Penn Club of New York: NYC Landmark Designation

The historic Penn Club of New York building, located along “clubhouse row,” on 44th Street between Fifth and Sixth Avenues, has become an official New York City landmark. This designation means that the city has officially recognized that the building holds historical, cultural, or architectural value to the history of Manhattan. In addition, the city allows for the University of Pennsylvania, as the owner, to apply for grants in order to maintain or repair the facade of the building. The Penn Club is in the company of the Harvard Club of New York, the University Club of New York, and the New York Yacht Club, all of which have received this prestigious designation.

This Beaux-Arts style building was constructed in 1900-01 by Marc Eidlitz & Son and designed by Evarts Tracy & Egerton Swartwout. In close proximity to the Harvard Club of New York, Yale Club, Cornell Club, Princeton Club and New York Yacht Club, The Penn Club was among the first high-rise buildings in the city. This celebrated building is home to an unusual history having formerly been The Yale Club (1900-15), Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity (1916-25), the Army & Navy Club of America (1926-33), a government Army headquarters (1943-71), and Touro College (1971-88).

In 1989, the University of Pennsylvania acquired the building with the purpose of creating a private social club exclusive for Penn alumni, students, faculty and staff.

After several years of construction, The Penn Club opened its doors in 1994 (Almanac September 6, 1994). Although the building is owned by the University, the separate not-for-profit club with its elected board of directors governs the Club and is responsible for maintaining the building for Penn. The 13-story clubhouse has five floors of overnight rooms, two restaurants, two bars, a private gym, four floors of meeting and banquet spaces, a business center, and a 24-hour library. The old-world feeling is reflected in the deep mahogany walls, rich red and blue décor and a spiral marble staircase. The club organizes social and educational events to promote personal and professional networking. Members also often have the opportunity to mingle with the neighboring private clubs and they have access to several hundred private reciprocal clubs located in most major cities around the world. Membership is exclusive to University of Pennsylvania alumni (students who have attended a minimum of one year), immediate family (parents, children, siblings, grandparents), current full-time undergraduate and graduate students aged 21 and over, and full-time faculty and staff of the University and the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP). There are currently over 5,000 members that create a dynamic and vibrant club environment.

University of Pennsylvania

SP2-DHS Scholarship

The University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy & Practice has teamed with the City of Philadelphia’s Department of Human Services to create the Penn/DHS Scholarship, a joint program designed to encourage full-time DHS staff to become part-time students pursuing master’s of social work degrees at Penn.

“At the School of Social Policy & Practice, we have the ability to enhance the quality of the skill sets of the workforce,” Richard Gelles, dean of the School, said. “We share the same goal—a stronger, more effective DHS—and this is Penn’s way of making a long-lasting impact for the children of Philadelphia, as well as raising the bar for social work as a profession.”

During the program, the School will contribute $30,000 per student, while DHS will contribute $24,000 per student. Each student will be responsible for any remaining tuition and fees.

“The City of Philadelphia and University of Pennsylvania’s new scholarship program will empower DHS employees to apply newly developed and practical job skills to their work in the field,” Mayor Michael Nutter said. “Providing higher education opportunities will not only broaden their professional expertise, but it will also instill a greater sense of pride as they continue to improve the quality of life for those in Philadelphia’s communities.”

In order to receive the merit-based scholarship, DHS employees must be accepted into the MSW program and commit to two years of service with the agency after graduation.

“This is truly a great partnership that will strengthen DHS as an agency so that we can best carry out our mission,” Anne Marie Ambrose, DHS commissioner, said. “Our employees are being offered an opportunity of a lifetime to receive a degree from one of the most prestigious universities in the country. This partnership shows we are serious about having the best and the brightest working at DHS.”

The Penn/DHS Scholarship program is limited to no more than five students per year. Additional information is available at www.sp2.upenn.edu/programs/msw/index.html.

IN THIS ISSUE

2 Veterinary Librarian; University Club’s Annual Meeting; Maya Weekand at Museum; Public Safety Walk-Back Program; Death: Mr. Wildes
3 OF RECORD: Rules Governing Final Exams; Call for Proposals—Innovation Awards; ArtsEdge Residency; Award Honors Dr. Beckman
4 Council: Coverage of March Meeting
5 Soviet Propaganda at AFG; Cherry Blossom Festival at Arboretum; Romance at Burrison Gallery
7 Update: Annual Rental Housing Fair; Classified Ads; CrimeStats
8 OF RECORD: Policies—Protecting Confidential University Data
Margaret Lindem: Veterinary Librarian

The Penn Libraries announce the appointment of Margaret Grisberger Lindem to the position of Head, Veterinary Libraries. She is responsible for developing the print and electronic collections for the Veterinary Libraries, teaching workshops, and providing research support for Penn’s veterinary community.

Before coming to Penn, Ms. Lindem was Associate Director of Information Services at the Thomas Jefferson University library, where she led the reference team for 10 years. Among her specialties there were support for grant funding, bibliographic management software and systematic reviews of the literature.

Earlier in her career, Ms. Lindem worked as a reference librarian at Hahnemann University (now part of Drexel University) and as a clinical librarian at MCP Hahnemann. As an advocate for engaging library users at their point of need, whether electronically or in person, she received the Residents’ Appreciation Award during the AACP-MCP.

Ms. Lindem holds a BA in psychology from Villanova and an MS in library and information science from Drexel University.

University Club at Penn Annual Meeting: April 28

The Annual Meeting of the University Club at Penn will be held on Wednesday, April 28, 2010, at 4 p.m. in the Club. In addition to annual reports, the Nominating Committee’s list of nominees for new Board members will be presented, to be voted upon by the Members.

Nominees to the Board of Governors:
- Beverly Edwards, Division of Human Resources
- David Eisenhower, Annenberg School of Communication
- Eugene (Gene) C. Janda, Division of Public Safety
- Alan Laties, School of Medicine
- Martin J. Silverstein, Board of Overseers, School of Nursing

Please attend to support the Board who acts on your behalf. After the meeting, members are invited to join the Board in light refreshments.

—Natalka A. Swavely, Club Coordinator

Penn Museum’s 28th Annual Maya Weekend: April 9 through 11

Maya Women: Figures of Enduring Strength and Power

Maya Women: Figures of Enduring Strength and Power is the theme for the 28th annual Maya Weekend, taking place Friday, April 9 through Sunday, April 11 at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. More than a dozen scholars will present illustrated talks and interactive workshops for the public, exploring the central role that women have played in the social, political, and cultural history of the Maya people from the Classic period (AD 250 to AD 900) to contemporary times.

Penn Museum’s Maya Weekend is one of the largest and oldest meetings in the United States devoted to Maya studies. This year’s event brings together international scholars, speakers of Mayan descent, weavers, conservationists, and others actively involved with traditional Maya communities within Central America, for an engaging look at the daily life of Mayan women, and their roles in religion, politics, and the community. Highlighted speakers for this year’s event include keynote speaker Karen Basset-Sweet, University of Calgary, presenting a talk on Maya Goddesses, and Maya banquet speaker Traci Arden, University of Miami, discussing Ancient Maya Queens.

Maya Weekend attendees have the opportunity to visit Penn Museum’s Mesoamerican Gallery, which draws upon the Museum’s strong collection and research fieldwork to offer a thematic look at the Maya and other ancient peoples of the region. World famous grand stone monuments and circular altars from the Museum’s early Maya excavations at Piedras Negras, Guatemala, and Caracol, Belize, dominate the gallery.

View the complete program: www.pennmuseum.edu/2010-maya-weekend.html.

Brochures and more information are available through the Museum’s Special Events Office by calling (215) 898-4890, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission to the Maya Weekend, including admission to the Museum’s Special Events Office is $175; $140 for Museum members and senior citizens (over 62); and $75 for full-time students. Reservations can be made online: https://pennmuseum.tickleapp.com/28th-annual-maya-weekend-maya-women-04-09-2010-18-0.

Public Safety Walk-Back Program April 28—May 11

As in past years, the Division of Public Safety, working with the Undergraduate Assembly, has reinstated the Public Safety Walk-back Program. During Reading Days and Final Exams—from Wednesday, April 28, 2010 through Tuesday, May 11, 2010—a Penn-Barton Security Officer will be posted at the “Button” on Locust Walk from midnight-3:30 a.m. Approximately every half hour the officer will be Van Pelt-Dietrich Library to determine if any student would like an escort. The Penn Walker will then perform the escort and return to repeat the process.

The Division of Public Safety is providing this service in addition to its normal Walking Escort Programs. Uniformed Allied Barton Security Officers provide escorts to campus locations. Escorts are dispatched by radio and will accompany you from one campus location to another, to a Penn Transit Stop or to an on-campus SEPTA regional transit stop. Escorts are available, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To request a Walking Escort, call (215) 898-9255 (898-WALK).

Benefits Open Enrollment: Now

As of yesterday, Open Enrollment for the 2010–2011 benefits plan year has begun. This means that from now through Friday, April 16, you can make any changes you’d like to your benefits package. Enroll in a new healthcare plan, change your pre-tax expense account contribution amount, increase or decrease your life insurance coverage—the choice is yours.

By now, you should have received Open Enrollment materials at your home address. Be sure to examine those and visit the Human Resources website at www.hr.upenn.edu to learn about your healthcare coverage options, as well as the changes being made to existing plans in the upcoming plan year.

To make changes to your benefits coverage at any time during Open Enrollment, visit www.pennbenefits.upenn.edu. If you don’t have Internet access or are having problems enrolling online, contact the Penn Benefits Center at 1-888-PENN-BEN (1-888-736-6236), Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–6 p.m.

Take Our Kids to Work Day: April 22

At Penn, we understand the importance of raising a family and providing children with positive and productive experiences early on. That’s why we take the opportunity each year to host Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day—an annual event that encourages, inspires and introduces youngsters to the workplace.

Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day will take place this year on April 22. Faculty and staff will have the opportunity to bring children ages 9–15 to Penn’s campus to enjoy an exciting array of activities.

You must pre-register in order to participate. Registration begins on April 8 at 9 a.m. For more information, including a full list of activities and instructions on how to register, visit www.hr.upenn.edu/Quality/TakeOurKidsToWork Day or contact your Human Resources at (215) 573-2471 or qowl@hr.upenn.edu.

—Division of Human Resources

Death

Mr. Wildes, University Communications

Kenneth J. Wildes, Jr., former director of University Communications, passed away on March 22; he was 62.

As the primary spokesman for the University from 1996-2000, Mr. Wildes oversaw Penn’s communications and public relations operations. While here, he was responsible for press accreditation and arrangements for the campus visit of President Bill Clinton in 1996 and His Excellency Jiang Zemin, president of the People’s Republic of China in 1997.

Before joining Penn, Mr. Wildes was director of newspaper promotion and public relations at Parade Publications, Inc. He then was in charge of communications at University of Pennsylvania for 14 years. After he left Penn in 2000, he was vice president of communications for Children’s Hospital Los Angeles until 2009.

Born in Worcester, Massachusetts, Mr. Wildes earned a bachelor’s degree in English from Springfield College in 1969.

Mr. Wildes is survived by his fiancé, Terri Chapman; his daughters, Allison Wildes Lisset and Michelle Mandelman Wildes; son-in-law, John Mandelman; grandchildren, Michael, Kathryn, Matthew, Andrew, Vivian and Lila Faye; his mother, Eileen Wildes; and sisters, Kristina Ratsy and Jacqui Beebe.

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Donations may be made to the Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, 4650 Sunset Blvd., Mail Stop #29, Los Angeles, CA 90027.
National Awards to Honor Inspirational Higher Education Faculty Member

Nominations are underway for awards in memory of a female pioneer in the field of psychology. In memory of a best-selling author, esteemed college professor and champion and advocate for the advancement of women, nominations for the first Elizabeth Hurlock Beckman Awards are being accepted through May 1, 2010.

The awards, named after Dr. Elizabeth Hurlock Beckman (1898-1998), will recognize current or former higher education faculty members who have inspired or challenged their students to make a difference in their communities. Award recipients will receive a minimum of $25,000 as a one-time award to be used at their sole discretion. The awards will be counted as taxable income.

The Elizabeth Hurlock Beckman Award Trust was established in 2008 under the will of Gail McKnight Beckman (1938-2007). She created the award in memory of her mother, Dr. Elizabeth Hurlock Beckman. Wells Fargo Bank N.A. serves as the Trustee.

Dr. Elizabeth Hurlock Beckman was an educator, a renowned author and a pioneer in the field of psychology. She was one of the first female psychology professors at Columbia University and she taught at the University of Pennsylvania from 1949 to 1967. Dr. Beckman authored nine books and textbooks about child and adolescent psychology. Dr. Beckman was a champion of women in psychology and an advocate for the advancement of women in academia.

A trailblazer in her own right as a legal scholar, Gail McKnight Beckman created the Beckman Award to honor current or former academic faculty members who have inspired their students to “create an organization which has demonstrably conferred a benefit on the community at large,” or have inspired their students to “establish on a lasting basis a concept, procedure, or movement of comparable benefit to the community at large.”

Individuals nominated for the award must be current or former teachers, professors or instructors in any higher education academic field. Preference will be given to educators in the fields of psychology, medicine and law. To be considered, the educator must currently teach or have taught at a United States college, university, junior college, community college or technical school. Award candidates must be US citizens or US permanent resident aliens.

The ArtsEdge Project offers a one year residency for an emerging writer. The residency includes a subsidized apartment at 40th and Chestnut, (writer pays less than half the rent), studio/writing space in the AIR Space artistic nexus, and close affiliation with Penn’s writing community.

During the course of the residency, the ArtsEdge writer will be encouraged to develop at least one project at the Writers House. Past residents have produced staged readings (http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/calendar/0109.php#22), organized panel discussions (http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/calendar/0110.php#25) and coordinated readings by other emerging authors (http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/calendar/1009.php#15).

Qualified applicants (with graduate degrees or appropriate experience) may also be considered to teach a writing course at Penn in the spring semester, depending on the funding year. Please note: teaching is not a guaranteed part of the residency.

To Apply: Submit letter of interest, CV or resume, writing sample (maximum 30 pages), personal contact information, and contact information for three references to residencyproject@writing.upenn.edu.

Please collect and submit all materials as one document (PDF or Word document preferred).

—Kelly Writers House
Overview of the 2010 Budget

On a consolidated basis, the expenditure budget for the University and the Health System totals $5.667 billion. On an RCMS basis—which is the way Penn manages internally—the University budget, excluding the Health System, is $2.732 billion, a 4.5% increase over the FY09 budget. That increase is driven by sponsored research, up 7.3% and by spending on capital projects, up 25%. Penn took the conservative approach and rather than increasing what the spending rule would allow, Penn is capping spending at the FY09 level, rather than increasing it for non-aid endowments and increasing by 8.2% for financial aid endowments.

Penn’s base budget only grew by 0.04% compared to FY09. The 25% growth in capital is driven almost entirely by the Translational Research Building that the School of Medicine has been building.

Slightly over a third of Penn’s revenue—$823 million, comes from tuition and fees: undergraduate, graduate, and professional, and PhD tuition. Another 30%, is sponsored research—$814 million of revenue, and the last third is everything else—a series of other small categories that include gifts, investment income, transfers from the Health System, and Commonwealth appropriation. The source of the granting budget shows 8% of Penn’s operating budget. A 2% slice of the pie represents Penn’s appropriation from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Since the budget was done, that appropriation has been reduced by $8.7 million. Most of that reduction has come in the School of Veterinary Medicine, which is the single largest recipient of commonwealth support. The loss of nearly $9 million of that $46 million allocation is significant to the School of Veterinary Medicine.

In over two years the School has had a $12.7 million reduction in Commonwealth support.

Penn spends over half of its budget on compensation: on salaries, on stipends, on employee benefits, $1.4 billion of our budget is spent on compensation. The largest area of expenditure is current expense, $688 million, followed by $375 million of capital, and $256 million in financial aid—both graduate and undergraduate financial aid.

Research is driving a lot of Penn’s growth. The non-research compensation across the University grew by only about a percent. Research-based-compensation grew by 5.25%. The same thing happens on the current expense side, from 2009 to 2010, non-research current expense was budgeted to increase by almost 6%, while research current expense was expected to increase by 9.3%. Part of this increase in research is being driven by the stimulus funds, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Penn received $171 million in stimulus awards from the ARRA program. Those awards will be spent over this year, next year and probably phasing out in FY12. It has made a substantial difference in our research.

$1.8 billion, or 67% of Penn’s expenditures is in the schools. Of that portion, 75% is in three schools, the School of Medicine, the School of Arts and Sciences and the Wharton School, the next largest category—$460 million, represents administrative center expenditures, which includes all of the maintenance of buildings and grounds including all utilities expenditure which alone are about $70 million a year.

In FY10, Penn’s total undergraduate charges are $49,986; that represents tuition, all fees, room and board. Compared with 16 other peer institutions, with which Penn competes for faculty for undergraduate students, Penn was in the median, with 8 above us and 8 below when it comes to total charges. Of the increases last year, there were several institutions that had increased at 2.9%, that was the lowest rate of increase. Princeton, Brown and Georgetown all came in at 2.9%. The highest increase last year, for this academic year, was Dartmouth at 4.8%.

Penn’s financial aid budget for this year grew to $332.4 million across all types of financial aid. That includes $135.1 million in undergraduate aid, it’s a 16.4% increase over what was spent in 2009. That’s a combination of going no-loan and the recession. Graduate and professional aid went up 11% and graduate stipends up 3.3%. Our undergraduate financial aid numbers are very interesting this year. Penn has 363 additional aid students as of FY10 compared to FY09; 262 of those are upper-class students, which means they did not receive aid previously, but showed need and got aid this year. That’s almost certainly recession-related. These are students who had need increase this year, most likely because of a change of employment on their parents’ part.

Penn also had some increase related to lower-income students. Penn has made a point of recruiting lower-income students and the no loan package has made Penn more affordable for lower-income students. The budget anticipated a 5% recession factor to account for students who would in fact have need, or greater need than they had had in the past because of the recession. So that was a $6 million increase to the financial aid budget, and right now we’re tracking close to budget.

In summary, the Penn Compact guided our resource allocation decisions, a very significant one, increasing access. We put a lot of extra money into financial aid. We funded Penn’s highest priorities in the FY10 budget, the budget itself demonstrated minimal growth in compensation and actually decreased current expense compared to the 2009 budget. The schools and our centers were very responsible in putting their budgets together, and recognizing constrained resources. Fiscal 2010 is seeing significant growth in capital expenditures, primarily for previously approved projects, and also significant growth in aid. The direct research expenditures including capital are projected to grow 11% compared to the ‘09 budget, in part related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Undergraduate Charges for 2010-2011

Penn’s charges are currently at $49,986. Only 70% of a Penn education is covered by tuition and fees. The balance is supported by philanthropy—gifts and endowment. 56% of Penn’s undergraduate students receive financial aid from internal or external sources.

The average freshman grant is $33,426. All of the grant-aided students this year have no loan packages, which means when Penn determines need, it is met with either a grant or with a work-study job. Students were free to take out loans if they chose to do so, but a loan is not a required part of meeting need.

FY10 was the lowest increase in tuition and fees in 41 years. FY11 is going to be even lower, with Penn out of the 22% increase in 42 years. Compared to the average increase at all public institutions, and the average increase at all private institutions, Penn has tended to be below average. Compared to the average private increase, of the past 13 years, Penn is lower than the average.

FY2011 Peer Charges

projected at FY2010 rate of increase if unannounced

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* Mandatory fees assumed at FY2010 rate.  ** Georgetown restated its FY2010 Board charge.
Our core student systems are over 25 years old. Next generation student systems designed to provide services to students, faculty and staff. Sites like Penn InTouch, Advisor InTouch, U@Penn, the Penn Portal, are sure that we have professional IT resources as close to the individual faculty and wireless—and gateways to the Internet. Tying all of this together is Penn's campus network—wired and wireless—and gateways to the Internet.

Several of Penn’s peers fund 80% of their financial aid budget using endowment income. While this increase in tuition generates an additional $14 million of revenue to the University as tuition revenue, Penn is immediately taking $6.5 million of the top to support the financial aid. The increase in financial aid this year is an $11 million increase. Net tuition that is available to pay for increased costs is $7.5 million, not the initial $14 million because $6.5 million needs to be used to fund financial aid.

The freshman aid package from 2002 to 2010 has consistently grown. There is no longer a loan as a mandatory part of the package. Over the time period 2002-2010, the grant has increased from under $20,000 to over $33,000, a total increase of 70%. Tuition increased over that same time period by 44%, so Penn’s aid has outstripped the increase in tuition.

Unemployment is the driver of financial need. As unemployment increases, the number of Penn’s aided students is going to increase.

Graduate & Professional Tuition and Aid

In 2009 Penn had over 3,100 PhD students across 9 schools and 52 graduate groups. Almost all of Penn’s PhD students are fully funded for a period of 3 to 5 years; in those years where it’s typical that a student starts with a master’s degree, 5 in virtually every other program. Full funding includes the remission of tuition and fees, a stipend and health insurance in each of the funded years. There are several schools that pay a higher stipend to cover health insurance, so they don’t pay it directly, but they pay it in the form of a higher stipend.

A five-year standard funding package using Arts and Sciences and the humanities as an example, for students entering in the fall of 2009, is worth over $250,000 in constant FY10 dollars.

PhD tuition is going to increase by 3.8% in fiscal 2011, the same rate of increase as undergraduate tuition. The research master’s tuition will increase at that same rate, and the professional tuition is set by the schools and will increase anywhere from 0% to about 5%, but it is dependent on each individual program and the market for that program.

PhD funding by school is interesting. Overall, there was over $127 million of funding for those 3,103 PhD students, with Arts and Sciences being by far the largest component, almost $58 million of total funding. 1,482 of those PhD students are in Arts & Sciences, with biomedical programs being the second largest group, with 663 students, then SEAS with 408.

IT at Penn Today

Robin Beck, vice president for Information Systems & Computing, discussed information technology at Penn. She said that IT involves many moving and integrated components within Penn and globally. There is a constant need for improved process efficiency with ISC and other components associated with labs and classroom computing are the responsibility of the schools. ISC and the schools support mobile users. Centrally, ISC looks at the administrative systems that are produced for use by members of the community. Tying all of this together is Penn’s campus network— wired and wireless—and gateways to the Internet.

IT today, both at Penn and almost everywhere, involves four key drivers: regulation and compliance; the expectation for 24/7 connectivity to the information we want and the transactions we want to perform, from anywhere, from any device; cost containment; and globalization.

Leveraging the strength of Penn’s distributed IT model, so that we’re sure that we have professional IT resources as close to the individual faculty, students and staff members as possible. Over 60% of the IT staff resides in schools and centers, so that faculty, students and staff can have that direct support and most needs that are unique to a school or center. Sites like Penn InTouch, Advisor InTouch, U@Penn, the Penn Portal, are designed to provide services to students, faculty and staff.

Penn InTouch first went in place in 1996; but got a major refresh this past summer. We leveraged the strength of the distributed model, and we have to build technologies that are sustainable over the long term. Our core student systems are over 25 years old. Next generation student systems will replace them. Our data warehouse was also implemented in 1996, so we want to look at flexibility for the long term.

We have already contacted, interviewed and talked to over 200 members of the Penn community, to understand where there are gaps in the systems that our current services provide, and what our vision is, of the next generation student system. Next fiscal year, we will have a recommendation of what we need to replace, the time frames and the resources that we’ll take to do that.

We have already talked a little bit about direct lending, we made the decision as capital markets became tighter, to offer direct lending options for students, not to rely on the project to incorporate that into our student financial services systems and then as regulations changed, we went completely to direct lending.

As part of the University’s global outreach, we are implementing an international registry. This will be so that we know where Penn community members are, so that if there is a crisis, we know how to contact them. We are also looking at how to share organizational knowledge, so that as we go into new areas and new countries, we know how to deal with that and can bring information back and share it so that everyone is learning and building on each other’s experiences.

The research enterprise is key to the University. We’ve already touched a little bit on stimulus reporting, which was and will continue to be one of our major efforts within the research community. One, because Penn is successful at receiving ARRA funds, but also because those funds come with regulations and we need to comply with those regulations and how we report the effect of that act.

PennWorks is another multi-year project. Some of you on the administrative side may have already experienced the first few weeks of Penn Works. It is allowing us to better lever our resources, our project to incorporate that into our student financial services systems and then as regulations changed, we went completely to direct lending.

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PennWorks is another multi-year project. Some of you on the administrative side may have already experienced the first few weeks of Penn Works. It is allowing us to better lever our resources, our project to incorporate that into our student financial services systems and then as regulations changed, we went completely to direct lending.

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Laughing Matters: Soviet Propaganda in Khrushchev’s Thaw, 1956-1964 opens at the University of Pennsylvania’s Arthur Ross Gallery on Friday, April 9. The exhibit presents 25 posters and other visual materials, most on display in the US for the first time, of Soviet propaganda from the Thaw, the period of post-Stalinist liberalization during Nikita Khrushchev’s leadership of the Soviet Union.

Curated by Liliana Mikova, curator of academic programs at the Allen Memorial Art Museum at Oberlin College, who earned a doctorate at Penn, and Masha Kowell, a doctoral candidate in the department of the history of art at Penn, the exhibition highlights the shift from heavy-handed Socialist Realist iconography to vibrant, comic images found in the political propaganda of the Thaw. Reminiscent of cartoons and drawings on the aesthetics of 1920s Russian avant-garde, the posters in Laughing Matters rely on humor and light-heartedness to reach a Soviet population desensitized by decades of prescriptive political language.

The opening reception will take place at the Gallery on Friday, April 9, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The curators will lead a tour of the exhibition on Saturday, April 10, at 2 p.m.

Special events include a scholarly symposium, The Thaw: Visual Culture and Beyond, which brings to Penn prominent specialists in the field of Soviet art, history, film and literature and which constitutes the first scholarly gathering of its kind in the US.

Sponsored by Penn’s department of Slavic languages and literatures, the symposium will be at the Max Kade Center, 3401 Walnut St., on Friday, April 9, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

In addition, Richard Hodges, director of Penn’s Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, will speak on Khrushchev’s Fateful Visit to Albania, 50 Years On at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 27, at the Arthur Ross Gallery.

Additional support for Laughing Matters, which runs through June 27, is provided by the department of the history of art.

The Arthur Ross Gallery is at 220 S. 34th St.

Additional information is available at (215) 898-2083 or ccat.sas.upenn.edu/slavic/events/slavic_symposium/The_Thaw/index.htm.

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Morris Arboretum’s Japanese Cherry Blossom Festival

Morris Arboretum’s Japanese Cherry Blossom Festival will take place on two Saturdays, April 10 and April 17. This celebration of this unique aspect of the Arboretum’s rich Japanese culture and heritage will feature a variety of wonderful activities for adults and children alike, including a visit by the Tokyo, Japan Cherry Blossom Queen on Monday, April 12.

Saturday, April 10, 11 a.m.–noon. Sashi Demonstration: Josh Hunter, of Company’s Coming Catering, will lead an interactive demonstration where participants learn how to make sushis such as tuna and California rolls, as well as vegetarian hand rolls. Samples will be available.

Saturday, April 10, 1-2 p.m. Traditional Japanese Tea Demonstration: This year, the Traditional Japanese Tea Demonstration will feature Picnic Tea (Chabako), a unique form of the Japanese Tea Ceremony. It was designed to be performed outdoors with its four distinct presentations, one for each of the seasons. Weather permitting, this demonstration will be outside.

Saturday, April 10, 2 p.m. Japanese Garden Elements Tour: This tour highlights the Japanese influence on many areas at the Arboretum, featuring the Hill Garden, the Rock Garden in the Fernery and the Overlook Garden.

Sunday, April 11, 1-2:15 p.m. Creating an Asian Dragon: The dragon in Japan is a friendly symbol of good luck, not the scary creature of Medieval Europe. Allison Zito, artist and teacher, Harcum College will teach children a bit of Asian dragon folklore while they create their own colorful animated dragon toys to take home. Children will color, glue and assemble their paper dragons and add arms, hands and a tail. Ideal for ages 3 to 7 years. All materials are provided.

Members: $16 and Non-members: $19.

Monday, April 12, 10-11 a.m. Visit by the Tokyo Japanese Cherry Blossom Queen: The public is invited as the newly crowned Tokyo, Japan Cherry Blossom Queen takes a tour of the Arboretum to celebrate our rich Japanese culture and heritage.

Saturday, April 17, 10:30 and 11 a.m. Archery Demonstration: Centuries ago in Japan, archery was regarded as the highest discipline of the Samurai warrior. Today archery has evolved into Kyudo. The ultimate goal of Kyudo is to polish the mind—the same as in sitting meditation. Men and women of all ages practice Kyudo. Physical strength is not a factor. Come and join us for this demonstration and experience this ancient discipline where the qualities of heart and mind combine at the moment of the arrow’s release.

Saturday, April 17, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Japanese Calligraphy: Picnic Tea (Chabako), a unique form of the Japanese Tea Ceremony. It was designed to be performed outdoors with its four distinct presentations, one for each of the seasons. Weather permitting, this demonstration will be outside.

Saturday, April 17, 1-2 p.m. Swarthmore Taiko Drummers: Music & Dance in the Garden: This unique group will perform traditional and traditionally based new works in Japanese style drumming. Always a favorite of the arboretum, the audience will also be invited to experience playing the drums at the end of the program.

Saturday, April 17, 2 p.m. Japanese Garden Elements Tour: This tour highlights the Japanese influence on many areas at the Arboretum, featuring the Hill Garden, the Rock Garden in the Fernery and the Overlook Garden.

Swarthmore Taiko Drummers will perform at the Morris Arboretum’s Cherry Blossom Celebration on Saturday, April 17. This group will perform traditional and traditionally based new works in Japanese style drumming.

“Romance” April 5—May 14

Susanna Corson-Finnerty’s show at the Burrison Gallery, entitled Romance, is composed of abstract images in photography. Her work explores the dialogue between man-made objects and nature. She photographs the effect of nature on human constructions, which resemble abstract paintings. Rusting or flaking in her photographs intentionally have a celestial, other-worldly feel to them.

Ms. Corson-Finnerty is a Philadelphia-based freelance photographer. Her photographs have been shown in exhibitions in Philadelphia and the surrounding suburbs. Her work is published in an anthology, is featured on numerous websites, and is part of many private collections. She graduated cum laude from McGill University in Montréal, Quebec. Her love of photography was born out of a desire to capture beauty as she traveled the world; it is the language she uses to express her perspective, both at home and abroad.

For more information, visit her website: www.susannaphotography.com or contact her directly at susanna.corson@yahoo.com.

A reception will be held at the Burrison Gallery on Friday, April 9, from 6-8 p.m.
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 22-28, 2010. Also reported were 19 crimes against property (including 15 thefts, 1 burglary and 3 cases of fraud). Full reports are available at: www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v56/n28/crime-report.html. Prior weeks’ reports are also online. —Ed.

This summary is prepared by the Division of Public Safety and includes all criminal incidents reported and made known to the University Police Department between the dates of March 22-28, 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

6 incidents with 2 arrests (including 2 robberies and 4 aggravated assaults) were reported between March 22-28, 2010 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>03/23/10</td>
<td>10:15 AM</td>
<td>4702 Walnut St</td>
<td>Aggravated Assault/Assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/24/10</td>
<td>11:00 PM</td>
<td>4303 Ludlow St</td>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/26/10</td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>3400 S 38th St</td>
<td>Aggravated Assault/Assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/27/10</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Farragut/Market</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/27/10</td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>1119 S 47th St</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/28/10</td>
<td>4:45 AM</td>
<td>4636 Walnut St</td>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
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The University of Pennsylvania’s journal of record, opinion and news is published Tuesdays during the academic year, and as needed during summer and holiday breaks. Its electronic editions on the Internet (accessible through the PennWeb) include HTML and Acrobat versions of the print edition, and interims for April AT PENN. For information call (215) 898-5274 or visit www.upenn.edu/almanac/fqs.html.

The University of Pennsylvania does not discriminate in the admission of applicants to its educational programs and activities on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, creed, national or ethnic origin, citizenship status, age, disability, veteran status or any other legally protected class status in the administration of its admissions, financial aid, educational or athletic programs, or other University-administered programs or in its employment practices. Questions or complaints regarding this policy should be directed to the Executive Director of the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Programs. Such questions should be directed to the University of Pennsylvania’s Office of Equal Opportunity Programs, Sansom Place East, 3601 Chestnut Street, Suite 228, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3111. For information call (215) 898-6993 (Voice) or (215) 898-7803 (TDD).
Protecting Confidential University Data

We are pleased to announce the new Computer Security Policy, which consolidates and replaces two existing policies, and the updated Social Security Policy. Both are aimed at protecting confidential University data. Highlights are presented below, but we encourage all faculty, staff, and students to read the policies in their entirety.

—Robin Beck, Vice President, Information Systems and Computing

—Mary Lee Brown, Associate Vice President, Audit, Compliance and Privacy

Some Highlights of the Computer Security Policy

Computing Devices and Servers:
- All computers, servers, and other devices that connect to PennNet (this includes home computers), must be protected by a strong password, have security patches applied on a timely basis, have built-in firewalls activated, and have supported anti-virus protection installed and set for regular updates.
- System administrators are responsible for making encrypted services available when there is a reasonable expectation that the services are handling, or may be used to handle, confidential University data, and when such encryption would not impose undue burden.
- Data that is subject to breach notification requirements (such as SSNs, credit card numbers, bank account numbers, HIPAA-protected data) and other sensitive health information must be encrypted at rest if it is stored on portable computing devices (e.g., laptops, notebooks, PDAs), storage devices (e.g., flash drives) or media (e.g., CDs, DVDs).

Data Encryption:
- Data encryption is required for all University data when access is no longer required.

Certain data must be encrypted at rest and/or in transmission. The policy has been revised to align these encryption requirements with those set forth in the Computer Security Policy.

Some Highlights of the SSN Policy

This policy establishes expectations around the use of Social Security numbers—sensitive data whose misuse poses privacy risks to individuals, and compliance and reputational risks to the University. The policy calls on staff, faculty, contractors, and their respective agents to inventory their online and offline Social Security numbers and reduce the above risks by, in priority order: (1) eliminating this data altogether, (2) converting it to PennID, (3) truncating the data to capture and display only the last four digits, (4) when the complete SSN is clearly necessary, ensuring strict security controls to protect the full data.

In specified circumstances the policy requires that complete SSNs be encrypted at rest and/or in transmission. The policy has been revised to align these encryption requirements with those set forth in the Computer Security Policy.

Implementation Assistance

Faculty and staff may wish to contact their LSP for assistance in meeting the requirements of these policies. (If you don’t know who your LSP is, see www.upenn.edu/computing/view/support/). Other resources include ISC Information Security (security@isc.upenn.edu) and the Office of Audit, Compliance and Privacy (privacy@pobox.upenn.edu).