

# The Daniel M. Sachs Class of 1960 Graduating Scholarship AY 2009-10 Handout

Application Deadline: October 26, 2009

Fields of study: Open; study at Oxford, or study, work, or travel abroad

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## Description:

The Graduating Scholarship, named for the late Daniel M. Sachs '60, was instituted by his friends and classmates to provide a senior with an opportunity to study, work, or travel abroad after graduation. The purpose is to enlarge the holder's experience of the world. Sachs was a distinguished student and a fine athlete who intended to enter politics. The scholarship that commemorates his qualities is meant for students of broadly comparable intentions who are thinking of public affairs, whether politics, civil service, international affairs, journalism, and public education; or law; science; or medicine in the public interest.

The advisers to the Sachs Fund specifically wish to call the opportunity to the attention of students majoring in the sciences, engineering, and the humanities, no less than to those in departments more directly concerned with politics.

The scholarship may be held in one of two ways: It may be a traveling fellowship that enables the scholar to carry out a program of his or her own devising, or it may be held as a scholarship entitling the recipient to qualify for an appropriate degree from the University of Oxford. Sachs continued his own education after Princeton at Worcester College, Oxford; Worcester is receptive to applications for membership from Sachs Scholars and extends a reduction in fees. If a Sachs Scholar wishes to study there, the Sachs Fund assures tenure of two years at a total stipend sufficient to pay for university and college tuition and to provide an allowance for other expenses.

Proposals for the alternative traveling option must involve study, research, or work outside the United States and Canada. The stipend will be set in accordance to anticipated needs up to a maximum of \$40,000. Candidates may be asked to provide evidence that they have access to the institutions, milieux, or circumstances in which they intend to carry out their programs, and also that they are fluent in the languages they would need. Under this option, tenure is limited to one year.

## Criteria for Selection:

The process of selection is not a competition in which applicants are ranked by some order of merit, but rather an attempt to identify that member of the graduating class whose tenure of the scholarship would be most in keeping with Dan Sachs' qualities of character, intelligence, and commitment, and in whose prospective career the scholarship would be most likely to have consequences of value to the public. If no candidate presents a proposal that seems appropriate to the committee, the scholarship will not be awarded.

## Application Procedure:

Seniors who wish to apply should address a letter to: The Sachs Scholarship Selection Committee c/o David R. Loevner, 409 West College. Candidates should set forth in their letter how they would use the Sachs Scholarship if they were to be selected. A resume (outline) of extracurricular interests and activities inside and outside the University and an original, certified transcript of the candidate's academic record at Princeton (and, if applicable, other universities) must accompany the letter.

The original, signed application letter and the resume must be printed single-sided on normal weight paper and submitted, unfolded and unstapled, with the transcript(s). Six stapled photocopies of the entire application packet, including transcript(s), must accompany the original packet.

Though not required, candidates are encouraged to submit letters of recommendation from persons who know them well and can speak to the merits of their proposal; candidates may request up to three letters from members of the faculty or others. Referees should send their letters directly to the Committee at the address above. No photocopies are required. Please note that fax or e-mail submissions of letters are not accepted.

Letters of candidacy and supporting materials must be submitted no later than October 26, 2009. Letters of recommendation may be submitted after this date, but might not receive consideration if received too late in the selection process. The candidates whose proposals are most appropriate and whose records give evidence of ability to carry them out will be interviewed on campus on December 4-5, 2009.

Additional Information:

A meeting of seniors interested in the scholarship will be scheduled early in the fall semester. See also Answers to the Most Frequently Asked Questions (included in this handout).

Advice for Sachs Applicants:

1. Candidates proposing to apply for a highly selective graduate degree program at Oxford (e.g., M.Phil in international relations) are advised to reflect on, and to share with the Sachs selection committee, whether alternate program(s) could be suitable for them in case they are not admitted to their preferred program.
2. Traveling fellowship option proposals that do not involve matriculation at a recognized institution are welcomed. Such proposals should be presented with as much specific detail as possible, including anticipated living arrangements, estimated budget, and a description of what the candidate expects to be doing on a day-to-day basis.

# The Daniel M. Sachs Class of 1960 Graduating Scholarship

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Application Process

**Q. My interests do not lie in politics, or even in the social sciences. Am I a suitable candidate for the Sachs?**

A. Sachs Scholars have been drawn from a wide range of disciplines, including the physical sciences, engineering, humanities, and the arts. Anyone interested public affairs, broadly defined, and in the potential application of their work to enhance the public welfare is a suitable candidate.

**Q. I am interested in both the Traveling and the Worcester College, Oxford Options. Can I apply for both?**

A. No, you must specify in your letter of application in which one of the two ways you propose to use the Scholarship.

**Q. How do I obtain an application form for the Sachs Scholarship?**

A. There is no application form. You need only write a letter to the Sachs Selection Committee, setting out how you would propose to use the Scholarship, and why your proposal should command the interest of the Committee. Please read and follow carefully the instructions found in the Fellowship Guide (and on this website) regarding materials you are required to submit with your letter.

**Q. Must I be an American citizen or permanent resident to apply for the Sachs Scholarship?**

A. No, any graduating senior at Princeton University is eligible.

**Q. I am a graduating senior, but I already have other plans for next year. Can I apply for the Scholarship, and defer it for a year if I receive it?**

A. No, the Scholarship cannot be deferred. The Scholar is expected to commence his or her proposed activity within six months of graduation.

**Q. I graduated last spring. Am I eligible to apply?**

A. No, only members of the current senior class are eligible.

**Q. How many letters of recommendation may I submit?**

A. You may submit up to three letters. Letters will be added to your application file in the order they are received; subsequent letters beyond the third will be discarded. Letters of recommendation are not required, but generally speaking letters are helpful to the Committee in its efforts better to understand you and the context for your proposal.

**Q. Must my letters of recommendation accompany my application?**

A. Referees should send their letters directly to the Committee. The sooner they arrive, the better, but letters of recommendation do not need to be received by the Committee prior to the application deadline to be considered. Whenever received, letters of recommendation will be included in the candidate's file and considered in the next stage of the selection process.

**Q. May I submit samples of my writing, artwork, music, etc. with my application?**

A. You are welcome to submit small quantities of such material if it is relevant to your application. If you need to have the material returned, please so indicate and provide suitable return packaging. Please do not submit any valuable or irreplaceable material; while the Committee will endeavor to treat your material with care, it cannot be held responsible for loss or damage.

**Q. How long should my proposal be?**

A. There is no prescribed length. Your proposal should address with some specificity what you propose to do, and why. If your written materials do not make a compelling case, you will not be invited for an interview. At the same time, bear in mind that each reader must read thirty or more application packages, and may be put off by an unnecessarily wordy proposal.

**Q. Will you accept my application after the published application deadline?**

A. No, applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

## **Oxford Option**

**Q. I am applying for the Sachs Scholarship under the Worcester College, Oxford Option. When should I submit an application to Oxford University and/or Worcester College?**

A. You do not need to submit an application to Oxford prior to the conclusion of the Sachs selection process. If you are awarded the Scholarship, you will still have adequate time to apply to Oxford, and the Sachs Scholarship committee will assist you in submitting your application. Of course, if you are considering attending Oxford University (any college) irrespective of whether you are awarded the Sachs Scholarship, you may wish to submit an application to Oxford earlier. The fact of having, or having not, already applied to Oxford will not affect your chances of receiving the Sachs Scholarship.

**Q. If selected as the Sachs Scholar, am I assured acceptance into the Oxford graduate degree program of my choice?**

A. No. While no Sachs Scholar should have difficulty gaining admission to Oxford University and Worcester College, the relevant departmental faculty controls admission to each graduate degree program, and some programs (such as the M.Phil. in International Relations) have many more applicants than places. If you are aiming to enter such a highly selective program, you should indicate to the Selection Committee in your Sachs application whether a different Oxford degree program would meet your interests should you fail to gain admission to your preferred program. If you aim to read for a second BA (a popular choice), you should have no difficulty irrespective of the subject(s).

**Q. May I use the Sachs Scholarship to attend an Oxford college other than Worcester College?**

A. Only while attending Worcester College, Oxford, will the Sachs Scholar receive two years of financial support. Attendance at any other institution, including another Oxford College, will be considered under the Traveling Option, which provides one year of support. In this light, it is hard to conceive of a reason why a Scholar would choose to attend an Oxford College other than Worcester. Worcester is an outstanding college, in terms of its faculty, reputation and facilities. (Many consider it one of Oxford's most beautiful colleges.) At Worcester, one may read virtually any subject, and may draw as required on faculty and other resources located elsewhere in the University community.

## **Traveling Option**

**Q. I wish to attend a course at a foreign institution. Do I have to gain admission to the course before the Sachs Scholar is selected?**

A. No, but it is helpful to your application if you can show that you are easily qualified for the program or, better still, that program faculty have expressed interest in working with you. Depending on deadlines and your alternate plans, you may wish to submit an application for the course prior to the Sachs selection.

**Q. Can I propose a two-year project or course at a foreign institution?**

A. Under the Traveling Option, the Sachs Scholarship will provide support for only one year. If you propose a longer project or course, you should suggest in your proposal how or where you anticipate finding support for the second year.

**Q. Can I propose an independent project, not associated with a foreign university?**

A. The Selection Committee welcomes proposals for independent projects abroad. However, you should recognize that an extra burden then falls on you to describe in some detail what you plan to do, and to demonstrate its feasibility, both in terms of access and budget.

**Q. Can I propose to return to a country or institution where I have already been?**

A. There is no requirement that the proposed experience be wholly new. However, you should endeavor to explain how the return experience will "enlarge [your] view of the world," and not be simply a repetition, however rewarding.

**Q. Can I propose to engage in aid or charitable work abroad?**

A. The Scholarship is intended as an investment in the development of the Scholar as someone who may, over a lifetime, make a lasting contribution. Your work proposal will be evaluated on that basis as an experience for you, not on its intrinsic humanitarian merit.

## **Selection Process**

### **Q. How is the Sachs Scholar selected from among the applicants?**

A. Four or more readers, drawn from among former Sachs Scholars and advisors to the Scholarship, carefully review all applications and supporting materials. The readers select approximately a dozen applicants to be interviewed by a Selection Committee, similarly composed of five to seven former Scholars and advisors. Applicants will be advised in November by email whether they have been invited to interview, and when and where they should appear. Interviews take place on the Princeton campus in early December on a Friday evening and Saturday. Candidates will be notified of the final outcome within a few days following the interviews.

### **Q. I cannot be on campus during the interview weekend. Can I meet the Selection Committee at some other time?**

A. Unfortunately, no. The Selection Committee comes together only during the interview weekend. A candidate who, for whatever reason, is unable to meet the Committee at that time will not be eligible to receive the Scholarship.

### **Q. I will be on campus during the interview weekend, but I have certain obligations that would prevent me from meeting the Committee at certain times. Can I be accommodated?**

A. To the extent feasible, interview times will be assigned to accommodate conflicts. Candidates facing conflicts must inform the Committee in writing of the potential conflict PRIOR TO the issuance of interview invitations.

## **Other Information**

### **Q. How do I ask a question not addressed in these FAQ?**

A. You should feel free to email David Loevner at [dloevner@hlmnet.com](mailto:dloevner@hlmnet.com) with any questions. Please review the instructions in the Fellowship Guide (which also appear on this website) beforehand, to be sure the answer to your question does not already appear.

## *In Memoriam:*

### *Dan Sachs '60*



*Dan Sachs, cropped from the group picture of the Oxford University rugby team*

THERE is a special attribute about the memories held of Dan Sachs. It is not elicited by any single recollection. The reflections of many of those who loved and admired him must be taken together, and only then does this extra response emerge: that each man who knew Dan Sachs found in him the quality which that friend valued foremost and hoped to be thriving in himself. He had a rare scope and penetration that made it possible for him to leave intense impressions upon the most diverse company.

The strong who speak of Sachs cite first his courage; the ambitious specify his drive; the intellectual, his love of learning; the tender, his understanding; the philosophical, his vision; the moral, his diligence to live by his own stern values. He won the respect of each man on his own grounds; yet always he was constant with himself.

His own search was for the heroic, and it can be judged that he found that. At the memorial service for Dan, the Rev. Mr. Milton Yeack said: "Life is not to be measured by accomplishments alone, but also by commitments." Daniel M. Sachs '60 died of cancer on June 20 at his home in Bethlehem, Pa., a few weeks before his twenty-ninth birthday. He left his wife, the former Joan Lundstrom, a brave young woman whose courage mirrored that of her husband, and their daughter, Alexandra, who was one year old this September 15. His own father, an air force colonel, died in a plane crash when Dan was only eight. "It is best that Dan did not have a son himself," says a close friend, "for Alexandra will not have to face the task of growing up to be her father."

Her father's standards were exceeded only by his goals. Dan Sachs' life could have been one of greatness. He prepared himself for that, not in cocky anticipation, but in studied precaution, so that if the opportunity ever did confront him, he would be provided for it. Shortly after he left Princeton, as a Rhodes Scholar, he wrote: "If we fail to seize the vision now, in the years of intellectual strife when character becomes formed, then we can seldom hope to breathe life into the myth once we take up the tools of the world."

The possibility of making any concession to the ordinary forced him after excellence. "I fear mediocrity

more than I fear anything else," he said. He came to Princeton with low college board scores, the first ever to enter the University from Emmaus (Pa.) High School. He was graduated from Princeton a Rhodes Scholar and a Phi Beta Kappa, with High Honors in French. He also earned honors in History at Oxford, and was elected to an office that is equivalent to class president in his college, Worcester. He endured Harvard Law next, not as a prelude to the Bar, but as an essential part of the structure of the career he planned in politics.

He never did like the study of law. It was too dry for his curious mind, one that raced in excited pursuit after ideas and experience. Sachs was a voracious and eclectic reader—history, philosophy, poetry, novels—and he pondered everything he read. He studied constantly. Yet—and more so in his last years—he also began zealously to scrutinize the people about him, especially—intentionally—those of different style and alien temperament. It began as a determined exercise, his own kindergarten for politics; it ended up bringing him an even more genuine appetite for life.

He probably never was satisfied that he was able, as he put it, "to become natural and easy." He was envious of those with that facility, and showed his admiration for them—which is perhaps why those of wit and warmth now are determined to maintain that Sachs had much more humor than he was ever credited with. Dan himself was convinced that "my phlegmatic, essentially German soul" was capable of laughing only at his own inability to laugh. "How can people live just for the moment?" he asked with jealous perplexity after spending one weekend of a French visit with a tough, scurrilous Algerian truck driver and his whole ribald family. That question Dan posed in 1960. By 1964 he had answered it sufficiently to become the only elected member of an impromptu, outlandish social order among Harvard proctors and graduate students that was titled "The Select Committee of the Whole Group" and was solemnly devoted to accomplishing absolutely nothing except an occasional night of intramural bedlam, as practiced in the guise of fellowship. And he loved it; he was learning to relax.

From the time he met Joan, his ways were easier and happier. He was introduced to her one day in the spring

of '64. "Well," he told friends later that evening, "I just met the girl I am going to marry." (He let her in on this observation somewhat later.) He courted her with walks, not because he was cheap or impecunious (though he never had much money), but because he was peculiar that way—Dan Sachs liked walks. Long, ambling, sauntering, meandering, striding, happy, serious—well, old-fashioned—walks. They were his parties. He reserved them for his best girl or for his good friends, as others save a bottle of wine or a newspaper clipping. With Joan, he walked along the Charles River that spring, and it was to be the happiest time in their lives.

**N**ORMALLY, despite the panorama of his successes, Sachs approached each new experience with trepidation. He was as wary and withdrawn when he came to Oxford as he had been when he first arrived in Princeton. Ease—much less confidence—would come only when he felt that he was in command of a situation. He was determined to play football at Princeton despite his slight, fragile build simply because he appreciated that the sport was the one thing he could be immediately proficient in, and that the football stadium was the one place where a young man could find a touch of recognition. After he

*To perpetuate his memory a Daniel M. Sachs Scholarship Trust has been established; for the present it will provide for the education of his daughter but its eventual and permanent purpose is to endow distinguished fellowships for graduating seniors who intend careers in politics or public service to study and travel abroad. If feasible, a similar fellowship will allow an Oxford man to study at Princeton. Inquiries should be directed to Professor Charles C. Gillispie of the History Department, one of the constituted advisors to the Trustee.—Ed.*

received one of the more serious of the myriad injuries that he took from football, his faculty advisor asked him point-blank one day why he played the game when it cost so much suffering. Sachs answered directly. "But, sir, I must," was all he said.

He did truly love the game and sport. He won three letters in both football and lacrosse, and he remained at Oxford for a third year in order that he might become one of the few Americans ever to win a Blue, playing rugby against Cambridge. At Princeton, his many honors included the captaincy of his freshman football team, All-Ivy selection as a sophomore, winner of the William Winston Roper Trophy for all-around excellence in athletics, and co-winner of the John Prentiss Poe Cup for football. Coach Dick Colman feels that Sachs and Royce Flippin have been the two best running backs to play for Princeton since the war. Sachs' ability to accelerate was rated as without parallel.

His only deficiencies were, first, his size, and, second, his failure to accept that first deficiency. He permitted himself no special consideration; he ran, his coaches say, "too hard for his body." Why he played—"I must"—was why, too, he played as he did. Sachs wrote, after seeing his first bullfight: "Something of the medieval remains in my soul, I guess. Man against beast, the im-

minent threat of death, man armed with his skill and courage—this appeals to my sense of heroism."

It is not inappropriate then, despite the promise of his life and his incipient accomplishment in so many areas, that his only demonstrable public success was logged within the chalked lines of the playing field—a wispy number 46, the shock of black hair swept under his helmet, now dashing and hurtling around end. Yet even that image—preserved now in old game films that have been stopped and started a hundred times, to see how the left tackle blocked and where the linebacker moved—was denied the full exposure it deserved.

What caress of fame Sachs did have was restricted almost entirely to his sophomore season, a decade ago, the fall of 1957. That was the All-Ivy year, the only one even relatively free from injury. It is a conspicuous, but not exaggerated, analogy that Dan's football career, like his life, was more of promise than fulfillment. But the corollary to that is just as legitimate: in each episode of his life he began tentatively, searching, and ended successfully, mastering. The pattern for great accomplishment in a full life was clearly established.

**T**HE cancer was originally detected following his first year at Harvard Law, on July 10, 1964. It was located behind the left knee, an area which had previously been operated on because of a hamstring injury. Initially a local operation was performed. Later, in the spring, summer and fall of 1966, a further local operation followed by two amputations eventually took all of his leg, but failed to arrest the malignancy. Dan married Joan, finished law school, and had the joy of their daughter in the shadow of time left him. He exercised his profession briefly in a law firm in Allentown in the intervals of hospitalization during the winter and spring of 1966-67. Near the end, while only the faint hope for miracle held amidst the pain, he displayed a strength of will, a selfless, continued interest in those about him, and also, a remarkable facility for detachment. He could calmly discuss the consequences of his impending death for his family; he was so concerned about what he considered a rude inability to remain alert for visitors, that he took to lifting weights on the day before he died in an effort to recapture some strength. There was massive dignity evident until he died peacefully on June 20 in the morning.

Dan approached his death with neither bitterness nor self-pity. "I am not afraid," he said. The emotion he did display was that of angry frustration, a torment that, simply, he should be denied his chance. "He was, after all," a friend says, "pragmatic more than philosophical, and romantic without being sentimental." He was an exceptional young man, cast out of qualities that rest easily in few men of any age, at any time.

In one of his moments of introspection, shortly after he left Princeton, he wrote: "This is a difficult time for me. The successes of my Princeton career are behind me and for the next ten years or so I pass into the shadows of the unknown. I feel the beginning of obscurity, and it has shaken my confidence. I've played before the crowds too long." The sorrow is as much for the crowds as for Dan Sachs that he was deprived of the chance to come before them again, that his life gave him time for only great commitment and a few bold Saturday afternoons in the autumns of a decade ago.—Frank Deford '61