**Pulitzer Prize for History: Steven Hahn**

Dr. Steven Hahn, Roy F. and Jeannette P. Nichols Professor of American History, has been awarded the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for history for his book, *A Nation Under Our Feet: Black Political Struggles in the Rural South From Slavery to the Great Migration*. He is following in the footsteps of his chair’s namesake, Dr. Roy Nichols, the first Penn faculty member to receive a Pulitzer Prize.

Dr. Hahn is a specialist in the social and political history of 19th-century America, on the history of the American South and on the comparative history of slavery and emancipation. He is also the author of *The Roots of Southern Populism: Yeoman Farmers and the Transformation of the Georgia Upcountry, 1850-1890*, which received both the Allan Nevins Prize of the Society of American Historians and the Frederick Jackson Turner Award of the Organization of American Historians.

Dr. Hahn’s articles have appeared in *Past* (continued on page 3)

**Lindback Reception: April 22**

The Lindback Society cordially invites all members of the University community to attend a reception honoring the recipients of the Provost’s Awards and the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation Awards for Distinguished Teaching 2003–2004

Thursday, April 22
4:30—6 p.m.
Hall of Flags
Houston Hall

For biographical sketches of the 2004 Provost’s Award and Lindback Award winners see pages 4–5.
Association of Senior and Emeritus Faculty of School of Medicine

The University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine recently formed an association for its senior and emeritus faculty (Almanac February 24, 2004) and we believe this new group may be the first such association in the country specifically for medical school faculty. The new Association of Senior and Emeritus Faculty of the School of Medicine (ASEF) was officially established at its inaugural event on March 3 in the Austrian Auditorium (with the venerable Robert Austrian himself in attendance).

The inaugural event was well-received by its 75-plus attendees (that’s the number of participants, not necessarily their age!) and generated a high degree of enthusiasm for the new group. ASEF Council member Howard Goldfine, one of the prime movers in the formation of the group, summed up its mission, “As part of the Faculty 2000 initiative within the School of Medicine, the working group on Senior Faculty urged the administration to establish an organization devoted to the needs of senior and emeritus faculty so that they could be better informed about retirement and continue to feel connected to the school and the University after retirement.”

Much of the work of the Association will be carried out by members of its four standing committees, which will focus on Data Collection, Education, Service and Social Activities. In addition to emeriti, ASEF is open to any member of the standing or associated faculty in the School of Medicine who is 55 years of age or older, and the registration period for acceptance of founding members has been extended until April 15. The current founding membership list includes 216 (and counting) senior and emeritus faculty. Organizers of ASEF are very excited about the interest the group has generated thus far (they have even been contacted by the University to serve as a model for what Penn can achieve in this area on a larger, University-wide scale), and are happy to be contacted for further information.

To be added to the list of founding members, contact Lena Wetherbee at (215) 898-4621 or lenaw@mail.med.upenn.edu.

One of the primary goals of the new organization is to demystify school and University policies on retirement options and benefits. With this goal in mind, ASEF’s next event will take place on Tuesday, May 25 from 3-5 p.m. in the Class of ’62 Auditorium, John Morgan Building. Hilary Lopez, senior benefit specialist, Penn Human Resources, and Victoria Mulhern, executive director, Faculty Affairs and Professional Development in the School of Medicine, will offer an overview of FIAP (Faculty Income Allowance Plan), the Reduction in Duties policy, medical benefits after retirement, and other issues related to faculty retirement in the School of Medicine. They will also field audience questions on these topics. Please come join us.

President, Dr. John J. Mikuta
President Elect, Dr. Marvin E. Steinberg
Treasurer/Secretary, Dr. Marilyn E. Hess
Council Members:
Dr. Howard Goldfine
Dr. Nicholas A. Kefalides
Dr. Rob Roy MacGregor
Committee Chairs:
Education: Dr. Martin Pring
Service: Dr. Arthur F. Whreat
Data Collection: Dr. Peter H. Arger
Social Activities: Dr. Howard Goldfine and Dr. Anna Meadows
Administrative Support: Victoria A. Mulhern, Mary Field, and Lena Wetherbee,
in the Office of Faculty Affairs & Professional Development

—Dr. John J. Mikuta, ASEF President

SAS Dean Search Committee

President Rodin and Provost Barchi have announced the formation of a search committee to advise on selecting a successor to Dr. Samuel Preston, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, who has decided not to seek reappointment when his tenure as Dean ends on December 31, 2004. Eduard Glandt, the Robert D. Bent Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, has agreed to serve as the committee’s chairperson. Serving with him are:

Herman Beavers, Professor of English, SAS
Jere Behrman, W.R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Economics, SAS
Christopher Browne, C ’69 and Chair, SAS Board of Overseers
Michael X. Delli Carpini, Professor of Communication and Walter H. Annenberg
Dean, Annenberg School for Communication
Kevin Jude, Ph.D. student, Chemistry, SAS
Jeffrey Kallberg, Professor and Chair of Music, SAS
Jason Levine, Undergraduate, Economics, CAS ’05
Georgette Poindexter, David B. Ford Professor and Chair of Real Estate, Wharton
Lillian Weissberg, Christopher H. Browne Distinguished Professor in the Arts and Sciences, and Professor of German and Comparative Literature, SAS
Sally Zigmund, Professor of Biology, SAS
Raymond Simon of the Office of the Associate Provost will provide staff support to the committee.

Applications and nominations, along with a curriculum vitae, may be forwarded to Chair, School of Arts and Sciences Dean Search Committee, Office of the Associate Provost, 122 College Hall, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6303 or by e-mail to simonr@pobox.upenn.edu. Nominations and applications will be reviewed immediately and accepted until the position is filled.

Faculty Club Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Faculty Club will be held on Wednesday, May 12, at 4 p.m. in the Faculty Club. In addition to annual reports, the Nominating Committee will present its list of nominees for new Board members to be voted upon by the Members. Nominations to the Board of Governors: Susan Croll, School of Medicine
Beverly Edwards, Division of Human Resources
David Eisenhower, Annenberg School for Communication
Alan Laties, School of Medicine
Edward Shils, Wharton School

Please attend to support the Board of Governors who act on your behalf. We would be pleased to have Members join the Board in light refreshments after the meeting.

—Natalka A. Swavely, Coordinator, Faculty Club

Fulbright Scholar Program

Faculty and administrators are invited to apply for the Fulbright Scholar Program’s annual competition for lecturing, research and lecturing/research grants in over 140 countries. Each year 800 American scholars go abroad as part of the Fulbright Scholar Program. Retired and adjunct faculty frequently receive grants as well.

Traditional Fulbright awards vary from two months to an academic year or longer. While foreign language skills are needed in some countries, most lecturing assignments are in English.

Application deadlines for 2005-2006 grants are:
May 1, 2004—Fulbright Distinguished Chairs awards in Europe and Canada. A new chair in Israel has also been added.
August 1, 2004—Fulbright lecturing and research grants worldwide.
November 1, 2004—Spring/summer seminars in Germany, Korea and Japan for international education and academic administrators as well as for the summer German Studies Seminar.

Faculty can go to www.cies.org to apply online or to download application materials. The web site also has information about other Fulbright opportunities.

Clarification: Additional details and visuals were appended to last week’s coverage of the March 24 presentation to Council by Dr. Leslie Hudson, Vice Provost for Strategic Initiatives, that was transcribed and condensed from his extensive remarks. A link to his Power Point presentation is now available at www.upenn.edu/ almanac/v50/n28/council.html.
Deaths

Dr. Ralph Landau, Trustee Emeritus

Dr. Ralph Landau, ChE ’37, H ’93, Trustee Emeritus, a leading entrepreneurial innovator of the chemical and petrochemical industry, died on April 6 at the age of 87.

A University of Pennsylvania Trustee since 1977, Dr. Landau was chairman of Listowel, Inc. He was the co-founder of Halcon Scientific-Design Group which developed ethylene glycol by thermal hydration—the chief component of antifreeze and used in the process of making Dacon polyester fiber. Halcon went on to produce numerous other substances and Dr. Landau held a number of significant patents.

He was a senior fellow at the Stanford Institute for Research and a consulting professor of economics at Stanford. He was a retired director of the Aluminum Company of America. Dr. Landau earned an Sc.D. in chemical engineering at MIT in 1941, and holds honorary degrees from New York Polytechnic Institute, Clarkson College, and Ohio State University, in addition to Penn where he received an honorary Doctor of Science, for being an “imaginative engineer, self-trained entrepreneur, and hand-on economist.”

Formerly vice president of the National Academy of Engineering, Dr. Landau served on the National Research Council’s Governing Board. He was a fellow of the New York Academy of Sciences, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and was elected to the American Philosophical Society in 1996.

The recipient of over 50 awards and honors, Dr. Landau received both the Petroleum and Petrochemical Division and the Founders awards of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, in addition to the Chemical Industry Medal, the Perkin Medal, and the Wintrop-Sears Award for Chemical Entrepreneurship. In 1985, he received the National Medal of Technology, and, in 1987, the John Fritz Medal. In 1997, he was awarded the first Othmer Gold Medal of the Chemical Heritage Foundation. He was a life member emeritus of the MIT Corporation, a senior trustee of CalTech, former trustee of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, and former chairman of the Princeton University School of Engineering Advisory Council.

Dr. Landau was chair of the SEAS Board of Overseers, 1979-85 and continued on the board until 1985. At SEAS, he established the Ralph Landau Professorship in Management and Technology. He was also an overseer of the School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Landau was survived by his wife, Claire, and his daughter, Dr. Laurie J. Landau, WG ’84, V ’84, an overseer at the School of Veterinary Medicine.

To Report A Death

Almanac appreciates being informed of the deaths of current and former faculty and staff members, students, and other members of the University community.

Pulitzer Prize: Dr. Hahn (continued from page 1)

Dr. Ralph Landau, Trustee Emeritus

Dr. Karl von Vorys, Political Science

Dr. Karl von Vorys, professor of political science, died at home on April 1, at the age of 76. He was a political theorist who taught at Penn for over four decades.

Born in Germany, he came to the U.S. in 1948, received his B.A. degree from the College of Steubenville (now the Franciscan University of Steubenville) in 1950 and his MA, and PhD from Georgetown University 1953 and 1955 respectively. He became an assistant professor of political science at the University of South Dakota that year. He continued his education with fellowships from the Ford Foundation and the Social Science Council at the University of Iowa, University of Denver, and Harvard, before becoming a lecturer in 1961 in international relations at the University of Daica then in Pakistan. It shaped his intellectual perspective on the close tie between international and domestic politics and established his style of research that required knowing personally senior political decision-makers. His relationship with the President and other political leaders of Pakistan focused his interest on political development and the problems that foreign aid and contacts created as “an international demonstration effect of rising expectations, threatening political stability. He returned to the U.S. and joined the Center of International Studies at Princeton and completed his first major book, Political Development in Pakistan (1965).

He became assistant professor of political science at Penn in 1963, was promoted to associate professor in 1966, and in 1967 he accepted a position as Senior Advisor to the Ford Foundation in Malaysia for two years. Upon returning to the U.S. in 1969, Dr. von Vorys returned to Penn, becoming professor of political science in 1976. He undertook two major educational projects that he continued throughout the rest of his life. The first focused on undergraduates who had withdrawn from political life after Vietnam and Watergate. “Dr. von Vorys was determined to re-engage the young by bringing together the perspectives of academics and decision makers in the classroom,” said guest speakers including: Presidents Nixon, Ford, and George H.W. Bush; Senators Eugene McCarthy, George McGovern, and William E. Brock; press secretaries, media executives, reporters, journalists and military leaders. Students in the seminar usually spent an evening on an aircraft carrier and a military base. This semester, Feinberg and Colten 17 grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Donations may be made to St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude’s Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

McCabe Fund Fellows & Awards

The McCabe Fund Advisory Committee is responsible for overseeing a faculty in Medicine and Veterinary Medicine for the Thomas B. and Jeanette E. Laws McCabe Fund Fellow and Pilot Awards for 2004-2005. Junior faculty who are interested in applying for an award, should contact the chair of their department or contact Dana J. Napier, SOM Administration, at (215) 573-3221. The deadline for submission is May 21. The McCabe Fund Advisory Committee will announce the winners at its next annual meeting in June, 2004.

Last year’s McCabe Fellows: Dr. Tracy B. Biddle, animal biology, Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Martha Ochoa, psychology, biostatistics and epidemiology, and Dr. Xiao-Wei Xu, pathology and laboratory medicine.

Winners of the McCabe Pilot Project Awards were: Dr. Peter Gruber, surgery, Dr. Joshua Lipschatz, medicine, Dr. Una O’Dougherty, pathology and laboratory medicine, Dr. Sylvia Roes, medicine, Dr. Deborah Sesok-Pizzini, pathology and laboratory medicine.

The McCabe Awards were established in 1969 by a gift from Thomas B. McCabe to the School of Medicine to support junior faculty who initiate fresh and innovative biomedical and surgical research projects and who have received no or limited external research funding while in their first through four years at the School of Medicine or the School of Veterinary Medicine.

www.upenn.edu/almanac
Lindback and Provost’s Awards: Sketches of the 2004 Winners

Non-Health Schools

John Keene
Professor John Keene joined the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania in 1966. He currently chairs the Graduate Group in City and Regional Planning. While letters of praise from colleagues were noteworthy, the letters from students are truly impressive. A former student writes: “Of the numerous Penn professors who left an indelible mark on my undergraduate experience, Professor Keene is most certainly the leader,” while another states: “A good teacher is remembered long after the class has ended. These words best describe Professor Keene. Professor Keene has had an immeasurable impact on my personal and professional life.”

Students consistently reported that Professor Keene’s classes were rigorous, and demanding, and intellectually challenging, describing his lectures as “elegant.” A former student, now an urban planner, writes: “The impact of his scholarship goes beyond the four walls of the classroom. Many of my colleagues in international development continue to refer to his work for guidance.” And finally a student concludes: “Even at an institution as fine as the University of Pennsylvania, where the quality of teaching and the academic experiences are as high as they can be, Professor Keene stands out. No other professor in my entire academic career has held me to standards as high as those to which Professor Keene held me.”

David Skeel
Professor David Skeel came to the University of Pennsylvania in 1997 as a visiting professor and joined the faculty of the Law School in 1999. Professor Skeel is already the recipient of the Harvey Levin Award for Excellence in Teaching twice; in 1999 and 2002. Both students and colleagues agree that Professor Skeel has been a real asset to the Law School and a preeminently successful professor at Penn Law. His influence extends to the public realm, with his appearances on National Public Radio, Nightline, CNBC and numerous other programs attesting to the reach of his insights and commentary. In addition to being an expert in the fields of bankruptcy and corporate law, he is a published poet and has taught seminars in law and literature which students have characterized as “inspiring” and “transformative.” Several mentioned how he used a staging of Twelve Angry Men in his seminar to explore issues of morality in legal decision-making. At the end of one semester students composed a song about Professor Skeel and the course. With guitar accompaniment, they sang it to great applause, expressing the class’s admiration for him. Professor Skeel was instrumental in building bridges between the faculty and student body in an effort to create a real community of learning at the Law School.

Peter Struck
Dr. Peter Struck received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and joined the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania in the department of Classical studies in 1999.

He has pioneered in using new technology to teach classics, which a colleague describes as “the most impressive use of technology in teaching that I know.” The students agree noting: “The on-line unit, in combination with lectures and readings, made for an excellent learning environment.” Students repeatedly refer to him as “awesome.” Another student writes: “Professor Struck possesses a unique ability to captivate his audience while delivering challenging lectures. He even sang If I Were A Rich Man from Fiddler on the Roof as the best way to demonstrate the present contra-factual conditional. And there was dancing involved.”

A colleague who was sitting in on Professor Struck’s course describes the class as “perfectly brilliant.” “Professor Struck is a wonderful advocate for both the classics department at Penn and for scholars in general because he strives for excellence in his own work and in that of his students. Professor Struck is “one of the professors you remember years later as one who was challenging but fair, charismatic, enthusiastic about his subject. He deserves all the applause we can give him.”

He is a stellar teacher and truly deserving of the Lindback Award.

Santosh Venkatesh
Dr. Santosh Venkatesh received his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the California Institute of Technology and joined the faculty of the School of Engineering and Applied Science in 1991. He has pioneered in using new technology to teach classics, which a colleague describes as “the most impressive use of technology in teaching that I know.” The students agree noting: “Professor Venkatesh is one of the teaching gems in the department,” and describing him as “a brilliant and dedicated teacher.” He presided over the creation of a new undergraduate degree in Computer and Telecommunication Engineering and introduced the professional ethics seminar now required of students in electrical engineering. Students describe him coming to class with only a set of colored chalk and no notes at all. “This small detail of his instructional style, which involves using many different colors of chalk to illuminate blackboard writings reflects his larger approach to teaching: always make the extra effort to help students learn.” Another student writes: “There are many superb professors at Penn but no one I encountered pulled all the various aspects of teaching from expertly pacing classes to being remarkably available to students together as flawlessly as Dr. Venkatesh. His passion for teaching emerges during every lecture. Professor Venkatesh delivered the clearest and most organized lectures that I have ever attended. He is a visionary; his spirit makes me believe that in this world anything is possible.”

Provost’s Award
Edward Crotty
Dr. Edward Crotty was the head of the mathematics department at University City High School. After his retirement from the school district, he came to Penn to serve as assistant to the mathematics department’s undergraduate chair. As assistant to the chair, he has helped improve various departmental resources for calculus students. He currently serves as associate director of the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics. He has won the Departmental Good Teaching Awards every semester in the past 11 years. He is known among students for unusually difficult midterms and “mind-boggling” Maple projects. Professor Crotty’s rigorous exams pushed his students to set higher standards for themselves. “I learned more about Math from Ed Crotty than from any other teacher I have ever had, more importantly, I learned how teaching should be.” “He transformed my indifference toward math into enthusiasm.” “This is my fourth semester having him as a professor. I keep coming back, not only because of my own passion for the subject but because of Professor Crotty’s obvious passion for the subject.”

One student concludes: “It’s not too often that you get a math professor who can quote Shakespeare.” His dedicated teaching deserves recognition.

Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Awards—Awarded for Distinguished Teaching

The Lindback Awards for distinguished teaching are presented every year since 1961 with the help of the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Fund and principal of Abbotts Dairies Inc. The Lindback Award is given for distinguished teaching at college, university, and professional schools. The University of Pennsylvania normally gives one award in each of the following categories: those who have taught health-related disciplines and all other departments and divisions. Award winners are determined by a separate committee, one in the Health Schools, previous award winners and four students, carefully selected by a Foundation scroll and a cash award of $3,000. During Commencement.

During the 1970s, previous winners of the Lindback Award, which supported efforts to improve teaching and help after the actual presentation of the awards at Hey Day Lindback awards at a reception in late April. The Lindback Awards are awarded in conjunction with the College of Arts and Sciences and are published as “Talk About Teaching and Learning” in The News.

www.upenn.edu/almanac/4-2004/0104_303.html

The Provost’s Awards
In October of 1987, the Office of the Provost announced the awards—one in a Health School and one in a Non-Health distinguished award. One of the criteria for the award recipients are the same as those given for the awards. The first recipients for the Provost’s Award are the same. The first recipients for the Provost’s Award are the same.

www.archives.upenn.edu/histy/notables/awards/lindback.html

Lindback and Provost’s Awards: Sketches of the 2004 Winners

www.upenn.edu/almanac
Deborah Driscoll
Dr. Deborah Driscoll graduated from Smith College and received her M.D. from New York University. She joined the faculty of the Medical School at Penn in 1984. Dr. Driscoll was awarded the APGO Excellence in Teaching Award in 2000 and was also the recipient of the Penn Pearls Teaching Award from the School of Medicine in 2001. Students frequently refer to Dr. Driscoll as a role model, noting that she is highly approachable, takes a personal interest in her students’ education and learning, and communicates her genuine interest in the material. Several students mentioned their admiration for the way Dr. Driscoll was able to balance her professional and family life with her compassion for patients and for patients’ family members. A former student writes, “Dr. Driscoll proved to be an outstanding mentor, always available to me, supportive and encouraging of my work.” Another student notes that “the lecture she gave during Penn Preview weekend was actually one of the reasons I came to Penn Med.” Dr. Driscoll is a vital member of the medical and scientific community at Penn and is a national leader in her field. She has been instrumental in training a cadre of young geneticists. Students believe that “she does it all and does it all very well, and truly demonstrates the lasting impact that a Lindback Award recipient represents.”

Kenneth Ginsburg
Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg received his B.A. from Penn and his M.D. from Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He was awarded the Faculty Teacher of the Year Award at CHOP for “his dedicated efforts as a physician role model, mentor and friend,” and the Penn Pearls Teaching Award presented by medical students “for excellence in clinical teaching,” as well as the Blockley-Osler award “for excellence in teaching modern clinical medicine at the bedside.” The practice of the “art” of medicine is what sets Dr. Ginsburg apart as an award worthy educator. Students write that he is the most unique and most special about him is that he is not only a talented and deeply caring physician who fosters medical education but he is equally committed to fostering the personal growth of each patient, student, and resident that he encounters” writes a colleague. A student writes: “Perhaps the best thing that I can say about Dr. Ginsburg as a teacher is that he has inspired me to practice medicine the way he practices medicine.” Colleagues were equally enthusiastic noting: “During the years I have known him he has done everything that our best teachers and colleagues should do, brilliantly, skillfully, professionally, and responsibly. He regards teaching, research, medicine and life as cooperative ventures.” A former student concludes, “Ken Ginsburg has been the greatest influence I have had throughout my career.”

Corinne Sweeney
Dr. Corinne Sweeney came to Penn in 1978 as an intern and joined the faculty of the veterinary school in 1981. Dr. Sweeney is already the recipient of the Norden Distinguished Teaching Award and the Executive Board of Alumni’s Excellence in Teaching Award. She and her husband, Ray, were honored by being selected by the Class of ’03 to deliver the Commencement Address at the Vet School. Colleagues praised her contributions by noting that “as a role model, she has balanced family and career with civic duties, such as her local school board presidency that shows her interest in education and teaching as wildly distributed.” A former student writes: “Although it has been over 24 years since I have been in a classroom, I can clearly recall the infectious enthusiasm for the subject matter that Dr. Sweeney brought to her teaching. There is no doubt in my mind that the career path of many of my classmates has been influenced and altered by the distinguished teaching of Dr. Sweeney.” Her course evaluations are filled with superlatives: “the best professor I ever had,” “Absolutely love her! Can she teach all of our classes?” “Without question one of the best professors I have had at Penn.” “She is superb!” A colleague concludes “Clearly Dr. Sweeney has demonstrated outstanding service as a veterinary educator and is truly deserving of the Lindback Award.”

Brian Strom
Dr. Brian Strom is the George S. Pepper Professor of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, and is best known at Penn for his 20-plus year commitment to the development of epidemiology programs. The programs that Dr. Strom has developed are nationally prominent and have produced leaders in epidemiological research who head programs at Penn and other top institutions around the United States. One colleague writes: “Brian has excelled as a teacher and mentor for nearly 25 years, and his influence has had a major impact on the teaching of epidemiology, both at Penn and elsewhere.” Another peer comments: “He sets the bar high, but his own passion for research and teaching stimulate all of those around him to keep striving for excellence in our own work.” His colleagues and students alike agree that Dr. Strom is most deserving of the Lindback Teaching Award. His course evaluations from medical students have been consistently outstanding and students call his classes “incredible.” A former student notes: “Despite his love of pursuing rigorous academic epidemiologic question, his main concern is that his students get what they want out of their careers and more broadly out of their lives. Although I have had a number of excellent teachers at a number of schools, Professor Strom is in a different league.” He is simply an outstanding educator.

Corinna Sweeney
Ms. Deborah Becker has been a member of the School of Nursing faculty for nine years and is currently acting as Interim Director of the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Program. During her time at Penn, Ms. Becker has served in a broad range of roles including classroom lecturer, seminar leader, clinical preceptor, laboratory instructor, and program assistant. More notably, she has served as an expert critical care nurse role model for students who are considering a career in this field. Her passion for nursing is described as “infectious” and her mentoring of the students “unfailing.” Ms. Becker’s enthusiasm for teaching is well recognized by her students. One student writes: “She has the unique ability of making the most complex topics easily understandable for students, while keeping them actively engaged in conversation, and engrossed in scientific inquiry.” She holds a practical perspective and an innate ability to relate theory to true life practice. She demonstrates exceptional commitment to the students as well as to the School of Nursing. While highly admired by her students, Ms. Becker is equally respected by her colleagues. One colleague notes that she is articulate and “highly competent … with high internal standards about the need for excellence in teaching and critical care.” Another nursing school colleague writes “she is an asset not only to the School of Nursing but to the profession at large.”

Health Schools

Lindback Awards at the University of Pennsylvania:
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Provis’s Award
Deborah Becker
Ms. Deborah Becker has been a member of the School of Nursing faculty for nine years and is currently acting as Interim Director of the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Program. During her time at Penn, Ms. Becker has served in a broad range of roles including classroom lecturer, seminar leader, clinical preceptor, laboratory instructor, and program assistant. More notably, she has served as an expert critical care nurse role model for students who are considering a career in this field. Her passion for nursing is described as “infectious” and her mentoring of the students “unfailing.” Ms. Becker’s enthusiasm for teaching is well recognized by her students. One student writes: “She has the unique ability of making the most complex topics easily understandable for students, while keeping them actively engaged in conversation, and engrossed in scientific inquiry.” She holds a practical perspective and an innate ability to relate theory to true life practice. She demonstrates exceptional commitment to the students as well as to the School of Nursing. While highly admired by her students, Ms. Becker is equally respected by her colleagues. One colleague notes that she is articulate and “highly competent … with high internal standards about the need for excellence in teaching and critical care.” Another nursing school colleague writes “she is an asset not only to the School of Nursing but to the profession at large.”
Energy Conservation: Cooling Season Curtailment Steps

As part of the University’s on-going efforts to save energy and natural resources, the Department of Facilities and Real Estate Services plans to institute the same curtailments used last summer. Across campus, for the next several weeks, Facilities Services staff will be fine-tuning systems and adjusting temperatures from the heating season set point of 68 degrees to the cooling season set point of 78 degrees.

In many of the newer buildings this may be done remotely, however in the older buildings adjustments are typically made at the thermostats throughout the building. Therefore in older buildings, occupant’s are asked to please maintain the 78 degrees.

In the event of extreme heat—typically when outdoor conditions reach 94 degrees with 50 percent humidity—Facility Services staff will institute an action plan calling for the following:

- Institute rolling 30-minute shutdowns of some air-handling units with as much prior notification to the appropriate school officials as possible.

Thank you for your attention in reviewing these steps in preparation for the challenges of this cooling season. With your support and cooperation, we will again be successful in helping the University in this critical effort.

There are additional efforts that ISC is developing and coordinating with the IT Roundtable Committee and the IT Super Users Group. We will provide you additional updates on these initiatives when they are more fully developed.

—Omar Blaik, Senior Vice President, Facilities & Real Estate Services

Bike-to-Work/Bike-to-Class Day: April 22

The University City Bicycle Issues Forum invites residents, students and employees to take part in Bike-to-Work/Bike-to-Class Day Thursday, April 22.

Bike-to-Work/Bike-to-Class Day is being held to illustrate that bicycles offer an efficient way to get around University City, particularly during such events as Penn Relays when thousands of competitors and fans pour into University City. Bike-to-Class Day, April 22-24, and normal vehicular travel gives way to traffic jams, long commutes and short tempers.

To encourage bike use, Bike-to-Work/Bike-to-Class Day will feature free, daylong guarded bike parking at four University City locations with reflective vests and goodie bags for the first 300 participants. Folks can view demonstrations on bike safety and the correct usage of a SEPTA bus bike rack as well as sign up for drawings for one of three free used bikes.

The four bike parking areas, staffed with UCD ambassadors as well as volunteers from the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia and Neighborhood Bike Works, will be open from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Penn Public Safety Bike Patrol Officers will demonstrate on-bike policing skills and maneuvers starting at 12:30 p.m. at University Square, where from noon to 1 p.m. SEPTA personnel will show how to use the exterior bike racks featured on many of the new city buses.

At 1 p.m., at the Penn Bookstore, Patricia Vance, author of Intimate Bicycle Tours of Philadelphia, and a research specialist in the hematology department, School of Medicine, will give a talk about her new book and sign copies.

Also that day, which is the national celebration of Earth Day, the forum will host an informational table at the Earth Day fair on campus. The fair, scheduled from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. on College Green, is sponsored by the Penn Environmental Group to raise awareness of global environmental issues and showcases earth-friendly alternatives.

“We feel that Earth Day is the perfect opportunity to encourage commuters who may ordinarily use automobiles to bike in that day,” said John Madera of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission and chairman of the Bicycle Issues Forum.

Organized to promote the routine use of bicycles for urban transportation, the forum is comprised of representatives of the UCD, Penn, the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia, Neighborhood Bike Works, and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

For more information and a map showing the guarded parking locations, go to www.share-the-road.org.

—University City Bicycle Issues Forum

Open Enrollment Reminder: April 1–April 23

Open Enrollment for the 2004-2005 plan year began yesterday, Monday, April 12. You should have already received your personalized Open Enrollment materials at your home address. Visit the online enrollment website at www.pennbenefits.upenn.edu 24 hours a day between now and midnight on Friday, April 23 to make changes to your benefit elections.

Please note that if you are covering dependent children between the ages of 19 and 23 who are full-time college students, you must certify their continued eligibility each year during Open Enrollment. If you fail to do so, your student dependents will not continue to be covered under your plans. To certify a dependent’s eligibility, go to the Open Enrollment website at www.pennbenefits.upenn.edu and (1) click on the dependent’s name from the Summary page to update the student status to Yes, then (2) click on the benefit type for each plan you want to cover the dependent under (e.g., medical) and update the coverage for this dependent to Yes.

If you have any questions, please call the Penn Benefits Center at 1-888-PENN-NBEN (1-888-736-6236), Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–6 p.m.

—Division of Human Resources

Penn Vital Signs: April 17

Follow the story of a woman who decides to take control over her lifelong struggle with obesity. Learn how bariatric surgery can reduce the effects of obesity such as high blood pressure, joint pain, and diabetes.

For your health or the health of someone you love, don’t miss the University of Pennsylvania’s Emmy award-winning show, PENN Vital Signs, Saturday April 17 at 7 p.m. on 6 ABC.

Log onto www.pennhealth.com for a live chat with PENN clinicians during and after the show until 9:30 p.m.

—UPHS

EHRs: Laser Safety Training

Laser Safety Training for Biomedical Laser Users is scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. in BRB II/III room 251. (Please arrive early; sign in begins 15 minutes prior to start of session.) All faculty, staff and students working with Class 2 and Class 4 lasers are required to attend. Faculty, staff and students working with Class 3b and Class 3 lasers are encouraged to attend. Please register by e-mailing laser@ehrs.upenn.edu or call (215) 746-9446 with any questions.

The Office of Environmental Health & Radiation Safety (EHRs) develops and presents a variety of required training programs in live presentations or online formats. To determine which training programs you are required to take, review the section “Training Requirements” on the EHRs web site www.ehrs.upenn.edu/training/index.html.
Update

APRIL AT PENN

Whenever there is more than meets the eye, see our web site, www.upenn.edu/almanac/

CHANGE

Mythic Visions: Yarn Paintings of a Huichol Shaman at the Penn Museum will close May 2.

FILM

15 The Legacy of Malthus; documentary on population issues in India; 4:30 p.m.; rm. 425, Van Pelt-Dietrich Library (South Asia Studies).

FITNESS/LEARNING

20 A Job Hunting Workshop: Looking for a Job in a Tough Market?: resume writing, interviewing skills, and dressing for success; 6 p.m.; Penn Alexander School, enter at 43rd St. between Locust and Spruce Sts.; register: (215) 823-5288.

READING/SIGNING

14 Thura’s Diary: My Life in Wartime Iraq–Thuraya al-Windawi; COL ’07; 4:30 p.m.; Penn Bookstore.

16 Readings by Nora Amin; Egyptian playwright, author & poet; 4 p.m.; Class of ’33 Conference Rm, Van Pelt-Dietrich Library (Middle East Center).

TALKS

20 Structural Changes of Lipid Bilayers Induced by Membrane-active Peptides; The Mechanism of Antimicrobial Peptides; Huey Huang, Rice University; noon; rm. 2000, Valgels Research Labs (Institute for Medicine and Engineering).

Inaugural Louis H. Carter Endowed Lectureship; Michael Eric Dyson, religious studies; 6 p.m.; Harrison Auditorium, Penn Museum; RSVP: (215) 573-2648 (Social Work).

How the Hindus Became Jews: American Phenomena; Vijay Prashad, author and activist; 7 p.m.; Crest Room, ARCH Bldg. (Pan-Asian Community House).

Deadlines:

The deadline for the weekly Update is each Monday for the following week’s issue. The deadline for the May AT PENN calendar is today. See www.upenn.edu/almanac/calendar/caledad-real.html.

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 29-April 4, 2004. Also reported were 16 Crimes Against Property (including 16 thefts). Full reports are on the web (www.upenn.edu/almanac/v50/n29/crimes.html). Prior week’s 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 29-April 4, 2004. 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, we 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) 898-4682.

18th District Report

6 incidents and 3 arrests (including 3 robberies and 3 aggravated assaults) were reported between March 29-April 4, 2004 by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th St. & Market St. to Woodland Ave.

03/31/04 10:43 AM 231 S 34th St Complainant received threatening e-mails

03/31/04 11:05 AM 3925 Walnut St Male attempted to use stolen credit card/Arrest

04/01/04 9:28 PM 38th & Spruce Complainant robbed/Arrest

04/01/04 9:33 AM 3700 Walnut St Male obstructing passage/Arrest

Do you have colon cancer? Do you have a living brother or sister who also has colon cancer? If so, you may be eligible to participate in a genetics study at the University of Pennsylvania. You may receive free and confidential genetic testing. To find out more about this study, call the University of Pennsylvania at (215) 349-5317 or toll free at 1-888-666-6002.

Want to lose weight? The University of Pennsylvania’s Weight and Eating Disorders Program is offering a 1-year weight loss research study that combines group treatment with the use of a meal replacement product or a nutritionally balanced diet of regular food. You may be eligible if you are between 13 & 17 years of age, at least 30% over recommended weight, a non-smoker, and free of significant health problems. For more information please call Joanna at (215) 898-7314.

To place a classified ad, call (215) 898-5274.
Graduate Education at Penn: The Middle States Review

Peter Conn
Deputy Provost

Over the past two years, members of the Penn faculty, administration, and student community have devoted a considerable amount of attention to Ph.D. education. Most significantly, the new strategic plan puts a high priority on graduate education (an important shift in emphasis from the predecessor plan). The plan states, as one of Penn’s central goals, that the University aspires to “strengthen the quality and national visibility of Ph.D. education across all of Penn’s schools.” Penn’s “standing as a university of the first rank,” the plan continues, “depends in large part upon its reputation as a center of... Ph.D. education and its commitment to train a new generation of scholars-teachers.”

Simultaneously, the University has been preparing for two separate but related external reviews: the decennial assessment of graduate programs, conducted by the National Research Council (NRC); and the decennial accreditation review, conducted by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

Our ultimate purpose, as the strategic plan makes clear, is to strengthen Penn’s graduate programs across the nine schools that offer the Ph.D. Since the future choices we will make must be informed by full knowledge of our current practices, we chose to make graduate education the focus of our Middle States review.

The Middle States review entails a detailed self-study. Professor Walter Licht, professor of history and associate dean of graduate studies in the School of Arts and Sciences, has led this effort. We organized our investigation under six headings, each of which was assigned to a committee:

- degree requirements, rules and regulations (Rebecca Bushnell, chair);
- preparation for teaching (Dennis DeTurck, chair);
- support systems for graduate students (Janice Madden, chair);
- admission systems, and placement strategies (John Monroe, chair);
- performance measures and quality review of graduate programs (Herb Smith, chair);
- administrative and financial structuring of graduate education (Dwight Jaggard, chair).

(A list of all the sub-committee members is contained in the report.)

These sub-committees met regularly over the academic year 2002-03. In addition, a steering committee, consisting of the six sub-committee chairs and convened by Professor Licht, also met to guide the work of the sub-groups and eventually to draft the self-study report. To support their inquiries, the sub-committees made extensive use of statistical data and surveys that were distributed to all of Penn’s graduate chairs. The steering committee also conducted extensive interviews and held several public meetings with faculty and graduate students.

The report which the steering committee has produced is available for comment at: www.upenn.edu/grad/selfstudy.html. This document distills the work of the six committees, including their recommendations for change. This represents the most extensive inquiry into Penn doctoral education undertaken in the past thirty years. We now know more than we ever have about graduate education at this University. The findings and recommendations in this document will have substantial implications for the future of graduate education at Penn.

To convey something of what the report contains—and what it does not—let me quote a few paragraphs from the prefatory essay.

“Key factors lie outside the charge and purview of this study. For one, the strength and reputation of our graduate programs obviously rest on the excellence of the faculty. That premise did not require investigation and recommendations would be superfluous: sustaining faculty distinction is the primary agenda of the University. Second, the health of graduate studies at Penn and elsewhere is shaped by forces far beyond the control of educational institutions. The state of the job market affects both the quantity and quality of applications to graduate programs as well as the morale of students and faculty; this in turn has an impact on time to degree. Similarly, the financing of graduate education is influenced by general economic conditions and by endowment performance of universities and outside private agencies. Finally, of course, politics and the fiscal solvency of the federal government have direct consequences for all of higher education, including doctoral studies.

“If this report stops short of fundamental or revolutionary findings and proposals, nonetheless it provides a systematic and detailed scrutiny of our current policies and practices—the most comprehensive appraisal of the past thirty years. At the same time, it includes dozens of specific recommendations which, if implemented, will substantially improve the quality of Penn’s doctoral programs.

“Stated summarily, these concrete suggestions can be categorized into the following propositions. The University should:

- Strengthen the federal system of governance, with improved cross-school information systems and a more robust centralized review process that utilizes systematic performance measures;
- Facilitate cross-school collaborations in admissions, recruitment, curriculum, and alumni relations;
- Encourage curricular experimentation which acknowledges the different pedagogical needs of our diverse graduate programs;
- Improve the clarity of program expectations and requirements for students;
- Universalize best practices in mentoring students, monitoring their academic progress, their training as teachers, and post-degree placement; and
- Examine alternative tuition cost arrangements (e.g., credit unit vs. annual tuition charges).”

I urge all of Penn’s faculty and students, and in particular those directly involved in Ph.D. training, to read the report and respond to the steering committee at the e-mail address included there.