

Overview of the HAA Recent Graduate Engagement Committee

The HAA Recent Graduate Engagement Committee

The Recent Graduate Engagement Committee (RGEC) of the Harvard Alumni Association facilitates the meaningful engagement of Harvard College recent graduates to each other and the larger Harvard alumni community. Class Committee leaders will form a community of practice to support their leadership efforts and strengthen their class engagement endeavors.

This group is made up of Class Committee leadership (First Marshal, Second Marshal, Secretary, and Treasurer) of the College classes up to nine years out from graduation (previously, up to six, then seven, years out). The committee reviews and designs processes to support recent graduate volunteers, welcome new volunteers, and create cross-class programming.

In addition to the members in Class Committee leadership roles, the current 5th Reunion Program Committee Chairs (for the current 5th Reunion class) and the former 5th Reunion Program Committee Chairs (for the classes six to nine years out) will be invited to join as Advisory Members of the committee (if they are not also in a Class Committee leadership role).

This committee will work in partnership with and under the guidance of a Harvard Alumni Association staff member to explore projects and initiatives and advise HAA staff on the needs of the recent graduate community. Updates and initiatives from this committee will be reviewed by College Directors on the Harvard Alumni Association's Board of Directors.

Goals for Recent Graduate Engagement

1. Keep young alumni engaged with their class, Harvard, and the alumni community.
2. Sustain connection and community, and create a continuity of experience, between Commencement and the 5th Reunion, and beyond.
3. Train class committee volunteers and identify opportunities to recruit and support new volunteers to allow for a sustained recent graduate engagement strategy.

The HAA defines recent graduates as those up to 10 years out (through the 10th Reunion).

Recent Graduate Engagement Committee Meeting Structure

Members will meet roughly three times a year as a full group for one hour. Optionally, and as desired, members are welcome to meet with each other at any time by role (i.e., First and Second Marshals, Secretaries, or Treasurers).

The Harvard Alumni Association

The Harvard Alumni Association (HAA) is the official association of all alumni of Harvard University including more than 420,000 alumni. The HAA maintains and enhances a highly engaged, vibrant community of alumni and friends worldwide. The purpose of the HAA is to promote the welfare of

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Harvard University and to establish a mutually beneficial relationship between Harvard University and its alumni.

The Harvard Alumni Association office sits within Alumni Affairs and Development. Alumni Affairs and Development inspires and galvanizes alumni, friends, and members of the University community to support Harvard through philanthropy, governance, and active engagement.

The College Alumni Programs office of the HAA serves more than 100,000 Harvard and Radcliffe College alumni. The office oversees and develops programming to preserve and maintain Harvard traditions and to create new opportunities to connect members of the Harvard community with one another and with the University.

The Board of Directors

The Harvard Alumni Association (HAA) Board of Directors is an advisory board that guides the fostering of alumni community building and creating University citizens of alumni and alumni volunteers. The main work of the Board of Directors focuses on developing volunteer leadership, increasing and deepening alumni engagement through an array of programs that support alumni communities worldwide.

From 2011-2020, the Building Community Committee of the HAA Board (made up of students and recent College graduates) oversaw both student-alumni and recent grad engagement efforts. Starting in the 2020-2021 year, this committee spun-off into two new committees separate from the HAA Board: the HAA Student-Alumni Engagement Committee and the HAA Recent Graduate Engagement Committee. While the Recent Graduate Engagement Committee is not part of the HAA Board, members of the Board, College Appointed Directors, will work alongside the committee.

College Appointed Directors of the HAA Board, under the leadership of the Vice President for College Alumni Affairs, serve as the principal liaison between the HAA and the individual classes represented in each of the College cohort committees. They have a three-year term (except for the student Directors who have a one-year term).

Within the Recent Graduate Engagement Committee, College Directors from the youngest cohort of the alumni community will assume the following additional responsibilities:

- The recent graduate Directors will partner with the HAA staff liaisons to lead the work of the Committee, including setting goals and tasks for the year.
- The recent graduate Directors will participate in and lead all the Committee meetings in partnership with the HAA staff liaisons. The student Directors (and the Vice President for College Alumni Affairs) will be invited as optional attendees.
- All (and the Vice President for College Alumni Affairs) will be included on major communications to the Committee, including onboarding messages, communications for upcoming initiatives/events, and debrief messages for initiatives/events.