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Ken Shaitelman '00	David Tannenbaum '01
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Vince Vitale '04	Kyle Jaros '05
Dan-el Padilla Peralta '06	Joshua Goldsmith '07
Emily Stolzenberg '07	Pauline Yeung '08
Alex Barnard '09	Joshua Grehan '10
Veronica Shi '11	

Dear Sachs Scholars:

You will all have heard in early December the welcome news that Veronica (Ronnie) Shi is joining your company from the class of 2011. Ronnie is studying to be a classicist. On entering Princeton from the Los Angeles public school system she found to her astonishment that the ancient languages and literatures are still taught at Princeton, and many another university, and that a number of students actually take them. Enrolling in the Humanities Sequence as a freshman, she was delighted to encounter the classics and set about forthwith to learn Latin and Greek. Accomplishing that in her freshman year, she went on to major in classics. She seeks to do more than contribute to the knowledge of ancient civilization for itself. Ronnie believes that the classics open the way to a liberal education in the humanities and to reasoned discourse in a democracy. If anywhere is the citadel of the study of Greek and Latin, of ancient literature and

philosophy, it is Oxford, where the undergraduate curriculum is simply called Greats. Ronnie intends to take an M Phil in classical scholarship, and after that a Ph D, probably in an American University. Many of you will undoubtedly have sent her a word of welcome. Those who have not may still do so.

For the rest of us, the news of Elena's confirmation as a Justice of the Supreme Court, however well known, cannot go unmentioned here. Simple Congratulations are inadequate. We are all thrilled. I will say only that in my note to her I've said to several friends here that she will surely be the only Supreme Court Justice that I've ever kissed. She promised that this elevation won't mean that we never see her again.

Alex writes an enthusiastic account of himself from Oxford. I don't know that any of you have found the ambiance of Oxford to be more fulfilling. He has all sorts of good news. For one thing the sociology journal Ethnography has accepted his Princeton senior thesis as an article. He will be the youngest author ever published there. His research this past summer in Ecuador was very fruitful. He is taking a tutorial with his adviser on environmentalism in Latin America. He spent a total of ten hours in class in Michaelmas term, has received High Distinction on his Core Essay, and is now preparing his thesis. Alex has decided, even like Ronnie, that an academic career is right for him, and is applying for the Ph.D programs at Harvard, Stanford, and Wisconsin. Meanwhile, he is President of the Oxford Vegetarian Society, works several hours a week in the Worcester community garden, and has just started drafting an environmental policy for the College. Last but not least is crew. He's been promoted from Worcester's second boat to its first and has been moved from sixth seat to stroke. He stroked his first race, the 2500 meter race in Cambridge, and Worcester's boat placed second. Alex says that Josh Grehan pulls a more powerful oar than he, and also plays rugby. He and Josh are hitting it off together. Josh lives just two houses away and often comes over to share a pint and a conversation

Dan-el sends his news from Stanford, where he is well on his way to a Ph.D in classics (another classicist). He has just finished his last full term of course work, and is starting work as a Teaching Assistant this winter quarter. This month he is attending the annual meeting of the American Philological Association/Archaeological Institute of America in San Antonio. He is booked to give a paper there, but doesn't say what the subject is. His girlfriend joined him in August after getting her Master's in Social Work at Fordham, and they have a fine apartment in graduate student housing. At last accounts she was looking for a job, but the disastrous California state finances have slashed many positions in the public sector. Dan-el has a contract for his autobiography. He sent in a draft to his agent and also his editor after Labor Day, and by now should be well along with

whatever revisions they advise. He may not be here for his fifth, alas, because his brother, Yando, is graduating from Bowdoin College that weekend.

Emily Stolzenberg served on the Selection Committee in December. Her big news is that she was married to Matthew Shapiro '05 in March. I think they met at Oxford rather than Princeton, but may be wrong about that. Josh Goldsmith '07 attended. She hadn't seen him since he visited Oxford to accompany her to the Worcester Commemoration Ball in June 2008. You will remember that 2007 was the only year so far when we have been able to appoint both an Oxford Scholar and an annual Scholar. Josh is a specialist in teaching languages, and spent his year in Barcelona. Emily and Matthew are now in their second year of Law School at Yale, where both are editors of the Yale Law Review.

Natalie Deffenbaugh leads what may well be the most astonishing life of any of you. First, her great news: She is engaged to Dany Merhy, who also works for the International Committee of the Red Cross. They met in Erbil, northern Iraq, when she was posted there in late 2008. They will be married in late April in the church of his family's village in Lebanon. He is currently posted to Chad, but by Natalie's accounting they have been able to spend about 84.2% of their time together on different continents since they met. Unfortunately they may spend most of their first married year apart, but things should be easier after that. Emily wrote her news from Kashmir in October, where she was then training her replacement, and is now assigned to Kisangani in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where she arrived about two weeks ago. All I can say is, first Congratulations to Dany, and then "Wow."

Justin's wife, Maria, had a medical research fellowship in Moshi, Tanzania in 2009-2010. Justin accompanied her to those far parts, which he punctuated with a respite, largely for culinary purposes, in Paris, Rome, and Switzerland. The climax was a fascinating safari in the Serengeti. While still abroad, Justin had word that he has received a Knight-Wallace journalism fellowship to the University of Michigan. So he has extended his leave from the Associated Press and he and Maria are currently based in Ann Arbor. There he has reconnected with Steve, who is on the faculty of the Law School. It's an extraordinary program that brings some eighteen journalists from around the world for a year of informal course work, seminars, travel, to Turkey and South America, for example, and an endless array of cocktail and dinner parties. Justin's alleged topic is "the global challenges of mass-scale higher education". But he is free to pursue other interests. In short, he says, for the second time in his life, he's being paid to do what he likes. One thing the fellowships try to do is to encourage people to take their careers in different directions when they return to journalism. Whether

Justin will do that remains to be seen.

Natalie Bocock Turnage was a guest at a surprise 50th Birthday party hosted by Mark last October. Her mother, brothers and sisters, and a number of Princeton classmates were all there. She is coaching field hockey at her son's school. She impresses on her players that her generation was smarter, more hard working, and faster than they are, but says the reverse is true. Her children are spread out in school from 1st grade to 10th.

Jason writes that business is stable but he sees no signs of a rapid recovery in housing. Most Americans have no money for down payments, and wealthy people are hunkering down. So his company has diversified its business with fee development services focused on banks, private equity groups, and certain planning clients. Angie is an assistant professor at Penn with a demanding schedule. Their two girls, Amanda and Lucy, are a joy and keep them both busy. Jason did the NYC marathon last fall and qualified for Boston this spring.

Vince sends word from Oxford. He has taken a post at Wycliffe Hall as Tutor in Apologetics, and his teaching responsibilities were heavy last fall. He hoped to have time in Hilary term to polish up and submit his thesis for the D. Phil. Having completed her M.St. last term, Jo, his wife, has begun a D. Phil in Theology. At the same time she is training for ordination in the Church of England. They sound like a busy pair.

The Barreras have had a trying time. Mari was hit by a bicyclist last fall in downtown Boston. She was knocked unconscious and woke up in the Emergency Room. She had suffered a serious concussion, but at the time of writing Joel was hopeful that she would make a full recovery. Meanwhile, he has his job and was trying to keep the family going at the same time. That was in November. You all will join in our commiseration and hopes that by now Mari is entirely restored.

Kyle is at the Harvard Graduate School in the Government (i.e. Politics) Department. He's been a Tutor for undergraduates this fall, and is beginning to work on his dissertation prospectus. He's hoping to head back to China in 2011-2012. You will remember that he spent the year there on the Sachs. That year, he writes, wasn't quite enough. More power to him!

Madelyn, our other China hand, had just returned from Beijing in November when she wrote. Skip was still there, and she and the kids went back at Christmas, after which she took a side trip to Hong Kong and Thailand. Her job at George Mason University, where she is now Director of China Initiatives, is very demanding. Her son Matthew has started school at Sidwell, and is deeply immersed in the Chinese Language course. She hopes to make the graduation

lunch, a hope we very much share.

Doug has been exhausting himself with some tough cycling with a new bike racing team he has joined. A few weeks before writing he did a cyclocross race, which is off-road bike racing. He thinks he won't be able to keep up with the young guys a lot longer. At work he has done some computer programming in order to organize data better. He hasn't done much of that since graduating from Princeton, and finds that it has changed a lot. He tells us that he hasn't re-arranged and re-organized the Sachs webmail accounts yet. I thought they are marvelous and didn't know they needed re-organization. He also intends to put together a short webmaster document that lists all the Sachs web accounts, passwords, and the basics of how to use them. Doug plans to send that to us by postal mail for password security.

P.R. participated in the interviews. She has fine news. She has just been invited to join an emerging team at the Treasury in Washington headed by one Elizabeth Warren. Moving from New York is a wrench, but she is looking forward to learning the ins and outs of the nation's capital, where indeed she has many friends.

Alice sends a cryptic note that she's "crazy well." At Brandeis, where she is on the faculty, she is working with film business in Los Angeles and Italy. What the business is, she doesn't say, but must be spending a lot of her time in airplanes.

Mike spent some time last spring working in Afghanistan as a volunteer for a 100% locally staffed NGO, Afghans for Tomorrow (A4T). His main job was training the finance group on QuickBooks and helping to improve budgeting and reporting, which were becoming issues for some of the major donors. A4T runs two coeducational schools in Kabul and a third school in Wardak province for about 550 boys and 150 girls. It also runs a health clinic in Wardak and a fuel briquette project on the outskirts of Kabul which recycles old paper and debris into fuel. That helped provide solar electricity, water, and even a roof for the Wardak school, which were not affordable within the base A4T budget. Debra, for her part, continues to consult on national security issues in Washington for several federal agencies. She is a non-resident research associate at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard and is working on nuclear nonproliferation issues.

Those of you who are Old Members of Worcester will recall that this is Dick Smethurst's final year as Provost. Any of you who are in or near New York may wish to attend the final dinner at which he will preside on 19 March. In his twenty years as Provost, and before that as Tutor, he has been a tremendous support for the Sachs Scholarship, as indeed Harry Pitt as Senior Tutor was before him. We will miss him. Josh and Ronnie, come to think about it, will in effect be our emissaries with the new Provost.

Emily and I continue to be well, and I still have a couple of scholarly projects in hand. Finally, you will all wish to join in appreciation of the inspired leadership that David gives the scholarship, and in his and Cathy's hospitality at the time of the interviews and at the Baccalaureate Sunday party. We hope as many of you as possible will be here to see Ronnie off and to wish her well.

Yours, Charles