

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA *Almanac*

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The Special Collections Center: Bringing Together Old & New

The Van Pelt-Dietrich Library's sixth floor has been totally transformed during the past three years into a state-of-the-art Special Collections Center that will be a destination for scholars working with primary source materials in both their material form and with the latest digital resources. The Special Collections Center recently completed the second phase of a three-phase redesign thanks to the generosity of several donors (*Almanac* March 2, 2010).

An open house will be held on Friday, April 19, from 2 to 5 p.m. for faculty, staff, students, scholars, alumni and friends of the library to view the spectacular spaces and take a self-guided tour.

The Special Collections Center now includes improved facilities for housing the Library's rare books, manuscripts and visual collection, along with a number of new spaces.

From the library's sixth floor—overlooking the heart of campus—there are striking views of College Green and the Philadelphia skyline (*at*

left), on the new Gershwind-Bennett Terrace adjacent to the most eastern seminar room. The Terrace will be open to the campus community as usable event space for cocktail parties and other gatherings. The Terrace is named in honor of Penn Libraries' Overseer, Erik Gershwind, W'93 and his wife Jackie; and Michael Bennett and his wife Stacey Gershwind Bennett, C'95.

The motif of the 21,500 square feet on the sixth floor is based on light, transparency, floor-to-ceiling glass walls and openings of vistas on the north, south and east sides of the building to invite natural light. This project was built to the equivalent of U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Silver standards. The Rare Book & Manuscript Library's collection will be located on the fifth floor, along with offices, a processing area and conservation lab. A new staircase at the east end will connect the fifth and sixth floors.

See the back page and *Almanac's* website for more information and photographs.



GSE Excellence in Teaching Award



Janine Remillard

recipients have "a strong commitment to teaching and learning and are known to challenge their students intellectually and imaginatively."

Dr. Remillard's scholarship focuses on mathematics teacher education and learning, teachers' interactions with mathematics curriculum materials, urban education, teaching practices in the context of educational policy and the role of parents in supporting students' mathematics learning. She has a particular interest in examining teacher learning and change in urban

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Dr. Janine Remillard, associate professor of education in the Teaching, Learning and Leadership division of the Graduate School of Education, has received GSE's 2013 Excellence in Teaching Award.

This award, given annually to an "outstanding member of the teaching faculty," is an honor bestowed by the GSE student body. The

From the President and Provost

Transition at Penn Nursing

We are writing to let you know that Dr. Afaf Meleis has told us and the Penn Nursing community that—as she had planned to do when she generously agreed to reappointment for a second term as dean in 2009—she will step down as dean of the School of Nursing at the end of her term on June 30, 2014. This spring, we will name and charge a consultative committee to advise us on the selection of Afaf's successor. From now through June 30, 2014, Afaf will continue moving ahead with her great Penn Nursing team and faculty to realize the School of Nursing's ambitious goals.

Afaf's transition from the deanship will mark the conclusion of 12 enormously successful and productive years that have immeasurably strengthened Penn Nursing and the University. As dean and as an important member of the University's senior leadership, Afaf's ambitious vision for the future of nursing science and her energetic and passionate leadership have been one of the School of Nursing's and the University's greatest assets.

Since her arrival at Penn in 2002, Afaf has been an outstanding dean: energetic, strategic, motivational, creative and strongly dedicated to

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SAS 2013 Teaching Awards

Dr. Rebecca W. Bushnell, dean of the School of Arts & Sciences, and Dr. Dennis DeTurck, dean of the College, announce the following recipients of the School's 2013 teaching awards, to be presented on Thursday, April 25, at an awards reception open to the University community. The reception will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. in room 200, College Hall.

Ira H. Abrams Memorial Award for Distinguished Teaching

This year's recipients of SAS's highest teaching honor are Dr. David Brainard, professor of psychology, and Dr. Kathy Peiss, the Roy F. and Jeannette P. Nichols Professor of American History. Created in 1983, the Ira H. Abrams Award recognizes teaching that is intellectually challenging and exceptionally coherent, and honors faculty who embody high standards of integrity and fairness, have a strong commitment to learning and are open to new ideas.

Dr. Brainard's teaching engages students in the complex interdisciplinary areas of his research in human and machine vision and visual processing. According to one of his faculty colleagues, "If anyone can take a complicated problem or idea and walk the listener through until it is understood, it is David." In seminars, survey courses, office hours and labs, another colleague notes that "David's contributions to teaching excellence benefit Penn tremendously at all levels, ranging from undergraduates to assistant professors."

Dr. Peiss sets impeccably high standards for her undergraduate and graduate students of American history, while also fostering their creativity and intellectual voices. Exemplifying



David Brainard



Kathy Peiss

what a faculty colleague calls "Kathy's way of exciting her students about the practice of his-

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COUNCIL

From the Office of the Secretary

Agenda for University Council Meeting Wednesday, April 24, 2013 4 p.m.

Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall

- I. Approval of the minutes of April 3, 2013. (1 minute)
- II. Follow up comments or questions on Status Reports. (5 minutes)
- III. Summary reports by Council Committee Chairs. (30 minutes)
- IV. Report of the University Committee on Committees. (10 minutes)
- V. Discussion of possible Focus Issues for next year. (10 minutes)
- VI. New Business. (5 minutes)
- VII. Adjournment.

Transition at Penn Nursing

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academic excellence. Her record as a fundraiser, as an outstanding leader in the profession and as an advocate for global women's health is simply superb. Under her leadership, Penn Nursing has established itself as one of the world's pre-eminent schools of nursing. The School has distinguished itself by its commitment to the training of the profession's future leaders and the advancement of nursing science.

Under Afaf's leadership, the School of Nursing's faculty, educational programs, research activities, finances and connections to its alumni have all flourished, and the School's eminence is indisputable. Among the School's major accomplishments during her tenure have been the creation of two decentralized academic departments within the School, the establishment of four new research centers—including a path-breaking Center for Global Women's Health, the substantial renovation of Claire M. Fagin Hall and the launching of a groundbreaking BSN curriculum. The School's endowment has almost tripled to \$72.4 million, and its budget has more than tripled to \$97 million, and it is among the top nursing schools in federal funding. Enrollment increased by 57%, the standing faculty grew by 19%, and diversity among both students and faculty was made a top priority, more than quadrupling the percentage of minority standing faculty.

Afaf's energetic advocacy for the profession of nursing, the School and its mission; her high international profile; her dynamic personality; and her considerable accomplishments as a professional leader together have brought international visibility and recognition to the School and the University. Over the next 15 months, Afaf will continue to drive forward her ambitious plans to ensure Penn Nursing's continued eminence as the world's leading school of nursing science, while enabling us to plan for a smooth transition in the School's leadership. During this period, we all will have ample opportunities to recognize and thank Afaf for her many remarkable contributions to Penn Nursing and the University, but we want also to take this opportunity to thank her and her colleagues for the exemplary excellence they have achieved and continue to demonstrate every day.

—Amy Gutmann, President

—Vincent Price, Provost

SAS 2013 Teaching Awards

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tory for its own sake," one of Dr. Peiss's undergraduate students notes that she "inspired my classmates and me to enjoy history and the scholarly process in a way that transcended traditional performance and grading."

Dean's Award for Innovation in Teaching

This award, which recognizes exceptional creativity and innovation in instruction, is presented to Dr. Peter Struck, associate professor of classical studies.



Peter Struck

In reworking his Greek and Roman class for the online Coursera environment, Dr. Struck, writes a colleague, "has found an innovative way to secure the essential humanity of teaching, even online, even to thousands of students at one time." He is no less pioneering in face-to-face teaching, serving as a founding force behind the Integrated Studies Program, a residentially-based liberal arts curriculum for College freshmen who are Benjamin Franklin Scholars.

Dean's Award for Mentorship of Undergraduate Research



Masao Sako

This award recognizes faculty members who have excelled in nurturing undergraduate students' desires and abilities to conduct meaningful research. This year SAS honors Dr. Masao Sako, associate professor of physics and astronomy, who, according to one of his colleagues, "has an amazing ability to come up with projects that have just the right combination of a significant challenge for undergraduate physics students along with the opportunity for meaningful success."

Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching by an Assistant Professor



Jeffrey Green

This award recognizes a member of the junior faculty who demonstrates unusual promise as an educator. The 2013 recipient is Dr. Jeffrey Green, Janice and Julian Bers Assistant Professor in the Social Sciences in the department of political science. As a fellow faculty member notes, "Jeff has compiled a truly extraordinary teaching record that includes excelling in seminars, lecture courses and mentoring of both undergraduate and graduate research."

Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching by Affiliated Faculty

This award recognizes the contributions to undergraduate education made by the School's non-standing faculty. This year's recipient is Dr. Shannon Lundeen, associate director of the gender, sexuality and women's studies program. According to a colleague, "Shannon's courses [in gender and society, contemporary feminist thought and the science of sex, to name just a few] are impressive for their interdisciplinary breadth and rigor."



Shannon Lundeen

LPS Distinguished Teaching Award

This award honors outstanding teaching and advising in the College of Liberal and Professional Studies (LPS).

This year's recipient of the award for standing faculty is Dr. Peter Decherney, associate professor of English. According to a faculty colleague, in teaching courses that explore the relations between copyright and culture as well as law and media, "[Peter] actively knits together professional and humanistic concerns in... his teaching."



Peter Decherney

The award for non-standing faculty goes to Dr. Meta Mazaj, senior lecturer in the cinema studies program, who, as it has been noted by her colleague, "has become a gold standard for teaching in the cinema studies program and an outstanding classroom presence who... combines grace, wit and a demanding intellect in leading... classes."



Meta Mazaj

Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching by Graduate Students

This award recognizes graduate students for teaching that is intellectually rigorous and has a considerable impact on undergraduate students. This year's awardees are:

Rosanna Dent, history & sociology of science

María Alejandra Díaz-Miranda, biology

Ellen Donnelly, political science

Lindsey Fiorelli, philosophy

Marina Isgro, history of art

Sam Lin, anthropology

Donald McLaughlin, English

Bridget Swanson, Germanic languages and literatures

Bronwyn Wallace, English

Ursula Williams, chemistry

Deaths

Dr. Gardner, Medicine



Frank Gardner

Dr. Frank H. Gardner, a former professor of medicine at Penn Medicine and Presbyterian-University of Pennsylvania Medical Center, died at his home in Galveston, Texas, on April 6 at age 93.

Born in California, he received his BS and MD degrees from Northwestern University, and was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society upon graduation. Following an

internship and residency in Chicago and San Francisco, he accepted a position as instructor of medicine at the Harvard University Medical School. From 1949-1966 he maintained a clinical practice in hematology at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston.

During the Korean War he served in the US Army Medical Corps, 1953-1955, stationed at Fort Buchanan in Puerto Rico. His work at the Tropical Research Medical Laboratory led to significant improvements in the diagnosis and treatment of Tropical Sprue, a debilitating disease affecting thousands of allied troops fighting in jungle climates.

In 1966, Dr. Gardner was appointed professor of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He continued his clinical work at the Presbyterian-University of Penn-

GSE Teaching Award

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classrooms, how teachers interact with and use mathematics curriculum materials and the assumptions about the practice of teaching underlying curriculum development and implementation efforts.

After teaching at an independent school in St. Louis, Dr. Remillard earned a PhD from Michigan State University in curriculum, teaching and educational policy with a focus on mathematics teaching and learning. She has served on the US National Commission for Mathematics Instruction, authorized by the National Academy of Science; in 2011, she was appointed vice chair of the Commission for a two-year term.

WPPSA

Annual Election: May 21

WPPSA (Weekly Paid Professional Staff Assembly) will hold its annual election on Tuesday, May 21, 2013, at 12:30 p.m. in The Forum Room, Stitler Hall, 208 South 37th Street (between Locust Walk and Walnut Street). Nominations for co-chair and secretary must be submitted by May 1, 2013, to WPPSA Chair Linda Satchell, lsatchel@pobox.upenn.edu. All weekly paid staff are encouraged to attend, participate and vote.

The WPPSA's primary goal is to represent the interests of its membership throughout all the segments of the University of Pennsylvania community.

sylvania Medical Center, first as director of the Hematology Research Laboratory, and later as director of medicine. He served also as a consultant in hematology at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the Philadelphia VA Hospital.

In 1975, he moved to Galveston, Texas and began an association with UTMB that lasted for 35 years. Dr. Gardner achieved international recognition for his work in the diagnosis and treatment of cancers of the blood. He had special interests in the areas of the preservation of human blood platelets and bone marrow transplantation.

In 2004, the Frank H. Gardner Conference Room was dedicated at the Penn Presbyterian Medical Center, recognizing his important contributions to the University as both an inspirational teacher and renowned hematologist.

He is survived by his three sons: Frank W. (Linda); Peter (Patricia Smith), and William (Lorraine); two grandchildren: Caroline Smith Gardner, and Peter Smith Gardner.

Donations may be made to the Ronald McDonald House or Hospice Care Team, Inc.

Mr. Sawchuck, Medicine

Mr. George H. Sawchuck, retired research specialist in the department of pathology and laboratory medicine at the School of Medicine, died at his home on March 29 at the age of 84.

Mr. Sawchuck received his BA from Penn in 1957. He began working at Penn in 1966 as a technical assistant in the medical genetics department, and in 1974 he became a research specialist in the department of pathology and laboratory medicine. In the 1980s, he became a research specialist in the Harrison department of surgical research, retiring in 1994.

Correction: In last week's issue Dr. Daniel Hoffman's son's first name was listed incorrectly. The correct spelling is *MacFarlane*.

—Ed.

To Report A Death

Almanac appreciates being informed of the deaths of current and former faculty and staff members, students and other members of the University community. Call (215) 898-5274 or email almanac@upenn.edu

SPEAKING OUT

Penn Bike Commuters

I was encouraged to see that Penn has been selected as one of the 23 "Best Workplaces for Commuters" in the country by the National Transit Research Center (*Almanac*, March 19, 2013). This honor recognizes the University's commitment to "sustainable transportation initiatives and practices."

Commuting by bicycle is not only sustainable, but also affordable, healthy and enjoyable. I would like to encourage all Penn faculty and staff who commute by bike (or are considering it) to email PennBikeCommuters@gmail.com to join an information clearinghouse and discussion forum on issues of mutual interest and concern.

Some bike commuters might not know, for example, that more than four years ago Congress passed the Bicycle Commuter Act, a law that provides a tax benefit to employers who reimburse employees for expenses related to their cycling commutes (up to \$20 per month). (Penn has so far chosen not to offer this benefit, although it continues to offer much more generous benefits for parking and transit.) The Penn Bike Commuters forum will facilitate discussion on how to encourage and improve this sustainable transportation option.

—David Barnes,
Department of History
& Sociology of Science,
School of Arts & Sciences

Response: Commitment to Sustainability

The IRS tax law does provide the option of offering a \$20/month reimbursement for anyone who bikes to work. Discounted tax options are difficult and costly to implement with organizations as large and diverse as

Penn. While the University supports discounted transit options for public transit, this program is administered by a third-party contractor, ADP, which enables Penn to provide the service. Currently no such option exists for the bike reimbursement. As such, this particular discount is not currently being offered.

That said, the University has implemented a number of initiatives that make biking both safer and more convenient in and around Penn's campus. We moved our transit stops to improve safety in bike lanes around campus; through a Green Fund grant we will be installing two bike repair stations on campus this spring; and we are working actively with the City to support its bike sharing initiative. These efforts complement a number of our other strategies associated with sustainable transportation and we continue to explore initiatives that support alternative commuting options. Recently we have introduced electric charging stations, expanded car and van pooling and launched occasional parking and the emergency ride home program—two initiatives that also support bike commuters.

In support of Penn's Climate Action Plan, we have made significant progress toward providing transportation alternatives that help reduce our carbon emissions, but know that there is still much more to be done. We continue to explore ways to make transportation more sustainable at Penn which includes incentives to support our cycling community. We invite and welcome the community to provide feedback and suggestions.

—Marie Witt,
Vice President, Business Services

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

In accordance with the University Council Bylaws, the April 3 Council meeting included “extended reports by the President, the Provost and other administrators covering budgets and plans for the next academic year.” The remarks below were adapted from the presentations given. There were also two presentations on health benefits for faculty, staff and students, which was one of this year’s focus topics that will be reported on in the next issue of *Almanac*.

University Council Meeting Coverage

Reports on Budget and Plans for the Next Academic Year

Bonnie Gibson, Vice President, Budget & Management Analysis

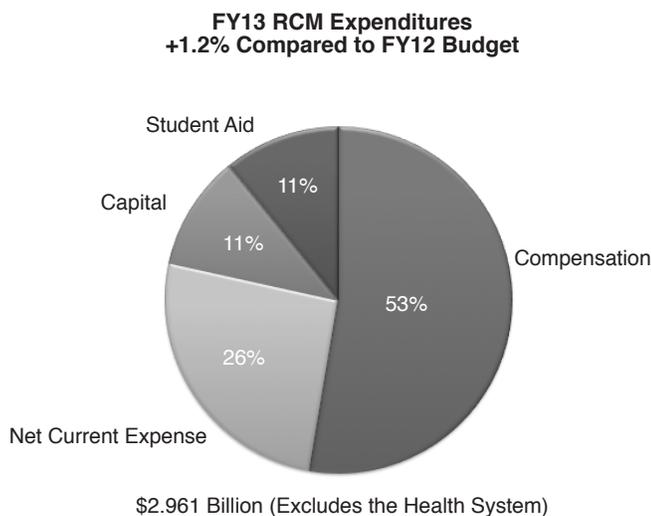
University Operating Budget

I’m pleased to be here for my annual presentation. We’ll start out talking about the University’s budget. When we include the health system, we have over a \$6 billion dollar budget, but I’m only going to be talking about the University’s portion of that budget, which is \$2.96 billion, a little bit less than half of the overall institution budget—including the health system.

I’d like to start out with revenue. When we look at the University’s revenue, the easiest thing to do is to think about it in terms of thirds. It is one-third tuition and fees, one-third research revenue and one-third everything else. Everything else includes gifts, spendable endowment income, transfers across and from other periods—we get money in one year and spend it in the next—everything else makes up the additional third. Let me highlight a figure of 9%, in the everything else third. That’s our spendable investment income—endowment income—it’s very low for an institution of our size.

If we look at our expenditures (*see chart below*), it breaks down into very few components. Over half of our total expenditures are related to compensation—either salaries or benefits. The next largest segment, current expense, is a little over a quarter of our budget. One of the unusual things about the way the University budgets is that we actually consider capital, that 11%, as part of our operating budget, and then another 11% of our budget is for student aid: undergraduate, graduate and professional aid.

We just looked at how we’re spending the money, current expense, capital and compensation. Where are we spending it in terms of the types of people and the types of groups that are spending that money? Two billion dollars of our just short of \$3 billion is being spent in the Schools. Another \$160 million are overall space charges. Seventy-four percent, another \$119 million of that \$160 million relates to space in the Schools. Actually the School expenditures, if we include their space expenditures, are closer to \$2.2 billion, as part of the University’s overall budget. The administrative offices—\$369 million—is the next largest area. Then we have Business Services, the resource centers and general University. The vast majority, over two-thirds of our expenditures, takes place in the Schools. Our financial aid budget for fiscal 2013 was a total of \$406 million. That’s undergraduate aid, graduate and professional aid and graduate stipends. That was an almost 7% increase over the prior year’s expenditures.



Total Undergraduate Charges 2013

I’d like to move now to undergraduate total charges and what was approved by the trustees for the next fiscal year, 2013-2014. Our total charges right now are \$56,578. About 70% of the cost of a Penn education is covered by tuition and fees, and this comes from our audited financial statements. The balance is supported by philanthropy—gifts, endowment income—making up that other 30%. Fifty-six percent of our students receive aid from some source, either internal to Penn or external, and the average freshman grant is \$39,350. For the incoming students who received aid in fiscal 2013, the average grant was over \$39,000. The average net cost for aided student is almost \$3,000 less than it was in 2005, in constant 2005 dollars. So, accounting for inflation, the average aided student is paying \$3,000 less in 2013 than that same aided student would have been paying in 2005 in constant dollars. Finally, all of our grant-aided students have no-loan packages.

Our fiscal 2013 total charges increased as did the average for our group. We compare ourselves to 17 other institutions (*see chart below*), with which we have the most overlap, and we’ve been almost exactly on the average since 2007. Significantly our tuition has increased more slowly than public and private averages. This information comes from the annual survey of colleges from the College Board, and it is the average increase in total charges for all privates, all publics, and we put that against the University of Pennsylvania. Penn is consistently far below the average increase for publics, and we are substantially below the average increase for privates in most years. For 2013-2014 we have recommended, and the trustees have approved, a total charge increase of 3.9% to \$58,812. That includes tuition, fees, room and board. When we quote total charges, we always quote what we consider to be the average standard room and the freshman meal plan. We quote what we would expect the normal incoming student to have to pay. As students move through into second, third and fourth years, they may choose to have a different dining plan or no dining plan. They may choose to live on campus or off-campus, so those components begin to vary.

The change in total charges results in \$20.6 million of incremental revenue to the University. \$15.6 million of that is in tuition, but we immediately take \$7 million of that \$15.6 million and put it towards financial aid, and we’re increasing the financial aid budget by \$9 million, compared to what we’re projecting to spend this year. The rate of increase in the financial aid budget will exceed the rate of increase in total charges.

FY13 Peer Institution Undergraduate Total Charges Comparison

	FY12 Total	FY13 Total	% Change vs. FY12	\$ Over (under) Penn
NYU	\$ 56,787	\$ 59,273	4.4%	2,695
Columbia	56,310	58,742	4.3%	2,164
Dartmouth	55,365	57,996	4.8%	1,418
Chicago	55,416	57,711	4.1%	1,133
Johns Hopkins	55,242	57,358	3.8%	780
Washington	55,111	57,285	3.9%	707
Northwestern	54,763	57,108	4.3%	530
Cornell	54,695	57,091	4.4%	513
Penn	54,428	56,578	3.9%	0
Georgetown	53,910	56,502	4.8%	(76)
Duke	53,905	56,067	4.0%	(511)
Yale	52,700	55,300	4.9%	(1,278)
Brown	53,136	55,016	3.5%	(1,562)
Stanford	52,698	54,508	3.4%	(2,070)
Harvard	52,650	54,496	3.5%	(2,082)
M.I.T.	52,507	54,238	3.3%	(2,340)
Princeton	49,134	51,345	4.5%	(5,233)

This is the fifth consecutive year that the University has held the total charge increase under 4%, and that takes on some additional weight when we consider that there were times when total charges were increasing by double digits. We have, even in the past decade, increased as high as 6%. We have stayed under 4% for five consecutive years.

Financial Aid

Let's talk about Penn's affordability and accessibility in constant 2005 dollars. We take the total undergraduate cost of attendance at Penn; within that is the average net cost for aided freshman, and we take that in constant 2005 dollars through to fiscal 2013. We're actually at \$16,560 in 2013. In 2005, that was \$19,440. That's the net cost of attendance for the average aided student. Even if we ignore inflation and just look at what the costs were in a given year and what they were in 2013, we have an average net cost that is lower in 2013 than it was in 2007 again, ignoring inflation.

Another thing that I think is very interesting is our grant distribution. Sixty-one percent of all of our undergraduates and 63% of all of our aided freshman got grants of at least \$35,000 a year. This is a significant number, and the number of students getting small grants is extremely low. Most of our aided students are getting fairly significant grants and are having the net cost of attendance under \$20,000. The growth and aid expenditures since 2002 has been nothing short of exponential. We were at \$65

million in 2002, \$101 million in 2007, and we expect to be at \$188 million for 2014. Right now, for 2013, we're projecting our expenditures at \$179 million.

Graduate and Professional Tuition and Aid

I'd like to move beyond undergraduate total charges and talk a little bit about graduate and professional tuition and aid. Just as a quick overview, we have over 3,000 PhD students. They are in nine different schools, 53 graduate groups. Almost all of them are fully funded for five years. Those that are funded for fewer years typically come in with a graduate degree and don't spend a full five years. Full funding includes tuition remission, fees, a stipend and health insurance in each of the funded years. The five-year standard funding package for someone in the Humanities/Arts & Sciences is worth over \$300,000 in fiscal 2013 dollars. Graduate and professional tuition increases do not necessarily increase at the same rate as undergraduate total charges, but PhD tuition and the research master's tuition will increase this year at the same 3.9% rate. Professional tuition continues to be set by the individual schools based on their markets, and this year the increases range from 0% to 4.8%.

This is an overview: we have a total of 3,032 students, we spend \$148 million on those students, and it's split almost half and half between tuition fees and health insurance and stipends.

Update on the College House System

Martin Redman, Executive Director, College Houses & Academic Services

As most of you know, the College House system was started in the 1998-99 Academic Year in its current iteration, so while this is about the College House system, it's important that everyone understands that we are just a small part of the number of partners that are involved, from our great partners in Residential Services, who actually maintain the facilities and assign the students to our Dining Services, and certainly Health Centers and SIS and all the other student-support network groups here on campus. College Houses can't exist without the support of those folks and hope we give them support as well.

Fundamentally, one of the features of the College House structure is the engagement of faculty and residents. We have 33 faculty members who reside with the students in the 11 college houses; 11 of those are Faculty Masters; the others serve as House Fellows. Their primary function is to engage with the students. That could be anything from Dean Dennis DeTurck in Riepe offering his cooking nights, which is a great way to get students into his apartment and then to engage in conversations around math or personal issues. Additionally, we have 11 House Deans, one for each house, about 206 undergraduate and graduate students who are employed by us in residences, RAs or GAs, and, students who choose to participate in paid and unpaid positions within the houses as café managers, managers of other social activities, academic events and program coordinators.

Overall, we're trying to accomplish four major tasks: one is to help students adjust to and engage in the academic life of the University, not just in the classroom, but where they live. We are about academics here in the College Houses. We help the large institution to try and create smaller, more intimate communities. Students connect with friends and create relationships, develop and explore other ideas, options and opportunities. We're also about social interaction—getting students to engage. College Houses really are about engagement—not just living in the building, but attempting to get students to actively engage in their community both on and off-campus, in leadership opportunities.

This year, and in the past several years, we've been trying to understand where we are. I liken ourselves to being in our teenage years, and we're trying to figure out what we want to be when we grow up. The original structure of the College Houses was that each house would have a significant population of all four years of classes of students. As those of you who have been in the residence halls here probably know, we have many facilities that are traditional double loaded corridors, share a room with a roommate, community bath with 17 of your closest friends, to some very nice apartment buildings in the high rises, and some nice suites in some of our low-rise facilities.

A fundamental principle of housing here is that students have the ultimate choice. I think most of you know that first-year students here are not required to live on campus; it is a choice. We capture over 99% of them, but it's still a choice. We have predominantly first-year houses, Hill, the three buildings in the Quad: Fisher, Ware and Riepe, as well as King's Court-English—90% of the population of 2,230 students are first-year students. We then have the more traditional four-year houses, that tend to be smaller communities in general, ranging from 178 to 300 students, and they break down in that particular percentage, even spread of students across the board. Then we have what I would term upper-class housing, which are three high-rise facilities, each house about 800 students. We only have two high rises in that group that house first-year students: Harrison and Harnwell. Rodin does not have any first-year students.

The other fascinating part is that we started to explore data sets concerning House Ethnicity Composition. We looked at the CHAS student population by

their self-identified ethnicity or international status against all Penn undergraduates; we are doing fairly well in retaining a higher percentage in the houses as opposed to the undergraduate population. The only place where we have a fairly significant difference of roughly 10% is in the Caucasian population, in terms of more of them tend to choose to live off-campus rather than on-campus. Certainly this is an area that we tend to explore and try to understand, but we are also very proud of the diversity that is represented within the Houses.

It's time for us to start assessing what we do and how we do it to see if we're on the mark. This is the first fall that we've tried to amass an assessment of data of what kind of programs we have offered. I know it is under-reported in terms of the number of activities, because the programs really didn't start until the school year had begun. In overall aggregate numbers community-building type activities constitute 65% of the programs including social events, floor events, birthday celebrations, as opposed to education which has some kind of academic content, whether that's a lecturette or an exercise around diversity issues, sexual assault, LGBT issues, that constitutes 36% of the programs. But most important, we had over 42,000 students attend the programs through the course of the fall term and over 2,200 programs with about 19 people attending each event. Certainly these numbers express the wealth of activity. Senior staff, which is composed of the faculty masters, the fellows and house dean presented or represented the planning for 25% of those 2,200 programs. Certainly the student staff, the vast majority and the residents could be from Hall Council to other organizations within the house. With that, we wanted the opportunity to share with you the academic components of the houses, broken down by the three house types.

Summary of Housing Presentations by House Deans

April Herring discussed helping first-year students make the transition to student housing. She elaborated on the interactions encouraged between faculty and students, which help build a stronger community inside and outside Penn. The key to success is social and academic integration. Faculty interaction, tutoring, paper doctors and other programs to assist students with their work and give them a sense of what Penn has to offer academically and socially is a key part of the housing experience. Research support is also available to demonstrate for students the resources that are available to them.

Christopher Donovan focused on the uniqueness of low-rise Houses: Gregory, DuBois and Stouffer in particular. Because of their small sizes, House Deans and Faculty Masters can get to know everyone in the house. Often students spend all four years in the Houses. He went on to describe the large manager board that runs programming in those Houses. Some of these programs can result in students receiving credit for participating, thus encouraging learning experiences outside of a conventional classroom. As students spend time within these programs, they begin to develop and implement their own programs, becoming more comfortable in leadership roles.

Ryan Keytack then spoke about the larger College Houses: Harrison, Harnwell and Rodin. In order to make for a more social environment, smaller governing structures and communities throughout the houses are encouraged to interact with one another. "The Sophomore Surge" constitutes a set of programs to make connections and attempt to bring sophomores together. He described other events that complement those programs. He then discussed three efforts being used to engage the students as they move through their three years at Rodin House; The Academic Mentors who help support second year students; the Rodin Art Collective which helps students to connect to faculty masters creating and implementing functions and programs; and the Seniors Program-workshops that support seniors through the thesis process.

Penn Works to Find Common Ground Amid Gun Controversies

In the wake of more than 20 mass shootings and shooting sprees in recent years, the School of Social Policy & Practice at the University of Pennsylvania will host *Finding Common Ground: Moving Forward*, a gun violence-prevention event, *Wednesday, April 17*, from 3 to 5 p.m. in Irvine Auditorium, 3401 Spruce St. This event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. To register, visit www.sp2.upenn.edu/commonground

"It's time for a rational, national gun policy," said Dr. Susan B. Sorenson, professor of social policy at Penn. "This event will go from the personal to population policy. We hope to highlight not just the problem but the surprising amount of agreement in the US about what to do."

Guest speakers will be best-selling author, retired astronaut and Navy Captain Mark Kelly, the husband of former US Representative Gabrielle Giffords, who was shot in a Tucson, Arizona parking lot in 2011; and Matthew Miller, deputy director of the Harvard Injury Control Research Center and associate professor at Harvard University, who will discuss what research shows about guns and fatal violence.

Captain Kelly and Ms. Giffords co-founded Americans for Responsible Solutions, an organization that encourages elected officials to craft and support policies that will prevent gun violence as well as uphold responsible gun ownership. As a balanced advocate for common-sense protection from gun violence, Captain Kelly will address how leadership can move the nation forward.

"With an estimated 300 million guns in the US, simple approaches like gun-buy-back programs will never have a significant impact," said Dr. Richard J. Gelles, dean of the Penn School of Social Policy & Practice and the Joanne and Raymond Welsh Chair of Child Welfare and Family Violence. "If we want to make a meaningful difference in reducing gun violence, we are going to need creative thinking and excellent research."

Organizers plan to show *Living for 32*, a documentary featuring Colin Goddard, who was shot six years ago at Virginia Tech. Ali Velshi, CNN's former anchor and chief business correspondent, will serve as the event's moderator.

Human Resources: Upcoming Programs

Professional and Personal Development

Improve your skills and get ahead in your career by taking advantage of the many development opportunities provided by Human Resources. You can register for programs by visiting knowledgeink.upenn.edu or by contacting Learning and Education at (215) 898-3400.

Resolving Conflict Proactively; May 7; 9 a.m.–noon; \$75. You're bound to run into conflict over the course of your career. That means you have to know how to problem-solve and keep your colleagues working as a team—and we'll show you how. This workshop will teach you the ins and outs of managing conflict like a pro. You'll learn techniques to help you overcome obstacles and develop win-win solutions for everyone.

Career Focus Brown Bag: Managing Your Workplace Relationships; May 9; 1 p.m.–2 p.m.; free. How you deal with your colleagues plays an important role in how you feel about your job. This workshop will help you understand what motivates the people you work with and how you can successfully relate to them in the workplace. You'll leave this program with top-notch strategies to help you maintain positive relationships with your co-workers.

Brown Bag Matinee: Who Moved My Cheese? A Guide to Handling Change; May 29; noon-1 p.m.; free. The world moves at an astounding rate—and you need to know how to adapt in order to be successful. This video will teach you powerful techniques to help you cope with change. You'll discover how to minimize stress, move forward and be productive in the face of change.

Quality of Worklife Workshops

Dealing with the demands of work and your personal life can be challenging. These free workshops, sponsored by Human Resources and led by experts from Penn's Employee Assistance Program and Quality of Worklife Department, offer information and support for your personal and professional life challenges. For complete details and to register, visit www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/registration or contact Human Resources at (215) 573-2471 or qowl@hr.upenn.edu

Parenting Styles for Teens; May 15; noon-1 p.m.; free. Children change at a rapid pace, especially when they reach their teenage years. That means you need to know what kind of changes to expect—and how your parenting style should adapt. Come learn about common developmental changes that occur in adolescents and how they can affect you and your child. You'll get valuable tips on how to maintain a healthy and productive relationship with your teenager.

Relaxing Ways to Manage Your Stress; May 29; noon-1 p.m.; free. A heavy workload, long hours at the office, and a growing list of family responsibilities can be overwhelming. But simple breathing and relaxation exercises can help you de-stress—and we'll show you how! Come learn different breathing and muscle relaxation tips you can use every day at work and at home. You'll participate in a number of guided imagery exercises to help you make stress management a lifelong habit.

Healthy Living

Get the tools you need to live well year-round. From expert nutrition and weight loss advice to exercise and disease prevention strategies, we can help you kick-start your body and embrace a healthy lifestyle. These free workshops are sponsored by Human Resources. For complete details and to register, visit www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/registration, and choose Health Promotions from the Browse by Category section. Or contact Human Resources at (215) 898-5116 or vyasr@upenn.edu

Chair Yoga; May 1; noon-1 p.m.; free. If you've been tempted to try yoga but don't like the idea of striking a pose, it's time to try chair yoga. Chair yoga is a more moderate form of yoga that's done while sitting in a chair or using a chair for support. You get the same benefits of a regular yoga workout (like increased strength, flexibility and balance), but don't have to master complex poses. Chair yoga can even better your breathing and teach you how to relax your mind and improve your wellbeing. Plus, you don't have to worry about your experience or flexibility since chair yoga can be modified for all levels. This workshop will be led by Lieutenant John Wylie, department of public safety at Penn.

—Division of Human Resources

Benefits Open Enrollment is Here

Now's your chance to make changes to your healthcare elections. The 2013–2014 Benefits Open Enrollment period has begun.

From now through April 26, make changes to your benefits coverage 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You can:

- change your medical, dental or vision coverage plan;
- increase or decrease your life insurance coverage;
- change how much you contribute to your Flexible Spending Account (FSA), or
- add and drop dependents from your benefits coverage.

Visit www.pennbenefits.upenn.edu, and the online system will walk you through the enrollment process. For complete details on this year's Open Enrollment period, visit www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/benefits/health/openrollment

Medical Plan Cost Estimator

Choosing the right medical plan isn't always easy. There's a lot to consider—like which services you'll rely on most and what your out-of-pocket costs will look like. So how do you determine which option is best for you and your family? We can help.

Penn's Medical Plan Cost Estimator can guide you in making an informed choice about your medical coverage. It factors in the payroll deductions and the cost of your anticipated healthcare needs under each of the University's medical plans based on whether you and your eligible dependents are low, medium or high users of health care services.

Ready to choose the right health care plan for you and your family? Access the Medical Plan Cost Estimator tool on the Human Resources website at www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/benefits/health/openrollment

Bring Your Child to Penn for a Day of Exploration

Inspire your child with a day of fun and learning at Penn. Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day will take place on Thursday, *April 25*. Registration is required and begins on *April 18*.

Children ages 9–15 can take part in dozens of exciting and educational activities across campus, like meeting a renowned children's book author, learning about artifacts from ancient Egypt, Rome and China, or participating in various hands-on science experiments.

Your child can even test his or her survival skills by participating in a simulated plane crash, find out how reading can give him or her superpowers, or learn about the environment by watching what happens to food when he or she throws it away.

Keep in mind you must have supervisory approval to participate in this event, and you're responsible for accompanying your child to all activities.

For a complete list of activities and to register, visit the Human Resources website at www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/worklife/family/kidstowork

Update

April AT PENN

EXHIBIT

Now Cellular/Molecular; through different media and abstraction, these artworks are inspired by biology and chemistry and created by local artists, developed to coincide with the Philadelphia Science Festival, which takes place April 18-28; Esther Klein Gallery. Info.: breadboardphilly.org; opening reception, April 25, 5-8 p.m. Through June 9.

ON STAGE

20 One Radio Show, Two Dancers; featuring Ira Glass, *This American Life*, Monica Bill Barnes, choreographer, and Anna Bass, dancer; 8 p.m.; Zellerbach Theatre, Annenberg Center; \$20-50. Also April 21, 7 p.m. (Annenberg).

TALKS

18 Team Red: Communist Federations; Valerie Bunce, Cornell University; 4:30-6:30 p.m. Silverstein Forum, 1st floor, Stiteler Hall (Democracy, Citizenship & Constitutionalism).

23 Big Ideas: Funding and Innovation; panel discussion; 6:30 p.m.; Iron Gate Theater; \$12 (Office of Government and Community Affairs, Penn Medicine).

AT PENN Deadlines

The April AT PENN calendar is online at www.upenn.edu/almanac. The deadline for the weekly Update is each Monday for the following week's issue. The deadline for the May AT PENN calendar is today, April 16.

Information is on the sponsoring department's website. Sponsors are in parentheses. For locations, call (215) 898-5000 or see www.facilities.upenn.edu

MUSA GIS Earth Day Lecture

On Monday, April 22, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., Marc Imhoff, deputy director, Joint Global Change Research Institute, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory/University of Maryland will present a selection of recent work from NASA and the Joint Global Change Research Institute around urbanization, the carbon cycle, and building energy demand in a changing climate. Response will be given by John Landis, Crossways Professor of City and Regional Planning; department chair; Urban Spatial Analytics Academic Director, Penn Design.

Penn IUR and PennDesign present this event which is free and open to the public. Registration is required: <http://musagisearthday.eventbrite.com/>

Arbor Day at the Morris Arboretum

On Saturday, April 27, the Morris Arboretum will host Arbor Day Family day from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. This program, open to all visitors, also gives 4th and 5th grade Girl Scouts the opportunity to earn their "Gardener" badge. At different stations throughout the Arboretum, visitors will learn about surprising gardens, hardy plants for our area, and will create a seed experiment to take home.

Free with admission.

Take the Penn Transit Survey

The Penn Transit Survey is now available online at www.upenn.edu/survey/transit. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey, as it will assist Penn Transportation in improving services for those who ride Penn Buses, Penn Shuttles, Penn Accessible Transit (PAT) and Loop through University City (LUCY). It is a convenient and easy way to make a difference in Penn's sustainable transportation efforts. Complete the survey for a chance to win a gift certificate to Penne Restaurant.

—Business Services

Global Distinguished Lecture Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy

Pakistani documentarian Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy will deliver the annual Global Distinguished Lecture on Thursday, April 18, at 6 p.m. in the Harrison Auditorium of the Penn Museum. Her film, *Saving Face*, which won the 2012 Academy Award for Best Documentary-Short Subject, will also be screened.



Photo by Bina Khan

Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy

Saving Face tells the story of two Pakistani women and their fight for justice after surviving horrific and scarring acid attacks. Tickets are free and available online at <http://globaldistinguishedlecture.eventbrite.com/>

Presented by Penn's Africa Center, Center for East Asian Studies, Middle East Center and South Asia Center, the annual event aims to promote the discussion of issues of global prominence.

Previous Global Distinguished Lecturers included Shirin Ebadi, Kelly Grimshaw, Robert Kaplan and Nancy Scheper-Hughes.

Faculty/Staff Appreciation Sale at the Penn Bookstore

April is Faculty/Staff Appreciation month at the Penn Bookstore. Discount coupons were sent to all faculty and staff via intramural mail offering 20% off a wide selection of merchandise through April 30th. Coupons will be available at the Bookstore if you did not receive one.

Public Safety Walk-Back Program: April 24-May 7

As in past years, the Division of Public Safety, working with the Undergraduate Assembly and the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, has reinstated the Public Safety Walk-Back Program. During Reading Days and Final Exams—from Wednesday, April 24, 2013, through Tuesday, May 7, 2013, an AlliedBarton Security Officer will be posted at the "Button" in front of Van Pelt Library on Locust Walk from 10 p.m.-3 a.m. Approximately every half hour the officer will enter Van Pelt-Dietrich Library to determine if any student would like a walking escort. The officer will then escort the students and return to repeat the process.

The Division of Public Safety is providing this service in addition to its normal Walking Escort Programs. Uniformed AlliedBarton 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, seven days a week. To request a Walking Escort, call (215) 898-9255 (898-WALK).

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 April 1-7, 2013. Also reported were 14 Crimes Against Property (10 thefts, 1 vandalism). Full reports are available at: www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v59/n29/creport.html. Prior weeks' reports are also online. —Ed.

This summary is prepared by the Division of Public Safety and includes all criminal incidents reported and made known to the University Police Department between the dates of April 1-7, 2013. 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.

04/06/13 8:58 PM 4000 Walnut St Offender attempted to take iPhone

18th District Report

The Crimes Against Persons from the 18th District for April 1-7, 2013 were not available at press time. They will be posted to the online version of Almanac at <http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v59/n29/creport.html>

Almanac

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The University of Pennsylvania's journal of record, opinion and news is published Tuesdays during the academic year, and as needed during summer and holiday breaks. Its electronic editions on the Internet (accessible through the Penn website) include HTML, Acrobat and mobile versions of the print edition, and interim information may be posted in electronic-only form. Guidelines for readers and contributors are available on request and online.

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The Special Collections Center at the University of Pennsylvania: Harmoniously Bringing Together Old and New



The Penn Libraries are at the forefront in the trend of incorporating rare books, manuscripts and other primary sources into the undergraduate academic curriculum, adopting a hands-on approach to their use. The magnificent and historic Rittenhouse Orrery (*at left*) is the centerpiece of the Class of 1978 Orrery Pavilion (*below*). Constructed in the early 1770s by David Rittenhouse, the Orrery is a remarkably accurate mechanical model of the solar system that includes movement of the planets and their satellites.

Named in honor of the Class of 1978, whose generous gift in celebration of their 25th reunion initiated the campaign for the Special Collections Center, the Pavilion is a 140-seat assembly space offering views of College Hall and College Green. It is a premier location for high-level University events as well as public receptions, performances, lectures, readings and seated dinners. The Goldstein Family Gallery (*lower left*) has dramatically increased the ability of the Special Collections Center to display the Libraries' substantial manuscript, book and visual art collections. A state-of-the-art exhibition facility, the Gallery was designed to meet the highest museum standards so that items are displayed handsomely and preserved for future generations' scholarship. Although exhibits are mostly curated by the curatorial staff, from time to time, library staff work collaboratively with students and faculty to prepare course-related exhibits. Currently on display is *A Legacy Incribed: The Schoenberg Collection of Manuscripts*, highlighting the unique and expansive collection of Lawrence J. Schoenberg and his wife, Barbara Brizdle Schoenberg. The Goldstein Family Gallery is named in honor of Patricia and Bernard Goldstein, W'53, and Mark Goldstein, C'83. Both Bernard and Mark serve on the Penn Libraries Board of Overseers.

Penn Libraries is home to several of Benjamin Franklin's most treasured belongings, including his mahogany writing desk (*lower right*) which played an important role in his work as a printer. Among the many texts he composed while seated at this desk includes his famous *Autobiography*. To celebrate the connection between Franklin and the University, the Penn Libraries has created the "Franklin Alcove."



Photographs by Marguerite F. Miller

