

# Almanac

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## Director of the Abramson Cancer Center: Craig Thompson



Craig Thompson

Dr. Craig B. Thompson, has been named the new Director of the Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania and Associate Vice President for Cancer Services of the University of Pennsylvania Health System. The Abramson Cancer Center is one of only 39 NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers in the U.S. and one of the top five in National Cancer

Institute (NCI) funding. Last fiscal year, over 50,000 outpatient visits, 3400 inpatient admissions, 24,000 chemotherapy treatments, and more than 65,000 radiation treatments came through the Abramson Cancer Center (ACC). In his new position, Dr. Thompson will direct all clinical divisions of the ACC which include: the Rena Rowan Breast Center; the Melanoma and Pigmented Lesion Program; the Head and Neck Cancer Program; Neuro-Oncology; Urologic Oncology; Surgical Oncology; Radiation Oncology; Gynecologic Oncology; Gastrointestinal Cancer; and hematologic cancers such as leukemia, lymphoma, and myeloma.

As Director, Dr. Thompson will oversee 300 active cancer researchers and 299 full-time Penn physicians and faculty from eight schools and 41 departments across the University involved in cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. He will be responsible for \$180 million in grant funding for cancer research and training, including \$83.4 million in NCI funding.

His additional clinical duties will include heading the Penn Medicine Cancer Steering Committee and the Penn Cancer Network. The Abramson Cancer Center is the cornerstone of the Penn Cancer Network, which is the group of community hospitals throughout Pennsylvania and New Jersey collaborating with the ACC to provide subspecialty care not usually available at most community hospitals, as well as the vast research and technological resources for patient care throughout the region.

"Dr. Thompson was selected for this position because of his reputation for excellence as a pioneer in cancer research, an exceptional educator, and above all, his career-long dedication to finding new approaches to treating and curing cancer," said Dr. Arthur H. Rubenstein, EVP of the University of Pennsylvania for the Health System and Dean of the School of Medicine.

Dr. Thompson, earned his M.D. at Penn in 1977 and returned to Penn in 1999 as a professor of medicine, scientific director of The Leon-

ard and Madlyn Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute (the basic science branch of Penn's Cancer Center), and Penn's first chair of the department of cancer biology. He will continue to serve in both of these positions in addition to his new appointment.

"This is a very exciting time for Penn with the construction of a proton therapy treatment facility and the Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine, which is to house all prevention, diagnostic, treatment, and support cancer services in a single patient-centered environment," said Ralph M. Muller, CEO of UPHS.

Board certified in internal medicine and medical oncology, Dr. Thompson has also served as Deputy Director of the Abramson Cancer Center since 1999. Last year, he was selected as a member of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences, an honor awarded to only four cancer scientists in 2005.

Dr. Thompson currently serves as Chairman of the Medical Advisory Board of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Vice Chairman of the GM Cancer Research Prize Committee, a member of the Lasker Prize Jury, and as an Associate Editor of *Cell*, *Science*, *Immunity*, and *Cancer Cell*. In the past, Dr. Thompson has served as the Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Damon Runyon/Walter Winchell Cancer Foundation, Chairman of the Board of Scientific Counselors of the National Cancer Institute, and a member of the Experimental Immunology Study Section of the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Thompson is the holder of a number of patents related to immunotherapy and apoptosis, and is a founder of two biotechnology companies. In addition to the National Academy of Sciences, Dr. Thompson is an elected member of the Institute of Medicine, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Society for Clinical Investigation, and the American Association of Physicians.

Dr. Thompson, has named Dr. Caryn Lerman, deputy director, and Dr. Joseph R. Carver, chief of staff. For the last five years, Dr. Lerman has served as director of the Transdisciplinary Tobacco Use Research Center at Penn and director of Cancer Control and Population Sciences in the Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute. Dr. Carver has been a clinical professor of medicine since 2003. He currently serves as the senior administrative officer of the Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute and is a member of the Division of Cardiology. He will continue to hold both of these positions while serving as the chief of staff.

Joining the Abramson Cancer Center's new administrative team is Mr. Robert F. Wynne, who will join the Center as the director of financial and administrative affairs. In this new position, he will provide financial oversight over the combined activities of the Abramson Cancer Center and the department of cancer biology.

## UPHS Vice President & SOM Associate Dean: John Glick



John Glick

Dr. John H. Glick has been appointed as Vice President of the University of Pennsylvania Health System and Associate Dean of the School of Medicine for Resource Development, effective immediately. "While stepping down from an extraordinary 21 years as head of the Abramson Cancer Center, it is John's wish to continue his strong support of

Penn Medicine by helping to increase external support for our many initiatives," said Dr. Arthur H. Rubenstein.

In this new role, Dr. Glick will report jointly to Dr. Rubenstein and Ralph W. Muller, UPHS CEO and work closely with the clinical chairs, Armando Chardiet and Susan Phillips on fundraising and advocacy to advance the resource base of Penn Medicine. He will continue to serve as President and Director of the Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute.

"John has been an extraordinary ambassador for Penn for more than 30 years, as a physician treating thousands of patients and as a strong fundraiser for the Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine along with his longstanding role in securing support of the Cancer Center. He is well recognized in Harrisburg and Washington, DC as an expert on the funding of cancer treatment and the broader purposes of Penn Medicine," Dr. Rubenstein added.

Dr. Rubenstein concluded, "We are exceptionally pleased that John's decision permits PENN Medicine to retain his exceptional skills as a clinician, scientist, leader and University citizen."

Dr. Glick received his medical degree from Columbia University and is board certified in internal medicine and medical oncology. He is the Leonard and Madlyn Abramson Professor of Clinical Oncology and professor of medicine at the School of Medicine. Dr. Glick served as director of the Abramson Cancer Center since 1985.

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The following agenda is published in accordance with Faculty Senate Rules. Any member of the standing faculty can attend SEC meetings and observe. Questions may be directed to Sue White, executive assistant to the Senate Office, either by telephone at (215) 898-6943, or by e-mail at senate@pobox.upenn.edu.

## Faculty Senate Executive Committee Agenda

Wednesday, September 27, 2006  
Room 205 College Hall, 2:30–5 p.m.

1. Welcome and introductions (10 minutes)
2. Approval of the Minutes of May 17, 2006 (2 minutes)
3. Chair's Report (10 minutes)
4. Past-Chair's Report on Academic Planning and Budget & Capital Council (3 minutes)
5. Overview of the Budget Process (45 minutes)
  - Presentation by Bonnie Gibson,  
Vice President, Office of Budget & Management Analysis
6. Vote for U.C. Steering faculty members (5 minutes)
7. Vote for Penn Social Responsibility Advisory Committee (SRAC) faculty members (5 minutes)
8. Senate Nominating Committee (10 minutes)
9. University Council Committee Update (10 minutes)
10. Faculty Senate Committee Charges for 2006-2007 Committees (20 minutes)
11. New Business
  - Consultation Topics
  - Future meeting priorities

## Deaths

### Dr. Henle, Pediatrics

Dr. Gertrude Henle, professor emerita of virology in pediatrics at the School of Medicine, died September 1 in Newtown Square, PA; she was 94. She had been a pioneering virus researcher at CHOP for 46 years.



Gertrude Henle

Born in 1912 in Mannheim, Germany, Dr. Henle earned her medical degree from the University of Heidelberg in 1936. She met Dr. Werner Henle in Heidelberg and married him after emigrating to the U.S. in 1937. That same year, they both joined the Penn microbiology department and undertook virus research at CHOP. She collaborated with her husband in groundbreaking research at CHOP from 1941 until 1987. The National Library of Medicine, part of the National Institutes of Health, called the Henles "a prodigious force in virology, immunology and viral oncology during the second half of the twentieth century."

Dr. Henle was promoted to instructor in bacteriology in 1941 and then promoted to assistant professor of virology in 1951. She became full professor in 1965. The Henles retired from the faculty in 1982 but continued to conduct research at CHOP until 1987.

In 1943, the Henles demonstrated the effectiveness of an influenza vaccine. They also developed a diagnostic test for mumps and collaborated with Dr. Joseph Stokes, Jr. in using gamma globulin to combat infectious hepatitis. Their work on viral infections laid the groundwork for scientists to later discover interferon. The Henles were particularly notable for studying Epstein-Barr virus, first demonstrating that the virus was linked to mononucleosis, and later showing that the virus contributed to two types of cancer.

Dr. Henle was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1979; at the time she was one

of relatively few female members of that organization. With her husband, she received many honors, including the Bristol-Myers Award for Distinguished Achievement in Cancer Research, the Mead Johnson Award for Research in Pediatrics, the Robert Koch Medaille (awarded by the German government), the Virus Cancer Program Award of the National Cancer Institute and the Gold Medal of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, awarded in 1983.

Dr. Henle has no survivors. Her husband died in 1987.

### Mr. Manley, Former VP Fin. & Treasurer



Harold Manley

Harold E. Manley, former vice president of finance and treasurer, died June 18 at age 89.

Mr. Manley served Penn for 43 years, broken only by his World War II stint as first sergeant in the Army Finance Corps, 1943-46. Mr. Manley came to Penn as an assistant bookkeeper in 1938, enrolling also

in Wharton Evening School, where he received a certificate of proficiency in accounts and finance just before leaving for war duty. On his return as assistant controller in 1946, he earned his bachelor's degree from Wharton in 1951. He was appointed controller in 1954 and business manager in 1961. Two years later he became Penn's chief financial officer on his election as vice president. The additional post of treasurer was added in 1975. Mr. Manley retired from Penn in 1981.

Mr. Manley is survived by his children, Thomas H., Constance M. Hershey, and Sally M. Helfand; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Contributions may be made in Mr. Manley's name to Covenant United Presbyterian Church, 400 West Lancaster Avenue, Malvern, PA 19355.

## Agenda for University Council Meeting

Wednesday, September 20, 2006, 4 p.m.

Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall

- I. Appointment of a Moderator: 1 minute.
- II. Announcement of appointment of a Parliamentarian: 1 minute.
- III. Approval of the minutes of May 3, 2006: 2 minutes.
- IV. Follow-up comments or questions on Status Reports: 5 minutes.
- V. Selection and ranking of focus issues for University Council for the academic year: 20 minutes.
- VI. Council Committees: 15 minutes.
- VII. Open Forum (no issues)

To place an item on the agenda for the next Open Forum, submit it to Vince Price, Steering Committee Chair, senate@pobox.upenn.edu by September 27, 2006.

VIII. Adjournment by 5 p.m.

### Mr. Merkel, Van Pelt-Dietrich Library

Mr. John W. Merkel, a member of the University Libraries' staff for 43 years, died on August 27 at the age of 61.

Mr. Merkel started work in the Library in 1963 as a stack attendant and was promoted to the Current Periodicals/Microtext Desk where, as a senior library service assistant, he was responsible for overseeing the work of many student assistants over his long years of service to the University. Valerie Peña, director of the Health Sciences Libraries, comments that "Mr. Merkel is remembered by all who knew him as kind-hearted, generous and thoughtful, a loyal and diehard Flyers and Quakers fan, and a passionate lover of plants and flowers."

Mr. Merkel is survived by his "adopted" family, Bernie and Helen Chalmers; and their children, Allyson, Bridgette, and Evan. A memorial service is scheduled for September 21 at 10 a.m. in the Class of 1955, 2nd fl. Van Pelt-Dietrich Library.



John Merkel

### Memorial: Mr. Freedman

The Law School will hold a memorial service for James O. Freedman, former dean of the Law School, on October 3 at 4 p.m. in the Levy Conference Center. Mr. Freedman died March 21 (*Almanac* March 28, 2006). He was the dean from 1979-1982 and a faculty member from 1964-1982. RSVP to [agavin@law.upenn.edu](mailto:agavin@law.upenn.edu) or (215) 898-9496.

### 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.

However, notices of alumni deaths should be directed to the Alumni Records Office at Room 545, Franklin Building, (215) 898-8136 or send via e-mail [record@ben.dev.upenn.edu](mailto:record@ben.dev.upenn.edu).

## Coverage of the Stated Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Trustees

At the Stated Meeting of the Trustees' Executive Committee on September 14, Chair James Riepe welcomed Eric Kaplan (*Almanac* September 12) back to Penn as Associate Secretary.

President Amy Gutmann noted that the Class of 2010 is not only the most selective and diverse but enthusiastic as demonstrated at the rainy Convocation. SAS has 40 new faculty recruits bringing their faculty total up to 495. Two new science buildings are opening this semester: veterinary medicine's Hill Pavilion and engineering's Skirkanich Hall (*Almanac* July 11). The state-of-the-art Platt Performing Arts House will open next month. The President said there had been a moving vigil commemorating the 5th anniversary of 9/11 which underscored the importance of universities in maintaining a free and open society. She mentioned that this is the second year of the 'quiet phase' of the Campaign. Penn Connects has won two awards.

Provost Ron Daniels focused on a Global Initiative in Botswana that the School of Medicine has been involved with for the past five years, providing clinical support and education for doctors where 38% of the adult population is HIV positive. He also mentioned that SEAS has recruited more than ten faculty, three of whom are women.

### 2006 Provost's Award for Distinguished Ph.D. Teaching and Mentoring

Excellence in Ph.D. education is the hallmark of a great university. That excellence, in turn, depends upon the skill and commitment of faculty mentors. The Provost's Award for Distinguished Ph.D. Teaching and Mentoring was established in 2003-2004. Designed specifically to honor faculty who mentor Ph.D. students, this prize is intended to underscore the University's strategic emphasis on graduate education, by celebrating the accomplishments of faculty who show special distinction in doctoral education.

The selection committee was composed of awardees from previous years: Stuart Curran, Lila Gleitman, Michael Nusbaum, and Amos Smith. The committee evaluated the nominees based on the letters of recommendation from former students, faculty colleagues, and from the wider research community. Among the qualities considered were a long-standing active participation in graduate education, distinguished research, success in collaborating on doctoral committees and graduate groups, the ability to attract outstanding doctoral students, and a record of successful doctoral placements.

This year's winners are: Charles Bosk, professor of sociology and Arthur H. Johnson, professor of earth and environmental science.



Charles Bosk



Arthur Johnson

A reception in honor of Dr. Bosk and Dr. Johnson will be held on Monday, October 9 at 5 p.m. in the Graduate Student Center. Members of the Penn community are invited.

EVP Craig Camaroli's Financial Report for the year ending June 30, 2006 showed that it was a very successful year both for the University and the Health System. The total net assets for the Consolidated budget increased by \$940 million to \$7.328 billion since last year. Net assets from operating activities increased by \$239.4 million compared to \$77 million the prior year. Net assets from non-operating activities increased \$700.9 million as compared to a gain of \$423.2 million. The total endowment value as of June 30 is \$5.166 billion, a \$797 million increase.

In Dr. Rubenstein's Penn Medicine Report, he noted that Penn is again #2 in NIH funding. UPHS is strong both operationally and financially.

The Facilities and Campus Planning Committee had heard a presentation by architects David McHenry and Scott Erdy concerning the private project on the 3900 block of Walnut, on a 65-year ground lease from Penn. The building will be developed and operated by Atlanta-based University Partners and will contain some 250 apartments geared toward students as well as retail space and a restaurant. The plan calls for groundbreaking next spring and the building is scheduled to open in fall '08.

The Budget and Finance Committee presented

Excerpts from the letters in support of the awardees provide a glimpse into the qualities that make for outstanding mentoring:

"Chuck has supported and guided my career in several ways. He is foremost a gentle, sympathetic, and careful listener. His responses are often brief, but unfailingly illuminating. He has a talent for analyzing questions and concerns and being able to see beyond what the student thinks she needs to know and addressing instead what lies beneath the concern. A few comments from Chuck can transform an apparently immovable research obstacle into a rare opportunity. While it is his years of experience and impressive intelligence that allow him to see to the heart of an issue so consistently, what I have learned from working with him over the years, and what I have tried to emulate in advising my own students is quite simply to listen." Another writes, "he is an extraordinary teacher and mentor and every graduate student knows that he is the person to turn to when they need support."

"I met Art while excavating a 45-million year-old fossilized log in the remote polar tundra of the Canadian arctic. I was an undergraduate at the time... My first conversation with Art occurred while we were driving pickaxes and shovels into the frozen soil. He clued me into the implications of finding a productive redwood forest a stone's throw away from the north pole, that as global warming becomes an ever-present concern, we need to turn to the past environment to foresee the future ecological consequences. I was instantly struck with the honorable feeling that I was being involved in some highly innovative, cutting-edge research. But the conversation was not confined to science, we also talked about literature, Inuit culture, Canadian beer and how darned cold it was outside. He was certainly not an academic caught up in the world of his own science, but a true Renaissance mind capable of comprehending all facets of the world. I was hooked. I was in. And thus began a mentorship that continues to my present graduate student career... Art is a nonchalant, easy-going mentor who expects nothing but the most chop-busting, highest-caliber scientific work from his students."

the seven resolutions it had approved at its meeting: to authorize the revised scope and budget for the design and construction of the Annenberg Public Policy Center for an additional \$7 million for a total revised budget of \$29 million; to authorize the design and construction of facilities for the School of Veterinary Medicine's New Bolton Center at a cost of \$14.35 million; to authorize a lease for the School of Medicine at Presbyterian for \$3.7 million; the School of Medicine's purchase of a 3T magnet to be located in Stellar-Chance, replacing an old MRI system for \$2.5 million; the SEAS Towne Building lab and HVAC renovations for \$1.5 million; the design and construction of the Maloney Building ground floor renovations of \$4.14 million as well as Maloney 8th floor ITMAT renovations of \$2.26 million.

## Speaking Out

### Teach-In on War in Iraq

More than three years after the U.S. government started an unprovoked invasion of Iraq, U.S. forces continue to occupy Iraq, with devastating consequences for both Iraq and the U.S.—even though 61% of Americans and 85% of Iraqis wish to end the occupation (according to recent polls). Rather than promote an open exchange of information, this most secretive of U.S. administrations has ignored, trivialized, and demonized dissent. But the current election season gives us the opportunity to raise the Occupation of Iraq as a significant issue for serious discussion in the public sphere.

An informal group of Penn Faculty and Staff Against War on Iraq has therefore organized a campus Teach-In on the Occupation, for September 19-September 21. Each evening will offer a discussion at 6 and a film at 8.

Tonight, a panel of political scientists and historians discusses *How Did We Get Into a Prolonged War in Iraq?*; tomorrow's panel is on *How is Occupation Impacting the US and Iraq?* and Thursday's panel is on *How Can Concerned Citizens Respond?* More info. is at <http://tinyurl.com/kbzjn>.

We request your support for this event. Co-sponsors, endorsers, and supporters are welcome. Please visit our website and get in touch if you would like to co-sponsor or help fund this program (contact: [teach-in@ccat.sas.upenn.edu](mailto:teach-in@ccat.sas.upenn.edu)).

Most importantly, please let your students know about this opportunity.

Faith Anderson, Library  
Peggy L. Curchack, Career Services  
Beverly Dale, Christian Association  
Ed Herman, Finance, Wharton  
Sharon Hurley, Center for Sleep, SOM  
Amey Hutchins, Rare Books Library  
Amy Kaplan, English  
Leszek Kubin, Vet. Med.  
William Laftaur, East Asian Lang. & Civ.  
Andrew T. Lamas, Urban Studies  
Shannon Lundeen, Alice Paul Center  
Ann Elizabeth Mayer, Legal Studies  
Felicity Paxton, CPCW & Women's Studies  
Jerilynn Radcliffe, Pediatrics  
Michelle Richman, Romance Languages  
Marilyn Silberberg, CAPS  
Ellen Slack, Lippincott Library  
Rogers M. Smith, Political Science  
Jay C. Treat, SAS Computing  
Ingrid Waldron, Biology  
and many others

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

Below are the latest University Research Foundation Award Guidelines, revised as of September 30, 2005. The Guidelines and additional information may be found online at [www.upenn.edu/research/FoundationGuidelines.htm](http://www.upenn.edu/research/FoundationGuidelines.htm). For the recipients of the Fall 2005 awards, see Almanac March 21, 2005. The recipients of the Spring 2006 Awards were published in Almanac July 11, 2006, which is also available online at [www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v53/n01/awards-rf.html](http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v53/n01/awards-rf.html).

## University Research Foundation Award Guidelines: November 15

### Statement of Purpose and Guidelines

The University Research Foundation (URF) is an intramural resource to support faculty research for a variety of purposes, including:

- Helping junior faculty undertake pilot projects that will enable them to successfully apply for extramural sources of funding, and aid in establishing their careers as independent investigators.
- Helping established faculty perform exploratory research, particularly on novel or pioneering ideas, to determine their feasibility and develop preliminary data to support extramural applications.
- Providing support in disciplines where extramural support is difficult to obtain and where significant research can be facilitated with internal funding.
- Providing limited institutional matching funds that are awarded contingent upon a successful external peer-reviewed application that requires an institutional match.
- Providing, under compelling circumstances, established investigators with funds to support a well-justified gap in extramural support or a documented unanticipated short-term need.

### Scope

*Disciplines.* The URF supports research in all disciplines, including international research. For purposes of review, applications are assigned to four broad disciplinary areas: Biomedical Sciences, Humanities, Natural Sciences and Engineering, and Social Science and Management, [www.upenn.edu/research/ReviewPanels.htm](http://www.upenn.edu/research/ReviewPanels.htm).

*Term.* Grants are given for a single year only. Applications for a renewal of a previously funded project may be submitted but usually receive low priority. Funds must be spent within 12 months of the beginning of the grant, and may not be “banked” for future use. Unexpended funds must be returned to the Foundation. If justified in writing, carryover of unexpended funds may be approved by the Vice Provost for Research. Request for carryover of unexpended funds should be made prior to the expiration of an award.

*Budget.* Applications up to \$50,000 will be entertained.

*Eligibility.* Eligibility is limited to University faculty, in any track, at any professorial level. Instructors and Research Associates may apply but need to establish (by letter from the Department Chair) that the applicant will receive an appointment as an Assistant Professor by the time of the award.

*Conference Support.* Scholarly conferences of a research nature will be considered for funding at the level of up to \$3,000 per conference (see *Conference Support Guidelines on next page*).

### The Application

*Applications that fail to meet the guidelines will not be reviewed.*

*Dates.* Applications are accepted twice each year, for November 15 and March 15 deadlines. If the date falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline is the next working day. Every effort will be made to process applications and notify applicants of the outcome within 10 weeks after the deadlines.

*The application.* Brevity and clarity will enhance the likelihood of success. Please number all pages at the bottom right hand corner. Use one-inch margins and a 12-point font. Applications should be limited to 10 pages and must include in this order:

1. A completed (with all signatures) *Research Foundation Proposal Cover Sheet* is available to be downloaded from the website for the URF, [www.upenn.edu/research/FoundationGuidelines.htm](http://www.upenn.edu/research/FoundationGuidelines.htm). The application should be classified under one of the five Statement of Purpose categories listed above.

2. An abstract of no more than 200 words, written for the educated non-specialist.

3. A description of no more than 5 single-spaced pages of the research proposed. Proposals must provide background, hypothesis or purpose of the research, significance of the research, methods used, work to be undertaken, and outlook for future extension of the research and its potential for external funding (see *Review Process on next page*).

**Note:** an application formatted for another sponsoring agency or failing to conform to these guidelines will not be reviewed.

4. A budget (form supplied as a link on the website), with justification for each item requested. Items that can be requested include research costs associated with travel expenses, supplies, and salaries of non-faculty personnel essential to the project. Equipment costs up to 100% of the proposed budget may be eligible for funding but such requests must be justified in the application as essential to the research. In addition, if all or most of the budget is to be used for equipment, the applicant must document that other resources are available to conduct the proposed research. Specific research objectives should be identified and described. The review will focus not on the equipment being requested but on the scientific program to which it will be applied. Faculty salaries, including summer salaries or release time, are not funded. Because it may not be possible to fund meritorious proposals fully, the budget must prioritize items in the order of their importance to the project (not simply list all items requiring support for which support is requested).

5. Research support, including other current funding with a list of titles, amounts, sources, and grant periods, expired funding for the prior three years, and pending applications. Applicants with “startup packages” must provide detailed dated budgets. Prior grants from the University Research Foundation must be itemized, with dates, title, and amount of funding, plus a statement about whether external funding was received as a result of the URF grant. Other research support for co-investigators should be identified.

6. Regulatory issues. If research involves human subjects, animals, biohazards, or other regulatory issues, the application should identify those concerns and provide documentation that they will be addressed. *Please note that IRB approval may be required for human subject research in all disciplines, including the sociobehavioral sciences and humanities. If IRB, IACUC or Environmental Safety review and approval is required, it may be obtained after the application has been approved, but before funds are provided or research has been initiated.* For advice please consult the Office of Regulatory Affairs, [www.upenn.edu/regulatoryaffairs](http://www.upenn.edu/regulatoryaffairs).

7. A single page biographical sketch for the principle investigator and all co-investigators. The biographical sketches do not count against the page limit.

8. Assistant Professors in all tracks (including Tenure, Clinician Educator, and Research track) are required to include a letter from their Department Chair indicating their career plans within the department, future commitment of independent space and of department or School resources including all department funding (startup packages, etc.). In addition, the letter should establish that the applicant will be working as an independent investigator or scholar. Such additional documentation can be provided as an appendix and will not be included within the page count.

9. Conflict of interest. The applicant should explicitly make a statement about whether or not the application involves any potential conflict of interest, and any such conflicts should be described. For instance, if the research could forward the interests of a company in which the applicant has a financial interest, this should be disclosed. Conflict of interest documentation (if required) can be provided as an appendix to the body of the application and will not be included in the page count, [www.upenn.edu/research/rcr/conflict.htm](http://www.upenn.edu/research/rcr/conflict.htm).

*Submission.* An original of the complete proposal with the signed cover sheet should be submitted to the Office of the Vice Provost for Research, 118 College Hall/6303 on or before the deadline date. In addition, please send a PDF version:

- 1) File name must be the last name of the principal investigator
- 2) One PDF document must include the cover sheet and budget sheet and all attachments including biosketches of Co-PIs and Chairs support letter, if needed, and Conflict of Interest.
- 3) Send to: [vpr@pobox.upenn.edu](mailto:vpr@pobox.upenn.edu)
- 4) Must be received on or before 5 p.m. of the deadline date.

## Review Process

Applications are reviewed by one of four faculty committees, Biomedical Sciences, Humanities, Natural Science and Engineering, and Social Science and Management, [www.upenn.edu/research/ReviewPanels.htm](http://www.upenn.edu/research/ReviewPanels.htm). Funding is spread equitably across the major disciplines. Each application is reviewed for a variety of attributes, including

- scholarly merit, creativity and innovation
- feasibility
- significance of the research
- time-limited opportunities that require immediate funding
- prospects for future extramural funding
- matching support from other sources
- availability of alternate funding sources
- career development at early stages of career
- evidence that junior applicants will be working as independent investigators
- advancement of school or institutional objectives, such as interdisciplinary research

Certain frequently found weaknesses should be avoided, such as

- “re-inventing the wheel” due to ignorance of prior published work, often in cognate fields
- a fishing expedition without a focused hypothesis
- repeated requests for research projects that are eligible for but have failed to garner external peer reviewed support

Limited critiques of applications will be provided for unsuccessful applications by the VPR office. Please do not contact the faculty who volunteer their time as peer reviewers, since this would place an excessive burden on.

*If awarded:*

- Regulatory approvals must be obtained before funds are transferred to the department.
- The home department must have a 26-digit budget code.
- A brief (1 to 2 pages) report should be submitted to the Vice Provost Office of Research within one year of the date of the award. This report should include publications, other funding, patents or discoveries, which resulted because of this award.

## University Research Foundation Conference Support Guidelines

### Scope

The conference support program is designed for scholarly meetings that will be convened on the Penn campus, thereby providing enrichment opportunities to interested faculty, students, and staff, most frequently in the format of a 1-2 day colloquium. The intent is to support meetings that are designed to enhance existing research and scholarly programs, particularly in disciplines where external funding is difficult to obtain. *High priority will be given to inter- or cross-disciplinary conferences that include faculty from more than one School.*

### The Application

Funding will be limited to no more than \$3,000 per event, and should be dedicated to reimbursing the speakers for travel and accommodations, but not for meals and entertainment. It is expected that funding from the University Research Foundation will supplement funding from other sources and will not be the sole source of funding for the meeting. Applications must be brief, usually no more than three (3) pages, and should include,

- A completed Conference Proposal Cover Sheet, with all signatures, which includes name and contact information for the applicant, who must be an appointed faculty member (Tenure, research, or clinician-educator track) and the appropriate review committee must be indicated, [www.upenn.edu/research/ReviewPanels.htm](http://www.upenn.edu/research/ReviewPanels.htm).
- A description of the purpose of the meeting
- A proposed program agenda (appendix)
- A proposed list of presenters (appendix)
- The number of Penn students and faculty expected to attend
- An explanation of the benefit to Penn students and faculty
- An explanation of the benefit to scholarly or research programs at Penn
- Relationship of the meeting to department, institute or center programs
- The names of faculty who are organizing the meeting

- Identity and contact information for the business administrator responsible for administration of the funds
- A budget, itemizing the types of proposed expenditures (appendix)
- Evidence of matching funding from institutional or external sources
- Evidence of institutional support in the form of no cost facilities and AV support

### Submission

1. *Submission.* An original of the complete proposal with the signed cover sheet should be submitted to the Office of the Vice Provost for Research, 118 College Hall/6303 on or before the deadline date. In addition, please send a PDF version:

- 1) File name must be the last name of the principal investigator
- 2) Full proposal should be one PDF document to include the cover sheet, budget sheet and all attachments
- 3) Send to: [vpr@pobox.upenn.edu](mailto:vpr@pobox.upenn.edu)
- 4) Must be received on or before 5 p.m. the deadline date.

### Review Process

Applications for the Conference Support Program are processed in the same cycles, and will be reviewed by the same committees that are used for URF research applications. Please identify which Review Committee will review your conference proposal (Biomedical Sciences, Humanities, Natural Sciences and Engineering and Social Science and Management), [www.upenn.edu/research/ReviewPanels.htm](http://www.upenn.edu/research/ReviewPanels.htm).

Questions should be directed to:

Irene Soroka  
(215) 898-7236  
[vpr@pobox.upenn.edu](mailto:vpr@pobox.upenn.edu)  
Vice Provost for Research  
118 College Hall/6303

## Call for Honorary Degree Nominations: November 1

*Dear Colleagues,*

We invite you to nominate candidates to receive honorary degrees from the University of Pennsylvania at upcoming Commencement exercises. Candidates should exemplify the highest ideals of the University, which seeks to educate those who will change the world through innovative scholarship, scientific discovery, artistic creativity and/or societal leadership.

We encourage you to involve your faculty colleagues, within and across departments and schools, in the nomination process. Nominations should explain how nominees meet the criterion for selection and outline the nominees' achievements and contributions. Please include as much biographical and other supporting information as possible, but do not contact the nominees, who should not know that they are being considered. We particularly encourage nominations from departments and schools whose fields have not been recognized by the award of honorary degrees in recent years. Please note that it is University policy not to consider Penn standing faculty, trustees, or school and center overseers for Penn honorary degrees.

Nominations are welcome any time, but for consideration by this year's University Council Committee, it would be very helpful to have them in hand by November 1. Review is ongoing and candidates may ultimately be selected several years after their initial nominations.

The University Council Committee's recommendations are forwarded to the Trustee Committee on Honorary Degrees and Awards, which makes the final selection. The list of previous University of Pennsylvania honorary degree recipients can be found at [www.upenn.edu/commencement/hist/honorary.html](http://www.upenn.edu/commencement/hist/honorary.html).

Please send signed letters of nomination on your official stationery to: University Council Committee on Honorary Degrees, c/o Office of the University Secretary, 211 College Hall/6303. Nominations may also be faxed to (215) 898-0103. If you have any questions, please contact Eric Kaplan at [ejk@pobox.upenn.edu](mailto:ejk@pobox.upenn.edu) or (215) 898-6408.

Penn emeritus faculty are eligible to receive honorary degrees through a special nomination process. University deans will propose candidates from their schools for consideration by the Council of Deans, which will forward successful nominations to the University Council Committee on Honorary Degrees.

Honorary degrees are important statements of Penn's values and aspirations, and we strongly encourage your participation in this process.

—David Brownlee, Chair,  
University Council Committee on Honorary Degrees

—Amy Gutmann, President

## Division of Human Resources: Upcoming HR Programs

### Breathing Easy Health Promotion Series

Penn's health trend reports show that our faculty and staff, and their family members, are requiring increased medical care for respiratory illness. To help you and your family avoid the complications of this critical health issue, we've developed a "Breathing Easy" series of free, monthly lunchtime presentations. Join us to view topical videos provided by Independence Blue Cross (IBC) and learn from medical specialists from UPHS.

Pre-register today to start on the path for a healthier you. Go to [www.hr.upenn.edu/quality/wellness/workshops.asp](http://www.hr.upenn.edu/quality/wellness/workshops.asp) to pre-register and find more details, including location information. Questions? Contact Human Resources at (215) 573-2471 or [fitzpatl@hr.upenn.edu](mailto:fitzpatl@hr.upenn.edu).

Each presentation will run from noon to 1 p.m. as follows:

Wednesday, September 27: *Coping with Allergies*; IBC video and Q&A led by Marie Whitehead, senior clinical practice nurse, Penn Lung Center.

Wednesday, October 11: *Is It a Cold? The Flu? Do I Need Antibiotics?* Marie Whitehead, senior clinical practice nurse, Penn Lung Center.

Wednesday, November 8: *Winning the Battle*

*with Asthma*; IBC video and Q&A led by Marie Whitehead, senior clinical practice nurse, Penn Lung Center.

Wednesday, December 6: *Helping Your Kids Manage Asthma and Allergies*; IBC video and Q&A led by a health professional.

### Work-Life Balance Workshops

Dealing with the demands of work and personal life can be challenging. That's why we offer a variety of free workshops led by experts from Penn's Employee Assistance Program and Work & Family Benefit provider, Penn Behavioral Health, to offer information and support for your personal and professional life challenges. For more information and/or to pre-register, visit the Human Resources website at [www.hr.upenn.edu/quality/workshop.asp](http://www.hr.upenn.edu/quality/workshop.asp) or call (215) 573-2471.

Thursday, September 28: *Assertive Communication*; 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (optional question and answer period—12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m.); Communication when done effectively is an "art form." Assertive communication is at the high end of the information-sharing continuum as it focuses on what is ultimately best for the speaker. This workshop teaches the skills of this art.

## Managing Success: New Admissions System Keeps Personal Touch

Undergraduate Admissions and ISC are pleased to report that Penn's highly successful admissions process is being updated with new procedures and powerful technologies which will help raise Penn's renowned responsiveness to the next level. The planned changes, to be implemented over the next several years, will help Admissions staff manage an increasing volume of applications while facilitating what they do best: identifying and connecting with prospective students, and bringing together the best entering class each year for Penn.

### Project Vision

Personalized outreach, superior customer service, streamlined processes, and access to "real-time" information will characterize the enhanced admissions process.

**Personalized outreach.** A new, personalized, self-service gateway will help Admissions staff build relationships and cultivate student interest in Penn. It will aid in identifying the specific academic and extracurricular pursuits that engage and inspire each individual student, connecting prospective applicants to resources at Penn based upon their particular interests.

**Superior customer service.** For prospective students, the gateway will provide timely, targeted information about Penn programs and the admissions process. Prospective students will be able to receive calendar reminders and informative guidance, as well as status updates on receipt of application components, from essays to recommendations to test scores.

**Streamlined processes.** To meet the heightened demands placed upon the Admissions Office by an ever-increasing applicant pool, the technical enhancements will foster gains in productivity by enabling faster gathering and processing of student information. Automated tools will be provided for managing communications with targeted groups, and the Admissions Office will be able to manage contacts and scheduling for recruitment travel and live events with greater flexibility and ease.

**Real-time information.** The Undergraduate Admissions Office will have access to the critical, up-to-the-minute workflow and statistical information needed during periods of peak activity in the admissions cycle, and admissions officers will have easy access to information related to demographics of prospective students. Undergraduate Admissions will also have the ability to provide timely communications to Schools and Centers.

### Benefits to Penn

As the first point of contact for tens of thousands of prospective students and their parents each year, Undergraduate Admissions plays a critical role in supporting and enhancing Penn's image and reputation. The new system will move Penn's programmatic richness to the fore and make it easier to showcase Penn's many strengths and multidisciplinary offerings. Analytical and communications tools will make it easier to promote the University among under-represented populations nationally and internationally. The self-service features will free Admissions staff from tasks prospective students can do themselves and allow the staff to spend more time on outreach. And last but not least, the University that spawned ENIAC and has an enviable number of automated processes for matriculated students will be able to present a technologically sophisticated, yet "warm and friendly" face to a tech-savvy generation of high-school students.

### Next Steps

The first system release—a set of tools for gathering data about prospective students—will be available to Admissions Office staff later this fall. For more information about the project, please send email to the program managers: Margaret Porigow ([margaret@admissions.upenn.edu](mailto:margaret@admissions.upenn.edu)) or Louise Crosby ([lcrosby@isc.upenn.edu](mailto:lcrosby@isc.upenn.edu)). And look for periodic updates in future issues of *Almanac*.

—Lee Stetson, Dean of Undergraduate Admissions

—Robin Beck, Vice President, Information Systems and Computing

## Reminder: Penn Family Day

Don't forget to order your tickets for the 14th annual Penn Family Day on Saturday, September 30. Please note: you only have until Monday, September 25 to place your order in person at the Athletic Ticket Office (*see below*).

Bring your family members and friends for a day of food, football, special activities, and fun! You must bring your faculty/staff PennCard for admission to all events, and tickets are also required for admission to the Tailgate Party and football game. This year, you can receive up to five tickets for free, and additional tickets are just \$5 each. To get your tickets, take your PennCard with you to the Athletic Ticket Office (Weightman Hall, 33rd St. between Walnut and Spruce Streets), Monday to Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Ticket orders are no longer being accepted via intramural mail.

See the September 5 issue of *Almanac* for details, or go to [www.hr.upenn.edu/quality/staffrecognition.asp](http://www.hr.upenn.edu/quality/staffrecognition.asp) and select "Penn Family Day." Questions? Contact Human Resources at [QOWL@hr.upenn.edu](mailto:QOWL@hr.upenn.edu) or call (215) 898-1012.

—Division of Human Resources

## One Step Ahead

Security & Privacy  
Made Simple

Another tip in a series provided by the Offices of Information Systems & Computing and Audit, Compliance & Privacy.

### Security and Working at Home

Your Penn LSP probably goes to great lengths to keep your office computer free from viruses, worms, and other network nasties. But what happens when you lug a Penn laptop home or use your own home computer to stretch your workweek?

If you have young kids at home, chances are they know more about computers than you do. They may spend more time online than you, and they probably take technology for granted. But there could be problems if you let them use your Penn-provided computer.

Many kids' recreational style of computing is incompatible with keeping computers secure. Some don't think twice about clicking on email attachments or installing untrusted, free software that opens up dangerous vulnerabilities. Others are too trusting. When faced with a popup window that screams "Your computer has been hacked. Click here!", they go ahead and click, installing spyware that will eventually bring the computer to a grinding halt.

If you are the only person using a Penn Windows computer at home and are careful about what you click on and what programs you install, there's a good chance it is secure. But if you allow kids to share your work computer, your computer may very well be infected with viruses, spyware, worms, and more. And, if you bring that computer back to campus, there's a good chance it will spread security problems to other Penn computers.

It's best not to allow your kids, or anyone else, to use the same computer that you use for Penn-related work, particularly if you store, or have access to, sensitive data. One alternative is to give your kids a separate, unprivileged account to use. That could help limit any unintentional harm they might cause.

For additional tips, see the One Step Ahead link on the Information Security website: [www.upenn.edu/computing/security/](http://www.upenn.edu/computing/security/).

## CONFERENCE

**23 Challenging Collections;** 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Kelly Writers House; rsvp: [mwilson@philadelphia-centerforthebook.org](mailto:mwilson@philadelphia-centerforthebook.org); info.: [www.writing.upenn.edu](http://www.writing.upenn.edu) (KWH).

## MUSIC

**22 Sitar and Tabla Concert;** 8 p.m.; Class of '49 Auditorium, Houston Hall (South Asia Center).

**25 LIVE at the Writers House with 88.5 WXPN;** 7 p.m.; Arts Café, Kelly Writers House (KWH).

## SPECIAL EVENT

**21 Open House/Bohnett CyberCenter Dedication;** 4:30 p.m.; LGBT Center (LGBT Center).

## TALKS

**20 What is AARC? What Can AARC Do For You?;** Robert Carter, AARC; noon; 3rd floor (AARC).

**21 Clinical-Translational Aspects of PGMs Program in Cervix and Prostate;** Michael Milosevic, Ontario Cancer Institute; noon; rm. 196A, John Morgan Bldg. (Radiation Oncology and Radiation Biology).

*Throwing a Curve at DNA: Structure and Activity of Chromosomal Proteins;* Mair Churchill, University of Colorado; 4 p.m.; Grossman Auditorium, Wistar Institute (Wistar).

**Deadlines:** The deadline for the weekly Update is every Monday, for the following Tuesday's issue. The deadline for the November AT PENN calendar is Tuesday, *October 17*. For information see [www.upenn.edu/almanac/calendar/caldead-real.html](http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/calendar/caldead-real.html).

## 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 using needles that do not puncture the skin in patients who need physical therapy. Call Pat Williams for information at (215) 898-3038.

**60 years of age or more?** Sleeping less than normal lately? Have lots of energy? Feeling really good or really irritable? Distractable? Thoughts racing by? Engaging in lots of activities, even risky ones? You may be interested in learning about participation in a clinical research program that is currently being conducted at the Bipolar Disorders Program of the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center. Study participants receive free consultation, investigational medication and all study-related tests at no cost. Compensation available for time & travel. To learn more about this study, please call Stacy at (215) 746-6414.

**Calling All Bones.** Recruiting males and females ages 21-78 for a research study. You will not be required to take any medications. We will evaluate the health and strength of your bones. You will be compensated for your time. Call (215) 590-0499.

Penn's Depression Research Unit is conducting research into **alternative, herbal treatments of anxiety**. Symptoms of anxiety may include: nervousness, tension, difficulty relaxing, excessive worrying and sleep problems. Those who qualify will receive an initial evaluation and may take part in a research study with Chamomile for up to 8 weeks. For more information call the DRU at (215) 662-3462.

**Postmenopausal Women Needed for Endocrine Study.** The University of Pennsylvania Health System/Division of Endocrinology seeks non-diabetic women 50 to 79 years old. Eligible volunteers will receive free medical exams and blood test results. Participants will be compensated. Please contact Dr. Patel at (215) 614-0579 for more information.

**Investigation of a Food Supplement to Increase Energy.** Dr. Patrick LaRocca, at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine is investigating a food supplement that may increase energy in healthy individuals 45-65 years of age. The study is 9 weeks in duration, requires 3 office visits, weekly phone calls, and answering questions on very short questionnaires. All subjects will receive both active product and placebo at some time or times during the study. There are no charges to the subjects. Subjects who complete the study can elect to receive a two-month supply of the active product free of charge. Subjects must be free of major illnesses and diseases that are associated with fatigue such as cancer, chronic fatigue syndrome, major depression and fibromyalgia. Call (215) 662-8988 for information.

Penn's Depression Research Unit is conducting research into **non-hormonal, herbal treatments for peri and post menopausal anxiety symptoms**. Symptoms of menopause may include: nervousness, tension, sleep difficulty, concentration problems, mood changes and hot flashes. Those who qualify will receive an initial evaluation and may take part in a research study with Black Cohosh for up to 3 months. For more information call the DRU at (215) 662-3462.

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

Submissions for classified ads are due every Thursday for the following Tuesday's issue. For information call (215) 898-5274 or visit [www.upenn.edu/almanac/faq.html#ad](http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/faq.html#ad).

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## CLASSIFIEDS—PERSONAL

### HOUSE FOR SALE

**Avalon Manor, NJ;** on bay; 5 bedroom, 4 full bath; garage; fireplace; furnished; multiple decks; private dock with two boat slips. Visit [www.seastarmanor.com](http://www.seastarmanor.com); Call John or Kim for more information (610) 566-5214.

## 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 **September 4-10, 2006**. Also reported were 17 Crimes Against Property (including 10 thefts, 5 burglaries, 1 auto theft, and 1 vandalism). Full reports are available at: [www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v53/n04/creport.html](http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v53/n04/creport.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 **September 4-10, 2006**. 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.

09/05/06	10:55 AM	4100 Spruce St	Male refused to stop actions/Arrest
09/06/06	6:11 PM	3100 Market St	Male cited for disorderly conduct
09/07/06	11:56 PM	4022 Spruce St	Male received threatening e-mails
09/08/06	2:28 AM	300 40th St	Male cited for public urination
09/09/06	12:32 AM	4000 Delancey St	2 cited for public urination
09/09/06	2:51 AM	3300 Chestnut St	Male driving intoxicated/Arrest
09/09/06	5:52 PM	Chestnut St	Intoxicated driver/Arrest
09/09/06	10:06 PM	Spruce St	Male in possession of narcotics/Arrest
09/10/06	1:07 AM	4000 Spruce St	Complainant assaulted by 4 unknown males
09/10/06	4:44 AM	4109 Locust St	Disorderly conduct by male/Arrest

## 18th District Report

11 incidents with no arrests (including 5 robberies, 6 aggravated assaults) were reported between **September 4-10, 2006** by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th St. & Market St. to Woodland Ave.

09/05/06	12:22 AM	3900 Walnut St	Aggravated Assault
09/05/06	3:30 PM	5100 Spruce St	Aggravated Assault
09/05/06	3:30 PM	5100 Spruce St	Aggravated Assault
09/05/06	3:30 PM	5100 Spruce St	Aggravated Assault
09/05/06	11:13 PM	5014 Walnut St	Aggravated Assault
09/06/06	6:55 PM	5121 Pine St	Aggravated Assault
09/06/06	8:45 PM	4200 Chester Ave	Robbery
09/07/06	10:40 PM	5000 Chestnut St	Robbery
09/08/06	12:06 PM	4800 Pine St	Robbery
09/09/06	8:30 PM	4900 Baltimore Ave	Robbery
09/10/06	1:40 AM	4605 Springfield Ave	Robbery



*Almanac*

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3600 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106  
Phone: (215) 898-5274 or 5275 FAX: (215) 898-9137  
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URL: [www.upenn.edu/almanac](http://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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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, gender identity, 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 Jeanne Arnold, Executive Director, Office of Affirmative Action, 3600 Chestnut Street, 2nd floor, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106 or (215) 898-6993 (Voice) or (215) 898-7803 (TDD).

### Back to School: Delayed Sleep Phase Syndrome

When fall comes and it's time for teens to return to school, they may experience trouble falling asleep at night and getting up in the morning. According to Dr. Grace Pien, with Penn's Division of Sleep Medicine, these teens may suffer from a sleep disorder called Delayed Sleep Phase Syndrome (DSPS)—when your body's circadian rhythm makes you want to go to bed much later than what's considered to be a normal bedtime.

"It happens in adolescents and young adults. When a patient comes in, they think they're suffering from insomnia, saying they go to bed around 11 p.m. but have trouble falling asleep until hours later. If you dig deeper with them, they'll tell you that on the nights they stay up late, they have no difficulty falling asleep and once they do go to sleep, they stay asleep until late morning or early afternoon," Dr. Pien explains.

Dr. Pien explains that the delayed sleep phase syndrome is treatable. For most people, once an external schedule is imposed upon them for work or school where they have to get up early, they are able to adjust their sleep habits, go to bed earlier, and meet their obligations. But for others, there is a real difficulty in adjusting to an earlier sleep schedule and they should see a sleep physician for behavior modification or bright light treatment.

Dr. Pien has this advice for the parents of teenagers, who have been used to staying up late during the summer: Have your teen stick closely to a strict "sleep and wake schedule." Align that schedule with where you want it to be (for example—to bed at 10 p.m. and up by 7 a.m.). High school students still need 8-9 hours of sleep a night to function well the next day. Be aware, sneaking in just one or two late nights can make the body's circadian rhythm slide right back into the old delayed schedule.

### Lack of Sleep Impairs Commercial Drivers' Performance

Truck drivers who routinely get too little sleep or suffer from sleep apnea show signs of fatigue and impaired performance that can make them a hazard on the road, according to a study by Penn researchers at the School of Medicine. The study results were published in the August 15 issue of the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*.

Penn researchers examined 406 truck drivers, almost all men and on average 45 years old. Dr. Allan Pack, a sleep expert who directs Penn's Center for Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology, said the tired truck drivers had impaired performance similar to that of drivers who are legally drunk.

The truck drivers were given wrist motion detection devices to measure how much they slept during a week and then underwent tests for sleep apnea at the sleep center. About 28% of the drivers were found to have some degree of sleep apnea, with nearly 5% of them having a severe case.

The truck drivers were also given tests to measure daytime sleepiness and performance. Drivers who logged less than five hours of sleep dozed-off more quickly than those who got seven to eight hours of sleep. Drivers with severe sleep apnea also dozed-off more rapidly. A lab test to analyze attention and reaction time and another to gauge "lane tracking ability" also turned up performance impairment among the sleep-deprived.

When the results were compiled, investigators discovered: Just over 5% of drivers showed impairment on all three performance-related tests. Nearly 60% did not fare well by at least one measure. About half of the drivers who got less than five hours of sleep had two or three impairments. That's compared to 10% of drivers who got more than eight hours of sleep regularly. Likewise, about 60% of the drivers with severe sleep apnea had two or three impairments.

### Insights into How Working Memory Works

Memory tests performed with amnesiacs have enabled researchers to refute a long-held belief in an essential difference between long- and short-term memories. In the study, researchers from Penn determined that the hippocampus—a seahorse shaped structure in the middle of the brain—was just as important for retrieving certain types of short-term memories as it is for long-term memories. Their findings were published in the *Journal of Neuroscience*.

According to Dr. Ingrid Olson, research associate in the department of psychology and researcher at Penn's Center for Cognitive Neuroscience, the age of the memory—is less important to the hippocampus than is the requirement to form connections between pieces of information to create a coherent episode of memory.

"I can remember what my keys look like, and I can remember where the coffee table is located, but the critical test of my memory is if I can remember that I left my keys on the coffee table," Dr. Olson said.

To study the role of the hippocampus in forming short-term memories, researchers used visual memory tests to study the ability of nine amnesiacs to recall images presented to them on a screen. These subjects all suffered from damage to their hippocampus and related brain structures, and their lives are ruled by the fact that they can no longer form long-term memories,

much like characters from the movies "Memento" or "Finding Nemo."

The task required amnesiacs and controls to remember three objects, locations or objects in locations over delays of one or eight seconds. The results show that working memory for objects or locations alone was at normal levels, but that memory for object-location conjunctions was severely impaired at eight-second delays.

### Socioeconomic Factors: Determinants of Sunburn

According to a study that appears in the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*, 39% of respondents of a national survey conducted in 2003 had at least one sunburn in the previous 12 months, a 22% increase since 1999. Additionally, this age rose dramatically as income and education levels increased and the age of respondents decreased.

Dr. Joel M. Gelfand, assistant professor of dermatology and co-author of the report, "The epidemiology of sunburn in the U.S. population in 2003," says, "Our research confirms previous findings that younger adults continue to be the group most likely to get sunburned and, as a result, are at an increased risk for developing future skin cancers." He adds, "The increased number of sunburns among people with the highest incomes could be attributed to their ability to travel to tropical destinations more often than those with a lower income."

Dr. Gelfand studied the prevalence of and risk factors for sunburn in the U.S. using a random sample of 207,776 adults. The study revealed that sunburn prevalence was greatest in respondents 18 to 24 years old, with 61% reporting at least one sunburn in the past year. When income and educational levels were examined, individuals in the highest income strata (equal to or greater than \$50,000) were more likely to report sunburn than those in the lowest income strata (less than \$20,000)—47% vs. 28%, respectively. In addition, respondents with a college degree reported a higher sunburn incidence than those without a high school degree—43% vs. 25%, respectively.

Other variables that had a high correlation to increased sunburns included gender, employment status and alcohol use. Overall, 44% of male respondents reported at least one sunburn compared with 34% of female respondents. Students were nearly twice as likely to sunburn than those who were unemployed (63% vs. 33%, respectively). In addition, 47% of employed respondents reported being sunburned. The study also found that respondents who reported binge drinking—defined as consuming more than 5 drinks in one night within the past 30 days—had a higher prevalence of sunburn than their counterparts (56% vs. 35%, respectively).

### Fossils Depict Aquatic Origins for Near-Modern Birds

Five fossil specimens of a near-modern bird found in the Gansu Province of northwestern China show that early birds likely evolved in an aquatic environment, according to a study in the journal *Science*. Their findings suggest that these early modern birds were much like the ducks or loons found today. *Gansus yumenensis*, which lived some 105 to 115 million years ago during the Early Cretaceous period, took modern birds through a watery path out of the dinosaur lineage.

The report was co-authored by Dr. Peter Dodson, professor of anatomy in the School of Veterinary Medicine and professor of geology, and his former students Hai-lu You of the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, Jerald Harris of Dixie State College of Utah and Matthew Laman of Carnegie Natural History Museum in Pittsburgh.

*Gansus yumenensis* takes its name from the Gansu region, where it was found, and the nearby city of Yumen. According to Dr. Dodson, *Gansus* is something of a lost species, originally described from a fossil leg found in 1983, but since largely ignored by science. The five specimens described by Dr. Dodson and his colleagues had many of the anatomical traits of modern birds, including feathers, bone structure and webbed feet, although every specimen lacked a skull.

The skeletons, headless as they are, offer plenty of evidence for a life on the water. Its upper body structure offers evidence that *Gansus* could take flight from the water, like a modern duck, and the webbed feet and bony knees are clear signs that *Gansus* swam.

"The enantiornitheans had the best adaptations for perching, so they were able to dominate the ecological niche that we would associate with songbirds, cuckoos, woodpeckers or birds of prey," said Jerald Harris, director of paleontology at Dixie State College of Utah. "*Gansus* appears to have had adaptations for a lifestyle centered around water, based on things like the proportions of the leg and foot bones."

While the enantiornitheans are now long gone, their perching lifestyle has now been taken over by the descendants of birds like *Gansus*. What remains a mystery for now, according to the researchers, is how the amphibious lifestyle of birds like *Gansus* helped enable them to survive the cataclysmic end of the dinosaurs 65 million years ago.