



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

Hello and greetings, during this period of Covid19 pandemic. I hope you are doing well, staying cheerful, and continuing to do good work. On a positive note, I don't think I've ever seen and heard so many operas in such a short time!

I'd like to share with you some informal findings, not about the science of viral contagion, but about the literary source of the word *pandemic* which has struck fear (and justly so) in so many hearts.

Etymologically, the word is not as sinister as the condition it recalls. *Pandemic* derives from the Greek, *pan* meaning *all* and *demos* referring to *people*. All the people. People everywhere. In sickness, in health, and somewhere in between.

While the word *pandemic* picked up disease-related connotations in the Middle Ages, home of some of the worst plagues in recorded history, the roots of the term could just as easily apply to other conditions and circumstances. What if we had a pandemic of peace? A pandemic of justice? Imagine, difficult though it may be, a pandemic of listening to each other with understanding.

The past few months have been unprecedented in the history of our country, perhaps in the world. We have become accustomed to seeing the daily statistics on TV, computer, and cellphone screens. It was a black day indeed last month when the number of Covid-19 related deaths in the United States surpassed 100,000, and then, in a matter of hours, climbed up another thousand and still rising.

If we never thought about *pan* and *demos* before, the period between mid-March 2020 and now has changed that forever.

Each of us has a personal story to tell relating to the emergence and spread of a novel virus. It may be that some among us, or a relative, friend, or colleague, has contracted Covid-19. More commonly, we may be experiencing the isolation resulting from stay-at-home orders, essential though those orders may be. Some of us have seen dreams dashed, jobs lost, careers waylaid. My dream of singing in Beethoven's Ninth with a full symphony orchestra was dashed mere days after our last rehearsal in March. My hope was simply a personal wish, while others are finding they cannot pay the rent, have necessary surgery, or even take a much-needed book out of the library. Even wearing a mask or social distancing can be a challenge for people with certain medical or psychological conditions.

But what has sustained us during this difficult time has been the two roots of the word used to describe our shared affliction: pandemic. We are *all* in this together, as scholars, artists, and *people*. In times of isolation and uncertainty, we truly come to appreciate the organizations we belong to. These may include religious institutions, social or service clubs, special interest groups, but for independent scholars, they most assuredly include organizations that support and encourage scholarship and intellectual exchange with peers and colleagues.

Many of us are learning to use Zoom and other meeting software to see our colleagues face-to-face and engage in lively conversation, while others are seizing the moment to indulge in that rarest of luxuries, Time: time to read, to take notes, to reflect on what we have read and our own original thoughts nurtured in the soil of quiet and meditation. Our Poetry Group is taking the path of individual reflection rather than a group activity this spring and summer, while the Science/Science History and Humanities Groups are continuing to meet in the online environment.

We recall, too, that independent scholars are not generally afraid of “isolation,” which comes from the Latin word *insula* meaning *island*. In our research, creative work, and personal pursuits, we may well be transported in our imagination to islands such as Manhattan, Île de la Cité, or a sandy beach in the South Seas. Isolation is not always a bad idea.

In addition to PRF-related activities, many of us are taking classes online, some for the first time. As someone who has taught college courses online for 20 years, I can aver that students get out of it what they put into it, and that distance learning can be a life-changing experience. Online education is a great way to stay current in our fields and explore new horizons.

There is no substitute, of course, for good public and personal health, happy relationships, and fulfilling work (as remunerative as we need or desire). But the pandemic will pass, and, it is to be hoped, we will still be here. Thanks to PRF and other resources, we may emerge from our time on the “island” of isolation stronger, grateful, and ready to roar.

Best wishes to all,
Linda Holt, D.Litt.
5/29/20

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

I am very sorry for the lateness of this Newsletter – originally planned as the Winter 2020 issue. Thank you all for your patience, and thank you especially, Linda Arntzenius, for stepping in to get it done. This spring of Covid-19 has turned everyone’s priorities and routines upside-down, but that’s not my excuse.

Shortly after Steffi Lewis’s death on November 7, 2019, I learned that she had appointed me the Executor of her Estate. That unexpected honor has pre-occupied me ever since. Because we had known one another only through PRF, I like to think that Steffi wanted her legacy to be handled in the spirit of our “community of independent scholars.” (For an appreciation of Steffi’s life, see *In Memoriam*, below.)

Karen Reeds
Newsletter Editor

PRF ANNUAL MEETING DEFERRED

The Covid-19 pandemic has forced the postponement of PRF’s Annual Meeting, ordinarily held in June, as required by our Bylaws. The Executive Board will set a new date in the fall of 2020 and, if necessary, hold it as a virtual Zoom meeting.

PRF WELCOMES NEW MEMBER: CONNIE GODDARD

The Membership Committee and the Executive Board are pleased to welcome new PRF member Connie Goddard., Ph.D. Connie is a historian and a journalist. Of joining PRF, she writes: As an independent scholar working on a book that’s gestated for some time, I was intrigued to learn about the Princeton Research Forum earlier this year, and I am delighted to have joined – likely of particular interest is the Works in Progress group. (I’m a great fan of deadlines!) Working title for my project is ‘Schooling Hands and Heads: Place and Personalities in the Fate of Three Progressive Era Manual Training Schools.’ I’m calling this a combination of history and memoir because of personal and scholarly connections with all three: an early manual training school in Chicago (1883-1904 or so), the Manual Training and Industrial School in Bordentown (1886-1955), and the State Normal and Industrial School in North Dakota (1899-1971).



*Connie Goddard, Ph.D.
Historian, Progressive Era
Manual Training Programs*

Connections are that my doctoral dissertation (University of Illinois at Chicago, 2005) was on the famed Progressive Era educator Ella Flagg Young, who worked with John Dewey in Chicago and taught him how schools function as social institutions. After moving to New Jersey in 2011 and teaching at two Mercer County colleges, and a state prison, I was

stunned to learn that there was a very Deweyan school in Bordentown – and that it was largely forgotten. The third school, my mother attended, and she spoke fondly of it – and of the solid education she received at rural schools in the Dakotas. Other connections include growing up in a household governed by my father’s dedication to learning by doing and attending a noted progressive elementary school in suburban Chicago.

As a journalist with solid grounding in academic and trade publishing, acquired in New York and Chicago, and with a decade of teaching here and abroad, I’m finding that experience and numerous past passions – like about Chicago architecture – are informing my work on this. And I hope they can help me get it written – my self-imposed deadline is a manuscript sometime this summer. As I live in Tinton Falls, I likely won’t make it to many luncheons, but I am looking forward to some virtual participation.

PRF is delighted to welcome new members into our community. Chances are you know independent scholars in the area who haven’t yet heard about PRF. Point them to our website princetonresearchforum.org, invite them to our gatherings, and urge them to get in touch with our Membership Chair, Terri McNichol, for an application form.

TONI CAREY ON KEEPING IT SHORT AND SWEET

After several years of connecting only by email, Karen Reeds and I met in the Firestone Library tea room (before Covid-19) for a leisurely chat and an almond croissant. One thing we agreed about was how much we like writing short articles. I discovered this when I started contributing to the British magazine *Philosophy Now*. The editor, Rick Lewis, usually lets me do what I want, which, of course, is a big plus. But even better was discovering how much one can say in very few words, without sacrificing much by way of scholarship or conversational style. Hemingway said he could write a novel in six words: “Baby shoes for sale; never worn.” I can’t do that. But I can say in 2,500 words what most people seem to think would require a long book, or at least an interminable article (you can find at least one in every issue of the *New Yorker*, further weighed down by a stupefying number of commas.) For a 20-minute conference presentation, 2,450 words (fewer with PowerPoint, since a picture is worth 1,000) allows me to go at a leisurely pace, enabling the audience to

understand and even enjoy what I have to say. Karen likes *really* short pieces, 300-600 words, and naturally (what else?) asked if I would do one about our conversation for the *PRF Newsletter*. Naturally (what else?) I took that as a challenge to come in under 250.

Toni Carey

PRF CONGRATULATES 2020 BUCHANAN AWARD-WINNER ROBERT W. CRAIG

Architectural historian and PRF Member Robert W. Craig has been awarded the 2020 Paul E. Buchanan Award by The Vernacular Architecture Forum (VAF). The award honors exemplary projects that illustrate the highest standards for meticulous documentation and rigorous study of historic vernacular architecture and cultural landscapes.

Bob was honored for his studies of New Jersey buildings with patterned brickwork in his reports for the Office of Historical Preservation, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and his recent, open-access article, “Traditional Patterned Brickwork in New Jersey.”

According to the VAF website, the project, titled “Traditional Patterned Brickwork Buildings of New Jersey,” documented “nearly 400 patterned-brick buildings constructed between 1680 and 1830 and created a framework for the continuing study of these early regional examples. Architectural Historian Robert W. Craig, of the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office, spearheaded this seven-year project from start to finish. He coordinated the inventory, conducted extensive research, and authored the Multiple Property Documentation Form for the National Register of Historic Places.” While focused on architectural examples in New Jersey, the project presents a valuable basis for further documentation and analysis of similar patterned brickwork buildings from New York to South Carolina and will be referenced for future surveys to help preserve uniquely beautiful buildings in New Jersey and beyond.

Architectural preservation, said Bob, “has been a passion since his very first introduction to historical archaeology on a high school history club field trip.”

Bob's article can be viewed in *New Jersey Studies*:
<https://njs.libraries.rutgers.edu/index.php/njs/article/view/169/219>

For more on the VAP and the Buchanan Award, visit:
<http://www.vafweb.org/page-1821789>

NEWS FROM PRF STUDY GROUPS

In April, PRF President Linda Holt announced that because of the Coronavirus pandemic, all in-person group meetings were being cancelled through the summer, with hopes of resuming again in the fall.

The **PRF Science / Science History** group, hosted by Boris Katz, cancelled its March meeting because of the Covid-19 pandemic and began meeting online using Zoom conferencing software in April, when they discussed the book, *Morality: A Natural History*, by PRF secretary, Roger Moseley, M.D. In 2020, the group also discussed the following: *Enlightenment Now: The Case for Reason, Science, Humanism, and Progress* by Steven Pinker (January); *Deadly Outbreaks: How Medical Detectives Save Lives Threatened by Killer Pandemics, Exotic Viruses, and Drug-Resistant Parasites* by Alexandra M. Levitt (February); *The Serengeti Rules: The Quest to Discover How Life Works and Why It Matters* by Sean B. Carroll (May); *The Age of Living Machines: How Biology Will Build the Next Technology Revolution* by Susan Hockfield (June). The next book will be *Life's Engines: How Microbes Made Earth Habitable* by Paul G. Falkowski, a professor at Rutgers. The group plans to invite Prof. Falkowski to the discussion. Anyone interested in joining the group should contact Boris Katz.

While the regular April meeting of the **PRF Humanities Group** was cancelled, the group's chair, Ashwini Mokashi reports that the group has continued to meet through the pandemic using Zoom software provided by Terri McNichol. The May title was *God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy. Upcoming readings are: *Eugene Onegin* by Alexander Pushkin (July); *Mansfield Park* by Jane Austen (August); *Quichotte* by Salman Rushdie (September); *Golden Gate* by Vikram Seth (October); and *The Master and Margarita* by Mikhail Bulgakov (November). All PRF Members are welcome to join the humanities group for any session or for all sessions. Books are selected from various areas of the humanities and their various social themes are discussed. For more information, contact Ashwini Mokashi.

The PRF Poetry Group, chaired by Winifred Hughes, is not planning to meet the rest of this academic year. For more information, contact Winifred Hughes.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of mathematical physicist and PRF Advisory Board member, **Freeman Dyson**; architectural historian **Constance Greiff**; and longtime PRF Treasurer and philosopher **Stephanie Lewis**.

IN MEMORIAM: FREEMAN DYSON (1923-2020)

Mathematician and physicist **Freeman John Dyson**, a long-serving member of PRF's Advisory Board, died February 28, 2020, aged 96.

Dyson was born in Crowthorne, Berkshire, UK, December 15, 1923. His father was the musician and composer Sir George Dyson; his mother, Mildred Lucy Atkey, a lawyer and social worker. In his early years, Dyson fell in love with mathematics. In his 1979 memoir, *Disturbing the Universe*, he reported that his happiest ever school holiday – from Winchester college – was spent working his way, from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., through 700 problems in Piaggio's Differential Equations. "I was in love with mathematics and nothing else mattered."



Freeman Dyson in his office at the Institute for Advanced Study, November 2019 (Photo by L. Arntzenius)

Dyson intended to speak the language of Einstein and he would go on to contribute revolutionary insights to numerous scientific fields, including nuclear engineering, solid state physics, astrophysics, biology, and applied mathematics.

The following is excerpted from the announcement of his death by the Institute for Advanced Study (IAS), which was Dyson's academic home for more than 60 years:

“No life is more entangled with the Institute and impossible to capture—architect of modern particle physics, free-range mathematician, advocate of space travel, astrobiology and disarmament, futurist, eternal graduate student, rebel to many preconceived ideas including his own, thoughtful essayist, all the time a wise observer of the human scene,” stated Robbert Dijkgraaf, IAS Director and Leon Levy Professor.

In 1941, as an undergraduate at Trinity College in Cambridge, Dyson studied physics with Paul Dirac and Arthur Eddington and found an intellectual role model in the famed English mathematician G.H. Hardy, who had previously mentored the mathematical prodigy, Srinivasa Ramanujan. As a mathematician, Dyson published papers on number theory, analysis, and algebraic topology, developing the concept known as “Dyson’s transform” as part of his proof of Mann’s theorem, which serves as a fundamental technique in additive number theory.

“Freeman Dyson was truly a 'free thinker'—there were absolutely no bounds to what he was willing to imagine, no bounds of complexity, of conventional wisdom, of scope and time,” stated Charles Simonyi, IAS Board Chair. “His thoughts, just as the universe he was exploring, and expressed in the title of one of his many books, were truly 'Infinite in All Directions.’”

During the Second World War, Dyson worked for two years as a civilian scientist conducting operations research for the Royal Airforce’s Bomber Command. He then enrolled at Cambridge University and graduated with a B.A. in Mathematics in 1945. Dyson was awarded a Commonwealth Fellowship in 1947, bringing him to Cornell University, where he continued to focus his mathematical acumen on theoretical physics, pursuing his graduate work with Hans Bethe and Richard Feynman.

In the spring of 1948, Dyson accompanied Feynman on a fabled cross-country road trip that culminated in one of the most remarkable breakthroughs of 20th century physics. After being steeped in the work of Feynman for months and spending six weeks listening to Julian Schwinger’s ideas in Ann Arbor, Dyson was able to prove the equivalency of their two competing theories of quantum electrodynamics (QED), which describes how light and matter interact. Dyson recalled the moment of discovery as a “flash of illumination on the Greyhound bus.” He had

been traveling alone for more than 48 hours, making his way to Princeton, NJ to begin his first Membership at the Institute for Advanced Study.

The seminal paper outlining Dyson’s discovery was published by *The Physical Review* in 1949 under the title, “The Radiation Theories of Tomonaga, Schwinger, and Feynman.” While this question was a central problem of physics, the solution was a mathematical one that Dyson was uniquely positioned to solve given his quantitative training. Dyson’s insights—a Rosetta Stone of physics—provided a more precise understanding of sub-atomic particles consistent with quantum mechanics and special relativity, enabled the first use of Feynman diagrams in calculating scattering amplitudes, and showed how perturbative QED could be logically understood. Shin'ichirō Tomonaga, Julian Schwinger, and Richard Feynman were jointly awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1965 for their work in this area.

At the invitation of J. Robert Oppenheimer, the Institute’s longest-serving Director, Dyson joined IAS as a Member in 1948. Dyson returned to the Institute for a second Membership in 1950. The following year, he accepted an offer of a full professorship from Cornell University. Dyson was invited back to IAS for a third time in 1953 to take up a permanent appointment to the Faculty, joining a group of the century’s top physicists and mathematicians, including Albert Einstein, Kurt Gödel, Abraham Pais, Oswald Veblen, and John von Neumann.

The Institute provided Dyson the freedom and flexibility to follow his curiosity to new areas and fields that interested him. In 1956, Dyson began a three-year association with General Atomic, where he worked to design a nuclear reactor that would be inherently safe, or, as colleague Edward Teller put it, “not only idiot-proof, but PhD proof.” The TRIGA reactor is still in production today and used mostly by hospitals.

In 1958, he took a leave of absence from the Institute and moved to La Jolla, California to join General Atomic’s “Project Orion,” working with forty scientists to design an atomic spaceship capable of riding a wave of controlled nuclear pulses into deep space. Dyson recalled the fifteen months spent on the short-lived project as “the most exciting and in many ways the happiest of my scientific life.” The ambitious project had once set its sights on “Mars by 1965, Saturn by 1970.”

Dyson was engaged in the public debate regarding the nuclear test ban treaty and whether or not an exception should be made for purposes of experimentation. In 1960, he was elected to the council of the Federation of American Scientists, and selected as its chair two years later. From this post, he became an effective advocate for the creation of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, which existed until 1999 when it was merged with the U.S. State Department. Dyson's work with this newly created agency gave him greater opportunities to examine the potential consequences of a nuclear war. Concluding that further nuclear testing was "wrong technically, wrong militarily, wrong politically, and wrong morally," Dyson testified before the U.S. Senate in favor of the nuclear test ban treaty in 1963.

Dyson continued to educate the public on important questions of science, becoming a highly sought-after lecturer and frequent contributor to popular scientific publications on a wide variety of topics, including the relation of science to religion, the prospective colonization of the solar system, harnessing the energy of stars, and climate change. In turning from science to writing, Dyson often recalled the advice of his undergraduate mentor G.H. Hardy, "'Young men should prove theorems, old men should write books.' So I decided in 1975 to follow Hardy's example. Like Hardy, I did not stop proving theorems altogether, but my output of theorems gradually diminished as my output of books increased. I have found, like Hardy, that the art of weaving sentences into a story can be as creative as the art of weaving ideas into a theorem."

Among his books geared for the scientifically curious among the general public are: *Disturbing the Universe* (1979); *Weapons and Hope* (1984); *Infinite in All Directions* (1988); *Origins of Life* (1986); *From Eros to Gaia* (1992); *Imagined Worlds* (1997); *The Sun, the Genome and the Internet* (1999). *The Scientist as Rebel* (2006) is a collection of book reviews and essays, mostly published in the *New York Review of Books*. *Maker of Patterns* (2018) is an autobiographical account of Freeman's life through letters written to his parents.

An article by PRF Vice-President **Linda Arntzenius**, celebrating the life of the late physicist Freeman Dyson, was published online in the latest issue of *Fresh Thinking*, the magazine of the Center of Theological Inquiry (pages 30-36). It is titled "Conversations with Freeman Dyson (1923-2020):" https://issuu.com/ctinquiry/docs/freshthinking20_v12

IN MEMORIAM: CONNIE GREIFF (1929-2020)

Architectural historian **Constance Greiff**, a pioneer of the historic preservation movement and longtime PRF member, died Sunday, March 1, in Princeton.

Connie is remembered for her passion for historic buildings, her many books on the subject and for founding and presiding over Preservation New Jersey, a nonprofit devoted to preserving the state's diverse heritage, as well as for her efforts in consulting, and advising the National Trust for Historic Preservation.



Connie Greiff (1929-2020)

The following is an excerpt from an obituary of Connie in Town Topics newspaper:

Constance May Mann was born in New York on Oct. 4, 1929, the second of two daughters of Jacob and Evelyn (Weiss) Mann. Her father taught Latin in the New York public schools. Raised in Queens and Manhattan, she graduated from Vassar College, where she studied Art History and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Following graduate studies at the New York University Institute of Fine Arts, she returned to teach briefly at Vassar.

While studying at Vassar, she met Robert Greiff, an engineering student at Columbia University. They were married in 1952 and had two sons, James and Peter, who survive her, as do James' wife, Bia, his children, Rachel and Samuel, and Peter's daughter, Lara. Robert Greiff passed away in 2018.

"Every building tells a story, though sometimes you have to dig to find it," said Greiff (whose name rhymes with "life"). "I like the digging and I like the telling."

Connie found her vocation in the early 1960s, within a few years of moving to Princeton, which was rich in historically significant but largely unexplored homes, churches, and buildings. Teaming up with a Vassar co-alumna Mary (Weitzel) Gibbons, and photographer Elizabeth G. C. Menzies, Mrs. Greiff co-authored "Princeton Architecture: A Pictorial History of Town and Campus," published in 1967 by the Princeton University Press.

That book led to her involvement in the nascent New Jersey preservation movement and the Princeton Historical Society, where she served twice as president and led the restoration of the society's Nassau Street home, Bainbridge House.

In 1969, upon learning that Princeton University was going to build a large, mostly subterranean annex to Firestone Library, she and Mary Gibbons convinced the university to allow a brigade of students and volunteers to excavate the site, where the Houdibras Tavern had stood in the 18th century. For six weeks in the spring of that year, the team extracted shards of pottery and china, tableware and other household items, which later were catalogued and displayed in Bainbridge House.

Appointed advisor to the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1973, she became an editor at the Pyne Press, a small imprint based on Nassau Street that specialized in the re-issue of vintage architectural books. While at Pyne Press, she authored "Lost America: From the Atlantic to the Mississippi" and "Lost America: From the Mississippi to the Pacific," photographic tours of hundreds of buildings of architectural or historic value that had been lost to neglect, fire, flood or modern development. Through these books, Greiff's work became known to a national audience.

Her other books include: "John Notman, Architect" (Athenaeum of Philadelphia, 1979), "Independence: The Creation of a National Park" (University of Pennsylvania Press, 1987), "Early Victorian" and "Art Nouveau" (both Abbeville Press, 1995), "Robert Smith, Architect, Builder, Patriot" (Athenaeum of Philadelphia, 2000), which she co-authored with Charles E. Peterson and Maria Thompson "Morven: Memory, Myth and Reality" (Historic Morven, Inc., 2004) which she co-authored with Wanda Gunning.

In 1975, Mrs. Greiff founded Heritage Studies, a consultancy that performed surveys and studies for towns, counties, and states in the Northeast, the first of its kind in the preservation world. Heritage Studies employed many young architectural historians, helping launch careers in what was still a new field.

Architectural historian [and PRF Member] Bob Craig, Supervisor of the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office, who worked at Heritage Studies during a 12-year period in the 1970s and 1980s, recalled that working for Mrs. Greiff was "like getting a second graduate school education."

In 1978, Connie founded Preservation New Jersey, of which she was President until 1989. She also served on the planning boards of Princeton and Rocky Hill and was a member of the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Preservation.

IN MEMORIAM: STEPHANIE ROBINSON LEWIS (1944-2019)

The following originally appeared in Town Topics: <http://www.towntopics.com/wordpress/2019/11/13/obituaries-11-13-19/> and Mather-Hodge Funeral Home website: <https://matherhodge.com/tribute/details/1796/Stephanie-Lewis/obituary.html> - tribute-start.

Stephanie Robinson Lewis, known to her friends as Steffi, died on November 7, 2019, at her home in Princeton. She had been ill for some time. On November 11, 2019, friends gathered for a quiet farewell in Princeton Cemetery where Steffi was buried beside her husband David Lewis.

Born on August 3, 1944, Steffi grew up in Greenwich Village. She attended the Little Red School House and graduated from Bronx High School of Science (where she was the best student in math). At Radcliffe College she majored in mathematics. While auditing a Harvard graduate philosophy seminar taught by J. J. C. Smart, a visiting Australian philosopher, she met David Kellogg Lewis. They were both still students when they married in 1965.

From 1967 to 1970, Steffi pursued graduate studies in philosophy at UCLA until David's appointment as Associate Professor in the Philosophy Department at Princeton University brought them back to the East Coast. Steffi took several temporary teaching jobs in the area before deciding to make a career change. After taking an MBA degree at the University of Pennsylvania, she embarked on a very successful career in municipal finance. She maintained her own connection with the American Philosophical Association by serving as its treasurer for many years. She was also active in the Princeton Research Forum, a community of independent scholars, and served as its long-time treasurer.

In a wry essay, "Etc.," included in *Singing in the Fire: Stories of Women in Philosophy* (2003), Steffi

Philosophical Association's Committee on Non-Academic Careers noted: "I really didn't have any expenses to reimburse. I made pumpkin soup for everybody for lunch, but I count that as recreational cooking, not a reimbursable expense." Over the past four years, Steffi and Sandy Reid's extended family tried out Princeton restaurants together and joyfully held their own Jamaican barbecues in front of Steffi's house. Even when Steffi was very ill, she could not resist ordering a cupboard full of baking supplies from King Arthur Flour (those have gone to the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen). Ask me sometime for her hilarious marmalade recipe.

Even more important than the food, though, was making sure that everyone in the room felt included. Her musical companion, Andrew Rudin, recalled: "I never introduced anyone to Steffi but she instantly became a memorable presence in his life. In restaurants, she always started up relationships with everyone around." Students and faculty alike knew that, whatever the occasion, Steffi would go to the shy person in the corner and bring them into the conversation. Ashwini Mokashi remembers gratefully how Steffi showed her that one really could be a philosopher outside the university and brought her into PRF's fold of independent scholars.

Steffi had joined PRF in 1971. Like most early PRF members, she had come to Princeton as the trailing spouse of a professor. With an unfinished dissertation, only short-term academic posts were open to her. David's colleague, Prof. Alexander Nehamas – admiring Steffi's successful investment of a small inheritance from her father – suggested business school. A Wharton MBA led initially to jobs on Wall Street where one colleague remembered her intelligence, wit, and, above all, "her decency, which was really rare there."

Wall Street's sexism made Steffi acknowledge for the first time that she too had to contend against discrimination against women. True to "the red-diaper mind-set" of her upbringing, she had assumed that "people are more alike than they are different.... Surely gender-based expectations were applied to people, but I never felt I particularly suffered from them." Amused tolerance, rather than rage, was her preferred response. For example, decades after a beloved mechanical drawing class, Steffi recalled how the one-time industrial arts teacher (from a rival high school!) who built the elegant bookcases at 280 Prospect Avenue okayed her detailed plans:

"When the project was finished, he told me that he never thought a Science kid, and a girl into the bargain, could do that good a job of an industrial

drawing project. This is one of the all-time nicest things that anyone has ever said to me. It's up there with the time that some guy, after failing to impress me by telling me that I thought like a man, really found something nice to say and told me that I thought like an engineer." [Undated, partial draft contribution to a Bronx High School reunion report or memorial for Mr. Kalmus.]

During her "academic gypsy" years teaching philosophy, Steffi "never seriously believed ... that I had any serious complaint about discrimination against me." However, one quiet line in her 2003 essay, "Etc.," makes me suspect Steffi had come to feel that sexism in the UCLA philosophy department had played a part in derailing her dissertation:

"[For a municipal finance project] I had ... long conversations with an academic [economist] friend about strategy, tactics, and the substance of the presentation the sort of conversation that academics have and upon which philosophy thrives. That conversation did make me think that, if I'd had a thesis advisor like that, my life might well have turned out differently."

In 2016, Steffi did not hesitate to "express [her] opposition to sexual harassment and sexual misconduct in higher education" by signing the "Open Letter Regarding Thomas Pogge," (a prominent ethicist and Leitner Professor of Philosophy and Professor of Political Science at Yale): <https://sites.google.com/site/thomaspogge/openletter/>.

Steffi and I had a lot of overlapping tastes and experiences, but in one respect we had nothing in common – and that makes her choice of me as her Executor all the odder. It took just one class on medieval scholasticism to convince me that "philosophy is a closed book to me" (as Lord Peter Wimsey put it in *Gaudy Night*). For Steffi, though, one course in philosophy was enough to get her hooked: "Why study philosophy? It's very good for the inside of the head, that's why." And by marrying David, "philosophy became a part of the household."

Everything Steffi did was underpinned by her commitment to philosophy as a way of life. As financial advisor to government agencies, she constantly drew on her training: "Like all philosophers, I have had lots of practice explaining things to people. A client once said to me that I could stop a freight train by explaining things to it." She recognized that "What I do is not philosophy. It has nothing to do with philosophy. But I do what I do in the manner of a philosopher." Even in the

Shelley Frisch's conversation with fellow translator Philip Boehm, who received this year's Helen and Kurt Wolff Translator's Prize (Shelley served as Jury Chair), is now on YouTube and available for viewing at any time. In "Translating Unconventional Narratives," Shelley and Philip "talk about translation and about "fox possession (I'm not going to say what that is here!)," Shelley said, "which seems especially timely now that Princeton is suddenly brimming with foxes." Visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0TEFz1oyuY4&t._=1257s

Joan Goldstein, a PRF founding member and host of Princeton Community Television's *Backstory*, recently interviewed Cheyenne Wolf, the Executive Director of People & Stories/Gente y Cuentos, a program that helps people discover and celebrate their potential through literature. Ellen Gilbert, PRF Works in Progress Chair, is also Chair of the Board of this program. In the past year, Joan has interviewed several PRF members on *Backstory*, including Ashwini Mokashi, former President and current Humanities Group Chair; Lara Freidenfelds; and PRF President Linda Holt. Copies of Joan's interviews can be found by searching for <"Joan Goldstein" Backstory Princeton > at [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and [archive.org](https://www.archive.org).

Kairy Koshoeva has performed Bach's Goldberg Variations in several different settings. Her planned dance/piano concert in the Ukraine, with the Owen/Cox Dance Group of Kansas City, was cancelled by the pandemic, but Kairy's solo performance in Princeton as a benefit for the New School for Music Studies got in just under the wire before the world shut down. Listen to Bach's masterpiece and watch Kairy in action: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qmpUWVWSOUY&feature=youtu.be>

Former PRF President **Ashwini Mokashi** taught a course "Wisdom Leads to Happiness" at the Evergreen Forum. The course was based on her book *Sapiens and Sthitaprajna*. The same book and Ashwini's blog have been recognized by the American Philosophical Practitioners Association. Ashwini is now also a certified Philosophical Counselor. She recently gave a webinar on "Pursuit of Happiness in Lockdown and Beyond," which was organized by a California non-profit organization, Garje Marathi. The webinar, which reached an audience on at least 3 continents, is now available on youtube and on her blog: <https://youtu.be/9nZUwxabi60>
<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/8124609632>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAOdCfuv0ZIrzGyBDt8DP-g>
[ashwinimokashi.com](https://www.ashwinimokashi.com)

Roger Moseley was interviewed by Pam Hersh for CentralJersey.com about his new book, *Morality: A Natural History*, ahead of Roger's talk at the Princeton Public Library on December 3, 2019 : <https://centraljersey.com/2019/11/22/loose-ends-11-22-dr-roger-moseley-debuts-book-morality-a-natural-history/>

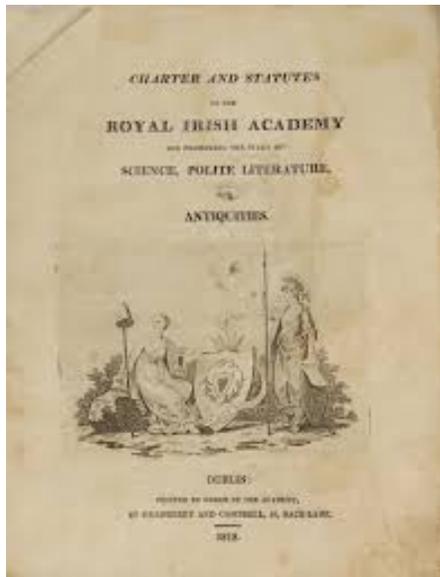
Maureen E. Mulvihill (presently in Sarasota, FL) has been very busy. Most recently, she wrote and designed an illustrated webpage (6 images) on Max Beerbohm, foregrounding the Mark Samuels Lasner Collection in Delaware (1500+ listings of Beerbohm items). The piece ran in the May 2020 Florida Bibliophile Society Newsletter, pp 18-19: <http://www.floridabibliophilesociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Florida-Bibliophile-2020-05.pdf#page=18>

Maureen is currently at work on brief reviews for *The Scriblerian* of three published papers from the 2017 *Swift Symposium* (Münster) and an immersive review essay for *Eighteenth-Century Studies* of the *Cambridge History of Ireland*, vol. 2. She is a guest writer /consulting researcher (since 2016) for Bruce McKinney's Rare Book Hub, San Francisco.

Unfortunately, due to coronavirus precautions, her presentation, "Rare Books by Early Women Writers: The Formation & Utility of a Private Collection," with digitals & book display, Selby Library, Sarasota, will be rescheduled.

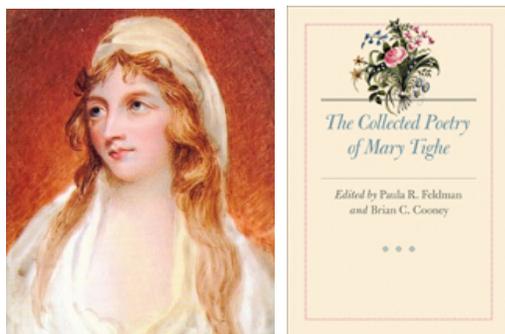
From James Burmester Rare Books (Bristol UK), Maureen acquired for her collection two important (Celtic) items: *On The Connexion of the Physical Sciences* by Mary Somerville, Royal Astronomical Society (London: Murray, 1834), featured in the previous issue of this newsletter; and an uncommon copy of *The Royal Irish Academy: Charter and Statutes* (Dublin: Graisberry & Campbell, 1818); 4to, 10" x 8", 14 pp., large titlepage vignette; disbound.

The complete, good-condition 14-page stitched text was recently given a deluxe binding and its own clamshell book box by the conservator of the Mulvihill Collection, David H. Barry (Griffin Bookbinding, St Petersburg, FL), a Welsh born-&-trained book specialist. The new binding includes marble endpapers and gold-tooled lettering on the top board and book box.



Early members of the Royal Irish Academy were Edmund Burke, Maria Edgeworth, and Charles Darwin. Maureen is planning an illustrated essay on this restoration project for *Fine Books & Collections*, NY. (We shall keep you current.)

Maureen's extended essay, "New Work on Mary Tighe" (*Irish Literary Supplement*, Spring 2020; 2050+ words), foregrounds recent biographies of Tighe by Miranda O'Connell and Averill Buchanan, and an impressive first edition of Tighe's collected verse (Johns Hopkins University press), edited by Paula R. Feldman and Brian C. Cooney.



This essay will soon be accessible online, in a handsomely illustrated digital version sponsored by a major platform (details forthcoming). The Mulvihill Collection includes the Lytton Strachey copy of Tighe's famous poetry-book, *Psyche; or The Legend of Love* (4th edition, 1812; with Strachey book label designed by Dora Carrington), a beautiful book with engraved author frontispiece portrait.

For more on Dr. Mulvihill and her excellent collection of works by early women writers, visit: <http://blog.danielharrismusic.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Fine-Books-2016-Autumn-2016-How-I-Got-Started.pdf>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A TOOL FOR RESEARCHERS

Membership Chair, Terri McNichol, shared the following useful tip about a tool for researchers that was announced in the newsletter "Recomendo" from the founder of Fast Company. "Bookmarks are getting out of hand, so I knew I had to devote some time to finding a manageable solution. This is a great list of "[Every bookmark manager ever made](#)" (last updated November 2019). Thanks to that list, I went with the app that I found most visually-appealing, called [Raindrop.io](#) (\$28 yearly), which lets me do a full-text search of every webpage I've ever saved.

KAREN REEDS ON RESEARCH RESOURCES

Newsletter Editor Karen Reeds, who also serves as PRF Grants Officer & NCIS Liaison, shared the following resources for research for those "stuck at home during the Covid-19 pandemic!"

New York Society Library

The [New York Society Library](http://www.nysoclib.org) [www.nysoclib.org] offers E-memberships for those interested in enjoying remote access to our collection of [20+ electronic resources](#), including scholarly databases such as JSTOR and Project Muse, the TLS, New York Review of Books, and London Review of Books archives, various Oxford University Press databases, and much more. [Full list:

<https://www.nysoclib.org/collection/electronic-resources#hist-bio>] The New York Society Library was founded in 1754 and membership is by subscription. E-membership, which does not include circulating privileges for the print collection or access to individual study rooms, but does include 10 building visits per year, is \$100/year. More information visit: <https://www.nysoclib.org/members/e-memberships> or write to membership@nysoclib.org

The New Jersey Historical Commission

A web-page of Covid-19 Resources for New Jersey History and Cultural Organizations: [COVID-19 Resources for Museums and Cultural Organizations](https://www.njhistory.org/covid-19-resources-for-museums-and-cultural-organizations) (7cf28349-2ee6-4728-abac-dec2ea6a5827.pdf)

Internet Archive and the WayBack Machine
<https://archive.org/> Internet Archive is a precious online storehouse of books, journals, movies, recordings, documents, and websites – all open access. For tracking down vanished websites (the ones where you get the 404 error messages), this Internet Archive blog post has useful links and explanations about its WayBackMachine, along with suggestions about starting your own archive.
<https://blog.archive.org/2020/03/30/happy-404-day-%e2%8c%9c/?iax=newsletter033120sndst2%7cctalink>

Hathi Trust and Google Books
GoogleBooks needs no introduction, but for any kind of research, its bibliographical data is infuriating. Turn instead to its more scholarly counterpart, HathiTrust Digital Library:
<https://www.hathitrust.org/>.

Images from the Smithsonian
The Smithsonian Institution has put its millions of images from its collections online with a Creative Commons Zero license—all the images are free of any restrictions on reuse. Here are links to an article by Kim Lyons for *the Verge* and to the image collection itself.
<https://www.theverge.com/platform/amp/2020/2/25/21153208/smithsonian-institution-museums-free-images-libraries-dc>
<https://www.si.edu/openaccess>
(with thanks to Margaret DeLacy, independent scholar and editor of H-Scholar)

Repositories
Many universities, libraries, and cultural institutions have online repositories for the work by people connected with them. This material can include manuscripts, page-proofs, dissertations, reports, pre-prints, and other “gray” documents. Googling on a name + repository can produce surprising results.

Karen’s ego-surfing turned up the video and (unedited) transcript of a talk she had given at Rutgers five years ago: “Old Herbals, New Readers, ”29th Annual Louis Faugères Bishop III Lecture, Alexander Library, Rutgers April 9, 2015,
<https://doi.org/doi:10.7282/T32809C4>
Online recorded lecture:
<https://rucore.libraries.rutgers.edu/rutgers-lib/47112/>

(unedited transcript):
<https://rucore.libraries.rutgers.edu/rutgers-lib/47112/PDF/1/play/>

For Entertainment and Edification:
LibriVox: Free public-domain audiobooks read by volunteers from around the world:
<https://librivox.org/>
Many scholarly institutions have been putting videos of their lecturers online, including Institute for Advanced Study:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/videosfromIAS>.

For sheer merriment, though, Karen’s favorite talks anywhere by the British Museum’s irrepressible Assyriologist, Irving Finkel. For starters: “The Ark before Noah,”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s_fkpZSsz2I

Karen notes that PRF authors are reaching new audiences for their books, even when the bookstores are closed. She urges any member who is currently using Zoom or other video conferencing software for sharing their work to please let her know.

MAILING ADDRESS & WEBSITE
PRF’s mailing address is: Princeton Research Forum, P.O. Box 264, Kingston, N.J. 08528-0264. Website is: www.princetonresearchforum.org.

WORK-IN-PROGRESS
To arrange for a work-in-progress or presentation, please contact WIP Chair Ellen Gilbert,
edg5@columbia.edu.

DUES
PRF observes the academic year from September 1 through August 31. Annual dues for an individual are \$40; the bargain price for a couple is \$60 (a lifetime membership is \$400). The official deadline for receipt of dues for 2020-2021 will be December 31, 2020. If you are in doubt as to whether your membership is up-to-date, please contact treasurer Joyce Irwin: joyceirwin7304@comcast.net. Please mail checks to: **Princeton Research Forum, P.O. Box 264, Kingston, N.J. 08528-0264.**

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE
Fall/Winter Issue: *deadline* mid-late September for publication October 15; **Spring/Summer Issue:** *deadline* mid-late April for publication May 15; **Winter/Spring Issue:** *deadline* mid-late January for publication February 15.

PRINCETON RESEARCH FORUM OFFICERS 2019-2020

President: Linda Holt
Vice-President: Linda Arntzenius
Treasurer: Joyce Irwin
Secretary: Roger Moseley

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Ludmilla Popova-Wightman

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Program: Pamela Sheehan
Grants Officer & NCIS Liaison: Karen Reeds
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Chairs of Study Groups:

Humanities: Ashwini Mokashi
Poetry: Winifred Hughes
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