

Almanac

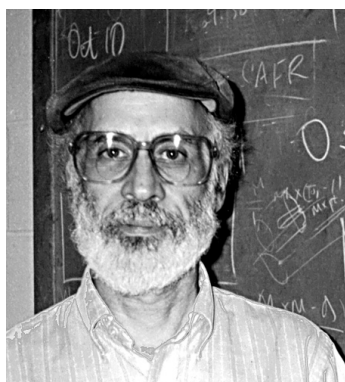
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INSIDE

- Nominations Are in Order: SAS's Ira Abrams, Lindback (Reminder), USA Today Awards, p. 2
 - Penn Learning Resource Center (Kelley), p. 2
 - A-3 Assembly: 1994-5 Officers and Board, p. 2
 - Crime Alert, CrimeStats, Update, p. 3
 - A Safer City: Thanksgiving Watch, p. 4
- Pullout: December at Penn



Math's Dr. Weinberger, above, and Dr. Shaneson, right.



Dr. Johns of Art History

Chair in Math for Dr. Weinberger; Renewal of Chairs for Dr. Shaneson, Dr. Johns

Dr. Shmuel Weinberger of Chicago, a leading specialist in geometry and topology, has been named to one of the oldest endowed chairs in the School of Arts and Sciences—the Thomas A. Scott Chair of Mathematics, established in 1881 and formerly held by Dr. Eugenio Calabi and Dr. Hans Rademacher.

Along with Dr. Weinberger's appointment, Dean Rosemary Stevens announced that two donors of term chairs in the School have renewed their support, and that the incumbents have been reappointed to both chairs.

Dr. Julius Shaneson of mathematics was reappointed to the Francis J. Carey Term Chair which brought him to Penn in 1988. The term chair was created by William Polk Carey in honor of his brother, Francis, who is president of the New York investment banking firm of W.P. Carey & Co., Inc. Mr. William Carey also supports term chairs in economics (to be announced).

Also renewed is the David Silfen Term Professorship in American Art History, which brought Dr. Elizabeth Bennett Johns to the University and will continue to support her work. The chair is named for a 1966 alumnus and overseer of SAS who is a partner of Goldman Sachs & Co. It was given by Mr. Silfen and his wife, Lyn, who is on the History of Art Visiting Committee.

Dr. Johns: The prize-winning author was brought to Penn from a Mellon chair at Pittsburgh in 1989 and "has continued to emerge as a leading Americanist scholar, adding lustre to the Department and the School," Dean Stevens said in announcing her reappointment. Dr. Johns studied music at Oberlin but switched to English and philosophy for her B.A. at Birmingham-Southern College. After taking an M.A. from Berkeley Dr. Johns taught in several colleges in Georgia while earning the Ph.D. from Emory in 1974. She then joined the University of Maryland as assistant professor of art, and became associate professor of American Studies in 1984. She took

the Andrew Mellon Professorship of Fine Arts and History at Pittsburgh in 1986. Her *Thomas Eakins: The Heroism of Modern Life* (Princeton 1983) won the 1984 Mitchell Prize for the most promising first book in the History of Art. She has also published *American Genre Painting: The Politics of Everyday Life* (Yale 1991); produced over 100 papers and reviews; curated exhibitions at the National Museum of American Art and at Penn and Maryland; and served on numerous advisory boards and visiting committees.

Dr. Shaneson: Described by the Dean as an influential mathematician who "has contributed to many of the most important developments of geometric and differential topology" both nationally and internationally, Dr. Shaneson is a 1965 alumnus of Columbia who took his Ph.D. at Chicago in 1968 and joined Yale as the J. Willard Gibbs Instructor. After teaching also at Princeton, 1969-71, Dr. Shaneson joined Rutgers University as associate professor in 1971. He became full professor there in 1975. A Sloan Fellow in 1971-73 and a Guggenheim Fellow in 1981, Dr. Shaneson has published some 65 papers and is a frequent speaker in national and international meetings. His professional roles are numerous, among them NSF reviewer since 1970, referee for the *Annals of Mathematics*, 1974-80, and NSF panelist for awards to women in math, 1992. On campus he has also served on numerous committees including the graduate admissions committee, the departmental and school personnel committees—chairing the latter in 1993-95—and the SAS Committee on Academic Freedom and Responsibility.

Dr. Weinberger: The new Scott Professor took his B.A. in 1981 from NYU and his Ph.D. in 1982 from the Courant Institute. After two years as an instructor at Princeton, 1982-84, he moved to the University of Chicago as an assistant professor and within two years had become a full professor of mathematics. A prolific researcher

SAS Chairs

One of the oldest has a new incumbent, and two of the new term chairs are renewed by their donors.

with over 60 published papers, Dr. Weinberger has also won the 1982 Friedrich's Prize; an NSF Postdoctoral Fellowship, 1984, a Presidential Young Investigator Award, 1986, and a Sloan Foundation Fellowship, 1987. He is a permanent member of the Abraham and Sarah Gelbart Research Institute for the Mathematical Sciences and has been a visiting professor at Courant and a speaker at the international congress in Zurich.

Packard Fellow: Dr. Scherer

On announcing a 1994 Packard Award to Dr. Alan Johnson two weeks ago, *Almanac* learned that Dr. Norbert Scherer of Chemistry had, without fanfare, won the same honor in 1993—along with an NSF National Young Investigator Award.

The David and Lucile Packard Fellowship in Science and Engineering and the NSF award (formerly called the Presidential Young Investigator Award) are running concurrently to support through 1998 Dr. Scherer's work in experimental physical chemistry, where he is known for the difficult study of chemical reactions in solution. He came to Penn in 1992 from his alma mater, the University of Chicago, where he did postdoctoral work after receiving his Ph.D. in 1989 from CalTech.



Nominations Are in Order...

Ira Abrams Award in SAS

The Ira Abrams Memorial Award for Distinguished Teaching is presented annually to a faculty member in the School of Arts and Sciences to celebrate her/his contributions to teaching. Excellence in teaching will, of course, reveal itself differently in different fields and in different settings. In general, the Award seeks to recognize teaching that is intellectually challenging and exceptionally coherent, and that leads to an informed understanding of a discipline. Recipients of the Ira Abrams Memorial Award are expected to embody high standards of integrity and fairness, to have a strong commitment to learning, and to be open to new ideas.

Each year one member of the standing faculty will be honored for distinguished teaching; the recipient will receive an award of \$6,000 and his/her name will be inscribed on a plaque located near the Office of the Dean. All members of the standing faculty are eligible. In addition, the recipient's department will also receive \$4,000 with the goals of encouraging strong nominations and using the money to improve teaching, e.g., classroom equipment, facilities, etc.

Nominations are solicited from faculty and students and should be in the form of a letter to Dean Rosemary A. Stevens (116 College Hall/6377), by the end of the first week of classes in the spring semester (*January 20*), describing those qualities that make the nominee an outstanding teacher. The letter should include the nominee's full name, department and rank; the name, address, and phone number of the nominator; and an explanation of how the nominator knows the nominee.

All-USA Academic Team

USA Today invites all universities to nominate outstanding students for their 1995 All-USA Academic team. The 60 winners will be featured in an issue on February 3. Additionally, 20 members of the first team will receive \$2,500 cash prizes and will be guests at a special awards luncheon.

USA Today teamed up with their co-sponsors to determine the criteria for the contest. They are the National Association for Independent Colleges and Universities, the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

USA Today is looking for students who excel not only academically, but in leadership roles both on and off campus. In addition to listing community activities, campus activities, honors or awards, and academic organizations, students are asked to write an essay on their "most outstanding intellectual endeavor."

The deadline is *November 30, 1994*. Only full-time undergraduates may apply. For an application, contact Melinda Casino at the Office of News and Public Affairs, 898-8721.

Reminder: Lindback Awards

Nominations for Lindback Awards for members of the standing faculty, and for the Provost's Awards for full- and part-time associated faculty and academic support staff, are now being accepted by the Office of the Vice Provost, 3611 Locust Walk. See *Almanac* October 25 for the criteria and guidelines for both awards.

An Introduction to a Student Service, Second-and-a-half in a Series:

The Penn Learning Resource Center (Formerly URIS)

Last spring I introduced you to URIS and now I would like to reintroduce this valuable resource under its new name and address: The Penn Learning Resource Center, Suite 109, 3820 Locust Walk (Harnwell House)/6134. PLRC provides a wonderful range of help for an equally wide range of students: undergraduate, graduate, and professional. Knowing more about their services and procedures may make you more ready to consult with them or to refer your students to them. And their new campus phone number (just dial EXCEL [off campus 57-EXCEL]) may catch the imagination and stick with both you and your students.

For many undergraduates, a number of whom have done well in high school through sheer intelligence and not through any understanding of the skills needed to digest complex material, college level work comes as a surprise or even a shock. This unexpected blow may strike sometime during freshman year, when grades on exams keep coming out distressingly low, but it may also be delayed even until the upper class years. PLRC runs a series of workshops, called *Mastering the Ivy League*, whose session titles may give you a sense of the areas in which students often need help: "I'll Stop Procrastinating...Tomorrow," "Note This: Creating the Best Notes from a Lecture," "Better Reading in Less Time," "Writing Short Papers and Research Papers," and "When to Stop Studying: How to Know that You Know It." Issues of this sort are dealt with in workshops like these but also in one-on-one instruction as well as in a non-credit comprehensive study strategy course. This course focuses on time management, active learning, varieties of reading assignments, alternative note-taking methods, and planning for exams and papers.

These are not the only areas in which PLRC can be helpful. Students who know that they have learning disabilities can get appropriate help, and students who may have an undiagnosed disability may learn ways to overcome obstacles in their learning and build on their strengths. International students whose educational experiences are often different from other students at Penn can attend workshops or instructional sessions that help them build bridges between learning cultures. It is not uncommon for both undergraduate and graduate students to take advantage of these two services.

Graduate and professional students also have other concerns that belong to them alone. Students who have mastered the tasks required of undergraduate school—short papers and semester exams—may find that a dissertation or a comprehensive requires a new set of skills and PLRC is prepared to help. For the older student, too, who is often called upon to find time not only for academics but also for employment and family, PLRC has creative suggestions for time management.

Once a student calls PLRC for an appointment, he or she will be scheduled, usually within two days, for a meeting with one of the service's 13 instructors. At this meeting student and instructor together will explore the issues characterizing the problem at hand. A written checklist, on which the student identifies concerns covering reading, writing and studying, helps to focus the discussion. As the student's needs become more clearly defined, the instructor can suggest strategies for solving the problem. Most often the student will work, in the weeks ahead, with the instructor with whom he or she first meets, but often, too, the particular skills of another staff member will be called upon to supplement the work. Though every instructor is able to work with students in all aspects of reading and study, most of the staff specialize in one or two areas of interest to PLRC clients. These specialties include but are not limited to: cross-cultural learning, academic writing, studying for problem-solving courses, self-motivation for studying, completing projects and papers.

Although PLRC is a fixture in Harnwell House, it also is a traveling resource. Faculty or groups of students who wish the PLRC staff to run a workshop for their particular needs (e.g., preparation for complex multiple-choice exams) may call upon them to arrange for a mutually convenient time.

In short, for students with academic difficulties and for students who simply wish to refine their skills, PLRC is a marvelous asset to the University.

Once again, I hope this message proves useful.

— Alice van Buren Kelley, *Faculty Liaison to Student Services*

A-3 ASSEMBLY

Following are new () and continuing officers, committee chairs and board members of the Assembly.*

A-3 Assembly Board and Officers for 1994-95

Ron Acker, International Programs Office, *Chair, Education Benefit Committee*
Sandy Bates, University Vending, *Chair-Elect*
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Diane Davis, PENNCAP
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Lisa Lord, School of Nursing
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Betty Thomas, Student Financial Services, *Chair, Employee Recognition Committee**
Leslie Thomas, Van Pelt Library*
Hanne Weedon, Int'l Undergraduate Admissions, *Chair, Communications Committee*
Karen Wheeler, Center for Community Partnerships, *Recording Secretary**



Infant Growth Study

Healthy, one-, two- or three-month old, full-term infants, especially girls, are sought for a longitudinal infant growth study conducted by Dr. Albert Stunkard. Following an initial examination at CHOP, where a feeding study and sleep study are conducted, infants are seen in their homes for periodic follow-up visits during the first two years of the child's life. Faculty and staff parents are particularly welcome to participate. For more information, call 590-1672.

University of Pennsylvania Division of Public Safety Crime Alert

On November 17, a woman was indecently assaulted at 6 p.m. at 4200 Locust Street. The actors are described as two African American males, 18-19 years of age. One is described as 5' 8"-5' 9" and 140 lbs., with close cut hair, last seen wearing black jeans/dark green jean jacket. The other is described as 5' 6" and 140 lbs., with full bush haircut (about 2" long), last seen wearing dark clothing, nylon jacket with black band. If you can provide any information regarding this assault, please contact one of these telephone numbers:

Victim Support 898-4481 or 898-6600 (24-hour hotline)

Safety Tips

As always, we encourage you to continue to utilize safety precautions, to be aware of your environment and to promptly report any suspicious activity.

- Use the outdoor Blue Light Telephones—open the box and lift the receiver for direct connection to the Campus Police.
- Use Penn's Escort Services (898-RIDE or 898-WALK).
- Use Penn's 24-hour Victim Support/Crime Prevention Unit (898-6600).

— Division of Public Safety

About the Crime Report: Below are all Crimes Against Persons listed in the campus report for the period **November 14 through 20, 1994**. Also reported were Crimes Against Property, including 39 thefts (including 7 burglaries, 3 of auto, 5 from auto, 8 of bikes & parts); 4 incidents of criminal mischief & vandalism; 1 of fraud & forgery; 1 of trespassing & loitering. Full reports are in *Almanac* on PennInfo.—Ed.

The University of Pennsylvania Police Department Community Crime Report

This summary is prepared by the Division of Public Safety and includes all criminal incidents reported and made known to the University Police Department between the dates of *November 14 through 20, 1994*. The University police actively patrol from Market Street to Baltimore Avenue, and from the Schuylkill River to 43rd Street in conjunction with the Philadelphia Police. In this effort to provide you with a thorough and accurate report on Public Safety concerns, we hope that your increased awareness will lessen the opportunity for crime. For any concerns or suggestions regarding this report, please call the Division of Public Safety at 898-4482.

Crimes Against Persons

34th to 38th/Market to Civic Center: Threats & harassment—3

11/14/94 4:05 PM Nichols House Threatening phone call received
11/14/94 4:59 PM Nichols House Hang-up calls received
11/18/94 6:16 PM Steinberg/Dietrich Letter found in west stairwell

38th to 41st/Market to Baltimore: Sexual assaults—1, Robberies (& attempts)—1, Aggravated assaults—1, Simple assaults—1, Threats & harassment—2

11/14/94 6:20 PM 3900 Blk. Chestnut Complainant pushed from bike
11/15/94 11:49 AM 41st & Baltimore Bookbag taken at gunpoint
11/18/94 3:04 AM 4000 Blk. Pine Group of unknown males assaulted male
11/19/94 10:18 AM VHUP Harassing phone calls received
11/20/94 12:10 AM Harrison House Confidential report to victim support/investigation ongoing

11/20/94 10:04 AM Low Rise North Obscene phone calls received

41st to 43rd/Market to Baltimore: Robberies (& attempts)—1

11/17/94 6:36 PM 4300 Walnut St. Compl. knocked to ground/briefcase taken

30th to 34th/Market to University: Threats & harassment—1

11/17/94 12:22 PM Hutchinson Gym Male harassed another male outside

30th to 43rd/Market to Baltimore: Robberies (& attempts)—1, Threats & harassment—1

11/15/94 12:26 PM 4420 Pine St. Female harassed male
11/16/94 1:22 PM 800 Blk. N. 22nd Unknown male took purse & contents

Update

NOVEMBER AT PENN

TALKS

28 *Vaccination in the Next Century*; Fred Brown, U.S. Department of Agriculture; 4 p.m.; Auditorium, Wistar Institute (Wistar).

29 *Biophysics of Single Kinesin Molecules in vitro*; Steven M. Block, Princeton University; 4 p.m.; Lecture Room B, Morgan Building (Medical Center).

Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy: A Prototype for a Genetic Approach to Inherited Disease; Christine Seidman, Harvard University; 8 a.m.; Medical Alumni Hall, Maloney Bldg., HUP (Medicine).

CNS Cancellation of Endogenous Noise in the Elasmobranch Electrosense: A Function Role for Synaptic Plasticity; David Bodznick, Wesleyan University; 4 p.m.; Department of Physiology Library, Richards (Physiology).

Heroism and the Black Intellectual: Ralph Ellison, Politics and Black Intellectual Life; Jerry Watts, Trinity College; 4 p.m.; Center for the Study of Black Literature and Culture, 3808 Walnut Street (Center for the Study of Black Literature and Culture).

30 *Buddhism and Jungian Psychology*; Stanley Ohnishi, Philadelphia Biomedical Research Institute; 12:30 p.m.; Room 305, Houston Hall (Penn Soka Gakkai International).

Model Systems of CF Lung Disease: Toward Gene Therapy; John F. Engelhardt, molecular and cellular engineering; 4 p.m.; Auditorium, Wistar Institute (Wistar).

Positron Emission Tomography: Past and Future; James Holden, University of Wisconsin; 4 p.m.; Room A2, DRL (Physics).

Judaism and Magic: A Reevaluation; Moshe Idel, Hebrew University in Jerusalem; 5 p.m.; Gates Room, Van Pelt Library (Kutchin Faculty Seminars in Jewish Studies); Religious Studies).

Miracles on the Border: Folk Paintings of Mexican Migrants to the United States; Douglas Massey, Population Studies Center, sociology; Jorge Durand, Universidad de Guadalajara; 4 p.m.; Room 215, College Hall (Latin American Cultures Program).

Deadlines: The *January at Penn* deadline is *December 6*. The *February at Penn* deadline is *January 17*.

Thanksgiving Break: There is no issue of *Almanac* scheduled for November 29, due to Thanksgiving. The next issue is December 6, the deadline is *November 29*.



Almanac

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Thanksgiving Advice

Dear Faculty, Staff and Students:

Thanksgiving Break is just around the corner. Traditionally, this is a time of low occupancy and greater opportunity for crime. Therefore, we need to be more safety and security conscious.

In order to reduce the opportunity for crime (i.e., burglaries, criminal mischief, etc.), the Division of Public Safety is offering to conduct Special Checks of Residential Properties during the following time period:

3 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23 to 7 a.m. on Monday, November 28

Students, faculty and staff who live in the following geographical boundaries—the Schuylkill River to 43rd Street and Baltimore Avenue to Market Street—may list their residence with the Penn Police Department for Special Checks during the period it will be vacant.

Penn Police officers will periodically check the exterior of the property for signs of criminal activity or security breaches. Upon discovering same, the officers will take appropriate action ranging from arresting the perpetrator to conducting an interior check of the property with subsequent notifications to the listed occupant.

If you would like to list your property for Special Checks during Thanksgiving Break 1994, please pick up an application at the Penn Police Headquarters (3914 Locust Walk) or the Victim Support/Crime Prevention Unit office (3927 Walnut Street).

You need to complete and return the application to either location prior to vacating the premise. Below you will also find Safety and Security Tips to help keep the holiday a safe and happy one.

Safety Tips

Along with eating lots of turkey, cranberry sauce and sweet potato pie, let's also think about safety.

If You Are Going Away For the Break:

- Secure or remove all valuables (jewelry, computers, stereos, televisions, etc.). All valuables should already be engraved with your social security number. Engravers are available at the Victim Support office (3927 Walnut Street, 898-4481).
- Close and lock all windows; close all shades, drapes and blinds. Lock and bolt entrance doors to rooms or apartments.
- Use timers on lights and a radio or television to give the appearance of being occupied.
- Register your property with Public Safety for Special Checks during the Break.



If You Are Remaining At Penn During the Break:

- Use one of the ten automated teller machines (ATM) located inside University buildings and avoid taking money out at night. Check the amount withdrawn only after you are safely inside your office or residence. Never display money in public.
- Be aware of your surroundings and the people around you; trust your instincts. Stay in well-lit and well-travelled areas.
- If you are expecting guests or workers, do not open your door until you know it is the right person(s). Always ask to see identification of callers you don't know.
- If accosted, don't resist. Get a good description of the assailant (approximate age, race, sex, height, weight, clothing description, direction travelled, etc.). and report the incident to the Police as soon as possible.
- Know the locations of Blue Light Emergency Telephones. Open the box, and lift the receiver or push the button to talk.
- Report any suspicious person(s) or activities as soon as you can: Where, What, Who, When and How.
- Know your emergency telephone numbers:

Penn Police Department (3914 Locust Walk) General Business 898-7297

Non-Emergencies 898-7297/7298

Victim Support 898-6600/4481

On-Campus Emergencies 511

Off-Campus Emergencies 573-3333

Philadelphia Police Department 911

SEPTA Police 580-4131

Automated teller machines (ATM) located inside University buildings:

(Open during Thanksgiving Break 1994)

- Harnwell House (High Rise East)*, 3820 Locust Walk, main lobby 898-5258
Open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; access restricted to PennCard holders from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m.
- Nichols House (Grad Tower A), 3600 Chestnut Street, main lobby 898-6873
Locked; access restricted to PennCard holders at all hours.
- Steinberg Hall-Dietrich Hall*, 3620 Locust Walk, The Cafe 898-2300
You must have a valid PennCard; open 24 hours; please enter via the north main entrance doors off Locust Walk.
- Mellon Bank Building*, 133 South 36th Street, main lobby
Open to the public; Wednesday, November 23rd and Friday, November 25th—9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday, November 24th—Closed.
- The Shops at Penn, 3409 Walnut Street, the Food Court
Open to the public; Wednesday, November 23rd—7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Thursday, November 24th—Closed; Friday, November 25th—7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, November 26th—7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, November 27th—8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- The Penn Tower Hotel, 399 South 34th Street, main lobby 387-8333
Open to the public 24 hours; please enter the building via the west main entrance doors located off of 34th Street.
- Johnson Pavilion, 37th & Hamilton Walk, main lobby (adjacent to the Security Desk) 898-0669
Open to the public 24 hours.

(ATMs closed during Thanksgiving Break 1994: The Book Store, 3729 Locust Walk; McClelland Lounge, the Quad; and Houston Hall, 3417 Spruce Street)

— George Clisby, Chief of Patrol Operations
— Maureen S. Rush, Director of Victim Support/Special Services

* Indicates depository capability