

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



Princeton Prospect Foundation Report
Saturday, February 17th, 2023
Jason Ding '25, Vice President of the 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 for our members and guests and serve as a place of growth for our members.

Community Outreach

Community Outreach Chairs provide opportunities for community service by partnering with local Princeton organizations and the university itself to support and encourage member participation. Community Outreach Chairs are responsible for encouraging the club's involvement with the surrounding local community through either volunteer-based events or fundraising to support non-profit organizations in Princeton and Mercer County. Through accessible, inclusive fundraising events within the club, we successfully raised over \$600 in donations towards nonprofits that help support and uplift our local community. As Community Outreach Chairs, we believe that careful consideration of the community around us is the most significant aspect of our role and therefore take care in choosing our partners.

Robert Britt, Class of 2024; Ana Villada, Class of 2024

Cultural Enrichment

Cap & Gown Club is proud of its commitment to a welcoming, diverse, and inclusive community. As Culturally Cap Chairs, we strive to inspire community engagement across class years through our communication efforts and careful planning of events. Alongside the Social Chair, we helped to facilitate programs that fostered a tight-knit Cap community and created Cap memories that current members can look back on long after graduation. Such programs include Member of the Week, birthday shoutouts via email, study breaks, nights out, pool tournaments, and a Cap-based Family Feud Night.

Ryan Gibbons, Class of 2024; Alison Parish, Class of 2024

Technology

As the Cap Technology Chair for 2023–2024, 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 four Tech Chairs) is an incredibly useful and well-made tool, so I maintain it by setting it up for fall and spring bicker and updating it with new functionality. This included support for 1-on-1 bicker conversations as well as improvements to the discussions interface. Aside from bicker, I also ran our online, club-wide Valentine's Day pairing system to include more fun and interesting matching criteria.

Brandon Cheng, Class of 2025

Sustainability

Cap does a lot of great work in terms of sustainability—including carbon-neutral heating, only providing takeout containers upon request, and recycling. I have worked hard to improve member awareness of sustainability here at Cap and create continuity between this semester and the next to work on larger long-term sustainability goals. I took over as Sustainability Chair last spring semester. Since then, I have regularly attended ICC Sustainability meetings to collaborate on improving street-wide sustainability and developing connections with the rest of the street to help make sustainability a priority amongst the eating clubs. There were two major projects that I was passed down by the last sustainability chair in collaboration with the club steward, which I hope my successor will continue to push for: finding a new composting company for our compostable waste, and transitioning from disposable cups on nights out to washable cups using the newly installed dishwasher under the bar. I am proud to be a member of a club that prioritizes sustainability and grateful for the opportunity to help Cap become more eco-friendly!

Na'im Abdieh, Class of 2025

Safety

The Cap & Gown Club prides itself on ensuring the clubhouse is a safe space for both its members and guests. As Safety Chairs, our goal was to improve and support processes aimed at ensuring safety, such as safety duty. As a result of the success of a pilot year, we have continued to use the redesigned safety assignment process from 2022-2023. These allowed the safety chairs to avoid scheduling members on nights out for their affinity group and club members with whom they were not comfortable working. This preference form also allowed us to prioritize scheduling friends together. As with last year, schedules for the entire semester were released at once to allow for proactive rescheduling by members with conflicts. We also ensured that all seniors were not scheduled on major nights out. In collaboration with the House Manager, we also introduced house duty shifts as an alternative to safety shifts. This allowed for more efficient clubhouse preparation for larger events but necessitated full-night safety shifts for smaller events. To ensure that members would be able to enjoy larger nights out and maintain awareness, larger events still retained a

two-shift schedule. We look forward to training next year's safety chairs on best practices and procedures so that they can continue to ensure a safe environment for all.

Brian S.-K. Li, Class of 2024; Michael Hein, Class of 2025

Alumni Relations

The Cap & Gown Alumni Relations Chairs aimed to bridge Cap's diverse undergraduate population with its tight-knit alumni community. We began planning some events/potential partnerships, especially for alumni matching for our annual assassins game and a cap/consulting information session. Throughout the year, the alumni relations co-chairs worked with Cap leadership & the Alumni Relations Committee to coordinate outreach & future events.

Won-Jae Chang, Class of 2024; Shrika Anugula, Class of 2025

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The DEI Chairs are dedicated to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) within Cap & Gown. We are committed to incorporating DEI considerations into every aspect of the club as an important step in creating an environment that is welcoming and inclusive to all members. For Spring and Fall Bicker, we set up an anonymous DEI hotline so bickerees and members could share any complaints or concerns that came up during bicker. We also gave a presentation before bicker to all members that included information on do's and don't's for maintaining an inclusive and equitable environment during bicker and with bickerees. Additionally, we provided support for members who wished to bring up DEI concerns during bicker.

Outside of bicker, we also ran DEI office hours during mealtimes when members could casually discuss any DEI-related concerns. In collaboration with the President and Vice-President, we worked to address concerns with safety during nights out in Cap & Gown, work which will hopefully continue with the next officer corps and DEI chairs. Additionally, we spearheaded efforts to ensure equity when it comes to religious exemptions as well as sizing price differences in the Cap Gear store.

We hope future DEI chairs can continue to advocate for the importance of DEI issues in Cap & Gown, including - but not limited to - physical accessibility in the club, the safety of all Princeton students during nights out at Cap, and continuing to work with affinity groups to promote an inclusive environment in the Cap & Gown club.

Aisha Chebbi, Class of 2024; Paul-Louis Biondi, Class of 2024