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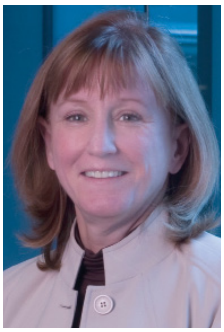
Penn Engineering: Four Newly Established Chairs



Dawn Bonnell

Dawn Bonnell has been named the Henry Robinson Towne Professor of Engineering and Applied Science. Dr. Bonnell joined Penn Engineering in 1988 in the department of materials science and engineering after working as a research scientist at IBM Thomas Watson Research Center. She is an alumna of the University of Michigan, where she received a bachelor's degree in 1983, a master's in 1984 and a doctoral degree in 1986.

Dr. Bonnell is a member of a number of centers and institutes and was the founding director of the Nano/Bio Interface Center, where she served since 2004 until her recent appointment as Vice Provost for Research at Penn. In 2013, she was elected to the National Academy of Engineering, the highest professional honor accorded an engineer.

Dr. Bonnell's work explores the fundamental basis of property variations at atomic scales in complex materials, exploiting these variations to make functional systems. The Bonnell Group images and manipulates atoms and molecules using scanning probes and develops new tools for examining behavior at these scales. Her group induces local property variations to be used as templates in patterning complex nanostructures, such as nanoelectronic and optoelectronic devices, and they analyze compound nanostructures, consisting of ferroelectric compounds, synthetic proteins and nanodots. Dr. Bonnell is a previous recipient of the School's prestigious Heilmeier Award for Excellence in Faculty Research.

The Henry Robinson Towne Chair was established in honor of Henry Robinson Towne, an honorary Penn alumnus and former president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He is the son of John Henry Towne, a former Penn trustee, industrialist and namesake of Penn Engineering's flagship Towne Building.

Robert Carpick has been named the John Henry Towne Professor of Engineering and Applied Science. Dr. Carpick joined Penn Engineering in 2007 in the department of mechanical engineering and applied mechanics from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He received a bachelor's degree in 1991 from the University of Toronto, a master's degree in 1994 and a doctoral degree in 1997, both from Berkeley.

Dr. Carpick serves as the chair of the department of mechanical engineering and applied mechanics. He is a member of the Nano/Bio Interface Center, Penn Center for Energy Innovation, Laboratory for Research on the Structure of Matter and is the former director of the Nanotechnology Institute. He holds a secondary appointment in the department of materials science and engineering.

Dr. Carpick's research is at the intersection of mechanics, materials and physics. He is an expert in experimental nanomechanics and nanotribology (friction, adhesion and wear). His lab has developed novel advanced scanning probe microscopy tools, used to investigate the fundamental nature of materials in contact. He has done seminal work on nanoscale characterization of friction for many important materials, including ultra-thin organic films, solid single crystal and thin film surfaces including ultra-strong carbon-based materials and polymeric materials.

Robert Carpick

The John Henry Towne Chair was established in honor of John Henry Towne, a former Penn trustee, industrialist and namesake of Penn Engineering's flagship Towne Building.

Cherie Kagan

Cherie Kagan has been named the Stephen J. Angello Professor of Electrical and Systems Engineering. Dr. Kagan joined Penn Engineering in 2007 in the department of electrical and systems engineering after spending nearly ten years at IBM Thomas Watson Research Center and two years at Bell Labs. She received bachelor's degrees in mathematics and materials science and engineering from Penn in 1991 and a doctoral degree from MIT in 1996.

Dr. Kagan holds secondary appointments in materials science and engineering and in chemistry. She is a member of a number of centers across Penn, including the Penn Center for Energy Innovation, where she is the founding co-director.

Dr. Kagan investigates the chemical and physical properties of molecular, supramolecular and nanostructured materials and assemblies and their applications in electronic, optoelectronic, optical and sensing devices. She uses chemistry's flexibility to tailor the properties of novel devices, and she employs spatially and temporally resolved spectroscopies and electrical techniques to characterize molecular and nanostructured materials and operating devices.

The Stephen J. Angello Professorship in Electrical and Systems Engineering was established by Paul S. Angello, Esq., EE'72, in memory of his father, Stephen J. Angello, EE'39, GEE'40, GrE'42.

Vaclav Vitek has been named the Harold Pender Professor of Engineering and Applied Science. Dr. Vitek joined Penn Engineering in 1977 in the department of materials science and engineering after beginning his career at Oxford University and serving as principal research officer at the Central Electricity Research Laboratories in Surrey, England. He received a bachelor's degree in physics in 1962 from Charles University in Prague and a doctoral degree from the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in 1966.

Vaclav Vitek

Dr. Vitek holds a secondary appointment in the department of mechanical engineering and applied mechanics and is a member of the Laboratory for the Research on the Structure of Matter and the Penn Center for Energy Innovation. In 2010, Dr. Vitek was elected to the National Academy of Engineering, the highest professional honor accorded an engineer.

Dr. Vitek's research is multiscale modeling of deformation and fracture behavior of materials that links electronic, atomic, nano and macroscopic scales. He works principally on the atomic level, which includes development of interatomic potentials that reflect both metallic and covalent aspects of bonding, as well as properties such as ferromagnetism. This modeling involves atomistic studies of dislocations and their glide modes, structure and properties of interfaces and interactions of these extended defects with other crystal defects.

The Harold Pender Chair was established in honor of the first dean of the Moore School of Electrical Engineering at Penn.

IN THIS ISSUE

COUNCIL

From the Office of the University Secretary

Agenda for University Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 29, 2014 4 p.m.
Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall

I. Approval of the minutes of December 4, 2013. (1 minute)
II. Follow up comments or questions on status reports. (2 minutes)
III. Discussion of tobacco divestment proposal. (70 minutes)
IV. A review of campus security and emergency procedures. (35 minutes)
V. New business. (12 minutes)
VI. Adjournment by 6 p.m.

Deaths

Mr. Singh, Penn Junior

Josh Singh

Pulkit "Josh" Singh, a junior in Penn's School of Engineering & Applied Science and the Wharton School, died January 12 at age 20.

Mr. Singh was studying computer science, finance and management. He was from Long Island, New York and had graduated from Bethpage High School.

He is survived by his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Joginder Singh; and brother, Ankur Singh.

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*

Mr. Zhao, Penn Senior

Kevin Zhao

Kevin Zhao, a senior in Penn's School of Engineering & Applied Science and the Wharton School, passed away in December of cardiac arrest while traveling with his family in China; he was 21.

Born in China but raised in Long Island, New York, Mr. Zhao was a graduate of Ward Melville High School.

At Penn, he studied computer science, retail, operations and information management.

Mr. Zhao had been in the Penn Undergraduate Research Mentoring Program, where his research was on *How Good of a Measure of Tax Risk Are Disclosed Amounts of Unrecognized Tax Benefits?* In addition, he served on the board of the Wharton China Business Society.

Mr. Zhao is survived by his parents, Jay and Lin Zhao; and his sister, Kathryn.

Advisory Committee on DRIA Director Search

Provost Vincent Price announces the formation of an advisory committee on the selection of a new Director of the Division of Athletics and Recreation. Steve Bilsky, W'71, who has served with extraordinary distinction in this role since 1994, has announced his intention to retire from the University as of June 30, 2014.

The members of the advisory committee are:

- Vincent Price, Provost and Steven H. Chafee Professor of Communication, Annenberg School for Communication *(Chair)*
- Craig Carnaroli, W'85, Executive Vice President *(Co-Chair)*
- Kathryn Barth, C'14, President, Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
- Karin Brower Corbett, Head Coach, Women's Lacrosse
- Rudy Fuller, James C. Gentle Head Coach, Men's Soccer
- Bonnie Gibson, Vice President for Budget and Management Analysis
- Shaun Harper, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Education
- Charles B. Leitner III, C'81, University Trustee; Chair, Athletics Board of Overseers
- Steven Lin, DMD'15, Chair, GAPSA
- Susan Lindee, Associate Dean and Janice and Julian Bers Professor of History and Sociology of Science, School of Arts & Sciences
- Valarie Swain-Cade McCoullum, Vice Provost for University Life
- Elizabeth Salasko, Associate General Counsel
- Adria Sheth, C'97, Athletics Board of Overseers
- Lynne Hunter, Assistant Provost *(Staff)*

Nominations and applications, including CVs, may be sent by *February 28, 2014* to: DRIA Director Search, Office of the Provost, 122 College Hall; or by email to Lynne Hunter, Office of the Provost, *lynneh@upenn.edu*

Information about the search process can be found at: *https://provost.upenn.edu/about/dria-search*

Penn Immunologist to Develop Drugs for Renal Disease

John Lambris

John Lambris, the Dr. Ralph and Sallie Weaver Professor of Research Medicine in the department of pathology and laboratory medicine at Penn's Perelman School of Medicine, is part of an $8 million European Union FP7 grant, which has been awarded to a consortium of academic institutions and the biotech company called Amyndas Pharmaceuticals (based on Penn technology developed in the Lambris lab).

The consortium will conduct mechanistic and clinical studies involving the innate immune system with the aim to significantly improve the quality of life and life expectancy for patients with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) who are currently treated by hemodialysis and particularly by kidney transplantation.

The rate of new ESRD cases per million in the US, which has been relatively stable since 2000, was 348 cases in 2010, according to the US Renal Data System. New cases continue to be driven by a relatively linear increase in the number of patients age 45–64.

The Penn team will study inhibitors that work on the oldest part of the human immune system called the complement system, or simply "complement." Complement is a network of more than 50 proteins in the blood and on cell surfaces and is part of the innate immune system, in contrast to the adaptive system consisting of antibodies which can "learn" and adapt themselves on the fly to different antigens. The complement proteins quietly cruise the blood system, keeping a low profile until triggered into action.

Complement has been shown to contribute to a broad spectrum of immune, inflammatory and age-related diseases. Dr. Lambris and colleagues are developing novel therapeutics to tame inappropriate complement activation and/or protect cell surfaces from an attack by this defense system. Using small inhibitors of central complement components, engineered regulatory proteins and protective cell coatings, they are demonstrating the benefit of therapeutic complement modulation in a variety of clinical situations, including organ transplantation and hemodialysis-related complications.

Penn will receive $1 million in research funding, and Amyndas will receive $1.3 million, as part of the consortium. The Lambris lab will study mechanisms and control points of immune regulation for the complement inhibition compounds, and Amyndas will perform and coordinate toxicity studies and coordinate the Phase 1 and 2 clinical trials for incompatible kidney transplantation using promising candidate compounds.

Dr. Lambris is a founder of Amyndas and an equity holder of the company, but will have no direct involvement with the conduct of the clinical trial. Amyndas has licensed patents and other relevant intellectual property pertaining to the complement inhibitor compounds from Penn. The license provides Penn with an equity stake in Amyndas and potential license payments and royalties that would result from any commercialized products. As a Penn faculty member, Dr. Lambris is entitled to a share of any license payments or royalties pursuant to the Penn patent policy, although no license income has been received to date.

Penn Vet's Associate Dean of Education: Kathy Michel

Kathy Michel

The University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine (Penn Vet) announces the appointment of Kathy Michel as Associate Dean of Education.

In this role, Dr. Michel will assess the School's curriculum, ensure that the School maintains its accreditation by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education and create professional development opportunities for faculty.

Dr. Michel also will have the opportunity to engage with Penn Vet students on a regular basis. "Our students are remarkable," she said. "I never cease to be amazed by their energy, dedication and the breadth of their interests. It's such a gift to be able to work with them."

"I am delighted that Dr. Michel will continue to move our educational program forward. Not only is she a dedicated and innovative teacher herself, but she also brought formal communications training to our curriculum," said Joan C. Hendricks, the Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. "Dr. Michel's steadfast dedication to Penn Vet, along with her enthusiasm and vision for the future, will take us to new heights. As she completes her formal training at Penn's Graduate School of Education, Dr. Michel is poised to professionalize our teaching programs and create pioneering methods for measuring learning and teaching outcomes. We look forward to watching both our faculty and students thrive under her leadership."

Dr. Michel's career at Penn spans more than 25 years. In addition to serving as associate dean of education, she is professor of nutrition at Penn Vet. She is a diplomate and former chair of the Board of Regents of the American College of Nutrition. Her research interests include nutritional assessment, nutritional requirements of hospitalized companion animals, nutrient modulation of gastrointestinal and endocrine diseases and obesity treatment and prevention.

Dr. Michel received her bachelor's degree from Mount Holyoke College and her DVM from Tufts University. She completed a residency in small animal clinical nutrition and a master's degree at the University of Pennsylvania, followed by a postdoctoral fellowship with the Nutrition Support Service at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. She was awarded the Jack Mara Scientific Achievement Award by the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care for her contributions to critical care nutrition.

Dr. Michel is currently pursuing a master's degree in medical education at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education.

Penn Vet is a global leader in veterinary medicine education, research and clinical care. Founded in 1884, Penn Vet is the only veterinary school developed in association with a medical school. The school is a proud member of the One Health Initiative, linking human, animal and environmental health.

Department of Medicine Leadership Transitions

© Daniel Burke Photography

Gregory Tino

Penn Medicine announced that Gregory Tino was appointed Chief of Medicine at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center (PPMC). Dr. Tino officially assumed his new role on November 1, 2013.

Former Chief of Medicine, Jack Ende, has new roles as Assistant Vice President for the University of Pennsylvania Health System and Assistant Dean for Advanced Medical Practice in the Perelman School of Medicine.

Over the 25 years that Dr. Tino has been with the Health System, he has held various clinical and administrative positions in the Pulmonary, Allergy & Critical Care Division at HUP. He served as the director of the Pulmonary Outpatient Practice for many years and HUP's chief of Pulmonary Clinical Services since 2007. In 1997, Dr. Tino became an attending physician at Penn Presbyterian.

A nationally recognized expert in pulmonary diseases and critical care medicine—particularly in interstitial lung disease and bronchiectasis—Dr. Tino has won a number of awards, including being named to *Philadelphia* magazine's annual list of Top Docs.

Jack Ende

In addition to his new roles with the Health System and Perelman School of Medicine, Dr. Ende is also serving as Executive Medical Director for Patient Signature Programs and maintains his existing faculty appointment and endowed chair as the Adele and Harold Schaeffer Professor of Medicine within the department of medicine (*Almanac* September 27, 2011).

For 16 years, Dr. Ende served with great distinction as PPMC's Chief of Medicine, overseeing that department's expansion and transition to a CPUP department known for outstanding inpatient and outpatient care and excellence in education. His contributions in establishing the department's subspecialty programs, primary care programs (including the Primary Care Residency Program), numerous other clinical programs and outstanding opportunities for Penn students, residents and fellows to learn and for faculty to grow and develop, are among his legacies. Dr. Ende is continuing to practice and teach at PPMC.

Joint CHOP-Penn Center in Digestive, Liver and Pancreatic Medicine Pilot and Feasibility Grants: March 3

Purpose and Research Focus

The purpose of the Penn-CHOP Joint Center for Digestive, Liver and Pancreatic Medicine is to facilitate research, educational and clinical programs involving issues related to the transition from childhood to adulthood, designated as transitional medicine. The large number of such patients provide unique opportunities for basic and translational research. One of the most important aspects of this effort is the funding of Pilot/Feasibility Projects.

The Joint Center is seeking Pilot/Feasibility Projects proposals in clinical, basic science and/or translational research projects related to inflammatory bowel disease, eosinophilic esophagitis, nutrition, obesity, liver diseases, pancreatic diseases and endoscopy. All projects should either involve both pediatric and adult patients in these areas and/or focus on a research question that is relevant to these areas that involve the transition from childhood to adulthood.

Currently it is anticipated that three applications will be funded, each with a one year budget of $25,000. This is a one-time request for applications. There will not be an opportunity to resubmit applications or renew a funded grant for additional funding beyond the first year, as future RFAs will be in different themes or topics. Consideration will be given to interdisciplinary applications and those that span CHOP and Penn investigators. Recipients who have received pilot grants through the Joint Center in the last three years are not eligible.

Eligibility

All faculty members of the Penn and CHOP scientific community who meet the eligibility requirements below are invited to submit proposals. Applicants must be US citizens or have permanent residency.

Applicants may be:

1) New investigators who have never held extramural NIH support (R29, R01, P01);

2) Established investigators in other areas of basic biomedical and/or clinical research who wish to apply their expertise to one of the seven topics listed above in a manner that is relevant to the mission of the Penn-CHOP Joint Center; or

3) Established clinical or basic digestive disease investigators who wish to study an area relevant to the cited areas and the mission of the Penn-CHOP Joint Center that represents a significant departure from currently funded work.

Proposal Preparation

Submit all documents, in the format below, as one PDF to *kimmeyer@mail.med.upenn.edu* Proposals are due *Monday, March 3, 2014*. Funding will commence June 1, 2014.

Format

- Cover page: Includes abstract of up to 400 words (including a statement of how the proposal is relevant to the mission of the Penn-CHOP Joint Center) and list approved or pending IACUC/IRB protocols
- NIH biographical sketch
- NIH other support (provide full information)
- Budget and justification: one year, $25,000; one page only
- Background, preliminary results, research plan and future directions; up to four pages total

*Senior Investigators should indicate how this project represents a new direction in their research

- References: one page only
- Appendix: pertaining to preliminary data only, no reprints

For additional information, please contact: the Joint Penn-CHOP Center for Digestive, Liver and Pancreatic Medicine, phone: (215) 573-4264; fax: (215) 573-2024; email: *kimmeyer@mail.med.upenn.edu*

—Gary Wu, Petar Mamula, David Piccoli and Anil Rustgi

Honors & Other Things

Five Penn Faculty Earn Distinction as AAAS Fellows

Five faculty members from the University of Pennsylvania have been named fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Three are from the Perelman School of Medicine, one is from the School of Arts & Sciences and one has appointments both at Penn Medicine and The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

They are among 388 members of AAAS awarded the distinction this year for "their efforts toward advancing science applications that are deemed scientifically or socially distinguished."

Dr. Frederic D. Bushman, professor of microbiology at the Perelman School of Medicine, was elected for distinguished contributions to microbiology, including methods development, bioinformatics and translational research to characterize host pathogen interactions.

Dr. Andrew Dancis, associate professor of medicine at the Perelman School of Medicine, was elected for pioneering discoveries of exceptional significance on the fundamental mechanisms by which organisms acquire, distribute, utilize and regulate the essential metal iron.

Dr. Robert W. Doms, professor of pathology and laboratory medicine at the Perelman School of Medicine and pathologist-in-chief and chair of pathology and laboratory medicine at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, was elected for his significant discoveries in virus entry, including his work in identifying host cell pathways that HIV and other disease-causing viruses use to infect cells and in investigating how AIDS develops.

Dr. J. Kevin Foskett, the Isaac Ott Professor Chair of Physiology at the Perelman School of Medicine, was elected for pioneering studies of the InsP3R calcium channel and molecular mechanisms and the roles of calcium signaling in Alzheimer's disease, programmed cell death and cellular bioenergetics.

Dr. Philip A. Rea, professor of biology in the School of Arts & Sciences and Rebecka and Arie Belldegrun Distinguished Director of the Roy and Diana Vagelos Program in Life Sciences & Management, was elected for outstanding fundamental research discoveries on the membrane transport and detoxification of xenobiotics and for distinguished accomplishments and creativity in science education.

The new Fellows will be honored in February, at the AAAS Fellows Forum during the 2014 AAAS Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Intel Early Career Award: Dr. Devietti

Dr. Joseph Devietti, assistant professor in the department of computer and information science in SEAS, is a recipient of the 2013 Intel Early Career Faculty Honor Program Award for his proposal, "Programmability challenges raised by multicore architectures."

Joseph Devietti

The applicants for this program are typically within 4-5 years of starting their academic positions, and they are selected for being thought leaders in their respective areas of research, with fresh ideas and thinking.

Dr. Devietti works on identifying new safety properties for parallel programs, precisely defining their guarantees and exploring efficient implementations that employ a range of hardware and software mechanisms. Dr. Devietti is also co-director of the CIS Architecture and Compilers Group, which explores a wide range of topics in architectures, compilers and their intersection.

EVS President: Dr. Golden

Dr. Michael A. Golden, associate professor of surgery at the Perelman School of Medicine and chief of the division of vascular surgery and endovascular therapy at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center, has been named president of the Eastern Vascular Society.

The Eastern Vascular Society is the largest regional vascular society in the US, with over 575 members who are primarily vascular surgeons representing both major academic medical centers and community hospitals in the Eastern part of the US and Canada.

APHA President-Elect: Dr. Kumanyika

Dr. Shiriki K. Kumanyika, professor of epidemiology in the Perelman School of Medicine and associate dean for health promotion and disease prevention, has been named the new president-elect of the American Public Health Association (APHA).

Shiriki Kumanyika

Dr. Kumanyika, who has been active in the APHA since 1976, will serve as president-elect for a year before stepping up as president in 2014.

The APHA is a professional organization with 25,000 members around the world and a mission to "protect all Americans and their communities from preventable, serious health threats and strives to assure that community-based health promotion and disease prevention activities and preventive health services are universally accessible in the United States."

Excellence in Orthopaedics: Dr. Levin

The Arthritis Foundation presented the Sir John Charnley, MD, Award to *Dr. L. Scott Levin*, chair of the department of orthopaedic surgery, the Paul B. Magnuson Professor of Bone and Joint Surgery and professor of surgery (division of plastic surgery) in the Perelman School of Medicine.

Presented annually at the Arthritis Foundation, Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter's Evening of Honors gala, the Sir John Charnley, MD, Award recognizes the important role of a doctor in the field of orthopaedics who dedicates him or herself to improving the world around them, particularly in the Philadelphia community.

Services to Humanity: Dr. Ludmir

Dr. Jack Ludmir, chair of obstetrics and gynecology at Pennsylvania Hospital, and professor and vice chair of obstetrics at Penn Medicine, has been named the recipient of the 2013 Roosevelt Award for Services to Humanity Honoree by the March of Dimes (MOD), Southeastern Pennsylvania Division.

The Roosevelt Award for Service to Humanity recognizes an individual who exemplifies commitment to the community through volunteer service and excellence in his or her field. "Dr. Ludmir is one of our strongest advocates in the Philadelphia region and we are honored to highlight his accomplishments and remarkable leadership on behalf of the families of the Southeast Pennsylvania region," said Amanda Young, executive director, MOD, Southeast PA Division. "Through his leadership, vision, ability to foster solutions and lifetime commitment to improving the practice of obstetrics, he is the embodiment of what this award represents."

Dr. Ludmir is specifically being honored for his commitments to local and national collaborations to improve birth outcomes, sharing his extensive clinical experience with underdeveloped regions and serving under-resourced and vulnerable populations.

Women in Ophthalmology: Dr. O'Brien

Dr. Joan M. O'Brien, the George E. de Schweinitz and William F. Norris Professor of Ophthalmology, chair of the department of ophthalmology and director of the Scheie Eye Institute at the Perelman School of Medicine, is the recipient of the Women in Ophthalmology's (WIO) Suzanne Veronneau Troutman Award. The award recognizes the woman, nominated by the WIO membership, who has done the most over the past year to further women in ophthalmology.

WIO encourages diversity, impartiality and economic parity and strives to cultivate new opportunities for leadership, education and public service in the field of ophthalmology for current and future generations.

Materials Theory Award: Dr. Srolovitz

The Materials Research Society awarded *Dr. David J. Srolovitz* its Materials Theory Award for his "decisive and highly influential contributions to the theory and simulation of microstructure, morphological evolution, mechanical behavior and the structure and dynamics of interfaces." Dr. Srolovitz is the Joseph Bordogna Professor of Engineering and Applied Science in SEAS.

The Materials Theory Award recognizes exceptional advances made in materials theory to the fundamental understanding of the structure and behavior of materials.

SSHA President: Dr. Sugrue

Dr. Thomas J. Sugrue, David Boies Professor of History and Sociology and director of the Penn Social Science and Policy Forum in the School of Arts & Sciences, has been elected president of the Social Science History Association (SSHA). The SSHA promotes interdisciplinary research by historians, demographers, economists, sociologists, political scientists, legal scholars and geographers on social life and theory; historiography and historical and social-scientific methodologies; and the state and society. He will deliver his presidential address at the 2014 SSHA conference in November on the theme of "Inequalities: Politics, Policy and the Past."

(continued on page 5)

Military Friendly Employer: Penn Med

Penn Medicine was named a 2014 Military Friendly Employer® by Victory Media, publisher of *G.I. Jobs* and *Military Spouse* magazines. Companies competed for the elite Military Friendly Employer® title via a data-driven survey of over 5,000 companies with resulting survey data independently tested by Ernst & Young LLP. Criteria for the survey included a benchmark score across key programs and policies such as the strength of company military recruiting efforts, the percentage of new hires with prior military service, retention programs and company policies on National Guard and Reserve service.

Penn Medicine aggressively seeks to hire military talent and has found that hiring from the military community is a strategic competitive advantage. "We highly value the contributions of employees with military experience," said Judy L. Schueler, vice president, organizational development and chief human resources officer of the University of Pennsylvania Health System. "Veterans have demonstrated their alacrity to learn new skills and to exercise leadership in the most challenging situations—traits that are highly valued at Penn Medicine."

Currently, veterans are employed in clinical and non-clinical departments throughout Penn Medicine including surgery/operation rooms, real estate and construction, engineering management, trauma, billing and compliance, administration and human resources.

Now in its 11th year, Military Friendly Employers® media is the premier resource for transitioning service members and spouses seeking civilian employment. Penn Medicine was showcased along with other 2014 Military Friendly Employers® in the December edition of *G.I. Jobs* magazine and online at *MilitaryFriendly.com*

"The 2014 Military Friendly Employers® represent the preeminent tier of companies with strong military recruitment programs and meaningful job opportunities for transitioning service members and spouses seeking civilian employment," said Sean Collins, vice president for Victory Media and a nine-year Navy veteran. "Our Military Friendly Employers® constitute the group of companies actually moving the needle and hiring from the military community. The 2014 Military Friendly Employers reported hiring over 117,000 service members and spouses over the last 12 months, representing an average of 14 percent of total new hires."

On Veteran's Day 2012, Penn Medicine announced its sponsorship of *Joining Forces*—a national initiative to heighten awareness about the health needs of our nation's veterans, service members and families and elevate the role that medical schools, nursing schools and teaching hospitals play in serving their community.

Joining Forces was established by First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden to bring Americans together to recognize, honor and take action to support veterans and military families during their service to our country and throughout their lives. *Combat to Care,* an extension of the national Joining Forces effort, is Penn Medicine's campaign to: celebrate the service of our veteran faculty and staff; train our clinicians in the unique clinical challenges of caring for military service members, veterans and their families; and recruit veterans who have demonstrated inspiring dedication, loyalty and strength in the service of our nation to join Penn Medicine (*Almanac* December 18, 2012).

Inaugural PennSustains Winners

PennSustains, the University of Pennsylvania's first sustainability solution competition, hosted its inaugural event on October 19, 2013. The contest came together in six months through the efforts of the Society of Women Engineers, Engineers without Borders, SEAS Green and Penn International Sustainability Association. Benefactor Andy Rachleff, alumnus and chairman of the SEAS Board of Overseers, challenged students to devise something that celebrated "the joy of building things" and the fun of engineering. Wharton's Initiative for Global Environmental Leadership (IGEL) and Conestoga Bank also generously sponsored the competition.

With Mr. Rachleff's two ideas as inspiration, PennSustains has three goals in mind: making Penn a more sustainable campus, making Philadelphia a more sustainable city and utilizing engineering in these endeavors. The competition acts as a basis for idea generation and collaboration. In PennSustains' first year, nine teams composed of 29 participants entered ideas ranging from piezoelectric tiles to a smart shower system. Teams submitted business plans and presentations to a panel of experienced judges from academia and industry, all with ties to the sustainability sector. Materials were scored based on motivation, design, implementation, financial feasibility and potential impact. Winning teams took home various prizes totaling over $7,000 to further their ventures.

Grand Prize—$3,000—*PennOrb,* led by Nathaniel Chan and Jason Choi. They proposed color-changing plastic orbs to be installed outside college house entrances; the orb's color reflects the respective house's energy consumption to raise awareness of students' energy usage at Penn.

"It was an amazing opportunity to introduce a brand-new event to Penn Engineering that features projects with serious impact on people's livelihoods. All submitted ideas creatively addressed the three pillars of sustainability—people, profit and the planet—and I look forward to seeing how PennSustains grows and develops in future years," said Nicole Woon, lead director of PennSustains.

2nd Place–$2,000–*Poseidon Works*–Qiangeng Xu, Haoran Sun, Ben Shi

3rd Place–$1,000–*GreenVote*–Benedikt Lotter, Karan Hiremath, Arjun Jain

People's Choice Award–$500–*GreenVote* –Benedikt Lotter, Karan Hiremath, Arjun Jain

IGEL Award–Southwest Airline tickets – *Reverse*–John Doyle, Clara Midgley, Rob Ritchie

Conestoga Bank Award–$200–*SustainaLink* –Alia Lahr, Nicole Lok, Jayant Rao

Grants for Work in Designing Nanocarriers for Targeted Drug Delivery

An interdisciplinary team of University of Pennsylvania researchers in Medicine and Engineering has been awarded multiple federal nanotechnology grants, one from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and two from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), interfacing computer modeling with laboratory experiments to design nanocarriers for targeted drug delivery. The grants total over $5 million in research funding.

Nanocarriers are tiny, engineered particles that are able to contain small drug molecules in their hollow interiors and can be directed to specific diseased tissues by the addition of targeting molecules bound to their exteriors. Nanocarriers injected into the bloodstream circulate to the site of disease, where the targeting molecules bind to receptors on the surface of diseased cells so that they are taken up out of the blood and into the disease tissue. This is followed by release of the drug as a site-specific therapy. The choice of targeting molecule, the means by which it is tethered to the nanocarrier, the chemical makeup of the nanocarrier itself and the transport characteristics of the drug being offloaded from the nanocarrier are all design elements critical to the efficiency with which the payload of medicine is delivered to diseased cells while healthy cells are ignored. This is a multidisciplinary bioengineering problem that requires study by coupling computational methodology with laboratory experimental techniques.

The research leadership core is headed by *David Eckmann*, professor of anesthesiology and critical care in Penn's Perelman School of Medicine and professor of bioengineering in Penn's School of Engineering & Applied Science (SEAS); *Ravi Radhakrishnan,* associate professor in the departments of bioengineering and chemical and biomolecular engineering in SEAS and *Portonovo Ayyaswamy*, professor in the department of mechanical engineering and applied mechanics in SEAS. The research team also includes *Russell Composto*, and *Andrew Tsourkas* of SEAS as well as *Vladimir Muzykantov* of Medicine.

The core investigators led by Dr. Radhakrishnan were awarded a new $407,000, three-year research grant by NSF for the development of computer models that will be instrumental in improving targeted nanocarrier design by focusing on the physical environment for binding interactions leading to nanocarrier arrest on the target cell. The specific cell surface behaviors the investigators are addressing include receptor diffusion on the cell membrane and membrane undulations involved in engulfing and internalizing the nanocarriers into the cell interior.

As a complement to this work, the core group including professors Muzykantov and Composto received a $1.97 million, four-year competing renewal R01 grant from the NIH's National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering to model the hydrodynamic and microscopic interactions mediating nanocarrier motion during targeted drug delivery and to model transport and controlled drug release from nanocarriers in blood flow as well as to study nanocarrier targeting kinetics, internalization and intracellular drug delivery experimentally.

To add to their portfolio, the core group along with Drs. Muzykantov and Tsourkas received notification that a $2.7 million, five-year U01 grant from the NIH's National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering has been funded. This grant focuses on the development of new computational methods to bridge the multiple different time and length scales that are inherently present and required to integrate molecular models of binding interactions with the hydrodynamic interactions at play. The experimental component of this effort involves specific chemistry to optimize the tethering of targeting molecules on the nanocarrier surface to enhance binding for efficient drug delivery.

Ultimately these grant funds should enable this multidisciplinary research team to make large strides in the development and validation of computational techniques required to design and optimize endothelial-targeted, nanocarrier-based drug delivery.

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 *knowledgelink.upenn.edu* or contacting Learning and Education at (215) 898-3400.

Brown Bag Matinee: Skills, Techniques and Strategies for Effective Negotiations; February 4; noon-1 p.m.; free. Effective negotiations take skill and artfulness. Learn the nine practical rules for negotiation success from a video account of a professional mediator. Learn specific methods that sidestep the pitfalls and keep you focused on getting the best deal possible.

AMA's Expanding Your Influence: Understanding the Psychology of Persuasion; February 5-6; 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; $75. How can one person get someone to do something with ease, while it's an uphill battle for someone else? Bringing about the reaction you want from others and expanding your influence require insights that go beyond the actual process of influencing—and into the psychology of what truly prompts us to say yes or no. This course explores these psychological triggers, plus how this knowledge may be used not just for compliance but for mutually desirable outcomes. You'll uncover persuasion techniques that most people don't even know exist and learn how to build your influence by applying these principles to any number of business interactions, from managing, mentoring and negotiating to conversations, writing and presentations. In addition, you will learn how to choose the best principle for any given situation and avoid being manipulated by others.

Brown Bag Matinee: Time Management—A Productivity Plan; February 12; 1-2 p.m.; free. Gain a deeper understanding of the importance of effectively managing your time. This video will help you identify time-wasting practices that can consume your day. Learn how to efficiently plan meetings and office work flow, set long- and short-term goals, minimize office interruptions, avoid procrastination and delegate work.

Brown Bag Matinee: Giving and Receiving Feedback; February 19; noon-1 p.m.; free. Successful completion of this course will increase your knowledge and ability to implement a five-step process for giving effective feedback, choose language that conveys the specific results you want, support your message with appropriate body language, implement the three keys to receiving feedback, avoid defensive reactions when receiving feedback and evaluate feedback and determine its importance and validity.

Career Focus Brown Bag: How to Get Along, Get Noticed and Get Ahead; February 25; 11 a.m.-noon; free. In this video, *How to Get Along, Get Noticed and Get Ahead*, you will gain a better understanding of what it takes to succeed in today's workplace, why it is important to be proactive and positive, the need to be accountable and flexible, the benefits of being cooperative and respectful and how to communicate clearly and concisely. By following a few simple strategies you will easily "get along, get noticed and get ahead" in your career!

Career Focus Brown Bag: Communicating Your Value by Factoring Your Skills, Interests and Abilities; February 26; 1-2 p.m.; free. Winners in the workplace are those who understand their value and are able to communicate that value to others in a powerful way. Need help figuring out exactly what value you bring and best ways to communicate it? Come to this session armed with some ideas about the accomplishments you've had in your life and we'll help you factor out your strengths, the value that you bring and ways to communicate it!

Expanding Your Assertiveness in Communications; February 27; 9 a.m.-noon and 1:30-4:30 p.m., $75. Expand your ability to communicate effectively with colleagues. The work environment often brings challenges related to communications and conflict. Whether it's the impact of balancing priorities or an upcoming deadline, interacting with colleagues requires the art of assertive communications to achieve results. Join this seminar to examine different communications models, and learn how to think—and act—assertively. Consider the impacts of conflict and stress and utilize tactics to communicate with constructive language.

—Division of Human Resources

New Center's Launch Today

Penn's Graduate School of Education will launch a new research center, The Penn Center for Minority-Serving Institutions (CMSI) today. Dr. Marybeth Gasman, a historian and professor at GSE, has been named as director of this first-of-its-kind center, which is focused on furthering higher education for underrepresented populations.

The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, The Kresge Foundation, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Educational Testing Service, the Penn Provost's Office and the Penn's Excellence Through Diversity Fund have contributed a total of $2.5 million in funding to date. Today's opening kick-off features a town hall meeting and panel discussion, *Envisioning the Future of Minority Serving Institutions: Challenges and Opportunities*, followed by a public reception.

The panel discussion will be at 4 p.m. in the Terrace Room, Claudia Cohen Hall. Dr. Gasman will moderate the panel:

Michael T. Nettles, senior vice president of Educational Testing Service

Cheryl Crazy Bull, executive director of the American Indian College Fund

Kalindi Doshi, the Asian & Pacific Islander American College Fund

Karl Reid, senior vice president for research at the United Negro College Fund

Deborah Santiago, vice president for policy at Excelencia in Education

The reception will be held at 6 p.m. at the CMSI, in St. Leonard's Court.

Dr. King Studied at Penn

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. audited classes in philosophy at Penn's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. He audited Dr. Elizabeth Farquhar Flower's course on Ethics and the History of Philosophy while he was enrolled at Crozer Theological Seminary in 1949-1950. Fifteen years later, Dr. King met Dr. Flower again during a one-day seminar at Penn.

Opportunities to Participate in the Philadelphia Science Festival

The Philadelphia Science Festival is just a few months away and there are programming, outreach and speaking opportunities that are available for the Penn community.

Registration has opened and will continue through *Friday, March 14* for *The Science Carnival on the Parkway* which will be held on May 3. This full day celebration of science in Philadelphia is one of the most popular events of the Festival and also the most widely attended. Carnival booths have a small fee associated with them to cover the expenses incurred for permitting, materials and supplies, etc. However, Penn's sponsorship of the Festival comes with some complimentary booths.

To be considered for this *free* space at the Carnival, participants must send an email to *sciencefestival@lists.upenn.edu* by Friday, *January 31* with the following information. The Penn Science Festival Coalition will consider all applications before selecting the strongest activities that represent Penn:

- A 75 word (or less) description of your exhibit and activity.
- A step-by-step description of your activity.
- Do you have any unusual requirements? (i.e. use of hazardous chemicals, large amounts of water, live animals, etc.)
- Any questions or concerns you have regarding the Carnival.

More information regarding Carnival registration and the registration form can be found here: *https://www.etouches.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=65575&&*

Speaking Opportunities:

Programs featuring the following science themes are still looking for interested speakers:

Chemistry
Sustainability
Vegetarianism
Health/Nutrition
Allergies
Sharks/Ichthyologist
Child Development/Neuroscience
Scientists of/from West Philly
Alcohol Research/Hangover Science
Fanaticism/Sports Psychology
Neuroscience
Scientists/Experts for an event on Love, Lust and Loathing
Statistics and Using Math to Win
Digital Forensics
Sleep Scientist/Specialist
Meteorology/Weather

Please contact me at *ginalla@upenn.edu* for further details.

Outreach Activities:

The Festival still needs participants for the following community outreach science events:

• Clark Park Discovery Day (April 26): hyper-local science outreach in Clark Park, rain or shine!

• Mess Fest at Smith Playground (April 27): calling all messy lab experiments! Have a fun, hands-on activity that promises to make a mess? This is the place to be!

• Neighborhood Science After School (April 28-30): at various library locations.

• Science Carnival After Dark (April 25): an event at the Franklin Institute for ages 18+

• Science Day at the Ballpark 2014 (April 29): seeking activities that are sports-related science

Sign up for these opportunities at *http://marcatoapp.com/website_integration/philadelphia-science/artists/new* or contact me for additional assistance.

Volunteer Opportunities:

This is a great chance for all members of the Penn community—the scientifically-inclined and less so—to engage with the Festival through service. Learn more about volunteering for the Festival at: *www.philasciencefestival.org/page/26-volunteer-job-descriptions*

—Gina L. Lavery, Associate Director
Office of Government and Community Affairs

Update

January AT PENN

CONFERENCES

23 *Energy Accounts: Designing the Future*; 6 p.m.; Lower Gallery, Meyerson; register: *www.design.upenn.edu Also January 24*, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. (Penn Design).

24 *Wharton Women Business Conference*; keynote speakers: Suzanne Shank, Siebert Brandford & Co. LLC & Siebert Financial Corporation; Keri Gohman, Capital One; 10 a.m.-4:15 p.m.; Inn at Penn; register: *WhartonWomenBC.com* (Wharton Women).

ON STAGE

24 *Mask and Wig's 126th Annual Production: Wishful Sinking*; 8 p.m.; 310 S. Quince St.; $30/adult, $15 students. *Also January 25 and 31*.

TALKS

22 *nARCHITECTS*; Eric Bunge, nARCHITECTS, PLLC; 6:30 p.m.; Meyerson Hall, B1 (Penn Design).

23 *PASEF/ASEF Luncheon: Mindfulness, Meditation and the Science of Awareness*; Michael Baime, medicine; noon; Hourglass Room, University Club (PASEF/ASEF).

Palliative Care Futurist: Matching Care to People's Needs; Diane Meier, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai; 3 p.m.; Smilow Center Auditorium, 3400 Civic Center Blvd.; register: (215) 898-3163 (Penn Hospice, Palliative Care Program).

***Cancelled* 27** *Transforming Night Space: American Electric Spectacles and the Transformation of the Street 1875-1920*; David Nye, University of Southern Denmark; 6 p.m.; Upper Gallery, Meyerson Hall (Penn Design).

AT PENN Deadlines

The January AT PENN calendar is online at *www.upenn.edu/almanac* The deadline for the March AT PENN calendar is Tuesday, February 11.

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

Synthetic Biology Summer Research Opportunity: February 2

Penn iGEM, an award-winning undergraduate research team, is seeking new members for the 2014 iGEM world competition. An info session will be held in Towne 337 on January 23 at 7 p.m. (dinner provided). Students with an interest in engineering biology are invited to apply *before February 2*. To learn more about the team and to access the online form, see *http://2013.igem.org/Team:Penn*

Informing Land Preservation through Science: At the Morris Arboretum

Dr. Tim Block *(at right)*, The John J. Willaman Director of Botany at the Morris Arboretum, will present the Lukens Endowed Lecture on *Informing Land Preservation through Science: The Botany Department of the Morris Arboretum* on Sunday, January 26 at 2 p.m. at the Arboretum.

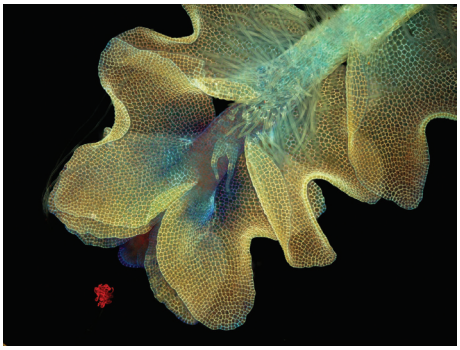
The reasons for preserving land range from biodiversity protection to tax benefits. Whatever the reason, most people agree that land preservation is a good idea. For many years, the Arboretum's botany department has been actively engaged in science-based studies that help inform decision makers on issues concerning conservation and land protection. In this talk, discussion will include the importance of land protection, the public perception of preserved land and the history of the Arboretum's involvement in helping shape conservation priorities in Pennsylvania and beyond.

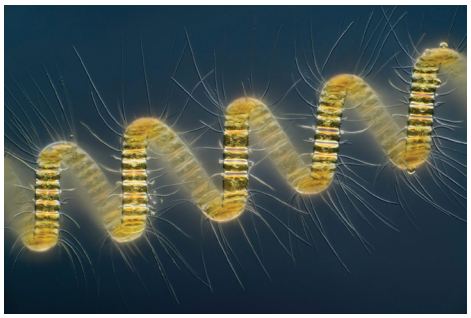
The lecture will be followed by a reception. This is free with admission, but reservations are required and space is limited. To register: *www.morrisarboretum.org* or call (215) 247-5777 ext. 156.

Small World/BIG WORLD: A Nexus of Art and Science at Wistar

On Friday, January 31, the Wistar Institute will host an opening reception for the *Nikon Small World* exhibition with a special showing of Dr. William Rush large-scale anatomical sculptures, which had been used by Dr. Caspar Wistar for teaching. To register for the event, visit *www.wistar.org/nsw*

The 20 award-winning images from Nikon's 2013 contest will be on view there from February 3 through March 7, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Below are three of the winning images; to see all the images go to: *www.nikonsmallworld.com/galleries/photo/2013-photomicrography-competition*





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 **January 6-12, 2014**. Also reported were 22 Crimes Against Property (11 thefts, 5 vandalisms, 2 burglaries, 2 DUIs, 1 fraud and 1 other offense). Full reports are available at: *www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v60/n19/creport.html* Prior weeks' reports are also online. —*Eds.*

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 **January 6-12, 2014**. 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.

01/06/14	6:27 AM	4001-4003 Pine St	Altercation between husband and wife.

18th District Report

Below are the Crimes Against Persons from the 18th District: 2 incidents with 1 arrest (1 aggravated assault and 1 robbery) were reported between **January 6-12, 2014** by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th Street & Market Street to Woodland Avenue.

01/09/14	6:53 PM	4811 Beaumont St	Robbery
01/10/14	3:42 AM	4700 Baltimore Ave	Aggravated Assault/Arrest

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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Announcing the Year of Health as Theme Year 2014-2015

In 2014-2015, the Provost's theme year topic will be the Year of Health, devoted to the investigation of health, wellness and welfare across many areas.

Health is an area of primary concern to all of our constituents. Many of Penn's resource centers are actively involved in it—Penn Medicine, an internationally famous center for care, teaching and research; our School of Nursing; the Center for Public Health and others. But the topic is equally engaging across all of Penn's schools. The study of medicine, medical care and health in general is key to understanding history and even interpreting literature and art. It is a driving force in business and a major factor in technological development. Equally, it's a fundamental concern in law, ethics and religion.

The Year of Health is the eighth in the theme year series, and it seems particularly timely now. On the national level, issues of healthcare and insurance are on the frontline. In addition, this year we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Penn Medical School, which was founded in 1765. In January 2015, Penn Med will open a new advanced care and trauma center.

As with all theme years, the goal is a topic that can engage the entire Penn community—undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, staff and alumni—and offer collaborative program opportunities across the campus and into the community. The Year of Health is exceptionally well positioned for this kind of exploration.

Additional information about the theme year and its history can be found at: *www.yearofhealth.org*

Year of Health Grants Program

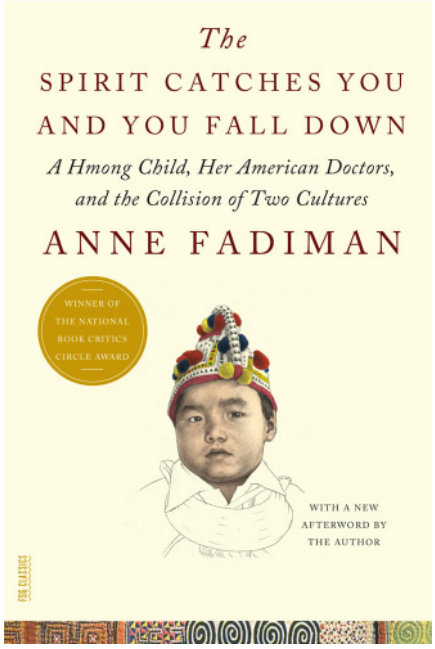
To further the goals of the theme year, the Office of New Student Orientation and Academic Initiatives will sponsor Year of Health grants that will support opportunities for programs and research. The Grants Committee will evaluate each proposal based on the strength of its relationship to the topic, the quality and innovation of the project and its potential to engage and involve the Penn community. We encourage multi-disciplinary and/or collaborative projects between Penn student organizations and academic departments/programs.

Proposals can be submitted directly through the Year of Health website. Grants of up to $750 are available to Penn faculty, students and staff, either individually or in groups. Groups are limited to one applicant per academic year. There will be some additional funding available for special projects—generally, larger conferences, speakers or special symposia that are co-sponsored by several Penn Schools or Centers. Examples of programs that received additional funding during the Year of Sound include several courses offered through the Ben Franklin Scholars program, the English department's Winter Reading Project and a day-long interdisciplinary symposium on Sound and the Brain.

Year of Health Grant guidelines and application form are available online *www.themeyeargrants.org* Submitted proposals will be reviewed in cycles beginning April 1, 2014.

For More Information: contact: David Fox, director of New Student Orientation and Academic Initiatives, *dfox@upenn.edu* (215) 573-5636.

Anne Fadiman's *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* Penn Reading Project Book 2014-2015



The Provost, the Council of Undergraduate Deans and the Office of New Student Orientation and Academic Initiatives are pleased to announce that *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* by Anne Fadiman will be the text for the 2014-2015 Penn Reading Project (PRP). On the afternoon of Monday, August 25, 2014, groups of first-year students and faculty leaders discuss the book as part of New Student Orientation for the Class of 2018. *(Please note that PRP will take place on Monday, rather than Sunday.)*

The Spirit Catches You explores the story of a Hmong family, refugees from Laos who immigrated to California, whose young daughter was diagnosed with severe epilepsy. Despite the best intentions of everyone involved—medical workers and family members—cultural misunderstandings led to tragedy—but as physician and writer Perri Klass put it, Fadiman's book, published in 1997, "changed how doctors see themselves and how they see their patients. Anne Fadiman celebrates the complexity and the individuality of the human interactions that make up the practice of medicine while simultaneously pointing out directions for change." The steering committee at Penn, who chose the book, also praised the way *The Spirit Catches You* explores both global medical issues, as well as those central to American healthcare practices. PRP, now entering its 24th year, was created as an introduction for incoming freshmen to academic life at Penn. Past Penn Reading Projects have included Adam Bradley's *Book of Rhymes*, John Patrick Shanley's *Doubt*, Jane McGonigal's *Reality is Broken*, Rose George's *The Big Necessity*, Neil Shubin's *Your Inner Fish*, Michael Pollan's *The Omnivore's Dilemma*, Lawrence Lessig's *Free Culture*, Benjamin Franklin's *Autobiography*, Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*, Franz Kafka's *Metamorphosis*, Maxine Hong Kingston's *The Woman Warrior*, Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* and Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia*—as well as Thomas Eakins' painting, *The Gross Clinic*. Information about the Penn Reading Project and its history can be found at: *www.yearofhealth.org*

Faculty members and senior academic administrators in all twelve schools are invited to take part as PRP discussion leaders. A copy of the text will be sent to discussion leaders and students in July, along with additional information about the Reading Project. If you wish to sign up, you may go directly to the database: *www.prpleaders.org* (If you registered last year, you can simply update your information and also indicate if you'll participate in this year's prep session and lectures).