

# STRENGTHEN YOUR HARVARD NETWORK USING THE ONLINE ALUMNI COMMUNITY!

The online alumni community, the only verified network of Harvard alumni, is available to Harvard alumni and now, current students. Create your profile, build your Harvard alumni network, and include key words if you'd like students to be able to find you for mentoring purposes.

## HOW DO I GET STARTED?

- Visit [community.alumni.harvard.edu](https://community.alumni.harvard.edu).
- If you haven't claimed your HarvardKey, you need to do that first at [key.harvard.edu](https://key.harvard.edu).
- For technical support, contact the Harvard Alumni Association Help Desk at [haa\\_alumnihelp@harvard.edu](mailto:haa_alumnihelp@harvard.edu).

## WHY SHOULD I CREATE ANOTHER ONLINE PROFILE?

- The online alumni community is open to GSD alumni *and* alumni from all other Harvard Schools. Find alumni in your area for projects with expertise in different areas using the search function.
- Your privacy is maintained by sending messages through the community.
- Students can also join the community, start to build their connections and find alumni for advice and mentoring.

A search in the online alumni community for "GSD Alumni Council Networking," filtered for by school for the 'Graduate School of Design.'

The screenshot shows the Harvard Alumni Community search results page. The search criteria are 'People' and 'gsd alumni council'. The results are filtered to 'Career Network Only' and show 11 results. The first three results are:

- Mr. John A. di Domenico**: MAU 1979, Long Island City, NY. Last Login: More than a month ago. Mentor: "...As a Member of the GSD Alumni Council I am pleased to speak w..."
- Ms. Yvonne Szeto**: MAR 1979. Last Login: More than a month ago. Mentor: "...As a member of the GSD Alumni Council, I am pleased to serve ..."
- Mr. Michael B. Lehrer FAIA**: MAR 1978, President at Lehrer Architects LA, Los Angeles, CA. Last Login: More than a month ago. Employment: GSD Alumni Council, Immediate Past Chairman. About Me: "...President, LEHRERARCHITECTS LA INC. Immediate Past Chairman, Harvard GSD Alumni"

The 'Career Network only' filter is circled in red in the original image.

## HOW DO I USE THE HARVARD ALUMNI DIRECTORY?

- Visit [community.alumni.harvard.edu](http://community.alumni.harvard.edu) and log in with your HarvardKey.
- Build a robust profile so fellow alumni and students can find you.
  - Include a photo and descriptive narrative in the “about me” field.
  - Join Career Networking in the “Career” area. You can select to network with students, alumni, or both.
- Participate in Discussion Forums.

BELOW: Sample alumni profile from GSD Alumni Council Chair Peter Coombe MARch '88

## HOW CAN I CONNECT WITH HARVARD AND GSD ALUMNI AND STUDENTS?

- To find fellow alumni, search the directory by industry, specialty, company, Harvard School, class year, and more. You can also use filters and search by keywords.
- Use the email button in each profile to reach out to alumni and fellow students. Be sure to use a short and professional message, and be aware that solicitation of any type is prohibited.
- If you include any of the following terms on your profile somewhere, GSD students will be able to find you for specific purposes:
  - Career mentor
  - IDP mentor
  - Academics/thesis advice
  - Admitted student advice

The screenshot shows a user profile for Mr. Peter Coombe, MAR 1988, located in New York, NY, at Sage and Coombe Architects. The profile is divided into several sections:

- ABOUT ME:** A detailed paragraph about his career in architecture, including his role as Chair of the Student Alumni Exchange Committee and his education at Yale and Harvard.
- CONTACT INFORMATION:** Lists his website (www.sageandcoombe.com), social media handle (@prc1761), and phone numbers for home and business.
- CAREER:** Includes an overview of his professional services, a list of industries (Architectural, Engineering, etc.), and his current role at Sage and Coombe Architects.
- EDUCATION:** Lists his Harvard Graduate School of Design degree (MAR | 1988) and his Yale University BA (1983).
- CAREER NETWORK:** A section highlighted with a red circle, indicating he is willing to network with all alumni and Harvard Network members. It includes an additional note about his role as a career mentor.

## WHAT IS A MENTOR TO GSD STUDENTS?

- Occasional Meetings—organized over coffee, lunch, office meeting, dinner, etc to provide informal advice for career planning on an "as needed" basis,
- Regular Meetings—willingness to meet on a defined basis with interested student(s) to assist them define and reach certain professional goals. Goals and meeting schedule would be discussed and defined between student and mentoring alum.