



THE HARPSWELL FOUNDATION

Empowering a new generation of women leaders in Cambodia

Thursday, November 26, 2015

Dear Friends,

As we near the end of Fall and the holiday season is upon us, we hope this letter finds you and your loved ones well. It is hard to believe that Harpswell is now approaching the tenth anniversary of the completion of its first dormitory in Phnom Penh. It seems only yesterday that Alan and Elyse Lightman made their first trip to Cambodia with Fred Lipp, and eventually learned of the lack of housing for young women struggling to complete their education and attend university away from home.

As of 2015, Harpswell has supported, housed and graduated 103 young women leaders from its two dormitories in Phnom Penh. It recently welcomed the 21 talented members of the Class of 2019. These young women are so full of hope and potential: they inspire us each day to continue to improve Harpswell and to put it on the path of long-term sustainability. We are grateful for all that you have done to help make this dream a reality.

At this time of thanksgiving, we thought it a good time to reflect with gratitude on Harpswell's last ten years. Following is a timeline of some of the highlights that have led Harpswell to where it is today.



Harpswell Class of 2019

HARPSWELL FOUNDATION 2005-2015

2005

- ◆ Completion of primary school in Tramung Chrum
- ◆ Alan and Veasna Chea conceive of building a dormitory for female university students



Second Dormitory in Teuk Thla, completed in 2010

2006

- ◆ Completion of Harpswell dorm in Boeng Trabaek (BT dorm). This was the first dormitory for college women in Cambodia
- ◆ First students arrive. In-house curriculum started, including analyses of national and international news, and leadership seminars

2007

- ◆ Harpswell students were first in their class at the Royal University of Law and Economics, the Royal University of Phnom Penh, and the National University of Management --- three of Phnom Penh's major universities
- ◆ Leadership resident program begun. LRs live in the dorms with

our students and mentor them. As of 2015, we have had 79 LRs

2008

- ◆ Dan and Karen Pritzker and the Jay Pritzker Foundation became major donors

2010

- ◆ Completion of large Harpswell dorm in Teuk Thla (TT dorm)
- ◆ Harpswell was the cover story of the Cambodia Daily newspaper
- ◆ First students (Class of 2010) graduate
- ◆ Partnerships with US universities started for exchange of students.

2011

As of 2015, Harpswell has housed, educated, mentored, and graduated 103 young women leaders from its two dormitories

- ◆ First symposium in the Hall of Great Women in the TT dorm: "Women Innovators" featuring women leaders in Cambodia
- ◆ Symposium on Spirituality in the Hall of Great Women. Three religious leaders, from Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism, spoke about the meaning of spirituality in their religious traditions, including Rabbi Micah Greenstein from Memphis

- ◆ Partnership with the Peace Corps in Cambodia
- ◆ American Ambassador to Cambodia Carol Rodley visited our facility at TT and met with students



Alison Pavia with students in TT Library

- ◆ Marie Eckstein, former vice president and CAO of Dow Corning, joined HF to work on sewing business in Tramung Chrum

2012

- ◆ Harpswell was featured in the magazine International Educator
- ◆ First corporate sponsor, FedEx
- ◆ Visit by Memphis delegation of women leaders, including Mearl Purvis, Barbara Hyde, Margaret Day Craddock, Barbara Holden Nixon, and Becky Wilson



Harpswell students, 2012



Hillary Clinton meets with Harpswell students in 2012

2013

- ◆ New Curriculum added to already existing in-house curriculum, including debate, analytical writing, job prep skills, Southeast Asian geography and politics, and comparative genocide studies. New nutrition program, including classes in nutrition, increased allowance for food, and cooks in both dorms to prepare lunch
- ◆ Memphis Mayor AC Wharton gave keys to the city to Lina Hun and Bormey Sivorn (Rhodes College)

- ◆ Hillary Clinton visited Cambodia and met with Harpswell students
- ◆ First Harpswell masters degree received abroad, from Chantevy Khourn (Class of 2010, University of Hawaii).

Since then, seven more Harpswell students have received or will receive masters degrees from abroad.

Harpswell graduates work as lawyers, NGO project managers, journalists, entrepreneurs, financial consultants, nurses, teachers, accountants, technologists, and Cambodian government staff

- ◆ Ten additional Harpswell students have received or will receive masters degrees in Cambodia
- ◆ Harpswell Alumnae Association formed
- ◆ Major gift from anonymous donor in Memphis
- ◆ Symposium on International Day of the Girl
- ◆ First profit for sewing business in Tramung Chrum

- ◆ Partnerships with Global Women’s Leadership Initiative and Cambodian Women Entrepreneur Association
- ◆ Leaphea Yang (Class of 2011) was principal organizer of One



Alan Lightman with students

Billion Rising event in Cambodia, a worldwide effort to draw attention to violence against women



Members of the Class of 2018

- ◆ Symposium in the Hall of Great Women: “Compassion to Action” Speakers included Reverend James Boyd, Venerable Yos Hut Khemacaro, and Rabbi Micah Greenstein
- ◆ Creation of Memphis Cambodia by a group of prominent Memphians who have been to Cambodia with Rabbi Micah Greenstein. Several events took place in Memphis to inspire disadvantaged young people and others with the stories of our Harpswell students
- ◆ Harpswell students performed Shakespeare’s “As You Like It” in the TT dorm, directed by resident Jessica Lander
- ◆ Rabbi Micah Greenstein brought a second delegation of Memphians to Cambodia, including Jim and Martha Boyd, and Mike and Bennie Dragutsky

2014

- ◆ Two-week Summer Institute in

- Women in Public Service, partnering with the Global Women's Leadership Initiative and with Pannasastra University in Cambodia. Sixty students attended, half Harpswell students and half non Harpswell students. Classes were taught by an international faculty (including Alan Lightman and Harpswell Trustee Rangita de Silva de Alwis)
- ♦ Harpswell graduates Leaphea Yang (2011), Marady Kith (2010), and Sophy Khan (2010) were awarded the Marissa Wesely Women in Public Service Project Award for Excellence in Women's Leadership
 - ♦ Sokngim Kim (Class of 2012) began studying for engineering degree from the University of Georgia and will be the first Cambodian engineer trained in the US She plans to build roads and bridges when she goes back to Cambodia
 - ♦ Rindarath Keo (Class of 2013) became the first Harpswell graduate to start her own company, King Group, which supplies cement and tile to end users
 - ♦ Leadership Resident Alumnae Association started
- 2015
- ♦ Alison Pavia, a lawyer and nonprofit executive, began as Executive Director of Harpswell. The national search to hire her received 150 applications
 - ♦ American Ambassador to Cambodia William Todd praised Harpswell in his official blog post
 - ♦ Ten Harpswell students were first in their class at university in academic year 2014-2015 (Our students attend 20 different universities)



Alan, Alison and Senior Manager Varony Ing presenting diploma to Chea Chanreaksa, Class of

As you can see, it has been a busy and rewarding ten years. Armed with new administrative and strategic capability, Harpswell is poised to review its impact and to consider ways to expand its work, in Cambodia and beyond.

Harpswell could not have accomplished the achievements of the last ten years without the partnership, financial support, and wise counsel of so many of you.

We are deeply grateful for your support, and hope to be able to count on your belief in our mission in the years to come.

With all best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season,

Sincerely,

Alan Lightman, Founder, Chairman of the Board

Alison Pavia, Executive Director

The Harpswell Foundation

www.harpswellfoundation.org

Facebook: [harpswellfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/harpswellfoundation)

Twitter: [harpswell_now](https://twitter.com/harpswell_now)

US Telephone: 978 369 0663

Cambodia Telephone: 012 494 469

P.O. Box 163, Concord, MA 01742