



The Cap and Gown Club of Princeton
61 Prospect Avenue, Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Princeton Prospect Foundation Report

Wednesday, February 23, 2022

Ewan Curtis '23, Vice President of Cap and Gown Club

The Cap and Gown Club recognizes the importance of the cooperation of our Officers, Chairs and Graduate Board to provide a welcoming and inclusive environment for our members. The chairpersons have worked over the past year to improve the experience of the membership and increase the club's involvement in the community. We hope that Cap and Gown continues to be an inviting environment to our members and guests and serve as a place of growth for our members.

Community Outreach

Community Outreach Chairs encourage civic service by working with community partners to provide volunteer opportunities for membership and organizing events and fundraisers within the club. In addition, Community Outreach Chairs serve on the Community Service Inter-Club Council, which organizes the Trick or Feed fundraiser and TruckFest. In our time as Chairs, we encountered the challenge of serving our community during COVID-19 restrictions. We were determined to provide support to our community partners by fostering active service. We accomplished this by working alongside the Charter Club to organize an inter-club fundraiser. Microsoft agreed to match our donations, and with their help, Charter and Cap & Gown donated \$2,600 to Arm in Arm. We were proud to partner with Arm in Arm, an organization that supports people facing housing, job, and food insecurity in the Princeton area. In 2021, Arm in Arm prevented 139 evictions, completed 45,140 home food deliveries, and helped 38 clients gain employment through license restoration. After meeting with the Chief Development Officer at the organization, we hope to deepen and continue our partnership with future community outreach events. Furthermore, as Chairs, we supported Cap junior and senior independent work with our weekly "Thesis Spotlights". We sent a weekly email that spotlighted our members' incredible research on important social issues. We believe community service, if misinformed, can perpetuate more harm than good. Therefore, these spotlights served as an educational mechanism to inform our Cap community and appreciate the insightful work of our peers.

Caren Ju, Class of 2022; Isabelle Nimick, Class of 2022

Technology

As the Cap Technology Chair for 2021–2022, I had the dual responsibility of running the website we use for bicker and creating community at Cap through online activities. Our bicker website (created by our previous two Tech Chairs) is an incredibly useful and well-made tool, so I continued to maintain it by setting it up for fall and spring bicker and updating it with new functionality. Aside from bicker, I also ran several club-wide projects to build community at Cap, even when some of our social events were cancelled due to the pandemic. These projects included an analysis and leaderboard for our club group chat as well as an interactive website with guidelines for what is worthy of being sent to our listserv. Most notably, I also made an online, club-wide Valentines day pairing system complete with a 3D interactive map of every member's matches.

Jorge Zreik, Class of 2022

Cultural Enrichment

The Cap & Gown Club is known for having a strong, diverse, and inclusive community. As Culturally Cap Chairs, it is critical that we not only maintain this sense of community but facilitate ways of connecting more members of our Club. Although this year presented difficulties in how to build community through means that still ensure the health and wellbeing of our members, we continued and created programs to help foster a closer Cap community, and ensure members have positive experiences whether it is in-person or virtually. Such programs include Weekly Members of the Week emails, Birthday Shoutouts via emails, Study breaks, and a Cap Scavenger Hunt.

Bennett Holmes, Class of 2022; Seema Gupta, Class of 2022

Sustainability

I'm really proud of the sustainability efforts that were implemented at the Cap & Gown Club during my time as Sustainability Chair. This past year I continued to increase transparency by developing a relationship with the club steward. In doing so I was able to stay up to date on everything that Cap does to be sustainable and communicated that with the rest of the club. From a groundwater recharge system to ground source heat pumps, Cap is already doing what it can to limit environmental impact. We still have a long way to go in terms of reaching full sustainability, but we are making small, positive changes which I hope will last for the long-term.

William Gu, Class of 2023

Safety

As Cap's Safety chairs, we worked closely with our contacts in SHARE as well as Cap's President and Vice President to pilot new programs to prioritize the safety of our members and guests. We started hosting a series of "Lighthouses" on nights out, where we provided a safe space where members could seek help on interpersonal issues, or simply if they needed refuge from the party. We dedicated time to work closely with members to make them feel safer in the clubhouse,

listening to their concerns and coming up with solutions to unique and individual problems. We also created a member duty schedule for the fall semester, and worked to make sure that members on duty were able to detect and deal with issues on nights out. Similarly, we worked with the officers to ensure that COVID protocols in the club were correctly followed. Overall, we focused on retaining Cap's reputation as one of the safest clubs on the Street, as well advancing the general knowledge of the membership on interpersonal, substance, and COVID safety issues.

Sultan Al Habsi, Class of 2022; Jamie Feder, Class of 2023

Alumni Relations

The Cap & Gown Alumni Relations Chairs' main goal for this year was to continue to foster Cap's uniquely tight-knit alumni community. We strove to carry on the fantastic work done by originating chairs of this role. The role was created to facilitate the introduction of current Cap members with our alums across the broad spectrum of life paths. Our main objective this year was to continue the Cap Connections Coffee Chat initiative that was started last year. We hosted a slew of Zoom coffee chats with current members and alums for our members to meet and connect with people in their respective career fields. On top of this, the alumni relations co-chairs sat in and gave their feedback on various issues as part of monthly Alumni Relations Committee meetings.

Reis White, Class of 2022; Ashley Morales, Class of 2022; Sabil Jain, Class of 2023