Penn Nursing: 1st in NIH Funding

Despite its relatively small size, the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing was ranked first among schools of nursing receiving federal research funding awarded by the National Institutes of Health, making it the top private school of nursing in the United States. The NIH annual rankings showed Penn Nursing received $10.9 million in research funding in 2009, raising it in the rankings from second place to first and marking a 41 percent increase from 2008. The University of California, San Francisco was ranked second with $8.8 million and the University of Washington was third with $8.5 million. Penn Nursing received 28 NIH-funded grants, including a $3.8 million grant to Dr. Martha Curley for her study on sedation management in pediatric patients with acute respiratory failure. The School currently undertakes research in a number of fields, notably investigating the cellular behavior contributing to disease, hospital working conditions for nurses, care for elderly people in transition and developing behavioral interventions to stem the spread of HIV/AIDS among adolescents here and abroad.

Postdoctoral Fellowships for Academic Diversity

The Office of the Vice Provost for Research in partnership with Biomedical Postdoctoral Programs and the Deans have established a new program, Postdoctoral Fellowships for Academic Diversity at the University of Pennsylvania, to encourage a broad spectrum of candidates to pursue careers in academia.

The Academic Diversity Fellowship Program seeks to attract promising scholars and educators from different backgrounds, races, ethnic groups, and other diverse groups whose life experience, research experience and employment background will contribute significantly to the University's academic excellence. The fellowship program is open to graduate students who are about to complete their PhD and postdoctoral scholars who have completed their dissertation within the last three years. The three-year fellowships are available for postdoctoral training in all areas of study at the University. Postdocs who have a position at Penn are ineligible for this program.

Fellows receive a stipend of $43,000 in year 1 with $2,000 increments in years 2 and 3, as well as annual allowances for travel ($2,000) and research ($5,000), and one-time relocation expenses of $5,000. The University also provides a medical, vision, dental and life insurance benefits package. Successful candidates will receive highly mentored scholarly and research training as well as courses and workshops to enhance their research success skills and prepare them for a faculty position in a major university.

Complete details about the program, as well as the application materials, are available online at www.upenn.edu/research/research_site/postdoc_diversity.html.

Expansion of Partnership with Peking University

In a recent ceremony on Peking University’s campus, the University of Pennsylvania and Peking University announced an agreement recognizing shared academic interests between the two universities. The memorandum of understanding builds on several existing partnerships between the two universities, namely between the Wharton and Guanghua schools of business. In addition, Penn’s School of Dental Medicine and Peking’s School of Stomatology signed an agreement of understanding to facilitate research and educational programs. As part of the day’s events, Penn and Peking faculty gathered on campus, convening discussions on international relations, oral health, management and leadership and globalization.

“Penn and Peking share a devotion to the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom across academic boundaries and national borders,” Penn President Amy Gutmann said. “Our two universities—and our countries—have benefited from rewarding student exchanges and from our research partnerships in management, law, communications and oral health.”

Established in 2007, the Guanghua-Wharton Strategic Partnership is designed to promote academic collaboration as well as faculty and student exchanges between the two business schools. The schools have established a research facility on the campus of Guanghua to facilitate research conducted by Wharton faculty when they visit. The faculty collaboration includes a research initiative on firms and markets in China. Other research projects include studies of large family businesses and ownership and performance of Chinese corporations.

Faculty and student exchanges between the two business schools have been productive. Six faculty members from Wharton visited Guanghua in 2009 to exchange research ideas, and Wharton Professor Z. John Zhang organizes a yearly consortium for junior scholars on the Guanghua campus. More than 80 participants in Wharton’s MBA program for executives were hosted by Guanghua on its campus during an immersion tour to learn about the Chinese economy. The schools have a vibrant student-exchange program both at the MBA and undergraduate levels.

Penn’s School of Dental Medicine and Peking’s School of Stomatology are strengthening faculty and student ties through a new memorandum of understanding, to be signed on campus, which outlines exchange of students and faculty, exchange of learning resources and the possibility of joint research projects between the two faculties. Peking hosted a day-long symposium on oral health which included sessions on smoking and oral health, modern endodontic therapy, maxillofacial surgery, implants and prosthetics.

Healthcare Reform & Your Benefits

President Barack Obama signed a landmark healthcare reform bill last Tuesday. We know you have a lot of questions and concerns about how the legislation will impact your benefits; however, it will take some time for the requirements to be finalized and for us to understand exactly what the legislation means for us. In the meantime, please be assured that healthcare reform will not change our commitment to providing competitive and cost-effective benefits that support your health and wellness—today and in the future.

—Jack Heuer,
Vice President for Human Resources

IN THIS ISSUE

2 Senate: SEC Actions and Nominations; Copyright
3 Deaths: Dr. Abraham, Dr. Denenberg;
PPSA Nominations; Studies: Urologic Research
4 Honors & Other Things
7 Penn-ICOWHI Conference on Women’s Health; Knowledge@Wharton’s Arabic Edition
8 Cloud Computing: Opportunities Used Safely
9 HR: Open Enrollment Reminder; Roth 403(b);
Did You Know? Career Coaching
10 Southern Plains Native Americans at Museum;
Tree-Planting Celebration; One Step Ahead;
66-Second Lecture Series
11 Clay@Penn; Update: Classified Ads; CrimeStats
12 At the Former Divinity School Site: Discovering Inspiration from the Past/Creating Spaces to Grow
Pullout: April AT PENN
Faculty Senate Executive Committee Actions
Wednesday, March 24, 2010

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 provide a Penn Associated Society of Senior and Emeritus Faculty (PASEF) member of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (SEC) with a seat on University Council.

The Bylaws of University Council state that 45 members of SEC are to be voting members of University Council. To keep that total, the Senate voted to replace the SEC Past-Secretary seat on University Council with the SEC PASEF member.

Chair’s Report. Faculty Senate Chair Harvey Rubin reported that the Senate Committee on Students and Educational Policy (SCSEP) asked for SEC feedback on faculty concerns regarding the possible distraction of laptops in the classroom. SEC members discussed various approaches they have used to limit or prohibit the use of laptops in the classroom and Dr. Rubin encouraged SEC members to contact him with their thoughts on this subject.

Past Chair’s Report: Faculty Senate Past-Chair Sherri Adams invited all SEC members to the Penn Forum for Women Faculty lecture and discussion on Mirages of Equality: Progress of Women in Science at MIT, 1971–2009 by Nancy Hopkins on Thursday, March 25.

Discussion and vote of School of Engineering and Applied Science Proposal to amend Faculty Handbook provisions relating to non-standing faculty tracks: Dr. Rubin reminded SEC members that at the February meeting, SEC voted unanimously to table the vote on the SEAS proposal and requested that SEAS Dean Eduardo Glandt and Deputy Dean Vijay Kumar to a meeting to discuss the rationale for the increase to 15% for the cap and also to gather more information about the range of courses that the proposed non-standing faculty would teach.

Dr. Rubin reported that SCOF met with SEAS Dean Eduardo Glandt and Deputy Dean Vijay Kumar on March 12, 2010 and discussed numerical data concerning the Penn Engineering courses taught by non-standing faculty. Dr. Rubin reviewed the SEAS data with SEC and noted that over the last few years the school has shifted from using part-time adjunct faculty to full-time specialized faculty and the proposed changes in faculty tracks will provide a career path for those full-time specialized faculty. SEC members discussed the impacts of the proposed faculty track change.

SEC members voted to approve the School of Engineering and Applied Science Proposal and the Faculty Handbook Section II.B.3 Associated Faculty and II.B.4 Academic Support Staff language changes recommended by SCOF.

Discussion on Copyright Templates. SEC members voted unanimously to approve the two copyright templates (see below) developed by the Senate Committee on Students and Educational Policy (SC-SEP) working with the Office of General Counsel.

Update from the Provost. Provost Vincent Price updated SEC on the work in the three main areas of the Office of the Provost: Faculty Affairs, Education, and Research. He announced that Vice Provost Lynn Lees is a wonderful new addition to the office and will continue with faculty development plans such as the Penn Fellows and Chair orientation programs. Provost Price reported that Vice Provost Andy Binns has been working on the new review evaluation system and online syllabus system and continues his work on the challenges of interdisciplinary teaching. He explained that Vice Provost Steve Fluharty is very busy managing the research enterprise and the stimulus funding. Provost Price reported that there were 26,800 applicants to Penn this year which is a significant increase from last year. SEC members and Provost Price discussed the micro and macro decisions that rest with individual school faculties, the challenge of monitoring and managing faculty track numbers, the burden of growing regulatory demands, the Target of Opportunity Committee and the need for Penn to increase their visibility in international education.

Senate Committee on Committees. SEC members voted on a ballot of names for specific 2010-2011 committees, as proposed by the 2010 Senate Committee on Committees.

Copyright Templates

The Senate Committee on Students and Educational Policy (SCSEP) explored situations involving student reuse or distribution of course materials which lead to questions about faculty rights in and the limits on student use of course materials. SCSEP, working with the Office of General Counsel, developed the following model statements that faculty may use on their syllabus, course website, and introductory materials to inform students of their expectations, if they so choose. Recognizing that courses differ and that not all faculty share similar views on how their original materials may be used, the statements are not intended as recommendations, but rather as examples of acceptable language to cover a range of permissible positions. If faculty have questions or wish to modify the statements to permit other uses of their materials, they may contact the Office of the General Counsel for advice.

General copyright statement that could be placed on the syllabus and course website:

“Copyright (year) (author’s name). All federal and state copyrights reserved for all original material presented in this course through any medium, including lecture and print. Any copyrighted material provided in this course for your personal, noncommercial use or others may not be copied or distributed to anyone else without my prior permission.”

Statement about lectures that could be included in introductory materials and given at the first lecture:

“My lectures are my own original expression and they are protected by state common law and federal copyright law. You are encouraged to take notes in class for your own personal, noncommercial use. You may share them with other course participants, but you may not distribute them to anyone else without my prior permission. If you wish to record my lectures, you must ask me in advance and I may allow it. However, any such recordings are solely for the personal, noncommercial use of you and other course participants and they may not be copied or distributed to anyone else without my prior permission.”

Under the Faculty Senate Rules, formal notification to members may be accomplished by publication in Almanac. The following is published under that rule.

TO: Members of the Faculty Senate
FROM: Larry Gladney, Chair, Nominating Committee
SUBJECT: Senate Nominations 2010-2011

1. In accordance with the Faculty Senate Rules, official notice is given of the Senate Nominating Committee’s slate of nominees for the incoming Senate Officers. The nominees, all of whom have indicated their willingness to serve, are:

Chair-elect:
- Camille Charles (School of Arts and Sciences/Sociology)
- Charles McGowan (School of Medicine/Pathology & Lab Medicine)

At-large Members of the Senate Executive Committee (to serve a 3-year term beginning upon election):
- Lesley King (School of Vet Medicine)
- Joshua Klein (School of Arts and Sciences/Physics & Astronomy)
- Susan Margulies (School of Engineering and Applied Science)
- Domenic Vitello (School of Design)

Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Responsibility (to serve a 3-year term beginning upon election):
- Jeffrey Draine (School of Social Policy & Practice)
- Claire Finkelstein (School of Law)
- Rogers Smith (School of Arts and Sciences/Political Science)

Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Responsibility (to serve a 1-year term vacancy beginning upon election):
- Erika Holzbaur (School of Medicine/Physiology)

Senate Committee on Economic Status of the Faculty (to serve a 3-year term beginning upon election):
- Andrea Liu (School of Arts and Sciences/Physics & Astronomy)
- Petra Todd (School of Arts and Sciences/Economics)

2. Again in accord with the Senate Rules, you are invited to submit additional nominations, which shall be accomplished via petitions containing at least 25 valid signatures and the signed approval of the candidate. All such petitions must be received no later than 14 days subsequent to the circulation of the nominees of the Nominating Committee. Petitions must be received by mail at the Faculty Senate, Box 12, College Hall/6303, or by hand at the Faculty Senate Office, 109 Duhring Wing by 5 p.m., Tuesday, April 13.

3. Under the same provision of the Senate Rules, if no additional nominations are received, the slate nominated by the Nominating Committee will be declared elected.
Agenda for University Council Meeting
Wednesday, March 31, 2010, 4 p.m.
Source: Office of the University Secretary
I. Approval of the Minutes of the February 3, 2010 University Council Meeting. 1 minute
II. Follow Up Comments or Questions on Status Reports. 5 minutes
III. Reports on Budgets and Plans for the Next Academic Year. 55 minutes
IV. Open Forum. 40 minutes
V. New Business. 5 minutes
VI. Adjournment

Topics Submitted for the University Council Open Forum
1. Questions regarding the limits that Penn places on medical savings accounts and the implications of Penn’s policies on employees suffering from serious illness
2. Concerns regarding healthcare coverage for employee parents of children with autism
3. Comments on the importance of Penn’s compliance with the recently-passed Act 62 legislation, which requires private insurance companies to cover diagnostic and treatment services for children with autism
4. Recommendation to include health care coverage for triad treatment for transgender Penn employees
5. Questions regarding current and future plans for the Hutchinson Gymnasium

Deaths
Dr. Abraham, Anesthesiology
Dr. Lillian E. Fredericks Abraham, retired faculty member in the School of Medicine, passed away March 14. She was 96 years old.
A native of Austria, Dr. Abraham graduated from Woman’s Medical College of Pennsylvania in 1943. Dr. Abraham joined the Albert Einstein Medical Center, where she worked until her retirement in 1984 after 30 years of service.
In 1972, Dr. Abraham began teaching as a lecturer in the department of anesthesiology in Penn’s School of Medicine. She retired in 1982 as an assistant professor.
Dr. Abraham is survived by her son, Richard; daughter, Carol Snowball; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.
Memorial donations may be made to Doctors Without Borders USA, Box 5030, Hagerstown, MD 21741.

Dr. Denenberg, Wharton & Almanac
Dr. Herbert S. Denenberg, former professor in the Wharton School and former editor of Almanac, passed away March 18 at the age of 80.
In 1962, Dr. Denenberg was appointed assistant professor of insurance in the Wharton School. He was promoted to associate professor in 1965 and in 1968 became the first incumbent of the Harry J. Loman Chair of Property and Liability Insurance.
Dr. Denenberg served as the editor of Almanac from 1965 to 1966.
After leaving Penn in 1972, Dr. Denenberg held positions in the government including serving as the Pennsylvania insurance commissioner and the public utility commissioner.
He then began a new career working as an investigative consumer reporter and commentator for WCAL-TV (channel 10) from 1975-1998, covering subjects such as asbestos in schools and sanitary qualities of pretzels sold in 1998, covering subjects such as asbestos in schools and sanitary qualities of pretzels sold in 1998.
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PSSA

Nominations: 2010-2011 Executive Board
The Penn Professional Staff Assembly (PSSA) is a voluntary organization comprised of professional (monthly-exempt) staff members whose positions enhance, facilitate, and serve the teaching, research and service missions of the University of Pennsylvania. The mission of the PSSA is to support and focus staff engagement and collaboration within the University of Pennsylvania community and to act as a productive resource for all of our members.
PSSA:
1. Provides a forum through which staff can engage in dialogue about issues facing the University and higher education;
2. Participates and collaborates in University governance through University Council and other committees and task forces;
3. Serves as an informational network to promote seminars and programs that enrich the quality of experience and work life for professional staff;
4. Provides a supportive network to assist the University in achieving its goals and objectives.
For more information on PSSA go to: www.upenn.edu/pssa.
The following positions on the PSSA Executive Board will be available for the coming year:
Chair-Elect: The Chair-elect is the principal executive officer who calls meetings, prepares agendas, presides over meetings, and provides leadership and representation at the University Council and other meetings. After one year, the Chair-Elect automatically succeeds to the office of Chairperson.
Members at Large: Four positions are available, each for a two-year term.
The Members at Large participate in Executive Board meetings, can take on special projects, and can serve on other University committees. University monthly-paid professional employees are welcome to self-nominate or submit names for consideration to PSSA at pssa@exchange.upenn.edu no later than Friday, May 7, 2010. Please include the home department, e-mail, and campus extension of the nominee. All individuals nominated will receive information on completing a candidate bio and personal statement. A list of candidates will be prepared and distributed to the PSSA membership prior to the election.
The 2010-2011 election for officers will occur during the annual meeting which will take place on Wednesday, June 2, 2010.
Questions on the nominating and election process can be directed to pssa@exchange.upenn.edu.

Pilot & Feasibility Studies in Basic Urologic Research
The NIDDK-sponsored George M. O’Brian Urology Research Center in the Division of Urology, Department of Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania has funding for 2-3 P&F Studies. The O’Brien Center is an inter-institutional, multidisciplinary program that focuses its research on the molecular mechanisms underlying the Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms (LUTS). The projects focus on basic and translational research on smooth muscle, urothelium, extracellular matrix and the peripheral and central nervous system that regulates the lower urinary tract function and dysfunctions in diseases that affect the lower urinary tract. The P&F grants are open to investigators from Penn and other institutions in the Philadelphia area. For ongoing projects, please visit our website www.uphs.upenn.edu/surgery/Labs/Chacko/George_OBrian.html.
Grants are available for investigators interested in directing their research to various aspects of urinary bladder function and dysfunction. The scope of these broadly defined, including proposals that address a wide range of topics in cellular/molecular biology of the epithelium in the lower urinary tract, smooth muscle development and physiology, urology and the pathogenesis of urologic diseases.
Applications accepted:
1. Basic Science P&F Studies—Areas of interest include but are not limited to gene therapy, cell physiology, stem cell biology, smooth muscle differentiation, ion transport and inflammation.

Translational P&F Studies—Projects that use either basic knowledge to a clinical problem, acquire basic knowledge from clinical specimens, or examine the feasibility of a therapeutically approach in an appropriate animal model or with appropriate clinical specimens.

Funding support is intended for senior investigators seeking to perform research in an area that they have not previously pursued or junior investigators who are establishing their independent research careers. Investigators are encouraged to spend a minimum of 10% effort to study the lower urinary tract. The P&F Studies are expected to generate sufficient background and preliminary data to submit an independent research proposal.

Awards for $30-55K/year will be granted based on scientific merit, awarded for one year and eligible for one year renewal based on competitive review. The initial award period is July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. The final grant proposal should have no more than five pages (to include all figures and references). The application should be approved by the applicant’s department chair. A letter of intent including biosketch in the NIH-format, other support, and letters of collaboration (if appropriate), a title, and a one-page summary of the proposed research should be sent to Jocelyn McCabe, Jocelyn.McCabe@uphs.upenn.edu.

Letter of intent deadline is Monday, April 12, 2010. Application deadline is Friday, April 30, 2010; possible funding start date is July 1, 2010. All application materials will need to be submitted electronically. Specific instructions will be issued upon receipt of letter of intent. Please direct all questions to: Dr. Samuel K. Chacko, professor of pathology & director of basic urologic research, Glenolden Research Laboratory, 500 South Ridgeway Avenue, Glenolden, PA 19036-2307; E-mail: Samuel.Chacko@uphs.upenn.edu.
Drexel Medal: Dr. Bass

Underwater archaeologist Dr. George Fletcher Bass, professor emeritus, Nautical Archaeology Program, Texas A&M University, and former curator, Penn Museum Mediterranean Section, was awarded the Museum’s Lucy Wharton Drexel Medal honoring exceptional achievement in excavation or publication of archaeological work. Dr. Bass is the 30th recipient of the award, established in 1889 and given by the Museum Director in consultation with past medal recipients and archaeological curators of the Museum.

After receiving the award, Dr. Bass gave the Museum’s annual Petersen Lecture, “The Million Piece Jigsaw Puzzle: Excavating a Cargo of Medieval Glass.”

Dr. Bass received his PhD at Penn in 1964, staying on as professor until 1972. While at Penn, he developed techniques for underwater research while excavating Byzantine, Late Roman and Ottoman shipwrecks off the coast of Turkey.

George Gerbner Postdoctoral Fellow: Dr. Berger

Dr. Dan Berger has been named the George Gerbner Postdoctoral fellow for 2010-2012. The fellowship is named in honor of the late George Gerbner, dean emeritus of the Annenberg School for Communication (Almanac January 10, 2006).

Dr. Berger will spend the fellowship at Annenberg engaged in teaching and research designed to further his professional development. His dissertation studies the ways black and Puerto Rican prisoners in the 1970s used media to target their confinement and to craft racial meanings. Dr. Berger will extend this study of race, media, and prisons as a Gerbner Fellow. He will examine grassroots organizing for greater law and order as a parallel but conservative counterpart to the prison radicalism he explores in his dissertation.

Gesu Spirit Medal: Dr. Dilulio

Dr. John J. Dilulio, Jr., Frederic Fox Leadership Professor of Politics, Religion, and Civil Society, and professor of political science, has been named the 2010 Gesu Spirit Medal honoree. The award will be formally presented to Dr. Dilulio in April. Gesu, an independent Catholic school in North Philadelphia. “For the past 12 years, John has put his strong beliefs in what we do here on the line,” said Gesu President and CEO Christine S. Beck. “That selfless service has brought invaluable benefits to the children of Gesu and everyone who supports them.” Dr. DiLulio has been involved with Gesu since 1997, when he joined their Board of Trustees.

Award for Research in Psychiatry: Dr. Evans

The American Psychiatric Association selected Dr. Dwight L. Evans as its 2009 Award for Research in Psychiatry which, according to the APA, is its “most significant award given for research.” As the award recipient, he delivered an honorary lecture on “Mood Disorders and Medical Illness, a Major Public Health Problem” in New York City back in the fall. Dr. Evans is the Ruth Meltzer Professor and chair of the department of psychiatry and professor of psychiatry, medicine, and neuroscience at the School of Medicine.

Best Paper Award: Mr. Guerin

Dr. Roch Guerin, the Alfred Fitter Moore Professor of Telecommunications Networks, in SEAS, was one of the three collaborators to receive the Best Paper Award for “On the Feasibility and Efficacy of Protection Routing in IP Networks” at the IEEE INFOCOM 2010 Conference in San Diego, California, this month.

Outstanding Contribution: Dr. Harper

Dr. Shaun Harper, an assistant professor in the Graduate School of Education, has been honored with the Outstanding Contribution to Research Award by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators at its annual conference. The award recognizes an individual’s professional commitment to student-affairs administration. Nominees for the award are judged on how well student-affairs practitioners use their literature or research, which must be applicable to national use.

Education Research Officer: Dr. Gasman

Dr. Marybeth Gasman, associate professor of higher education in the Graduate School of Education, was elected vice president of the American Education Research Association (AERA) for the history division. Officers serve on the AERA council and its legislative and policy-determining body.

AERA Fellows

Dr. Nancy Hornberger and Dr. Yasmin Kafai from the Graduate School of Education have been named Fellows of the American Education Research Association for their contributions to education research.

Internationally known for her work in bilingualism and biliteracy, ethnography and language policy, Dr. Hornberger researches, lectures and consults on multi-lingual education policy and practice in the U.S. and around the globe. Dr. Hornberger is the Goldie Anna Professor of Education.

Dr. Kafai is a learning scientist who studies the role of technology in education and social development. She has studied learning through game design and in virtual worlds, paying particular attention to issues of gender equity in science education interventions and in gaming. Dr. Kafai is a professor of education.

Cabrini College Honor: Ms. Golden

Jane Golden, a lecturer in the School of Design and the founder and director of the mural Arts Program, received the 2010 Ivy Young Willis Award from Cabrini College. The Award recognizes women who have made outstanding contributions in the field of public affairs; it was presented by Marie Angeliea George, president of Cabrini College.

Service to Humanity: Dr. Gutmann

President Amy Gutmann was awarded the 2010 Service to Humanity Award from the March of Dimes at this year’s Transportation, Building & Construction Awards Luncheon last week.

“I am honored to be recognized with these outstanding individuals,” said Dr. Gutmann. “It is especially gratifying to receive this recognition from my peers.”

Honorees are select by a committee of their peers and honored for their achievements and leadership in their respective professions, as well as their efforts to promote economic development within Southeastern PA.

Microbiology Fellow: Dr. Roos

Dr. David S. Roos, the E. Otis Kendall Professor of Biology, is among 78 microbiologists elected to fellowship in the American Academy of Microbiology. During the past two decades, his laboratory has focused on harnessing modern techniques in cell biology and molecular genetics to investigate parasites’ biology and interactions with their hosts. Dr. Roos has also been a leader in computational biology research, working with international genome projects to develop a variety of bioinformatics resources.

Visualization Challenge Award: LabStudio

The Branching Morphogenesis installation, designed and produced by the Sabin-Jones-LabStudio at Penn, has won the 2010 International Science & Engineering Visualization Challenge Award, co-sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the National Science Foundation. The installation, made from 75,000 interconnected cable zippers, simulates the predicted network generated by human lung cells as they interact with an extracellular matrix in three-dimensional space and time. It also allows visitors to walk through a giant three-dimensional “datastore.” An image of Branching Morphogenesis is on the cover of the February 19 issue of Science. For a slide show of Branching Morphogenesis, visit www.sabin-jones.com. LabStudio is a research and design unit based within Penn’s Institute for Medicine and Engineering and the School of Design.

Favorite Site: FactCheck.org

FactCheck.org made American Mensa’s top 50 Web sites 2010 list. Each year Mensa members select winners in nine categories, including “News and Politics,” which featured FactCheck.org, calling it “The ultimate source for truth in politics.” FactCheck.org is a project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University.
2010 Commitment to Excellence: Pandemic Incident Management Team

Penn’s Commitment to Excellence Program, introduced in 2004 as a component of the Models of Excellence Program, is designed to recognize outstanding commitment and effort in the face of unusual and extremely challenging circumstances at Penn.

Over the last year, many areas of the University were asked to address difficult public health issues across campus, including a local meningitis outbreak and the H1N1 influenza virus. Last spring, a Penn Pandemic Incident Management Team (IMT) comprised of members from the Provost’s Office, Office of University Life, Human Resources, Student Health, UPHS, Environmental Health and Radiation Safety (EHSR) and other departments gathered in order to tackle these problems. They responded to a cluster of suspected meningitis cases among students on campus by ensuring the effective treatment of individuals with suspected or confirmed meningitis and arranged extraordinary mass preventative anti-biotic clinics for nearly 4,000 Penn students.

In response to the spread of the H1N1 flu virus, the Pandemic IMT was asked to expand to include various Penn administrators and faculty members and challenged to develop a plan to respond to a flu pandemic should circumstances warrant University action. This cross-campus group worked with the Provost’s Office to develop a comprehensive plan. Many aspects of this plan have already been implemented, including education, treatment, surveillance, and communication initiatives. The strategic efforts of the Pandemic IMT also allowed for the execution of mass vaccination clinics for faculty, staff and students. More than 10,000 members of the Penn community were vaccinated in accordance with the priority guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control and the Philadelphia Department of Health.

In acknowledgement of the Pandemic IMT’s exceptional leadership throughout their pandemic planning efforts and their outstanding commitment to excellence and public health in the face of extraordinary, unprecedented conditions, we are very pleased to award these staff members with Commitment to Excellence recognition. They will be honored at the Models of Excellence Ceremony on April 6 and honored at a separate event in mid-April.

Dr. Amy Behrman, Penn Medicine
Douglas Berger, Business Services
Dr. P. J. Brennan, Penn Medicine
Leo Charnney, Provost’s Office
Jeanne F. Curtis, ISC
Dr. Betsy Datner, Penn Medicine
Benjamin Evans, Finance
Michael Fink, Public Safety
Matthew Fitznace, EHRS
Dr. Neil Fishman, Penn Medicine
Dr. Anita Gelbord, ISC
Mary Guagenti, University Life
Tom Hauber, University Life
Phyllis Holtzman, University Communications
Lisa Keoght, University Life
Dr. Robin King, Community Partnerships
Marilyn Krout, Human Resources
Trevor Lewis, Office of the Provost
Kevin Mahoney, Penn Medicine
Sharon McMullen, University Life
Steve Minicola, University Communications
Dr. Ajay Nair, University Life
Dr. Rob Nelson, Office of the Provost
Kenneth Ogawa, FRES
Dr. Nicole Otto, University Life
Lisa Payakovich, University Life
Janet Plantan, Office of the EVP
Dr. Thomas Reda, University Life
Terri Ryan, Human Resources
Sharon Smith, University Life
Suzanne M. Smith, Human Resources
Mary Spada, University Life
Gary Truhlar, Human Resources
Matt Waller, University Life
Dr. Evelyn Wiener, University Life

—Division of Human Resources

2010 Women of Color Day at Penn Awards

New London Embassy Design Competition: PennDesign Faculty

Kieran Timberlake of Philadelphia has won the design competition for the new US Embassy in London (above). Stephen Kieran, MArch ’76 and James Timberlake, MArch ’77, are adjunct professors of architecture at PennDesign. The proposal also includes an innovative landscape design by Laurie Olin, practice professor of landscape architecture at PennDesign, and Hallie Boyce of the Olin Studio.

The US State Department press release stated that, “The concept holds the greatest potential for developing a truly iconic embassy and is on the leading edge of sustainable design.”

The anticipated ground breaking on the embassy will be in 2013.

For details about the design, please see http://kierantimberlake.com.

Almanac March 30, 2010

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The anticipated ground breaking on the embassy will be in 2013.

For details about the design, please see http://kierantimberlake.com.

2010 Women of Color Day at Penn Awards

Gabrielle Banks is a senior in the College, majoring in psychology. Ms. Banks is the former president of the Inspiration, a co-ed a cappella group that honors and celebrates the legacy of black music. Knowing that students are apt to being immediately engaged in academic concerns, she uses music and performance to connect with local students. Ms. Banks took the initiative to instill a community service focus into the group’s mission. As a result, the group performs at least twice a semester for local community groups and has partnered with various other community service organizations on campus. Ms. Banks is also an active member of UMOJA, the Performing Arts Council, Sphinx Senior Society, and volunteers her time with the West Philadelphia Tutoring Project.

Wendy De La Rosa, a junior at the Wharton School, concentrating in finance, holds leadership positions in various organizations including Wharton Ambassadors, Onda Latina Dance Troupe, Latino Coalition and Students on Ice. She is also a LEAD Scholar and has participated in many professional development and leadership programs. She is a student ambassador whose work greatly assists three student centers housed in the ARCH building in gaining needed funds for new technology. She was also instrumental in petitioning the University to make the Latin American and Latino Studies Program a full department.

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Outstanding Community Member Award

Jettie Newkirk is the director of Community Affairs at Penn Medicine and the director of Community Affairs at the University of Pennsylvania Health System. Ms. Newkirk was also the director of the Office of Community Affairs at the University of Pennsylvania. She is also a member of the Child Placement Review Board at Penn. Ms. Newkirk is also a former board member of SEPTA. Having practiced law for 25 years, Ms. Newkirk’s honest reputation was gained due to her recognizing the importance of providing a voice for the community in organizational leaders, fostering collaborative relationships and sharing information and resources between the University and local communities. She is the author of the Child Placement Review Board for the Camden County Superior Court. She is also a long-time volunteer for the Philadelphia Department of Health. In acknowledgement of the Pandemic IMT’s exceptional leadership throughout their pandemic planning efforts and their outstanding commitment to excellence and public health in the face of extraordinary, unprecedented conditions, we are very pleased to award these staff members with Commitment to Excellence recognition. They will be honored at the Models of Excellence Ceremony on April 6 and honored at a separate event in mid-April.

Dr. Amy Behrman, Penn Medicine
Douglas Berger, Business Services
Dr. P. J. Brennan, Penn Medicine
Leo Charnney, Provost’s Office
Jeanne F. Curtis, ISC
Dr. Betsy Datner, Penn Medicine
Benjamin Evans, Finance
Michael Fink, Public Safety
Matthew Fitznace, EHRS
Dr. Neil Fishman, Penn Medicine
Dr. Anita Gelbord, ISC
Mary Guagenti, University Life
Tom Hauber, University Life
Phyllis Holtzman, University Communications
Lisa Keoght, University Life
Dr. Robin King, Community Partnerships
Marilyn Krout, Human Resources
Trevor Lewis, Office of the Provost
Kevin Mahoney, Penn Medicine
Sharon McMullen, University Life
Steve Minicola, University Communications
Dr. Ajay Nair, University Life
Dr. Rob Nelson, Office of the Provost
Kenneth Ogawa, FRES
Dr. Nicole Otto, University Life
Lisa Payakovich, University Life
Janet Plantan, Office of the EVP
Dr. Thomas Reda, University Life
Terri Ryan, Human Resources
Sharon Smith, University Life
Suzanne M. Smith, Human Resources
Mary Spada, University Life
Gary Truhlar, Human Resources
Matt Waller, University Life
Dr. Evelyn Wiener, University Life

—Division of Human Resources

Undergraduate Awards

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Penn-Made Presidents

Mr. John Fry, Penn's executive vice president from 1995 to 2001, was named the 14th president of Drexel University. He will assume office August 1.

Dr. Christopher Hopey, GrEd'98 and former vice dean for Graduate Admissions & Executive Education at the Graduate School of Education, was named president of Merrimack College in Massachusetts. He will start July 1.

Dr. Raymond Kington, WG'88, Gr'91, was named the 13th president of Grinnell College in Iowa. He will assume office August 1.

See Almanac November 18, 2008 for many more Penn-Made Presidents.

JCS Prize: Mr. Desai

Mr. Ravi Desai, a bioengineering doctoral student in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, is the winner of the 2009 JCS Prize for his paper, “Cell polarity triggered by cell-cell contact via E-cadherin.” The $1,000 prize is award-ed annually to the author of the paper judged by the editors and editorial board of the Journal of Cell Science to be the best it has published that year. Authors must be students or postdoctoral researchers to be considered for the prize.

Kuwait Prize: Dr. El-Deiry

Dr. Wajik S. El-Deiry, professor of medicine, genetics and pharmacology, was awarded the 2009 Kuwait Prize in the area of “Applied Sciences - Cancer and Diseases” by the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences. The prize supports scientific research by scholars in Kuwait and other Arab countries and includes $100,000.

Leadership Award: Dr. Ludwig

Dr. Stephen Ludwig, professor of pediatrics in the department of pediatrics in the School of Medicine and senior advisor for medical education and DIO at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, has been selected as the recipient of the 2010 Joseph W. St. Geme, Jr. Leadership Award. This award, from the Federation of Pediatric Organizations, recognizes an individual who is “a leader in the field of pediatrics, a role model, and one who has contributed broadly to the field.”

Umhoefer Prize: Dr. Murnaghan

Dr. Sheila Murnaghan, Alfred Reginald Allen Memorial Professor of Greek in the department of classical studies, is a recipient of the 2010 Umhoefer Prize for Achievement in Humanities. This prize was awarded for introductions that Dr. Murnaghan wrote for new translations of Homer’s Iliad and Odyssey by Stanley Lombardo.

Kappa Delta Award: Dr. Soslowsky

Dr. Louis J. Soslowsky, Fairhill Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and professor of bioengineering, director of the McKay Orthopaedic Research Laboratory and Penn Center for Musculoskeletal Disorders at the School of Medicine, was named the 2010 winner of the Ann Doner Vaughan Kappa Delta Award by the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery.


Culinary Competition: Chef Watkin

Chef Eileen Watkin of the University Club at Penn is the winner of the first Pennsylvania Chef Palate culinary competition. The competing eight chefs had three hours to plan and prepare a dish for 100 people. Attendees voted for the winner. Chef Watkin was awarded Best of Show.

Sloan Fellowships

Five young scientists at Penn have been named Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellows for 2010.

• Dr. Iwan Barankay, an associate professor of management at the Wharton School, studies personal economics and political economy.

• Dr. Justin Khoury, an assistant professor of physics in the School of Arts and Sciences, researches theoretical particle cosmology.

• Dr. Elliot Lipeles, also an assistant professor of physics in SAS, researches experimental particle physics.

• Dr. Nicole Rust, an assistant professor in psychology in SAS, researches behavioral neuroscience.

• Dr. Ben Taskar,Magehrman Term Assistant Professor in Computer and Information Science in SEAS, researches machine learning and applications to computational linguistics and computer vision.

The Sloan Research Fellowships’ $50,000 grants will allow the recipients to continue their research for the next two years.

Additional information about the Sloan Fellowships is available at www.sloan.org.

Award for Best Show: ICA

The International Art Critics Association (ICA/USA) awarded the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) at the University of Pennsylvania the First Place Award for Best Show in a University Gallery for Dirt on Delight: Impulses that Form Clay, organized by curators Ingrid Schaffner and Jenelle Porter, with art historian Glenn Adamson. ICA accepted this honor in lieu of the AICA/USA awards ceremony on February 16, 2010 at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York.

The exhibition at ICA (January 15–June 21, 2009) which included the work of 22 artists, is documented in a fully illustrated, 120-page catalogue with essays, and traveled to the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota (July 11–November 29, 2009).

Arts Grant for Penn Alexander

The Penn Alexander School is one of the Philadelphia public schools chosen to receive an arts grant from the Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY). They were honored at the 2010 Picasso Project Awards Ceremony in February. The Picasso Project was created by PCCY in 2002 to increase arts education opportunities for students in the School District of Philadelphia and improve the capacity of schools to provide arts education experiences. Grants of up to $5,000 are awarded yearly for projects that enhance and enrich the arts into the curriculum and classroom, often in partnership between school teachers, artists from the community and local arts organizations.

Striving for Excellence Award: MERT

The Medical Emergency Response Team (MERT), Penn’s student-run squad that delivers emergency medical care to students and faculty, was one of the recipients of the national Striving for Excellence Award presented at the National Collegiate EMS Foundation Conference in February.

RealArts@PENN Interns 2010

RealArts is a program for all Penn students, sponsored by the College of Arts & Sciences. It was created in 2007 to integrate art-world practice into the intellectual life of the University. The interns for this summer are:

The intern at MTV Networks, in the creative services department, will be Hannah McDonnell. A creative writing student with a minor in French, Ms. McDonnell is active in the Student Committee of the Rotunda and a variety of student publications.

The Rolling Stone magazine intern will be Lauren Lipsay. Ms. Lipsay is a junior majoring in English, with a concentration in creative writing. She is currently the music editor of 34th Street Magazine, and also DJs in local clubs in Philadelphia and New York.

Working at Brooklyn Films in L.A. with producer/director Jon Avnet, C‘71 (Risky Business, Uprising, etc.), and Overseer in the School of Arts and Sciences, will be Sarah Stoeker. A junior, Ms. Stoeker is majoring in cinema studies, and has also taken screenwriting seminars at Penn. Last summer she worked as a production assistant for an independent film that was shown at Sundance this year.

Interning in the editorial department of the Philadelphia Inquirer will be Naomi Tarnow. Ms. Tarnow is a creative writing student and is completing a minor in Near Eastern languages and civilizations. She is currently a features writer for the Daily Pennsylvanian, and has interned in the past at Time Out New York and Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

At Shore Fire Media in NYC, a standard-setting public relations and marketing group, will be Chris Milione. Mr. Milione is a junior, interested in writing and music. He was the CURF intern at the Kelly Writers House last summer.

Working with screen and stage writers, David Stern, C‘95, 96, and Stuart Gibbs, C‘91, will be Emily Mullin. Ms. Mullin, a junior, is a creative writing student, minor in theatre arts and French. She has studied screenwriting at Penn and is the co-founder of the Student Film Production group, Bent Button Productions.
Penn: A Top Philadelphia Workplace

The University of Pennsylvania has been named a 2010 Top Workplace by The Philadelphia Inquirer/Daily News. Penn was ranked number three among large employers (those with over 500 employees) in the Philadelphia region, based on survey responses that were submitted by Penn employees themselves. The University was the top-ranked workplace in the education and healthcare industry.

The survey asked employees to rate their workplaces on a number of factors, including confidence in their organizations, the fairness of their pay, and the competitiveness of their benefits package. The results from Penn’s employees cited a number of attributes that make Penn a great place to work, including strong leadership, competitive benefits, career mobility and more. Penn’s wealth of cultural and recreational amenities, including museums, and the Morris Arboretum (all free with a PennCard), as well as the Penn Ice Rink (discounted with a PennCard), were highlighted as perks that keep faculty and staff happy.

A total of 170 companies employing 131,384 people in the Philadelphia area were surveyed. Visit the Philadelphia Inquirer at www.philly.com/philly/business/workplaces for a complete list of winners.

$600,000 Mentoring Grant to Spur Interest in Computer Science for Students of All Ages

The University of Pennsylvania has received a three-year, $600,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to spur interest in computer science with a first-of-its-kind, “cascading” mentoring program in which college, high school and middle school students will learn with and from each other.

The new service-learning computer science course in Penn’s School of Engineering and Applied Science will be integrated with the teaching and mentoring of high school and middle school students. Undergraduates will learn about educational theory and computational thinking, receive training on instructing K-12 students and will teach and mentor high school and middle school students in coordinated summer workshops and after-school programs. The high school students will also work with the middle schoolers.

“This learning-by-teaching approach will improve all of the students’ understanding of computational thinking and purposes by exposure to a variety of hands-on software design activities and materials,” said Dr. Susan Davidson, principal investigator and chair of the department of computer and information science at Penn.

A key component of these programs will be the use of a media-rich programming environment called Scratch as well as computational textiles. The design and use of these technologies for education has been the focus of the research of Dr. Yasmin Kafai, co-principal investigator and professor in Penn’s Graduate School of Education.

The course leverages Penn’s ongoing efforts to increase interest in engineering, as well as outreach to communities through programs such as Advancing Women in Engineering.

Women make up approximately 30 percent of Penn’s School of Engineering and Applied Science incoming class each year.

Knowledge@Wharton’s Arabic Edition

Knowledge@Wharton, the award-winning online research and business analysis journal of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, launched a new version of its website called Arabic Knowledge@Wharton at http://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/arabic, at a ceremony earlier this month in Abu Dhabi. The new site, written in both Arabic and English, will include articles that focus on the Middle East’s increasing importance to the global economy.

“At Wharton we are committed to leading the world in the creation and dissemination of business knowledge,” said Dr. Tayeb Kamali, Vice Chancellor, Higher Colleges of Technology. “Our new Knowledge@Wharton Arabic edition allows Wharton to bring new, regionally focused insight and analysis to the business community in the Middle East and around the world.”

The inaugural issue will include articles about family businesses in the Middle East, the shortage of water in the region, challenges of recruiting and managing the regional workforce, and marketing lessons from painter M.F. Husain.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Tayeb Kamali, Vice Chancellor, Higher Colleges of Technology & Group CEO, CERT Group of Companies said, “The launch of the Knowledge@Wharton Arabic edition is a significant milestone in our efforts to provide access to world class research on innovation and entrepreneurship. Knowledge@Wharton, with nearly 1.4 million business professional members worldwide, is a significant online resource connecting the local business community and students with experts around the world. We invite students and entrepreneurs to take full advantage of this portal and build their capacity to go global with their business using insight from Knowledge@Wharton.”

Founded in 1999, Knowledge@Wharton has long covered the emergence of the Middle East as a global economic force. Arabic Knowledge@Wharton will produce timely articles, podcasts, research papers and exclusive interviews with business and government leaders, among others for distribution to subscribers around the world. The content will draw upon the expertise of Wharton’s 11 academic departments, 25 research centers/initiatives and the broader faculty at the University of Pennsylvania in exploring topics such as private equity, family business, real estate and the impact of economic growth on the region.

“The recent financial crisis and its aftermath showed the interconnectedness of the global economy,” said Mukul Pandya, executive director and editor in chief of the Knowledge@Wharton Network. “The creation of an Arabic edition focused on this region will allow us to share analysis and insights about such issues with Knowledge@Wharton readers around the world.”

The new edition will be guided by an advisory board chaired by Sheikh Nahayan, consisting of international business leaders. According to professor Raphael Amit, who oversaw the formation of the Wharton Entrepreneurship and Family Business Research Center@CERT, “The debut of Arabic Knowledge@Wharton is central to our ability to share state-of-the-art business knowledge with readers in a vital and important region of the world.”

The Knowledge@Wharton network—which includes Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese and Indian editions, in addition to the original English language edition—has approximately 1.4 million subscribers in 189 countries worldwide.

Are Cities Designed for Women?

Penn-ICOWHI Conference Examines Urban Women’s Health

Women comprise more than half the population of the nation’s cities, are three times as likely as their male counterparts to live alone after the age of 65, and are primary caregivers for their families at all ages and stages of life. The University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, with the International Congress of Women’s Health Issues, will host Cities and Women’s Health: Global Perspectives, Wednesday, April 7, through Saturday, April 10, on Penn’s campus to examine how urban environments affect their health.

The Penn-ICOWHI conference will bring experts in city planning, health policy, public policy, education, sociology, and others from across the globe together to address how health issues facing women are exacerbated by city living. This includes environmental pollution, sedentary lifestyles, diminished space and opportunity for exercise, traffic accidents, exposure to stress and violence, and limited access to healthy and fresh foods.

Health scientists will join urban planners to analyze the specific effects that the layouts and design of streets, houses, and transportation systems have on women in cities. For the first time in history, more than half of the world’s population lives in urban environments, and the Penn-ICOWHI 18th Conference will explore redesigning cities for active living, increasing access to health care, treating adolescent girls in high-risk environments, eliminating policy gaps that undermine women’s health, and curbing intimate-partner violence.

Speakers include:

- President Obama’s Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women’s Health, Melanne Verveer, who will discuss the progress that has been made in women’s health since the United Nation’s 1995 conference on women.
- Dr. Mamphele Ramphele, an authority on socioeconomic issues and leader in spearheading projects for disadvantaged persons throughout South Africa.
- Sheela Patel, founder and director of a Mumbai-based NGO designed to address the needs of “slumdog’s mothers”—women living on pavements and in slums in different parts of India.
- * To view the official Penn-ICOWHI Conference blog, visit http://penncowhi.wordpress.com/.

On Wednesday, April 7, a special exhibit, Through Their Eyes, will be on display in the School of Nursing’s Arcadia Cafe. It is based on a photography and writing project lead by photographer Judy Gelles, at the George Washington Elementary School, in Philadelphia. Using digital cameras, 7th grade boys and girls took pictures of themselves, their families, and their neighborhoods so they could study each others’ photos and learn about the diverse cultures of their fellow students.

The group is composed of African American, Hispanic, and Asian students. The students chose their favorite photos, and wrote captions for each shot, explaining why they took that particular photo and what it meant to them. The exhibit is free and open to everyone.
Cloud Computing: Opportunities Used Safely

This guidance is to describe opportunities, issues, safeguards and requirements regarding the use of certain third-party services (often called “cloud computing” services) involving University data. While there are many uses of the phrase “cloud computing,” in general, it refers to fee or low cost services offered worldwide to any individual user where resources, such as infrastructure or software, are provided over the Internet. In many cases, data resides on the cloud provider’s servers.

The developments in cloud computing in recent years are providing new opportunities for many faculty and staff at Penn to communicate, collaborate, and compute more effectively to serve Penn’s mission. For example, social networking sites may be appealing as interactive course communication tools, and as platforms to support formation of constituent groups. Faculty and staff may sometimes wish to use third-party online data storage to house teaching, research and administrative data. A variety of collaboration tools also exist “in the cloud” that can be used to facilitate research and related endeavors involving colleagues at Penn and all over the globe. These online services, which are often free or low-cost, can seem very inviting. Usually, individuals are prompted to sign up for such services under a “click through” (i.e., non-negotiable) agreement and pay only for the resources they directly use. However, there are compliance and other risks when Penn data is shared outside of Penn. This guidance is intended to explain those risks, given the existing technology. As the technology changes, which it will, we will update this advice accordingly.

Guidance

(1) Each faculty and staff member considering a cloud computing service should consider the following issues before sharing Penn data1 with a cloud computing service:

a. Sharing Penn data with a company that is new and may go out of business is high risk, particularly if there is no backup at Penn. Important work could be lost forever.

b. Sharing sensitive, private information about individuals could present significant privacy and security risks if the cloud service provider is not providing assurances of strong privacy and security practices.

c. Some cloud providers store data in other countries—this could present a problem of foreign government access to data of interest and also could pose export controls problems (again, consider the nature of the work being performed).

d. See a fuller list of issues in Attachment A. It is important to consider the type of project and type of data involved in working through the issues list in Attachment A. For example, when sensitive personal data or critical business data to support Penn’s operations are involved, one should be very cautious and ensure that proper controls exist to address the concerns raised in the Attachment.

(2) It is unlawful to share certain types of data with a cloud provider—or any third party—unless there is an agreement that properly reflects legal requirements. For example, data privacy protections provided by HIPAA2, by FERPA3, and often by funding agencies require specific language in agreements with third parties handling regulated data. At this point, most “terms of service” that cloud providers ask users to “click through” to agree upon, do not contain such language. Faculty and staff must not utilize cloud providers to handle HIPAA, FERPA or other regulated data unless the terms of service contain the required language or unless there is a negotiated agreement to ensure compliance. The Office of General Counsel or the Office of Audit, Compliance and Privacy should be consulted where any questions arise in this area.

(3) Special Note Regarding E-Mail. In cases where individuals have two active e-mail accounts—a Penn account and a separate account with a third-party provider such as Gmail or Hotmail—the Penn account alone should be utilized whenever practicable when dealing with the information described above. In cases where an individual uses the Penn account only for automatic forwarding to a third-party e-mail provider, faculty and staff should take special care not to include information described above in e-mail, unless a negotiated agreement governs the third-party e-mail account or the terms of service contain required language for compliance.

(4) There is a legal requirement that where Penn data is shared with a third party, the faculty or staff member sharing such data must be able to retrieve it when asked. At times, Penn must ask faculty and staff to provide certain data for legal, investigatory and compliance reasons. Sometimes that means individuals must bring work papers to campus from home; sometimes IT staff must retrieve data from backups.

Similarly, where faculty and staff are storing Penn data with third-party online services, they must be prepared to access and provide such data should a legal, investigatory, or compliance reason arise. Therefore, it is imperative for faculty and staff to utilize a third-party service where they will lose the ability to access and retrieve the Penn data they share with that service.

In short, faculty and staff considering sharing certain data with any third-party services have a responsibility to review and follow this guidance. Where such sharing is permissible, faculty and staff should also review the terms and conditions of using such services to make sure that the issues highlighted in this Guidance, including Attachment A, are properly addressed. If there is any doubt about the proposed agreement please consult your IT Local Service Provider (LSP), your School or Center Security or Privacy Liaison, or the Office of General Counsel or Office of Audit, Compliance and Privacy.

Attachment A

For data that can be shared with a third party, consider the following issues before utilizing third-party “cloud” services:

• Continued availability of data. Certain services are more reliable than others and some may be able to demonstrate their reliability. Consider this and the consequences of a service becoming unavailable or a company going out of business. In such cases, would you be able to gain access to the data you entrusted to the service? Would your business continuity needs be met?

• Ownership of data. Each service has its own terms and conditions of use. Some terms and conditions may assert that the service can exercise control over the data in its possession now or in the future. Also, services often reserve the right to change their terms and conditions without notice. Consider whether unencumbered data ownership rights (for example, intellectual property rights) are important with respect to your data.

• Security of the information. Some services may utilize adequate technology to protect data, but data can be lost or stolen. Consider whether the data you wish to share is sensitive and what additional technologies should be used to protect the data.

1 Sharing as used in this guidance means to provide data that is in plaintext, or which the third-party online service has the capability to decrypt.

2 Entities that are covered by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA") are required to ensure the confidentiality of protected health information ("PHI"). In general terms, PHI includes all health information that is personally identifiable. As with education records, PHI may not be shared or stored with third parties unless an appropriate contractual agreement is in place to protect the data. It is worth noting, in addition, that the recent economic stimulus legislation greatly increased the penalties associated with HIPAA violations.

3 The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") requires that education records be protected from inappropriate disclosure, as defined by the Act. Under FERPA, education records include all records that are directly related to a student, and maintained by Penn. Examples include student grades and student assignment handed in. Education records may not be shared or stored with third parties (including online services) unless the party is under Penn’s contractual control regarding the use and maintenance of the records.4 Note also that a Penn constituent using the University logo online or elsewhere is responsible for assuring that the logo is used appropriately. See www.business-services.upenn.edu/publicationservices/download.shtml.
Benefits Open Enrollment Reminder: April 5-April 16

Benefits Open Enrollment is just around the corner. Don’t miss your annual opportunity to modify your healthcare elections. From April 5 through 16, you can make changes to your benefits 24 hours a day, seven days a week using Penn’s online enrollment site at www.pennbenefits.upenn.edu. Any changes made during Benefits Open Enrollment will be effective as of July 1, 2010.

To mark your calendars for the Benefits Open Enrollment and Health Fair on April 13 in Houston Hall from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. You can register for a free cholesterol and glucose screening at the fair—simply visit the Human Resources online course catalog at www.hr.upenn.edu/coursecatalog (click on “Course Catalog” at the top of the screen, then select “Health Promotions” from the “Browse by Category” menu).

Offering Faculty & Staff Roth 403(b) Retirement Saving Option: July 1

Penn faculty and staff will have another savings vehicle to consider for your retirement portfolio beginning July 1. The Roth 403(b), which is similar to a Roth individual retirement account, will be added to the many options you can select with either of Penn’s retirement vendors—TIAA-CREF and Vanguard.

The Roth 403(b) is simply another way to put money aside for retirement, but as with a Roth IRA, money set aside in a Roth 403(b) is taxed as it is deposited, while distributions taken during retirement are generally tax-free. Roth 403(b) plans, however, have higher contribution limits than their IRA counterparts, so you can accumulate more tax-free income for retirement.

Keep in mind that Roth after-tax contributions will not reduce your taxable income as pre-tax contributions do, and your paycheck will be reduced by additional tax withholdings. A combination of pre-tax and Roth after-tax deferrals are allowed, but only up to your annual pre-tax limit: $16,500 or $22,000 for those age 50 or older. You should also consider the timing of your retirement planning. Participants must wait five years to make a Roth conversion and any tax-free withdrawal from your Roth 403(b), and you must be at least 59½ and a half years old to make that withdrawal or penalties will be assessed. Also, federally-required minimum distribution rules apply at age 70½.

In general, Roth 403(b) accounts are beneficial to individuals who have a long time until retirement and thus more time to accumulate tax-free savings under a Roth. Those nearing retirement age who want to maximize the flexibility in tapping your retirement accounts might also have an interest in this plan. This includes individuals who want to have access to a pool of tax-free money to draw from but are not eligible for a Roth IRA because of income limitations.

You’re encouraged to discuss the Roth 403(b) retirement plan with your financial advisor to determine whether it’s a good match for you. Participating is easy—shortly before the plan takes effect on July 1, you’ll be able to sign up using Penn’s online enrollment system at www.hr.upenn.edu/retirement. For more information, contact Penn’s Retirement Call Center at 1-877-PENN-RET or visit www.hr.upenn.edu/retirement/Roth.asp. You can also schedule free one-on-one counseling sessions with either TIAA-CREF or Vanguard if you have questions about retirement. Visit www.hr.upenn.edu/Benefits/Retirement/RetirementCounseling.aspx to set up an appointment.

Take Your Career to the Next Level

Is your career moving in the right direction? We know how important it is to stay on track with your professional goals. That’s why Penn offers a wide array of tools to help you take your career to the next level.

Career coaching is a free and confidential service for Penn staff members. This is your opportunity to get advice on career development and mobility, ask questions about your particular skill sets, and more. Individual coaching sessions include a self-assessment and help you define your own career values and goals and develop an action plan for meeting them. This is also an excellent way to learn about interviewing, networking, and resume development.

If you’d prefer to browse through our career resources on your own pace, consider visiting Penn’s Career Center. You have access to books, articles and videos covering a wide range of career topics—such as networking, job search strategies, resumes, interviewing, and negotiating salaries—in a quiet and comfortable environment. For hours of operation or to schedule an appointment, visit www.hr.upenn.edu/Learning/CareerCenter.aspx.

You can also get valuable career advice by participating in the Mentors@Penn Program or one of our free, career-focus lunchtime learning opportunities.

Visit the Human Resources website at www.hr.upenn.edu/Learning for more information on the career resources available to you.

—Division of Human Resources
A Tree-Planting Celebration: April 7

The Arbor Day Foundation is honoring the University of Pennsylvania for Penn’s commitment to ensuring a healthy urban campus environment in University City.

A tree-planting celebration, co-hosted by the Arbor Day Foundation, Penn’s Green Campus Partnership, and corporate sponsor Toyota, is planned to commemorate this great achievement. Thirty trees will be planted in the center of campus on historic College Green, with the help of Penn faculty, staff and students at noon on Wednesday, April 7.

Be a part of Penn’s recognition as the inaugural class of Tree Campus USA schools! Volunteer to help plant trees, or simply attend to show your appreciation for our beautiful campus landscape development, highly regarded for its cohesive, sustainable, and well maintained design.

Please contact Sarah-Jane Littleford in Facilities and Real Estate Services at sarahjan@upenn.edu to register as a volunteer by Friday, April 2 or for further information.

Now Through June 20 at the Penn Museum: Photography Exhibition,
In Citizen’s Garb: Southern Plains Native Americans, 1889–1891

In Citizen’s Garb: Southern Plains Native Americans, 1889–1891, a photographic exhibition on view at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology now through June 20, explores the ways dress and life changed for the Kiowa, Comanche, and other Native American nations of the Southern Plains during the last tumultuous decades of the 1800s. Plains Indian clothing from the period, selected from the Museum’s own collection, complements the photographs.

Indian reservations in Oklahoma and Indian Territories opened during the 1880s and 1890s, coinciding with large-scale efforts by the United States government to force western Native American tribes to adapt Euro-American ways. These efforts were meant to “civilize” the native peoples.

William J. Lenny and William L. Sawyers were among the many white entrepreneurs quick to capitalize on the romantic lure of the Indian nations. They set up shop in Purcell, Oklahoma, one of the many towns that sprang up on former Indian lands, to make photographs of formerly “wild Indians” for eastern consumption, where there was a great appetite for images of the West. The 53 photographs that comprise this exhibition are modern restrikes made from Lenny and Sawyers’ original glass negatives.

Some of the photographs show obvious yet powerful details of the acculturation process. Images of Native Americans in both citizen and native dress reflect the transition that occurred between the nations’ past and their radically different future.

Fifteen Native American objects, including a little girl’s buckskin dress with elaborate decoration and men’s and women’s moccasins, all chosen from the Penn Museum’s rich holdings, are included in the gallery. They date from the same time period and place (Kiowa and Comanche, Kiowa-Apache Reservation) as the photographs. Each of the object types is depicted in one or more of the photographs included in the exhibition.

In Citizen’s Garb is curated by John Hernandez, director of the Museum of the Great Plains in Lawton, Oklahoma. The exhibition is organized by the Museum of the Great Plains and toured by ExhibitsUSA. The purpose of ExhibitsUSA is to create access to an array of arts and humanities exhibitions, nurture the development and understanding of diverse art forms and cultures, and encourage the expanding depth and breadth of cultural life in local communities.

ExhibitsUSA is the national touring division of Mid-America Arts Alliance, a private, nonprofit organization based in Kansas City, Missouri and founded in 1972.

The exhibition is in the Merle-Smith Gallery West, 1st floor of the Penn Museum.

60-Second Lecture Series

The 60-Second lectures will take place on the following Wednesdays in April: April 7, 14, 21 and 28. Each lecture will begin at 11:55 a.m. at Stiteler Plaza on Locust Walk and is free and open to the public.

April 7: Jeffrey Kallberg, professor of music, Chopin’s Minute Waltz
April 14: Antonio Merlo, Lawrence R. Klein Professor of Economics, Economics
April 21: Douglas Jerolmack, assistant professor of earth and environmental science, The Life and Death of the Mississippi Delta
April 28: Jeffrey Green, assistant professor of political science, Attention

For videos of past lectures, see www.sas.upenn.edu/home/news/sixtysec_lectures_archive.html.

One Step Ahead

Security & Privacy Made Simple

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

Penn’s Privacy and Security Awareness E-Learning Module: Helping You Protect Yourself & Penn

Staying abreast of privacy and security risks, and ways to counteract them, is difficult in today’s environment because of the multitude of warnings and rules that exist about handling information. To assist you, Penn offers a web-based awareness program that focuses on many important privacy and security policies and best practices you should know about. The self-service module takes only 20–25 minutes and can be completed in one or several sittings, whatever’s convenient for you.

In response to user feedback, a number of enhancements have recently been implemented, including the following:

• Two versions are now available, one with narration and one without; at the opening screen, you can choose the version that best suits your learning style.
• You can move at will among the slides, “skipping ahead” if material is already familiar and returning to less familiar material for further review.

All faculty and staff at Penn should take advantage of this important offering—for their own personal benefit, as well as for the benefit of Penn’s valued community. The knowledge gained will help each of us meet the expectations of the students, faculty, staff, alumni, patients, visitors and many others who trust in us to protect the privacy and security of their information.

To get started, simply go to the University’s Knowledge Link site, at www.upenn.edu/computing/admin-elearning/knowledgelink/index.html and log in using your PennKey and password. Because the Knowledge Link site is being redesigned, the next steps will change in early April 2010. Until then, enter “Information Privacy and Security at Penn” into the search box and click Search. Select the course and click the enrollment button.

Thank you for your help in protecting important personal and Penn data—this effort relies on each and every one of us.
Clay@Penn 2010: Declarations

Clay@Penn 2010: Declarations—a group exhibition that showcases the diverse ceramic works by 13 artists who have formed the clay program at the University of Pennsylvania is on display now through April 4, at the Fox Art Gallery, in the lower level of Claudia Cohen Hall. The opening reception is tonight, at 6:30 p.m.

Now Video Art: Replay Part 3: Ludicrous!: ten projected single-channel video works that investigate and test modes of animation; ICA; reception: April 16, 6 p.m. Through June 6.

FITNESS/LEARNING

31 Women Abroad: A Traveler’s Toolkit; interactive workshop for women planning to travel abroad; 6:30 p.m.; Penn Women’s Center; RSVP: assist@exchange.upenn.edu (PWC).

Update AT PENN Deadline

Submissions for the Update are due every Monday for the following Tuesday’s issue. The deadline for the May AT PENN calendar is Tuesday, April 13. For information see www.upenn.edu/almanac/calendarevent-real.html.

Events are subject to change. Information can be found on the sponsoring department’s website. Sponsors are listed in parentheses. For locations, call (215) 898-5000 or see www.facilities.upenn.edu.

See www.upenn.edu/almanac for April AT PENN.

CLASSIFIEDS—UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH

Have you had a terrifying experience? Are you still haunted by the memory even though you try to forget it? Are you also smoking cigarettes but want to quit? You may be eligible for a research study with 12 weeks of counseling and medication. Financial compensation up to $485 is provided for eligible persons. Call Shelley at the Center for Treatment and Study of Anxiety at the University of Pennsylvania: (215) 746-3327.

For information call (215) 898-5274 or visit www.upenn.edu/almanac/faqs.html#ad.

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 15-21, 2010. Also reported were 20 crimes against property (including 16 thefts, 1 auto theft, 2 burglaries and 1 case of fraud). Full reports are available at: www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v56n27/crreport.html. Prior week’s reports are also online.—Ed.

This summary is prepared by the Division of Public Safety and includes all criminal incidents reported and made known to the University Police Department between the dates of March 15-21, 2010. 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.

18th District Report

8 incidents with 2 arrests (including 3 robberies and 5 aggravated assaults) were reported between March 15-21, 2010 by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 43rd Street & Market Street to Woodland Avenue.

03/19/10 3:05 AM 715 S 52d St Aggravated Assault

03/19/10 4:25 AM 4900 Walnut St Aggravated Assault

03/20/10 12:24 AM 1 S 51st St Aggravated Assault

03/20/10 3:22 PM 4315 Chester Ave Aggravated Assault

03/21/10 1:19 AM 4350 Market St Robbery

03/21/10 3:53 AM 3801 Sansom St Aggravated Assault

03/21/10 7:09 PM 4600 Ludlow St Robbery

03/21/10 9:08 PM 4621 Pine St Robbery

Exhibit

The University of Pennsylvania Police Department

CLASSIFIEDS PERSONAL

CHILD CARE SERVICES

The Buenger Early Learning Center, a joint program of Congregation Shalom and the University of Pennsylvania, is opening in September 2010. Enrollment spaces for the infant and preschool classrooms in Center City are still available. Names are being accepted for the waiting list for the toddler program which is currently full. To learn more, go to FelsKids.org and click on “center locations” or contact Eileen Lashin at 215-635-2570 x125 or elashin@felskids.org.

EMPLOYMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Howard Hughes Medical Institute is seeking an Administrative Assistant for one of its Scientists at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. The successful candidate will provide an executive level of administrative support. Responsibilities will include handling the daily activities of the scientist’s office, including phone calls, calendar maintenance, scheduling appointments, coordinating meetings, making travel arrangements, monitoring lab expenses, maintaining and organizing office records and correspondence, and interfacing with the administrations of local and external institutions. Preferred qualifications include a Bachelor’s degree, at least three years of increasingly responsible experience in office management, previous experience as an administrative assistant in a research or academic environment, familiarity with lab operations, a high level of initiative, excellent organizational and interpersonal skills, and a working knowledge of Macintosh computers. HHMI offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefits package. Please email a cover letter and resume to: poehl@hhmi.org. EO/E.

FOR RENT


OCNJ BEACHBLOCK (Gardens): Penn Discount: 3986-$1195, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, sleeps six, all conveniences, Cable, AC, parking, free beachtags. Call Steve (610) 565-1312.

Almanac is not responsible for contents of classified ad material.
At the Former Philadelphia Divinity School Site: Discovering Inspiration from the Past and Creating Spaces to Learn and Grow

Now owned by the University of Pennsylvania, the buildings that make up the campus of the former Philadelphia Divinity School have a long and storied history. Located on the block between 42nd and 43rd, and Locust and Spruce Streets, the Divinity School site is an architectural treasure that is well worth the walk to the western edge of campus.

The Past

The Philadelphia Divinity School was founded in 1857 by Alonzo Potter, Bishop of Pennsylvania and member of Penn’s Board of Trustees from 1845 to 1865, to educate Episcopal priests. It was one of the first seminaries of the Episcopal Church to admit and house students of African American descent and the first to train women for service in the ministry.

Not surprisingly, the Divinity School’s connection to Penn existed decades before the University ever owned its buildings.

In 1919, then Dean of Penn’s School of Design, Warren Powers Laird, was chosen to advise and prepare the program of an architecture competition to decide which firm would design the Divinity School’s campus. In his notes, housed at Penn’s Architectural Archives, he specified that the site be designed in such a way that would facilitate exchange of ideas and “interchange of academic facilities” between the two institutions.

The winner of the design competition was the firm of Zantzinger, Borie and Medary. Clarence Zantzinger and Charles Borie were both Penn alumni, earning their architecture degrees in 1895 and 1897, respectively. Charles Borie also attended Penn as an undergraduate (C’1892) and was a founding member of Penn’s longstanding Masonic and Wic Club. Although Milton Medary did not graduate, he attended classes at Penn in 1890.

The firm’s original plan to fill the entire block with buildings and quadrangles was considered one of the most ambitious architectural projects of its time. Penn holds the original model (see below) of what was envisioned for the site in its Architectural Archives, along with some of the firm’s records.

Of the original plan, only six buildings were ever completed, all of which remain standing today. The site’s oldest structure is the William Bacon Stevens Library, completed in the Tudor Gothic style in 1921.

Following that was St. Peter’s House, completed in 1924, which originally housed dorm rooms and school administration offices; Memorial Hall, which added more classroom and dormitory space in 1951, and Hart Hall (1955), which contained a dining area and additional living quarters.

The most recognizable building in the Divinity School complex is St. Andrew’s Chapel, which is considered one of Pennsylvania’s finest examples of Neo-Gothic Architecture. Built in 1924, along with its attached Deanery, the chapel rests on the highest point of the hilly five acre complex, 74 feet above the ground.

The interior features ornate stained glass by Nicholas D’Asencio, elaborate iron screens by Samuel Yellin, and a hammer-beam ceiling adorned with Biblical figures by the artist Gustav Ketterer. Regarded as one of the most beautiful religious spaces in the city, the shist stone structure also contains intricately carved Gothic choir stalls and Enfield ceramic tiles.

In 1974, The Philadelphia Divinity School closed to combine with its sister institution in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Upon its closing, Penn acquired its Yarnall Library of Theology Collection, which consists of approximately 21,000 volumes and 700 rare books, now in Penn’s Special Collections. The Collection supports specialized study in the fields of Anglican and Roman Catholic canon law, history, biography, liturgy and theology and related subjects.

In June of 1977, University City Associates purchased the land and buildings from the Episcopal Divinity School, Rector, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of St. Andrew’s Church in the City of Philadelphia for $608,000.

The site continued its tradition of being a place to teach and learn; it has housed the Penn Children’s Center, The Middle Years Alternative School and the University City New School, a progressive, multicultural, private elementary school that served the community for nearly three decades.

The Present

Currently, the site is home to the Parent Infant Center, The Philadelphia Writing Project, a non-profit network of teachers that serves West Philadelphia and the Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander University of Pennsylvania Partnership School.

In June of 1998, then Penn President Judith Rodin announced an initiative with the Philadelphia Public School District and the teachers’ union to create a “demonstration school” for students from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade (Almanac July 14, 1998). Construction of the school began in March 2001. Its campus incorporates the historic buildings, as well as new facilities with pre-school and daycare, a professional development center, community education facilities and landscaped grounds designed for educational and recreational use.

The school’s namesake, Dr. Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander (1898-1989), earned four degrees from Penn and has the distinction of being both the first African American in the nation to earn a PhD in economics (1921) and the first African American woman to be admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar (1927), among other achievements. The Penn Alexander School opened its doors in September 2001 and can accommodate 600 students in grades pre-kindergarten through eighth.

The Future

The Parent Infant Center (PIC), which has been on the site since 1986, has recently expanded into the former William Bacon Stevens Library. When renovations are completed in mid-April of this year, the building will be renamed for Marni Sweet, the former PIC director, who lost her battle with cancer in September of 2007. During construction, the cornerstone was moved to accommodate a new door, revealing a time capsule from 1960. The time capsule is expected to be opened soon, revealing contents that have been protected for 50 years.

Visit Almanac’s website for a slideshow of photos of the Chapel’s interior as it exists today. Curious visitors can check it out in person and support the Parent Infant Center by attending their annual plant sale, which will be held in the Chapel from April 30 to May 1.

— Andrea Tursi

Rendering by Roy Hollis (circa 1922), of the Divinity School’s proposed 20 buildings. A model, once placed behind the altar in St. Andrew’s Chapel, is now housed at Penn’s Architectural Archives.

An ornate interior door