

Great Expectations: *Scholarships and Fellowships Let Students Reach for Big Dreams*

Three students are exploring how we learn language, preparing to improve healthcare in India, and teaching American sign language, thanks to **1746 Society members Walker McKinney ’50, R. Kenneth Perry ’50, and Thomas Nichol Jr. ’33**, who combined loyalty and philanthropy by aiding students through their estate plans.

A bequest from McKinney is allowing Tracy Reuter to study how our brains acquire new words. Karis Cha ’18 studies healthcare policy a with support from Perry’s life income gift to Princeton. Jack Hudson ’16 is creating an online teaching tool supported by Nichol’s bequest. Here are snapshots of these students’ promising projects.

WORD PLAY

Language and how we make sense of it fascinates graduate student **Tracy Reuter**, who investigates language development in infants, children, and adults.

Consider: given the incredible complexity of language, how are we still able to finish each other’s sandwiches?

If you just re-read that, you experienced an important aspect of language. We don’t process word-by-word. We generate predictions about upcoming information. “It is not a conscious process,” Reuter says. “We’re engaged in it constantly.”

When Reuter works with preschoolers, she employs an eye-tracker as the child views objects on a large digital screen. As the child

hears a statement, the eye-tracker records which object the child looks at first. These eye movements signal which word the child thinks should finish the sentence.

Reuter hypothesizes that children’s errors influence word learning. This may open a window to how the developing mind works, and lead to new

strategies to reach those struggling or behind in acquiring language skills.

POLICY AND PRACTICE

**Karis Cha ’18** has her sights on a future as a doctor and health policy expert. The Woodrow Wilson School concentrator and pre-med student says “Healthcare is a tangible way to help people. If you help to care for their bodies, they know you care for them.”

Cha, grew up in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. As an infant, her family visited India, where she contracted a serious illness. A local doctor saved her life. Now she wants to return “to give my life to a place that almost took it.”

This past summer Cha shadowed an obstetrician and observed several births. “Coming back to campus I am more motivated now to study,” she says; her course load combines biochemistry and physics with ethics and policy research.

LEARNING CURVE

A sophomore year project turned into a full-time job for **Jack Hudson ’16**, now a co-founder and chief technology officer for SignSchool, a website for learning American Sign Language (ASL).



Karis Cha ’18

Impetus for the project came from friendship with Colin Lualdi ’17, who is deaf.

“I didn’t really have web development experience coming into this,” Hudson says. “Through SignSchool I was able to learn, and as a computer science major, build on those skills.” He and his team polished their ideas and got expert advice in two summer Keller Center eLabs.

One challenge was how to give a person feedback on learning one of the 7,000 ASL signs now in the SignSchool database. Hudson devised practicing via a split screen—video of a teacher signing on the left, the student using a web camera on the right to copy and perfect the movement.

“My scholarship lightened my financial burden and allowed me to focus on school,” Hudson says. “It inspired me to give back to the community, too.”



Jack Hudson ’16

OPEN ROAD LEADS BACK TO PRINCETON



R. Kenneth Perry '50 and Margaret (Garie) Perry beside their stalwart 1993 Buick Century.

The travels of R. Kenneth Perry ’50 and Margaret (Garie) Perry have taken them to China, Australia, Kenya, England, Majorca—and all 32 Princetons in the United States.

Ken Perry recently published *Breakfast in Princeton, USA*, recounting in words and snapshots the couple’s 1996 odyssey from home base in St. Louis to 30 states visiting places named similarly to Ken’s alma mater (California and Georgia each have two Princetons).

“The only University Princetonians we met were in Potlatch, Idaho,” according to Ken. They spotted the PhD diploma of the bed and breakfast owners’ son on the wall during their stay.

Ken established the Margaret B. and R. Kenneth Perry ’50 Scholarship Fund through a life income gift in 2011. “You can never tell where life will lead you,” says Ken, who was the first in his family to complete college and benefited from scholarship aid at Princeton.

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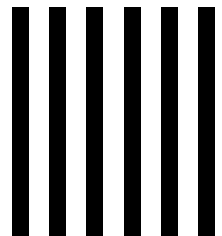
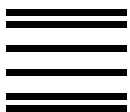
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Already a member? Thank you!

## PLAN FOR THE LONG RUN

Consider experts’ advice on growing assets during market ups and downs

Princetonians with financial management expertise shared their insights on “Longevity Planning: Navigating Market Volatility Over a Lifetime” during the 2016 Office of Gift Planning Reunions Seminar. Here’s a snapshot:



From left, Margaret Cannella ’73 of Columbia Business School; David Boles ’81 of J.P. Morgan; Suzanne Killea ’83 of Merrill Lynch’s Private Banking and Investment Group; and Steve K. Shueh ’97 of Roundview Capital

- Don’t invest for your lifetime; invest for your kids or grandkids—that way volatility works for you. Put money away methodically and don’t mind the headlines. Be disciplined and have a plan.—**Stephen K. Shueh ’97**, a founder of the investment firm Roundview Capital
- Look at diversification over many classes (high yield, growth with yield). Just chasing yield is dangerous. Stay the course. Measure relative to your goal, not the market.—**Suzanne W. Killea ’83**, private wealth advisor with Merrill Lynch’s Private Banking and Investment Group
- Ask “What is the downside?” and “How bad could things be?” When markets are up, people take more risks—that is wrong. Low interest rates effect every investor at every turn.—**David Boles ’81**, managing director with J.P. Morgan Private Bank

Want to know more? Check out the podcast of the seminar at <http://giving.princeton.edu/gpreunions2016>

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1746 Society member John (Jack) C. Bogle ’51 greets the first John C. Bogle ’51 Fellows in Civic Service, established through a gift made in his honor by son John C. Bogle Jr. and his wife, Lynn Bogle.

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**Cover:** Colin Luaidi ’17 presents plans for SignSchool, an online resource for learning American Sign Language, at the most recent eLab Demo Day.

## The Visionaries



### Management

CTO

Jack Hudson  
Computer Science  
Princeton ’16



CFO

Evan Corden  
Economics  
Princeton ’16



Sarah MG  
Information Systems  
RIT ’17



### Content

Content Developer

Eric Epstein  
Software Engineering  
RIT ’18



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Ideas and Strategies from the *Office of Gift Planning* at Princeton University

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Help Reaching Big Dreams
- Open Road Leads to Princeton
- Handling Market Ups and Downs

