Boston bombings are a defining moment for podiatry grad

Three will receive honorary degrees

Three distinguished leaders, including two of the university’s most respected alumni, will be recognized for their outstanding contributions in the fields of law, education and science at Temple’s 126th Commencement ceremony. Patrick J. O’Connor, chair of Temple University’s Board of Trustees, and a leader in Philadelphia’s legal community, will receive an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. O’Connor is currently vice chair and former president and CEO of Cozen O’Connor, which is ranked among the 100 largest law firms in the United States. He was appointed chair of Temple’s Board of Trustees in 2009 and has served on the university’s board for a combined 25 years.

The university will also confer an honorary doctor of humane letters degree to Temple alumnus Pallam Raju Mallipudi, the cabinet minister of India for Human Resources Development, which oversees the national Department of School Education and Literacy and the Department of Higher Education. After earning an MBA from the Fox School of Business in 1986, he built a private industry career as an entrepreneur in information technology, served on the boards of several successful publicly limited companies and as director on the boards of Indian Airlines and Air India.

The late Frank Albert Cotton, a Temple alumnus and preeminent figure in the field of inorganic chemistry, will be posthumously awarded a doctor of science degree. Cotton co-authored the field’s standard text, Advanced Inorganic Chemistry, now in its sixth edition. He earned his bachelor’s degree from Temple University in 1951, and his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1955. He passed away in 2007. As recipients of Temple’s honorary degrees, Chairman O’Connor, Pallam Raju M. Mallipudi and Frank Albert Cotton exemplify the university’s highest aspirations for its students,” said President Neil Theobald. “We can all be inspired by their values and achievements, as well as their leadership and service.”

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Boston

From page 1

stunned athletes and spectators with injuries to their lower extremities. “All I could do was say ‘Hi, I’m Jared. I’m from Idaho. I’m going to try to take care of you,’ ” recalled. And then just give the best care possible in a tough situation.”

He and his classmates treated dozens of patients before being evacuated.

For Malan, the road to Boston began with the tale of a hometown hero.

Throughout his childhood he was told the story of Raymond Curtis Brinkman, a Shelby resident who had lost both legs in a battlefield hunting accident. Brinkman went on to become a pioneer among wheelchair athletes as the first non-runner to win the Boston Marathon.

“Inspired by Brinkman’s story, Malan was determined to experience the exaltation of the famed Parker’s Day race, “This was my chance,” said Malan.

“The event would become an exaltation point at the end of his four years of pediatrics training and the journey that brought him to Philadelphia. He and his wife, Chelsea, a pharmacy student at Thomas Jefferson University, moved to the city four years ago to become part of Temple’s medical community.

“So never lived on the East Coast – I’d never lived in a city larger than Philadelphia. He and his wife, Chelsea, a pharmacy student at Thomas Jefferson University, moved to the city four years ago to become part of Temple’s medical community.

“Singing has always been part of my life. Being in front of a crowd. Making someone feel good with music. It’s one of my favorite words. It has been a comfort for me during bad times.

“I’ve always been a good student, but learning how to be a musician is so different. It’s a process. It doesn’t come over night. You have to retrain your body and your muscles. It takes time. That was the hardest thing to learn. There’s no 100 percent on the test when you finish singing your aria, because there’s always something you can do better. It’s a humbling art.

“The other day, my teacher brought me into his office and asked, ‘Julian, could you sing the national anthem for me?’ A few weeks ago I tried to Things of my roommates, who were a music major, had offered to step in as a voice for non-majors. The class fit a spark. It just seemed right. So in my sophomore year, I changed my major to music.

“Ready

From page 1

copy editing experience. That’s what drew me to the job. I could bring her over here and she was able to do exactly what she needed to do.”

If there’s anything that defines Temple graduates, it’s that they haven’t been dined. As the “Temple Mad- billboard on Broad Street proudly asserts: Temple students are “Real World Raised.” They’ve cut their teeth on coursework that emphasizes expe- riential learning. They’ve completed academic programs with live-first pro- fessional capstone experiences, such as the Fox School of Business MBA, Enterprise Management Consulting program. They’ve had internships on campus working with faculty or staff on projects directly related to their ca- reer interests through the Temple Uni- versity Internship Program. They’ve studied abroad or participated in professional immersion experiences such as the School of Media and Com- munications’ Los Angeles Study Away program. They’ve been Diamond Peer Leaders and Diamond Research Scholars. And by making themselves what Temple President Neil Theobald calls “real world ready,” they’ve earned a competitive advantage in a tough job market.

Linda Lawton, associate director of Temple’s Career Center, says experi- ence is a major factor in helping professional and other professional experiences are critical for students. In addition to absorbing job- specific technical knowledge, Lawton says students learn what employers call “soft skills,” professional etiquette, how to interact with colleagues, time man- agement and more. When employers come to campus for job fairs, they aren’t just looking for students who have the right technical skills, they’re looking for people who can fit seam- lessly into their organizations.

“We love it when students have been able to demonstrate at our company or another company the professionalism, the reliability and the understanding of interpersonal relations that are neces- sary to integrate into a corporate cul- ture,” said Scott Bellamy, an IT systems development manager at Vanguard, a company that has hired 48 Temple stu- dents this year.

Geoffrey E. Allen, a senior in Temple’s College of Science and Technol- ogy, was an intern last summer at Vanguard’s headquarters in Malverne, Pa., where he developed a software application for the company’s fixed-income systems. When he returned to Temple in the fall, he began a year-long information science and technology capstone course, which pairs teams of students with campus clients to work on software development proj- ects. Allen led a six-student team that developed an online scheduling sys- tem for Temple’s Writing Center. The experience replicated a professional software development cycle; they in- terviewed the client, analyzed the situ- ation, designed a solution, coded the software, then tested, documented and implemented it.

“I learned skills — how to manage people, how to deal with personalities. And I learned technical skills. For my capstone, we were getting down and dirty with the code,” he said. “We really do have a competitive advantage when we step into the work force.”

The payoff: Allen has a position in Vanguard’s two-year Technology Lead- ship Program waiting for him after he graduates.

In the coming years, Temple will be increasing the number of hands- on experiential learning opportunities and internships available to students. This year, applications have been opened for new intern- and senior vice president for academic affairs, sees it as one of Temple’s top educational priorities.

“If in all we do, we should consider how the content of a Temple educa- tion benefits our students,” Dau said.

“After receiving a Temple education, can our students find good jobs and be effective citizens?” I would like to help our students acquire problem-solving and analytical skills by increasing op- portunities for hands-on experiences. Employers want graduates who, when faced with a challenge, can analyze the situation and solve problems. To me, that’s real-world ready.™”
Graham travels toward the future of planning
By James Duffy
duffy@temple.edu

It takes a certain confident “jump in feet first” attitude to apply for the facing transportation of bike Temple — if you have only rarely touched the pedals of a bike. Community and regional planning master’s degree student Lindsay Graham simply saw it as another challenge: “I had been on a bike maybe four times in my adult life — I was no bike rider, but I applied because I have a passion for transportation planning,” said Graham, 27, who was a School of Environmental Design graduation ceremony student speaker on May 16. “In 2011, I decided I wanted to tank up and work with people who wanted to build a bike in the city. I took Bike Temple’s “Urban Riding Basics” course and it truly changed my lifestyle. Now I try to influence all of my friends to get comfortable on the road — Philadelphia is a very bikeable city.”

Graham traces her fascination with transportation planning to family trips along I-95 from Connecticut to North Carolina, which included visits to maps, cartography, and long commutes to North Carolina State University, which fueled a desire to fix transportation systems that needed a helping hand.

One day, she said, she woke up and wanted to live in a big city. New York? Too big. San Francisco? Too far away. Philadelphia, she said, “had the great history, culture and people” that she was looking for. It also was the perfect avenue to explore professional planning and urban transportation systems.

“When I discovered planning as a career, I recognized the real impact I could make on communities. Everyone uses some form of transportation — every community is facing transportation challenges,” she said. “People live in their cars — we’re a car-oriented society — but there are so many other options to explore.”

During her time in Philadelphia, Graham said, she has seen a marked increase in bicycle commuting and public transportation use. At the same time, she applied to graduate programs in urban studies, geography, and city planning.

“I want to be able to work with people who can fix and maintain public transportation systems, someone who could fix and maintain a significantly positive impact on our communities,” she said.

Graham was recently named a semi-finalist for the Presidential Management Fellows program, a prestigious two-year paid government fellowship that provides the opportunity to work with a variety of United States government agencies. The rigorous selection process includes interviews and presentations with agencies, which take place in Washington, D.C.

“I’ve been consistently impressed with Lindsey’s passion for planning and her commitment to helping build bikeable communities,” said Debrah Howe, chair of the Department of Community and Regional Planning. “She’s taken the initiative to really pursue every avenue to become an effective planner. She has a profound commitment to making a difference in society, and I know that she will.”

Graham was the third Presidential Management Fellows semi-finalist from Temple’s Community and Regional Planning Program in three years — an almost unheard of accomplishment among planning programs in the country.

“My dream is to work in federal government, to become Secretary of Transportation. I want to aim high — maybe the head of a major authority or planning firm of a metropolitan planning organization like the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission,” she said. “You never take your eyes off of that dream. There are times you’re going to want to give up, times you question what you want to do, but as graduate students we are here to prove we want to be here. Stay calm, focused and always move forward.”

Medicine grad tuned in to love of science on tour with his band
By Eryn Jostelwicz
templetoday.com

With one semester to go at West Chester University, Chris Kleinberg told his parents he was quitting school. His rock band, “nobodyout (“no”), for which he played electric guitar, had just been signed to a four-record contract. That began seven years of touring, during which Chris “lived the dream,” but also unexpectedly uncovered a deep love of science that would eventually lead him to medical school.

This week, Kleinberg, 33, will graduate from Temple’s School of Medicine — a residency in emergency medicine at Temple University Hospital. His path to medicine was studied by those seven years on the road, specifically by the 1974 Greyhound bus that he and members guffawed and turned into a tour bus.

“There was rehabbing the bus and converting it to run on used vegetable oil, I realized I loved problem-solving,” said Kleinberg. “Vegetable oil constantly clogs so I spent a lot of time figuring out where the clogs were and how to fix them. It made me fall in love with the diagnostic process.”

Kleinberg decided to explore science more earnestly to see if he really liked it as much as he suspected. He took chemistry and physiology textbooks on the road. Touring afforded a lot of down time so he could study. Within six months, he knew that he was interested in medical science.

He returned to West Chester to finish his bachelor’s degree, commuting by public transportation from Florida to his friend’s house. “You never take your eyes off of where you are and where you are headed. In grad school it will be more required. You don’t always know what you are doing and you have to be happy with that, something in the real world. It was good practice for me, giving a public speech.”

This led him to decide to specialize in emergency medicine.

“You have to be ready for any type of medical complaint, whether it’s a woman about to deliver a baby or someone having a heart attack,” he said. “That’s appealing to me. I always wanted to be a well-rounded person. In emergency medicine, you have to be proficient in all areas of medicine, especially in an acute setting.”

Temple was his first choice for residency. Not only is it one of the best programs in the country, but it also allows Kleinberg and his family to stay in the area, which means his baby daughter, Jubilee, can grow up close to her grandparents.

True to his desire to be well-rounded, Kleinberg has stayed tuned to his musical interests. During his first two years of medical school he occasionally toured with the band, and more recently, began writing music with his wife, Nikki.

“I feel really lucky,” he said. “I guess it’s a combination of luck and gratitude to be at the place I am at now, I found my way and it feels good.”

From high school dropout to Harvard-bound
By Jee Hyeon Lee

Born and raised in South Korea, Jee Hyeon Lee came to America in 2007 as, essentially, a high school dropout. After graduating from Plymouth Whitemarsh High School in suburban Philadelphia, Lee thrived at the College of Science and Technology (CST). He participated in the American Research Scholars Program and CST’s Undergraduate Research Program, earned a Creative Arts, Research and Scholarship grant and was a speaker — along with some of the college’s top professors — at TEDxTempleU. This fall, Lee will head to Harvard to begin doctoral studies in physics.

Temple Tribune: How did you find your way to Temple?
Jee Hyeon Lee: When I was in high school — I didn’t know what I was thinking — I applied to all five Ivy League schools and to Temple. I lived near Philly, so I had so many resources in the area. I knew a lot of people who were here already. I didn’t get into any of the other schools as an undergraduate, but I did get accepted to many of them for graduate school. That felt good.

Temple Tribune: Why physics?
Jee Hyeon Lee: Since I was little I had a curiosity about math and science, although I wasn’t always good at them. When I came to America, I couldn’t enroll in high school for six months. I was in a new country, didn’t know the language and didn’t know many people. I went to the library and checked out a pre-calculus book and saw some of the work by the physicist Brian Greene about the marriage of quantum mechanics and the theory of relativity. That inspired me. Physics made me feel like there is something greater out there, something that binds us into a whole.

Temple Tribune: Proudest moment at Temple?
Jee Hyeon Lee: One of my proudest moments was being a speaker at this year’s TEDxTempleU event. I’ve been speaking English for only about five or six years. I came a long way to be able to give such a talk in front of such a large crowd. It was good practice for me, giving a public speech.

Temple Tribune: Are you looking forward to graduate school?
Jee Hyeon Lee: Undergraduate life can be hectic, with all the requirements. You don’t always know what you are doing and where you are headed. In grad school it will be more well-defined. I’ll work with great physicists and focus on really understanding the material. I’m from a middle-class Korean family. I never thought I would go to Harvard.

Temple Tribune: What’s the ultimate goal?
Jee Hyeon Lee: Life is long, so I want to do multiple things. I want my life to be defined not by a career but by a dream. For now, I want to become a good scientist. Then, maybe, go into business or something in the area of physics that I can have a greater impact on the scientific community. You know...something in the real world.

— Greg Fornia

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Physical Therapy graduates leave behind gift for future students

By Anwesh Verghese
asthma@temple.edu

As they think back on their years at Temple, most 2013 graduates probably remember study abroad trips, nights out with friends or scoring an A on an exam. But for Dorsey, that was just the beginning.

Dorsey interned during his junior year with Global Spectrum in business development and client relations. He has also interned with the Philadelphia Eagles football team in game-night presentation and with the Philadelphia Eagles football team in mascot marketing, which involved organizing community events and pep rallies featuring the Eagles mascot, Swoop, Eagles cheerleaders; and former players.

His Internship — which coincided with the franchise’s first season in Brooklyn after moving there from New Jersey — included a senior project to explore the benefits and challenges of potentially implementing a paperless ticketing system for season-ticket holders.

Dorsey said the Nets staff welcomed him and his fellow interns from day one, pushing them to perform and welcoming them like family. Executives even hosted weekly lunch-and-learns.

“Hearing their stories makes you want to be in their spot even more,” Dorsey said. “When talking to these people, it pushes me even harder.”

Thanks to years of pushing himself at Temple and gaining real world experience — going beyond the School of Tourism and Hospitality Management’s requirement of junior and senior internships — Dorsey got his break in the business.

He’s secured a business development ticket sales position with the National Football League’s Miami Dolphins starting in June.

“I’m really excited about this position since it’s in the league that I ultimately wanted to work in, the NFL,” Dorsey said. “And it’s in South Beach, so I don’t have too much to complain about.”

Members of the Physical Therapy Department class of 2013 donated $1,500 to the College of Health Professions and Social Work to support The Hyman L. Dervitz Scholarship, which provides financial aid for physical therapy students.

Those money the seniors have left after three years of fundraisers and other class events. When the class of 2013 decided to make its gift to the scholarship, the seniors made extra efforts to raise money, including holding additional 5Ks, bake sales and raffles.

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By Brandon Leash
blash@temple.edu

Colt Dorsey’s senior internship with the Brooklyn Nets is a testament to networking.

He met 2008 Temple graduate Ryan S. Brandenberg, who is the premium all-access manager, two years ago and maintained contact. Thanks in large part to James, Dorsey stood out this summer in the franchise’s 40-person team.

“James did an outstanding job of creating and building relationships with the student association to talk about the importance of scholarship fundraising and the financial challenges many students are facing. Davidson said the professors told him that several students who were accepted into the physical therapy program weren’t able to enroll simply because of the cost.”

The professors suggested that the student association try to find a way to help. There is a tradition in the physical therapy department of graduating classes leaving behind a class gift. In the past, the classes would either donate undersigned funds to the student association or Davidson said.

This year, with the rising cost of education high on everyone’s minds, the class of 2013 decided to make its gift to a scholarship that will help students who follow them.

“We kind of brought the financial issues to light, and most of the students could really sympathize,” said Assistant Professor Scott Burns, one of the faculty advisors. “We didn’t really try to push them [to donate to the scholarship].”

“The idea for the class gift came in late 2011 when faculty advisors met with the student association to talk about the importance of scholarship fundraising and the financial challenges many students are facing. Davidson said the professors told him that several students who were accepted into the physical therapy program weren’t able to enroll simply because of the cost.”

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Dorsey said the class chose to donate to The Hyman L. Dervitz Scholarship because it is one of the largest scholarships for physical therapy students, and because they wanted to encourage others to contribute to the fund.

Dervitz, who created Temple’s Physical Therapy Department in 1967 and was its chair until 1996, said he was touched by the students’ gift. “The fact that current students have made a donation particularly warms my heart,” he said. “I am speechless, other than to say thank you, thank you all.”

Burns noted that the Dervitz scholarship was a fitting choice for the class of 2013 because community service is one of the criteria for receiving the award. “This class in particular is highly motivated to not only help themselves through their education, but to help the community at large,” he said. “It’s a wonderful class. I’m sorry to see them go, but I’m excited to watch them head out into the real world and make an impact on the patients and communities they serve.”

Jennifer Abercrumbie: ‘Tell me I can’t and I’ll show you I can’

Jennifer Abercrumbie, a member of Temple’s track and field team, is a living example of the folly of stereotyping student-athletes. The off-the-field accomplishments of this theoretical linguistics major in the College of Health Professions and Social Work had graduate school and researchers competing for her (she was accepted to grad school programs at Harvard University and the University of California, Berkeley, and also was offered a prestigious post-graduate internship with the NCAA). Want to know what Jenni chose? Read on.

Temple Times: What’s the most annoying stereotype you hear about student-athletes?

Jennifer Abercrumbie: The most common stereotype that I’ve encountered is the entitled dumb jock persona. That has always been one that I’ve wanted to make everyone whenever possible. So many things can go wrong that can take sports away from you, you need something to keep you sane when your coaches are driving you crazy. Education has always been my outlet.

TT: Looking back on your years at Temple, is there one thing that stands out as a defining experience?

JA: I think the one thing I’ll hold on to most is my experience as president of our student athlete advisory committee. It was very rewarding. The NCAA mandates that institutions have a SAA so that student-athletes have a voice on campus, and that athletics administration and student athletes work together to make sure that the wellbeing of the student-athletes is being taken care of. Student athletes need to be more integrated into university culture. So we’ve branched out and done more community service projects. People see that we have brains, we have goals, we have initiatives and we want to do something to give back to our community, our fans and the university.

TT: Track and field coach Eric Mobley told us you originally came here as a walk-on distance runner, not a thrower. What happened?

JA: I originally ran cross country in the fall, and then during the outdoor track season I ran the 800 and 1500. In my sophomore year at practice, I was running downhill at Belmont Plateau (in Fairmount Park); my foot got caught in an awkward position and my hips came out of alignment. For about two and a half months they were pretty far out of alignment eventually had to go through physical therapy for a month and a half. I was really devastated. I really didn’t think I was going to be able to run. I was barely able to walk, or sit up straight in class. It was tough, especially being so far from home.

TT: But you didn’t leave the team?

JA: I worked my butt off and was able to practice with my team again by the end of my sophomore year. But it didn’t feel right. I knew that I wasn’t going to be able to contribute to my team or score points in that condition. But one benefit of the injury was after about a year and a half, I was stronger than ever. I knew that if I wanted to be a part of the team, I needed to find another way to contribute. So I became a thrower. My main event is javelin. I also do hammer throw and shot put.

TT: What’s next for you?

JA: I decided to attend U.C. Berkeley in the fall and get my master’s degree in their sport and education program.

TT: Do you have any long term goals?

JA: I’m taking over the NCAA! [She laughs.] I don’t know why, but I already know some people after participating in an NCAA inclusion forum on college athletes where I want to stay close to student-athletes and impact their lives, so my long-term goal is to be an athletic director or dean of students at an institution.

TT: Speaking of inclusion, there aren’t many African-American female role models nationally in these types of leadership positions.

JA: Tell me you can’t and I’ll show you I can. The fact that there are few women period, let alone African-American women, who are in the types of positions I want — that’s a driving force. There’s a saying: “Be the change you want to see in the world.” If I can’t try, how can I inspire someone else? How can I tell someone else they can do it, if I don’t try myself?

— Hilf J. Hoffmann

Jennie Abercrumbie: a living example of the folly of stereotyping student-athletes. The off-the-field accomplishments of this theoretical linguistics major in the College of Health Professions and Social Work had graduate school and researchers competing for her (she was accepted to grad school programs at Harvard University and the University of California, Berkeley, and also was offered a prestigious post-graduate internship with the NCAA). Want to know what Jenni chose? Read on.
Student speaker has long, bumpy journey

For some students, the path through college is short, straight and pain-free. That's not how it worked out for Joseph B. Stoney, the 2013 commencement speaker, who said his major choice was to be the student speaker at Temple's 126th Commencement Exercises. Stoney was a 23-year-old out of Northeast Philadelphia when he started his Temple journey almost a decade ago. Now, after overcoming a series of obstacles that would have defeated many students, he's ready to become the first person in his family to earn a college degree. As the Temple motto says, Perseverantia Vivit — perseverance conquers.

Regressions: Your academic career was derailed a few times on the way to graduation. What happened?

JS: I want to go to Temple, I was in the Navy. My dream was to be a naval aviator. About five or six years into my naval career, I was on my way. I was accepted into a commissioning program to become a naval officer. The program would pay for my college. I wanted on a full scholarship, with flight training. I thought that was a pretty good deal.

TT: I think the Navy saw me as someone who could make it happen. When they decided to launch the webinar interview podcast known as "Talkadelphia," they bought a microphone, plugged it into a laptop and they were off. We can't wait to see what this husband-and-wife team of Beauty School of Law graduates decides to do next.

Recipe for creative energy: Mix @PhillyGrrl and @GinoTheFilipino, add law school

When Kishwer Vijacks Barrica and Gina Barrica got an idea in their heads, they didn't delay — they made it happen. When they decided to get married, they tied the knot as less than a week. When they decided to launch the webinar interview podcast known as "Talkadelphia," they bought a microphone, plugged it into a laptop and they were off. We can't wait to see what this husband-and-wife team of Beauty School of Law graduates decides to do next.

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KYIN THE FOCUS

Kishwer Vijacks Barrica

BS, Law

Gina Barrica

BS, Law

Kishwer Vijacks Barrica

BS, Law

Gina Barrica

BS, Law


Student speaker has long, bumpy journey

For some students, the path through college is short, straight and pain-free. That's not how it worked out for Joseph B. Stoney, the 2013 commencement speaker, who said his major choice was to be the student speaker at Temple's 126th Commencement Exercises. Stoney was a 23-year-old out of Northeast Philadelphia when he started his Temple journey almost a decade ago. Now, after overcoming a series of obstacles that would have defeated many students, he's ready to become the first person in his family to earn a college degree. As the Temple motto says, Perseverantia Vivit — perseverance conquers.

Regressions: Your academic career was derailed a few times on the way to graduation. What happened?

JS: I want to go to Temple, I was in the Navy. My dream was to be a naval aviator. About five or six years into my naval career, I was on my way. I was accepted into a commissioning program to become a naval officer. The program would pay for my college. I wanted on a full scholarship, with flight training. I thought that was a pretty good deal.

TT: I think the Navy saw me as someone who could make it happen. When they decided to launch the webinar interview podcast known as "Talkadelphia," they bought a microphone, plugged it into a laptop and they were off. We can't wait to see what this husband-and-wife team of Beauty School of Law graduates decides to do next.

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Army officer shores up planning skills at Temple Ambler

By James Duffy
duffy@temple.edu

Temple community and regional planning graduate student Terrence Harrington came to urban planning from a decidedly atypical angle, receiving inspiration from the unlikely sources — George Costanza.

“I was watching an episode of ‘Sein-feld’ where George was pretty close to being a city planner. It was the first time that I thought about urban planning as a career,” said Harrington, a career mili-
tary officer with more than 17 years of service to his country. “At the time I was being redeployed to Iraq, but I knew that city planning was my future.”

It’s a future firmly rooted in his military career, which has incorporated planning in some aspect at nearly every turn. While a television comedy helped Harrington’s planning seed germinate, his dedication to ensuring the safety, security and well being of his fellow sol-

diers at home and abroad in locations ranging $400,000 in construction projects. 

From 2009 to 2010, as director of en-

engineering and housing, Harrington was responsible for all U.S. base camps in Kuwait during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Operations.

In Kuwait, Harrington was involved in developing stormwater management plans for the camps to allow for some

normalcy of life during the rainy season, and he worked with the director of pub-
lc works to develop a power distribution plan during the summer months, when temperatures reach 115 to 130 degrees and outdoors are common.

Currently, he is helping to super-

vise the planning and execution of U.S. troop withdrawal and base closures out of Afghanistan while also being responsible for the planning and ex-

ecution of all engineering missions — both combat and construction.

And while continuing his military service, Harrington worked toward a master’s degree at Temple University Ambler.

“I think my military training has helped greatly in the program and vice versa,” Harrington said. “In the mil-

itary there are a lot of opportunities for analytical thinking — how to resolve problems based on current facts while managing your assets. Temple’s plan-

ning program provided me with the technical understanding and the theor-

etical processes that I needed to ex-

plore a broad spectrum — economic, environmental, societal, geographical — and see how they interrelate.”

Seven years and several overseas tours later, Harrington is about to com-
mplete the long journey to finishing his degree. While thousands of miles — and one ocean — will prevent him from attending graduation personally on May 16, he’ll certainly be there in spirit.

“It’s such a great sense of accom-

plishment. I think in my situation, a lot of people would have quit, but the institu-
tional and faculty support I’ve received has been awesome,” he said.

Harrington’s advising fellow active duty service men and women who are pursuing higher education. “It’s simple: ‘Do it.’

Hands-on community service drives med school grad

By Eryn Joistenwicz
debbie@temple.edu

As a little girl, Crystal Brown thought that the community service she did with her mother in the Watts section of Los Angeles were just a fun party. Nearly two decades later, on the cusp of graduating from medical school, she can see that they were the foundation on which she built a personal commitment to com-

munity service.

Brown’s mother was a faculty member in the physicians assistant program at Charles Drew University and gave a lot back to the poverty-

stricken community surrounding the school through health fairs and other activities for the neighborhood.

“When she worked in the commu-

itty, she always have me out there with her,” said Brown. “At the time, I didn’t realize I was volunteering — I thought it was just fun — but it always stuck with me and as I got older realized it was something I wanted to do as well.”

As an undergraduate at Pepper-

dine University and a medical stu-
dent at Temple, Brown extended her community work to serve many dif-

ferent populations.

In her junior year, she traveled to Nicaragua to work with the citizens of an impoverished village that had no infrastructure, no roads, no san-
ination and no source of medical care. In addition to building outbuildings, the students helped run medical clinics out of people’s houses.

Being one of the ‘squeaky wheels’ Brown got to do a lot of hands-on work with the patients. At that point she knew that she wanted to pursue medicine. She chose Temple because of its location in an ur-

ban area and its mission to care for the underserved.

While at Temple, Brown made sure to stay in close touch with her adopted community in North Phila-
delphia. For two years, she worked

with her fellow medical students to bring an annual health fair to the nearby Kenderton Elementary School. Teaching the children about everything from nutrition to the dangers of alcohol. And as the com-
munity service chair of Temple’s National Medical Association stu-
dent chapter, Brown launched a new program to address the high rate of hypertension in African-American men.

For this program, she needed to partner with a barber shop, and she found one near Temple’s Main Cam-
pus, Mecca, on Cecil B. Moore Ave-

ue. On Saturdays, Brown and her fellow medical students would visit the shop and offer free blood pressure screenings. It was a way to reach Af-

rican-American men, some of whom hadn’t been to see a doctor in decades, in an informal, relaxed setting. Brown found the work fulfilling because the students got to know the men over time and could help them get follow-
up care for conditions identified.

For her residency, Brown chose to specialize in emergency medicine at the University of Southern Californi-
a. She loves the variety and pace of the ER and the opportunity it affords for work with her hands. She feels good about the fact that USC serves a population similar to Temple’s. And although she plans on returning home to spend time with her grand-

parents and growing nephews, she’s always drawn to Philadelphia.

“I think I was a little intimi-

dated by the East Coast’s reputation for ruggedness, but I found that people here are so willing to interact. And I really appreciated that. People in L.A. can tend to be a little cooler,” said Brown. “Everyone has been very friendly, from the patients to the em-

ployees at the medical school. That’s what I'll miss most.”
As sophomores, engineering students Vadim Linevich and Andrew Powell both became involved in the NASA-funded Student Space Exploration and Environmental Systems Laboratory (SSESL) in Temple's College of Engineering. The lab offers students a chance to work on diverse projects involving robotics, quad-copters, suborbital payload design and high altitude ballooning.

As a result of their experience, the two graduating seniors applied and were accepted into the prestigious and competitive NASA Robotics Academy and will spend 10 weeks this summer at NASA Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala. NASA holds robotics academies at two of its facilities: the Marshall Space Flight Center and Ames Research Center in California. Typically, only a dozen students are accepted into each.

"This is almost unheard of for two undergraduates from the same school getting into the robotics academy at the same time," said Temple Electrical and Computer Engineering Associate Professor Dan Holtery, who is also director of SSESL.

Although Linevich and Powell worked in the same laboratory, the two took different routes to landing the NASA internship.

Linevich, 21, a mechanical engineering major, spent three years on the linevix team, which competes in a NASA-sponsored competition to design and build a lunar mining robot.

"During spring break, I had the opportunity to participate in this online career fair exclusively for linevix team members," said Linevich, who was born in Belarus and moved to northeast Philadelphia nine years ago. "I was very fortunate to speak with someone from NASA who told me about this amazing internship.

"The competition was very fierce," Linevich said. "I was over the moon when I heard I was one of the few people who got admitted. If I didn't have the linevix team experience, I don't think I would have been considered.

Powell, 22, learned about the internship at the last minute through a forwarded email from the National Society of Black Engineers.

"I saw the email and took the initia- tion right away," said Powell, an electric- al and computer engineering major who helped design and build a quad- copter through SSESL and is part of a senior design team building an autonomous lawnmower. "I spent the whole weekend preparing my application, which included a letter of recommen- dation, resume and two essays.

He was surprised when he got a phone call from NASA in early March telling him he had been accepted.

"Something I said in one of my essays obviously got someone's atten- tion," said Powell, who is from Bethle- hem, Pa.

At the NASA Robotics Academy, Linevich and Powell work as part of the same team on a research proj- ect titled "Next Generation Solar Sail- craft." In addition to lab work, they will take part in special seminars and workshops and visit off-site aerospace companies and other research facili- ties. The two are looking forward to gaining more knowledge and hands-

Engineering graduates will spend summer in NASA robotics program

By Preston M. Moretz
pmoretz@temple.edu

For Aistrop, that experience serves as a reminder for Tempies to embrace the world for Spanish major students who participated, she also gained the opportunity to serve as a Diamond Peer Tutor for an LASS course taught by her father.

"It's rewarding to be able to help other students go through what I went through in being asked to conduct all of my college classes 100 percent, to- tally and completely, in another lan- guage," she said.

Aistrop says the language skills she developed at Temple have opened a lot of doors and helped her clarify some goals for her future.

Following graduation, she has accepted a position as an Immigra- tion outreach coordinator with American Civics Vista. After that, Ais- trop plans to pursue a master's de- gree in public health and establish a career working with humanitarian organizations on issues that impact Spanish-speaking immigrant communities.

"Majoring in Spanish was my mom's idea. And it turned out to be a perfect fit."

Graduate focuses on dream of someday hosting game shows

By Jeff Cronin
jcronin@temple.edu

At 11 years old, Brian Schwartz learned a new term: "Asperger's syndrome.

The South Philly native's doctor explained to him that it was a dis- ease that causes people to have an intensely narrow focus, eccentric behavior and more.

"As soon as I heard what it was all about, I was like, 'Yeah, that's definitely me.

"As a child, Schwartz became fixated on game shows. From Bob Barker to Wink Martindale, he learned all about this flashy televi- sion niche.

Now 30, Schwartz is graduating with a degree in media studies and production and stakes claim to be- ing TUTV's first game show host.

Schwartz created and hosted "Tell All," a game that challenges contestants to say all they know about a particular subject to try to match a list of key words. The win- ners, of course, leave with a fabu- lous prize.

Schwartz's journey to gradua- tion was marked with challenges, but "that just motivated me more to do well."

At a local high school, he started at the Community College of Philadelphia, where he completed his first two years' worth of credits from 2004 to 2010 — for someone with Asperger's, managing the de- mands of a fully loaded semester of classes is quite a mountain to climb.

"I try to stay fo- cused on one thing at a time," he said. "I'm getting better at multitasking, but it's not easy for me."

Immersion program is a window to the world for Spanish major

By Kim Fischer
kfischer@temple.edu

While core diving in Mexico, Temple senior Rachel Aistrop had an epiphany.

"I was in pitch black darkness; I was scared and uncomfortable. Then I started listening to the tour guide's behavior and more.

"As a result of their experience, the two engineering majors will spend summer in NASA robotics programs.
Temple community readiness for 126th Commencement

Temple University will hold its 126th Commencement exercises on Thursday, May 16, beginning at 10 a.m. on the Main Campus.

More than 9,000 graduates and guests are expected to attend the morning ceremony. Graduating students will gather at the loading dock entrance on Broad Street near Cecil B. Moore Avenue in their regalia no later than 8:45 a.m. and form single file lines behind their college banners. The Class of 2013 is the largest to graduate in Temple’s history. More than 9,000 students fulfill their degree requirements this month and in December and August 2012 are eligible to participate the commencement. Graduates range in age from 19 to 73 years old and represent 49 states and 17 countries.

To ensure that the graduates and their families have convenient parking available, special parking regulations will be in effect on May 16. Visit www.temple.edu/parking for more information.

Computer Services will offer on-line streaming of the main ceremony at www.temple.edu/commencement. For the second year, the webcast will be viewable on mobile devices and closed captioning will be available. The ceremony also will be recorded for later viewing.

In addition to the university’s commencement ceremony, each of Temple’s schools and colleges will host individual ceremonies to recognize their graduates and bring together the class cohorts for a final send off. Below is a list of each ceremony and speakers.

All events will take place on May 16, unless otherwise indicated.

Stay up-to-date on Commencement news and activities

Follow Temple’s official social media accounts for the latest photos, profiles and updates.

Twitter: Twitter.com/templeuw Harrhtags: #TG13, #tiugrad2013
Facebook: facebook.com/templeu
Storify (feed of all social media and web stories.) http://storify.com/templecommencement3

By Preston M. Moretz pmoretz@temple.edu

For most students in Temple’s Doc- tor of Pharmacy program, the intense curriculum of classroom study and outside pharmacy experiences leaves little time for other things, including independent research. But that didn’t stop Joel John, who is receiving his PharmD degree from Temple’s College of Pharmacy.

John has spent the past four years examining the effects of drugs on learning and memory, with the long-term goal of providing a model to test new drugs that can improve memory in patients with dementia or Alzheimer’s disease. He’s worked in the behavioral pharmacology lab of Ellen Walker, professor of pharmacology at the School of Pharmacy within the College of Health Sciences.

“Pharmacy school itself takes a lot of time and in fourth year you find the right people gave me these wonderful research opportunities,” John says.

At the end of his fourth year, John was invited to present his research at the 57th Annual Meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association. Since then, John has presented at conferences across the country and around the globe, including a recent presentation at the 61st annual meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association, featuring his latest research on the effects of drugs on learning and memory.

For John, the research is just the beginning. He hopes to continue his studies in pharmacy school and then pursue a residency and eventually become a pharmacist.

“My mom would be so mad at me if I didn’t go to graduation,” she said “She would be upset. So I’m going to go sit there for her.”

Joel S. John
SPH, Pharmacy

“I went to her lab and talked to her about her work,” said John. “They were studying the effects of chemotherapeu- tic agents on learning and memory. As a pharmacy student, it was really intresting to see the drugs being tested in a pre-clinical setting.”

When he started in the lab, there was another lab testing a compound and their effects on substance addiction,” he said. “They wanted to see if these compounds had any effect on learning and memory.”

Although John’s schedule was already full, Walker allowed him the flexibility to begin doing research in his lab.

“Pharmacy school itself takes a lot of time, but I was able to find time between my classes and outside experiences,” John said. “As long as you keep the time to run your experiments very consistent, you will be fine.”

John often worked by himself in the lab late evenings after the graduate stu- dents and research assistants went home.

“I really didn’t mind staying late at night,” said John, who at one point was juggling his classes, two pharmacy ex- periences and his research. “For me, it was easy to manage the time, and the last thing I was thinking about was very ac- commodating, which made my work stress free and fun.”

Most pharmacy students have the opportunity to attend professional meetings, such as the meeting of the American Pharmacists Association. But John was able to actually present his research work at several neurosci- ence and pharmacology conferences. He was first author or co-author on 10 local, regional and national poster presentations at various conferences, and one of his posters won first prize in behavioral pharmacology at the San Diego meeting of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics in April 2012.

“Everything just fell into the right place at the right time for me,” said John, who will begin a per diem phar- macy position at Temple Hospital fol- lowing graduation. “And talking to the right people gave me these wonderful research opportunities.”

“Dr. Walker has been a great men- tor to me,” he added. “I feel very for- tunate to have worked with such a wonderful group both in research and academica.”

By Jeff Cronin jcronin@temple.edu

In the weeks before graduation, an equal number of moments of raw excitement and sheer terror flittered through Lucy Volpe’s head as she looked toward her future. Quite a common state of mind for a college senior.

But if you had an extended conver- sation with Volpe, who is graduating from the Department of Journalism in Temple’s School of Media and Com- munication, you’d notice a few things that set her apart from others soon to be graduates. She talks about mortgage payments and ensuring her little broth- er finds the right college. These are just a few of the responsibilities that fell to Volpe after she lost both of her parents by the age of 14.

But even through the tragedy, Volpe and her siblings, Maria, who is five years older, and Blaise, who is five years younger, weren’t left alone. Their next- door neighbors in the Holmesburg sec- tion of Northeast Philadelphia, Joyce and Ed Dence, were there to help the siblings pick up the pieces and go on. After the children’s father passed, they tore down the fence separating the two yards, allowing easy access between the two. And when their mother passed away, Maria and Joyce shared guardianship of Lucy and Blaise.

Then Lucy began college, and the Dence house every night between 5:30 and 6 p.m. Lucy considers the Dence sons her older brothers, but she’s never quite figured out how to succinctly de- scribe Joyce. “My sister always calls her our grandmother. People always ask me who she is and I’ve never said grand- mother. I have a grandmother,” Volpe said. “She’s like a second mom. Volpe’s always been our caregiver. She’s been there through it all.”

Volpe entered Temple with dreams of heading west to start a broadcasting ca- reer. But life has a way of altering dreams. She’s now focused on her siblings — get- ting Blaise through his senior year of high school and off to college, and letting her sister start her nursing career (she graduates this spring from the Abington

Dixon School of Nursing). “Temple has taught me so much. Honestly, I’m glad I picked journalism and then found my way into where- ever else I want to be because of the people that I’ve met, the stories that I’ve heard,” she said. “But I can’t leave home. What was I thinking?”

Instead, Volpe, who has been work- ing with the KYW Newsradio promos- team over the past few years, will be staying in Philly and hopes for a full-time position in promotions.

While her future is up in the air, one thing was certain as her final semester draw to a close — she would fulfill a pledge she made to her mother. “My mom would be so mad at me if I didn’t go to graduation,” she said “She would be upset. So I’m going to go sit there for her.”

By Preston M. Moretz pmoretz@temple.edu

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“Pharmacy school itself takes a lot of time, but I was able to find time between my classes and outside experiences,” John said. “As long as you keep the time to run your experiments very consistent, you will be fine.”

John often worked by himself in the lab late evenings after the graduate stu- dents and research assistants went home.

“I really didn’t mind staying late at night,” said John, who at one point was juggling his classes, two pharmacy ex- periences and his research. “For me, it was easy to manage the time, and the last thing I was thinking about was very ac- commodating, which made my work stress free and fun.”

Most pharmacy students have the opportunity to attend professional meetings, such as the meeting of the American Pharmacists Association. But John was able to actually present his research work at several neurosci- ence and pharmacology conferences. He was first author or co-author on 10 local, regional and national poster presentations at various conferences, and one of his posters won first prize in behavioral pharmacology at the San Diego meeting of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics in April 2012.

“Everything just fell into the right place at the right time for me,” said John, who will begin a per diem phar- macy position at Temple Hospital fol- lowing graduation. “And talking to the right people gave me these wonderful research opportunities.”

“Dr. Walker has been a great men- tor to me,” he added. “I feel very for-