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Two Inaugural Vagelos Chairs in Chemistry: David Christianson & Michael Therien

SAS Dean Samuel H. Preston has announced the inaugural holders of two new chairs. Dr. David W. Christianson has been named the inaugural holder of the Roy and Diana Vagelos Professorship in Chemistry and Chemical Biology and Dr. Michael J. Therien has been named the inaugural holder of the Alan MacDiarmid Endowed Term Chair in Chemistry.



David Christianson

Dr. Christianson joined the Department of Chemistry as an assistant professor in 1988, was appointed full professor in 1996, and held the Edmund and Louise Kahn Endowed Term Chair in the Natural Sciences from 1999 to 2002. Before coming to Penn, he was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University, where he also earned A.B. and Ph.D. degrees in 1983 and 1987, respectively. He is well known for his work in biological chemistry, focusing on the structure and function of metal-requiring enzymes. In recent years, his research has illuminated complex molecular mechanisms in the biosynthesis of terpenes, a family of natural products that includes menthol, cholesterol, and the anticancer drug Taxol. He has also discovered a new metalloenzyme that plays a key role in the chemistry of male and female sexual arousal.

He has been named an Office of Naval Research Young Investigator, an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Research Fellow, a Searle Scholar, and a Camille and Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar. In 1999, he received the Pfizer Award in Enzyme Chemistry from the Biological Chemistry Division of the American Chemical Society. Dr. Christianson teaches biochemistry and serves as an adviser in the Roy and Diana Vagelos Scholars Program for the Molecular Life Sciences. The outstanding undergraduate students in this program comprise the next generation of biomedical scientists who will have a true understanding of living systems at the molecular level.

This chair was created in 2002 by Dr. P. Roy Vagelos, C'50, Hon'99, and his wife Diana T. Vagelos. Dr. Vagelos, who majored in chemistry as a Penn undergraduate, is the former chairman of the University's Board of Trustees and the retired chairman of Merck & Co., Inc. Mrs. Vagelos is a former Overseer of the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.



Michael Therien

Dr. Therien has been a member of the Department of Chemistry since 1990 and was appointed full professor in 1997. He received his undergraduate education at St. Andrews University (Scotland) and the University of California, Los Angeles, graduating with a B.S. in 1982. He was awarded his Ph.D. from the University of California, San Diego, in 1987, following which he spent three years at the California Institute of Technology as an NIH Postdoctoral Research Fellow. His current research interests include probing mechanisms in bioinorganic and bioorganic electron transfer reactions, synthesizing chromophores and materials that display unusual optoelectronic and nonlinear optical properties, introducing new design concepts that will enable the control of supramolecular photophysical properties, and building new catalysts that activate and facilitate multielectron redox reactions of small molecules.

Dr. Therien's previous honors have included fellowships from the Dreyfus and Alfred P. Sloan Foundations and young investigator awards from the *Journal of Porphyrins and Phthalocyanines*, the National Science Foundation, E.I. duPont de Nemours, the Beckman Foundation, and the Searle Scholars Program.

This chair was established by Dr. and Mrs. Vagelos in 2002 (*Almanac*, January 29, 2002) in honor of Nobel laureate and Blanchard Professor of Chemistry Dr. Alan MacDiarmid.

PRISM Week Now-April 6

PRISM Week celebrates and investigates the plethora of religious groups on campus by putting together programs, forums, discussions, and lectures to stimulate interest and discussion throughout the entire University community. For a complete listing of events see www.upenn.edu/chaplain.

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Affirmative Action Director: Jeanne Arnold

President Judith Rodin has announced that Jeanne Arnold has been appointed Executive Director for the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Programs.

Ms. Arnold succeeds Valerie Hayes, who left Penn to become Director of the Equal Opportunity Office and Special Advisor to the Provost at Yale University.

"In her new position, Jeanne will continue the University's strategic goals of strengthening and appreciating the diversity of its communities through its educational, investigative, advisory and compliance roles," said President Rodin.

Ms. Arnold brings to the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Programs a wealth of experience in issues relating to cultural diversity. No stranger to Penn, she has served as Director of the African-American Resource Center for the last eight years, where she oversaw the development and implementation of advocacy, counseling, consultation and program initiatives, with a special emphasis on the resolution of workplace issues. She has provided invaluable advice to the President, Provost and Executive Vice President on a variety of issues and has served as a mediator with faculty, staff and students. A graduate of Penn's School of Social Work, Ms. Arnold currently holds an adjunct faculty appointment in the school.

Prior to joining Penn, Ms. Arnold served as both Director of Human Resources and Community Relations and Director of Center Services for the Crime Prevention Association. There she fostered excellent community relations through work with center advisory councils and collaboration with agencies and served as liaison to the United Way and the Personnel Committee of the agency's Board of Directors. Ms. Arnold has also worked as Chief of Services for the Navy Family Services Centers in Hampton Roads, where she supervised eight departments and planned and implemented marketing and quality control strategies.

Ms. Arnold's professional accomplishments are complemented by her dedication to the community. In addition to many years of experience as a social worker, Ms. Arnold has served on several community boards, including the Association of Black Women in Higher Education, St. Mary's Family Respite Center Board, and the Episcopal Community Services Board.

Ms. Arnold will assume her position June 9 to allow for a smooth transition. A search for her replacement as the Director of the University's African-American Resource Center will commence immediately.



Jeanne Arnold

SENATE From the Senate Office

The following agenda is published in accordance with the Faculty Senate Rules. Questions may be directed to Kristine Kelly either by telephone at (215) 898-6934 or by e-mail at kellyke@pobox.upenn.edu.

Senate Executive Committee Agenda

Wednesday, April 2, 2003

2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. *Please note change in Time & Place*

LGBT Center/Carriage House, 3907 Spruce

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Chair's Report
3. Past Chair's Report on Academic Planning and Budget and Capital Council
4. University Council Faculty Caucus Committee—Election of Chair
5. SCAFR Report on Misconduct in Research Document—Madeleine Joullie, Chair
6. Ad Hoc Committee for Faculty Development
7. Update—President Judith Rodin
8. Senate Committee on Administration Report on Conflict of Interest Document—Peter McCleary, Chair
9. Patriot Act discussion
10. Other New Business

Penn's Way 2003 Commitment to Community

A Great Success

To the Penn Community:

With good news and upbeat stories in short supply these days, I was heartened to receive word last week that Penn's Way 2003 campaign was a great success. In a rousing display of kindness to fellow human beings, University faculty and staff heeded the campaign's call for more generosity and participation.

Penn's Way 2003 exceeded its goals by recording a total donation tally of \$452,630, representing a \$31,000 increase over last year's figure. Participation rates also rose significantly across the University, with some Centers posting perfect scores of 100%. Kudos go to Vice President for Public Safety Maureen Rush and Professor Lance Donaldson-Evans for a superb job in co-chairing this year's Penn's Way campaign.

I congratulate and thank the entire Penn community for its generosity of spirit and ongoing commitment to those in need—especially when so many Americans are feeling the pinch, if not the sting, of a shaky economy and the lingering effects of a full-scale war overseas.

We know that the Penn community is an academic powerhouse. The success of Penn's Way 2003 truly reveals the determination of Penn faculty and staff to lead the Greater Philadelphia community in philanthropy and service to humanity. Well done.

—Judith Rodin, President

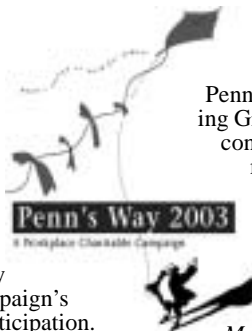
Thank You

In September of 2002, the Penn's Way 2003 Advisory and Working Groups challenged the University to continue their Commitment to Community, and set an ambitious campaign goal of \$435,000. Well aware of the social and economic turbulence every person has faced this past year, Penn's Way 2003 reached out to the Penn community reminding them that *Now, More than Ever*, their generosity could make a difference. Seven months later, though confronted by increasing tension and conflict, we have cause to celebrate hope and many people to thank for making that happen. Penn's Way 2003 has met and exceeded its goal by raising \$452,630 for worthwhile charitable organizations. In addition to meeting and exceeding its fundraising goal, the Penn's Way 2003 campaign also achieved its goal of increasing campaign participation rates across the University. University-wide, 22% of employees participated in the Penn's Way 2003 campaign, as compared to last year when only 16% of employees participated.

The campaign could not have been such a success without the hard work and enthusiasm of the many individual volunteers who served as Working Committee members, coordinators, and facilitators; and the support of several departments: Business Services, VPUL, Creative Communications, Payroll, and Mail Services.

On behalf of our charitable partner organizations and the people in our region that they serve, Thank You!

—Maureen Rush and
Lance Donaldson-Evans
Penn's Way 2003 Campaign Co-Chairs



Honors & Other Things

Women of Color Awards

The 16th Annual Women of Color luncheon, was held on March 7 to recognize the contributions made by women of color to the University and the broader community. As part of a day of events the following awards were presented.

Helen O. Dickens Award

Gloria M. Gay, associate director of Penn Women's Center, has received the Helen O. Dickens Lifetime Achievement Honor for her contributions as a nurse, teacher, mental health worker, drug counselor, social worker, and a leader. Ms. Gay has worked as an advocate and social change agent in the Philadelphia area for over four decades. "She is one of the most widely known and respected individuals committed to promoting social justice, working to confront individual and institutional racism, heterosexism, sexism and class oppression. She believes in the theory of one: of reaching out and helping one person at a time, and making a difference with every encounter."

Prior to arriving at Penn in 1986, Ms. Gay served as the Director of Professional Training for Planned Parenthood of Philadelphia and as a clinical social worker for the Navy Family Service Center, Naval Base, Philadelphia. For many years, she has also served as a volunteer at the Philadelphia Black Women's Health Project. That organization recognized her service with a special award last year. Ms. Gay's commitment



Gloria Gay

(continued on page 3)

Speaking Out

The Y-axis Shift

I was intrigued to read the report from the Division of Human Resources on the study carried out by Hewitt Associates, concerning the wonderful deal we have at Penn in terms of our health care plan. I was particularly impressed by the final figure demonstrating a modest difference on total employee costs for HMO plans between what we pay at Penn (17%) and what others pay (24%), compared to the enormous difference in what our employer pays (83%) vs. what other employers pay (76%). Hewitt Associates' clever Y-axis shift (see page 4 *Almanac*, March 25, 2003) is exactly the method that I have been looking for to maximize the profits in my TIAA vs. CREF accounts. In addition, perhaps this is a skill that we should teach to our students. Many thanks.

—Daniel Malamud,
Professor of Biochemistry

Ed Note: Human Resources was offered an opportunity to respond and declined.

Speaking Out welcomes reader contributions. Short, timely letters on University issues will be accepted by Thursday at noon for the following Tuesday's issue, subject to right-of-reply guidelines. Advance notice of intention to submit is appreciated. —Eds.



Marilia Marien Nisha Botchwey Trina DasGupta

to stopping violence against women has led her to become a highly sought after trainer on domestic violence. Her expertise in coalition building resulted in travel abroad to assist women in Serbia. "Ms. Gay is known as a trusted listener and confidant to faculty, staff and students across the Penn campus."

Faculty/Staff Award

Dr. Marilia Marien, staff psychologist, counseling & psychological services since 1997, provides individual, group and career counseling, among many other responsibilities. Dr. Marien works with young women of color in the areas of empowerment, ethnic identity development, leadership, networking, and career decision making and planning. "She has been a tremendous influence, mentor, leader and teacher for students."

Graduate Student Award

Nisha Botchwey, GSFA'03, city & regional planning, is a Ph.D. candidate who is expected to graduate in May 2003. She is the co-founder of Trinity Center, a faith-based organization in West Oak Lane and Body Building God's Way, a nutrition and exercise lifestyle program. She has also participated in Growing in Faith Together, a breast cancer support group. On campus, she has had active roles in a multitude of organizations that include being a Senior Fellow Associate in Du Bois College House, a coordinating committee member of the Fontaine Society, a committee member for City and Regional Planning Department faculty search and co-founder of W.E.B. Du Bois Fit.

Undergraduate Student Award

Trina DasGupta, C'03, strives to bring about movement, progress and understanding of the issues of marginalized individuals, groups and communities. In addition to being an intern with the NPR show *Justice Talking*, Ms. DasGupta was selected as a Cultural Change Intern at the White House Project in New York City. She gives back to the community through teaching English as a second language, mentoring and tutoring at University City High School and orchestrated the revitalization of the Leadership Education and Achievement Program.

Dr. Strom: Rawls-Palmer Award

Dr. Brian Strom, chair and professor of biostatistics and epidemiology, professor of medicine, professor of pharmacology, director of the center for clinical epidemiology and chair of the graduate group in epidemiology and biostatistics, has been selected to receive the Rawls-Palmer Award from the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (ASCPT).

During the ASCPT Annual Meeting, April 2-5, Dr. Strom will deliver the Rawls-Palmer Lecture on the topic, *What Are Our Drugs Doing to Our Patients: Lessons From Pharmacoeconomics*.

Jerry A. Jacobs: Editor, American Sociological Review

Dr. Jerry A. Jacobs, Merriam Term Professor of Sociology, has been appointed editor of the *American Sociological Review* (ASR), the flagship journal of the American Sociological Association. ASR features topics across the range of sociology and has the highest circulation in the discipline. It is also a top-ranked journal, in terms of its impact in the field, according to the Institute for Scientific Information. Dr. Jacobs chaired the graduate program in sociology for most of the 1990s. He has published over 60 articles and two books. His third book, *The Time Divide: Work, Family and Policy in the 21st Century*, co-authored with NYU's Kathleen Gerson, will soon be published.

Dr. Tran: Optical Imaging Award

Dr. Phong T. Tran, associate professor of cell and developmental biology, was selected as a recipient of the Optical Imaging Association Award for Achievement in Optical Microscopy. Dr. Tran received his award for his research of cytoskeletal architecture and cellular pattern formation. Presented by the Microscopy Society of America, this award was established to honor a young investigator in the field of optical microscopy.

Dr. Strauss: President, SGI

Dr. Jerome Strauss, the Luigi Mastroianni Jr. Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, associate chair of the department of obstetrics and gynecology and founding director of the Center for Research on Reproduction and Women's Health, has been installed as president of the Society for Gynecologic Investigation (SGI).

Genomics Institute Seed Grant Awards

Penn Genomics Institute awarded the first cycle of Seed Grant Awards for Spring 2003. The recipients are:

Junhyong Kim, Biology, SAS; Paul Sniegowski, Biology, SAS; *Developing New Tools for Micro Array Analysis Using Comparative Time-series*.

Jeffrey Ming, Pediatrics, CHOP; Barbara Weber, Medicine, Medicine; *Genomic Analysis of Kabuki Syndrome*.

Zissimos Mourelatos, Pathology, Medicine; Artemis Hatziegeorgiou, Genetics, Center for Bioinformatics, Medicine; *Prediction and Verification of Micro-RNA Targets*.

Philip Rea, Biology, SAS; *Isotope-coded Affinity Tagging for Quantitative Proteomics: the Yeast Vacuum as a Model*.

New award opportunities will be available in the fall. Please refer to www.genomics.upenn.edu/resources/granthome.htm for seed grant guidelines.

Youth Development Award

The University-Assisted Community School Program, developed by the Center for Community Partnerships has won the first Youth Development Award from the William T. Grant Foundation. The Program includes the Philadelphia School District's West Region and the West Philadelphia Partnership. The National Academies' Board on Children, Youth and Families oversaw the nomination process and selected the winner from almost 300 entries. The Foundation created the \$100,000 prize to recognize high-

quality organizational work to improve children's lives. "This magnificent award is testimony to the enormous potential of university-community-school partnerships and problem-focused research to improve both the quality of life and the quality of scholarship and learning of children in our community," said President Judith Rodin. "We could not be more delighted that the University-Assisted Community Schools Program has been selected for this award," said Dr. Ira Harkavy, director of the Center for Community Partnerships. "It recognizes the success of the collaborative work of our faculty and students and their school and community partners to increase opportunities for young people in West Philadelphia and to generate knowledge." The Program focuses on solving community problems in areas including environmental health, health and nutrition and literacy. Penn faculty members Dr. William Labov, Dr. Frank Johnston and Dr. Robert Giegengack of SAS and their students have developed multi-year projects focused primarily on these areas. For example, the programs have successfully reduced exposure to lead paint through preventive instruction and improved the nutrition of neighborhood children by creating produce stands, community gardens and farmers markets. In addition, a cultural reading program has helped solve some common reading problems within the African-American community.

Penn Alexander: Science Fair Winner

Five students from the Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander University of Pennsylvania Partnership School, won awards in this year's Carver Science Fair.



First place for a Team Project was awarded to 5th grade students Ciara Myatt (front middle) and London Eley (front right). A 6th grade student Xuijie Guo (front left) won a first place in Life Science. Honorable Mentions were presented to 6th grade students Fogia Mukta (back row) for Consumer Education and Samuel Settle (middle row) for Physical Science.

This is the first year the Penn Alexander School has been eligible to participate in the George Washington Carver Science Fair sponsored jointly by the School District and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The largest of its kind in the country, the fair provides opportunities for students to gain enriched learning experiences through scientific inquiry and discovery.

Penn Alexander Principal Sheila Sydnor said, "This is the best praise we could ever receive. It shows that our school is dedicated to children reaching the high standards that we have for them." According to Nancy Streim, associate dean of GSE, "We are very proud of the students and of Penn Alexander. Our vision in creating the School was to provide a rigorous academic program for the children in this neighborhood, and these awards serve as a testimonial to the success of the partnership."

A model PreK-8 neighborhood public school, the Penn Alexander School was created in partnership with Penn, the Philadelphia School District, and the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers.

In a continuation of discussions regarding health care and Penn, this week we are focusing on details about the upcoming Open Enrollment period. The article below gives information about important Open Enrollment dates, changes being made, the new contribution rates for next year, and suggestions from Human Resources on what you can do to control your own health care costs. Additional details about Open Enrollment will appear in next week's Almanac.

—Division of Human Resources

Health Care and Penn

Open Enrollment 2003-2004

Each year during Open Enrollment, you are given the opportunity to make changes to your benefit elections. During this once-a-year opportunity, you should take the time to carefully review your current benefits and take a fresh look at the other benefits that Penn offers. You should also take note of the changes that are being made for next year, as this may affect the elections you make.

Mark Your Calendar

The Open Enrollment period will begin Monday, *April 14* and run through Friday, *April 25*. Please remember to look for your personalized Open Enrollment kit at your home address the week of April 7.

Open Enrollment Fairs will be held as follows:

- Friday, *April 11*, 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m., Houston Hall, Reading Room and Bodek Lounge: This will be a joint Open Enrollment and Health Fair: take advantage of free health screenings in addition to meeting the providers.
- Tuesday, *April 22*, 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m., Houston Hall, Hall of Flags
- Tuesday, *April 15*, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., New Bolton Center, Alumni Hall

What's New for 2003-2004

As we discussed in last week's article on [Health Care and Penn](#), the rising cost of health care is a nationwide issue. Employers across the country are struggling to find ways to deal with these rising costs, and Penn is no exception. Penn's task is to minimize the impact on our budget, while continuing to provide an attractive, competitive benefits program for employees. In response to these pressures, there will be several changes to the benefits program for the upcoming 2003–2004 plan year, as listed below:

Change	What This Means For You
Increase in employee premiums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your current medical coverage may cost you more. • However, note that the University is maintaining the same subsidy level that we have provided for full-time employees for the past several years, which means that Penn is still paying an average of 80% of the total premium cost for the medical plans, while employees only pay 20%. • Also keep in mind that you pay premiums on a pre-tax basis, so the actual dollar increases will have less of an impact on your final take-home salary than you may expect.
Increase in out-of-pocket costs for medical plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may pay higher deductibles, copays, and out-of-pocket maximums for your medical plan. • However, keep in mind that we're still providing a richer benefit than most comparable employers (see the March 25 Almanac for details).
Change in number of employee contribution tiers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you are covering dependents under your medical, dental, and vision plans, note the change in contribution tiers from two (Single and Family) to three (Employee, Employee + 1, Employee + 2 or more). • This will provide greater equity in employee contributions. Smaller two-person families who tend to use less benefits than larger families will pay a more appropriate cost.
No more medical opt-out credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you waive medical coverage you will no longer receive opt-out credits. • This is in keeping with most comparable employers, and will help control Penn's health care costs.
New life insurance vendor: Aetna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aetna will handle all life insurance claims, and track beneficiary information. • You should complete and return a new life insurance beneficiary form to Aetna. • This change will help reduce costs as Aetna offers lower premium rates to participants while providing several additional benefits.
Increase in life insurance coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full-time employees may be able to purchase additional life insurance coverage. • The maximum multiple of salary available will increase to 6 times, and the maximum dollar amount for coverage will increase to \$1,000,000. • Life insurance increases are still limited to an additional one times salary during Open Enrollment, and subject to Evidence of Insurability rules.
Increase in maximum annual Health Care Pre-Tax Expense Account contribution to \$4,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full-time employees can set aside up to an additional \$1,000 in tax dollars when using the Health Care Pre-Tax Expense Account. • This increase can help employees defray the cost of higher medical plan deductibles, copays, and out-of-pocket maximums.

New Premium Rates

This table contains the new health care rates for full-time University faculty and staff. All faculty and staff will see the rates that apply to you when you receive your Open Enrollment packets next week.

WEEKLY PAID (per pay period)				MONTHLY PAID (per pay period)			
	Employee	Employee + 1	Employee + 2 or more	Employee	Employee + 1	Employee + 2 or more	
MEDICAL							
Keystone HMO	\$ 5.31	\$ 12.74	\$ 14.86	\$ 23.00	\$ 55.20	\$ 64.40	
Aetna HMO	6.23	15.00	17.45	27.00	65.00	75.60	
UPHS POS	9.92	23.82	27.78	43.00	103.20	120.40	
PENNCare/ Personal Choice	22.15	53.17	62.03	96.00	230.40	268.80	
BC/BS Plan 100	43.62	104.68	122.12	189.00	453.60	529.20	
DENTAL							
Penn Faculty Practice Plan	\$ 3.12	\$ 13.85	\$ 15.23	\$ 13.50	\$ 60.00	\$ 66.00	
MetLife Dental	2.42	11.54	12.00	10.50	50.00	52.00	
VISION							
OptiChoice	\$ 0.76	\$ 1.52	\$ 2.28	\$ 3.29	\$ 6.57	\$ 9.86	

What Can You Do To Minimize Your Costs?

With premiums and out-of-pocket costs for the medical plans increasing this year, here are some tips for you to help minimize your costs:

1. *Utilize the Health Care Pre-Tax Expense Account to pay for out-of-pocket health care costs.* This account allows you to use pre-tax dollars to pay for out-of-pocket health care costs for you and your dependents. The University is increasing the maximum annual contribution amount from \$3,000 to \$4,000, allowing you the opportunity to save even more tax dollars.

2. *Consider enrolling in one of the HMO or POS plans.* These are Penn's most cost-effective plans, providing a very high level of coverage at the lowest premiums. And even if you're unsure about using a managed care plan, remember that one level of the POS plan also provides an out-of-network benefit, which allows you to go outside of the managed care networks and see any provider you wish without needing referrals.

3. *Use a provider who is part of the University of Pennsylvania Health System (UPHS).* This provides the highest level of coverage under most of Penn's plans, at 100% coverage after applicable copays. The actual costs of services from UPHS providers are also provided at a discounted rate for Penn employees, and Penn has recently negotiated even better discounts

with the Health System as part of our efforts to reduce and control health care costs.

4. *Look for ways to save on prescription drug costs.* With prescription drug costs rising as rapidly as they have been, you may be able to reduce your costs based on how you use Penn's prescription drug plan through Caremark. For example, try to use generic drugs whenever possible—not only are the overall costs for generic drugs lower than for brand name drugs, but Penn's prescription drug plan also provides a higher level of coverage for generics than for brands. Also, you may be able to save on costs for long-term maintenance prescriptions by using Caremark's mail order program.

5. *Maintain a healthy lifestyle.* Maintaining your own health can help to minimize your health care costs. Penn provides a health and wellness program which encourages and assists employees in living healthy lifestyles. The healthier you are, the less likely you are to need costly health care services—which means you spend less on copays, deductibles, and the like.

Questions?

If you have questions about the health benefits offered by Penn, visit the Human Resources web site at www.hr.upenn.edu/benefits or call the Penn Benefits Center at 1-888-PENNBEN (1-888-736-6236).

College Houses Offices and Housing Services Move

On April 9 and 10, 2003, the Office of College Houses and Academic Services and the Department of Housing and Conference Services, will be relocating to the following address:

Stouffer Commons
3702 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6027

Please note this change of address in your directory.

Telephone, fax, e-mail and Web addresses will be unchanged.

Please call us before visiting or sending mail, as there will be a brief transition period.

College Houses and Academic Programs: (215) 898-5551

Housing and Conference Services: (215) 898-3547

Thank you in advance for your patience. Our goal is to continue to support and serve Penn's students, faculty and staff without interruption as we transition to our new "residence".

—Sue Smith,

College Houses and Academic Services

—Amanda Bednar,

Housing and Conference Services

PPSA: Call for Nominations: Officers for 2003-2004

In addition to inviting nominations for the positions given below, the Penn Professional Staff Assembly seeks volunteers to serve on the nominating committee who will review the nominees and present the slate for election at the open meeting in May. Volunteers for this committee should respond to ppsa@pobox.upenn.edu no later than Monday, April 14, 2003.

The PPSA is an organization of administrative and technical staff who serve the teaching, research and business missions of the University. PPSA accomplishes its mission by providing a forum where staff can express their opinions; seminars and programs to broaden and expand staff's background and knowledge; representation on major University committees; and a supportive network to work toward achieving the University's goals and objectives and enhancing professional status of staff.

The following positions on the PPSA Executive Board will be available for the coming year:

Chair-Elect: The Chairperson is the principal executive officer, who calls meetings, prepares agendas, presides over meetings, and provides leadership and representation at the University Council and other meetings. After one year, the Chair-Elect automatically succeeds to the office of Chairperson.

Vice-Chair Elect: The Vice-Chairperson records the proceedings of the Executive Committee and also functions as treasurer. After one year, the Vice-Chair Elect automatically succeeds to the office of Vice-Chair.

Members at Large: Three positions are available. The Members at Large participate in Executive Board meetings, and can serve on other University committees.

Current members (all monthly paid employees are members automatically) are asked to self-nominate or submit names for consideration to ppsa@pobox.upenn.edu no later than Monday, May 15, 2003.

The home department and campus extension of the nominee should be included. A supporting statement can be included, if desired. The nominating committee will review the names and contact the nominees. A list of candidates will be prepared and distributed to the PPSA membership prior to the election.

The election will occur during the annual meeting May 29, 2003.

Questions on the nominating and election process can be directed to ppsa@pobox.upenn.edu.

—Anna Loh, Vice Chair, Penn Professional Staff Assembly

April Volunteers Opportunities

Dear Penn Community,

The following is a list of the monthly posting of community service opportunities. As many of you know, each month, **Penn Volunteers In Public Service (Penn VIPS)** posts a list of volunteer opportunities. These opportunities are developed from the many requests we get from the surrounding community for assistance.

The Center for Community Partnerships is hosting an International Conference on "Universities, Communities and Schools: Partners for Effective Education, Community Building and Democracy" on April 7-8, as part of its 10th anniversary celebrations.

Please join the center as it celebrates its anniversary by registering for the conference. Registration information is available at www.upenn.edu/ccp/conference.html or call us at (215) 746-0214 or e-mail ccptenth@pobox.upenn.edu for more information.

Please contact me via e-mail (sammapp@pobox.upenn.edu) or call (215) 898-2020 to volunteer for any of the programs. Thank you for your continued support.

—Isabel Mapp, Associate Director, Faculty, Staff and Alumni Volunteer Services, Director, Penn Volunteers In Public Service, Center for Community Partnerships

Take Our Daughters & Sons To Work Day/1,000 Girls and Boys Are Waiting Thursday April 24, 2003. Volunteer to "adopt"/host a high school student who would not otherwise have an opportunity to spend the day in a workplace setting. Take your student to the many events that will be held around campus and share with them information about your career. Students will meet mentors on Penn's campus around 9 a.m. and will be dismissed around 2 p.m.

Volunteer to help out at the Penn Relays. Sun., April 13—Penn Relays Distance Classic from 7 a.m.-noon.; Wed., April 23—registration in The Palestra from 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Thurs., April 24—registration in The Palestra from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. The Relays will continue until 11 p.m.; Fri., April 25—registration in The Palestra from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. The Relays will continue until 5:30 p.m.; Sat., April 26—registration in The Palestra from 7 a.m.-1 p.m. The Relays will continue until 6 p.m.

The Annenberg Center's **Children's Festival** this year is April 30-May 4. We have had great turn out from the Penn community the last few years, thanks to you. We are looking for people Wednesday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. We have positions for gift shop, artist hospitality, ushering, and PlayWorks.

Become a Food Stamp Advocate. The Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger needs your help this summer to reach out to low-income people who may be eligible for food stamps. We are recruiting and training volunteers who will engage in food stamp pre-screening and assist clients in filling out food stamp applications. This outreach will be done at food cupboards, grocery stores, libraries, community centers and schools.

If you are a student at a local college or university, you may be eligible for funds through the work-study program or through campus scholarships to support summer research and service work. Both summer interns (more than 8 hours/week) and summer volunteers (2 or 3 hours/week) are needed.

Volunteers Needed for Summer Program 'Your Child's World Learning Center' is dedicated to the betterment of inner-city children. We are interested in responsible, caring, and dedicated individuals who are willing to volunteer in order to receive professional experience and enhance a summer enrichment program.

May Preview

Move Out Drive Leaving campus? Travel light. Donate your clothing, computers and other articles. Bring donated items to: Isabel Mapp, **Center for Community Partnerships**, 133 South 36th Street, Room 515, on the 5th Floor.

Operation Shoebox A collection is being taken for our troops overseas to show our support and appreciation for their bravery and dedication.

Below is a list of items needed that they are requesting. Please drop your off donations in Room 212 Franklin Bldg. With your help and continued generosity, this collection will continue until our servicemen/women come home. Please provide items in trial or travel sizes.

Batteries (AA, D)	Disposable cameras	Granola Bars
Tapes, CD's	Waterless Hand Sanitizer	Power Bars
Videos	Facial Tissue	Cookies
Nasal Spray	Instant Coffee	Fly Swatters
Model cars/planes	Individual Rolls of Toilet Paper	Tea Bags
Local Newspapers	Tylenol (Individual packets)	Soap
Cushioned Socks	Cold Water Wash (Woolite)	Mouthwash
Wash Rags	Candy, hard candy	Stamps
Shampoo & Conditioner	Cereal in small boxes	Deodorant
Hairbrushes/combs	Gum — no sticks	Eye Drops
Crossword Puzzles	Hot Chocolate	Calling Cards
Black Sunglasses	Ramen Noodles	Slim Jim's
Nail clippers	Powdered Drink Mixes	Beef Jerky
Stationery & Post Cards	Instant Oatmeal	Magazines
Shaving Cream & Razors	Coffee Creamer	Cotton Balls
Hand & Body Lotion	Foot & Body Powder	Dental Floss
Sunscreen/Sunblock	Decks of Cards	Baby Wipes
Lip Balm/Chapstick	Toothpaste & Brushes	Q-Tips
Gel Insoles/Odor Eaters	Travel Games — chess, checkers	Board Games
Sunflower Seeds	Clothes Pins	After Shave
Feminine Hygiene Products	Koolaide	
Paper Back Books (used ok)	White Tube Socks	

Have your children and family members write a little note or draw pictures to them. They are encouraged and appreciated. Call Yvonne Giorgio at (215) 898-4210 with any questions.

Note: Reports in the newspapers say do not send packages blindly. This is an organized effort and all materials will reach service personnel.

AWFA Awards Breakfast: April 9

The Association of Women Faculty and Administrators (AWFA) announces the Annual Alice Paul Awards Breakfast on Wednesday, April 9, from 8-9:30 a.m., at the Sheraton University City Hotel. All AWFA members are invited to attend.

A donation of \$10 is requested. Donations will go to support the Alice Paul Awards program fund.

This event honors exceptional women of the Penn community. The following awards will be presented: The Alice Paul Awards, The Lynda Hart Award, the Leonore Rowe Williams Award, and The Robert E. Davies Award.

For more information about AWFA and its awards, visit www.upenn.edu/af-firm-action/awfa.

—Nancy McCue, AWFA Secretary

PENN Presents: Rush Tickets



PENN Presents is now offering rush tickets for the soul-stirring, Jewish roots music of the Klezmatics. The ensemble is Lorin Sklamberg on accordion, vocals and keyboards, Frank London on trumpet and keyboards, Paul Morrisett on bass and tsimbl, David Licht on drums, Matt Darriau on clarinet and saxophone, and Lisa Gutkin, fiddler and composer. They will play on Saturday, April 5 at 8:30 p.m. in the Zellerbach Theatre of the Annenberg Center. Regular tickets are \$41, \$36, \$33 and \$27. Rush discounts/tickets are \$5 off for faculty and staff, \$15 for students. For tickets, call (215) 898-3900 or visit www.PENNPresents.org.

More PENN Vital Signs

Watch **PENN Vital Signs**, the University of Pennsylvania Health System's medical TV show on WPVI-TV/Channel 6 ABC. Come inside the world of medicine and learn how robotic surgery improves heart conditions and how these less invasive techniques reduce the patients' pain and recovery time. Also, follow PENN doctors as they care for patients with the chronic illness of diabetes. Follow them from diagnosis to treatment and see how it affects their lives every day. For your health or the health of someone you love, don't miss **PENN Vital Signs**.

Cardiology: Sunday, April 13, 5:30-6 a.m.; Sunday, April 20, 1:30-2 p.m.

Diabetes: Saturday, April 19, 7-7:30 p.m.; Sunday, April 20, 1-1:30 p.m.

—UPHS

Update

APRIL AT PENN

FILMS

2 *Pretzel Wisdom*; 8 p.m.; rm. B1, Meyerson Hall; Hebrew w/English subtitles (Israeli Film Festival).

8 *Yana's Friends*; 8 p.m.; rm. B1, Meyerson Hall; Hebrew w/English subtitles (Israeli Film Festival).

MUSIC

5 *Robert and Molly Freedman Annual Jewish Concert*; 8:30 p.m.; Zellerbach Theatre, Annenberg Center; info./tickets: (215) 898-3900 (Van Pelt-Dietrich Library; Jewish Studies; Annenberg Center).

TALKS

3 *The Jane S. Pollack Memorial Lecture in Women's Studies*; Jennifer Baumgardner and Amy Richards, authors; 4:30 p.m.; Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall (Alice Paul Center; Women's Studies).

4 *The First Annual Entertainment Symposium*; Joe Roth, Revolutionary Studios; Jon Avnet, Miramax Films; 4 p.m.; rm. G06, Jon M. Huntsman Hall (Talking Film; Kelly Writers House; Wharton).

7 *Witches and Witchcraft: Perspectives Between History and Fiction*; Edward Peters, history; Walter Stephens, Johns Hopkins University; Stefano Cracolici, Romance Languages; 4:30 p.m.; Cherpak Lounge, 543 Williams Hall; reception: 4 p.m. (Center for Italian Studies).

9 *Cancer Cells Targeting Dendritic Cells in Vivo*; Mario Colombo, Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Italy; 12:30 p.m.; Grossman Auditorium, Wistar Institute (Wistar).

Deadline: The deadline for the May AT PENN calendar is *April 15*. For info, see www.upenn.edu/almanac/calendar/caldead-real.html.

CLASSIFIEDS—PERSONAL

FOR RENT

200-yr. old house five blocks from Independence Hall. Furn. or unfurn. 3 bdrms., 2.5 baths; living room, dining room, sitting room w/frp/c opens onto garden; hwdw./floors, a/c, washer dryer, dishwasher, cable, DSL. Bike or 10-min. bus ride to Penn. Ideal for visiting faculty, research fellow, intern or resident and family, or 2-3 adults. 1-year lease beginning July 1. \$2400 a month + utils. (215) 923-7789 or gglhool@ix.netcom.com.

HELP WANTED

Operations/Facilities Manager Hillel of Greater Philadelphia is seeking an Operations/Facilities Manager for Steinhardt Hall, to provide building and facilities management for its new 36,000 square foot facility on the University of Pennsylvania campus and off-site management to its Temple University facility. The successful candidate must have experience with building cleaning and maintenance; familiarity with plumbing, electrical and HAV systems; excellent organizational skills for scheduling space usage and setup; ability to manage janitorial staff and outside contractors; ability to manage a budget; "people skills" to maintain good relations with the public, students and staff. Salary and benefits are competitive. Apply by contacting Gail Cantor at (215) 898-8265 or hillel@pobox.upenn.edu.

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Sign up to receive e-mail notification when we post breaking news between issues. Send an e-mail message with "subscribe" as the Subject to almanac@pobox.upenn.edu and include your name, e-mail address and mailing address. — Ed.



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 **March 17-23, 2003**. Also reported were 19 Crimes Against Property (including **8 thefts, 4 retail thefts, 1 auto theft, 3 burglaries, 1 attempted burglary and 2 robberies**). Full reports are on the Web (www.upenn.edu/almanac/v49/h27/crimes.html). Prior weeks' reports are also online. —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 **March 17-23, 2003**. 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 (215) 898-4482.

03/17/03	4:01 PM	3700 Spruce St	Male violated protection order/Arrest
03/18/03	6:48 PM	3901 Locust Walk	Unauthorized charges to credit card
03/21/03	1:19 AM	200 S 40 St	Male driving intoxicated/Arrest
03/21/03	6:37 PM	3801 Chestnut St	Male assaulted other male/Arrest
03/21/03	7:17 PM	200 S 37 St	Male driving intoxicated/Arrest
03/21/03	9:16 PM	41 & Walnut St	Males forced food from complainant
03/22/03	1:59 AM	4045 Pine St	Male driving intoxicated/Arrest
03/23/03	12:44 AM	200 S 39 St	Males acting disorderly/Arrests

18th District Report

12 incidents and 3 arrests (including 6 aggravated assaults and 6 robberies) were reported between **March 17-23, 2003** by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th St. & Market St. to Woodland Ave.

03/17/03	4:34 AM	4000 Chestnut	Aggravated Assault
03/17/03	9:30 PM	3700 Walnut	Robbery
03/18/03	2:45 AM	4800 Springfield	Robbery
03/19/03	9:15 AM	4100 Locust	Robbery/Arrest
03/20/03	4:19 PM	5034 Chestnut	Robbery
03/20/03	11:02 PM	5125 Pine	Aggravated Assault
03/21/03	5:40 PM	3000 Market	Aggravated Assault
03/21/03	6:30 PM	3801 Chestnut	Aggravated Assault/Arrest
03/21/03	9:13 PM	4100 Walnut	Robbery
03/22/03	12:30 AM	1 52 St	Aggravated Assault
03/23/03	9:44 AM	5000 Walnut	Robbery/Arrest
03/23/03	4:15 PM	327 46 St	Aggravated Assault

CLASSIFIEDS—UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH

Want to lose weight? The University of Pennsylvania's Weight and Eating Disorder Program is looking for participants who will receive 2 years of weight loss treatment using either a low-carbohydrate or a high-carbohydrate weight loss program. Overweight men and women aged 18-65 are encouraged to call Brooke a t (215) 746-8810 or Duncan at (215) 746-6908.

Are you **overweight** and at least 18 years of age? You may qualify for a research study that is being conducted on an investigational medication that may improve high cholesterol. Qualified participants will receive at no cost: study related exams and lab tests, dietary counseling, study related medication and compensation for time and effort. For more information please call (215) 662-9045.

Needed Controls for Multiple Sclerosis. If you are at least 30 years and above and would like to participate in a research study, examining several primary senses (hearing, smell, taste and balance). You will be compensated \$100 for approximately 8 hours of participation. For more information please call (215) 662-6580.

Are you taking estrogen replacement? Volunteers are needed for an osteoporosis research study. If you are between the ages of 45 and 55 and are taking or would like to take estrogen replacement for menopause, you may be eligible to participate. Participants are compensated. For more information, call (215) 898-5664.

Do You Have High Cholesterol? Do you want to lower your cholesterol naturally, without taking medicine? Doctors at the University of Pennsylvania are launching a new study looking at the effects of adding the food, flaxseed, to a low-fat diet on lowering cholesterol levels and improving other risk factors for heart disease. The entire study lasts approximately 4 months and includes 7 short outpatient visits at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. There is NO medication involved with this study and participants will be compensated for their time and effort. If you are generally healthy, between the ages of 45 and 75, have high cholesterol, and think you might be interested in this study, please contact Shilpa Balikai at (215) 662-9040 or e-mail her at balikai@sas.upenn.edu.

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Suite 211 Nichols House
3600 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106
Phone: (215) 898-5274 or 5275 FAX: (215) 898-9137
E-Mail: almanac@pobox.upenn.edu
URL: www.upenn.edu/almanac/

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PennERA: Moving Toward Implementation of Phase I



Three components of the PennERA system (SPIN Plus, Protocol Tracking, and Proposal Tracking) will be released this spring as part of the first phase of the PennERA project. PennERA (Electronic Research Administration) was conceived and organized as a multi-stage project with new and improved systems and processes being implemented at phased intervals. These components will provide a solid foundation for the more extensive protocol and proposal development modules to come in later phases.

SPIN Plus, a funding opportunities application, will be available to the entire Penn community in spring 2003. A valid PennKey and password and a standard web browser are all that will be required to access this application. This application is currently available from a link on the Vice Provost for Research's web site; however, as part of PennERA this application will be migrated to an onsite server accessible via PennNet to facilitate future integration with the proposal preparation process.

Protocol Tracking and Proposal Tracking, also scheduled for release in spring 2003, will only be accessible to the Office of Research Services (ORS), the Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA), and other central offices that are currently processing protocol and proposal information.

When the new applications are released, complementary changes will be made to BEN Reports, GRAM, and the Account Information Sheet (AIS) form. The changes to BEN Reports will be to the protocol information being displayed in BEN Reports only. We do not anticipate any changes to grant financial reports at this time. The current AIS form will be redesigned to reflect the newly automated account setup process. Prior to implementation, we are migrating to a more universal sponsor code numbering system and working toward a single point of entry of sponsor information to ensure more integrated access to sponsor data.

To ensure successful implementation of PennERA, a Research Reps group, which includes senior representatives from each of the Schools and Centers, has been formed. This group meets monthly to learn about updates, new enhancements, and benefits; to refine communication and implementation strategies; to share ideas; and to offer valuable feedback to the project team.

In addition to the Research Reps groups, Working Groups of knowledgeable end users from various Schools/Centers, ORS, and ORA are being constituted to provide additional information regarding requirements and to address specific issues related to business processes during the implementation phases of the project.

One such group, the Reports Working Group, has been assembled to help assess and implement the necessary changes to reports, including BEN Reports.

Phase I Implementation Components

1. SPIN Plus

SPIN Plus is a comprehensive service that provides authorized investigators with the most current information on available funding opportunities for projects. SPIN Plus consists of three modules:

- SPIN—An up-to-date listing of funding opportunities from national and international governmental and private funding sources
- GENIUS—A searchable expertise profile system that contains profiles and/or *curriculum vitae* of investigators who choose to make their profiles public
- SMARTS—A system that matches GENIUS profiles with the SPIN funding opportunities and automatically delivers daily updates via e-mail

Anticipated benefits include:

- An additional venue to discover funding opportunities
- A reduction in time spent searching for opportunities by having a central repository with this information

- A potential vehicle for identifying and locating co-investigator talent
- A common database of faculty profiles
- The potential for increasing sponsored projects funding

2. Protocol Tracking

The Protocol Tracking system is a secure web-based application that manages protocols currently active or under review by the Institutional Review Board (IRB), Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), and/or the Safety Committee. It consists of three modules—Human Subjects, Lab Animals, and Hazardous Materials (Hazardous Materials will be implemented in a later phase). Each module provides authorized users the ability to create, generate, and distribute agendas, minutes, and associated communications to investigators and IRB Board members.

Anticipated benefits include:

- Ability to store an electronic version of a protocol
- Ability to track more information per review
- Improved capabilities to monitor compliance
- Ability to alert IRB members and Chairs about adverse events more quickly through the electronic alerts of the system
- Complete amendment tracking
- Additional protocol information available through BEN Reports
- Enhanced access to protocol information for reviews

3. Proposal Tracking

Proposal Tracking is a secure web-based system for collecting, tracking, and reporting on application and award information for proposals. It includes real-time ad-hoc reporting capabilities, document merge functionality, an e-mail management system, and instant reporting on all proposals and awards.

Anticipated benefits include:

- Interface with BEN Financials for the more automated creation and maintenance of Sponsored Program funds (5-funds)
- Reduction of duplicative data entry
- Common database of people, organizations, and sponsors
- More complete multi-year proposal and award data for reporting and planning purposes

Complementary Initiatives: PennAEs Update

The Penn Human Subjects Adverse Events Reporting (PennAEs) component of the PennERA system is now available to everyone participating in research at Penn. The system was released to selected members of Penn's academic research community last fall following a successful pilot release of the system in September.

PennAEs is a web-based software solution that facilitates the tracking and collecting of adverse events in clinical trials and the reporting of serious adverse events involving human subjects to the Institutional Review Boards of the University of Pennsylvania.

If you have any questions or would like more detailed information about the PennAEs component of the PennERA system, or if you wish to register to use PennAEs, please send an e-mail to pennaes@pobox.upenn.edu. You can also register for PennAEs training online at www.med.upenn.edu/ohrtrain/.

For more information on PennAEs, including reference documents and a glossary of terms, visit the PennAEs web site at www.finance.upenn.edu/ftd/weblearn/PennAEs/index.html.

More Information about PennERA

Additional updates about PennERA will be provided throughout the project. For the most current information, please visit the PennERA project web site at www.pennera.upenn.edu/. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please send an e-mail to pennera@pobox.upenn.edu.

—Robin H. Beck, Vice President, Information Systems and Computing

—Andrew B. Rudczynski, Executive Director, Research Services and Associate Vice President of Finance

—Joseph R. Sherwin, Director, Office of Regulatory Affairs