Right case manager doing evacuation coordination for other people. So often disabled people are the experts—because we not only work in it, we live it. We need far more disabled people involved in these responses because they know where the needs are.

**Is there any sense that things are starting to change, not just for this conflict, but in future conflicts?**

The difficulty we find is that most of these organizations and states are talking the talk when it comes to disability. They have written in their materials and in their policies that they are disability-inclusive. But it’s very hard to hold them accountable, because there’s such a lack of monitoring and evaluation. So we haven’t seen a lot of change in the last several months. Some organizations have moved to hire disability leads, but we’ve been quite disappointed in interacting with some of them because, typically, they’re not disabled themselves. They may have expertise in academics or practice, but they don’t have the expertise gained by lived experience.



### What are the lessons Ukraine has given us?

I think the first one is just that disability is a far more common, pervasive, and universal experience than most people realize. Disability isn't just wheelchair users, it's your elderly grandmother who has trouble getting up and down the stairs; it's your neighbor who needs dialysis or has cancer; and it's the little kid down the street, who broke her leg three weeks ago and now has trouble getting around. It's extremely common, and we need to start treating it as such.

For more information on Anna's work, visit [disasterstrategies.org](https://disasterstrategies.org) and [ffr.org.ua/en](https://ffr.org.ua/en)



*Anna Landre graduated from Georgetown University with a BS in Foreign Service in 2021. She recently completed an MSc in International Development and Humanitarian Emergencies at the London School of Economics as a Truman and Marshall Scholar, and she will be starting a PhD at University College London's Global Disability Innovation Hub. As an internationally recognized disability justice activist and scholar, Landre's work focuses on the social, physical, and legal barriers that disabled people face around the world, and she has earned invites to the Biden-Harris White House, Brazilian National Congress, and more. She was elected twice to serve as a commissioner in the city of Washington, D.C., and was named to Teen Vogue's 2020 edition of "21 Under 21."*



*Lord Stewart Wood has worked continuously at the most senior levels in Westminster & Whitehall for nearly 20 years, having served as a senior special adviser to Gordon Brown (first at the Treasury & then at 10 Downing Street), chief aide to Ed Miliband's Labour leadership campaign, a member of Labour's Shadow Cabinet for five years, and now an active member of the House of Lords.*

## FIRST PERSON

## PULLING BACK THE CURTAIN

*Thoughts of a Colored Man was one of the first shows to reopen Broadway—and the first show in Broadway history ever to be performed, written, directed, and lead-produced entirely by Black men.*

BY GARRETT TURNER (2012)

For a brief time at the end of 2021, I was a part of Broadway history. In 2019, I originated the role of Anger in the world premiere production of *Thoughts Of A Colored Man*, a play written by Keenan Scott II and directed by Steve Broadnax III. We performed at two regional theaters, Baltimore Center Stage and Syracuse Stage, in hopes of transferring to the Main Stem. Two years later, after a historic cessation and unprecedented unemployment, we were one of the first shows to reopen Broadway. But that is not the history to which I am referring. *Thoughts Of A Colored Man* was the first show in Broadway history ever to be performed, written, directed, and lead-produced entirely by Black men.

The play tells the story of seven Black men over the course of one day in Brooklyn, New York—weaving together spoken-word poetry, direct monologues, and realism to

craft a panorama of the Black male experience in the United States. Each character is named after an emotion: Love, Lust, Happiness, Depression, Anger, Passion, and Wisdom. For the Broadway production, I understudied Anger, Depression, Love, and Happiness. Playing these potentially limiting labels, the task was to explore the multiplicity of Blackness within them. In all, we ran for 89 performances, out of which I went on 10 times for three different characters. Angela Bassett, Mary J. Blige, Michael Eric Dyson, and mayor of New York Eric Adams all paid us a visit. The fanfare had all the trappings of Black Broadway history. And on top of that, the show itself was a beautiful piece of art that allowed Black folks to see themselves reflected in a nuanced and meaningful way. The story re-raised important questions through a new prism, and our audiences were some of the Blackest Broadway has ever seen.



Image by Emilio Madrid.



*Image by Emilio Madrid.*

There is something very special about having been an integral part of this momentous occasion. There is also something about it that feels concerning. Being the first African-American to do something is a lineage I never sought to join. It conjures images of people who blaze trails but also catch hell, neither of which I aspired to do. But it is our aspirations as a people that, for me, are principally

**T**here is something very special about having been an integral part of this momentous occasion. There is also something about it that feels concerning.

brought to mind in reflecting upon what we achieved with *Thoughts Of A Colored Man*. I believe, as Black thespians, making Broadway history should not be our goal. Because implicit in that goal is the upholding of what Broadway is, which is a system. It is a system of 41 theaters within a few blocks on one island that are primarily owned by three white families (the Nederlanders, the Schuberts, and the Roths), a system that is obsessed with consolidating power,

gatekeeping prominence, and arbitrating who deserves to be well resourced in our industry. The question is, should we be expending our energy trying to scale the heights of this system? To participate within it? To undergird it? To venerate it through our participation as the pinnacle of Western theater? Or instead, should we try to find a way to undo this system and/or create a new system that serves our people more and serves theater artists across the country in a much more equitable and progressive fashion? Is it worth it to continue knocking on the doors of just three white families in order to make history (or any art at all)? Or is there a much richer goal to reach?

To quote Depression from *Thoughts Of A Colored Man*: “Our ancestors endured centuries of being property, merely holding onto a dream of us having more than they could fathom. They wanted us to live amongst the stars they charted for us. So why have we settled for the dim light of the moon and not bask in the sun?” May our dreams and aspirations be worthy of the sacrifice of our ancestors.



*Garrett Turner is a Marshall Scholar (2012). A proud native of Florence, Alabama, Turner is an actor, singer, poet, and playwright. As a Jesus-loving free Black man, he believes in the power of both joy and righteous indignation as tools for liberation. Turner made his Broadway debut in Thoughts Of A Colored Man in 2021 and*

*is currently playing Ike Turner (no relation) in the first national tour of Tina: The Tina Turner Musical. You can read more about Garret's work at [www.garrett-turner.com](http://www.garrett-turner.com).*





## PROFILE

# A NEW KIND OF DRUG WAR

*Alex Oshmyansky (2005) was angry about the exorbitant pricing of drugs, so he started a public benefit corporation to lower the cost of much-needed medication.*

BY DIANA COOGLE (1966)

Ultimately, it was Shkreli who did it.

“Shkreli was the last straw,” says Alex Oshmyansky (2005), founder and CEO of the Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company. Even before Martin Shkreli—former hedge fund manager and now convicted felon—increased, overnight, the cost of a drug used primarily by indigent patients from \$13.50 to \$750 per pill, Oshmyansky was angry about the exorbitant pricing of drugs. As an intern, working with a pulmonologist, he had seen two patients die in one night because they couldn’t afford the drug they needed—\$10,000 for a month’s supply—and didn’t have time to get through the red tape for financial support. So when Shkreli raised the cost of Daraprim, primarily an anti-malarial and anti-parasitic drug, beyond affordability, Oshmyansky moved into action, determined to start a nonprofit pharmaceutical company.

You would think, from his background, that Oshmyansky in motion was unstoppable. Anyone who taught himself trigonometry and calculus when he was in grade school, who

graduated from the University of Denver in one year, who entered medical school at Duke University when he was 18 and won a Marshall Scholarship the same year, who earned a PhD in mathematics at Oxford and an MD from Duke, who took a year of law school as “an elaborate hobby” while he was doing a medical residency, who won an entrepreneurial competition while at Oxford and started a business called Altitude Medical—you would think *that* person could start a nonprofit to provide drugs at cost. Wouldn’t a whole slew of backers want to jump on that bandwagon?

“It was a spectacular failure,” Oshmyansky says, almost relishing the fact that, after all his spectacular academic and entrepreneurial successes, he could be a failure. Because, of course, that failure didn’t stop him.

“I naively thought I would just start a nonprofit pharmacy,” he says. “But the amount of capital was too large, and most medical-oriented nonprofits are in the field of communicable diseases and have an international reach. This was different.”



**E**ven before Martin Shkreli, increased, overnight, the cost of a drug used primarily by indigent patients from \$13.50 to \$750 per pill, Alex Oshmyansky was angry about the exorbitant pricing of drugs.

“No” after “no” after “no” led Oshmyansky to Silicon Valley, where he was advised to drop the nonprofit idea and start a public benefit corporation (PBC) instead. Whereas the responsibility of the usual public corporation is to return value to its shareholders, the responsibility of a PBC is to fulfill its public-benefit mission. The stated goal of the business Oshmyansky had in mind, now the Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company, is to lower the prices for generic drugs by removing the middleman.

Now with a different business model, Oshmyansky was back to fundraising. So he wrote an email to Mark Cuban, whom he knew only as well as any *Shark Tank* viewer or Dallas Mavericks follower would, explaining that he wanted to start a public benefit company to sell cheaper drugs to patients and do it faster. To do that, he would bypass the pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), those middlemen of the pharmaceutical industry whom he calls “the worst actors,” a level of middlemen that is “a morass of, basically, theft.” The website [drugtopics.com](http://drugtopics.com) says, “Independent pharmacies have been screaming from the rooftops for years about the unfair practices of PBMs.” It didn’t take much persuasion for Cuban, billionaire TV personality and owner of the Mavericks, to come on board.

PBMs manage prescription drug benefits on behalf of health insurers. They negotiate discounts and rebates with drug manufacturers. Oshmyansky compares them to the banks before



the 2008 failures. “It’s the same financial engineering scam the banks used. The banks started with bad debt, added a layer of indecipherable math on top of that, and then, magically, they had good debt,” he says. “The PBMs start with pharmaceutical prices, add layers of complexity to jack up the price, bribe us with rebates, and make it so complicated no one can understand it.” Because PBMs get reimbursed based on a percentage of the discount they negotiate, they want to start with what Oshmyansky considers an absurdly high list price. For the cancer drug Imatinid, for instance, the wholesale list price was set at \$10,000 a month. The PBMs negotiated a 90% discount—for themselves, not for patients. Patients with a high deductible were charged between \$2,000 and \$3,200 for a month’s supply. The problem has not gone unnoticed. Various regulations have been proposed: greater transparency around rebates, which are now an undisclosed amount; a requirement that patients, not PBMs, get the rebates; and an end to “spread pricing,” the practice that allows PBM reimbursement at a higher price for generic drugs than what the PBMs buy them for.

Oshmyansky had a different idea: Don’t use PBMs at all.

Oshmyansky would base his company on complete transparency. It would negotiate drug prices with manufacturers, publish openly what it pays, and add 15 percent for business costs and \$8 for shipping and handling. The Imatinid medication would sell for \$39. “It took a year for the first drug company to agree to reveal the price of a drug and another year to allow other companies to reveal the price of 100 drugs,” Oshmyansky says. Now, more and more drug companies are wanting to work with his company. “Believe it or not,” Oshmyansky says, “we give the drug companies more money than when they work with PBMs.” They can do this, of course, because they have Mark Cuban’s backing. “We’re not under a lot of pressure to maximize profits,” Oshmyansky says. “We can stay private for the foreseeable future.” Cuban has proved his faith in the company and its mission by allowing it to carry his name and by talking about it on his TV show.

The Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company has partnered with the online pharmacy TruePill to fill prescriptions, a move that has created some criticism. As with online companies in any field, TruePill hurts the business of the local pharmacist, which is not only a financial loss to that pharmacy but a social loss as well, as patients no longer have that important personal contact. In the article quoted earlier, drugtopics.com chastises the Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company for not partnering with independent pharmacies instead of using the impersonal online model. Oshmyansky understands the critics, but still believes companies like his are necessary. Oshmyansky hopes to have the company in physical locations next year, but he mentions supermarket chains rather than independent pharmacies. The company doesn’t advertise but depends on word of mouth. The news spreads on social media. Doctors recommend it. It carries 95% of prescription medications—just about all drugs except scheduled drugs like oxycodone. “Often a patient will go to our website for a chemo drug, for instance, and see that they can get more common medicines there as well,” Oshmyansky points out.

Impelled by what he saw as Shkreli’s immoral actions, Oshmyansky had set out to disrupt the pharmaceutical industry. At this point, he says, he has made a start. “We have 1.3 million people signed up for accounts. We’ve had conversations with

every big drug manufacturer and with the big insurance companies. We started with the most expensive drugs and have added the 100 most prescribed drugs. We are looking to be profitable in 2023.”

The same drive Oshmyansky showed in his early schooling is evident in the way he runs his company, with passion for the job and laser-sharp, penetrating intelligence. But the Marshall Scholarship can take some credit for his entrepreneurial success. It got him to Oxford, where he thrived in a more free-form, open-ended academic atmosphere, as opposed to the highly structured system at Duke University, “where you would know which room you would be in three years in the future,” Oshmyansky says. Oxford gave Oshmyansky the freedom to get into entrepreneurship for the first time, changing his career trajectory out of academia towards business and eventually to the public benefit corporation that he started as a way to knock the wind out of pharmacy benefit managers, save expense for patients, and, ultimately, save lives.



*Alex Oshmyansky (2005) earned an MD from Duke University, followed by a PhD. in mathematics from Oxford University as a Marshall Scholar. He took a surgical internship at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (Harvard Medical School) and a residency in diagnostic radiology, followed by a pediatric radiology fellowship at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Besides being CEO of the Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company, he is a staff radiologist at Vision Radiology and performs teleradiology around the US. He lives in Dallas, Texas, where he has recently been joined by his partner, Marina Wilson. Among his “random hobbies,” Alex enjoys riding motorcycles, “really fast.”*



*Diana Coogle (1966) was a Marshall Scholar at Cambridge University, where she received an English BA (Hons). She has lived in the Siskiyou Mountains of southern Oregon since 1972. In 2012, she earned a PhD in English from the University of Oregon. She has published seven books of essays and poems, was a finalist for an Oregon Book Award, and is now retired from a long and varied teaching career, including teaching at Gothenburg University in Sweden.*

VISUAL EXPLAINER

# THE TIES THAT BIND

BY MAUREEN HARMON,  
INFOGRAPHIC BY PATRICK KIRCHNER

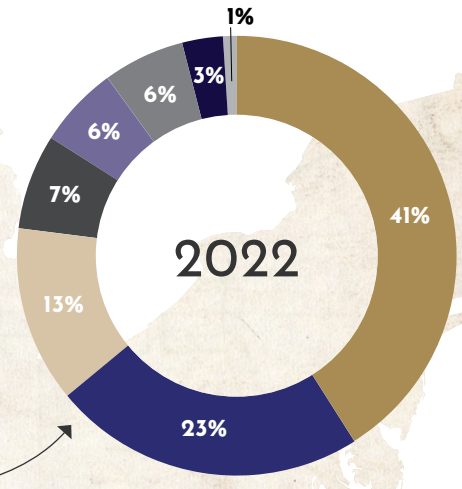
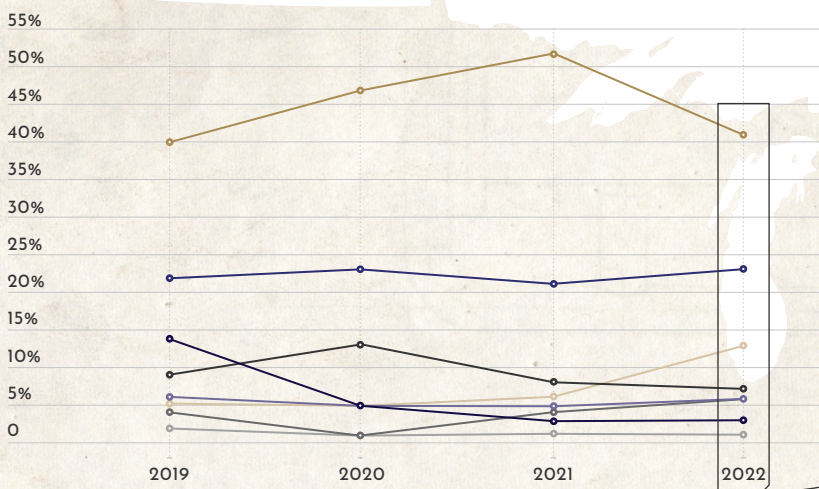
Every year, the Association of Marshall Scholars partners with Emerson College Polling Center to conduct a poll that highlights major current issues and public perceptions about US-UK ties. This year's report surveys American attitudes toward strategic alliances, international partnerships, and overseas learning. The data—which found that 80 percent of Americans believe US-UK leadership is important for global security—comes just as the UK government is experiencing great political change with a new Prime Minister and a new King.

“Americans understand how critically important US-UK leadership is to global security,” said Dr. Nell Breyer, executive director of the AMS. “The strong response to the war in Ukraine reflects our shared foundational values and mutual commitment to democratic norms. The American public hopes the next British Prime Minister will continue prioritizing NATO leadership with the current US administration.”

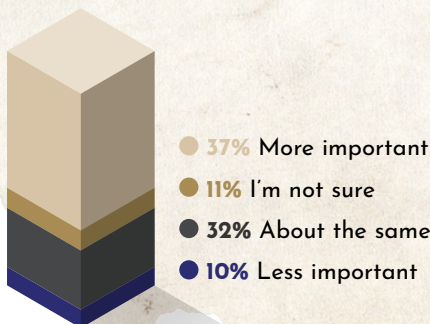
Here are a few key takeaways from the poll.

## Which of the following countries do you think is the most valuable ally and strategic partner of the United States?

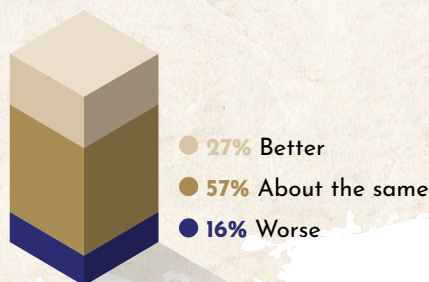
● United Kingdom ● Canada ● China ● Someone Else ● Germany ● Australia ● France ● Italy



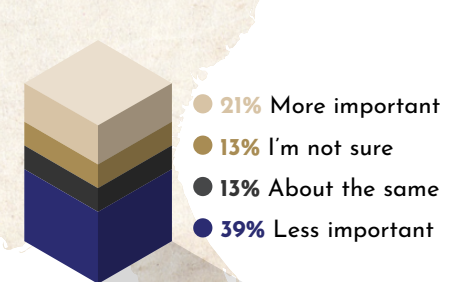
Is the alliance between the United States and the United Kingdom more or less important today than it was five years ago?



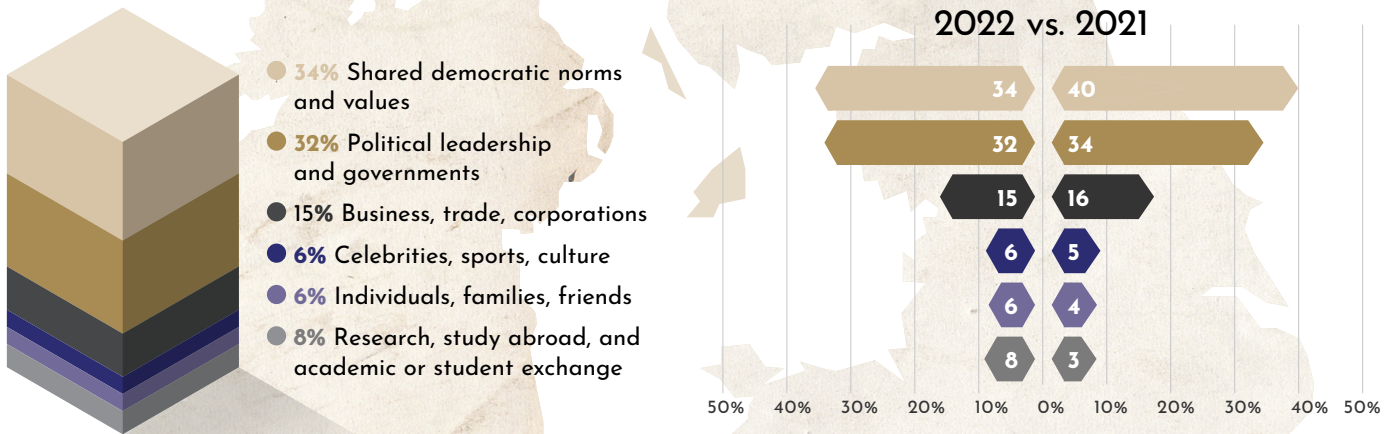
In the last year, do you think that relations between the United States and the United Kingdom have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed about the same?



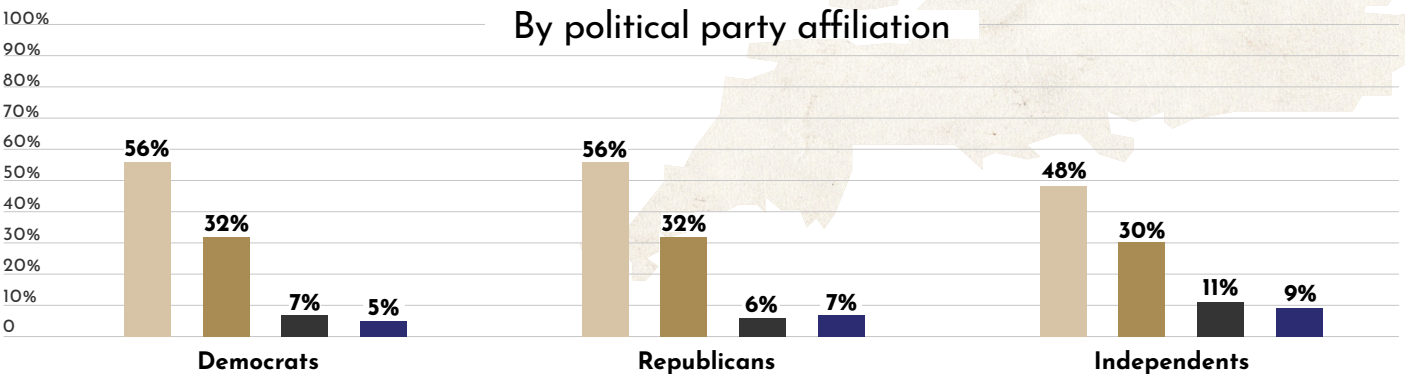
For the next generation, how important do you think the British monarchy will be to relations between the United States and the United Kingdom?



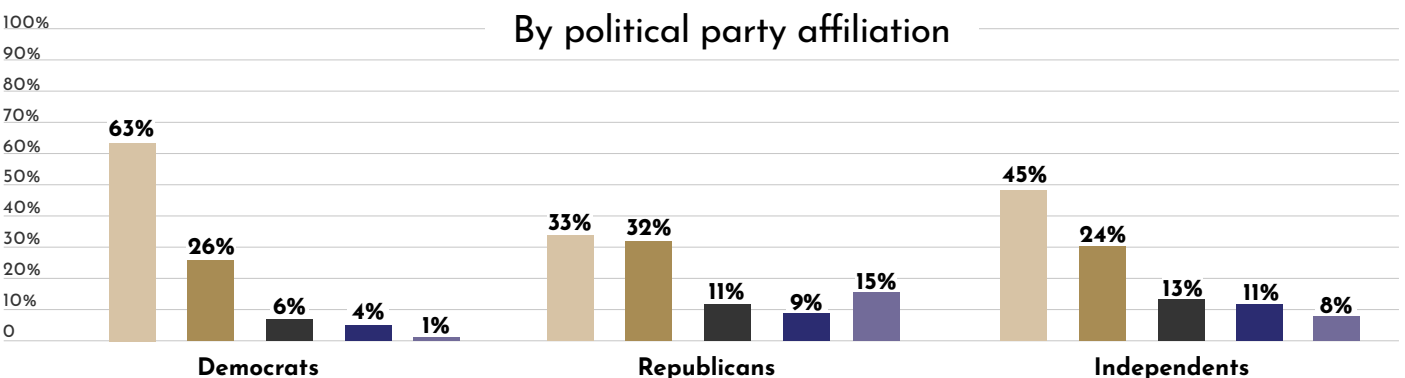
## In your opinion, which of the following has the most significant influence on a strong alliance between the United States and the United Kingdom?



## How important is a free trade agreement between the United States and the United Kingdom?



## How important is the United States' and the United Kingdom's leadership in tackling climate change?





## FIRST PERSON

# MUSIC FIT FOR THE QUEEN

*Christopher Morrongiello (1990), lutenist, had a chance to play “God Save the Queen”—for the Queen herself.*

**BY CHRISTOPHER MORRONGIELLO (1990)**

In 1990, I acted and played lute in a charity production entitled *The Relapse, or, Virtue in Danger*, written by Sir John Vanbrugh (1664–1726), soldier, architect, playwright—in short, England’s Renaissance man of the Baroque. The production was performed at the Westminster Theatre from the 10th to the 15th of December and was presented on a charitable basis by the Theatre in Trust.

On the second night, Her Majesty the Queen “Elizabeth II” attended the performance. I believe the producer of the show could not resist the historical temptation of having a lutenist perform her Majesty’s anthem at the outset. An oboist and I went on stage and waited for the Queen to enter the theater, walk down the aisle, and give us the royal cue. When she did, giving a gentle wave of her hand, we broke the silence with my own quasi-Renaissance arrangement of “God Save the Queen.” I believe she liked it, as she said to me after the show that “It sounded very nice.”

However, the word “nice” left me wondering, how *nice* is nice? Was it nice enough to reinstate the tradition of lute-playing in her privy chamber? Maybe that’s getting a bit carried away. Okay, was it nice enough to be remembered? Now, there’s a question. Thus, on my second encounter with her Majesty, I had to find out. It’s just part of the artist’s ego; we must at least be remembered.

After having been warmly introduced, giving my name and my profession as “lutenist,” I boldly interjected this question: “Your Majesty, I wonder if you remember my version of your anthem played at the Westminster Theatre in early December?” At first she looked bewildered, but then, after giving it some thought, she said, “Oh, yes—it was quite different, quite different.” For which I replied, “Yes, by special arrangement.” Then she said, “Yes, I enjoyed it, very much.” At this point, my artist’s ego exploded, thus obliterating that part of my memory that retained what she or I said next.

*This article originally appeared on Hofstra.edu and is reprinted here with permission. Morrongiello is an adjunct associate professor of music at Hofstra.*

## HONORARY PATRON

*“For almost 70 years, Marshall alumni have embodied the strong and enduring links between our two nations, returning home to become ambassadors for our shared values and vision of a free, more equitable and sustainable world. You can be proud of the fantastic work the Association of Marshall Scholars does in championing our shared principles and values and in helping to maintain the special relationship between our two countries.”*

*—The former Prince of Wales has been the Honorary Patron of the Association of Marshall Scholars since 1989. He is quoted here from a letter he shared with the AMS upon hearing of the London Marshall Forum, held at Lancaster House, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the announcement of the Marshall Plan.*



*King Charles III (then-Prince of Wales) with Christina Chang (2012), Jean Weatherwax (2012), Max Alderman (2012).*

## OPINION

# WORK SMARTER

*Byron Auguste (1989) and LinkedIn CEO Ryan Roslansky make the case that degrees may be dated indicators of top employees.*

BY BYRON AUGUSTE (1989) AND RYAN ROSLANSKY

The urgent business case for finding new ways of hiring has never been clearer. The demand for workers in the US is outpacing the supply, and finding the best talent is going to be increasingly difficult as the world navigates a period of heightened economic uncertainty.

Despite the need for revamping our existing talent strategies to keep pace, employers have been slow to move on what we see as the most sustainable way to hire and grow more effective, engaged workforces: hiring for skills, instead of just relying on pedigree.

The old set of indicators—the right degree from the right school, the right network to endorse you and the right past employers on your resume—are weak predictors of what actually matters: a candidate's ability to do the job.

It's true that colleges and universities remain an important source of talent, but when a college degree becomes a box-checking, bureaucratic exercise, it unnecessarily places a barrier between skilled workers seeking better jobs and employers in need of their talents.

Further, while providing references and getting a gauge for “who you know” is a fairly standard practice, it can inadvertently put some candidates at a disadvantage. LinkedIn research shows, for instance, that workers who go to top universities tend to have stronger networks, giving them yet another leg up in the job search. We've started to see signs of a shift on LinkedIn, with job postings that don't have degree requirements up from 15% in January 2020 to 20% so far this year. And HR teams are increasingly looking beyond who you know or what school you attended to find great talent, with 40% of hirers on LinkedIn explicitly using skills data to fill their roles. Employers are more open to new ways of finding and evaluating job candidates, and those that move swiftly in this direction will build more resilient teams.

## Broader talent pool

When employers use degrees as a proxy for skills, they miss out on half of the workforce, as Opportunity@Work's research has shown. These are the 70 million workers who are skilled through alternative routes, such as community college, military service, workforce training programs, skills bootcamps and learning on the job—rather than through a bachelor's degree.

LinkedIn data suggests that certain industries—like professional services, finance and tech—are some of the hardest sectors for workers without bachelor's degrees to break into. But bringing more candidates into the fold who don't have these traditional backgrounds can increase the pool of eligible applicants—a huge competitive edge in today's tight labor market. It can also spur greater diversity, since 61% of Black workers, 55% of Hispanic workers, 66% of rural workers and 61% of veteran workers have in-demand skills but not bachelor's degrees.

## Stronger workforce

A degree is an achievement, but with careers stretching to half a century, a one-time intensive period of study is not enough. The reality is that with the current pace of technological change, everyone needs to continuously expand their skills, especially as industries keep changing. The same jobs today will require new skills five years from now, and organizations that understand this are thinking more critically about how to set up new hires from day one for continuous on-the-job learning.

Hiring those who have already developed some of these skills through other experiences—like lower-wage gateway jobs such as customer service representatives and computer support specialists—can jump-start the training process and help companies future-proof their workforce.



Placing higher value on other proven tools—like professional certifications, which are on the rise in popularity, and evaluating candidates via behavioral questions that allow them to showcase their skills during the interview process—are other ways employers can gauge someone’s ability to do the job.

In this age of uncertainty, when companies prioritize skills (not degrees or “who you know”), they can build a more agile workforce that has gained experiences via many different routes, which can help to avoid “group-think” and lead to more dynamic teams. Those that play by the rules of an old playbook from an old era will fall behind.

The labor market has long been one of the most opaque markets in the world, burdened by the inefficient and unequal ways we match talent and opportunity. Recognizing the diverse ways skills are acquired and adopting a skills-first approach to talent will bring greater transparency, efficiency, and equity to the labor market, making it easier for anyone from anywhere to achieve anything.

*This article originally appeared in CNN Perspectives on Oct. 13, 2022 under the title, “Opinion: It’s time for employers to stop caring so much about college degrees” The original article included this editor’s note: “Ryan Roslansky is CEO of LinkedIn. Byron Auguste is CEO of Opportunity@Work. The opinions expressed in this commentary are their own.” It is reprinted here with permission.*



*Marshall and Economist Byron Auguste is the CEO & Co-Founder of Opportunity@Work - whose mission is to rewrite the labor market so that the 70+ million adults in the U.S. who are Skilled Through Alternative Routes (STARs) can work, learn and earn to their full potential. Prior to Opportunity@Work, Byron served as Deputy Assistant to the President for Economic Policy and Deputy Director of the National Economic Council in the Obama Administration, served on the Biden Policy Institute’s policy advisory board and, in 2020, co-chaired the Biden-Harris Economic Policy Committee.*



*Ryan Roslansky is the CEO of LinkedIn, the world’s largest and most powerful network of professionals. Ryan joined the company in May 2009 and has since held leadership roles in every part of LinkedIn’s business. He led the evolution of LinkedIn’s products into a single, holistic, global ecosystem of more than 875 million members, 58.4 million companies, 129 thousand schools and 39 thousand skills. Under his leadership, LinkedIn has also seen record levels of engagement on the platform and accelerated growth across the company.*

## NEXT GEN

# NEW CLASS

## *Congratulations to the 2023 Marshall Scholars*

*The 40 winners of the 2023 Marshall Scholarships were unveiled by the British government in December. The recipients, considered among the most accomplished undergraduate university students and recent graduates in the United States, were chosen following an intense selection process. The 2023 class will begin graduate studies at universities across the United Kingdom this year, coinciding with the 70th anniversary of the scholarship.*

*This year's class includes accomplished authors, astrophysicists, a human rights advocate, and COVID-19 researchers, among other disciplines. Eighty-five percent of the 2023 class intend to pursue public service careers in the US following their time in the UK, including representatives from the US Military Academy and US Air Force Academy who will take up active-duty service upon completing their studies.*

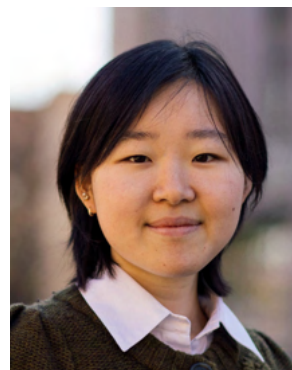
*“Whether it is the War in Ukraine or global challenges from the effects of climate change, Marshall Scholars continue to work to help address global issues head on,” said Dame Karen Pierce, British ambassador to the United States. “The British government is excited to support these future leaders of American society as they begin the next stage of their lives studying at some of the UK’s top academic institutions.”*



**Abdelhamid Arbab**  
Princeton University



**Dominic Arzadon**  
Pitzer College



**Rachel Chae**  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology



**Michael Chen**  
Yale University





**Daniel Chen**  
University of Washington  
– Seattle



**Assata Davis**  
Rutgers University



**Carson Eckhard**  
University of Pennsylvania



**Beatrix Frissell**  
University of Montana  
– Missoula



**Bayan Galal**  
Yale University



**Kyroslos Georgey**  
United States Air Force  
Academy



**Hannah Gillespie**  
University of Notre Dame



**Cyril Gilman**  
Columbia University



**Alexis Harrell**  
SUNY – Buffalo



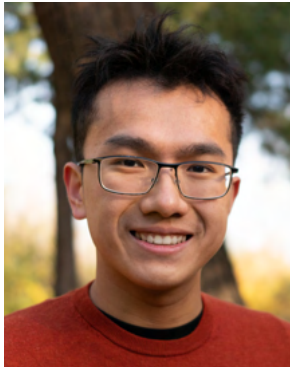
**Clare Heinbaugh**  
College of William & Mary



**Ricky Holder**  
University of Chicago



**Alex Hu**  
Yale University



**Sihao Huang**  
Massachusetts Institute  
of Technology



**Lauren Jarvis**  
Baylor University



**Kyra Jasper**  
Stanford University



**Sarah Kane**  
University of Pennsylvania



**Aaron Keathley**  
Wayne State University



**Grace Kim**  
Harvard University



**Amy Krimm**  
University of Pennsylvania



**Laura Lewis**  
California Institute  
of Technology



**Sarah Marze**  
University of Connecticut



**Sydney Menne**  
University of North Dakota



**Natalie Moss**  
University of Georgia



**Nathan Mudrak**  
Johns Hopkins University



**Katie Pascavis**  
Arizona State University



**George Antony Pratt**  
Morehouse College



**Max Pushkin**  
Brown University



**Maggie Sardino**  
Syracuse University



**Kavya Shah**  
Harvard University



**Cooper Smith**  
Wabash College



**Banks Stamp**  
University of Alabama  
– Birmingham



**Rose Summers**  
University of Colorado  
– Boulder



**Aristotle Vainikos**  
Harvard University



**Marley Wait**  
United States Military  
Academy



**Lauren Wilkes**  
University of Georgia



**Samara Zuckerbrod**  
University of Texas – Austin

# Class Notes

1956



Stephen Schneider (1956)

**STEPHEN SCHNEIDER** “Bordeaux is a comfy place to live out international storms—viral, military, moral, rhetorical—but, for an English writer, too far from the chattering centers of UK or US publishing. I have two novellas coming out soon in the USA; nevertheless the specter of ‘narrowing’ adds its shadow to those of age.”

1960



Patrick Henry (1960)

**PATRICK HENRY** had a second book published in 2021, *Benedictine Options: Learning to Live from the Sons and Daughters of Saints Benedict and Scholastica* (Liturgical Press). Drawing on a half-century of close association with Benedictine women and men, as well as a lot of research, he rebuts the caricature of monasticism in conservative pundit Rod Dreher’s bestseller, *The Benedict Option*.

Patrick also has a personal website, [IronicChristian.org](http://IronicChristian.org), designed as “a place to eavesdrop,” where one can find, among other things, all of his monthly columns for the *St. Cloud [Minnesota] Times*, beginning in 2007.



James Trefil (1960)

**JIM TREFIL** The ninth edition of Jim Trefil’s scientific literary textbook, *The Sciences An Integrated Approach* (Wiley) was recently published. He also decided to splurge and arranged to have his DNA sent into orbit via a company called Celestis, which works with NASA. The really big news is that his DNA will be accompanied by the ashes of Star Trek characters—Scotty, Lt. Uhuru, Bones—and Gene Roddenbury. “Beam me up,” Jim says.



To the stars—with Star Trek!

**DON RIDGE** continues to teach linguistics at the University of Pennsylvania and to publish books and articles. Don’s scholarly interests—which he has pursued since his Marshall Scholarship at Oxford—include historical linguistics, Indo-European linguistics (Greek, Tocharian, and Germanic), and morphology. In 2021, Edinburgh University Press published Don’s latest book, *A Historical Morphology of English*, which moves from Old, Middle, and Early Modern English to Modern English while exploring four sources of linguistic innovation.

1961



Wallace Kaufman (1961)

**WALLACE KAUFMAN** and his daughter Dr. Sylvan Kaufman have completed the third edition of their book, *Invasive Plants: A Guide to Identification and the Impacts and Control of Common North American Species*. Stackpole Books has scheduled publication for summer or early fall 2023 due to the paper shortage. Wallace also writes for the blog “Liberty and Ecology” and has created a blog, [www.OregonNaturally.com](http://www.OregonNaturally.com), illustrated by his wildlife photography.

**LOIS POTTER**, happily retired in London, has just published *Shakespeare and the Actor* in the Oxford Shakespeare Topics series. She is still doing book and theater reviews and going to the theater as much as possible.

1975



*Liz Laporte (1975)  
hiking in Santa Barbara*

**ELIZABETH D. LAPORTE** joined JAMS as an arbitrator, mediator, and special master after serving as a federal magistrate judge in San Francisco for over two decades, presiding over a variety of cases, including intellectual property, environmental litigation, civil rights, employment, and complex commercial cases. She was back in Oxford this summer for the joyful wedding celebration of her younger daughter, who met her English husband there when she was a Rhodes Scholar and he was a graduate student. Liz and her husband Carl attended the Marshall anniversary celebration dinner in London, seeing Tom F. but just missing Harold K. She and Carl live in the San Francisco Bay Area, but are regular visitors to Washington, D.C., where their children live with their husbands and Liz and Carl's two young granddaughters.



*Harold Hongju Koh (1975) punting*

**HAROLD HONGJU KOH** “I spent a wonderful year back at Balliol College, Oxford, as Eastman Professor in 2021–22, nearly 50 years after we first flew over to start our scholarships. Every day was a walk down memory lane, and a reminder both of how quickly time has passed, and yet how much of life I’ve experienced since those days. Christy and I lived at the corner of Longwall Street and Jowett Walk, which was closer to my old college, Magdalen, than to Balliol; this let me spend many happy hours at Magdalen during the year, walking Addison’s Walk, dining at High Table, and occasionally punting (see photo)! As of this fall, I’m back at Yale Law School, where I’ve been for 37 years, teaching wonderful students and enjoying my life as an international law professor. I also was privileged to work for the Biden administration State Department in my old office, the Office of the Legal Adviser, from January–October 2021 and argued for Ukraine against Russia at the World Court in the Hague in February 2022.”



*Harold Hongju Koh (1975)*



*John Mumford (1975)*

**JOHN MUMFORD** continues to work in the Centre for Environmental Policy at Imperial College London. His research deals with risk and uncertainty in large-scale environmental management programs, such as agricultural pests and public health vectors, invasive species, and fisheries. He has contributed to the development of risk analysis approaches to the use of genetically modified organisms in pest control and management rules for data limited fish stocks. He chairs the Marshall Sherfield Fellowship selection committee.

1978



*Jeffrey Leeds (1978)*

**JEFFREY LEEDS** reports that he and his family have moved to Palm Beach, Florida. Leeds, who describes himself as a late starter, was married for the first (and only) time in his mid-50s, and now has not only a wife, but also a daughter (nearly 9) and a son (not quite 5), as well

as a black Lab (not quite 2). Leeds is the president of Leeds Equity Partners, a private equity firm he founded nearly three decades ago that invests exclusively within the knowledge industries (education, training, information, and data management services).

**EILEEN POLLACK** Having retired as a professor emerita from the University of Michigan, where she directed the MFA Program in Creative Writing, Eileen now lives in the Boston area. Early in 2022, she published her most recent book, a darkly humorous essay collection called *Maybe It's Me: On Being the Wrong Kind of Woman*. Although it has been a number of years since the publication of her memoir, *The Only Woman in the Room: Why Science is Still a Boys' Club*, Eileen continues to work for greater inclusion of women and minorities in STEM fields. She is especially proud of her son, Noah, who completed his PhD in history this past June.

1983

**DAVID VON DREHLE** has been named deputy opinions editor of *The Washington Post*. In his new role, he intends to continue his regular columns, but at a slower rate. His next book, *The Book of Charlie*, will be published by Simon & Schuster in May.

1984



Sheryll Cashin (1984)

**SHERYLL CASHIN'S** latest book, *White Space, Black Hood*, is out in paperback, and you can read her regular opinion pieces on social justice in *Politico Magazine*.

1985



Marc Spiegelman (1985)

**MARC SPEIGELMAN** After finishing his PhD in Earth Sciences (Cambridge, 1989), Marc began a postdoc at Columbia's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. For the past 30+ years, he has wriggled his way up the food chain at Columbia and is currently full professor with a joint position between Earth Sciences and the Department of Applied Physics and Applied Math (where he is department chair). When asked what he does, his cocktail party answer is still "I make computer models of volcanoes (and glaciers and carbon sequestration)." He lives in Piermont, New York, with his wife Anne and 14-year-old daughter.

**ANNA QUIDER** was elected fellow of the American Physical Society (APS) in 2021. Her citation reads, "For stellar leadership in science policy and advocacy, as well as for promotion and mentoring of early career physicists." She is the first woman to be elected an APS fellow from Northern Illinois University. Anna was also elected to the chair line for the Executive Committee of the Forum on Physics and Society, which is a division of the APS.

1992



Doug Spaniol (1992)

**DOUG SPANIOL** was awarded the 2022 Distinguished Faculty Award from Butler University. This award "represents the highest accolade a Butler faculty member can achieve" and "recognizes exemplary achievement, accomplishments, and contributions across the length and breadth" of one's career.

1993

**LOREN SIEBERT** After many years of independent contracting, Loren Siebert joined the engineering team at Paradigm, a crypto-focused VC firm in San Francisco. When he's not on-chain, Loren enjoys exploring Mt. Tam on his gravel bike.



Josh Busby (1993)

**JOSH BUSBY** was a Marshall Scholar from 1993–1995 and served as senior advisor for climate at the U.S. Department of Defense in 2021–2022 in the Biden administration. Upon his return to the University of Texas–Austin, he was promoted to full professor. His third book with Cambridge University Press, *States and Nature: The Effects of Climate Change on Security*, was published in spring 2022. He lives in Austin, Texas, with his wife Bethany, a fellow professor at the University of Texas, and his son Will, who is a sixth-grader. He is an ardent Austin FC fan.



Eileen M. Hunt (1993) visiting Charleston, the home and art studio of Vanessa Bell, in August 2022.

**EILEEN M. HUNT** is still teaching political theory at Notre Dame after all of these years, having survived both 9/11 and the ongoing pandemic as a professor there. Her most recent books are *Artificial Life After Frankenstein* (Penn, 2020) and the two-volume reference set *Portraits of Wollstonecraft* (Bloomsbury, 2021). She has recently completed a manuscript of her third book on Mary Shelley for Penn Press, to complete a somewhat unexpected trilogy on Shelley’s philosophical relevance for contemporary ethical and political debates on genetic engineering of children, AI, and pandemics. The latest volume is titled *The Specter of Pandemic: Mary Shelley and Post-Apocalyptic Political Thought*. This book grew from an op-ed she published in “The Stone” philosophy column in *The New York Times* on March 13, 2020, and has been reprinted in the latest “Stone” reader, *Question Everything* (Norton, 2022). She has begun a book on how women influenced the development of the political writer George Orwell with her sister, cellist Cicely Parnas. See social media for her most recent videos!

**GRAHAM BURNETT** Over the last year, Graham has published a pair of collaborative books, *In Search of the Third Bird* (London: Strange Attractor, 2021) and *Twelve Theses on Attention* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2022). The first, written with the research collective ESTAR(SER), is a thick volume of Borgesian metafiction; the second, which emerged out of the work of the Friends of Attention, is a slim manifesto on radical attention in the digital age. With the Friends, Graham has contributed to the development of a new activist curriculum and community workshop series, “The Attention Labs,” which have been offered in and around New York City throughout 2022. In October, Graham and Jo Fiduccia (Yale) installed THE THIRD, MEANING, an ESTAR(SER) project, at the Frye Art Museum in Seattle.

**KANNON SHANMUGAM** Since 2019, Kannon Shanmugam has been heading the Supreme Court and appellate litigation practice at the law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton, and Garrison, where he is also managing partner of

the Washington, D.C., office. Kannon has now argued 35 cases before the Supreme Court and recently became the only practicing American attorney to be named an honorary bencher of the Inner Temple, one of the four English Inns of Court. Kannon and his wife Vicki have three boys—Thomas (14), William (13), and Henry (5)—and would love to hear from any of their Marshall classmates if you are passing through the Washington area.

1998



Payam Sharifi (1998) presents his lecture “Translitterative Tease” in Toronto, 2019.

**PAYAM SHARIFI** is the co-founder of Slavs and Tatars, an internationally renowned artist collective devoted to an area east of the former Berlin Wall and west of the Great Wall of China. They have exhibited at major institutions across the globe, including the MoMA in New York, Pompidou in Paris, Vienna Secession, Tate Modern in London, and the 58th Venice Biennale. The collective has published 12 books to date, including their translation of the legendary Azeri periodical *Ital Molla nassredin*. Sharifi regularly delivers public lectures at universities in Europe and the US. Slavs and Tatars is based in Berlin and in 2020 launched Pickle Bar, a Slavic take on the aperitivo bar in the Moabit district. Recently, *The New York Times* ran a feature on the collective’s work: [www.nytimes.com/2022/09/22/arts/design/slavs-and-tatars.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2022/09/22/arts/design/slavs-and-tatars.html)



*Mark and Bianca Bell established a graduate scholarship at Georgia Tech for women in computing.*

**MARK BELL** “I was delighted to continue work on the Bodleian Board, concluding the event at Carnegie Hall this winter.” Mark is in his 15th year of teaching at Emory and is helping to run an investment firm in Atlanta called Balentine. In honor of one of his classmates, Mark worked to digitize portions of Locke’s personal library held at the Bod.

**2002**



*Esther Freeman (2002)*

**ESTHER FREEMAN** MD PhD is faculty at Harvard Medical School and recently took on a new role as director of clinical innovation and education for the Center for Global Health at Massachusetts General Hospital. She has spent the last

2.5 years as an outbreak dermatologist working on COVID and monkeypox, collaborating with the WHO and with the CDC. She and husband Adam have two kids, Amos (7) and Imogen (5). She also loves serving on the New England Marshall selection committee—choosing new Marshalls each fall inspires her to reflect on her own time in the UK and how formative it was.

**2008**



*Michael Barany (2008)*

**MICHAEL BARANY** has recently been promoted to senior lecturer at the University of Edinburgh (where he spent the second year of his Marshall Scholarship) and has been awarded a £1.29 million UKRI Frontier Research Grant to study the globalization of modern mathematics. His dog Tycho makes sure he spends plenty of time exploring Edinburgh’s outdoor spaces.



*Tycho :)*



*Rana Duba’s first birthday, celebrated with her aunt (left), mom Alyssa Duba (class of 2008, center), and dad Kyle Duba (right).*

**ALYSSA WECHSLER DUBA** and her husband Kyle Duba welcomed their daughter, Rana Iris Duba, on October 21, 2021. It’s a belated announcement to the AMS community, to be sure, so instead Alyssa updates you all with “Happy first birthday, Rana!”



*Alice Sverdlik (2008)*

**ALICE SVERDLIK** In January 2022, Alice Sverdlik started a job as a lecturer in social development at University of Manchester. She and her boyfriend are also attempting to tame their naughty dachshund, Crumble.



2009



*Sally Baxter (2009) presenting at the Technology Pavilion with colleagues at the American Academy of Ophthalmology meeting in Chicago, October 2022.*

**SALLY LIU BAXTER** temporarily relocated to Japan this past summer to accompany her husband, Michael Baxter, who is serving the US Navy there as an otolaryngologist. Thanks to the normalization of remote work during the pandemic, Sally is continuing her faculty position at the University of California San Diego, with joint appointments in Ophthalmology and Medicine (Biomedical Informatics). She is a recipient of the 2020 NIH Office of the Director Early Independence Award and has also recently begun a large multisite project through the NIH Bridge2AI initiative. She still does clinical work in ophthalmology as a Red Cross volunteer and during trips back to San Diego. This year, she was honored to be named in Ophthalmology Management's "40 under 40" list. Sally, Mike, and their kids (Raymond, 11; Maria, 9; and Shelly, 7) are enjoying the cultural immersion, travel opportunities, and food in Japan and welcome any Marshalls who would like to visit!



*Sally Baxter (2009) enjoying fall foliage in Kyoto, November 2022.*

2010

**MITCH KELLER** After four years on the faculty of Morningside University, Mitch Keller has moved to Madison, Wisconsin, as associate director of undergraduate studies in the Department of Mathematics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In addition to teaching, he coordinates advising for about 500 math majors and assessment for the program.

**CAROLYN (CARRIE) BARNETT** defended her PhD in politics at Princeton in July 2022, and in August moved to Tucson, Arizona, where she began a tenure-track assistant professor position jointly in the School of Government and Public Policy and the School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies at the University of Arizona. She is enjoying life in sunny Tucson with husband Bálint and daughter Alma (1 year old).

**JOHN CALHOUN** and his wife recently welcomed a daughter, Sloane Forsyth Calhoun. She and her mother (a critical care fellow at Brigham & Women's Hospital) are happy and healthy. John lives and works in Boston as a litigator and a political consultant, 2021.



*Austin McKinney (2010)*

**AUSTIN MCKINNEY** is serving a one-year diplomatic assignment in Islamabad, Pakistan. Austin is working to advance the economic relationship between the United States and Pakistan, especially cooperation on climate and health-related matters. He looked forward to seeing his wife, Sara, over the holidays. Austin and Sara recently learned they will serve their next assignment at the US Embassy in Ottawa, Canada, from 2023 to 2026. They welcome the opportunity to see any Marshalls passing through!

*If you'd like to share an update, some news, a photo, or other information, please visit the AMS website to submit it at [marshallscholars.org/ams-newsletters](https://marshallscholars.org/ams-newsletters)*

# Because of You ...

BY QUINN O'LOANE (2021)

I thank you very much for the phenomenal gift of the Marshall Xtra grant and the opportunities it has allowed me during my experience in the UK! Throughout my time here, I have tried to travel as much as possible and to experience and share its immense natural beauty. As a result of the Xtra grant, I have been able to hike the Three Peaks (including Ben Nevis twice with visiting American friends), tour Northern Ireland, learn how to drive a stick shift, spend several days in the Lake District, and visit the Isle of Skye.

Moreover, in what has been the highlight of my time in the UK, I have been able to row for the University of York—a team I am thrilled to be on, a group I love to be with, and one I will sorely miss when I leave at the end of my yearlong term. I have come to truly love living in the United Kingdom (which, I admit, I did not expect to be the case in my first month or so in-country) and enjoy learning about its culture and diverse inhabitants, from the North of England to Scotland to Wales and Northern Ireland. I am excited for what comes next in my life, but I will look back fondly on the incredible experience here, much of which I enjoyed thanks to the Marshall Xtra grant.

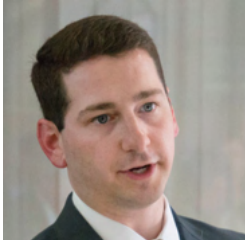


*During his time as Marshall Scholar, Quinn O'Loane traveled as much as he could, including to Arthur's Seat with Marshall Lindy Mooradian (2020) (above). He also rowed for the University of York (below) and competed on the Dorney Olympic Rowing Lake.*



**I** am excited for what comes next in my life, but I will look back fondly on the incredible experience here, much of which I enjoyed thanks to the Marshall Xtra grant.

# AMS EDITORIAL TEAM



## **ZACHARY KAUFMAN (2002)**

**VP, Board of Directors, Chair, Marshall Alumni Newsletter Committee**

BS, JD, PhD. Zachary D. Kaufman is associate professor of law and political science at the University of Houston Law Center (UHLC), where he is co-director of the Criminal Justice Institute and teaches criminal law, international law, and international and transitional justice.



## **NICHOLAS HARTMAN (2003)**

**Deputy Editor**

BS, PhD. Nicholas leads a team at Amazon Web Services in New York City supporting early-stage startup companies. He lives in Westchester County with his wife and two boys.



## **KLAUDIA JAZWINSKA (2018)**

**Co-Editor for Class Notes**

BA, MSc. Klaudia is back in New Jersey after completing her MSc in data and society at the LSE. Her ambition is to explore the impacts of technological change on society as an investigative reporter.



## **NICOLAS ALTEMOSE (2011)**

**Co-Editor for Class Notes**

BS, DPhil, PhD. Nick is a postdoctoral fellow in Molecular & Cell Biology at UC Berkeley, where he recently helped to finish and characterize the first truly complete human genome sequence. In July 2023, he will begin his own lab as a tenure-track assistant professor of genetics at Stanford. He currently lives in San Francisco with his husband and adorable cat.



## **DIANA COOGLE (1966)**

**Profiles Co-Editor**

BA, MA, PhD. After writing a dissertation on Old English poetry, Diana finished her long teaching career at Rogue Community College in Grants Pass, Oregon, with retirement in 2017. She continues to live and write in her little house in the Siskiyou Mountains of southern Oregon, hiking and cross-country skiing as often as possible.

*Views represented in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the AMS or the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission (MACC).*

*Newsletter design by The Applied Humanities, Katie Clark, Principal & CEO (2005)*

*Front & back covers: Designed by Patrick Kirchner*



ASSOCIATION OF  
**MARSHALL  
SCHOLARS**

