

## PRINCETON ASSOCIATION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Princeton Association in the UK, previously PC of Great Britain, is the largest, most vibrant and most dedicated association of Princetonians outside the US and Canada with the mission to foster engagement with the university, between alumni and with the local community. The Association incorporates and serves the entire Princeton family in the UK, including undergraduate and graduate alumni, parents, spouses, current students, and professors. It works relentlessly to make sure that **Princeton Is Where You Are!**

### *Ingenuity*

PAUK is known and recognized for its passion in bringing the intellectual life of the university to Princetonians in the UK. As the President of PAUK, **Dean Menegas '83** said, “Years of education spent on campus are only enough to scratch the surface of what Princeton has to offer; it’s the work of a lifetime to take it all in.”

Accordingly, PAUK created **three new programs**:

- An annual **Princeton Pre-Read event**, where participants gather over refreshments to discuss the Pre-Read book, selected by **President Eisgruber '83** for incoming freshmen. The event is enhanced by video of the on-campus discussion.
- An annual **Virtual Full-Semester Seminar** with a Princeton professor that combines taped and live video: it comprises the full semester of videotaped lectures for a Princeton professor’s course posted on an online learning platform and three, one-hour live videoconferences with the professor, spaced out throughout the semester, discussing questions on the lectures. The first three seminars were on Astrophysics (Prof **David Spergel '82**), Global History (Prof Jeremy Adelman), and Political Existentialism (Professor Uriel Abulof; voted the Best Online Course for 2018).
- A **Fellowship Panel**, which brings together recent graduates who are in the UK on major postgraduate fellowships. They sit together on panels in Oxford and London, each presenting their current research topics to the PAUK community, followed by Q&A.

PAUK has been fortunate to have had thirteen **Book Launches** events by the following Princeton authors - alumni and professors:

**Vladimir Alexandrov \*79** ‘The Black Russian’

**Gary J. Bass** ‘The Blood Telegram’

**Scott Berg '71** ‘Wilson’

**Sarah Churchwell \*98** ‘Careless People’

**Anne Daniel \*99** ‘I’d Die for You: And Other Lost Stories’ by **F. Scott Fitzgerald '17**

**Stephen Kotkin** ‘Stalin: Volume I: Paradoxes of Power, 1878-1928’

**Frank Langfitt '86** 'Shanghai Free Taxi'  
**Chang-Rae Lee** 'The Surrendered'  
**Nancy Malkiel** 'Keep the Damned Women Out'  
**Simon Morrison \*97** 'Bolshoi Confidential'  
**Virginia Postrel '82** 'The Power of Glamour'  
Eric A. Posner and **E. Glen Wrayl \*08** 'Radical Markets'

What also distinguishes PAUK is its choice of historic and landmark venues when it comes to its Princeton events, which in its turn contributes to the continuous education of Princeton alumni and attracts a significant number of participants.

For its 2019 **Fall Reception** with live string music in the background, which drew over 100 attendees, the Association chose the historic **Music Room** in the former home of American-born Industrialist and Philanthropist Sir Edgar Speyer, who commissioned architect Detmar Blow to build a mansion in the Beaux Arts style with a music room where one could hear performances by Elgar, Grieg, Debussy, Richard Strauss, Percy Grainger and Henry Wood and enjoy the painting by John Singer Sergeant. Sir Edgar Speyer is also known in London as a man who saved The Proms, (or the BBC Proms, formally known as the Henry Wood Promenade Concerts, an eight-week summer festival of classical music, held at the Royal Albert Hall), and as the co-founder of the Whitechapel Gallery, which for over a century “has premiered world-class artists from modern masters such as Pablo Picasso, Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko and Frida Kahlo to contemporaries such as Sophie Calle, Paul Noble, Thomas Struth, Sarah Lucas and Mark Wallinger.” <https://www.whitechapelgallery.org/about/>

In 2018, PAUK together with the University hosted the Dean of the Graduate School **Sarah-Jane Leslie \*07** for a reception and dinner for graduate alumni at **Charterhouse** – a former Carthusian medieval monastery, with a history that goes back to 1348, when its land was used as the burial ground for the victims of the Black Death. (<http://www.thecharterhouse.org>)

For two consecutive years the second-largest **Princeton A Cappella Arch Singing** event, ever held outside the US, featuring the Princeton **Tigressions, Tigertones, and Tigerlilies** (2017) and the **Princeton Roaring 20** (2018), took place in the 18<sup>th</sup> century vaulted crypt of the Church of St Martin in the Fields on London’s Trafalgar Square, with over 130 attendees. The first known reference to the Church is from 1222, and a grave dating from about 410 AD has also been discovered on its grounds [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St\\_Martin-in-the-Fields](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_Martin-in-the-Fields)

**Lansdowne Club**, the mansion where the 1783 Treaty of Paris was drafted and where some of London’s greatest parties of the 1920s were held will be remembered by Princetonians as the home for the **(Orange and) Black Tie “Fitzgerald’s Roaring 20s” Ball** in 2017, and the **(Orange and) Black Tie Dinner** in 2016 and 2015 with 80 and 100 guests respectively. <https://www.lansdowneclub.com/about-the-club/history/>

In 2017, at the **Private Exploration of the Natural History Museum (London)**, PAUK arranged an after-hours visit to the dramatic Earth Hall, for 100 PAUK members and a

total of 300 guests from seven American universities. A dozen NHM curator and scientists presented and explained specimens from the dinosaur and mammal fossil collections, meteorites and other items from the minerals collection, creatures from the entomology collection, and conservation methods.

The Princeton Parents Committee hosted a welcome reception and tour at the **Institute of Contemporary Arts** in 2016. The ICA was founded in 1945 and it “contextualises contemporary culture within the socio-political conditions of the times.” (<https://www.ica.art>)

In 2014 PAUK hosted **James Steward, Director of the Princeton University Art Museum**, who lead a tour of the “Cezanne and the Modern” exhibition at the **Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology in Oxford**, which was founded in 1683. <https://www.ashmolean.org>

Here are some other noteworthy gatherings of Princetonians in the UK:  
**London Summer Olympics Garden Party (2012)**

Welcome reception with **Gerhard Andlinger '52** (2010); with **The Right Honourable Patricia Hewitt P10** (2008); and behind the scenes at the Natural History Museum’s new **Darwin Centre**, with one of its architects, **Teva Hesse '82**

### *Signature Events*

PAUK has been recognized for a number of Signature Events:

- The **Alumni Schools Committee** has two annual receptions for admitted students;
- The **PAUK Book Club** has been meeting on a monthly basis ever since the Spring of 2011 at Waterstone’s Piccadilly (or on Zoom during the covid-19 pandemic);
- Receptions at **The Boat Race**, or the **Henley Royal Regatta**, the most well-known regatta in the world, (<https://www.hrr.co.uk>) are a highlight of the UK social year, and were a perennial PAUK event early in the decade;
- **Young Alumni Pub Nights**;
- **Speakers Series: Princeton Provost Chris Eisgruber '83** (2011); **Woodrow Wilson School Dean Anne-Marie Slaughter** (2008);
- **Lunar New Year** brunches or dinners have been held annually and jointly with the A4P (Asian American Alumni Association of Princeton).
- **Princeton Global Net Night**, an annual event held around the world.

### *Awards*

PAUK and its leaders have been receiving numerous awards for their outstanding ingenuity and creativity:

- Committee on Regional Associations (CORA) Award for Innovation, (2017) President **Dean Menegas '83**
- Austin P. Leland Award (2010), President - **Tamsin Todd Defriez '92**

- Princeton Schools Committee S. Barksdale Penick Jr. '25 Award, (2010), under the ASC leadership of **Beth Moss Heller '78** and **Mika Provata-Carlone \*02**
- Princeton Schools Committee S. Barksdale Penick Jr. '25 Award, (1995), under the ASC leadership of **Jude Ruff '84**

## *Board Members*

### Presidents

Dean Menegas '83 S82 P21 (2013-present) - Award for Excellence in Alumni Education (2019)

Tamsin Todd Defriez '92 (2008-2013)

Carol Rahn '72

Genevieve Muinzer '75

### Chairs, Alumni Schools Committee

Mika Provata-Carlone \*02 Soo (2010-present), Chair of the Virtual International Interviewing for Princeton in London (2003-present); PSC Mentor for Central and Southeast Europe (2016-present) Princeton Alumni Council Award for Service to Princeton, (2018)

Beth Moss Heller '78

Jude Ruff '84

### Vice Presidents

Nancy Curtin '79 P18

Dean Menegas '83

### Treasurers and co-Treasurers

Zhuofang (Fang) Wei '00

John Fellows \*61

### Secretaries

May Geolot '11

Jeegar Kakkad '01

Tamsin Todd Defriez '92

### Graduate Alumni Chair

Marina Murvanidze Mitchell \*98 S\*00

### Events and Activities Chairs

Dean Menegas '83

May Geolot '11

Barbara Duvoisin '84

### Parents Committee Chairs

Dominic Moross '90 P23 and Jennifer Moross

Nancy Curtin '79 P18 (Parents Committee founder)

Reid Marsh '82 P13 P15 P18 and Mary Marsh (AC Regional Parent Representatives)

#### Book Club Chair

Bryan Kam '06 (Book Club founder)

#### Membership Chairs

Alison Milam '03

Jonathan Reades '97

Lee Turkel '84

#### Young Alumni Chairs and co-Chairs

Rebecca Richards '18

Tristana Perez '14

Yu-Jun Koh '12

Shasanka Pradhan

Daria Les '12

Ting Fung Chan '12

Jonathan Reades '97

#### Community Service Chairs

Kristin Shine '04

Nancy Curtin '79 P18

#### Communications and Technology Chairs

Ilias Giechaskiel '13

Jenny Tsai '05

Jonathan Reades '97

#### Other Board Members

Elena Peregrina-Salvador \*15 (Events)

Thomas Chen '09 (A4P UK chapter chair)

Yang-Hui He '96 (Oxford)

Patricia Vieira '12 (Website)

Laura Banes '84 S84 P16 P19 (Schools Outreach)

Gabrielle Kaiser Wong (Former Co-Chair of the Virtual International Interviewing for Orinceton in London ASC event 2013-2016)

Alexandra Birtles '09 (Social Media)

Daria Les '12 (Asst Treasurer)

Kristin Shine '04 (Asst Treasurer)

Tamsin Todd Defriez '92 (Nominations)

Genevieve Muinzer '75 (Nominations, Events)

Bengt Hammar '76 \*77 P08

Melissa Hines '73

George Bailey '50

Ross Mandeville '05

William Morrison '62 P10



PAUK leadership working dinner with Alexandra Day '02, Deputy Vice President for Alumni Engagement (2019)

[www.princeton.org.uk](http://www.princeton.org.uk)