

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA *Almanac*

Tuesday,
May 27, 2003
Volume 49 Number 34
www.upenn.edu/almanac

Faculty Senate Leadership for 2003-2004

The Faculty Senate announces its leadership for the coming academic year: (left to right) Mitch Marcus, past chair; Lance Donaldson-Evans, chair; and Charles Mooney, chair-elect.



Langberg Endowed Chair in Physics: Dr. Cvetcic

Dr. Mirjam Cvetcic, professor of physics and astronomy has been named the inaugural holder of the Fay R. and Eugene L. Langberg Endowed



Mirjam Cvetcic

Professorship in Physics, SAS Dean Samuel H. Preston has announced. Dr. Cvetcic came to Penn as a research associate in 1987 and was named the Class of 1965 Endowed Term Professor in 1999. She received her Ph.D. in 1984 from the University of Maryland, College Park, and completed both her M.A. and B.S. at the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia. She has been a visitor at Rutgers University; Henri Poincaré Institute; Cambridge University; the International School for Advanced Studies in Trieste, Italy; CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, in Geneva, Switzerland;

the International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, Italy; and the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton.

Her research interests span problems of elementary particle physics ranging from the study of basic interactions to the experimental tests of fundamental theories. With a background in basic theory as well as in phenomenology, her research bridges the gap between basic theory and the experimental consequences of these theories. She has published more than 200 journal articles and is the editor of *Physics Letters B*.

Since coming to Penn, she has been named a fellow of the American Physical Society and has received the National Science Foundation's Career Advancement Award, Penn's Research Foundation Award, and the Junior Faculty SSC Fellowship Award.

The Langberg Professorship was established in 2002 through the bequest of Eugene L. Langberg, CCC '42, G'45. The late Mr. Langberg was an electrical physicist who held positions at the U.S. Naval Research Lab in Washington, D.C., and at the Franklin Institute. He also served as a commissioner of Upper Gwynedd Township, Pennsylvania.

Graduate School of Education Teaching Award



Barbara Tobin

The 2003 recipient of the Graduate School of Education's Excellence in Teaching Award is Dr. Barbara Tobin, a lecturer in the Educational Leadership Division at GSE. The award was presented at the school commencement on May 19.

GSE singles out for this award those who have "a strong commitment to teaching and learning," who demonstrate an interest and enthusiasm for both the course material and for the students, and who are intellectually challenging and stimulating.

A native of Australia, Dr. Tobin taught elementary and high school students in city and rural areas in Western Australia before teaching in Canada,

New Guinea, England, and the U.S. She obtained her doctorate in children's literature/literacy from the University of Georgia in 1989 and has taught children's literature and literacy at Curtin University in Australia, Florida State University, and Penn, where she teaches undergraduate and graduate students. She serves on the editorial board of the *Reading Teacher*, is a mentor for graduate and undergraduate elementary teacher education majors at GSE, and collaborates with teachers at the Philadelphia School.

The citation describes Dr. Tobin as "the quintessential teacher who strives to know her students on a personal as well as academic level and as someone who creates a strong foundation for future educators to build upon.... [She] allows for creativity and freedom of thought but successfully outlines a deeper understanding of the very word 'literature,' demonstrating the true significance that it plays in a child's life and showing that literature is not just about words but about the larger concepts embodied in the individual work as a whole."

G. Holmes Perkins Award

Dr. Sidney Wong, assistant professor of city and regional planning, is this year's recipient of the G. Holmes Perkins Award for Distinguished Teaching. He was acknowledged for his teaching contributions at this year's award ceremony on Sunday, May 18.

Dr. Wong received his Ph.D. in city and regional planning from University of California at Berkeley, and his M.S. in town planning from the University of Wales, a masters and bachelors degree of social science from the University of Hong Kong. His doctoral dissertation was selected by the Association of Collegiate School of Planning in 1998 as the best planning dissertation in North America.

He joined GSFA in January 2000 and teaches (continued on page 3)



Sidney Wong

Law School's Teaching Awards

Catherine Struve, assistant professor of law,



Catherine Struve

has been named this year's recipient of the Harvey Levin Award for Excellence in Teaching. The prize is awarded to a member of the full-time faculty for distinguished teaching, as determined through election by the graduating class.

Professor Struve holds B.A. and J.D. degrees from Harvard. She joined Penn Law in 2000 and teaches and researches in the areas of civil procedure, federal courts, and statutory interpretation. Her recent publications include "How Bad Law Made a Hard Case Easy: Nevada v. Hicks and the Subject Matter Jurisdiction of Tribal Courts" that appeared in the *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law* and "The Paradox of Delegation: Interpreting the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure" in the *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*.

Prior to joining Penn Law, Professor Struve (continued on page 3)

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Meeting of the Trustees Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Trustees met on May 15 and approved a resolution to establish procedures for proxy voting which supercede prior policies created in 1996 concerning proxy voting. The Trustees determined that it is appropriate for the President to create an advisory committee, the Penn Social Responsibility Advisory Committee, to provide advice to the Trustee Proxy Voting Subcommittee with respect to social and environmental issues.

President Judith Rodin introduced Ralph Muller, the new CEO of UPHS (*Almanac April 22*) who began in a transitional capacity on May 1, and also mentioned the incoming dean of the Annenberg School, Dr. Michael Delli Carpini (*Almanac April 29*), who will assume his duties on July 1 as Dean Kathleen Jamieson takes a year-long sabbatical before returning to Penn as the director of the Public Policy Center at the Annenberg School for Communication.

Provost Robert Barchi mentioned the appointment of Dr. Les Hudson as the Vice Provost for Strategic Initiatives (*Almanac April 29*) and said Dr. Hudson will be formulating strategic planning. Dr. Barchi also noted the recent Arts Day when overseers spent the day on campus at the many arts venues.

EVP Clifford Stanley gave the University's financial report for the fiscal period that ended March 31, 2003. He said the total net assets decreased \$156.9 million or 3% to \$5 billion, while net assets from operations increased \$1.8 million, and net assets from non-operating activities declined due to investment performance. For the Academic Component, the total net assets decreased by \$133.7 million and net assets from operations increased \$6.4 million. For the Health Services component, overall utilization remained strong at the four owned hospitals with adult inpatient admissions increasing 3.8%.

Dr. Arthur Rubenstein reported that Penn Medicine has more women than men in this year's class for the first time ever. He also noted that the School of Medicine came in second in the country in NIH grants (*see page 5*).

Dr. Rubenstein also announced that Peter DeAngelis, Jr., the Health System's chief financial officer, will leave next month to become the executive vice president and chief financial officer for Catholic Health East, a 14,000-bed, faith-based health system that includes 31 acute-care hospitals and 46 skilled nursing facilities in 11 eastern states from Maine to Florida. Mr. DeAngelis joined Penn in the summer of 1997 and according to the dean, "was one of the driving forces behind the Health System's remarkable financial recovery and stabilization."

The Trustees then approved five resolutions presented by the Budget and Finance Committee that had met earlier that morning. There was one to authorize the design and construction of the parking garage 7 repairs (on South Street east of the Museum) \$2 million. Another resolution authorized the renovations of the 3rd floor C Wing at 3401 Walnut Street for the psychology department \$1.175 million. The Trustees also authorized the renewal of the University's guarantee of a \$1.6 million loan to Caring Center, Inc. by Citizens Bank which refinanced the loan. The School of Medicine, pulmonary division will enter into a lease agreement with CHOP to use space in the Abramson Medical Research Building with a 32-month lease, \$2.6 million.

The full board of Trustees will meet next month.

Leaving Penn

Dr. Larry Gross, Sol Worth Professor of Communication, will become the director of the Annenberg School of Communication at the University of Southern California after 35 years at Penn's Annenberg School. He was a member of the groundbreaking Cultural Indicators team, headed by former Dean George Gerbner. Dr. Gross was a Guggenheim Fellow in 1998 and received the International Communication Association's Aubrey Fisher Mentorship Award in 2001. He has mentored over 180 students through their theses and dissertations, more than any other professor at the School. He chaired the Faculty Senate (2000-2001), the Committees on Open Expression and Academic Freedom and Responsibility and served as moderator of University Council.

Dr. Larry Icard, associate professor and director of the Center for Intervention and Practice Research at the School of Social Work, will become the dean of Temple University's School of Social Administration as of September. The Center that he now heads will also be moving to Temple. Dr. Icard has directed the SSW's doctoral program in social welfare. Dean Reichard Gelles noted that this is the third time in three years that one of the School's faculty has been selected to move up to a major administrative position and the second time one has been selected to lead a school of social work. Since joining Penn in July 2000, Dr. Icard secured more than \$6 million in grant-funded research, and is principal investigator on a \$2.78 million grant from NIH "Helping Families Reduce HIV in African-American Youth." He will bring over \$1.5 million in NIH grants with him when he assumes his new responsibilities at Temple.

Penn Humanities Forum Co-Director: Peter Stallybrass

Dr. Peter Stallybrass, the Walter H. and Leonore C. Annenberg Professor in the Humanities and Professor of English, has been named to a three-year term as co-director of the Penn Humanities Forum effective July 1, SAS Dean Samuel H. Preston announced. Dr. Stallybrass joins Dr. Wendy Steiner, Richard L. Fisher Professor of English, who launched the Forum in March 1999 as its founding director.

"We are delighted that Peter has agreed to join forces with Wendy in leading the Forum. With not one but two of our most distinguished humanities professors at the helm, the Forum will no doubt have an even greater impact on the intellectual life of the School, the University, and the Philadelphia community," said Dean Preston.

Dr. Stallybrass teaches the Renaissance and is a noted authority on the history of the book and material culture, with a particular interest in theories of the body and of transgression. He also directs Penn's Center for the History of Material Texts and this year served as Topic Faculty Advisor on *The Book* for the Humanities Forum. He is supervisor of the English Institute and co-editor of the *New Cultural Studies* series for Penn Press.

He received the James Russell Lowell Prize of the MLA for his latest book, *Renaissance Clothing and the Materials of Memory* with Ann Rosalind Jones. His other books include *The Politics and Poetics of Transgression* with Allon White and *O Casaco de Marx: Roupas, Memria, Dor*, a collection of essays on Marx, materiality, and memory.

He won the Lindback Award in 2000 and the SAS Ira Abrams Award for Teaching in 1997.

PPSA Election Meeting: May 29

PPSA invites all professional staff to attend the annual PPSA Election Meeting in Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall on Thursday, May 29 at noon. Clifford Stanley, executive vice president, will be the special guest speaker. The candidates for the chair elect, vice chair elect and members at large are listed below.

Candidate for Chair Elect

Andy Atzert, associate director, Executive Education, Wharton. He has been part of Penn for seven years, and has served as a Member-at-Large on the PPSA board for the past two years. He is associate director at Aresty Institute of Executive Education where he collaborates with faculty and corporate clients to design and manage customized educational programs for senior executives. He had been coordinator of Business English Programs at the English Language Programs. He earned a bachelors degree from Rutgers and a masters from GSE.

Candidates for Vice Chair Elect

Sharon E. Smith, director, Student Intervention Services, VPUL. She brings more than 15 years of experience working at Penn in various positions of increasing responsibility. Her experience includes associate director of Student Transitional Programs, assistant director of PENNCAP, and most recently, director of Student Intervention Services. For eight years, as associate director of Student Transitional Programs, she managed and implemented orientation programs for undergraduate, graduate and professional students and developed a number of programs focusing on mentoring. She also served on the New Student Orientation Committee, which was instrumental in redesigning orientation week; the Women of Color Committee and the African American Senior Awards Committee.

Kath Ward-Gaus, MS Ed, associate director, Office of Health Education, VPUL. She has been at Penn since 1995. She has staffed and/or chaired a variety of University committees and task forces including: Alcohol and Other Drug Task Force, 1998 President's Special Committee on Alcohol Abuse, and the 2002 Mental Health Outreach Task Force. She served as co-chair of the Community Programming Committee, one of the three committees for the Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander University of Pennsylvania Partnership School.

...for Member-At Large (choose 3)

Betty Thomas, staff assistant, Tobacco Use Research Center, Psychiatry. She has worked at Penn for the past 17 years. She worked in the Office of Student Financial Services as a financial aid counselor. She has earned her B.A. from the Wharton Evening School. As a former vice-chair of the A-3 Assembly, she has served on various University-wide committees, including Benefits Redesign, Women of Color, and Safety and Security.

Ty Furman, director, Student Performing Arts in the Office of Student Life, VPUL. He has been at Penn for six years and he advises and facilitates the activities of the 43 member organizations of the Performing Arts Council. He also assists in coordinating the all-campus leadership retreats through the Office of Student Life. He is the building administrator for the ARCH, and the director of Penn Life Sketches, a new student orientation program. He has served on several search committees for University Life and as a committee alternate of the Parking Violation Review Board.

Joseph D. Fischer, sergeant, Division of Public Safety. He has been in law enforcement for 32 years, beginning with the Philadelphia Police Department. He joined Penn in 1998; in 2001 he was promoted to corporal with the

PPSA Election (continued from page 2)

responsibility of crime prevention initiatives. In 2002 he was promoted to sergeant. He is responsible for developing crime prevention measures and acting as liaison to various departments throughout Penn. He has routinely worked with the FBI, ATF, U.S. Marshall's Office and Secret Service.

Isabel Sampson-Mapp, CSW, associate director, Faculty, Staff, & Alumni Volunteer Service; director, Penn VIPS, Center for Community Partnerships. She has been with Penn since 1986. She is responsible for creating and managing volunteer activities. She has held positions with the School of Social Work and the African American Resource Center. President Rodin named her as a distinguished employee on behalf of the Service Recognition Program. She received an award for extraordinary service and commitment to enhancing the quality of life in Philadelphia communities; the Women of Color's Recognition for Excellence; and the Vice President for Government, Community and Public Affairs' Certificate of Merit for services performed as a mentor. She was selected to represent Penn at the HERS Summer Institute.

Tabitha Dell'Angelo, MS, house dean, Hamilton College House. A former GA in both Hill and Hamilton College Houses, she was appointed House Dean of Hamilton in fall 2002. She is currently completing a doctorate in Human Development at Penn and holds an M.S. in education from Penn and a B.A. in special education from Rowan University. Since 1997 she has been a research coordinator at Penn's Center for Health, Achievement, Neighborhood, Growth and Ethnic Studies. Her honors include a Kellogg Fellowship, Annenberg Summer Statistics Fellowship and Washington State University Summer Doctoral Fellowship. She has taught courses on Human Development and Child Development at Penn and is a New Jersey certified teacher of the handicapped.

Paulina Sockolow, IT project manager, Business Services. She received her bachelors and MBA degrees from Penn. She has worked for over 20 years in information systems. Four years of her career were spent at the Health System doing information systems strategic planning and special projects. She returned to Penn two years ago as a project manager in the Business Services Division of Information Technology Services. For the past three years she has been an alumni interviewer for first year applicants to Penn.

— PPSA Executive Committee

Calling All Weekly-Paid Staff

The Weekly-Paid Professional Staff Assembly (WPSA), formerly the A-3 Assembly, will hold its annual Board Elections at noon on June 11, in Irvine G-16. All weekly-paid, non-union Penn staff are eligible to vote—you can nominate yourself or another weekly-paid non-union University employee for the 20-member Board.

The elected Board will then select the Executive Officers—Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

At this time the WPSA needs more Board members. Volunteers are also being sought to serve as voting members on University Committees. These committees make recommendations to University Council and Steering (which make decisions on University policies) on such issues as benefits, communications, diversity, parking, to mention just a few.

For more information about the WPSA, the election process, the Board and Officers responsibilities visit our website, www.upenn.edu/wpsa or contact Omar Mitchell, Chair, at (215) 573-8849 or e-mail: henry23@mail.med.upenn.edu.

— WPSA Board



Bruce Mann



Jason Johnston



Harry Reicher

Law's Awards (continued from page 1)

worked as a litigator at Cravath, Swaine & Moore. At Cravath, in addition to working on antitrust and patent matters, Professor Struve was part of the trial team that represented two of the plaintiffs in a negligent marketing suit against manufacturers of mail-order gun kits; and she was the lead Cravath litigation associate on the team that represented the Oneida Indian Nation of New York in its land claims litigation against New York State and other defendants.

This year's A. Leo Levin Award for excellence in an introductory course was awarded to *Bruce H. Mann*, professor of law and history, for teaching a course on property. Professor Mann also teaches courses in trusts and estates and American legal history.

Students found the Property course challenging and incredibly rewarding. "Lots of work but the best teaching I could imagine," commented one student, while another noted, "As we move through the course it only gets more exciting to watch the Mann show in all its colors and sounds." And, finally, "I am infinitely better as a person and a student for having contact with Professor Mann."

A legal historian, Professor Mann, specializes in the relationship among legal, social, and economic change in early America. Harvard University Press has published his latest book, *Republic of Debtors: Bankruptcy in the Age of American Independence*. His three previous teaching awards include two at Penn—the Harvey Levin Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching at the Law School and the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Jason Johnston, Robert G. Fuller, Jr. Professor of Law, was awarded The Robert A. Gorman Award for excellence in teaching. The award was established last year in honor of emeritus professor Robert A. Gorman, the Kenneth W. Gemmill Professor of Law, who taught at Penn Law for more than 35 years, before retiring in 2001.

Professor Johnston teaches courses in Contracts, Natural Resources Law and Policy and an Environmental Law Seminar. "I cannot speak highly enough of Professor Johnston's ability to bring life and relevance to these issues, and to challenge us to think critically," noted one student, while another said, "This was my hardest class, but also my favorite."

Professor Johnston, founding director of the Program on Law and the Environment, is at the cutting edge of the application of game theory to public policy and the environment. He is one of the few scholars to combine the theoretical and empirical analysis of the various aspects of contract law and environmental law and policy, as well as more general studies of legal rights and legal entitlements. His current focus is on a series of articles exploring the law and economics of federal environmental and natural resource regulation in the United States, the political economy of takings, and the development of

alternative, contract and market-based approaches to the reform of environmental regulation. Professor Johnston's work has appeared in a number of major American law journals and peer-reviewed economics journals.

Harry Reicher, adjunct professor of law, is the recipient of the Adjunct Teaching Award which was es-

tablished last year. Professor Reicher taught courses in International Human Rights and Law and the Holocaust. Students found him to be fascinating and inspiring. One commented, "It was an honor to be taught by him," while other noted that Professor Reicher's was "one of the most incredible classes I've ever taken." And, finally, "I would take any class he taught."

In addition to his position as adjunct professor at Penn, he serves as the Director of International Affairs and a Representative to the United Nations of Agudath Israel World Organization. He has argued cases before a range of courts and tribunals, including the High Court of Australia. These have resulted in numerous precedent-setting judgments in the areas of international law (environmental law and human rights), taxation and corporate law.

As an academic, he has taught a range of international law and taxation courses at law schools in Australia and the U.S. He has published in the *Columbia Journal of Transnational Law* and is the editor of *Australian International Law: Cases and Materials*, the first-ever indigenous Australian Casebook on international law.

Perkins Award (continued from page 1)

courses in urban economic development, quantitative methods, policy analysis, and evaluation, primarily to students in City and Regional Planning. As Director of Information Resources West Philadelphia and Philadelphia Data Consortium, he is responsible for overseeing the creation of a West Philadelphia information system, now widely used by neighborhood groups involved in planning and development of the neighborhoods adjacent to campus. (See <http://westphillydata.library.upenn.edu/> for more information about InfoR.)

His teaching philosophy is to provide a nurturing, learning environment. He uses his research and planning experience to stimulate students to be analytical and responsive to urban issues. Students have noted that the models and templates developed in his quantitative planning courses have been of great value to them in their final studio work. Dr. Wong is planning to develop new courses in the area of community and economic development that will tie in with his current research in assessing tax incentive programs and examining community use of information technology.

The G. Holmes Perkins Award is given in recognition of distinguished teaching and innovation in the methods of instruction in the classroom, seminar, or studio to a faculty member in GSFA. The award is named in honor of G. Holmes Perkins who served as Dean of the School, 1951-1971, and was established by former Dean and Paley Professor Patricia Conway in 1993. G. Holmes Perkins has long been internationally recognized as a brilliant planner and educator, attracting an extraordinary faculty to the University.

Honors & Other Things



Michael Klein



Alan MacDiarmid

Two Royal Fellows from Chemistry

Chemistry professors *Dr. Michael Klein* and *Dr. Alan MacDiarmid* were elected fellows of the Royal Society of London, the world's oldest scientific academy in continuous existence which was founded in 1660. Fellows are elected for their contributions to fundamental research that results in greater scientific understanding or for innovation in scientific or technological progress.

"Election to the fellowship of the Royal Society is recognized worldwide as a sign of the highest regard in science," noted SAS Dean Sam Preston. "We are proud to have such distinguished scientists on our faculty in the School of Arts and Sciences." The Royal Society's fellowship includes such luminaries of science as Isaac Newton, Charles Darwin, Albert Einstein, Francis Crick, James Watson, and Stephen Hawking.

In 2000, Dr. MacDiarmid was awarded a Nobel Prize for his work on conducting polymers, more commonly known as "synthetic metals." Dr. Klein, a leader in the use of computational methods to make clear the structure and dynamics of condensed matter, was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences earlier in May.

Dr. Gutsche: Distinguished Service

Dr. Brett B. Gutsche, emeritus professor of anesthesia in the department of obstetrics and gynecology, has received the Distinguished Service Award by the Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology. The award recognizes Dr. Gutsche's lifetime of services in the field of obstetric anesthesia. Dr. Gutsche was also recognized for his leadership which served to guide SOAP's growth as a national and international resource. He was honored for his medical contributions including safer, more effective ways to relieve childbirth pain and a better understanding of the dangers of pregnancy, such as pre-eclampsia and fetal distress.

Dr. Snyder: Gentle Giant Award

Dr. Peter J. Snyder, professor of medicine, division of endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism, at the School of Medicine has received the Gentle Giant Award from the Pituitary Network Association. The Gentle Giant Award is presented to an individual or entity in recognition of distinguished contribution and dedication to the field of pituitary/endocrine medicine. Dr. Snyder received the award for his longstanding advocacy of improved treatment of patients, and his outstanding contribution and dedication to pituitary patient care, education, and the field of pituitary endocrine medicine. Founded in 1992, PNA is the world's largest growing patient volunteer organization dedicated to the treatment and cure of pituitary disorders.

Dr. Thompson: Investigator Award

Dr. Craig B. Thompson, professor and chair of the department of cancer biology at the School

of Medicine, has received the 2003 Clinical Investigator Award from the American Society for Clinical Investigation. Dr. Thompson is also scientific director of the Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute at the Abramson Cancer Center. He received this year's award for his pioneering work on the critical role that receptors on the surfaces of T-cells play in regulating a myriad of complicated immune cell functions. His discoveries have contributed to the design of new therapies for autoimmune disease, transplant rejection, cancer, and AIDS.

Dr. Trojanowski: Rotary Grant

Dr. John Trojanowski, director of the Alzheimer's Research Trust has been awarded a \$250,000 Alzheimer's research grant. Given by the Rotarian Clubs from North and South Carolina and Georgia, the Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust (CART) was started to fund for the research and cure of Alzheimer's and Alzheimer's related diseases. "funding from sources like the Rotarians allow us to jumpstart scientific research on the many targets that we think are the molecular pathways to curing Alzheimer's," said Dr. Trojanowski. According to Dr. Trojanowski, Penn received the award primarily because of the work of Dr. Domenic Praticó, assistant professor in pharmacology. His work on isoprostanes, fatty acids that are formed as the result of free radical damage, have opened up a new avenue of promising research in which drugs created to prevent oxidative stress may halt Alzheimer's.



John Trojanowski

of Medicine, has received the 2003 Clinical Investigator Award from the American Society for Clinical Investigation. Dr. Thompson is also scientific director of the Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute at the Abramson Cancer Center. He received this year's award for his pioneering work on the critical role that receptors on the surfaces of T-cells play in regulating a myriad of complicated immune cell functions. His discoveries have contributed to the design of new therapies for autoimmune disease, transplant rejection, cancer, and AIDS.

GSE Awards

The GSE Outstanding Service to Students Award is presented annually to recognize a member of the GSE community "who has shown a strong commitment to GSE students." It is intended to acknowledge an individual who goes beyond his or her official responsibilities to guide students in their academic and professional lives and who simply makes life better for students with his or her thoughtfulness and care. The recipient of this year's Award is *Isabel Boston*. Ms. Boston, a records assistant in the Student Records Office, is currently working part-time for her undergraduate degree. A source of support and guidance for students, faculty, and staff, she is recognized as one of GSE's most valued customer service representatives. Recommended to the Student Affairs Committee as "bright, articulate, convivial, and caring," Ms. Boston was praised as "an invaluable asset to GSE and the Student Records Office in particular" and for "her commitment to the staff and, more important, to our students who are the beneficiaries of her superior skills and admirable work ethic."

The Phi Delta Kappa Award for an Outstanding Dissertation has been presented to *Dr. Angela Reyes* for "The Other Asian: Linguistic, Ethnic and Cultural Stereotypes at an After-School Asian American Teen Videomaking Project." An ethnographic and linguistic anthropological study, her dissertation explores the role of an after-school project in creating relations of power and identity encountered by Asian-American teens encountered at both local and societal levels.

The GSE Educational Alumni Association

presented the 2002 William E. Arnold Award for Outstanding Accomplishments in a Graduate Program to two of its students: *Angela Reyes*, a Ph.D. student in the Language in Education Division, and *Christy McWayne*, a doctoral student in the School, Community, and Clinical Child Psychology program in the Psychology in Education Division. As a doctoral student, Ms. Reyes has been an organizing force behind both academic and social issues at GSE and the larger Penn community. She co-founded and convened both the Educational Linguistics Forum and the Asian American Studies Colloquium series and served on the Ethnography Forum Advisory Board as well as other boards and committees.

Ms. McWayne has demonstrated her commitment to the GSE community and to the field of education through her program, teaching, and research activities. Instrumental in the creation of the first annual Cross-University Mentoring Conference, which brought together early childhood researchers from six universities, she has also served on the Student Affairs Committee and on Parent Policy Council, the parent governance group for Head Start in Philadelphia.

Four Awards for Research Excellence

Four post-doctoral scientists have received awards for Research Excellence from the Center for Research on Reproduction and Women's Health and the Department of Obstetrics and gynecology. They are: *Dr. Paula Stein*, and *Dr. Petr Svoboda*, the Bayard T. Storey Award; *Dr. Lin Zhang*, the Susan Heyner Award and *Dr. Jing Yang*, the Joseph C. Touchstone Award.

The awards were established in 1999 to honor the service and scientific contributions of professors emeriti of the Department and Center.

Nursing: Research Award

The Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research has won the annual research award in health services research from AcademyHealth for its paper "Hospital Nurse Staffing and Patient Mortality, Nurse Burnout, and Job Dissatisfaction," which was published in the October 2002 issue of *JAMA*. "We are all busting with pride as this is the first major recognition of research done by nurses and about nursing in the national interdisciplinary association of scholars and policymakers in health services research," said Center Director Dr. Linda Aiken. Dr. Sean Clarke, assistant professor of nursing and Dr. Julie Sochalski, associate professor of nursing, were also named authors on the paper.

Regional Project of the Year

The University of Pennsylvania will receive the Regional Project of the Year Award from the *Community Development Program* from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission at a reception on June 4. The project brought together a partnership of long-standing University City institutions, neighborhood organizations and non-profit agencies to participate in a comprehensive strategy for the continuing revitalization of the West Philadelphia portion of the University City District.

LGBT Center: Grand Jury Award

The *LGBT Center* has received the Grand Jury Award from the Preservation Alliance. The Center was cited for the adaptive reuse of the Carriage house completed by Freeman Architects. The LGBT Center and the University adapted a 1877 carriage

Faculty/Staff Directory Revisions

house by combining restoration of existing architectural features with new elements. The award recognizes the project for demonstrating how and oft neglected building type can be re-used and contribute to community character."

School of Medicine: 2nd in Funding

The School of Medicine ranks second in the total monetary value of grants among academic medical centers in the U.S. according to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In fiscal year 2002 Penn received 933 research and training grants worth approximately \$347.7 million up by \$29 million from the previous year. "Our number two position on the NIH rankings should stand as further testimony to Penn's national prominence," said Dr. Arthur Rubenstein, dean of the School and EVP for UPHS. Penn's standing in the NIH awards rankings reflects our continued efforts toward translational research—integrating the basic science research for which Penn is renowned directly into clinical studies and healthcare practice." Penn also had 11 departments ranked in the top five in their respective fields. Biostatistics was ranked first, psychiatry, pathology and laboratory medicine, and dermatology were ranked second. The other departments in the top five were, medicine, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, ophthalmology, pharmacology, physiology and radiology.

Calling All Fulbright Alums

Penn is hosting 30 inbound Fulbright Fellows from August 2-23 in a program of study designed to prepare them for the rigors of graduate life at U.S. universities. If you are interesting in participating in this program or in meeting any of the Fulbrighters, please contact Susan Caesar, (215) 573-7688 or svc@sas.upenn.edu, or call the English Language Programs at (215) 898-8681.

—Thomas W. Adams, Associate Director, English Language Programs

PennERA: Preparation for Implementation of Phase I

The PennERA (Electronic Research Administration) team is currently finalizing the implementation for Phase I of the project. As part of Phase I implementation, the Human and Animal Protocol and Proposal Tracking modules of the PennERA system will be released to the Office of Research Services (ORS) and the Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA). SPIN Plus, a funding opportunities application, will be available to the entire Penn community. A valid PennKey and password and a standard web browser will be required to access these applications.

A projected July 2003 release date is based on a "window of opportunity" that appears to best balance the introduction of changes with the least disruption of critical year-end operational activities. The planning assumption behind a release date is of course predicated on the availability and performance of the software products from the vendors from whom we purchased applications. We have every expectation that all software releases as well as testing and training components of the implementation will support release in that timeframe.

In preparation for implementation, ORS and ORA staff will be going through a transitional period as they acclimate to the new systems. We do not anticipate excessive delays with business operations, but we do expect to experience some slowdown during this transitional period. We appreciate your patience as we strive to improve the way we do research administration at Penn.

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 of Information Systems and Computing

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

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



Important—June Mailing to Department Heads: A mailing will be sent to all department heads outlining the 2003-2004 Telephone Directory production process and timeline. Additionally, this mailing will help us ensure that our Telephone Directory Liaison list is accurate and up-to-date. Department heads are asked to forward the appropriate materials in this mailing to the staff member responsible for working with the Telephone Directory Office. All subsequent directory communications will be made through this Directory Liaison.

Update Individual Directory Records Online: For inclusion in the 2003-2004 Directory, Monday, June 23, is the final day to update individual records online.

To update your record in the white pages:

1. Go to www.upenn.edu/directories/dir-update.html (by June 23 for the hard-copy directory)
2. Click on "Online Add/Update Form."
3. Enter your PennKey and password. (For more information regarding your PennKey and password, go to www.upenn.edu/computing/pennkey.)
4. Follow the prompts. Once you have entered and reviewed any revisions, be sure to click "Update Listings" so your changes will take effect.

White Pages Verification: Lists of white pages submissions will be sent to Directory Liaisons for verification the first week of July. Please review these white pages listings and submit any changes by July 29.

New Staff Members: New staff members may update their record online after they have obtained a PennCard and a PennKey and password. Inclusion in the printed directory will be at the discretion of the department.

Non-University Staff: For representatives of CHOP, HUP, Inn at Penn, Sheraton, Penn Bookstore, and other University partners, updates will be made via the list sent to Directory Liaisons.

Blue Pages: Blue pages (renamed tan pages – department listings) edits must be returned by to the Telephone Directory Office by July 1.

More Information: Review the Directory FAQ: www.business-services.upenn.edu/ (click on the Faculty/Staff Directory link).

If you have questions, please e-mail fsdirectory@pobox.upenn.edu.

—Donna M. Petrelli Aquino, Senior IT Support Specialist, Division of Business Services

Alzheimer's Data for Researchers

The Alzheimer's Disease Center (ADC) at Penn has a mission that includes fostering collaborative research on dementing illnesses. Opportunities exist for qualified researchers to conduct studies utilizing the data and biological samples collected and stored by the ADC. Available data includes clinical as well as socio-demographic data on patients and their careers.

To learn more about collaborative research with Penn's ADC and requirements for protocol submission visit the Center's web site at www.uphs.upenn.edu/ADC or contact Jennifer Klocinski at jennifer@mail.med.upenn.edu or (215) 573-4634.

Beckman Rotor Inspections

Beckman Rotor inspections will occur in room 251 BRB II/III on June 11, and June 12, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Rotors labeled with the laboratory name, room number and telephone extension should be brought to room 251 BRB II/III as early as possible to allow adequate time for inspection. For more information consult the EHRS website (www.ehrs.upenn.edu) or call Tom Boyle at (215) 573-2355.

—Environmental Health and Radiation Safety

Patent Policy Online

The *Patent and Tangible Research Property Policies and Procedures of the University of Pennsylvania*, (Almanac March 15, 1994) is now available in the archive section of Almanac's web site at www.upenn.edu/almanac/issues/past/OR-patent.html. This document is also available in Acrobat PDF format.

Cashing Checks at Citizens

While the Office of the Treasurer continues to promote use of direct deposit in lieu of checks to enhance safety and efficiency, we would like to clarify for the Penn community the services available for cashing Penn (payroll and accounts payable) checks, which are drawn on Mellon Bank. Following the sale in 2002 of Mellon's branch bank network to Citizens Bank, Mellon arranged for Citizens to assume certain customer services it previously provided. As a result, *Citizens Bank cashes (with no fee) University of Pennsylvania checks up to \$5,000 for Penn employees regardless of whether or not an employee has an account at Citizens Bank.*

Mellon maintains a limited number of "private wealth" offices in the Delaware Valley. These offices serve as investment management/brokerage firms to Mellon's private wealth offices, and are not set up as bank branches. Therefore, if a Penn check is presented at a Mellon private wealth office by a Penn employee who is not a Mellon private wealth customer, these offices will charge a \$5 processing fee.

Contact Lucy Momjian or Helen Kreider in the Office of the Treasurer (215) 898-9844 should you have any questions on this.

—Office of the Treasurer

Summary Annual Reports for the University of Pennsylvania

Life Insurance Program

This is a summary of the annual report for the Life Insurance Program of the University of Pennsylvania (Plan No. 502) sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania, EIN 23-1352685, for the period July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Insurance Information

The plan has a contract with Teacher's Insurance and Annuity Association to pay Life Insurance, AD&D and Dependent Life claims incurred under the terms of the plan.

Because it is a so-called "experience-rated" contract, the premium costs are affected by, among other things, the number and size of the claims. The total insurance premiums paid for the plan year ending June 30, 2002 were \$3,187,580 and the total of all benefit claims paid under the contract during the plan year was \$1,574,189.

Your Rights to Additional Information

Under ERISA, you have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, upon request. The item listed below is included in that report:

1. Insurance information.

Matching Plan, Basic Plan and the Supplemental Retirement Annuity Plan

This is a summary of the annual reports of The University of Pennsylvania Matching Plan (Plan No. 001), The University of Pennsylvania Basic Plan (Plan No. 028) and the Supplemental Retirement Annuity Plan of the University of Pennsylvania (Plan No. 002) sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania, EIN: 23-1352685, for the period July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002. The annual reports have been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

To facilitate publication, the summaries for all three plans have been combined within this summary. Consequently, portions of this summary may refer to a plan in which you are not currently participating.

Basic Financial Statement:

Matching Plan and Supplemental Retirement Annuity Plan

The plans have contracts with the providers TIAA-CREF and Vanguard which allocate funds toward group deferred annuities and mutual funds. Participants who have accounts with these providers deal directly with them when making transactions in their respective accounts. The providers render financial reports directly to the plan participants.

Basic Financial Statement: Basic Plan

Benefits under the plan are provided through allocated insurance contracts and a trust fund. Plan expenses were \$3,275,005. These expenses included \$335 in administrative expenses, \$260,396 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries and \$3,014,274 in premiums paid for the provision of benefits under individual policies. A total of 11,071 persons were participants in or beneficiaries of the plan at the end of the plan year.

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$31,261,458 as of June 30, 2002, compared to \$16,089,044 as of June 30, 2001. During the plan year the plan experienced an increase in its net assets of \$15,172,414. This increase includes net unrealized depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had total income of \$18,447,419, including employer contributions of \$21,724,762, employee rollover contributions of \$50,533, and earnings from investments of \$-3,327,876.

Your Rights to Additional Information

Under ERISA, you have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, upon request. The items listed below are included in that report for the University of Pennsylvania Basic Plan:

1. An accountant's report;
2. Financial information;
3. Assets held for investment;
4. Insurance information; and
5. Information regarding pooled separate accounts in which the plan participates.

Retirement Allowance Plan

This is a summary of the annual report for the Retirement Allowance Plan of the University of Pennsylvania (Plan No. 003) sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania, EIN 23-1352685, for the period July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Basic Financial Statement

Benefits under the plan are provided through a trust fund. Plan expenses were \$5,908,269. These expenses included \$593,320 in administrative expenses and \$5,314,949 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries. A total of 5,991 persons were participants in or beneficiaries of the plan at the end of the plan year.

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$132,378,190 as of June 30, 2002, compared to \$136,975,788 as of June 30, 2001. During the plan year the plan experienced a decrease in its net assets of \$4,597,598. This decrease includes net unrealized appreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had total income of \$1,310,671, including losses of \$3,532,255 from the sale of assets, earnings from investments of \$4,826,727 and other income of \$16,199.

Minimum Funding Standards

An actuary's statement shows that enough money has been contributed to the plan to keep it funded in accordance with the minimum funding standards of ERISA.

Your Rights to Additional Information

Under ERISA, you have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, upon request. The items listed below are included in that report:

1. An accountant's report;
2. Financial information;
3. Service provider information; and
4. Actuarial information regarding the funding of the plan.

Your Rights to Additional Information

To obtain a copy of any of the full annual reports, or any part thereof, write or call the office of the Plan Administrator, c/o Joanne M. Blythe, Retirement Manager, University of Pennsylvania, 3401 Walnut Street, Suite 527A, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6228, (215) 898-9947. The charge to cover copying costs will be \$5 for the full annual report or 25 cents per page for any part thereof.

You also have the right to receive from the Plan Administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of the assets and liabilities of the plan and accompanying notes, or a statement of income and expenses of the plan and accompanying notes, or both. If you request a copy of the full annual report from the Plan Administrator, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report. The charge to cover copying costs given above does not include a charge for the copying of these portions of the report because these portions are furnished without charge.

You also have the legally protected right under ERISA to examine the annual reports in the offices of the Employer at the address for the Plan Administrator, above, and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., or to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to: Public Disclosure Room, Room N-5638, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

Check Your Address: All faculty and staff are urged to review their current address information for accuracy. To view your address information as listed in the payroll system, go to the U@Penn website at <https://sentry.isc.upenn.edu/uatpenn>, or speak to your business administrator. If your address is incorrect, or you moved recently, please ask your business administrator to change your address in the payroll system. This change will be sent automatically to all health and welfare vendors by the Penn Benefits Center. Contact the Penn Benefits Center at 1-888-PENNBEN (1-888-736-6236) with any questions.

If you are participating in Penn's retirement plans, address changes in the Penn's payroll system are not automatically sent to the retirement vendors. You must submit your correct address directly to the appropriate vendor in writing at the following addresses: TIAA-CREF, P.O. Box 1268, Charlotte, NC 28201-1268, 1-877-736-6738; Vanguard, P.O. Box 1100, Attn: Plan No. 090578, Valley Forge, PA 19482-1101, 1-800-523-1188.

— Division of Human Resources

Update

MAY AT PENN

FITNESS/LEARNING

Morris Arboretum

Registration: (215) 247-5777, ext. 125

28 *Diagnosing Plant Pests*; recognizing common insect pests and using integrated pest management and beneficial insects; 10 a.m.-noon; \$48, \$43/members. Also June 4.

31 *Habitat Hunts, Microparks, and Other Adventures*; discovering and creating micropark filled with natural wonders; 1-3 p.m.; \$10, \$8/members.

A Peek at Penn's Past

(culled from old issues of Almanac)

This Month in Penn's History

40 Years Ago

5/63—An endowed professorship, the Gaylord P. Harnwell and Mary Louise Harnwell Chair, was established in honor of the atomic physicist's 10th anniversary as Penn's president.

5/63—The University sent out acceptances to 2,760 prospective freshmen for the 1,375 slots available; there were 5,200 applicants, according to Dean of Admissions William G. Owen.

5/63—Five faculty members won Guggenheim fellowships, including Dr. Loren C. Eiseley.

5/63—Dr. Roy F. Nichols, vice provost, dean of Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and professor of history [for whom Nichols House would later be named], was elected vice president of the American Philosophical Society.

30 Years Ago

5/1/73—Five faculty members were elected to the National Academy of Sciences, including Dr. Lawrence R. Klein, professor of economics [who would later go on to win the Nobel Prize].

5/1/73—Dr. Scott Nearing, W '05—an economics professor, who in 1915 was dropped from the faculty—was named Honorary Emeritus Professor of Economics by President Martin Meyerson. Dr. Nearing's termination and the subsequent controversy led to "academic freedom" and the growth of AAUP.

5/8/73—The School of Social Work building was to be dedicated on May 19 in honor of Harold J. Caster, '21, in recognition of the Caster Family Foundation gifts.

5/8/73—The Moore School of Electrical Engineering, where ENIAC was created, celebrated its 50th anniversary.

5/29/73—The University City New School was to open in the fall at 51st and Spruce Streets to provide an alternative, integrated curriculum.

20 Years Ago

5/10/83—Biology building was dedicated to Dr. David R. Goddard, architect of Pennsylvania's "second renaissance" in the biological sciences.

5/17/83—Author Chaim Potok, one of 1983's honorary degree recipients, spoke at the Baccalaureate ceremony for the 227th Commencement.

5/17/83—Groundbreaking ceremony for the addition to Hillel's facility on 36th Street, next to the Christian Association Building.

10 Years Ago

5/18/93—Hilary Rodham Clinton delivered the Commencement speech at the 237th Commencement.

5/11/93—Ongoing investigation of the removal of *The Daily Pennsylvanian* on April 15, 1993 and investigation of public safety practices took place.

5/25/93—A series of press conferences marked the conclusion of the controversial "Water Buffalo" case.

CLASSIFIEDS—PERSONAL

FOR RENT

Great Beach! Weekly rentals—Ocean City (Gardens) beachblock, reasonable, sleeps six, all conveniences, parking, call Steve (610) 565-1312.

On campus housing is available for visiting professors, researchers, and other official guests. Three types of accommodations to suit differing needs in the Sansom Place Guest Accommodations. For more information, contact Conference Services at confsvcs@pobox.upenn.edu or (215) 898-9319.

FOR SALE

1996 Dodge Intrepid for sale \$3500. 73,000 miles. Good condition with A/C. Call Mary, (610) 453-4878.

French Provincial Home in Gowen Estates section of Mount Airy: 503 Murdoch Road. 3 bedrooms, 2 and 1/2 bathrooms, 2 car garage, central a/c, custom kitchen and tiled sun porch. \$395,000. Call Anne (215) 247-4414. Easy commute to University City: 20 minutes by car or take R7.

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 **May 12-18, 2003**. Also reported were 12 Crimes Against Property (**including 10 thefts, 1 burglary and 1 act of vandalism**). Full reports are on the Web (www.upenn.edu/almanac/v49/n34/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 **May 12-18, 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.

05/12/03	1:16 PM	231 S 34 St	Complainant being harassed by unknown person
05/13/03	12:56 PM	Penn Tower	Unauthorized male in area/Arrest
05/13/03	10:28 PM	4000 Locust St	Complainant robbed by 3 unknown males
05/14/03	2:02 PM	3911 Walnut St	Unauthorized withdrawals made from account
05/14/03	8:19 PM	37th & Locust St	Complainant robbed/Arrest
05/14/03	11:01 PM	36th & Ludlow St	Complainant robbed by two unknown males
05/16/03	1:33 AM	200 42	Complainant robbed by two unknown males
05/16/03	7:32 AM	Civic & Convention	Bus driver struck by passenger/Arrest
05/16/03	1:48 PM	3911 Walnut St	Unauthorized withdrawals from account
05/17/03	5:36 PM	3915 Walnut St	Male stabbed guard while attempting to take items/Arrest

18th District Report

13 incidents and 1 arrest (including 9 robberies and 4 aggravated assaults) were reported between **May 12-18, 2003** by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th St. & Market St. to Woodland Ave.

05/12/03	6:45 AM	5119 Catherine St	Aggravated Assault
05/13/03	12:30 AM	3900 Baltimore Ave	Robbery
05/13/03	9:51 PM	4800 Pine St	Aggravated Assault
05/14/03	3:00 PM	3900 Chestnut St	Aggravated Assault
05/14/03	9:00 PM	4100 Market St	Robbery
05/14/03	10:25 PM	4000 Locust St	Robbery
05/14/03	10:54 PM	3600 Ludlow St	Robbery
05/15/03	12:05 AM	1 46th St	Robbery
05/15/03	7:45 PM	4700 Hazel Ave	Robbery
05/16/03	1:30 AM	200 42nd St	Robbery
05/16/03	1:30 AM	4100 Woodland Ave	Robbery
05/17/03	3:47 AM	3900 Chestnut St	Aggravated Assault
05/17/03	5:35 PM	3923 Walnut St	Robbery/Arrest

CLASSIFIEDS—UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH

Do you have Arthritis in Your Knees? Would you like to participate in a study designed to find out if Acupuncture may help you walk better and decrease the pain? The study compares real acupuncture with Acupuncture using needles that do not puncture the skin in patients who need physical therapy. Call Pat Williams for more information at (215) 898-3038.

Needed: Health volunteers (males: over 40, females: over 45) to investigate the process involved in plaque build-up in arteries. Participants will receive free physical health check-up, blood work, and two non-invasive procedures which measure plaque build-up EBCT (an electron beam CT scan of the arteries of the heart and an ultrasound of the neck arteries). Participants will be given placebo or FDA-approved study medications aspirin or Bextra (similar to Celebrex and Vioxx) for 2 years. Compensation: \$500 at study completion. Contact Barbara Tournier, RN, MSN at (215) 662-3311.

Are you nearsighted? Are other members of your family nearsighted? The Myopia Family Study is looking for **Chinese** families where some members are nearsighted and others are not. Involves free eye exam and 1 small blood sample; no drugs involved. Participants receive \$35 and \$20 gift certificate. Contact Lauren Reider at (215) 615-1551 or e-mail her at lreider@mail.med.upenn.edu.

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 out patient 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.

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 at (215) 746-8810 or Duncan at (215) 746-6908.

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

Almanac is not responsible for contents of classified ad material.



Almanac

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/

The University of Pennsylvania's journal of record, opinion and news is published Tuesdays during the academic year, and as needed during summer and holiday breaks. Its electronic editions on the Internet (accessible through the PennWeb) include HTML and Acrobat versions of the print edition, and interim information may be posted in electronic-only form. Guidelines for readers and contributors are available on request and online.

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ALMANAC ADVISORY BOARD: *For the Faculty Senate*, Martin Pring (Chair), Helen Davies, Mitchell Marcus, Phoebe Leboy, Lance Donaldson-Evans, Joseph Turow. *For the Administration*, Lori N. Doyle. *For the Staff Assemblies*, Michele Taylor, PPSA; Karen Pinckney, WPSA; David N. Nelson, Librarians Assembly.

The University of Pennsylvania values diversity and seeks talented students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds. The University of Pennsylvania does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, or status as a Vietnam Era Veteran or disabled veteran in the administration of educational policies, programs or activities; admissions policies; scholarship and loan awards; athletic, or other University administered programs or employment. Questions or complaints regarding this policy should be directed to the Office of Affirmative Action, 3600 Chestnut Street, 2nd floor, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106 or (215) 898-6993 (Voice) or (215) 898-7803 (TDD).

Transplant Cardiologists on Controlling Hypertension

Scientists and physicians studying heart failure should focus on crucial questions surrounding the control of hypertension and other vascular risk factors, say two experts in heart disease at Penn's School of Medicine, writing in the May 15 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

In their review of heart failure therapies, Dr. Mariell Jessup, and Dr. Susan Brozena, say that controlling those aspects of heart disease represents the best method of staving off the most common forms of heart failure in patients. The researchers acknowledge, however, that the illness will always remain "the final pathway for myriad diseases that affect the heart."

In their review, Dr. Jessup and Dr. Brozena examined national data from clinical trials, and mortality statistics for patients with both systolic heart failure (resulting from disease-weakened left ventricles), and diastolic heart failure (in which the heart contracts normally but cannot fully relax between beats).

The researchers, both members of the Heart Failure/Transplant Program at HUP, note in their review the dichotomy that exists between clinical study findings and overall mortality outcomes for the nation's heart-failure patients.

Formal clinical studies indicate a significant drop in mortality rates for patients admitted to hospitals with heart failure and dilated cardiomyopathy (disease-enlarged hearts); the lower death rates result from advances in drugs and other medical interventions, including beta-blockers, biventricular pacemakers, coronary bypass surgery and multi-disciplinary heart-failure teams.

For the same period, however, statistics from large epidemiological surveys show no meaningful change overall in heart-failure death rates. The Penn researchers note: "Symptomatic heart failure continues to confer a prognosis worse than the majority of cancers in this country, averaging a 45 percent one-year mortality."

They say the disparity between clinical findings and national statistics results, in part, because most patients enrolled in investigational drug trials have been, until recently, middle-aged white men with ischemic cardiomyopathy, which is loss of blood to part of the heart because of a constriction or blockage in blood vessels. They also note that therapies are not given to all heart-failure patients, and that for some patients, therapy is discontinued.

Heart failure is largely preventable through controlling blood pressure and other vascular risks, but until recently the factors that render a patient at-risk for heart failure had not been clearly identified or publicized.

New diagnostic guidelines for the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association have addressed the latter issue. They classify four progressive stages of heart failure, from Stage A, which identifies a patient with high risk but no apparent structural abnormality of the heart, to Stage D, in which the patient has end-stage symptoms of heart failure that do not respond to standard treatment.

They say intervention should begin with Stage A patients, noting: "Results from trials have shown that the effective treatment of hypertension decreases the occurrence of left ventricular hypertrophy and cardiovascular mortality, as well as reducing the incidence of heart failure by 30 to 50 percent."

Immersive Experience Without 3-D Goggles

Penn has installed a virtual reality system that allows a participant full-body interaction with a virtual environment without the hassle of bulky, dizzying 3-D glasses.

Key to the installation, dubbed LiveActor, is the pairing of an optical motion capture system to monitor the body's movements with a stereo projection system to immerse users in a virtual environment. The combination lets users interact with characters embedded within virtual worlds.

"Traditional virtual reality experiences offer limited simulations and interactions through tracking of a few sensors mounted on the body," said Dr. Norman I. Badler, professor of computer and information science and director of Penn's Center for Human Modeling and Simulation.

LiveActor users wear a special suit that positions 30 sensors on different parts of the body. As the system tracks the movement of these sensors as an actor moves around a stage roughly 10 feet by 20 feet in size, a virtual character—such as a dancing, computer-generated Ben Franklin can recreate the user's movements with great precision and without a noticeable time lag. The system can also project images onto the array of screens surrounding the LiveActor stage, allowing users to interact with a bevy of virtual environments.

While stereo projection systems have in the past been limited to relatively static observation and navigation—such as architectural walk-throughs, games and medical visualizations—LiveActor can be used to simulate nearly any environment or circumstance, chart user reactions and train users to behave in new ways.

LiveActor was made possible through a grant from the NSF with matching funding by SEAS as well as equipment grants from Ascension Technology Corporation and EON Reality.

Producing Mouse Eggs from Embryonic Stem Cells

Researchers at Penn have created the first mammalian gametes grown in vitro directly from embryonic stem cells. The work, in which mouse stem cells placed in Petri dishes—without any special growth or transcription factors—grew into oocytes and then into embryos, will be reported this week on the web site of the journal *Science*.

The results demonstrate that even outside the body embryonic stem cells remain totipotent, or capable of generating any of the body's tissues, said lead researcher Dr. Hans R. Schöler, professor of reproduction medicine and director of Penn's Center for Animal Transgenesis and Germ Cell Research of the School of Veterinary Medicine.

"We found that not only can mouse embryonic stem cells produce oocytes, but that these oocytes can then enter meiosis, recruit adjacent cells to form structures similar to the follicles that surround and nurture natural mouse eggs, and develop into embryos," said Dr. Schöler.

Dr. Schöler said oocyte development in vitro may offer a new way for embryonic stem cells to be produced artificially, sidestepping the ethical concerns articulated by President Bush and others. Implanting a regular nucleus from any of the body's cells into such an oocyte would yield a totipotent stem cell.

The Penn scientists pulled off this feat using a gene called Oct4 as a genetic marker. After the stem cells were plated in a regular Petri dish—densely but without special feeder cells or growth factors—the scientists used fluorescent markers linked to Oct4 and other telltale genes to assay oocyte development. After 12 days in culture, the cells organized into colonies of variable size. Shortly thereafter, individual cells detached from these colonies.

In the experiment described recently in *Science*, both male- and female-derived stem cells developed into female gametes. Dr. Schöler and colleagues now plan to test whether oocytes developed in vitro can be fertilized.

Dr. Schöler was joined in the research by Karin Hübner, James Kehrer, Rolland Reinbold, Rabindranath de la Fuente and Michele Boiani of Penn's School of Veterinary Medicine; Lane K. Christenson, Jennifer Wood and Jerome Strauss III from Penn's School of Medicine; and Guy Fuhrmann of the Centre de Neurochimie in France. The work was funded by the NIH, the Marion Dilley and David George Jones Funds, the Commonwealth and General Assembly of Pennsylvania and the Association pour la Recherche sur la Cancer.

Accruing 'Sleep Debts' With Inadequate Nightly Sleep

Sleep, don't be too sure you're getting enough of it. Those who believe they can function well on six or fewer hours of sleep every night may be accumulating a "sleep debt" that cuts into their normal cognitive abilities, according to research conducted at Penn's School of Medicine. What's more, the research indicates, those people may be too sleep-deprived to know it.

The study, published in the March 15 issue of the journal *Sleep*, found that chronically sleep-deprived individuals reported feeling "only slightly sleepy" even when their performance was at its worst during standard psychological testing. The results provide scientific insight into the daily challenges that confront military personnel, residents and on-call doctors and surgeons, shift workers, parents of young children, and others who routinely get fewer than six hours of sleep each night.

"Routine nightly sleep for fewer than six hours results in cognitive performance deficits, even if we feel we have adapted to it," said Dr. Hans P.A. Van Dongen, assistant professor of sleep and chronobiology in the department of psychiatry and corresponding author of the study. "This work demonstrates the importance of sleep as a necessity for health and well-being. Even relatively moderate sleep restriction, if it is sustained night after night, can seriously impair our neurobiological functioning."

Dr. David F. Dinges, professor of psychology in the department of psychiatry and chief of the Division of Sleep and Chronobiology, served as principal investigator for the study.

Dr. Dinges, Dr. Van Dongen and their colleagues looked at the effects of four hours nightly sleep and six hours nightly sleep on healthy volunteer subjects aged 21 to 38, over a two-week period. They compared the results of the subjects' accumulating performance deficits, determined by standard psychomotor vigilance and other cognitive tests, with similar test results obtained from subjects who had gone without sleep for more than three nights.

The first group of subjects experienced increasing lapses in psychomotor vigilance over days, resulting in a decline of performance that matched that of the subjects who went without sleep for 88 hours. At that level, the subjects suffered lapses in their ability to react that would put them at risk driving or flying an airplane. They were also less able to multi-task successfully.

Other scientists who worked on the study are Dr. Greg Maislin, also of Penn, and Dr. Janet M. Mullington, of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard University. The study was funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research of the NIH, National Center for Research Resources and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.