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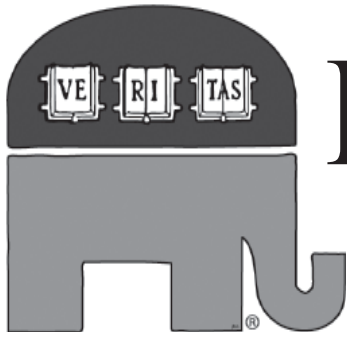
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# HARVARD REPUBLICAN CLUB

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SPRING 2008

COLIN MOTLEY

## CHALLENGES TO COME: ELECTION 2008 AND ROTC

As the exhaustive news coverage of the 2008 Presidential election suggests, the installation of a new president is always a cause for much excitement. During the upcoming year, the Harvard Republican Club will have the opportunity to influence two important campaigns relating to new presidents: November's U.S. presidential election and the effort to convince Harvard's new president to take a favorable stance on ROTC.

One of the most engaging and important functions of a group of College Republicans is as foot soldiers in the fight to elect GOP candidates to public office. For the HRC, this commitment inspired enthusiastic biweekly bus trips to New Hampshire during October and November to campaign for all of the major GOP contenders: Rudy Giuliani, Mitt Romney, John McCain, Fred Thompson, Mike Huckabee, and Ron Paul. Student leaders from our club served as national, regional, and state-level chairs and interns for Students for McCain, Romney, and Giuliani. In short, the GOP primary season was as a galvanizing force for our club and provided us with renewed energy to contribute to the general election.

With the party coalescing around Senator John McCain as its nominee, the HRC is ready to send campaign volunteers to the key battleground state of New Hampshire throughout the upcoming year. Like you, we believe that anything short of another four-year White House term for the GOP would be a letdown for both our party and our country, and we are determined that our nation's next president be a Republican. This means more bus trips, phone calls,

canvassing, and other campaign activities in the Granite State throughout 2008.

The campaign to elect the next president is important, but equally vital is the HRC's campaign to secure recognition for ROTC at Harvard. With the installation of a new university president and rising pressure from Washington, we feel the time is right to reverse Harvard's misguided policies towards the brave and honorable students who serve our country with their commitment to ROTC. We believe that these students deserve better than the early-morning subway rides to MIT and the lack of support, resources, and respect that current Harvard policy gives them.

We have already laid the groundwork for this ambitious program by engaging with key stakeholders in the ROTC issue, including high-level deans, the Undergraduate Council, and various student groups with an interest in reforming Harvard's policy. Based on the favorable reception we have received from these groups and individuals, we are hopeful for meaningful progress by the end of the spring semester. We aim ultimately to achieve the same full recognition at Harvard enjoyed by ROTC at many of our peer institutions.

As a former member, you know that the HRC has a long history of service to the Republican Party and to the ideals that make it great. We aim to continue this mission in the coming year, and with your help, welcome a new Republican president to Washington and a vibrant ROTC presence to Harvard's campus.

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*Colin Motley is the Vice-President for  
Campaigns and Activism*

CALEB WEATHERL

## GREETINGS FROM CAMBRIDGE

As the President of the 119th Executive Board of the Harvard Republican Club, I am excited to introduce our third alumni newsletter. I would like to briefly tell you about our vision for the club over the upcoming year, catch you up on the HRC's recent activities, and ask you to join us in promoting the Republican Party at Harvard.

The Harvard Republican Club is focused on instilling conservative principles in the next generation of world leaders. Our members are passionate about the principles for which the Republican Party stands, and we strive to create an inclusive club, welcoming those who identify as Republicans and making our case to those who are not there yet.

We are thrilled to be Republicans at Harvard right now. We are excited about the influence that we can have on our friends, on the upcoming elections, and on the ideas that are discussed at Harvard. Specifically, we are working on an initiative to improve the experience of Harvard ROTC cadets by increasing recognition and support from the Harvard administration. The club is also working tirelessly to ensure that the Republican Party holds the White House in the 2008 election through campaigning for Republican candidates in New Hampshire, as the gravity of losing the Presidency in these tumultuous times is lost on no Harvard Republican. Finally, we are energizing those who identify as Republicans on campus, and converting those who do not, through events such as our annual

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*cont. p2*

MARK SHEPARD

## CAMPUS CONSERVATISM EMERGES FROM STUDENT DEBATES

If there is one thing that has surprised me most about Harvard's political climate, it has been the degree to which its radical image is false. The political scene is dominated not by protests but by debate and rational discussion. In such an environment, conservatism has a foothold that it may not have had in the radical climate of decades past. Not only can conservatism prevail among those who came in conservative, but it has an opportunity to expand its sway.

Here the Republican Club has an opportunity for substantial impact, and I believe it has done a lot of good. The HRC maintains an active email discussion list, "GOP-Open," on which the latest political news is sent out, interesting articles are linked, and important issues are discussed. The degree to which students have absorbed themselves in extended debates and have been willing to respond and challenge each other has both surprised and pleased me.

Beyond email, the HRC has two

caucuses that have put on regular study break discussions: the Economic Freedom Initiative and Republicans for Traditional Values. Spanning both ends of the conservative spectrum, internal debate has served to attract new members, invigorate old ones, and show people the diversity of philosophies within the conservative movement. With economics now the most popular concentration at Harvard, the Economic Freedom Initiative has a unique chance to bring individuals from the significant body of libertarian-leaning individuals into the fold of the Republican Club.

Perhaps the most important area in which the HRC capitalizes on Harvard's intellectual climate is in periodic debates with the Harvard College Democrats. These have become legendary for their ability to pack a room, delivering not only the entertainment of rhetorical flair but the in-depth analysis and argumentation to sway the undecided members of the audience. The debate during

prefrosh weekend is one of the best-attended events of the whole weekend, giving admitted students their first taste of the Harvard political climate.

Through attending many such events during my time at Harvard, an interesting picture of campus conservatism has emerged. Most Harvard conservatives are not future politicians, focused on the latest poll numbers and obsessed with regaining a Republican majority. Most are regular students interested in a diverse array of fields but who have been swayed by the arguments of the right. And before heading out of Harvard to become leaders in their respective fields, the Republican Club gives them a home to debate, refine, and reconsider their views so that they emerge from Harvard more secure with their conservatism than when they entered.

*Mark Shepard is the former Treasurer of the Harvard Republican Club*

*President's Letter, cont.*

Lincoln Day Dinner coming up this March featuring Lieutenant Governor Michael Steele. The HRC is also close to confirming Karl Rove to speak at Harvard in April if we are able to raise the necessary funds.

These are ambitious goals, and we need your help to achieve them. Please consider partnering with us. Donations may be sent to:

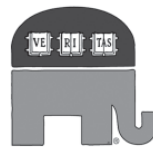
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C/O Harvard College  
University Hall, 1st Floor, Box #88  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Checks may be made out to the Harvard Republican Club.

We are grateful for your support, and please do contact me with any questions, ideas, or suggestions.

Best Regards,  
Caleb Weatherl

President  
Harvard Republican Club



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MICHELLE PARILO

# FACILITATING POLITICAL DISCOURSE ON CAMPUS WITH ROVE & STEELE

As Harvard students, we are fortunate to have access to some of the most well-renowned experts and personalities in the world. Even by those standards, the Harvard Republican Club has achieved remarkable success in attracting the brightest Republican minds and events to campus to help spread our message of economic freedom, social values, and a strong national defense.

In one particular prominent example, the HRC hosted both the Spring Convention of the Massachusetts Alliance of College Republicans and the inaugural Ivy League Republican Caucus this past year. We welcomed more than 100 College Republicans from across the region to Harvard to exchange ideas, build partnerships, and elect leadership for these two respected organizations. At the MACR Convention, the HRC was honored with the Most Active Chapter Award.

Additionally, we were privileged to welcome Star Parker, syndicated conservative columnist and founder of the Coalition for Urban Renewal and Education (CURE), to our 5<sup>th</sup> annual Lincoln Day Dinner in February 2007. Ms. Parker delivered a rousing address focusing on the importance of conservative principles in dealing with problems of urban poverty, racial discrimination, and the breakdown of

the nuclear family. The event attracted nearly 150 invited guests, including HRC members, College Republicans from schools in the area, and other interested Harvard students.

In preparation for the primary election season, we held a discussion session with Weekly Standard founder and FOX News commentator Bill Kristol, whose enthusiastic call to arms for the Republican cause inspired our successful campaign efforts in New Hampshire. Throughout the year, the HRC has also heard from a veritable who's who of influential Republicans and conservatives: former U.S. Representative E. Clay Shaw (R-FL), author of the 1996 Welfare Reform Bill; former U.S. Representative Nancy Johnson (R-CT); Christina Martin, former press Secretary to Newt Gingrich; Assistant Secretary of Labor Brad Campbell; Blake Gottesman, former special aide to President Bush; and Meghan O'Sullivan, former Special Advisor to the President on Iraq and Afghanistan, to name a few. We even got the chance



to grill former Connecticut Democrat Senate candidate Ned Lamont during a question-and-answer session hosted by the HRC.

And our goals for future speakers are even more ambitious. This year, we are proud to host Michael Steele, former lieutenant governor of Maryland, at our 6<sup>th</sup> annual Lincoln Day Dinner. We are also close to confirming a speaking engagement with Karl Rove, as well as with Ambassador Bolton.

The HRC is committed to fostering a strong conservative message by hosting speakers and events that contribute to campus dialogue, and we look forward to an exciting year to come.

*Michelle Parilo is the Vice-President for Speakers and Political Discourse*

## Support the HRC - Become an Alumni Member

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