

# Almanac

Tuesday, May 24, 1988

Published by the University of Pennsylvania

Volume 34, Number 35

## Writing Requirement: Yes

The proposal to institute a writing requirement for undergraduates of The College (*Almanac* April 12) passed 122 to 47 with two abstentions in a mail ballot that ended May 12.

Acting Dean Walter Wales will now appoint a summer work group who will form an agenda for completing details of the program during 1988-89. In this timetable, a College Writing Committee will be expected to present to the Faculty Meeting in January 1989 a plan for introducing the requirement for freshmen entering in the Fall of 1989.

Also before the Arts & Sciences faculty for mail voting is the proposal for a perspectives requirement, which would specify that one distribution unit be taken in study of non-Western cultures or of diversity within Western society. The perspectives ballot is due May 30.

## INSIDE

- Undergrad Fund: \$1.24M to Schools, pp. 2-3
- Speaking Out: Salary; Farewell, p. 2
- Making NSF's 'First Cut,' p. 2
- Of Record: Long-Term Disability, p. 3
- Key Dates for Summer, p. 3
- Update, CrimeStats, p. 4

### Pullouts: Summer at Penn

#### Ad Hoc Report on SAS-SEAS Plans for Natural Science & Engineering Facilities

## \$1.24 Million in Awards to Undergraduate Schools

In the third round of awards from a fund for undergraduate improvement set up in 1986, \$1,240,000 has been granted to the four undergraduate Schools for new and continuing projects.

The projects, detailed in a report starting on page 2, total \$640,000 for The College, \$300,000 for Engineering and Applied Science, \$125,000 for Nursing, and \$175,000 for the Wharton School.

The Undergraduate Fund is part of a five-year, \$20 million investment outlined in *A Program of Investments* in *Almanac* February 4, 1986, which established the Undergraduate Fund at up to \$10 million over the five-year period, plus the Research Facilities Fund from which grants were announced last week.

Among the projects are several which emphasize either breadth of education within a School or cross-disciplinary study.

Among them:

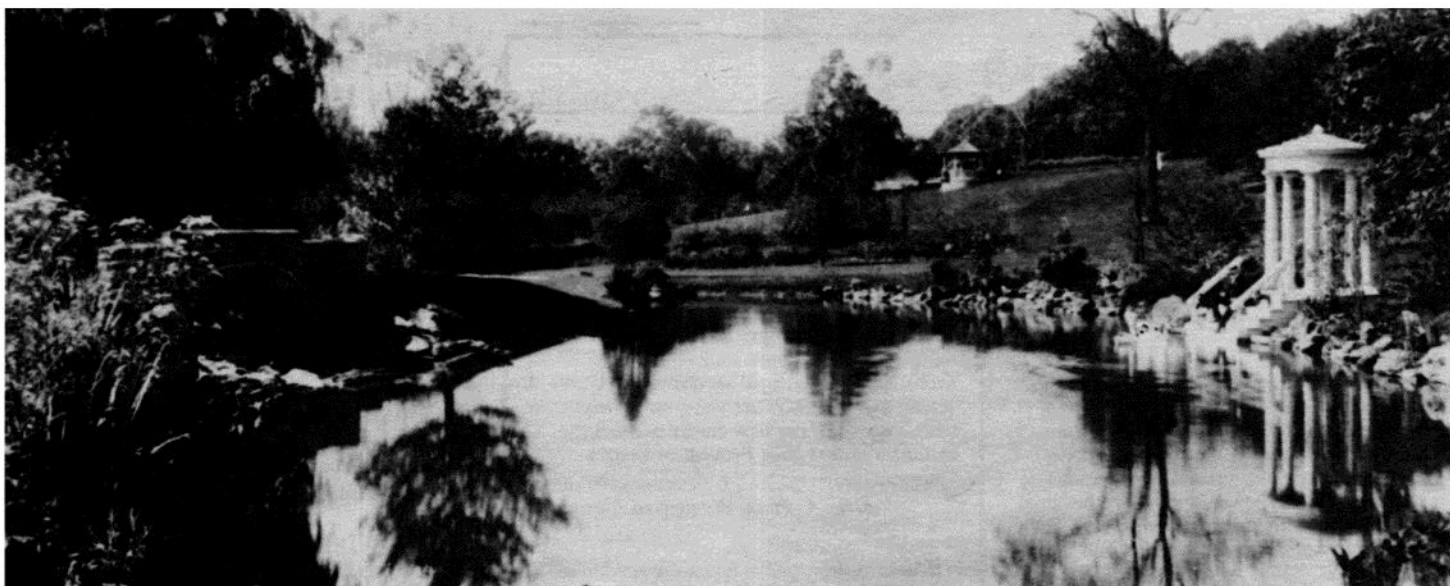
In SAS, development of new coursework to satisfy the newly adopted General Education Requirement; freshman seminars; the newly adopted Writing Requirement; and faculty involvement in advising. SAS will also continue training of TAs. SAS will also use these

grants toward a systematic study of the majors, already in progress.

Engineering's grants will cover increased involvement of SAS faculty in a new liberal arts advising program for engineering students; continuing participation in the Writing Across the University (WATU) program; computing aids to teaching and undergraduate research; and expansion of a seminar for faculty to improve advising and teaching.

Nursing intends to develop a model for international studies in collaboration with other undergraduate schools; develop a case-study curriculum for the junior-senior year; strengthen its participation in minority recruitment; and integrate computing with the nursing curriculum, among other projects.

Wharton will create an honors sequence, the Joseph Wharton Fellows Program, with rigorous study in the liberal arts and sciences added to traditional business disciplines. Its other projects include the establishment of computerized Integrated Teaching Stations; extension of noncredit communications programs; teacher-education for doctoral students; and revamping its core course in Decision Science.



*Penn's Victorian Garden, Morris Arboretum, is both the site and a subject of a day-long symposium June 16. Experts from the Smithsonian Institution, Winterthur, and the Morris Arboretum will discuss The Victorian Landscape in America: The Garden as Artifact as the final event in a series of activities celebrating the 92-acre Arboretum's Centennial. The Arboretum is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is recognized as one of America's finest Victorian estate landscapes. A Victorian picnic lunch in the award-winning rose garden, afternoon tea, concert, exhibits, and tours of the estate are included in the program. The symposium is open to the public; to register contact Agatha Hughes at 247-5777.*

# The Undergraduate Education Fund: Third-Year Awards

Since the inception of the Undergraduate Education Fund in 1986, nearly \$4 million has been committed to efforts by the faculty to improve undergraduate education. Over the past two years, a number of exciting programs have been proposed and developed that have enriched the undergraduate experience; those submitted this year have continued that pattern.

Proposals to the Fund for FY 1989 were forwarded by the Schools of Arts and Sciences, Engineering and Applied Science, and Nursing and the Wharton School. These then were reviewed by the Provost, in conjunction with the Academic Planning and Budget Committee, to ensure that each would make a direct contribution to undergraduate education and complement the five-year plans of the schools. The result is an exciting set of new and continuing initiatives in undergraduate education.

## School of Arts and Sciences

This year, the School of Arts and Sciences will receive \$640,000 from the Undergraduate Education Fund both to establish and to expand efforts in the following areas:

- *The General Education Requirement.* In February, 1987, the faculty approved the establishment of a new distributional requirement designed to promote educational breadth by requiring students to take ten courses from among those listed in six content areas. Money from the Undergraduate Education Fund will be used to develop a number of new courses needed to satisfy this requirement, including courses taught by faculty from the other undergraduate schools. Consideration will also be given to developing courses that focus on cultural diversity and non-Western subject matter.
- *Freshman Seminars.* As a result of previous support received from the Undergraduate Education Fund, the number of faculty-taught Freshman Seminars offered by the School increased from 28 to 51 during the past two years. The School intends its offerings even further, and will begin to develop seminars that satisfy the general education requirement while focusing on writing skills.

- *The Major.* A faculty committee is now evaluating the eight largest majors in the College prior to issuing specific recommendations for strengthening all undergraduate majors. While its report is not yet completed, the committee is expected to call for the establishment of an undergraduate research requirement and for support for interdisciplinary majors, both which will require some funding.

- *Writing Competency.* This year the faculty in Arts and Sciences adopted a writing requirement for freshmen that will require the development of a number of new writing courses. In addition, the School will continue to offer courses through the Writing Across the University program.

- *Advising.* A major effort has been made by the School to involve more members of the standing faculty in the advising of freshman students. This past year, faculty were named advisors to approximately half of the freshman class. This coming fall, the program is to be expanded to the entire class.

- *Training Program for Teaching Assistants.* A two-day training program for new Teaching Assistants will again be offered, with periodic workshops held throughout the year. A renewed effort to evaluate effectively the teaching of all faculty also will be undertaken.

## School of Engineering and Applied Science

Grants totaling \$300,000 have been awarded to the School for use in five areas:

- *Equipment for Undergraduate Laboratories.* Last year, the School of Engineering and Applied Science created a new undergraduate laboratory for the Mechanical Engineering Department. This year it has embarked on a similar project for the Chemical Engineering Department. Money from the Undergraduate Education Fund will be used to purchase electronic equipment, flow measuring devices, calibration instruments and specialized computer interfaces for both these labs.

- *Advising in the Liberal Arts.* SEAS is participating with the Association of American Colleges in a study of the liberal arts in the curricula of

continued past insert

## Speaking Out

### Unpleased on Salaries

I continue to be disappointed at the lack of sensitivity displayed by the University administration for the salary needs of the faculty. Who are the faculty leaders who stated that they are "pleased" with the levels of the salary increase recently mandated? (*Daily Pennsylvanian*, April 30, 1988). I have not found one.

In the Annual Report of the Economic Status of the (Faculty) Profession, 1987-88, published last week by the AAUP, the overall percentage increase for Category I universities in which we are included, was 5.4% for each of the last two years. If we continue to grant our faculty lower levels than this, as is the case currently, then we surely drop out of category I and assume the status of a minor institution.

—Benjamin Wolf  
Professor of Microbiology/Vet

**Ed. Note:** Because of time constraints, Dr. Wolf's letter is published without a response.

### Farewell Fete: Joan Gotwals

To the many friends of Joan Gotwals who may not be on our mailing list, this is an open invitation to attend a farewell party in her honor on Friday, June 10, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. on the sixth floor of Van Pelt Library.

Please call Ext. 8-7091 if you can join us in expressing our appreciation of Joan's many years of brilliant leadership of the Libraries, and her loyal service to the University in so many other ways—and help wish her well in her new career as Director of Libraries and Vice Provost of Emory University.

—Valerie A. Pena, Biomedical Librarian

**Break:** Unless special issues are needed in June, Almanac will not publish again until mid-July. Staff are on duty throughout the summer to assist contributors or those in need of back issues. —Ed.

## Making NSF's "First Cut"

Some 320 proposals from around the country were sent to the National Science Foundation's multimillion-dollar Science and Technology Centers (STC) initiative—and two SAS faculty proposals were among the 49 that survived the "first cut."

Going on to the next round will be Dr. Rochel Gelman's proposed Center for Cognitive Sciences and Dr. Hugh H. Williams's proposed Center for High Speed Detector and Microelectronics for the Physical and Biological Sciences.

The STC concept is to exploit opportunities "... where the complexity of the research problems requires the advantages of scale, duration and/or equipment and facilities that can only be provided by a research center," Vice Provost Barry Cooperman quoted from the Foundation's offer. "Thus an STC should be a mechanism for accomplishing significant results on a particular topic more effectively and in a more timely manner than its participants could achieve as individual investigators."

(continued from page 2)

schools of engineering. As a result, mechanisms for advising students in the selection of liberal arts courses are being established, with funds being used to obtain help from SAS faculty. The school also intends to establish a computer-aided advising system that will complement its faculty-student advising system.

- *Writing Across the University (WATU)*. Funds will be used to maintain the School's participation in the WATU program and to continue to offer a communications course that is intended to develop the writing and speaking skills of students.
- *Computing*. Funds will be used to purchase classroom projection systems that will enable a professor to project a PC terminal display onto a screen for the entire class to see.
- *Teaching*. A seminar established last fall to help new faculty become more effective undergraduate advisors and teachers will be expanded to include senior faculty as well. The seminar will focus on such topics as student services, problems of sexual harassment, teaching methods, and academic integrity.

### School of Nursing

The School has received a grant of \$125,000 in order to undertake the following projects:

- *Writing Across the University (WATU)*. Funds will be used to increase the number of courses affiliated with WATU, to continue the elective course in Advanced Communications that focuses on both writing and oral communications, and to support the WATU-affiliated Writing Center in the School.
- *Minority Recruitment and Retention*. Emphasis will be placed on significantly strengthening the School's participation in existing programs, such as the PRIME/PUP program, designed to recruit minority students to Penn.
- *Undergraduate Research*. The School will continue, with modifications, initiatives designed to encourage undergraduate students to participate in independent study research programs involving senior faculty scholars. The School is also interested in maintaining work-study research opportunities for undergraduate students.
- *Computing*. The faculty in the School have adopted a plan for the integration of computer technology into the nursing curriculum. Funds will be used to make available to students computer-assisted instruction packages developed this past year to strengthen their ability to make decisions regarding patient care. Funds will also be used to help support the School's Learning Resource Center, which assists students with the use of computers, and to enable faculty to evaluate and test the effectiveness of various software packages in their Clinical Nursing courses.

## OF RECORD

### Long Term Total Disability Plan Benefit Increase

Effective July 1, 1988, the maximum monthly benefit paid under the University's Long Term Total Disability Plan will be increased to \$5,000. The plan document provision relating to the maximum benefit payable under the plan will be amended and will read as follows:

"An eligible employee who has met the service requirements, who, after the Effective Date, is found to be disabled in accordance with the definition of total disability in Section 3, and who has exhausted all benefits to which the employee is entitled under Section 4.A shall receive monthly disability income, which may be made up in part from the offset benefits described below, equal to \$5,000 per month or 60% of the employee's "benefits base" at the onset of disability, whichever is less."

"Offset benefits" are defined in the Long Term Total Disability Plan Document as follows:

"... any income benefits payable to the employee and his dependents under the disability provisions of the Social Security Act and Railroad Retirement Act, and the applicable Worker's Compensation and Occupational Diseases Acts . . . Disability income benefits will also be offset by any settlement or damage award paid by the University to a recipient of benefits under this Plan, to the extent that such settlement or award is attributable to lost earnings on account of disability."

—Rita Doyle, Benefits Manager

● *International Studies Program*. Because nurses are becoming increasingly involved with the care of culturally diverse groups, the faculty intends to begin to develop, in collaboration with the other undergraduate schools, a model program in international studies that could be pursued as a minor, a dual major or a dual degree.

● *Case Study Course Development*. Under the new curriculum adopted by the School, students will be required during their junior and senior year to complete one case study course that focuses on a contemporary health problem, such as the study of AIDS. Funds will be used to develop these courses.

### The Wharton School

This year the Wharton School has been accorded \$175,000 in funds for the following programs:

- *Teaching Communications Skills*. Funds will be used to maintain and extend a three-part comprehensive program on oral and written communications involving non-credit workshops in public speaking and writing, WATU-affiliated writing-intensive courses, and speaking-intensive courses.
- *Computing*. Funds will be used to establish prototype Integrated Teaching Stations on a trial basis. These stations will combine facilities for overhead projection and computer instruction with a traditional classroom teaching platform.
- *The Joseph Wharton Scholars Program*. In order to ensure that Wharton undergraduate do not follow a narrow vision of what an undergraduate education should be, funds will be used to help implement this new honors program, which will integrate the study of traditional business disciplines with a rigorous course of study in the liberal arts and sciences. Among the program's requirements: maintaining a 3.4 grade point average; taking the honors sections of such basic courses as Economics, Statistics, Decision Science I, and Finance I; and meeting the new distributional requirement recently adopted by the College. Joseph Wharton Scholars will also be required to take courses in business policy and in ethics, and to complete two non-credit workshops in writing and in public speaking.
- *Teacher Education*. Funds will be used to continue the year-long teacher education program required of all doctoral students.
- *Revising Decision Science I*. Funds will be used to completely revamp the lectures and laboratory assignments for this core course, with the dual goal of establishing better connections between the two and of making the length of the lab assignments more realistic.

Michael Aiken, Provost

Sheldon Hackney, President

### Summer Dates of Note for Staff

**May 30** *Memorial Day*, the remaining holiday of the current fiscal year, will be observed on Monday.

**June 8** *Perks to Work at Penn* is the theme of *The Second Annual Summer Fair*. Those who submit one of the lesser-known benefits of working at Penn will be eligible to enter a raffle. More than 50 schools and offices will display their services, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. along Locust Walk, from 36th Street toward the Button.

**June 16** *The A-1 Assembly Annual Meeting and Election* will be held noon-2 p.m. in Room 351, Steinberg Hall-Dietrich Hall. A flyer with the names of those on the slate as well as the topic of the speech and the names of speakers will be sent to all A-1 employees.

**July 4** *Fourth of July* is the first recognized holiday in the upcoming fiscal year.

**July 5** *Summer Hours* begin, resulting in a 32.5 hour work week (*Almanac* April 19). They remain in effect through Friday, Sept. 2.

### Commencement '88

Some 20,000 parents and well-wishers watched from the stands at Franklin Field as 4100 graduating students and faculty participated in Commencement ceremonies May 16—a crowd figure that has been growing since Penn switched to outdoor ceremonies. Excerpts from the Commencement Address by Congresswoman Patricia Schroeder and the previous day's Baccalaureate Sermon by Congressman William H. Gray III, will be published in a future issue.



### For Children

*River Mama and the Dancing Animals (United States) featuring Linda Goss, center, surrounded by Mlanjeni Nduma, Mama Kadajah and Jermiah Nabawi, left to right, is one of the ten productions in the Annenberg Center's fourth annual Philadelphia International Theatre Festival for Children, May 24-29. Call Ext. 8-6791 for tickets.*

*Dan Kamin (Corpozoid Man), right, is one of the performers who will be providing free outdoor entertainment*



## Update

MAY AT PENN

### CONFERENCE

**26** *Planning Succession and Preserving Wealth in the Family Business*, Wharton symposium with more than 100 top family business executives from across the country; 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Forum, Annenberg School. Information: Denise Portner, Ext. 8-7640 (Wharton School).

### ON STAGE

**24** *Election '84 and Paco Latto and the Anchorwoman*; a double feature of one-act plays which is the Philadelphia Festival Theatre for New Plays' final production of its 1988 spring season; Harold Prince Theatre, Annenberg Center. Tickets and information: Ext. 8-6791. Group discounts: 222-5000. *Through June 5.*

### TALKS

**24** *The Requirements for Professional Achievement*; Leighton Cluff, president, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; 4:30-6 p.m., Class of 1962 Lecture Hall, John Morgan Building. Reception will follow (Samuel P. Martin III, M.D. Visiting Professorship, Section of General Medicine, Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars Program).

*Expression of Markers for Neoplastic Progression in Human Melanocytic Lesions*; Dirk J. Ruiter, University of Nijmegen, Netherlands; 2 p.m., Auditorium, Wistar Institute (Wistar Institute).

*Jun: A Transcriptional Regulator Turned Oncogenic*; Peter Vogt, department of microbiology, University of Southern California; 4 p.m., Auditorium, Wistar Institute (Wistar).

**26** *Regulation of HSV-1 Late Gene Expression*; Penelope Mavromara-Nazos, Marjorie B. Kovler Viral Oncology Laboratories, University of Chicago; 4 p.m., Auditorium, Wistar Institute (Wistar).

## Department of Public Safety Crime Report

This report contains tallies of Part I crimes, a listing of Part I crimes against persons, and summaries of Part I crimes in the five busiest sectors on campus where two or more incidents were reported between **May 16 and May 22, 1988.**

**Total Crime:** Crimes Against Persons—0, Burglaries—1, Thefts—20, Thefts of Auto—0, Attempted Thefts of Auto—0

Date	Time Reported	Location	Incident
<b>34th St. to 38th St., Civic Center Blvd. to Hamilton Walk</b>			
05-18-88	3:31 PM	Medical School	University VCR taken from lecture room.
05-19-88	8:51 AM	Johnson Pavilion	Unattended knapsack taken from study desk.
05-19-88	9:07 AM	Blockley Hall	Money taken from unsecured desk.
05-19-88	9:47 AM	Blockley Hall	Money taken from locked office.
05-21-88	3:22 PM	Leidy Lab	Wallet taken from unattended room.
<b>36th St. to 37th St., Spruce St. to Locust Walk</b>			
05-18-88	11:01 AM	Steinberg-Dietrich	Computer parts taken from room.
05-18-88	4:52 PM	Steinberg-Dietrich	Computer mouse taken from locked room.
05-19-88	2:55 PM	3600 Blk Locust	Purse taken from floor while eating lunch.
<b>39th St. to 40th St., Spruce St. to Locust Walk</b>			
05-16-88	6:24 AM	Harrison House	TV taken from room/door forced open.
05-17-88	8:37 AM	1925 House	Camera taken from unattended room.
05-17-88	5:11 PM	Harrison House	Speakers and bedding taken from locker.
<b>32nd St. to 33rd St., South St. to Walnut St.</b>			
05-18-88	3:00 PM	Franklin Field	Wallet taken from pant's pocket.
05-18-88	4:02 PM	Lot #5	Bag taken from auto via broken rear window.
<b>Expressway to 32nd St., University Ave. to Walnut St.</b>			
05-20-88	5:34 PM	Hollenback Center	Car keys removed from ring in secure locker.
05-21-88	6:08 PM	Lot #45	License and registration taken from auto.

**Safety Tip:** Have you noticed dangerous conditions that can affect your safety or that of someone else? Report all dangerous conditions, and all crime to Campus Police as soon as possible. Community policing means communicating. Call Campus Police at any of the following extensions: Ext. 8-7297, in an emergency dial 8-7333, 511 or use any yellow emergency telephone.

## 18th Police District

Schuylkill River to 49th St., Market St. to Schuylkill/Woodland Ave.

Reported crimes against persons from 12:01 a.m. 5-9-88 to 11:59 p.m. 5-15-88

**Total:** Crimes Against Persons—8, Robbery/knife—1, Aggravated Assault/knife—1, Aggravated Assault/gun—1, Aggravated Assault/ice pick—1, Aggravated Assault/unknown—1, Robbery/dart—1, Robbery/strong-arm—2, Arrests—3

Date	Location/Time Reported	Offense/weapon	Arrest
5-9-88	4620 Woodland Ave., 1:18 AM	Aggravated Assault/gun	No
5-9-88	34th and Spruce St., 7:15 AM	Robbery/strong-arm	No
5-10-88	4723 Walnut St., 4:38 PM	Robbery/strong-arm	No
5-11-88	3900 Market St., 8:10 PM	Aggravated Assault/knife	Yes
5-12-88	4201 Walnut St., 1:15 AM	Robbery/dart	Yes
5-12-88	3905 Walnut St., 1:44 AM	Robbery/knife	No
5-12-88	4642 Sansom St., 8:30 AM	Aggravated Assault/unknown	Yes
5-12-88	Rt. 76 & South St., 10:53 PM	Aggravated Assault/ice pick	No

## Almanac

3601 Locust Walk, Philadelphia, Pa. 19104-6224  
(215) 898-5274 or 5275.

The University of Pennsylvania's journal of record, opinion and news is published Tuesdays during the academic year and as needed during summer and holiday breaks. Guidelines for readers and contributors are available on request.

EDITOR  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR  
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT  
STUDENT ASSISTANT

Karen C. Gaines  
Marguerite F. Miller  
Mary Corbett  
Catherine E. Clark