

# UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA *Almanac*

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## A Celebration of Chemistry's Claim to Fame

At a ceremony in the Chemistry Building last Thursday afternoon, the popular place to study known as The Pit was transformed into the new Alumni and Faculty Nobel Hall of Fame. Larger-than-life portraits were unveiled of six Nobelists who have all been affiliated with the Department of Chemistry over the past several decades.

Two of the honorees collaborated at Penn on the work for which they shared the 2000 Nobel Prize in Chemistry: Dr. Alan G. MacDiarmid, the Blanchard Professor of Chemistry, and Dr. Hideki Shirakawa who had been a postdoctoral research associate at Penn, 1976-77. Dr. MacDiarmid and Dr. Shirakawa, along with Dr. Alan Heeger, then a professor of physics at Penn, discovered and developed a new form of organic polymer that conducts electricity (*Almanac* October 17, 2000).

The honorees also include two alumni who earned their bachelor's degree in chemistry at Penn: the recipient of the 1985 Nobel Prize in Medicine, Dr. Michael S. Brown who received his B.S. in Chemistry in 1962 and who also earned his M.D. at Penn in 1966, and Dr. Stanley B. Prusiner, the winner of the 1997 Nobel Prize in Medicine, who took his A.B. (*cum laude*) in Chemistry in 1964 and his M.D. at Penn in 1968. The late Dr. Christian B. Anfinsen, winner of the

1972 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, took his M.S. in Chemistry in 1939 before going on for his Ph.D. at Harvard. Dr. Ahmed H. Zewail, the 1999 Nobelist in Chemistry, took his Ph.D. in Chemistry in 1974 under the tutelage of Dr. Robin Hochstrasser.

President Judith Rodin payed homage to the "six extraordinary scientists" who had the "courage to push ahead with difficult experiments, even against stiff resistance from an often skeptical scientific community."

SAS Dean Samuel Preston said that the achievements of these six individuals over three decades is the result of a nurturing environment—a testament to Penn's longstanding commitment to excellence in teaching and research.

The Nobelist who recently received the Order of New Zealand—Sir Alan MacDiarmid—addressed all of those gathered as "fellow students" saying that "we are all learning; when you stop learning, you start dying." He said that this event is not only a recognition of the six persons, and the chemistry department, but also Penn's administration. "Science is people," he stressed, adding "first class faculty attract first class students." Although this is his 46th year on the Penn faculty, last semester Dr. MacDiarmid graciously taught a freshman seminar, said Dean Preston.

## Vagelos Gift: MacDiarmid Chair

Chemistry alumnus Dr. P. Roy Vagelos has created the Alan MacDiarmid Endowed Term Chair, to be held by a mid-career scholar in the Department of Chemistry. The chair, which was announced last week, honors Dr. MacDiarmid.

Dr. Vagelos (C'50) is retired Chairman and CEO of Merck & Co. He was formerly President of Merck Sharp & Dohme Research Laboratories. A 1954 graduate of Columbia University School of Medicine, he is a discoverer of acyl-carrier protein and a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society.



*P. Roy Vagelos*

Dr. Vagelos was Chair of Penn's Trustees, 1994-99. He and his wife, Diana, have supported a wide variety of Penn priorities and programs. They established the Vagelos Molecular Life Sciences program, including endowment and scholarship funds. They also established the Vagelos Scholarship in SAS. The Vagelos Laboratories of IAST was named in recognition of their support.

## Nobel Laureates in Chemistry's New Alumni and Faculty Hall of Fame



*Alan MacDiarmid*



*Hideki Shirakawa*



*Ahmed Zewail*



*Stanley Prusiner*



*Michael Brown*



*Christian Anfinsen*

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Photo by M. Miller

At left, gathering after unveiling the portraits, (from left to right) Dr. P. Roy Vagelos, Dr. Alan MacDiarmid, President Judith Rodin, Provost Robert Barchi, SAS Dean Samuel Preston, School of Medicine Dean Arthur Rubenstein and Chemistry Chair Dr. Hai-Lung Dai, look at the wall opposite the portraits which Dr. Dai noted, "provides ample space for future Nobelists' portraits to join these." (See *Almanac's* website for more about these Nobel laureates.)

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## COUNCIL Coverage

After President Judith Rodin called last week's University Council meeting to order she turned the meeting over to the moderator, Dr. Larry Gross who wished everyone "Happy 2K2." The minutes from the December meeting were approved. President Rodin then called attention to the "significant Chemistry Department event" (see page 1). GAPSA Chair Christopher Leahy announced that eleven grad student fellows were hired for the Graduate Student Center, an increase of five from last semester. Dr. Gross introduced Pedro Ramos, vice president and chief of staff (*Almanac* December 4, 2001).

Dr. Barbara Lowery and Dr. Phoebe Leboy presented the Report on Faculty Gender Equity Study (*Almanac* December 4, 2001) which they characterized as a "mixed report" since there are "some good things happening and some areas where a lot needs to be done." Provost Robert Barchi summarized the administration's reply to the report, noting that there are departmental level problems and that Gender Equity will be addressed in the new Strategic Plan. In response to a question about mentoring, Dr. Leboy said that it is a faculty-based initiative which is difficult to mandate. She concluded by noting that all the Tables in the Report are available online at *Almanac's* website.

Dr. David Smith, chair of the Committee on Communications, presented a report to Council of the Findings from a One-Year Review of the Policy on Privacy in the Electronic Environment (to be published in the next issue of *Almanac*). The Policy defines specific circumstances under which electronic records may be reviewed and by whom. The Committee recommends that while the Policy be continued as-is, without revision at this time, another review should be scheduled for 2004. The Policy, which was initially in effect for a one-year trial period (*Almanac* September 19, 2000) has been extended.

A lengthy follow-up on the Report of the Task Force on Privacy of Personal Information (*Almanac* April 17, 2001) was provided by some of those who have been involved in implementing the 17 Recommendations outlined last spring. Vice President for ISC Robin Beck reported that the use of social security numbers has been eliminated in many of the student records databases as well as in the payroll system. PENNInTouch still uses the S.S. # as an identifier but it does not show up on the screen. She said Penn is fully compliant with recommendation # 11 which said, "access to social security numbers should be provided only for those applications where their use is mandated by law." The Task Force is revising how directory information is used (recommendation # 13). Vice President for HR Jack Heuer, said that employees in Human Resources sign a confidentiality statement annually to ensure data integrity. He said that Penn is working with Independence Blue Cross to have social security numbers removed from the Keystone health insurance cards. Deputy Provost Peter Conn said that an ad hoc group has been meeting monthly to pursue the numerous recommendations. He said that they are working toward the appointment of a Chief Privacy Officer to coordinate University-wide compliance. Dr. Jerry Porter said Penn is "out in front of the curve" but more should be done. He suggested lobbying legislators to prohibit the sale of social security numbers.

On the issue of privacy Dr. Gross put things in perspective, quipping "so the message is, when you have e-mail with somebody, you're having e-mail with everyone they've had e-mail with."

## Dr. Rhoads' Memorial Service: February 7

On Thursday, *February 7*, at 4 p.m. the Department of Surgery will host a Memorial Service to celebrate the life of Dr. Jonathan Rhoads. The program will be held in Irvine Auditorium and a reception will follow. The University community is invited to attend. Dr. Rhoads died January 3 at the age of 94 (*Almanac* January 8).

## Rubinstein Memorial Fund

Many people have asked how to make contributions to the fund in honor of Al Rubinstein (*Almanac* January 8) that I announced at the memorial service. The fund will be used to support an annual prize for excellence in teaching by a graduate student in political science at Penn, along with a plaque that will be prominently displayed in Stiteler Hall.

Contributions to the fund should be in the form of a check made out to Trustees, University of Pennsylvania. There should be a note on the check or in a letter directing the gift to the Rubinstein Memorial Fund. Checks may be sent either to:

Rubinstein Memorial Fund, c/o Political Science Department,  
University of Pennsylvania, 217 Stiteler Hall, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6215  
or to:

SAS External Affairs, Suite 300, 3440 Market Street  
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3325.

— Jack Nagel, Chair of Political Science

## Minority Equity Committee

At the recommendation of the University Council Steering Committee, and in follow up to the Faculty Gender Equity Study, President Judith Rodin, Provost Robert Barchi and Faculty Senate Chair David B. Hackney have appointed a committee to undertake a systematic review of the status of minority faculty at the University. The Minority Equity Committee will assess the status of minority faculty across the University.

The committee will be chaired by John B. Jemmott, the Kenneth B. Clark Professor of Communication at the Annenberg School for Communication. The Minority Equity Committee will begin its work this semester, with the goal of reporting by Fall, 2002. A list of the committee members follows.

### Minority Equity Committee

John B. Jemmott III, Ph.D. (*chair*), the Kenneth B. Clark Professor of Communication, Annenberg School for Communication  
Elijah Anderson, the Charles & William Day Professor of the Social Sciences, School of Arts and Sciences  
Jorge J. Santiago-Aviles, Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering, School of Engineering and Applied Science  
Vivian Gadsden, Associate Professor of Education, Graduate School of Education  
Larry Gladney, Associate Professor of Physics, School of Arts and Sciences  
Grace Kao, Assistant Professor of Sociology, School of Arts and Sciences  
Barbara Lowery (*ex officio*), Associate Provost  
Georgette Chapman Poindexter, Associate Professor of Real Estate, Legal Studies, and Law, Wharton  
Jacqueline N. Sadashige, Assistant Professor of Classical Studies, School of Arts and Sciences  
Richard Salcido, Chair, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Health System

## Summer Research Support for Junior Faculty

The Trustees' Council of Penn Women offers three \$3,000 summer research stipends to female faculty, or faculty members whose research is centrally concerned with the role of women in society, science, or arts and letters.\* These awards are given to assist in the promotion of standing faculty to the permanent rank of Associate Professor. Faculty who have already won an award are eligible to apply again. Those who have previously applied and did not receive an award are also encouraged to apply again.

If you are interested in applying for the stipend, please submit a 2-page summary of the research you wish to undertake, an explanation of how the stipend will facilitate the research, a curriculum vitae, and the name of a University reference. In your application please stress how you will use the award and why it would be particularly useful to you at this time. The summary should be sent to:

Summer Research Award  
The Alice Paul Research Center  
411 Logan Hall  
249 S. 36th St. Philadelphia, PA 19104-6304

no later than Friday, *March 8, 2002*.

Research proposals will be reviewed, and the stipend awarded, through a peer review process. It is expected that the research, or a significant subset thereof, will be concluded during the summer of 2002, and a written report will be submitted to the review panel and to the Trustees' Council. Any subsequent publication of the research results should acknowledge the support of the Council.

\*Note: The amount of the award varies according to whether the recipient chooses to receive it as salary or to use it for research expenses.

—Luz N. Marin, Women's Studies Program, Alice Paul Center for Research on Women

# Update

JANUARY AT PENN

## CHANGE

**29** *Use of Power*; discussion/luncheon; Valarie Swain-Cade McCoullum, will be held in the Ben Franklin Room, Houston Hall at noon.

**30** *Peace and Social Justice: Principles of Non-violent Change* panel discussion will be held in the Ben Franklin Room, Houston Hall at 5:30 p.m.

## FILMS

**29** *The Silence of the Palaces*; Moufida Tlatli (Tunisia); 7:30 p.m.; TV Lounge, Gregory House (Al-Bait Al-Arabi).

## MEETINGS

**31** *Setting Goals and Reaching Your Dreams*; Paullette Adams; noon; Greenfield Intercultural Center (Single Parents Association).

## MUSIC

**30** *The Princeton University Orchestra with the University of Pennsylvania Symphony Orchestra and the University of Pennsylvania Wind Ensemble*; concert to benefit the victims of September 11th; 8 p.m.; Irvine Auditorium; \$20/person, \$10/Princeton Young Alumni & students; tickets/info: (610) 353-6879 or [Tigerclub@aol.com](mailto:Tigerclub@aol.com) (Princeton Club of Philadelphia).

## ON STAGE

**30** *Women in Modern Civilization* (including *Afghan Women*); Bina Sharif; 6:30 p.m.; Graduate Student Center (Middle East Center).

## READINGS/SIGNINGS

**31** *Nigger: The Strange Case of a Troublesome Word*; Randall Kennedy, author; discussion and signing; 12:30 p.m.; Penn Bookstore (Bookstore).

## TALKS

**30** *Male Reproductive Aging: Mechanisms and Consequences*; Barry Zirkin, Johns Hopkins University; noon; Auditorium, BRB II/III (CRRWH).  
*A Cultural History of Fear: U.S. Television, Terrorism, and the Middle East*; Melani McAlister, George Washington University; 4:30 p.m.; B-26 Stiteler Hall (Middle East Center).

**Deadlines:** The deadline for the weekly Update is each Monday for the following week's issue. The deadline for the March At Penn calendar is February 12.

## Penn Web Survey

We're seeking faculty input concerning the Penn web. All are urged to participate by Friday, February 1. Just click on the "Take our web survey" link on the homepage, [www.upenn.edu](http://www.upenn.edu).

—Office of University Communications

*Circus Inferno* (left), by DareDevil Opera Company of Canada, perform live action cartoons utilizing sound effects, music, slapstick, pyrotechnics and outrageous props. The group is one of the more than 18 artists scheduled to perform as part of the 24th International Showcase of Performing Arts for Young People at the Annenberg Center, January 30 through February 2. (See [www.pennpresents.org/showcase.php](http://www.pennpresents.org/showcase.php) for a full schedule of events).



## The University of Pennsylvania Police Department Community Crime Report

**About the Crime Report:** Below are all Crimes Against Persons and Crimes Against Society from the campus report for January 14 to 20, 2002. Also reported were 13 Crimes Against Property (including 10 Thefts, 1 retail theft, 1 stolen auto and 1 burglary). Full reports on the Web ([www.upenn.edu/almanac/v48/n20/crimes.html](http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/v48/n20/crimes.html)). Prior weeks' reports are also on-line.—Ed.

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 January 14, 2002 to January 20, 2002. The University Police actively patrols 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 (215) 898-4482.

01/14/02	5:49 PM	42nd/Chestnut	Male stopped/wanted on warrant/Arrest
01/15/02	2:05 PM	4111 Walnut	Complainant threatened by male with object/Arrest
01/15/02	1:58 AM	4000 Locust	Male loitering in area/wanted on warrant
01/17/02	7:40 AM	3400 Spruce St	Complainant kicked by patient
01/17/02	10:30 AM	100 S. 41st St	Confidential
01/18/02	1:50 AM	3620 Locust Walk	Male arrested for domestic abuse
01/19/02	8:47 PM	4200 blk Walnut	Intoxicated driver arrested

## 18th District Report

7 incidents and 1 arrest (including 6 robberies, 1 aggravated assault) were reported between January 14 to 20, 2002 by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th St. & Market St. to Woodland Ave.

01/14/02	3:40 PM	5100 Spruce	Robbery/Arrest
01/14/02	9:10 PM	4400 Ludlow	Robbery
01/15/02	10:30 AM	5000 Spruce	Robbery
01/15/02	8:20 PM	4424 Ludlow	Robbery
01/17/02	7:45 PM	4700 Kingsessing	Robbery
01/18/02	1:11 AM	5119 Spruce	Aggravated Assault
01/19/02	1:00 PM	4900 Baltimore	Robbery

## Computer Connection Hours

Due to our quarterly inventory procedures, the Computer Connection will have the following hours during the last week of January:

January 29-31—8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

February 1—8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

February 2—closed

February 3—closed

February 4—resume normal hours, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Please visit our website at [www.upenn.edu/computerstore](http://www.upenn.edu/computerstore).

—Jeff Rusling, Manager, Computer Connection

## CLASSIFIEDS—UNIVERSITY

### RESEARCH

**Want to Lose Weight After the Holidays?** The Penn Weight and Eating Disorders Program is offering a free 2-year weight loss program. Women aged 21-50 who are 50 or more pounds overweight (BMI 30-40) may be eligible. If interested, please call Leanne at (215) 898-3184 for more details.

**Have you had breast cancer?** The Center for Bioethics at Penn (located at 34th and Market) is conducting research to learn about women's experiences with breast cancer. Subjects compensated \$25 for participating in a confidential 60-90 minute, audiotaped interview at the Center. We are looking for women who were diagnosed with breast cancer less than five years ago and who are one year post-treatment. For more information, please call 1-800 716-2614, extension 1 and leave a message for the "Understanding Difference Study."

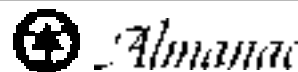
To place a classified ad, call (215) 898-5274.

## CLASSIFIEDS—PERSONAL

### ACCOUNTANT

**Tax Professional on Campus**—Tax Return Preparation & Advice by Sage CPA/MBA for Personal & Small Business; NonProfits, Estates, Trusts, Alien & Green Card Residents, Advice, Appeals, Audits, No charge for First Appointment/Day/Evg. Early Filer & Off Season Discounts. Call Tim (610) 853-2871—3916 Locust Walk (Church Admin. Office).

*Almanac* is not responsible for contents of classified ad material.



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3600 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106  
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URL: [www.upenn.edu/almanac/](http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/)

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