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Rosenberg Professor of Humanities: Margreta de Grazia

Dr. Margreta de Grazia, professor of English, has been named the inaugural Sheli Z. and Burton X. Rosenberg Professor of the Humanities. A noted Shakespearean scholar, Dr. de Grazia has taught at Penn since 1983. She previously held the Clara M. Clendenen Term Chair in English and the Joseph B. Glossberg Term Professorship in the Humanities. Dr. de Grazia also formerly served as the graduate chair in the department of English and, in 2003, she won the Ira H. Abrams Memorial Award for Distinguished Teaching, the School's highest teaching distinction.



Margreta de Grazia

Dr. de Grazia's research interests include Shakespeare as a historical and cultural phenomenon, early modern notions of subjectivity and authorship, the production and ownership of early modern texts and the periodizing of literary history. Her books include *Shakespeare Verbatim* and *Hamlet without Hamlet*. She has also co-edited the *New Cambridge Companion*

to *Shakespeare Studies* and *Subject and Object in Renaissance Culture*, the latter with Maureen Quilligan, a former Penn English professor, and Peter Stallybrass, Walter H. and Leonore C. Annenberg Professor in the Humanities and professor of English. She is currently working on a book, *Five Period Pieces from the English Renaissance*, which analyzes forms of organizing time in the period known as the "long sixteenth century" that have eluded modern and postmodern periodizing schemes.

Dr. de Grazia's scholarship has been supported by fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies, the National Humanities Center and the Guggenheim Foundation. Before coming to Penn, she taught at the University of New Mexico and at Georgetown University. Dr. de Grazia earned her bachelor's degree from Bryn Mawr College. She received her PhD in English, with a specialization in Renaissance literature, from Princeton University.

The Sheli Z. and Burton X. Rosenberg chair recognizes a top teacher-scholar in the humanities. It was established by Burton X. Rosenberg, C '63, a partner in the Chicago law firm Seyfarth Shaw, and his wife Sheli Rosenberg, co-founder and president of the Center for Executive Women at the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School at Northwestern University. The Rosenbergs are also among the donors of the Glossberg Term Chair, which Dr. de Grazia previously held.

\$1.5 Million Gift from Alumnus for Undergraduate PPE Program

Steven F. Goldstone, C '67, has given \$1.5 million to the School of Arts and Sciences to strengthen the undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) program. Mr. Goldstone, who majored in political science at Penn, has been a key supporter of PPE since 2001, when he gave \$2 million to the program. This recent gift will be used to expand PPE-sponsored activities and undergraduate research opportunities, and to support post-doctoral appointments and visiting professors.

PPE's integration of tools from across three disciplines gives students the flexibility and training to explore a wide range of research topics. With Mr. Goldstone's support and the leadership of PPE director Dr. Cristina Bicchieri, Carol and Michael Lowenstein Endowed Term Professor of Philosophy and Legal Studies, the program has become one of the most popular majors in the College.

"Steve has been a leader in advancing Penn's commitment to integrating knowledge," President Amy Gutmann said. "We are grateful to him for recognizing the vital contribution PPE makes to undergraduate studies at Penn. His gift will help to ensure that the program remains dynamic and strong."

"Steve Goldstone's support for this program demonstrates his keen understanding of the critical role this kind of teaching and learning plays in our ability to address the complex issues of 21st-century society," SAS Dean Rebecca Bushnell said.

Mr. Goldstone's commitment to the program is further reflected in his continuing personal interaction with students. He meets with PPE ma-

jors throughout the year. He also helps counsel the PPE Undergraduate Advisory Board.

"It's a privilege for me and my family to support a major as relevant and exciting as PPE," Mr. Goldstone said. "The interdisciplinary approach to problem solving is one that appeals to undergraduates, and this program offers that in spades. It really incorporates philosophy, politics and economics to get to the fundamental rights and responsibilities of every citizen."

Mr. Goldstone holds a law degree from NYU. He is the founder of Silver Spring Group, a private investment firm. He recently joined the board of directors of the global pharmaceutical company Merck & Co., Inc. He is chairman of the board of Conagra Foods, Inc. and a director of two other NYSE-listed companies: American Standard Companies and Greenhill, Inc. Previously, he was chairman and chief executive officer of RJR Nabisco, Inc. Mr. Goldstone recently served as chairman of the Roundabout Theatre in New York, and is chairman of the Founders Hall Foundation and a trustee of the Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art. He is a former member of the SAS Board of Overseers at Penn.



Steven Goldstone

Director of the Nanotechnology Institute: Robert W. Carpick



Robert Carpick

Dr. Robert W. Carpick has been appointed Penn Director of the Nanotechnology Institute. Dr. Carpick is an associate professor of mechanical engineering and applied mechanics who holds a secondary appointment in materials science and engineering.

The Nanotechnology Institute is a groundbreaking regional academic research and technology commercialization collaboration made possible by support from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Institute was founded in 2001 by Penn, Drexel and the Benjamin Franklin Technology Partners of Southeastern Pennsylvania (*Almanac* October 31, 2000). Dr. Carpick replaces former Penn SEAS faculty member Dr. David Luzzi, founding investigator of the Institute, who became dean of engineering at Northeastern University in September of this year. Dr. Carpick will serve as principal investigator and coordinate Penn's engagement with the Nanotechnology Institute, according to the Vice Provost for Research Steven J. Fluharty and Engineering Dean Eduardo Glandt.

"Dean Glandt and I are greatly pleased that we were able to recruit Rob Carpick for the post of Penn Director," Dr. Fluharty said. "Rob has a highly relevant academic background for the position, working at the intersection of mechanics, materials, and physics to conduct research into nanotribology and nanostructured materials. Rob is very involved with Penn investigators engaged in nanotechnology-related research projects and programs and is a natural fit to help lead the Nanotechnology Institute on the University's behalf. We look forward to working with him and our partner institutions as a new agenda for the Institute begins to unfold."

Dr. Carpick received his BSc in physics from the University of Toronto in 1991, and his MA and PhD in physics from UC Berkeley in 1997. He joined the Penn faculty in January 2007 from the University of Wisconsin. He serves on the editorial board of *Tribology Letters* and serves as a board member of the Solid Lubricants Division of the Society of Tribologists and Lubrication Engineers. He was the recipient of a CAREER Award from the NSF in 2001, and was named Outstanding New Mechanics Educator by the American Society for Engineering Education in 2003. He is the author of over 50 peer-reviewed publications and principal investigator for four submitted patents.

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 Honors; Council Agenda; Hewlett Award; Diabetes Grants
- 3 ITMAT Meeting; Pilot Grants; Climate Change Grant
- 4 2007-2008 Faculty and Staff Telephone Directory—Sustainability
- 6 HR Programs; Great American Smokeout; Penn Credit Cards; Penn's Way Raffle; One Step Ahead
- 7 Update; Thanksgiving Events; CrimeStats; Classifieds
- 8 Research Roundup

Honors & Other Things

Robotic Car "Little Ben"

"Little Ben," the autonomous vehicle engineered by Penn and Lehigh University faculty and students to drive itself, finished the 60-mile course in the 2007 DARPA Urban Challenge finals on November 3. The car was one of 11 finalists selected from 35 semifinalists in the qualification event.

The "souped-up" Toyota Prius, made it to the finals after successful demonstrations in July and October 2007 in which the vehicle navigated a four-way intersection, followed basic navigation and traffic laws, avoided obstacles and reacted intelligently to events (*Almanac* September 25, 2007).

Research Grant: Ms. Banerjee



Haimanti Banerjee

South Asia Center outreach coordinator and Bengali instructor, *Haimanti Banerjee*, has received a three-year, \$126,000 International Research and Studies Instructional Materials grant. This award will enable the creation of 100 on-line Bengali learning modules to move learners from the intermediate-low level to the advanced-

low level according to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages proficiency scale. The International Research and Studies Program is part of the U.S. Department of Education's International Education Programs Service.

Literature Fellowship: Dr. Behl

Dr. Aditya Behl, associate professor of South Asian studies, received a \$20,000 grant for a translation project from the National Endowment for the Arts. Dr. Behl's grant will support the translation from Hindavi (medieval Hindi) of the *Mirigavati*, an Indian Sufi romance about a prince who must find his true love in a distant land.

Courage to Teach Award: Dr. Lackman

Dr. Richard Lackman, Paul B. Magnuson Professor of Bone & Joint Surgery and Chair of Orthopaedic Surgery, has been recognized as one of 10 national recipients of the 2008 Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). This award is presented to distinguished program directors in recognition of their commitment to teaching and development of innovative and effective residency programs. The award is named after Dr. Parker J. Palmer, a senior adviser at the Fetzer Institute.

Social Justice Award: Professor Lerner

Alan Lerner, practice professor of law, is the 2007 recipient of the Jewish Social Policy Action Network's Social Justice Award. Professor Lerner, C '62, L '65, teaches at Penn Law's Interdisciplinary Child Advocacy Clinic, where he practices advocacy for children who have been mistreated.



Alan Lerner

University Council Meeting Agenda Wednesday, November 14, 2007, 4 p.m. Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall

I. Approval of the minutes of October 24, 2007. (1 minute)

II. Discussion of what constitutes an appropriate topic for Open Forum. (5 minutes)

III. Follow-up comments or questions on Status Reports. (4 minutes)

IV. Presentation by the Provost on the State of the University. (30 minutes)

V. Full analysis and discussion of mental health issues. (45 minutes)

VI. Open Forum (no items)

To place an item on the agenda for the next Open Forum, submit it to Larry Gladney, Steering Committee Chair, senate@pobox.upenn.edu by January 9, 2008.

Note: Open Forum is intended for members of the Penn community to bring forward questions suited for discussion by University Council, a deliberative and broadly representative forum which exists to consider the activities of the University in all its phases, with particular attention to the educational objectives of the University and those matters that affect the common interests of faculty, staff and students. The Steering Committee will redirect those questions not suited for Open Forum to the appropriate administrative office of the University.

VII. Adjournment by 5:30 p.m.

Diabetes Grants: January 7

The Diabetes Endocrinology Research Center (DERC) of the University of Pennsylvania is accepting applications for support to perform pilot and feasibility studies in diabetes and related endocrine and metabolic disorders.

Young investigators, who are starting their laboratories, or established investigators who wish to take a new direction to their studies, are encouraged to submit applications to the Diabetes Endocrinology Research Center, Suite 700 Clinical Research Building. An original, 10 copies, and an electronic PDF of the complete DERC Application must be submitted. The cover page and application instructions are available on the website: www.med.upenn.edu/idiom/derc/pilots.html.

If human subjects will be participating in the proposed research, it will be necessary to submit an NIH Human Subject form with the application. If animal research is being proposed, an original of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) protocol form is required.

Grants will be reviewed by the DERC Pilot and Feasibility Review Committee and extramural consultants. Funding level maximum of \$50,000; award period: April 1, 2008-March 31, 2009. (Equipment, travel funds, and Investigator Salary are not permitted on this award).

Investigators who are currently in the 01 year of support through this Pilot and Feasibility Program may reapply for an additional year of funding. Such continuation requests need to be carefully justified, however, and will be considered as a competing renewal application.

Application Deadline: January 7, 2008; information, contact Elizabeth Neaves Straw: (215) 898-4365, neavesst@mail.med.upenn.edu or Dr. Bryan Wolf, director Pilot/Feasibility Grant Program, (215) 590-2869, wolff@mail.med.upenn.edu.

Hewlett Award for Innovation in International Offerings: January 7

The University of Pennsylvania established the Hewlett Award for Innovation in International Offerings (formerly the Fund for Innovation in International Offerings) in January 2007, to foster new and creative approaches to the global engagement of undergraduate and graduate/professional students through study, research, and service abroad.

The Hewlett Award supports projects that will enhance international offerings at Penn and provide innovative new models for international student opportunities, including:

- Opportunities for students in major fields not commonly represented in study abroad options;
- Opportunities in world areas not commonly represented in study abroad offerings (such as South Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and Russia);
- Short-term overseas options (e.g. embedded or appended overseas components to on-campus semester courses, summer programs, winter break programs);
- Rigorous active-learning models (service learning, professional internships, field research, and clinical experiences) that allow students to translate knowledge into practice in a global context;
- Interdisciplinary offerings focused on global issues;
- Introductory international opportunities for first and second year undergraduate students.

Criteria for Review

The Office of the Provost is seeking one to two proposals per school for grants of up to \$25,000. Each dean is also invited to include one additional proposal (i.e., a third proposal) that is signed by at least one other dean which represents a cross-school effort. Requests for smaller awards and those leveraging matching funds will be considered favorably. \$100,000 in grant support is expected to be offered for the upcoming year.

Funds may be used to support student travel grants (max. \$2,500 per student) and other expenses directly related to developing and implementing new education abroad programs. Funds may not be used for student tuition; faculty salaries; support of on-going program costs; purchase of equipment; or attending international conferences.

Proposals must include a tenured or tenure-track Penn faculty member as a leader of the project. Brevity and clarity are appreciated. Please provide a narrative of no more than 500 words, a budget, and a short bio of the faculty member(s) involved. If cooperating institutions or organizations are critical to the success of the program, a letter of support from any such institution or organization should be attached.

Projects must be undertaken during the summer of 2008.

Proposals will be assessed taking into consideration a number of issues including:

- Does the proposal include clear linkages to academic degree requirements or courses?
- What is the expected impact of the proposed program in terms of student participation?
- Does the proposal leverage additional resources of the department(s), school(s), alumni, NGOs, the private sector, or cooperating higher education institution(s)?

Please send proposals to the Office of the Provost, 122 College Hall/6303, by *January 7, 2008*.

Almanac On-the-Go: RSS Feeds



Almanac provides links to select stories each week there is an issue. Visit *Almanac's* website, www.upenn.edu/almanac for instructions on how to subscribe to the *Almanac* RSS Feed.

Institute for Translational Medicine and Therapeutics Community-wide Meeting on Clinical and Translational Science Award

A year ago Penn, CHOP, the Wistar Institute and the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia were awarded a Clinical and Translational Science Award by the NIH. Together with the commitment by the institutions, this award approximates \$100 million over a 5-year period. The academic home for this award is the Institute for Translational Medicine and Therapeutics (ITMAT). Considerable effort has been invested over the past year towards creating infrastructure and educational programs of relevance to the broad, cross-campus community. These can be accessed by becoming a member of ITMAT at www.itmat.upenn.edu.



We felt that it was timely to hold a meeting for the broad community so that you can determine whether opportunities for program funding, core utilization and/or education are of relevance to you and your colleagues. On November 20, this Community-wide Meeting on the CTSA will be followed by an afternoon workshop sponsored by the ITMAT Chemical Biology in Translation (CBIT) center. The purpose of this meeting is to introduce you to the high throughput screening facilities on campus, and why and how you might use them. Dr. Garret A. FitzGerald, McNeil Professor in Translational Medicine and director of ITMAT, will present an *Introduction to ITMAT and the CTSA*. A number of distinguished external speakers will also contribute to this program. Please join us for both the CTSA meeting which begins at 9 a.m. and the CBIT workshop which will follow on Tuesday afternoon, beginning at 1 p.m.; both will be held in the Biomedical Research Building's Auditorium.

—Institute for Translational Medicine and Therapeutics

Pilot Grants: Institute on Aging and Alzheimer's Disease Core Center with the Institute for Medicine and Engineering: February 4

The University of Pennsylvania Institute on Aging (IOA) will fund eight one-year multidisciplinary pilot grants in the 2008-2009 academic year to support biomedical, epidemiological, behavioral or health services research as well as basic science, clinical or psychosocial research on aging and aging-related diseases. Four will be funded by the School of Medicine and four are funded through a generous matching grant from The Bingham Trust.

In addition, Penn's Alzheimer's Disease Core Center (ADCC) will fund one pilot grant to pursue basic or clinical research on biomedical, epidemiological or behavioral aspects of Alzheimer's disease (AD) or related neurodegenerative disorders. In a continuing partnership between the ADCC and the Institute for Medicine and Engineering (IME), another pilot grant will be funded to support research on the etiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis or management of AD or related conditions that bridges medicine and engineering.

These ten (10) pilots may be led by a member of the University of Pennsylvania full-time faculty from any of its 12 schools. Each pilot will be funded at a level of up to \$50,000/year for personnel and supply costs, but not equipment or instruments. (Note that due to matching requirements, it is encouraged that budgets equal \$50,000 exactly.) The purpose of these one-year, non-renewable grants is to assist faculty in obtaining preliminary data to serve as the basis of a grant application to the NIH or other public or private agencies concerned with aging or AD or related neurodegenerative disorders.

A committee of IOA, ADCC and IME members will review all proposals. Funding depends on scientific merit, and the likelihood that the pilots will lead to independent funding to continue the research beyond the pilot studies. Principal Investigators must be full-time faculty of the University of Pennsylvania and collaboration with other departments is strongly encouraged. Priority will be given to:

- Faculty in the early stages of their career who seek to enter research fields on aging or AD and related neurodegenerative disorders;
- Senior faculty who intend to shift their research emphasis towards aging or AD and related disorders.

Application Process:

Applications should be formatted basically in the style of an NIH PHS 398 application. However, a title page should be substituted for the NIH face page. Applications should be limited to 5 pages (exclusive of title page, budget, biosketches, letters of collaboration, literature cited, etc. as in PHS 398). Animal and/or IRB protocols may be pending. Suggested organization is:

- 1) Title Page (not the NIH face page) showing the title of grant, name of PI, affiliation, address, telephone numbers and email address
- 2) Budget (costs for personnel, supplies, but no equipment or instruments)
- 3) Biosketch
- 4) Specific Aims
- 5) Background and Significance
- 6) Preliminary Studies
- 7) Experimental Design & Methods
- 8) Human Subjects (if applicable and protocol may be pending)
- 9) Vertebrate Animals Sections (if applicable and protocol may be pending)
- 10) Consultants (if applicable)
- 11) Consortium Contractual Arrangements (if applicable)
- 12) Literature Cited
- 13) Certification of Patient Oriented Research (if applicable)

It is obligatory that IOA Pilot Awardees provide an interim progress report in the spring (financial and narrative). All Pilot Awardees must provide a final financial and narrative report at the end of the pilot year. In addition IOA Pilot Awardees must present their pilot data at an IOA retreat.

For more information, contact Kathryn Jedrzejewski, deputy director, Institute on Aging (IOA), www.uphs.upenn.edu/aging/ at (215) 898-2445 or e-mail: jedrzm@mail.med.upenn.edu.

Applications Due: February 4, 2008; anticipated date of award July 1, 2008.

Submit one hardcopy original and an electronic PDF file (via e-mail) to: Kathryn Jedrzejewski, Institute on Aging, University of Pennsylvania, 3615 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, jedrzm@mail.med.upenn.edu.

Note: If anyone encounters difficulties with the online submission, please contact Kathryn Jedrzejewski at the number listed above.

Five-Year, \$2.5 Million Grant to Study Climate Change in Mongolia

A team of ecologists and evolutionary biologists from the University of Pennsylvania has received a five-year, approximately \$2.5 million grant to examine the ecological and societal consequences of increased grazing and rising temperatures in the Lake Hövsgöl region of northern Mongolia.

Increases in temperature and in the length of the growing season are already apparent in that region of the world, and climate change models predict further increases. The goal of Penn's research is to understand how the basic ecology of the region will respond to global warming and to inform governmental policy being prepared on land preservation and management in Mongolia.

"Our findings should be of special interest to both scientists and governmental officials concerned with the impacts of climate change on the environment and the livelihood of local people," said Dr. Peter Petraitis, one of the principal investigators and a professor of biology in SAS.

The project is funded by Partnerships for International Research and Education, a program of the National Science Foundation whose mission is to foster cultural exchange between U.S. and foreign institutions by establishing models for international collaborative research and education.

The research conducted in Penn's project could be translated to any geographic region facing rapid shifts in environmental conditions. The project focuses on understanding the effects of grazing and climate change in a region used by nomadic herders and home to two important ecosystems, the taiga forest and steppe grasslands. Researchers will perform experiments and develop models to learn more about the complex interactions among climate change, land use and movements of nomadic herders and basic ecosystem processes. The team will monitor meteorological conditions, permafrost depth, hydrological and carbon cycles and activities of nomad families and their livestock.

Controlled experiments in the field will examine how elevated temperature combined with grazing affect plant community composition, plant phenology, productivity, litter decomposition and soil respiration. The project also addresses long-term responses of the forest ecosystem by examining carbon and oxygen isotope ratios of tree rings, leading to a better understanding of the history of the region's climate and current ecosystem sustainability.

The Penn scientists will collaborate with other ecologists, evolutionists and anthropologists at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, the Mongolian Academy of Sciences, the Mongolia University of Science and Technology and the National University of Mongolia. The research will involve undergraduates and graduate students from both the US and Mongolia. US scientists will also run educational workshops on ecology, evolutionary biology and statistics that are underrepresented in the Mongolian curriculum.

The project is funded by the National Science Foundation's Office of International Science and Engineering, the NSF Biocomplexity Initiative and the Ecosystem Science cluster of the Division of Environmental Biology in the Directorate of Biological Sciences.



2007-2008 Faculty/Staff Telephone Directory Update

Thank you to all faculty and staff who updated their information online for the printed 2007-2008 Faculty and Staff Telephone Directory. By mid-November, the new printed directory will be distributed to those departments that submitted orders. Departments that have not submitted their directory orders or that want to order additional directories should e-mail fsdirectory@pobox.upenn.edu.

About the Cover: Designed by Penn Publication Services

Calling global climate change the defining issue of the 21st century, this past February, Penn's President Amy Gutmann signed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment. This year's directory recognizes Penn's commitment to lowering its carbon footprint by featuring some of the ways that sustainability is already being defined on our campus.

Feature photograph: This year, the University celebrates the tenth anniversary of the restoration of Logan Hall. Built in 1874 by Thomas Webb Richards, Penn's first professor of architecture, it is the second oldest building on campus. The renovation was completed long before adaptive reuse of buildings became an important part of the sustainability movement. It serves as a reminder that meeting the definition of sustainability requires not only looking at present and future needs, but also drawing upon the lessons and resources of the past.

Designed and Produced in an Eco-friendly Way

True to the cover theme, this year's directory was printed with "sustainability" in mind. The result is an exciting new look—aesthetically pleasing and full of information as always—while meeting Penn's definition of sustainability. This year's directory was printed with:

- 100% overall recycled content, cover-to-cover
- Several 100% post consumer waste paper stock options
- Biodegradable soy-based ink

Green Activities Across the Campus

From green roofs to wind power; biodiesel to sustainable agriculture, the directory's Green Pages 34 and 35 provide details on the many ways the Penn community is working toward a greener future. (*Those details are provided at right.*)

New this Year—University Wide Recycling Effort

As part of Penn's focus on sustainability, everyone in the Penn community is being urged to recycle their old directories. Facilities and Real Estate Services (FRES) will place "Toters," (90 gallon cans on wheels) marked "For Directory Recycling Only" at locations within specific buildings. We strongly urge you to deposit your old directories in the Toters which FRES will pick up. Contact your Directory Liaison for these locations. A listing of Directory Liaisons is available at www.upenn.edu/phonedirectory.

Keeping Your Directory Information Current

Revising your directory listing online allows the University community immediate access to your current information and ensures accuracy for the next printed directory. To view/update your record: Go to www.upenn.edu/directories or visit www.upenn.edu/u@penn and select "My directory information" under the Personal Resources, Health & Welfare section.

—Donna M. Petrelli, Assistant Director, Communications
Division of Business Services

The Red & Blue is Going Green: Calling Climate

President Gutmann's signing of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment in February—the first Ivy League President to do so—demonstrated Penn's determination to seriously address the issue of global climate change. Although the University's comprehensive sustainability plan won't be complete until 2009, many in the Penn community are already embracing the challenge to lower the University's carbon footprint. As an example, this year's Faculty and Staff Telephone Directory is, for the first time, being printed on 100% recycled paper using biodegradable soy-based inks. But the directory is just one of many efforts, both large and small, that are already underway across the University. A sampling of others is provided below.

Green Roofs: The University has several green (vegetated) roofs, including the Wharton School building, Jon M. Huntsman Hall, and the new Hill Pavilion, a teaching and research building for the School of Veterinary Medicine. These green roofs reduce cooling loads for the building beneath, retain storm water to help manage campus discharge, support additional habitats for birds, provide visual relief for neighbors in taller buildings, and (sometimes) provide a usable outdoor space for activities. In addition to these existing projects, Penn's first green roof renovation project—replacing an existing rubber roof with a sedum vegetated roof—was completed this September on King's Court English House.

Construction Waste Management/Salvage: Working with a local waste management company, Penn has established a protocol for salvaging valuable materials whenever a demolition is unavoidable. During the demolition of the former Philadelphia Convention Hall to make way for a new Center for Advanced Medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Penn partnered with Second Chance, a deconstruction and salvage company. Second Chance supplied labor at no cost, and saved about \$600,000 worth of light fixtures, railings, carved stone and registers for resale throughout the region. Other large projects on campus also have on-site materials separation protocols to ensure that carpet scraps, metals, ceiling tile, and drywall are recycled.

Paving & Site Work: Routinely, Penn salvages all stonework and paving materials from renovations and upgrades to campus landscapes. The Civic House interpretive native garden, completed in 2007, reused paving stones from the 2004 renovation of Annenberg Plaza and surplus pavers from the Levine Hall renovation of 1996. The benches are salvaged 19th century granite curbstone and all paving is set in a sand bed to facilitate infiltration of storm water.

LEED Certification: Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification is the most commonly recognized standard for measuring building sustainability and Penn has several projects underway that are seeking certification. The Center for Advanced Medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, a \$350 million clinical facility, is on track to receive a Silver LEED rating. The Horticulture Center at the Morris Arboretum, now in design development, is targeting LEED Platinum, the highest level of certification. In addition, there are several building projects under active consideration and review which have not yet been formalized as capital projects. A new NanoFabrication Center, a new home for the School of Design, and a new College House are all expected to adopt high performance building standards and to consider LEED certification.

Energy Efficiency: The University has commissioned the TC Chan Center, a research institute run jointly by the Penn School of Design and Tsinghua University (Beijing), to carry out several research projects in 2007-2008 to address energy efficiency.

• **High Rise Monitoring:** The project will provide students with real-time, interactive feedback



ate Commitment and Concern for the Environment

on building and apartment energy use. Primary meters have been installed in Harnwell College House to measure steam, chilled water, and total energy use, and electrical meters were placed in individual apartments which can monitor energy use at the level of the individual unit.

- **Greenhouse Gas Inventory:** A comprehensive inventory of greenhouse gasses on campus, including campus energy use, fuel use for the University fleet, and gasses generated from waste operations should be completed this fall.

- **Building Performance Assessment Tool:** In 2006, the Chan Center developed an energy modeling tool that can be used to predict the energy performance of each building on campus. Based on US Department of Energy and European models, the tool provides a “virtual meter” for Penn’s 140 on-campus buildings, the vast majority of which are not metered. The intent of the project, which is about 50% complete, is to identify high- and low-performing buildings, so that resources can be applied intelligently to conserve energy on campus.

Subsidized Public Transit: Penn Transit offers a number of programs that encourage students, faculty and staff to use public transportation. PennPass, a transit pass system, allows students to take unlimited rides on Philadelphia buses and subways and within the Regional Rail system on weekends and holidays. In addition, for students living in New Jersey, a 25% discount for New Jersey Transit commuter passes for the PATCO speed line is available. The Compass Program provides a pre-tax discount to faculty and staff for all public transit in Philadelphia and the regional rail system, and was used by over 10% of Penn’s workforce in fiscal year 2007. For members of the Penn community who use public transit less routinely, pre-tax Transit Checks are available and can be redeemed for tickets or passes through a number of public transit agencies, including NJ Transit, SEPTA, and Amtrak.

Local Penn Transit Options: To make it easier for members of the Penn community to travel around campus and to reduce the number of cars being brought to West Philadelphia by students, faculty, and staff, Penn operates or subsidizes several transit options around campus. LUCY (Loop through University City) shuttles passengers between the regional train station and campus and is free for all members of the University community. Penn Bus and Penn Shuttle run several overlapping passenger routes around campus between 5 p.m. and 12:30 a.m. and on an on-call basis all night until 7 a.m. Penn Van Pool service provides passenger vans to self-organized groups. Benefits to van poolers include premium parking options (close to campus) and greatly reduced costs, all while taking cars off the road. Penn has also partnered with Philly-CarShare, a local non-profit, to provide eight parking spaces for PhillyCarShare autos available to members of the program.

BioDiesel Commitment: Penn has partnered with a local biodiesel supplier and manufacturer, The Energy Cooperative, to investigate and promote the use of biodiesel in the campus fleet. In June, Penn’s Facilities and Business Services Divisions participated in a trial of a new, locally made biodiesel product manufactured from local restaurants’ grease traps. Two University vehicles, one maintenance pickup truck and one PennTransit passenger van, tracked mileage and performance using a B100 biodiesel product, as part of The Energy Cooperative’s ongoing research and product development. Penn is investigating installing an on-campus biodiesel filling station to take advantage of The Energy Cooperative’s initiative when they are manufacturing biodiesel to scale by the end of 2008. Penn has committed to having its four dining halls’ grease traps serviced by the Energy Cooperative when the plant is operational.

Waste Reduction: The first step in managing

solid waste is to reduce it. Efforts at Penn include:

- Reusable mugs are being offered at the Bookstore Café which allow users to get a discount on hot drinks.
- Penn Dining offers biodegradable to-go containers at all Penn residential dining halls’ take-out services; reusable beverage mugs and bottles for purchase with a discount for refills; and sells reusable bags for \$1 made from recycled materials, with a discount offered when used at Penn dining locations. Styrofoam products are also being eliminated throughout the dining program.
- Penn Dining’s food waste composting project sends pre-consumer food waste to a local composting facility.
- The New Bolton Center’s large animal veterinary campus recycles 100% of its farm waste.
- Penn Mail Services recycles on average of 400 pounds of “no value” mail each month.
- Information Systems and Computing (ISC) is working on GreenIT initiatives including recycling used computers and monitoring computer energy use.
- The Sustainable Purchasing initiative at Business Services seeks to increase the purchase of products with a reduced or minimal environmental impact as compared to other similar products and services that serve the same purpose.

Leaf and Lawn Waste: Over 650 cubic yards of leaves—100% of the leaves from Penn’s campus—are composted and used on campus gardens and fields as top dressing, saving both the cost and energy to dispose of the leaves. The University’s Morris Arboretum partners with the adjacent Springfield Township to compost all township leaf and garden waste. The compost is then available to any township resident as well as to the arboretum for gardening and plant maintenance.

Recycling: In FY 2006, the University recycled about 15% of its total “landfill waste” stream—about 1,330 tons. This number represents only the most accessible percentage of waste diverted from the landfill to a local recycling center, and includes paper, bottles, and cans (plastic, glass, and metals). To capture recycling in outdoor areas, from those passing through campus to its residents and employees, 35 steel “triplets” have been placed across campus which have separate bins for paper and cardboard, bottles and cans, and trash. Each container will have a payback in about seven years of avoided landfill costs. Finally, Penn recycles all fluorescent bulbs replaced in re-lamping projects to reduce mercury content in our waste stream. (Even though Penn buys 100% green fluorescent bulbs, there are trace amounts of mercury in the tubes.)

Recycle Mania: This spring several College Houses plan to participate in the EPA’s Recycle Mania, a friendly competition among college and university recycling programs that provides the campus community with a fun, proactive activity in waste reduction. The main goal is to increase student awareness of campus recycling and waste minimization. Over a 10-week period, campuses compete to see which institution can collect the largest amount of recyclables per capita, the largest amount of total recyclables, the least amount of trash per capita, or have the highest recycling rate.

Sustainable Agriculture: Penn Dining has developed a number of innovative ways to support local sustainable agriculture. The FarmEcology food stand in Houston Market allows students to select local foods using their meal plans, breads from a local bakery and desserts from local providers are also served regularly. At least once each semester, the dining facilities sponsor a “Local Foods” dinner for all students on meal plans, featuring local growers and lectures about local and sustainable food practices. Since May of 2006, Penn has had an on-campus, local-products-only farmers market which expanded to a second location on Locust Walk this fall. Penn Dining’s Dollars are available for use at this new location.

In addition to these activities, there are a number of groups on campus, such as The Green Campus Partnership and the Penn Environmental Group, who have been working to promote active engagement around sustainability issues across the University. Through a combination of action and advocacy, our campus community has many “green leaders” who are helping to raise environmental awareness at Penn and move this University into the vanguard on global climate change—this century’s defining issue.

(The projects listed here are not meant to be an all inclusive list of sustainability activities at Penn. If you have questions or would like more information about these activities, email greenup@upenn.edu)



Maintain, Don't Gain Holiday Weight Maintenance Program

Interested in maintaining your waistline this holiday season? Consider joining the *Maintain, Don't Gain* holiday weight maintenance program. *Maintain, Don't Gain* lets you track your progress with pre- and post-holiday weigh-ins at convenient locations across campus, and provides motivation throughout the holiday season.

To participate, register online at www.hr.upenn.edu/quality/wellness/maintaindontgain.asp and come to the pre- and post-holiday weigh-ins. Dates and locations of weigh-ins are as follows:

	Pre-Holiday Weigh-In	Post-Holiday Weigh-In
SEAS*	November 20, 10–11:45 a.m.	January 7, 10–11:45 a.m.
Wharton*	November 20, 12:15–2 p.m.	January 7, 12:15–2 p.m.
Nursing*	November 21, 10–11:45 a.m.	January 8, 12:15–2 p.m.
Business Services*	November 21, 12:15–2 p.m.	January 8, 10–11:45 a.m.

*Room information is available upon registration.

Contact Human Resources at (215) 898-5116 or suzsmith@hr.upenn.edu with any questions.

Snow Day Child Care

It's been a beautiful fall, but you knew it couldn't last forever. That chill in the air means that winter is on its way, and winter means the possibility of lousy weather. If you have young children, now's a good time to think about registering for Penn's Snow Day Child Care program. This service, available to Penn faculty and staff members with children from 12 weeks to 12 years of age, provides child care whenever the Philadelphia County Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather but Penn is open for business. Children who attend school in other districts are also welcome on days that Philadelphia public schools are closed.

Snow Day Child Care will be available weekdays between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. from *December 10, 2007 through March 28, 2008*. Child care is provided by the Penn Children's Center at the Left Bank Commons, Suite 100, 3160 Chestnut Street.

Children must be pre-registered in order to participate. Please note that forms will not be accepted on the day that care is needed. For more information about enrollment and the program, visit www.hr.upenn.edu/quality/worklife/snowday.asp or contact Human Resources at (215) 898-5116 or suzsmith@hr.upenn.edu.

—Division of Human Resources

Great American Smokeout: November 15

Thinking of quitting? Be one of the 45 million smokers in the US to join the Great American Smokeout and quit smoking for good.

The Joan Karnell Cancer Center at Pennsylvania Hospital will provide what local smokers need at the Great American Smokeout health fair and information expo, Thursday, November 15, 5-7:30 p.m. in the hospital cafeteria. The health fair will feature information on methods and medications to decrease or stop smoking as well as smoking cessation support and education from Pennsylvania Hospital physicians and pulmonary wellness/ respiratory care experts.

"The Joan Karnell Cancer Center is committed to helping area residents quit smoking and get started on a healthy and smoke-free life," says Mary Pat Lynch, Cancer Center administrator. "We've lost too many patients and friends to smoking-related cancers, and have stepped up our efforts to give those looking to kick the habit the resources they need to make quitting a reality."

The event will include live music, an art exhibit, prize raffles, refreshments and interactive displays by the local chapter of the American Cancer Society, Penn's Tobacco Use Research Center, Pennsylvania Hospital Food and Nutrition department, and others.

Every registrant will also be eligible to win a gift card for a free (cold!) turkey.

Registration is required to attend the Great American Smokeout event. For more information or to register, call 1-800-789-PENN.



Penn's Way 2008

Last Week to Participate

The University of Pennsylvania and The University of Pennsylvania Health System's goal of \$1.2 million is within sight of being reached. As of November 9, Penn's Way has generated a combined total of \$1,053,057.59—87% of the total goal! There are exactly three days left for you to participate. Please log onto www.upenn.edu/pennsway to donate; or for assistance, please contact your school/center's Penn's Way coordinator listed at www.upenn.edu/pennsway/coordinators.html.

Week Six Winners will be published in next week's issue. Winners should contact Robert Eich at reich@publicsafety.upenn.edu or (215) 898-4483 to arrange for prize pick-up.

Grand Prize Raffle: November 12-16

There are two Grand Prizes: Dell Latitude D830 laptop, retail value \$1499, donated by the Computer Connection; and new 8GB iPod Nano paired with an iHome2Go Portable iPod Player, retail value \$250.

In order to be considered for the Grand Prize Drawing you must participate online at www.upenn.edu/pennsway by 5 p.m. on Friday, November 16 or turn in your completed pledge form sealed in a confidential white intramural envelope to the Payroll Office by noon on Friday.

The winner of the November 19 Grand Prize Drawing will be posted on Penn's Way website, www.upenn.edu/pennsway and in *Almanac*.

Week Five Raffle Winners

Kayann B. McDonnell, Law School—Class of 1923 coupon booklet containing 10 admission tickets

Rosemary Osman-Koss, HUP—Chick-Fil-A five free sandwich certificates

Rachel Meade, Nursing—\$10 gift certificate for Houston Market

Donna M. Heim, Facilities and Real Estate Services—Autographed 8x10 photo of Philadelphia 76er Andre Iguodala

Alexandra Thone, HUP—Illuminare, Brick Oven Pizza \$25 gift certificate

Judith Thudium, Presbyterian Medical Center—Wawa \$25 Gift Card

Amina Massaquoi, HUP—Eastern State Penitentiary four free admissions

Carolyn Grous, HUP—DLC Parking & Transportation, \$100 American Express gift card
Thomas Archer, HUP—Sports Pak #13: Men's Basketball 3/7 vs. Cornell (4 tickets) and 4/24 Penn Relays (4 tickets)

Jean Desanto, HUP—Sports Pak #14: Men's Basketball 2/16 vs. Yale (4 tickets) and 4/25 Penn Relays (4 tickets)

—Rob Eich, Penn's Way Campaign

Penn Credit Card Program—Protecting Your Privacy: A Top Priority

The Penn Credit Card Program provides faculty, staff, and students with a variety of credit card options. Bank of America, the provider of this credit card, helps support Penn student and alumni programming, along with other University initiatives, with every account opened and for every purchase that you make with the card. Using the card is also a great way to show your Red and Blue Pride!

Bank of America maintains strict parameters regarding the promotion of Penn product offerings and does not provide your information to any other organization or use it for any other purpose outside of Penn's specific program. If you wish to be removed from mailing lists or promotional materials, you may do so at www.upenn.edu/creditcard or by calling (215) 898-IDEA.

—Business Services Division

One Step Ahead

Security & Privacy
Made Simple

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

Passwords Everywhere

Though much progress has been made in recent years in providing more secure methods of gaining access to computing resources, the primary authentication method remains the combination of a username and password. Of course, as we continue to open new accounts on websites like *amazon.com*, do our banking online, and perform other useful but confidential work, the number of account names and passwords multiplies as well, and it's difficult for the average human being to remember *all* of them.

"Password vault" programs are one solution to this problem. These programs are essentially a database for all your usernames, passwords, and other similarly sensitive information that is encrypted and protected by a single, strong "master" password of your choosing. Simply open the database with the master password to decrypt and look up the account info you need—much safer than post-it notes on your monitor! If you are using Mac OS X, you already have one called Keychain. A Google search on "password vault" will yield a wide assortment of Windows-based vault programs, such as PowerKeeper (by Symark) and PasswordVault (by Lava Software), though you should compare features and check consumer ratings before buying.

A final caution: Don't use the "Remember My Password" checkboxes often found on websites and in applications—they are risky for many reasons. If "password proliferation" is giving you a headache, a vault program is a much safer alternative.

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

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Update

November AT PENN

FILMS

13 *Art History Film Screening*; short films by various early 20th century artists; 5:15 p.m.; rm. 322, Fisher-Bennett Hall; also *November 15*, 5:15 p.m.; rm. 201, Fisher-Bennett Hall (Art History).

14 *Italian Immigrants Film Series: Big Night*; 7 p.m.; G17, Logan Hall (Italian Studies).

SPECIAL EVENT

18 *Christian Association Silent Auction*; to raise funds for peace and social justice education at Penn; 6 p.m.; Hall of Flags, Houston Hall (CA).

TALKS

14 *A Program of Pediatric Nursing Research: Addressing Major Public Health Concerns*; Terri Lipman, nursing; noon; rm. 116, Fagin Hall (Nursing).

Middle Eastern Americans: Immigration Patterns, Characteristics, and Identities; Mehdi Bozorgmehr and Anny Balakian, City University of New York; noon.; rm. 209, College Hall; open to faculty and students (Middle East Center; South Asia Center).

Mapping the Du Bois Philadelphia Negro; Amy Hillier, design; 12:15 p.m.; rm. 320, Fagin Hall (Nursing).

15 *Jena 6: Media Hype or the New Wave of Racism?*; panel discussion; 6:30 p.m., rm. 270, Jon M. Hunstman Hall (United Minorities Council).

Democracy and Disappointment: The Politics of Resistance; Alain Badiou, French philosopher; Simon Critchley, New School for Social Research; 7 p.m.; Slought Foundation (Slought Foundation).

Roni Horn; visual artist and writer; 5 p.m.; rm. B-1, Meyerson Hall (Design).

16 *PennDesign Lecture*: Roy McMakin, sculptor; 5 p.m.; B3, Meyerson Hall (Fine Arts).

Deadlines: Today is the deadline for next week's Update which will extend through the end of November. The deadline for the January AT PENN is *Tuesday, December 18*. For information see www.upenn.edu/almanac/calendar/caldead-real.html.



Thanksgiving Food Drive

Make a contribution during the Thanksgiving holidays through the annual Penn Volunteers In Public Service Food Drive now *through November 19*. Canned foods and dry goods will be donated to area shelters and community service agencies to help families during the Thanksgiving season. (See www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v54/n11/drive.html for the list of drop off locations.)

Cornucopia Arrangement Class

Morris Arboretum is offering a seasonal design class, *Thanksgiving Cornucopia Arrangement*, Saturday, *November 17*, 10 a.m.–noon. This festive fall arrangement is also known as the “Horn of Plenty,” a symbol of food and abundance dating back to the 5th century BC. You will fill your cornucopia with a seasonal assortment of fruit, flowers and vegetables to design a festive arrangement for your holiday table or a gift for the hostess. Workshop includes everything and is appropriate for all levels of experience. Cost: \$45, \$42/members. To register, or for more information, call (215) 247-5777 ext. 125 or 156.

Thanksgiving Get Together

Come celebrate Thanksgiving with the residents of Sansom Place. The get together will be held on Sunday, *November 18*, 2-4 p.m. in Michael Murray Lounge in Sansom Place East, ground floor. The price is to be determined. E-mail ourplace@pobox.upenn.edu.

Library Holiday Hours

Thanksgiving weekend hours for the Van Pelt-Dietrich Library will be as follows:

Wednesday, November 21: 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Thursday, November 22: Closed

Friday, November 23: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday, November 24: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday, November 25: 10 a.m.-midnight.

For hours of the many departmental and other campus libraries see <http://events.library.upenn.edu/cgi-bin/calendar.cgi>.

Safety and Security Tips

Whether you are ‘Leaving Penn’ or ‘Remaining at Penn’ during the Thanksgiving Break, tips are available on Public Safety’s website at www.publicsafety.upenn.edu.



CLASSIFIEDS—UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH

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 Terry Scattergood at (215) 898-5664 for more information.

Almanac is not responsible for contents of classified ad material.

CLASSIFIEDS—PERSONAL

FOR SALE

\$389,900 Priced to Sell Queen Village Home, 305 Fitzwater <http://philadelphia.craigslist.org/for/451562880.html>

OPPORTUNITY

Howard Hughes Medical Institute is seeking an Administrative Assistant for one of its scientists at the University of PA School of Medicine. Responsibilities include correspondence, scheduling appointments, making travel arrangements, manuscript preparation, file maintenance, and monitoring lab expenditures. Preferred qualifications include excellent organizational, interpersonal and computer skills, a B.A., Associates degree, or equivalent, and three years of previous office experience in an academic or medical research environment. HHMI offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefits package. Please email a cover letter and resume to: pohld@hhmi.org. EOE.

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/faqs.html#ad.

Almanac is not responsible for contents of classified ad material.

Ed. Note: *Almanac* will not be published on Tuesday, November 27. *Almanac* will resume weekly publication on Tuesday, December 4 and will publish through Tuesday, December 18. After the Winter Break, *Almanac* will commence publishing for the Spring Semester on Tuesday, January 15, 2008.



Almanac

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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 Police Department Community Crime Report

About the Crime Report: Below are all Crimes Against Persons and Crimes Against Society from the campus report for **October 29-November 4, 2007**. Also reported were 18 crimes against property (including 14 thefts, 2 burglaries, 1 act of vandalism and 1 act of fraud).

Full reports are available at: www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v54/n12/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 **October 29-November 4, 2007**. 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.

10/30/07	11:35 AM	100 36th St	Male wanted on warrant/Arrest
10/31/07	9:39 AM	3431 Walnut St	Unknown male attempted to rob bank
10/31/07	5:57 PM	4102 Ludlow St	Male wanted on warrant/Arrest
11/01/07	1:19 PM	3800 Spruce St	Male wanted on warrant/Arrest
11/02/07	3:57 AM	3900 Chestnut St	Male assaulted/taken to hospital
11/03/07	1:23 AM	University Ave & Civic Center Blvd	Male arrested for weapon violation
11/04/07	5:15 PM	51 N 39th St	Complainant threatened by ex-girlfriend

18th District Report

7 incidents with 2 arrests (including 4 robberies, 2 aggravated assaults and 1 confidential incident) were reported between **October 29-November 4, 2007** by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th St. & Market St. to Woodland Ave.

10/29/07	2:00 AM	3800 Ludlow St	Aggravated Assault/Arrest
10/30/07	5:29 PM	4708 Chestnut St	Aggravated Assault
10/30/07	5:30 PM	4600 Chestnut St	Robbery
10/30/07	8:24 PM	4400 Sansom St	Confidential Incident
10/31/07	4:52 AM	5011 Sansom St	Robbery
10/31/07	9:20 AM	3431 Chestnut St	Robbery
10/31/07	9:33 AM	901 46th St	Robbery/Arrest

Unanticipated Consequences of Health Care IT

Researchers at Penn's School of Medicine and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) have developed a framework to help hospital managers, physicians, and nurses handle the tough challenges of implementing health information technology (HIT) by directly addressing the unintended consequences that undermine safety and quality. This study appeared in the September issue of the *Journal of American Medical Informatics Association (JAMIA)*.

Dr. Ross Koppel, principle investigator in Penn's Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, noted that computerized physician order entries (CPOE) reduce medication errors due to transcription or handwriting deficiencies, but produce many unintended consequences. For example, in some CPOE systems, physicians must enter the patient's weight before ordering some types of medications. Physicians will often insert an estimated weight just to order the desired medication, without being able to indicate it as an estimation. That number is then used by subsequent physicians for medications requiring more careful weight measurements. Dr. Koppel is an adjunct professor of sociology. The co-authors are AHRQ's Dr. Michael I. Harrison and Dr. Shirley Bar-Lev, from the Ruppin Academic Center, Israel.

Use of sophisticated HIT in hospitals is increasing dramatically, yet the results are often disappointing, say researchers.

The authors demonstrated how new HIT changes workplace processes and how practitioners alter these technologies during use. The authors call their new paradigm "Interactive Sociotechnical Analysis."

"We are strong proponents of HIT," said Drs. Harrison and Koppel. "But introducing HIT is not like adding a fax machine. HIT involves a whole set of activities and interactions with existing IT, people, the built environment, and with other systems. These interactions generate unpredictable developments. We map these developments to inspire greater awareness of IT implementation problems and increased action to improve new IT systems."

"Decision makers are taking unnecessary risks if they wait for HIT projects to run for a year or two before doing a post-hoc evaluation," Dr. Harrison. "Real time evaluations can reveal unintended consequences as they emerge, allowing remedial action to be taken."

Pinpointing Brain Waves that Distinguish Memories

Penn researchers are now able to pinpoint brain waves that distinguish true from false memories, providing a better understanding of how memory works and creating a new strategy to help epilepsy patients retain cognitive function. The study appears in the November edition of the journal *Psychological Science*.

To test whether distinct patterns of electrophysiological activity prior to a response can distinguish true from false memories, psychologists at Penn recorded brain activity from 52 neurosurgical patients being treated for drug-resistant epilepsy. Patients were asked to perform a verbal free-recall task while researchers used an array of implanted electrodes and intracranial electroencephalographic recordings to locate where in their brains the patients' seizures originated. Patients volunteered to study lists of words which they were then asked to recall at a later time. When asked to recall the studied words, participants recalled some number of correct items and also made a small number of errors, recalling words that had not appeared on the target list.

While patients performed the memory game, scientists observed electrical activity in their brains to determine whether specific brain waves were associated with successfully storing and retrieving memories. Researchers found that a fast brain wave, known as the gamma rhythm, increased when participants studied a word that they would later recall. The same gamma waves also increased in the half-second prior to participants correctly recalling an item.

These analyses revealed that the same pattern of gamma band oscillatory activity in the hippocampus, prefrontal cortex and left temporal lobe that predicts successful memory formation also re-emerged at retrieval, distinguishing correct from incorrect responses, said Dr. Per B. Sederberg, lead author and former Penn neuroscientist now performing post-doctoral research at Princeton University.

In addition to providing a better understanding of how memory works, the findings may also provide a clearer picture of how to assist those suffering with epilepsy. In epilepsy's 2.6 million American sufferers, brain oscillations become so strong that they sweep across the brain, producing seizures. Although seizures are controlled with medication in two-thirds

of people with epilepsy, the remainder may be candidates for surgery to remove the brain regions where seizures originate.

"Identifying the neural signatures of successful memory storage and retrieval can help neurosurgeons reduce the cognitive deficits that might result from epilepsy surgery," said Dr. Brian Litt, associate professor of neurology and bioengineering, and co-author of the study. In addition, these techniques could also help in treatment of other neurological disorders, including depression, schizophrenia, and affective disorders.

Effect of Medical Residency on Patient Mortality

Contrary to critics, researchers at the School of Medicine found that new national regulations greatly limiting work hours for physicians-in-training did not lead to increased patient deaths. In order to address issues surrounding sleep deprivation of medical residents, recently implemented regulations required them to work fewer hours, resulting in fewer residents on call at any one time and more patient handoffs due to shorter resident schedules.

Analyzing over 8 million patient hospitalizations in the Medicare system and over 300,000 hospitalizations in the United States Veterans Affairs (VA) System, Penn investigators found that duty hour regulations for medical residents in the VA System significantly improved patient mortality rates; yet these regulations were not associated with either significant worsening or improvement in mortality for Medicare patients. The studies' corresponding author Dr. Kevin G. Volpp, assistant professor of medicine and health care systems at Penn and core faculty member with the Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion at the Philadelphia Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and co-principal investigator Dr. Jeffrey H. Silber, professor of pediatrics and director of the Center for Outcomes Research at CHOP, reported their findings in two studies in the September 5 issue of *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The new regulations created restrictions that included working no more than 80 hours per week with one day per week free of all duties; no more than 24 continuous hours of work with an additional six hours for education and transfer of care; in-house call no more often than every third night; and at least ten hours off between duty periods.

The VA study followed all patients admitted to acute-care VA hospitals from July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2005. The Medicare study followed all patients admitted to acute-care non-federal hospitals during this time period as well.

Both studies focused on medical patients admitted with principle diagnoses of acute myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure, gastrointestinal bleeding, or stroke; or general, orthopedic, or vascular surgery patients. The main outcome measure for both studies was mortality within 30 days of hospital admission.

While there were no significant relative increases or decreases in mortality for either medical or surgical patients in the post-reform years among Medicare patients, the VA system did find some significant relative improvements in mortality rates among medical patients in post-reform year 2. The magnitude of the relative improvements in mortality in post-reform year 2 represented about an 11% improvement in mortality for patients in hospitals in the 75th percentile of teaching intensity as compared to hospitals in the 25th percentile of teaching intensity.

"The positive impact of the duty hours in reducing mortality rates in VA hospitals may be due to VA hospitals being more teaching intensive. In addition, residents working in VA hospitals are probably less over-taxed, allowing higher compliance with these regulations. The VA also has better information systems than most non-VA settings, which may have mitigated the adverse impacts of worsened continuity of care," said Dr. Volpp.

Older African American Men with HIV Shun Condoms

In a nurse-led study at the School of Nursing, researchers found as many as 40% of older HIV-positive African American men may not be using condoms during sexual activity, potentially putting their partners at risk. The research, "Determinants of perceived barriers to condom use among HIV Infected Middle-aged and Older African American Men," was published in the *Journal of Advanced Nursing* in the United Kingdom in October of this year.

A study of 130 men, aged 40-65, found that 25% did not use condoms during vaginal sex, 22% during anal sex, and 38% during oral sex.

"The findings of the study are worrying, particularly in view of rising HIV and AIDS rates in both ethnic communities, and the over 50s. They definitely point to the need for further research into why older African American men with HIV don't use condoms," said Dr. Christopher L. Coleman, assistant professor of nursing.