

Princeton University Sailing Team

A Letter From the Commodore

Henry Pease '16

Dear Alumni and Friends of Princeton Sailing,

I first want to express how grateful I am and what an honor it has been to serve as Commodore this past year. Leading this team has been an incredibly rewarding experience, and I still marvel at the strong sense of community the people on this team have built.

This fall has been an excellent season. Warm weather and good wind made for productive, enjoyable times on the water, and regatta and practice participation remained strong throughout the season. Thanks to the hard work of Lucy Hayes '16 and many others on the team, the Princeton Women's Regatta went very smoothly.



While we may have been bested on the water by Columbia, the second annual Hamilton Burr Regatta was a resounding success. Thank you to everyone who made this event possible and we look forward to seeing you all there again next year! You can read more about the HBR on pages 3 and 4 of this newsletter.

Perhaps most importantly, we gained a stellar group of freshmen who have brightened the team with their experience and enthusiasm. Thanks to another year of focused recruiting effort, they are a dedicated group that quickly integrated into the tight-knit team community.

Henry Pease '16

Without a coach, the team has done a commendable job of adapting to the circumstances and staying on course. We continue to challenge ourselves for improvement on the water, and many of the more experienced sailors have done very well in organizing effective practices. We are still looking for the right person to take over coaching responsibilities and help the team develop further with technical ability, so if you know someone who is qualified and may be interested, please feel free to pass along our ad on page 10.

With the boats now stored away for the winter, we look forward to another fantastic training trip to Florida this January and eagerly await the spring season and the return of warm weather.

Let's go sailing!

Henry Pease '16



The Freshman Sailor Experience

ROBERT WHITAKER '18 - FRESHMAN SKIPPER

Though I had sailed growing up and through high school, and knew that I wanted to continue in college, I was nevertheless a little nervous showing up to a meeting of a club with a name as powerful as “The Princeton University Sailing Team”. Sharing that I had some experience, I got noticed a couple of excited nods at the meeting, but left still not knowing exactly what to expect.

I’d been on campus only three days when I got a curious email from a certain Malcolm Steinberg ’17, who turned out to be a member of the aforementioned sailing team, wondering if I would be interested in “making a bit of a sacrifice,” “being a total bro,” and “doing the team a huge solid”. Overwhelmed by his hip lingo, I accidentally said yes, agreeing to hop into a car headed to Norfolk, VA with three strangers for an undermanned regatta. After a weekend of interesting conditions and acceptable racing, I was convinced this was the team for me.

While the competition was exciting and we had a few good finishes, what made this strange experience such a positive introduction to the sailing team wasn’t the sailing, but the nearly instant camaraderie that I could find with people I had never before met. Just three hours into the 6-hour ride there, we were all offering opinions on the latest poetry by Sydney Mandelbaum ’17 and exploring the deep-set emotional troubles of Lana Del Rey. Since then every day has brought something new: from taking elaborate measures to dump crew members in delightful waters of Raritan Bay while avoiding the water oneself to creating and serving the position of “Tactical Squirrel” in the Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta. While Malcolm’s delicately worded e-mail may or may not have been an elaborate ploy to get a naïve freshman to take his place in this regatta, allowing him to go to Lawnparties, I have no regrets about accepting his last-minute invite, and the team has only gotten better since.



Rob Whitaker '18



Cameron Zeluck '18 and Bennett Alvaro '16

CAMERON ZELUCK '18 - FRESHMAN CREW

I was recommended to join the sailing team by my elder sister, an alumni of the team who joined during her sophomore year. I had heard about how welcoming the team at Princeton was and how great of a life skill sailing was. What seemed like an opportunity to just lounge on a boat for several hours a week seemed too good of an opportunity to pass.



Having never set foot in a boat before, I didn't know what to expect, but as soon as I crewed for the first time I realized how wrong my initial expectations were. After failing to tack or jibe at the right time during my first practice, I got hit across the head by the boom and ended up falling off the boat. My misconceptions of what sailing actually entailed did not discourage me, though. This minor road-bump that I faced my first practice helped me realize that being on the water was something I enjoyed, and best of all, being with people I liked out on the water was an even more enjoyable experience.

As I have slowly progressed throughout the school year, having attended more and more practices and even a regatta, I started to improve as a crew member. I slowly began to recognize cues: when to reach and when to go wing, how to tell where stronger winds were coming from, and even after one capsizing "drill" too many, how hard I actually should roll on a tack. The social events hosted by the team became some of my favorite moments on campus, and the initially timid and shy me grew louder, and louder, and louder. I'm glad to say that some of my closest friends at Princeton have been those on the team whom I've met through sailing – they couldn't have been more welcoming to a freshman from Hong Kong who knew little to nothing about living in America. Joining the sailing team has been one of the best decisions I've made since coming here, and I'm so happy to be part of the team!

HAMILTON BURR REGATTA - ANDREW GRASSO '15

On September 6th, the first Saturday we were back on campus, the team traveled to Hudson River Community Sailing in Manhattan for the second annual Hamilton Burr Regatta. The regatta is inspired by the famous duel between Alexander Hamilton (a Columbia grad) and Aaron Burr (a Princetonian). Now, the duel is reborn as a match race on the Hudson River, only a few hundred yards from the site of the original duel.

Thanks to a full year of preparation spearheaded by Anthony Pappenfus '13, this year's regatta went off perfectly. We raced a pair of J-105s – one of which was lent to us by Princeton alumnus Jason Mraz '89. The other was provided by a friend of HBR, Austin Fragomen.

The weather was beautiful, with sunshine and solid breeze all day. The Hudson is infamous among sailors for its current, and this day was no exception. A strong ebbing tide and southerly wind meant that upwind legs were over in a hurry, but the boats slowed to a crawl for the long trip back to the line.

The "A" fleet sailed 3 races and the "B" boats got one race in before retiring to the Frying Pan for awards.



Princeton taking the lead over Columbia on the downwind at the HBR



Columbia began the first race from the favored starboard position after winning the on-land 'duel', and executed nicely in the starting sequence to get off the line with a slight lead. The lead stayed constant over two legs of racing to give Columbia the win. The Tigers took their turn on starboard for the next start, but Columbia made a few aggressive maneuvers to shake loose, drawing a penalty in the process. We took our spin and tried to recover, but the lead proved too much. In the final A boat race, Columbia

snuck away with a slight lead off the line. We closed quickly on the downwind leg, pulling even for a moment. But, by a painfully close margin, it was not enough, giving Columbia a third win.



Hamilton Burr Trophies presented after the regatta

We traded out most of our alumni crew for undergraduates in the "B" fleet race. Here, we finally turned things around, picking up a solid win over Columbia's boat. Before another race could start, it was time to retire, so we finished a tough defeat on at least a positive note.

Back on shore, the teams celebrated an excellent day of sailing and a successful fundraiser for a good cause with drinks at the Frying Pan. Columbia took home the Hamilton Burr trophy – "Champions on the Water" – as well as the prize for funds raised, but it was Princeton's Anthony Pappenfus '13 who claimed the Citizen Sailor award for all his work in organizing the regatta. A big thank you goes out to the alumni who supported this year's race through generous contributions: Eric Werner, Jonathan Foot, and Tom Smith of the Nina Nelson Foundation.

As the now annual regatta gains momentum, we're all excited to see what next year will bring. I hope to see all of you out on the Hudson next year for the third installment of the Hamilton Burr Regatta.

ALUMNI NOTES

Amelia Brown '99 and **Graham Elliott '01** are happy to announce birth of their son Mark Erasmus Elliott on July 28, 2014! They are also spending more time in Hong Kong with his grandparents, and have bought a third (!) Flying Fifteen there in order to sail again.

Tom Darling '75 sends word that Windcheck Magazine, a monthly magazine covering sailing from New York to Cape Cod, will have a two-page article on the HBR in its December issue. Find your copy in boating stores and yacht clubs. Anthony Pappenfus '13 did a great press release which will be put into article format with terrific photos taken by team members.



INTERCOLLEGIATE OFFSHORE REGATTA - ANDREW SUN '16

Once again this fall we had the wonderful opportunity of sailing in the Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta (IOR) at Larchmont Yacht Club. It was an excellent chance to compete on bigger boats against many schools across the nation, some of which we never see during the year. This year eight of us sailed on the J-105 *Magic*, which Ann and Gary Myer, our close friends at Raritan Yacht Club, generously donated for us to sail over the weekend.

On Saturday the weather was rainy and gusty and was a difficult start to what would be the first time the eight of us sailed together on *Magic*. After practicing a few tacks and gybes with the spinnaker, we began our first race. Despite hitting the mark and having to do penalties, we came in fourth in our first race. Our second race was extremely successful with Andrew Grasso '15 at the helm and our freshman tactician Rob Whitaker '18. We picked the right course on the water and earned our first bullet of the weekend.

The second day brought sunnier weather, but wind that faded as the day went on. We began with a beautiful start, right on the line and in clear lane. We came in third at the windward mark but good decisions on the downwind allowed us to roll past other boats, and stay in first for the entire race. By the second race, the wind had died and too many tacks left us behind. We hoped to catch up on the later legs, but the dying wind led to a shortened final race, which we finished 7th.

Overall, we finished fourth out of twelve in the J-105 class and captured two firsts out of the five races, a result of which we are extremely proud. The weekend was a truly incredible experience, a refreshing change from the little dinghies we sail during the year and a tradition we hope to continue. Of course, special thanks to Ann and Gary Meyer for their J-105 *Magic* and the Grasso family for putting all eight of us up at their house; this weekend would not have been possible without their generosity.



Our team for the IOR (clockwise from left): Amara Plaza-Jennings '15, Rob Whitaker '18, Bennett Brainard '17, Bennett Alvaro '16, Andrew Sun '16, Andrew Grasso '15, Sarah Gross '15, and Adrija Navarro '15



SEASON HIGHLIGHTS - MAGGIE O'ROURKE '16

The team all came back to campus very excited for the start of our fall season! Our first event took us to New York for the second annual Hamilton Burr Regatta. We teamed up with alums and raced against Columbia in J-105s. While in the end Columbia came out on top, it was a great day of sailing and fundraising. We would like to thank Anthony Pappenfus '13 and Andrew Grasso '15 for their work in organizing and coordinating this day. Upon coming back to campus, we were able to dive right back into practices to prepare for our fall season which was packed with eight regattas.



A few of our boats out on the water for a practice this Fall

two different regattas. One group of sailors went to the Central Fall Qualifier and raced for a spot in the Luce Regatta. Despite shifty winds and strong currents, our team was able to secure a spot in the Luce to take place later in the season. The other group of sailors this weekend went to the NY Maritime Fall Open where they went up against many strong teams but were able to stay competitive in heavy winds.

On October 4-5th, we hosted Princeton Women's Regatta at Raritan Yacht Club. Most of our team was able to come help run the regatta and we ended up in second place! Our Regatta Captain Lucy Hayes '16 did a fantastic job organizing the regatta and the BBQ for the sailors afterwards. The next weekend the team sent a team of eight sailors to the Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta and placed fourth in our division of J-105s. That same weekend, another team went to the McCurdy Memorial Open in Delaware where we competed in a smaller regatta. To close out the season, we had two more regattas on October 18-19. One team was sent to the Ocean County Fall Open and another to the Luce Regatta which we had qualified for earlier in the season. Both teams fit in many races on Saturday but were met with extremely high winds on Sunday and had to call the regattas early.

Overall, this has been an exciting season for Princeton Sailing with our participation in two large boat regattas and the recruitment of many talented freshmen. We have learned a lot this season and look forward to our training trip to Florida this January to kick start our spring!



*Sailors at the team BBQ after Princeton Women's Regatta
From left: Adrija Navarro '15, Maggie O'Rourke '16, Amara Plaza-Jennings '15, and Lucy Hayes '16*



MEET THE NEW COMMODORE - ANDREW SUN '16

Dear Friends and Alumni of Princeton Sailing,

As the newly elected commodore I wanted to take this time to introduce myself. My name is Andrew Sun, but since Andrews have been abundant on this team, the team has dubbed me "Sunny". I'm Class of 2016 and an Operations Research and Financial Engineering major. I'm originally from the great state of Michigan, from a little suburb of Detroit.

When I first came to Princeton, I was very anxious about joining the sailing team, however, it has become one of the greatest choices during my time here. I have made valuable friendships on the team, and I'm so glad that I have been part of this for two years. I'm very excited and honored to be taking on the role of commodore on this team. Coming after Henry, there will be big shoes to fill and I hope to get a lot done in this next year. First and most importantly, will be the continued search for a coach for the team.



Andrew Sun '16

In all I would love to extend my appreciation to all the members of the team and the other officers on the corps. We have a great group of sailors and a great new class of freshman that I am looking forward to sailing with this next season. Here's to another great year!

Sail Fast,
Sunny

POLE SWIM

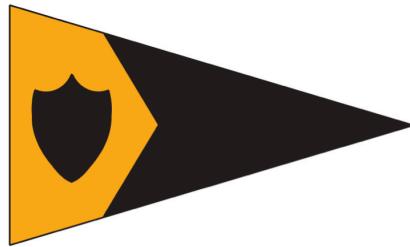
Once all the boats were pulled from the water, the team ventured into the freezing water at Raritan Yacht Club for our annual Pole Swim on December 7th. Because we had to push this event even later this year, the pole swim was once again altered this year to avoid the cold, where the 10 participants pictured below simply had to jump in the water for a little bit. This year we had a female member of the

team, Adrija Navarro '15, participate so we decided to dress her in a blazer and shorts for the swim.

Afterwards, the team dried off with some hot chocolate and munchkins from Dunkin' Donuts before heading back to campus. It was a cold, but great day for the team!



Malcolm Steinberg '17, Bennett Brainard '17, Aaron Sun '18, Cameron Zeluck '18, Rob Whitaker '18, Gokul Mukunda '18, Grant Godeke '17, Adrija Navarro '15, Andrew Sun '16 & Andrew Grasso '15



THE FRIENDS OF PRINCETON SAILING

The Friends of Princeton Sailing receives tremendous support from many of our alumni sailors, friends, team parents, and grandparents. Thanks to all who have made contributions to the team during fiscal year 2015 (July 1, 2014 - December 1, 2014), as reflected below. As a club sport at Princeton, the team thrives on the funding, housing advice, and time donated by so many outside the university, and, as such, each contribution at any level is welcome. Thank you again to the alumni, friends, parents, and others -- the team depends on you for its successes.

The following list acknowledges the thoughtfulness of our recent donors as of 12/1/2014; if you do not see your name listed below, please understand that we receive donor updates at certain times of the year and might not have been informed of your gift at press time. We will plan to list you in the next newsletter. Please let Greg Davis '00, President, or Anoop Gupta '01, Treasurer, know if you have not received a tax acknowledgement from the University.

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Mr. Anoop Gupta '01 • Mr. Jay P. Mandelbaum '84 Pi7 and Mrs. Lauren Gordon Mandelbaum S84 Pi7
Mr. Tom W. Smith W76

Mainstay (\$250+)

Mr. Richard W. Bowe '71 • Ms. Emily C. Carville '98 • Mr. Robert L. Stern '48 P83

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Mr. Mark S. Andrews '98 • Ms. Michelle M. Arader '10 • Mrs. Lorainne Longino Barba '75 S75
Mr. Randolph C. Barba '75 S75 • Mr. Christopher J. Constant '00 • Mr. Gregory W. Davis '00
Dr. Philemon Dickinson '64 *65 • Mr. Robert S. Driscoll, IV '60 • Ms. Laura A. Drumm '01
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Thank you for your support!

Join the TigerNet Sailing Email Group at www.princeton.edu/tigernet
Donate online anytime at <https://makeagift.princeton.edu/athletics/>

CONTINUED OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT THE SAILING ENDOWMENT AND NAME AN FJ!

On January 31, 2009, Emily Carville '98 made an announcement at the Friends of Princeton Sailing reception in Princeton that an anonymous donor had granted funds to purchase a new fleet of 12 FJs for the sailing team in time for the Spring 2009 season.

In support of this generous gift, the donor hopes to help the team capitalize on this unique moment in time by raising additional funds to support the sailing program in perpetuity. With a gift of \$10,000, you - or your group - can name a boat for the life of that boat, with the gift helping to create a newly formed endowment to support the highest priority needs of the Princeton Sailing program.

At this point in time, five boats have already been named. Should you be interested in helping to support the program over the long term and name one of the nine remaining boats, please contact either:

Greg Davis, President, Friends of Princeton Sailing, by email at gwdavis@alumni.princeton.edu or

Diana D. Leighton, Assistant Director, Leadership Gifts/Athletics Friends Groups, ddreyfus@princeton.edu

REQUEST FOR REGATTA HOUSING

The team has been fortunate over the years to benefit from the warm beds—not to mention the advice, on-site coaching, and financial support—of our generous alumni. We travel every weekend September through November and March through May to the following sites: Annapolis, Baltimore, Boston, Brown, Cornell, Georgetown, New London, CT, Old Dominion, St. Mary's, and Washington College. If you live close to any of these venues and would be willing to host a few sailors for a weekend, please contact Regatta Captain Sydney Mandelbaum '17 by sending an email at sydneym@princeton.edu. Thanks to the Werners, Grassos, & Hayes for hosting us this fall!

JOIN THE PRINCETON SAILING GROUP ON FACEBOOK! 

FRIENDS OF PRINCETON SAILING

ANOOP GUPTA '01

TREASURER

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PRESIDENT

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MARY GAMBER '11

SECRETARY

FRIENDS OF PRINCETON SAILING
(203) 554-8792

mary.gamber@gmail.com

CALL TO ACTION: Please contact Greg Davis '00 if you would like to get involved with The Friends of Princeton Sailing. We are seeking alumni support and looking for new members to advise the team and support alumni outreach. gwdavis@alumni.princeton.edu

PRINCETON SAILING

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
DILLON GYM, ROOM 4
PRINCETON, NJ 08544

[WWW.PRINCETON.EDU/
~SAILING](http://WWW.PRINCETON.EDU/~SAILING)

2014-15 TEAM OFFICERS

COMMODORE
ANDREW SUN '16

REGATTA CAPTAIN
SYDNEY MANDELBAUM '17

PRACTICE CAPTAIN
ROB WHITAKER '18

TREASURER
CAMERON ZELUCK '18

SECRETARY
MALCOLM STEINBERG '17

FLEET CAPTAINS
GRANT GODEKE '17
BENNETT BRAINARD '17

TECHNOLOGY CHAIR
AARON SUN '18

RECRUITING CHAIR
MAGGIE O'ROURKE '16

SOCIAL CHAIRS
GABRIELA LEICHNITZ '16
JENNY MU '18

GEAR CHAIR
ANNA POUSHINE '18

**FOR CONTACT INFORMATION,
PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE**

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY SPORT CLUB INSTRUCTOR/CONSULTANT

The Princeton University Sailing Team, a student run Sport Club at Princeton University, is seeking an instructor/consultant.

Founded in 1928, the program currently has a fleet of 12 FJs sailed out of Raritan Yacht Club in Perth Amboy, NJ. With both experience in and a focus on developing sport club strategies and athlete development, the coach will instruct on and off the water at weekday practices, weekend regattas and weekly on-campus team meetings. The consulting position will run 10 months from September through July.

Qualifications

- US Sailing Level 2 Instructor certification and instructional background required with a strong preference given to US Sailing Level 3 Instructor certification
- Competitive collegiate sailing/coaching experience
- Experience repairing boats
- Good oral and written communications skills
- Demonstrated organizational ability
- Must possess certifications or become certified in CPR & First Aid

Please provide a cover letter and resume.

Andrew Sun, Commodore
Princeton University Sailing Team
Email: ajsun@princeton.edu
Cell: (248) 935-8879

SPRING REGATTA SCHEDULE

March 7-8

Tom Noble

April 4-5

Team Race Cup

April 18-19

Old Guard
North Spring Qualifier

April 25-26

Admiral's Cup

May 9-10

Drexel Open

May 16-17

Engineer's Cup



The Princeton University Sailing Team at Lawnparties this Fall