William Alexander: Director of Counseling and Psychological Services

Dr. William Alexander has been named the Director of Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and assumed his new position this month.

Dr. Alexander brings more than 25 years of clinical experience to his new position, including extensive leadership and practice in university counseling settings. For the past decade, he has served as Deputy Director of CAPS at Penn, with responsibilities including supervision of clinical staff, outreach and liaison services, crisis management, and staff development. Previously, Dr. Alexander operated in private practice as a licensed psychologist, as well as holding several positions with family, university, and hospital counseling offices. Dr. Alexander holds a PhD in counseling psychology from Temple University.

“I am very excited to have the opportunity to serve the Penn community as Director of CAPS,” Dr. Alexander remarked. “I am also very grateful for the opportunity this new venture in the company of such a talented and dedicated staff. They are the heart of CAPS’ success, and I am very proud to be part of their team.”

Vice Provost for University Life Dr. Valerie Swain-Cade McCoulum, praised Dr. Alexander’s hiring. “Bill has been an integral part of CAPS’ operation for many years. I am thrilled to have him assume this new responsibility, and I look forward to his exceptional leadership and vision to extend the reach and effectiveness of our mental health services to students.”

Associate Vice Provost for Health and Wellness Dr. Max King, also lauded Dr. Alexander, “There is no question that CAPS is an extraordinary resource to the Penn community and will continue to prosper under Bill’s leadership. Bill understands the needs of Penn students, and he has gained the confidence of Penn’s faculty and staff during his many years of service there.”

Counseling and Psychological Services provides professional psychological and psychiatric services to undergraduate, graduate, and professional students who need support in fulfilling their academic, social, and personal objectives. Along with health and wellness partners throughout the Penn community, CAPS directly supports student mental health through counseling, crisis management, consultation, education and outreach, and training. For more information, visit www.vpul.upenn.edu/caps/.

Julie Lyzinski: Director of Alcohol and Other Drug Program Initiatives

Julie Lyzinski has been named Director of Penn’s Office of Alcohol and Other Drug Program Initiatives (AOD).

Ms. Lyzinski previously served as both Associate Director and Intervention Specialist for the former Office of Strategic Initiatives and Alcohol Policy Initiatives at Penn. In her time at Penn, Ms. Lyzinski has presented scholarly research at numerous national conferences and led the development of project proposals and administration of multiple federal grants through the US Department of Education. Ms. Lyzinski has also held professional counseling positions in private youth and family practice settings in Illinois and New Jersey. She holds a MSW in human services and counseling from DePaul University and a BA in psychology and sociology from the University of Notre Dame.

“I am honored to be given this opportunity to work more closely with the administration, staff, faculty, and students here at Penn,” Ms. Lyzinski said. “Penn is a leader in the field of high-risk alcohol and other drug prevention and counseling programs for several years. To have her assume this important new role, I believe, will benefit the safety and wellness of our entire Penn community.”

Associate Vice Provost for Health and Wellness Dr. Max King, also praised Ms. Lyzinski. “Julie has worked closely with Penn students and with our alcohol and other drug partners across the University and nation. I think she will offer wonderful insight and energy in this new leadership position.”

The Office of Alcohol and Other Drug Program Initiatives identifies and addresses critical issues that inhibit academic progression and success for Penn students. Through vigorous, ongoing research, the office seeks to identify methods to reduce substance abuse and violence, control and mitigate campus environments where potential for abusive behavior exists, and foster a campus culture in which healthy living efforts are plentiful and successful. For more information on AOD programs at Penn, please see: www.vpul.upenn.edu/alcohol/

Andrea Liu: Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Term Professor in the Natural Sciences

Dr. Andrea J. Liu, a professor in the department of physics and astronomy, has been named the Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Term Professor in the Natural Sciences.

Dr. Liu’s ongoing research concerns theoretical problems in soft matter physics, including jamming in glass-forming liquids, foams and granular materials, and biophysical self-assembly in actin structures and other systems.

The recipient of a CAREER Faculty Award from the National Science Foundation, Dr. Liu is also a fellow of the American Physical Society. She received her doctorate from Cornell University and her bachelor’s degree in physics from the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Liu was a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, before joining the Penn faculty in 2004.

The Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Term Professorship in the Natural Sciences was established through a bequest by Mr. and Mrs. Edmund J. Kahn. Mr. Kahn was a 1925 Wharton graduate who had a successful career in the oil and natural gas industry. Louise Kahn, his wife, was a graduate of Smith College who worked for Newsweek and owned an interior design firm. The couple contributed to many programs and projects at Penn, including the Van Pelt-Dietrich Library, the Modern Languages College House, and other initiatives and scholarships in the humanities.

IGEL Annual Conference-Workshop
Integrative Thinking About Life Cycle Analysis: Promises & Limitations

The second annual Initiative for Global Environmental Leadership’s Annual Conference-Workshop on Business and the Environment will be held on March 26-28, 2009. The Annual Conference-Workshop on Business (continued on page 2)
The following is published in accordance with the Faculty Senate Rules. Among other purposes, the publication of SEC actions is intended to stimulate discussion among the constituencies and their representatives. Please communicate your comments 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 Actions

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

Senate Rule Changes. In a special meeting of the Senate, open to all members of the Senate, the Proposed Changes to the Rules of the Faculty Senate were unanimously approved: to abolish the Senate Committee on Conduct.

Chair’s Report. Faculty Senate Chair Sherri Adams reported that the Tri-Chairs are in the process of discussing next steps to follow up on the February discussion on faculty diversity issues. Dr. Adams urged SEC members to talk to their constituencies about the importance of faculty diversity and do some grassroots consciousness-raising. Dr. Adams agreed to follow-up on the suggestion from a SEC member to add mentoring to the Penn CV information. Dr. Adams asked each SEC member to forward a name from their constituency for next year’s Nominating Committee to Sue White in the Faculty Senate Office.

Past Chair’s Report. Faculty Senate Past Chair Larry Gladney had no new business to report.

Update on Student Life. Associate Provost Andy Binns updated SEC on the following topics:

– PhD Simplification Program: There has been an overall smooth transition to the new PhD tuition system. He explained that PhD rules were examined and changed to add flexibility. Dr. Binns reported that many departments have set up strategies to deal with issues that emerged under the new system.

– Online Course Evaluation: An advisory group of faculty and students met in the fall to formulate some of the policy and procedural issues associated with the change to an online course evaluation system and there was a pilot test of the program in the late fall. He explained that this new system, scheduled to start in spring 2009, will be less expensive, greener, easier, faster, and more efficient.

– Interdisciplinary Education: Penn is doing a good job with interdisciplinary education at the undergraduate and PhD levels and added that he would like to explore interdisciplinary education in the professional master’s degree programs.

Dr. Binns also updated SEC on: posting online syllabi, the distinguished international scholar program, and the recent health care crisis.

Update on the Capital Campaign. John Zeller, Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations, discussed the up-to-date progress on Making History, The Campaign for Penn. Mr. Zeller reviewed the campaign performance vs. goal commitments, which remain on a strong trajectory this year in spite of the downturn in the economy. He reported capital campaign progress in seven key priority areas: faculty, undergraduate student aid, graduate and professional student aid, medical research and clinical investment, campus life, nanoscale research building, and neural and behavioral science. Mr. Zeller also updated SEC on capital campaign commitments, receipts, endowment receipts, campaign timeline, and strategies for fundraising in a difficult economy.

From the Office of the Provost

Introduction of Online Course Evaluations

Penn course evaluations will now be conducted online, beginning in spring semester 2009. All undergraduate courses, and some graduate and professional courses, will be part of the new system.

The new online system will be similar to the old pencil-and-paper system, with two primary differences:

(1) Students will no longer fill out the form in class. However, we encourage professors to remind students in class to fill out the form; our pilot study in fall 2008 suggests that response rates are significantly higher when professors repeatedly ask students in class to make sure to fill out the online form.

(2) The course evaluation period will now begin in the last week of classes and extend until grades are submitted. To view their grades online, students must either complete the online evaluation or actively opt out of it. Faculty members and graduate teaching assistants are therefore urged not to share final grades with students before those grades are officially submitted, since knowledge of final grades could affect students’ course evaluations.

Questions and answers about the new online evaluation system can be viewed at: https://evaluation.isc-seo.upenn.edu/bluefiles/OnlineCourse-Evaluation-faq.htm

Introduction of Online Syllabi in Courses InTouch

As of March 6, 2009, Courses InTouch allows instructors to include a syllabus or preliminary syllabus for the use of students during Advance Registration. Faculty members and school/program administrators can use Courses InTouch to upload a document, in PDF format, to the Course Search and Schedule Planning Tool.

To upload a syllabus or preliminary syllabus:

(1) Log on to the Courses InTouch system from the U@Penn website as you do to submit grades or check rosters.

(2) Click the “Syllabi” link from the Courses InTouch applications listed on the left-hand side.

(3) Select the “Choose” button for a given course section and you will be able to upload a PDF-formatted syllabus.

A preliminary syllabus does not need to include detailed information about schedules and deadlines. The Student Committee on Undergraduate Education suggests that information needed by students to make good decisions about their course selections includes: a brief list of topics to be covered, a preliminary reading list, and an initial sense of when and how students will be evaluated (e.g., a final paper, a series of multiple choice exams).

We encourage you to take advantage of this new option to educate students about the courses they are exploring. If you have any questions about how to upload the document or convert a document to PDF format, please contact your department administrator.

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IGEL Annual Conference-Workshop Integrative Thinking About Life Cycle Analysis

(continued from page 1)

ness and the Environment is designed to address leading environmental issues facing business from different academic, practical and policy-oriented perspectives. The distinctive format of this conference is to encourage “workshop-style” interactions to promote rigorous in-depth discussion and engagement on issues among different stakeholders including representatives of non-governmental organizations and government as well as business and academia. The aim of the conference is to promote a neutral forum and an intellectually rigorous environment for learning and education for everyone involved. Scheduled formal presentations will be strictly limited to a “Davos rule” of a 15-minute, 5-slide maximum for each contribution.

Participation in the conference will be by invitation only (though members of the Penn community including students interested in attending a session may contact Joanne Spigonardo at environment@wharton.upenn.edu or call her at (215) 746-3878).

The aim of the conference-workshop, which will be held at The Hub at the Cira Center, is to promote a neutral and intellectually rigorous environment for learning and mutual education on major selected issues. Identification of topics and problems deserving continued research or revisiting at future conferences will also be another goal of the deliberations.

Leaving a Lasting Legacy

The Honorable Leonore Annenberg
1918-2009

The Hon. Leonore Annenberg, Penn Trustee Emerita, died March 12 at the age of 91, at the Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage, California.

Penn President Amy Gutmann and Penn Trustee Chairman James Riepe announced, “It is with great sorrow that we inform you of the death of Leonore Annenberg, H’85, Emeritus Trustee and founding member of the Joint Committee of the Trustees of the Annenberg School for Communication, and for decades one of Penn’s most committed and supportive friends.

“A Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania, Lee brought to her role as a trustee the same style and sensitivity that benefited our country when she was Chief of Protocol of the United States, a position that carries the rank of Ambassador. Remarkably, Lee was associated with the University—her adopted alma mater—for over 40 years, providing extraordinary leadership and invaluable counsel. Her appreciation and support of excellence in education, as in the arts, inspired Penn to strive toward ever greater distinction. As individuals, we will miss her grace, determination and most important, her friendship. As an institution, Penn will miss her profound dedication to education and citizenship, and her willingness to commit her resources to support those ideals. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Lee’s family and many friends.”

“First elected as a Term Trustee in 1982, Lee’s insight and effectiveness were recognized by her colleagues when she was elected a life trustee in 1987. The following year, Lee was designated Trustee Emerita, the first woman selected for that honor. She applied her expertise and knowledge of the media and government to her role on the External Affairs Committee, and was always ready to lend her counsel on issues ranging from facilities and campus planning, to development, to neighborhood initiatives. Penn recognized her contribution to the University with an honorary degree in 1985 and the University of Pennsylvania Medal for Distinguished Achievement in 1994.

She and her late husband, Ambassador Walter Annenberg, W’31, H’66, (Almanac October 8, 2002) were dedicated benefactors whose extraordinary financial contributions transformed Penn.

“The impact of their generosity is beyond measure,” added President Gutmann. In 1958, they founded the Annenberg School for Communication. In 1993, they provided a permanent endowment for the School and created the Annenberg Public Policy Center (APPC) with a $120 million gift—the largest in Penn’s history (Almanac July 13, 1993). The Foundation established the Institute for Adolescent Risk Communication, the Annenberg Institute for the Study of Democratic Institutions and Government, and in 2002, established a special operating trust of $100 million for continued support for the Annenberg School for Communication and the Annenberg Public Policy Center (Almanac September 24, 2002).

In 2008, she endowed the Leonore Annenberg Institute for Civics in the Center with a gift of $20 million from the Annenberg Foundation. A new building to house the Center, funded by the Annenberg Foundation and Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands, is scheduled for completion in June (Almanac November 2, 2004).

The Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts was named in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Annenberg in 1970. The Annenbergs were also instrumental in founding what is now the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, the only institution in the world devoted exclusively to post-doctoral research on Jewish civilization (Almanac November 3, 1992).

Mrs. Annenberg was a strong advocate for increasing access to education and the Annenberg Foundation established the Annenberg Scholars at Penn to provide scholarships for undergraduate students. In 2007, it established educational opportunities for children through the Leonore Annenberg Scholarships and the Leonore Annenberg Cultural Enrichment Fund for Talented Students and the Leonore Annenberg School Fund for Children.

The Annenbergs established 24 professorships at Penn, primarily in the School of Arts and Sciences, but also in the Annenberg School and the Schools of Dental Medicine, Medicine and Law. She also established the Leonore Annenberg University Professorship as part of the Penn Integrates Knowledge (PIK) initiative.

“The Annenberg’s legacy “will continue at Penn in the many wonderful programs they established and in all the individuals whose lives they touched.” Dr. Gutmann added.

In the years since the death of her husband, Mrs. Annenberg served as President of the Annenberg Foundation and CEO of the Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands. The programs of the Trust are administered through the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University.

Active in cultural affairs, she was a trustee emerita of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and an advisory member of its Acquisitions Committee. She was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, a former member of the Trustees’ Council of the National Gallery of Art, a managing director of the Metropolitan Opera, a trustee of the American Associates of the Royal Academy Trust, past president and honorary trustee of the Palm Desert Museum, founder of the American Friends of Covent Garden, honorary president of the American Friends of the British Museum, and chairman emeritus of the Foundation of Art and Preservation in Embassies. In addition, she was past president and an honorary trustee of the Performing Arts Council of the Los Angeles Music Center. She was a former member of the boards of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and the Philadelphia Orchestra Association, a charter member of the Philadelphia Orchestra’s International Council, and a member of the Academy of Music Committee.

Mrs. Annenberg was recognized the world over for her impact on education, the arts, and society. She received the Cavaliere dell’Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana in 1961, the Grand Officio Order of Orange-Nassau from the Netherlands in 1981, the Wagner Medal for Public Service from the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University, the Colonial Williamsburg Churchill Bell Award, the National Medal of Arts from the National Endowment for the Arts in 1992, the Crystal Award from the Union League of Philadelphia in 2001, the Andrew Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy in 2001, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Lighting the Way Award from the Governor and Mrs. Edward Rendell, the Pat Nixon Ambassador of Good Will Award in 2002, the United Nations Association Global Leadership Award in 2005, and the Philadelphia Award in 2006.

Mrs. Annenberg is survived by her sister, Mrs. Frank Wolf; two daughters, Diane Deshong and Elizabeth Kabler; one stepdaughter, Wallis Annenberg; seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

There will be a private family service. The family asks that in lieu of flowers individuals make a donation to their favorite charity.
Deaths

Dr. Brobeck, Physiology

Dr. John R. Brobeck, professor emeritus of physiology in the School of Medicine, passed away March 6; he was 94.

Dr. Brobeck chaired the department of physiology from 1952 to 1970 and was a professor until 1982. He was named the Herbert C. Rorer Professor in the Medical Sciences in 1970. As Penn’s judicial administrator from 1989 to 1993, he oversaw the resolution of the “Water Buffalo” incident. He was also president of the Faculty Club (now the University Club at Penn) from 1969 to 1971.

Prior to coming to Penn, Dr. Brobeck served on the medical faculty at Yale University, where he earned his medical degree in 1943. He received a BS from Wheaton College in 1936; and from Northwestern University an MS in 1937 followed by a PhD in neuroanatomy in 1939.

He was the chairman of the editorial board of the journal Physiological Reviews from 1963 to 1972. He held memberships in the American Physiological Society, of which he was once president, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the National Academy of Science, and had been a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Brobeck is survived by his daughters, Elisabeth Thompson and Priscilla; sons, Stephen and John T.; five grandchildren; and a sister.

Memorial donations may be made to the church organ fund at the Aldan Union Church, 7 E. Providence Rd., Aldan, PA 19018.

Dr. Castetter, GSE

Dr. William B. Castetter, professor emeritus of education, passed away February 23; he was 94.

Dr. Castetter received his bachelor’s degree from the University of New Mexico in 1936 and his master’s degree in education administration there in 1937. He earned his doctorate from Penn in 1948. That same year he was appointed to the faculty as assistant professor of education in the Graduate School of Education.

During his tenure at Penn, Dr. Castetter had served as director of the Center for Field Studies from 1960 until his retirement. He was acting dean of GSE twice (1967-68 and 1974-75). He had been a consultant to the Education Department of Delaware, Michigan, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. He also held an appointment in CGS (now the College of Liberal and Professional Studies). He became emeritus in 1980 and retired that same year.

In 1974, GSE honored Dr. Castetter with the Helen C. Bailey Alumni Award of Distinction for significant service to the School.

Dr. Castetter is survived by his nephew.

A memorial is planned for sometime in May at St. David’s Episcopal Church in Wayne, PA.

Memorial donations may be made to the William B. and Roberta V. Castetter Endowed Fellowship Fund at GSE, University of Pennsylvania, 3700 Walnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19104.

Dr. Hires, President’s Office

Dr. William L. Hires, former assistant to the late President Emeritus Gaylord Harnwell, passed away February 14; he was 90.

Initially, Dr. Hires was the assistant to the dean of admissions from 1952 to 1955. After working in the Chester County school system for a few years, he returned to Penn in 1961 as an assistant to the president and then to the secretary of the University. He left Penn in 1964.

Dr. Hires earned his doctorate in psychology from Penn in 1972, after which he conducted a psychological practice.

In addition, he held academic positions for the Chester County and Upper Darby school districts. In 1960, he retired from his position of academic dean at the Curtis Institute of Music, but worked part-time as a park ranger at Independence Hall and the Edgar Allen Poe House until 2005.

Dr. Hires is survived by his wife, Karen; daughter, Jennifer; stepsons, Frank and Keith Perrott; stepdaughter, L. Perrott; three step-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Dr. Reiner, Regional Science

Dr. Thomas A. Reiner, professor emeritus of regional science in the School of Arts and Sciences, died of leukemia on March 3; he was 77.

Dr. Reiner spent his entire academic career at Penn. He was appointed to the faculty in 1963 as an assistant professor in regional science after receiving his doctoral degree from Penn that same year. He held secondary appointments in the departments of City and regional planning in the School of Design and organizational dynamics in the School of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Reiner also directed the Urban Studies Program in the mid-1980s. He retired in 1993 as professor emeritus of regional science and in 1998 became professor emeritus of organizational dynamics. He continued to advise students at Penn until a few months ago.

As an advocate for comprehensive social/economic/physical planning, Dr. Reiner organized regional and metropolitan planning initiatives, created training programs and academic graduate courses, and served as a consultant to governmental and nonprofit organizations.

Born in Czechoslovakia, he earned his bachelor’s degree in political science from Swarthmore College in 1952 and his master’s in city and regional planning from MIT in 1955. He earned his doctorate from Penn in 1967.

He was the chairman of the editorial board of Urban Studies from 1972 to 1976. He served as president of the Pennsylvania Association of Regional Planners in 1975. That same year he was appointed to the faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences. He was an associate dean of the School of Arts and Sciences in 1984. He served as acting dean of the School of Arts and Sciences in 1989.

He was the author of seven books and numerous articles in professional publications, and his work has been cited in many reports and plans. He was a member of the American Planning Association, the American Institute of Planners, the Pennsylvania Association of Regional Planners, and the American Society of Planning, Regional, and Urban Law.

Dr. Reiner is survived by his wife, Susan; children, Salem and Lisa Reiner; grandchildren, Daniel Sotelo-Reiner, Eleanor and Abigail Reiner; stepchildren, Jessica and Seth Lieberman; and brother, Martin.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Civil Liberties Union, 125 Broadway, 18th Floor, New York, NY 10004 and to Congregation B’nai Jeshurun, 2109 Broadway-Suite 203, New York, NY 10023-2106.

Dr. Schnabel, Medicine

Dr. Truman G. Schnabel Sr., was a professor in the School of Medicine. Following in the footsteps of this father, Dr. Schnabel Jr. (affectionately known as Dr. Nipper) was appointed to the School of Medicine faculty in 1954 as an assistant professor. He was promoted to associate professor only two years later and then promoted to professor in 1963. In addition to teaching, he was assigned to the Philadelphia General Hospital, where he served until the hospital closed in 1977, first as ward chief and then as chief of the University service, a position his father also held some years earlier. After over three decades of serving on the faculty, he retired from teaching in 1989 but remained at Penn serving as acting director of the Institute of Aging during the 1990s. He was accorded emeritus status in 1994.

Dr. Schnabel’s honors and awards included being the recipient of the School of Medicine’s Distinguished Graduate Award in 1988. Previously, he was named an honorary fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland in 1974. He was the 50th president of American College of Physicians, who named him a master in 1975 for his “scholarship, humanistic attitudes, and superb leadership.” The occasional essayist and medical historian, he published numerous articles in medical journals and also co-authored It’s Your Body: Know What the Doctor Ordered—Your Complete Guide to Medical Testing with M. L. Fox in 1979.

Dr. Schnabel is survived by his children, Ann Gignac, Paul Schnabel and Brooke Schnabel; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Contributions may be made to a fund established to honor his father, Truman G. Schnabel Sr. Fund, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, 3400 Spruce St., Philadelphia, PA 19101.

Ms. Wright, Houston Hall

Nancy Irene Wright, retired information desk coordinator in Houston Hall, passed away March 8 at age 58.

Ms. Wright was born in Bridgeport, New Jersey. After moving to Philadelphia she obtained a job at the University of Pennsylvania Gift Shop in 1984, which was then in Houston Hall. After a number of years she gained a position as scheduling coordinator in Houston Hall. Ms. Wright retired after 24 years at Penn due to illness last fall. Before retiring she was asked to act as a board member for the Women of Color at Penn; she was especially proud and honored for this acknowledgement.

Ms. Wright is survived by two daughters, Tracy C. Rigs and Tonya L. Johnson; grandchildren, Cyle Green, Brian R. Johnson, Nakita T. Barnett, and Umar Rigs Jr.; mother and stepfather, Shirley and Sam Barren; sisters, Lynn and Berley Simpson, and Ludia; brothers, Harry and Gil.

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. Call (215) 898-5274 or e-mail almanac@upenn.edu.

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

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Volunteer Opportunities

Penn Volunteers In Public Service posts a list of volunteer opportunities for the Penn community to become involved in. These opportunities are developed from the many requests we receive for partnerships and assistance from the local community. During the past holidays, the Penn community showed their generosity by providing much-needed support to members of our surrounding community. Many benefited from your willingness to give. The following is a list of the various holiday efforts:

Thank you to President Amy Gutmann for hosting an Annual Holiday Party and to Business Services for their collection of toys and gifts for Councilwoman Blackwell’s Holiday Party for the Homeless. Thank you to the following departments for providing toys and gifts for deserving West Philadelphia families during the holidays by “adopting” them:

- Arts & Sciences coordinated by Jennifer Shepard
- Cardiovascular Institute coordinated by Carolyn Phillips
- Center for Bioethics coordinated by Robin Hartley
- Endocrine Division, School of Medicine coordinated by Tom Hoffman
- General Counsel coordinated by Helen Logan
- Gift Planning and International Gifts coordinated by Lynn Jerardi
- Housing and West Philadelphia Services coordinated by Katrina Terrell
- Penn Publication Services coordinated by Aiasha B. Saalim Graham
- Perelman Quadrangle coordinated by Kristine Werez
- Radiology Department, Ultrasound Section coordinated by Bernadette Chester
- University Communications coordinated by Heather A. Davis
- Vice President for Government, Community & Public Affairs coordinated by Linda Satchell
- Wharton External Affairs coordinated by Genevieve Sherick
- Wharton School Dean’s Office coordinated Jennifer O’Keefe
- Wharton Marketing coordinated by Eliza Covello
- Wharton School Publishing coordinated by Teresa Regan and family

Special thanks to Helen Logan and the Office of the General Counsel, Lauren Oshana and the Office of Research Services, and MaryAnn Piccolo in the Comptroller’s Office for the additional assistance they provided to ensure that many more families enjoyed the holiday.

Thank you to the DropSite Volunteers who collected all the gifts and toys and made it possible for us to respond to request for donations from our neighbors listed below:

- Councilwoman Janice L. Blackwell’s Holiday Dinner for the Homeless
- McMichael School
- Carroll Park Community Council
- Church of New Hope & Faith, Inc.
- Women of Peace, Inc.
- Potter’s House Mission
- The Consortium
- Mill Creek Community Center
- People’s Emergency Shelter

Thanks to Amy Forsyth and Vivian Hasiuk for coordinating the Annual Coat Drive. This year, our Penn Coat Drive benefited the Anna Howard Shaw Middle School Home and School Association and the Greater Philadelphia Cares Coat Drive. Please contact me via e-mail, sammapp@pobox.upenn.edu or call (215) 898-2020 to volunteer for any of the programs. The University community continues to work towards being good neighbors in our shared community. We thank you for your overwhelming support and for your generosity.

—Isabel Mapp, Associate Director, Netter Center for Community Partnerships,

PENN VIPS Annual Penny Drive: Through March 19

Each year, Penn VIPS hosts an annual change drive to benefit small local nonprofits in the surrounding area. This year, the DropSite Committee will donate the funds to Tariro Mupombwa, a very special Penn student working on a project to help members of her community. Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please visit www.philly.com/philly/news/local/20090217_Penn_student_collecting_sewing_machines_for_Zimbabwe.html to read her story. Please take your change to the following drop sites:

- President’s Office 100 College Hall Brenda Gonzalez 898-0447
- Provost’s Office 353B 3401 Walnut Susan Curran 898-6841
- Museum Reception Desk Nears Kress Gallery Bonnie Crossfield 898-4001
- Women’s Center 3643 Locust Walk Gloria Gay 898-8611
- SAS 120 Logan Hall Stephanie Jones 898-7867
- Af-Am Resource Center 3537 Locust Walk Robert Carter 898-0104
- Van Pelt Library HR, Room 239 Zakoya Blake 898-8109
- Renal Division 700 Clinical Research Yvonne McClean Florence 898-1018
- ISC 265C 3401 Walnut Doris Pate 573-6803
- Wharton 1000 SH-DH Jennifer O’Keefe 898-1097
- Nursing 213 Fagin Hall Donna Milko 573-0747
- ISC 203A Sansom West Kathy Ritchie 573-3561
- University Club 3611 Walnut Natalia Swavely 898-8618
- CCP 362 South Street Sabrina Lee 898-2020
- Cell & Dev. Biology 1157 BRB Ill/Ill Kim Walls 898-8045
- HR 3401 Walnut, 38A Monne Pressley 898-6018
- Medicine 233 Blockley Larissa Mogano/Sharoh Connolly 898-2876
- BRB 421 Curie Blvd Cora Haas 573-6796
- IRB 3624 Market, Suite 301 Adina Lieberman 746-6264

Join the Penn VIPS Scholarship Committee! Help plan the 18th Annual Penn VIPS Scholarship Program where we select and honor outstanding students from Bartram, Parkway, Oberbrook, University City, Sayre and West Philadelphia high schools. Committee selects awardees, plans a reception to be held at the Sheraton and provides winners with up to $1,000 non-tuition scholarships. Planning is underway for June’s program.

Help save Philadelphia’s working families thousands of dollars this tax season! Your efforts can help put more money in the pockets of those who need it most. This year more than ever we need the help of volunteers. Low-income working families are hit the hardest in these rough economic times. You can help bring $ and W in tax returns to Philadelphia households by joining our effort to provide free tax preparation services. No experience necessary; we will train you to become a certified IRS tax preparer or to support our professional services as a greeter or benefits screen. To volunteer with The Campaign for Working Families visit www.phillyfreetaxes.org.

2009-2010 GAPSA Executive Board Elections and Call for Nominations

The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA) announces elections for the 2009-2010 GAPSA Executive Board and calls for nominations.

Elections for the 12 available positions will be held during the meeting of the Assembly on April 8, 2009 at 6 p.m. in Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall. Any current graduate or professional student at the University of Pennsylvania may make a nomination or be nominated. Self nominations are encouraged. All nominations should be sent, via e-mail, to the Vice Chair for Equity and Access, Esther Agbaje, gapsa.vpethatualism@gmail.com. Nominations will remain open until the start of the Executive Board term commences on May 1, 2009 and runs through April 30, 2010.

For election rules, please refer to Article V and Appendix A of the GAPSA Constitution, www.gapsa.upenn.edu/intro/constitution. Note that only School Representatives to the Assembly are eligible to serve as the Chair and Vice Chair. For a description of general Executive Board member responsibilities, see Article VI. For descriptions of each Chair and Vice Chair position, see Article VII. To contact a current Board member with questions about a position, see the Membership page (www.gapsa.upenn.edu/intro/membership).

For other ways to get involved, see www.gapsa.upenn.edu/engage/representation.

—Andrew J. Rennekamp, GAPSA Chair

University of Pennsylvania ArtsEdge Residencies: April 15

We are accepting applications for the second year of the ArtsEdge Residency Project at the University of Pennsylvania; a collaboration of the Kelly Writers House, the fine arts department of the School of Design, and Penn’s Facilities & Real Estate Services (FRES).

The University of Pennsylvania ArtsEdge Residency project is designed to encourage and support the careers of emerging artists and writers. Through ArtsEdge Residencies, we offer two one-year residencies in a live/work space near Penn’s campus. ArtsEdge aims to support the creative work of young artists and writers, and create a live/work environment that will inspire interdisciplinary exploration.

Residencies include a dedicated studio for each writer/artist, living space, and close collaboration with the writing and artistic communities at Penn. During the course of their residencies, writers and artists will develop at least one collaborative project with the Writers House or fine arts department. Qualified applicants may also be considered to teach one course at Penn in the spring semester.

Two residencies are available, one for a visual artist and one for a writer. The residencies are not intended for current undergraduates. No Penn affiliation necessary. Move-in date: September 1, 2009. Applications due by April 15, 2009. For details, see http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/involved/awards/artsedge/.

—Jessica Lowenthal, Kelly Writers House, Director
“Share-the-Road” Campaign: March 24

Warm weather is just around the corner, as well as increased bike riding to and from Penn. Public Safety will kick-off the “Share-the-Road” campaign next week at an event that will focus on educating both bikers and motorists of basic safety practices and City and State laws to allow for a safe riding environment, and safety for pedestrians as well.

Penn’s “Share-the-Road” campaign will have members from the Bicycle Coalition of Philadelphia, Neighborhood Bike Works, USP, Drexel, EMS, Trophy Bikes, MERT and the Undergraduate Assembly available on site to answer questions and provide information on Tuesday, March 24 at 1:30 p.m. at the entrance of Locust Walk at 34th and Walnut Streets.

Bicycle Planning at the University of Pennsylvania

Bike Parking - Recent Additions (Funded by FRES, DPS and Business Services)

- Bicycle Parking - Recent Additions (Funded by FRES, DPS and Business Services)
  - Garage #37 at 34th and Chestnut: 30 bike capacity (indoor and attended)
  - Fresh Grocer Garage at 40th and Walnut: 30 bike capacity (indoor and attended)
  - Richards Building: 2 new racks (10 hoops on rails) (20 bike capacity) (covered)
  - Blockley Hall: 2 new racks (10 hoops on rails) (20 bike capacity) (covered)
  - Steiner Building: 2 new racks (10 hoops on rails) (20 bike capacity) (covered)
  - Blockley Hall: 3 new racks (15 hoops on rails) (30 bike capacity)
  - 12 on-street racks to be sited soon (24 bike capacity)

Bicycle Racks on Buses: PennTransit has installed bicycle racks on the front of their East and West large bus shuttles to encourage intermodal use and more options for cyclists (put bike on bus in rain or late night).

Penn's Bicycle Policy (Almanac October 22, 2002) prohibits riding on walkways between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. More signage is planned to make this more readily obvious.

For more information go to: www.dot.state.pa.us/BIKE/WEB/bikelaws.htm and see Public Safety’s brochure, Driving and Cycling Safety on Penn’s Campus, which can be downloaded as a PDF at www.publicsafety.upenn.edu or picked up at the Share-the-Road event next Tuesday afternoon.

Opportunity to Participate in NSO Free Notebook Distribution

PSA will distribute 7,000 free notebooks across the Penn campus during NSO 2009. Glossy and full color, the notebook’s front six pages are exclusively available to on-campus administrative offices for reservation. Welcome to some resource information that is pertinent to students’ lives on campus and wanted to offer you the first chance to reserve one of these pages for your office.

We are asking everyone that is interested in placing a page in the notebook to respond by Friday, March 20, 2009. At that time, we will have a lottery and let everyone that participates know the results.

A full page is $500; a half page is $300. Graphic design assistance is $50 for two hours.

—Avis D. Hirschfeld, General Manager, Penn Student Agencies and Penn Marketplace suppliers as well as campus service providers with a focus on Value Economics: Getting the best value for your dollar. Free info sessions will be held with key suppliers. Come and attend to hear new and innovative ideas about future developments. Seating is limited. Food and Great Prizes. Sponsored by Purchasing Services, Publication Services, Travel Services and Procurement Cards, Mail Services and Computer Connection.

One Step Ahead
Security & Privacy
Made Simple

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

What’s the half-life of an SSN?

We are sometimes surprised at what’s on our computer.

With the advent of data breach notification laws, when an employee computer goes missing, data privacy is the first concern. Employers want to know their risks and common practice is to scan any available backups for confidential information. Often, news coverage of data breaches note that the employee was unaware of sensitive records on the stolen computer.

In the days before identity theft mushroomed, it wasn’t uncommon to find social security numbers on performance appraisals, CVs, job applications, transcript requests, expense reports, and grant proposals. Since then, privacy policy and general awareness have increased to the point that most people would likely question sending an SSN in an email or including them on electronic forms.

But if we’ve upgraded our computer a couple of times and it’s been our practice to cannibalize data from the old computer, it can be easy to forget that we’ve carried forward into the present a growing privacy risk. The same is true of our confidential personal information any time we use public computers to prepare our taxes, make credit card purchases or manage our finances.

Help is available. Under Penn’s Social Security Number policy, faculty and staff are remedying past practices. Through Penn’s Office of Software Licensing “Identity Finder” software is available for purchase to track down sensitive data before it becomes a problem, www.business-servic es.upenn.edu/softwarelicenses.

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

To receive weekly OneStepAhead tips via e-mail, send e-mail to listserv@lists.upenn. edu with the following text in the body of the message: sub one-step-ahead <your name>

Purchasing Services
Annual Supplier Show & Expo

On Wednesday, March 25, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., the 2009 Purchasing Services Annual Supplier Show & Expo will be held at the Annenberg Center lobby. This year’s show will highlight the University’s “preferred contract” and Penn Marketplace suppliers as well as campus service providers with a focus on Value Economics: Getting the best value for your dollar. Free info sessions will be held with key suppliers. Come and attend to hear new and innovative ideas about future developments. Seating is limited. Food and Great Prizes. Sponsored by Purchasing Services, Publication Services, Travel Services and Procurement Cards, Mail Services and Computer Connection.

Human Resources

Quality of Worklife Workshops

Managing Up, March 19; 11:30 a.m.—1 p.m.; free.

Having a positive and productive work relationship with your supervisor is vital. This seminar will teach you how to manage yourself in such a way that promotes camaraderie between you and your supervisor. You’ll learn how to be assertive and how to communicate with your supervisor so they understand your work style and how to maximize your productivity.

Supporting Family Members through Career Transitions, March 24; 11:30 a.m.—1 p.m.; free.

When one family member changes jobs or even careers, it can be a full time job for the entire family. This workshop will teach participants strategies for supporting family members during a career transition, especially in today’s challenging economy. You’ll learn how to build partnerships while also identifying the risks of the situation, and how to focus on your own well-being while remaining supportive of others.

Resources to Help You Properly Manage Your Finances

In these current economic times, managing your finances properly is more important than ever. Penn partners with TIAA-CREF and The Vanguard Group to provide investment opportunities for faculty and staff. Both of these vendors also provide extensive information and access to advice about investing in the current economy. You’re encouraged to utilize these resources.

If you’re contacted by outside sources you’re not familiar with, it’s best to be wary when it comes to information regarding your finances. The Division of Human Resources Financial Planning Links website is full of trustworthy information and resources to help you with investment offerings, your finances, and more. Visit www.hr.upenn.edu/Benefits/Retirement/FinancialPlanning.aspx.

Open Enrollment: April 6-April 17

Open Enrollment, your annual opportunity to make changes to your healthcare elections, is almost here! This year’s Open Enrollment period will last through midnight on Friday, April 17. Details, including information about changes to existing plans, coverage rates for the upcoming plan year, and how to change your elections during the Open Enrollment period, will soon be available on the Human Resources website and published in Almanac on March 24.

Open Enrollment Health Fair

This year’s Open Enrollment Health Fair will be held on Tuesday, April 14 from 10 a.m.—2 p.m. in Houston Hall’s Hall of Flags. Representatives from Penn’s healthcare providers and administrators will be on-site to answer your questions. While there, take advantage of free health screenings and wellness information on several topics, including blood pressure, cholesterol, glaucoma, Body Mass Index, recreation and fitness, women’s health, environmental safety and ergonomics, the Employee Assistance Program, occupational and physical therapy, diabetes and heart health, oral and dental care and more.

Pre-registration will be required for the cholesterol tests. To pre-register, visit Human Resources’ online course catalog at www.hr.upenn.edu (click on “Course Catalog” at the top of the screen, then select “Health Promotions” from the “Browse by Category” menu).

Representatives from Penn’s healthcare providers and administrators will also be available to answer your questions at the New Bolton Center Open Enrollment Fair on Wednesday, April 15, from 10 a.m.—2 p.m. in Alumni Hall.

—Division of Human Resources
**Update**

March AT PENN

**EXHIBIT**

Now  Selected Works: Alex Dragulescu: digital art derived from junk e-mail, databases, blogs and malware; Esther Klein Art Gallery. Through May 2 (Esther Klein Art Gallery).

**MUSIC**

24 Vaday Sunada Sangama; South Indian classical instrumental ensemble; 1:30 p.m.; Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall (South Asia Center).

**ON STAGE**

19 The House of Yes by Wendy MacLeod; Penn Players; 8:30 p.m.; Harold Prince Theatre, Annenberg Center; tickets: www.dolphin.upenn.edu/players. Also March 20, 6 p.m. and March 21, 8 p.m. (PAC).

20 Ugly Babies; Simply Chaos, stand up comedy troupe; 8:30 p.m.; Harold Prince Theatre, Annenberg Center; $8/door, $7/Locust Walk (PAC).

21 Exhibits: Inner; Honor. Pennsylvania Six 500, all male a capella; 8:27 p.m.; Irvine Auditorium; $8/door, $7/Locust Walk (Platt Performing Arts House).

**SPECIAL EVENT**

20 CSI@NBC: Be a toxicologist for a day—help solve the mystery of food pathogens—National Ag Day Celebration (Continental breakfast, 9:30 a.m., day includes lunch; Penn Vet Medicine’s New Bolton Center, Myrin Building Library and Conference Center, 382 West Street Road, Kennett Square.

**TALKS**

17 Graduate Fine Arts Lecture; Gary Hill, media artist; 5 p.m.; rm. B1, Meyerson Hall (PennDesign).

18 Viritually Perfect: Adolescent Responses to Digital Manipulation in Visual Media; Kristen Harison, University of Illinois; noon; rm. 500, Annenberg School for Communication (Annenberg).

The University of Pennsylvania Police Department Community Crime Report

**About the Crime Report:** Below are all Crimes Against Persons and Crimes Against Society from the campus report for March 2-8, 2009. Also reported were 14 crimes against property (including 10 thefts, 1 auto theft, 2 cases of fraud and 1 act of vandalism). Full reports are available at: www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v55/n25/creport.htm. This summary is prepared by the Division of Public Safety and includes all criminal incidents reported and made known to the University Police Department between the dates of March 2-8, 2009. 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.

March 2-8, 2009

**18th District Report**

7 incidents with 3 arrests (including 3 robberies and 4 aggravated assaults) were reported between March 2-8, 2009. by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th Street & Market Street to Woodland Avenue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03/04/09</td>
<td>05:57 PM</td>
<td>4001 Walnut St</td>
<td>Complainant threw rock at victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/04/09</td>
<td>11:58 AM</td>
<td>3800 Market St</td>
<td>Complainant thrown rock at victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/06/09</td>
<td>12:57 AM</td>
<td>Van Pelt-Dietrich Library</td>
<td>Complainant thrown rock at victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/06/09</td>
<td>02:29 PM</td>
<td>3800 Cedar Ave</td>
<td>Complainant thrown rock at victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/06/09</td>
<td>01:02 PM</td>
<td>4000 Market St</td>
<td>Complainant through window</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/07/09</td>
<td>06:16 PM</td>
<td>40th &amp; Sansom St</td>
<td>Complainant assaulted/Arrest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/07/09</td>
<td>07:24 PM</td>
<td>200 40th St</td>
<td>Complainant wanted for arrest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/07/09</td>
<td>11:02 PM</td>
<td>200 Preston St</td>
<td>Male arrested for possession of marijuana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/07/09</td>
<td>11:09 PM</td>
<td>200 40th St</td>
<td>Male cited for disorder conduct</td>
</tr>
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**Camp Erin Philadelphia:**

A Camp for Grieving Children

Camp Erin Philadelphia is open to children in the Philadelphia area, ages 6-17, who have lost someone in their life due to a death. The camp will be held 15 May 17-20, 2009 at Diamond Ridge Camps in Jamison, PA. Registration: Call 1-800-700-8807 or e-mail hospice@upenn.edu.

Camp Erin is a weekend overnight camp for children who have lost someone in their life. The camp combines traditional, fun, high-energy activities with grief education and support to help campers remember a loved one and develop grief skills and enjoy a positive camp experience. There is no charge for those who attend the camp. Staffed by licensed social workers and trained community volunteers, Camp Erin offers activities like arts and crafts, ropes course, campfires, music, swimming, and other activities. Campers participate in grief workshops throughout the weekend.

Camp Erin Philadelphia, developed in partnership with The Moyer Foundation and Diamond Ridge Camps, is named after Erin Metcalf, a remarkable young woman who died of liver cancer at the age of 17. Acknowledging her love of children and her desire to help others, Jamie and Karen Moyer of The Moyer Foundation founded this grief camp for children as a tribute to Erin. This is the third year that the University of Pennsylvania Visitsahckin Hospice has participated in this camp.

**Update on Meningococcal Infection**

On March 7, Penn issued a health advisory that has been updated almost daily. The hospitalized undergraduate student remains in critical but stable condition (as of March 15). Identified close contacts of the student who need preventative treatment have been notified. There are also additional suspected or confirmed cases of meningococcal infection. There is no evidence to suggest that the current case of meningococcal infection is connected to previously confirmed cases involving Penn students. Health officials are treating this as a new, isolated, independent case. See www.vpsl.upenn.edu/shs/ for FAQ.
The Inaugural Middle Class Task Force Meeting on Green Jobs

The University of Pennsylvania hosted the February 27 inaugural Middle Class Task Force Meeting, chaired by Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. The town-hall meeting focused on Green Jobs as a Pathway to a Strong Middle Class. Penn was selected as the site because of the University’s leadership role in sustainability.

“At Penn, we recognize the impact of a research institution of our size and acknowledge that our management of utilities, construction, transit services and recycling extends beyond our campus and has global consequences,” said Penn President Amy Gutmann, who in 2007 was the first Ivy League president to sign the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (Almanac Feb

As part of the Obama/Biden administration’s interest in reforming how the United States creates and consumes energy, the focus of the meeting, held in Irvine Auditorium, was on jobs that contribute to environmental quality improvements.

Vice President Biden and six cabinet secretaries and task force members heard from panelists in two afternoon sessions: Green Jobs: What Are They and How Can They Help The Middle Class? and Creating Green Opportunity: The Roles of Stakeholders.

Pennsylvania Gov. Edward G. Rendell and Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter discussed the role of the commonwealth and the city in building a greener economy. Labor and business leaders addressed their roles in creating green jobs and training workers for those jobs.

Also participating were Pennsylvania’s US senators, Arlen Specter and Robert P. Casey Jr., and Philadelphia-area US House of Representative members Chaka Fattah, Robert A. Brady and Patrick J. Murphy.

The task force is evaluating what investing in green jobs will mean for middle class families and is promoting the creation of green jobs.

During their visit to campus, Vice President Biden, the cabinet secretaries and task force members had a chance to see the innovative ways the University is conserving energy and creating green jobs by touring Penn’s operation command center in the Left Bank building (see below). President Gutmann and Mayor Nutter hosted a reception following the panel discussions.

The federal officials who participated included Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, Labor Secretary Hilda Solis, Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan, Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Education Secretary Arne Duncan and Melody Barnes, director of the White House Domestic Policy Council. For more information see www.AStrongMiddleClass.gov.

Penn’s Green Institutional, Academic Initiatives Highlighted

Dr. Eric Orts, Guardmark Professor and faculty director of the Initiative for Global Environmental Leadership (IGEL) at the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School, made a presentation to Vice President Joseph Biden and a small group of government leaders who were touring Penn’s Facilities and Real Estate (FRES) headquarters prior to convening the first meeting of the White House Task Force for Middle Class Families (see above).

The group included six members of the cabinet—Secretary of Energy Steven Chu, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Shaun Donovan, Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood, Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis, and Secretary of Agriculture Thomas Vilsack. US Senators Robert Casey and Arlen Spector, US Rep. Chaka Fattah, Gov. Edward Rendell and Mayor Michael Nutter also attended.

Presentations were made in Penn’s FRES “command center,” where centralized monitoring of heating and cooling operations is done for the entire campus. Presentations were made by Ken Ogawa, Penn’s executive director of operations, who reviewed the basic mechanics of the command room and its campus-wide efficiency achievements, and professor of architecture Ali Malkawi, who reviewed Penn’s overall energy efficiency achievements as a whole, which have been made possible through the T.C. Chan Center for Building Simulation and Energy Studies, which Mr. Malkawi directs in the School of Design.

Dr. Orts then discussed how to “scale up” Penn’s example, originally presented by Penn President Amy Gutmann to the U.N. Secretary-General’s Global Colloquium of University Presidents (see “Scaling Up the Environmental Commitment and Contribution of Universities,” www.upenn.edu/president/gutmann/speeches/nov28-07.html.) He mentioned three general areas and examples of activities at Penn that provide possible opportunities for “scaling up.”

1. Energy efficiency. How can Penn’s example of energy efficiency improvements be “scaled up” to include not only other large institutions (such as many large businesses which have already been leaders in energy efficiency improvements with straightforward cost-cutting as a main objective) but also millions of households and small businesses? Investments in “green jobs” for retrofitting for better insulation and efficiency are a major component of the newly enacted stimulus package. (Details about allocations were later given at the task force meeting.)

He cited a recent presentation in his Environmental Management course by a team of MBA and law students (Mat Abramsky, Catherine Courcy, David Luk, and Emily Schiller) that focused on the relatively new and affordable technology of “energy monitors.” Energy monitors combat what are called “vampires”—appliances and other plug-ins (such as cell phone chargers) that suck energy even when they are not being used. He suggested that this technology presents an opportunity for the creation of “vampire slayers” jobs to eliminate this waste, combined with other “green collar” construction jobs to improve the energy efficiency of US households.

Gov. Rendell noted that Pennsylvania’s utility regulation provided the necessary incentives for these and other kinds of home energy efficiency improvements that could be “scaled up” nationally.

2. Harnessing the market by providing reliable environmental information. Referring to an upcoming conference-workshop IGEL is hosting on life cycle analysis, he suggested that consumers and businesses alike would benefit from an improved use of competent and reliable environmental information. One potential outcome of this conference might be a call for improved eco-labels and increased policing of environmental claims. The general idea is that the reliable provision of environmental information will “scale up” demand for environmentally friendly products and services by leveraging market forces. With respect to “green jobs,” an expanding occupation of “environmental claim verifiers” could grow, included within traditional accounting and consulting firms, as well as government.

3. New advances in alternative energy technologies. A final concern is the need to generate breakthroughs in alternative energy technologies. Many scientists now believe that some large-scale environmental problems, such as climate change, cannot be solved without major new technological advances. They recommend research and development efforts on the scale of the Manhattan Project or Apollo missions to the moon. R&D of this kind, he argued, is the bread and butter of major universities such as Penn. He gave examples in this area of projects undertaken by Penn’s Energy Research Group, comprised of engineers and scientists, that include new high-efficiency solar materials, solar-to-fuel technologies and improvements in building “solar cells” (such as many large businesses which have already been leaders in energy efficiency improvements with straightforward cost-cutting as a main objective) but also millions of households and small businesses? Investments in “green jobs” for retrofitting for better insulation and efficiency are a major component of the newly enacted stimulus package. (Details about allocations were later given at the task force meeting.)

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