MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR
Bart Huffman ’88
President, Princeton Club of San Antonio

As you may recall, the Committee on Regional Affairs initiated a “seed money” program this academic year designed to help regional associations elevate the level of their alumni engagement. I am pleased to report that we received a number of worthy requests, and that CORA, in connection with the Committee on Alumni Relations and Communications, has been able to award “seed money” grants to the following: Princeton Area Alumni Association, Princeton Alumni Association of Utah, Princeton Club of Brazil, Princeton Club of Central Ohio, and Princeton Club of Northwest New Jersey. Each of these associations provided a detailed and impressive request outlining a specific need with achievable and promising expected results.

Like CORA’s ongoing web and telephone conference series, this “seed money” program should serve as a reminder of the resources and assistance that can be provided through CORA, the Alumni Council, and the Alumni Association. Please keep those lines of communication open!

As my term comes to an end in June, I want to thank the other members of the Committee for their valuable insight and many hours of service. On behalf of CORA, I also want to acknowledge and express appreciation for the assistance of Livia, Amy, Liz, Kristin, and the others in the Office of the Alumni Association, who work tirelessly to support Princeton’s growing global alumni network. Last, but certainly not least, many thanks to all of you, without whom Princeton would not be what it is and will remain “the best old place of all.”

CAREERS PROGRAMMING
Brian Childs ’98
Careers Chair, Princeton Association of New England

With economic turmoil all around us, it’s important to consider ways that our regional associations can best support alumni careers. This column briefly describes a type of careers-oriented programming called Net Nights. By combining informative opening remarks from a distinguished speaker with structured networking exercises, Boston’s Net Nights events — like others around the country — have provided alumni with valuable insights and an opportunity to make deep connections with fellow alumni.

Net Nights is a careers-oriented event with two hallmark components: (1) a structured networking exercise (i.e., an organized method of facilitating connections), and (2) a speaker or panel focused on a career-related topic. Net Nights offers alumni opportunities to find business partners, to learn innovative ideas about careers, to establish contacts in an industry or organization, or to problem solve a critical career issue.

It’s easy to get started. Here’s how:

1. **Pick a date, time, and venue.** Early evening on a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday is a best bet and plan on about 1.5-2 hours. Consider a location that will offer space free of charge.

2. **Pick a meeting topic.** Consider starting with something broad-reaching such as “How to Make a Career Transition” or “Managing Your Career in a Downturn.”

3. **Solicit a speaker or speakers.** Utilize your regional officers’ networks or other alumni contacts to find speakers relevant to your meeting topic.

4. **Finalize the details.** Determine a cost to cover expenses (typically in $10-20 range) and set an agenda.

5. **Promote it!**


Net Nights was originally developed by Lee Dudka ’77 for the PC of Washington, DC and has been successfully executed in many cities across the country. Hopefully, yours is next.