A Message to the Penn Community: 
Announcing the Launch of the HELP Line

We are pleased to announce that the University has now launched the HELP Line, a 24-hour-a-day phone number for members of the Penn community who are seeking time sensitive help in navigating Penn’s resources for health and wellness.

Any member of the Penn community can utilize this service by calling (215) 898-HELP. Calls will be answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week by Division of Public Safety (DPS) professionals trained in mental health referrals by staff from Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS).

As we first indicated in a campus-wide message on September 30, the HELP Line is part of the continuing steps that Penn is taking to expand mental health support for students and all members of the Penn community. It provides a single point of entry for information about how to get help with personal problems, whether your own or those of a student, partner, friend or colleague. It also will enable callers to connect with resources and programs to promote health.

Students who are dealing with the complex emotional challenges of university life can use the HELP Line to receive information and referrals to the many health and wellness resources at Penn, including CAPS, Student Health Service, Student Intervention Services, Public Safety and others. They may also call on behalf of a friend or acquaintance.

We encourage faculty and staff to be on alert for students who may be struggling with stress, anxiety or depression. We hope you will bring the HELP Line to the attention of students and use the number yourself whenever you need guidance on how best to offer support and assistance to a student in distress.

For parents, partners, family members or close friends, we urge you to remind students of the resources available to them, which are listed at the bottom of this message, and to notify the University (by calling the HELP Line) if you have any concerns about a student’s emotional health.

Recommended by the Task Force on Student Psychological Health and Welfare, the HELP Line is one of the initiatives undertaken in recent months as part of our continuing efforts to support the emotional well-being of the Penn community. We will continue to implement further recommendations from the Task Force as they are developed.

If you or someone you know needs help, please call the HELP Line at (215) 898-HELP.

Other resources available to the Penn community include:
- Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS): (215) 898-7021 or (215) 349-5490 (nights and weekends—ask for the CAPS counselor on call)
- Chaplain’s Office: (215) 898-8456
- Student Health Service: (215) 746-3535
- Public Safety Special Services 24/7 Hotline: (215) 898-6600
- Public Safety Emergency Communications Center: (215) 898-5333
- Student Intervention Services: (215) 898-6081
- Graduate Student Center: (215) 746-6868
- College Houses & Academic Services: (215) 898-5551
- School Advising and Student Affairs Office
- Annenberg School for Communication: (215) 746-6349
- School of Arts & Sciences: (215) 898-6341 (College) or (215) 898-7577 (Graduate School)
- School of Dental Medicine: (215) 898-4550
- School of Design: (215) 898-6210
- School of Engineering & Applied Science: (215) 898-7246
- Graduate School of Education: (215) 898-7019
- Law School: (215) 898-7491
- Perelman School of Medicine: (215) 898-7190
- School of Nursing: (215) 898-6667
- School of Social Policy & Practice: (215) 746-5895
- School of Veterinary Medicine: (215) 898-3525
- Wharton School: (215) 898-7613 (Undergraduate) or (215) 573-5756 (Graduate School)

— Amy Gutmann, President
— Vincent Price, Provost
— Craig Carnaroli, Executive Vice President

$6.9 Million in New Grants to Further BRCA1 & BRCA2 Mutation Research at Penn Medicine’s Basser Research Center for BRCA

The University of Pennsylvania’s Basser Research Center for BRCA has announced $6.9 million to research teams both at Penn and at five other institutions across the United States, aimed at advancing the care of patients living with BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations through multidisciplinary collaboration. Penn Medicine’s Abramson Cancer Center, home to the Basser Center, will serve as steward of the grants.

The new funding includes the first recipients of the new Basser External Research Grant Program, a unique funding mechanism for high-impact translational cancer research projects with the potential to advance rapidly into clinical practice. “The projects funded this year are at the forefront of BRCA1-related cancer research and will help bring targeted therapies to a new level,” said Susan Domchek, executive director of the Basser Research Center for BRCA and the Basser Professor of Oncology at the Abramson Cancer Center.

“BRCA research has come so far since the initial discovery 20 years ago and, working in collaboration with colleagues across the nation, we are making strides every day toward providing better care for these high-risk patients.”

Among the five external recipients is a multiinstitutional team led by Junjie Chen, chair of the department of experimental radiation oncology at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. The group is the recipient of the first Basser Team Science Award, which will fund a project focusing on developing new forms of chemotherapy for BRCA1/2-related cancers and overcoming resistance to these medications.

Other recipients of funding through the External Grants Program include research teams at Johns Hopkins University, Fox Chase Cancer Center and Drexel University College of Medicine, all of whom will work to enhance the effectiveness of various therapies which have potential for alleviating BRCA1/2-related cancers. For example, the project led by researchers at Drexel University College of Medicine will work to analyze the effect of specific genetic inhibitors in BRCA1/2 cells alone and in combination with therapeutic drugs and to study the mechanisms of homologous recombination—

(continued on page 3)
The following agenda is published in accordance with the Faculty Senate Rules. Any member of the standing faculty may attend SEC meetings and observe. Questions may be directed to Vicki Hewitt, executive assistant to the Senate Office either by telephone at (215) 898-6943 or by email at senate@pobox.upenn.edu

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Agenda
Wednesday, December 10, 2014
Room 205, College Hall
3-5 p.m.

1. Approval of the Minutes of November 19, 2014 (5 minutes)
2. Chair’s Report (5 minutes)
3. Past Chair’s Report on Academic Planning and Budget & Capital Council (5 minutes)
4. Update from the Office of the Executive Vice President (45 minutes)
   Discussion with Craig Camaroli, Executive Vice President
5. Update on Canvas and Penn Libraries (40 minutes)
   Discussion with H. Carton Rogers, Vice Provost and Director of Libraries, and Kimberly Eke, Director of Teaching, Research & Learning Services
6. School of Nursing Track Change Proposal (10 minutes)
   Discussion and Vote with Santosh Venkatesh, Chair of the Senate Committee on Faculty and the Academic Mission (SCOF)
7. New Business (10 minutes)

PMNC Call for Pilot Grant Applications: December 15

The Penn Medicine Neuroscience Center (PMNC) invites proposals for the support of pilot research projects in the broad category of the neurosciences. The focus of the pilots this year is on “Interdisciplinary Research.” Applicants are encouraged to include more than one discipline and illustrate a multi-faceted approach to a scientific problem.

Project Scope
The purpose of this program is to assist Penn faculty in generating preliminary data that may serve as the basis for seeking longer-term funding from federal, foundation or corporate sources. A major goal of the PMNC is to promote the development of creative ideas and approaches in neuroscience and so they invite proposals that seek to test an innovative hypothesis or develop a new tool via interdisciplinary research. Applicants with more than one investigator must indicate how the different expertise of the co-investigators will contribute to the overall goals of the project.

Use of Grant Funds
Up to ten pilot grants will be funded in FY 2015, and applicants may request up to $40,000. Funds may be used for personnel (including up to 10% of PI salary), supplies or equipment. Unexpended funds may be carried over to the next fiscal year.

Application Guidelines
Applications may be submitted by individual full-time faculty from the Perelman School of Medicine and members of the PMNC or by collaborating investigators at least one of whom must be a member of the PMNC and a full-time faculty in the Perelman School of Medicine. Proposal contents must be a member of the PMNC and to your participation in PMNC events.

The proposals must contain the following items:
- Face page with grant title and names, departmental affiliations and contact information of the co-investigators.
- Budget in NIH format, with a brief (1 page) budget justification.
- Biosketch of the investigator (or co-investigators), in NIH format.
- Scientific proposal, not to exceed three single-spaced pages, including specific aims, background/significance and experimental design/methods. Preliminary data may be included, but are not required. Literature cited and IACUC or IRB information (where applicable) are not included in the three page limit; regulatory approvals may be pending.

The deadline for receipt of applications is December 15, 2014. Each application should be submitted as a single PDF file attachment to: Rosellen Taraborrelli, PMNC executive director, at: taraborr@mail.med.upenn.edu

Proposals will be evaluated by a committee and it is anticipated that awards will be announced on or about January 30, 2015. Funds will be made available for February 15, 2015.

-Penn Medicine Neuroscience Center

Deaths

Dr. Holtzer, Anatomy

Howard Holtzer, professor emeritus of cell and developmental biology (formerly anatomy) in the Perelman School of Medicine, died on November 5 at home at the age of 92.

Dr. Holtzer was born in Brooklyn and served in the US Army during World War II. He received his BS in 1949 and PhD in 1952 at the University of Chicago. Following a postdoctoral fellowship at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, he joined the Penn anatomy faculty in 1953.

While doing research in the lab of Dr. Paul Weiss in Chicago, he did his first extraordinary experiments and made observations that historically are the foundation of much of the molecular work on inductive signals between tissues and how cells communicate during development. Upon joining Penn, he began to apply a new technique, fluorescent labeling of antibodies, to the study of myogenesis. His demonstration of cell lineage commitment as an event that long precedes our ability to recognize the differentiated cell, expanded the frontiers of developmental biology. Other discoveries followed: definitive proof that myoblasts actually fuse with each other to form myotubes; the first demonstration of actin filaments in non-muscle cells; the existence of a new class of filaments, the intermediate filaments (including keratins, lamins and neurofilaments).

After his “official” retirement, he was invited in 1994 to be the Plenary Speaker at a meeting of the Japanese Society for Developmental Biology in Sendai.

Dr. Holtzer is survived by his wife, and lifelong collaborator, Dr. Sybil Holtzer.

Contributions may be made to the department of cell and developmental biology, 1157 BRB II/III/6058 benefitting the annual “Howard Holtzer Prize for Research by a Postdoctoral Fellow.”

Dr. Schleyer, Surgery

Heinz Schleyer, assistant professor emeritus of surgery in the Perelman School of Medicine, passed away on November 10 at age 87.

Dr. Schleyer was hired in 1961 as a postdoctoral fellow in medical physics in the Johnson Foundation. He then became an associate in biophysics in 1963. From 1969-1970, he was in the Harrison Surgical Department as a research specialist and was appointed an assistant professor of biophysics in 1970. He became emeritus in 2004.

As a research scientist, Dr. Schleyer was known for his work on Cytochrome P-450, a series of enzymes involved in drug metabolism. He had been a member on the executive council of the Association of Senior and Emeritus Faculty in the Perelman School of Medicine.

Dr. Schleyer is survived by his wife, Johanna (Hanne); daughter, Dr. Anneliese Schleyer; her husband, Peregrin Spielhoilz and his two grandchildren, Aubrey and Jakob.

Dr. Sybil Holtzer

Heinz Schleyer

Abramson Cancer Center Seed Money Grants: December 15

The Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania announces the availability of seed money grants for faculty to conduct cancer-related research projects. The American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant (ACS IRG) is intended for junior faculty who do not currently hold a national research grant; they are eligible to apply for up to $30,000. Further details on application and grant writing are available at http://www.pennmedicine.org/funding-opportunities/.

Questions concerning application submission for ACS IRG can be directed to: April McCoy, scientific coordinator at the Abramson Cancer Center: (215) 662-3912, admccoy@exchange.upenn.edu

2 www.upenn.edu/almanac ALMANAC December 9, 2014
December 3 Council Coverage

At the last Council meeting, there was a discussion revolving around the initiatives Penn has implemented for Structured, Active, In-class Learning (SAIL). It was introduced by Vice Provost for Education Andrew Binns, with input from Bruce Lenthall, executive director of the Center for Learning. Beth Winkelman, associate dean for undergraduate education in SEAS, and Dennis DeTurck, dean of the College in SAS, who led an active learning exercise demonstrating how this approach works.

Dr. Binns said that the goal is to determine learning styles that help students retain what they have learned. He emphasized that courses that embrace this were primarily in the STEM fields: physics, chemistry, bioengineering, math, geology, biological and biological basis of behavior, but have recently included non-STEM fields such as political science, legal studies, economics and history. There are four active-learning classrooms on Penn’s campus, including at DRL and at the ARCH. There are SAIL course development grants and seminars as well as other resources for faculty who want instructional support and training. The speakers reported that some of the early outcomes that were fostered included enthusiasm, creativity and innovation but the process is demanding yet rewarding. Responses from students have been mixed, with some raving and some confused. Some appreciated the group activities and peer-to-peer approach while others report missing hearing faculty talking in the traditional classroom.

Search for Vice Provost for Education

Provost Vincent Price announces the formation of a consultative committee to advise him on the selection of a Vice Provost for Education. Andrew N. Binns, professor of biology in the School of Arts & Sciences, will serve as the Vice Provost for Education since 2006 and taught at Penn since 1980, will complete his term as Vice Provost at the end of June 2015. During his tenure, Vice Provost Binns has led such initiatives as the University’s highly successful 2014 reaccreditation and 2007 periodic review by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, which both generated important advancements in graduate and undergraduate education at Penn; recent innovations in Structured, Active, In-class Learning (SAIL); and the launch of the renovated ARCH and the Family Resource Center.

The Vice Provost for Education reports directly to the Provost and is a member of his senior leadership team for academic and strategic planning. He or she has primary responsibility for undergraduate and graduate education at Penn, developing and implementing policies that promote academic excellence, innovative teaching and learning and interdisciplinary knowledge across the University. The Vice Provost for Education chairs the Council of Undergraduate Deans, the Council of Graduate Deans and the Council of Professional Master’s Degree Deans and works closely with the range of faculty and resources overseen by the Vice Provost for University Life, College Houses and Academic Services, the Center for Undergraduate Research and Fellowships, the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Graduate Student Center and the Office of Student Conduct all report to the Vice Provost for Education.

The committee invites nominations of and applications from currently tenured faculty members at Penn. The ideal candidate will have extensive knowledge of the University and its policies and practices, as well as experience addressing sensitive issues in an effective and principled manner. Candidates must be tactful and discreet in handling confidential information and work well with faculty, staff, deans and department chairs in negotiating difficult situations. Excellent written and oral communication skills, sound judgment and demonstrated administrative competence are all necessary.

Nominations and applications, including CVs, may be sent by February 6, 2015 to: Vice Provost for Education Search, Office of the Provost, 122 College Hall/6381; or by email to Lynne Hunter, Office of the Provost, lynneh@upenn.edu

New Grants to Further BRCA1 & BRCA2 Mutation Research

(continued from page 1)

a key pathway to repairing DNA damage in human cells. In contrast, the project led by the team at Fox Chase Cancer Center, will aim to identify and characterize additional BRCA1 mutations that are capable of contributing to DNA repair and drug resistance. Researchers at Columbia University, who will design and conduct a community outreach effort aimed at minority women to determine eligibility for genetic counseling, also received funding.

The External Grants Program was made possible by a $5 million donation made earlier this year by University of Pennsylvania alumni Mindy and Jon Gray. Their latest gift brings their total giving to Penn to $30 million, following a $25 million gift which established the Basser Center in 2012 (Almanac May 22, 2012). The Center was created in memory of Mindy Gray’s sister Faith Bassler, who died of BRCA-related ovarian cancer at age 44.

“We are enormously grateful to the Grays for extending their generosity to support these research programs,” said Dr. Domchek. “Their gift allows us to work more closely in collaboration with colleagues at academic institutions around the world. In a time when medicine is making such great strides but federal funding for biomedical research is waning, it’s vital that we find new channels to continue supporting progress across the field of BRCA research.” Funding for Penn investigators includes four new grants:

Breakthrough Science Team Awards

Vaccination to Prevent BRCA1/2-Related Cancers: This project will study the development of a novel vaccine to prevent BRCA1/2-related cancers in healthy women who carry BRCA1/2 mutations. As a first step toward this overall goal, the study will work to determine the clinical and immunological impact of vaccinating high-risk patients in remission after adjuvant therapy using TERT DNA with or without IL-12 DNA. Investigators: Robert Vanderheide, David Weiner, Daniel Powell, Andrea Faciabene, Katherine Nathanison, E. John Wherry and Ben Stanger.

Molecular Determinants of Chemo-Responsiveness of BRCA Mutant Cancers: Funded to study the molecular basis of cell intrinsic and extrinsic mechanisms that dictate chemoresponsiveness of BRCA-mutated cancers, this project will work to identify novel strategies that overcome common mechanisms of resistance. Investigators: Roger Greenberg, Lin Zhang, Andy Minn and Warren Pear.

Targeting the ATR/CHK1 Pathway in Treatment: A project focused on determining if ovarian and pancreatic BRCA2-deficient cancers can be treated by targeting the ATR/CHK1 pathway as a primary line of therapy or be used secondarily following the development of PARPi resistance. Investigators: Eric Brown, Fiona Simpkins, Rugang Zhang and Mark Morgan.

Outreach & Implementation Science Award

Optimizing Precision Risk Assessment and Access to Genetic Services for BRCA1/2 Mutation Carriers: This project will improve risk estimation and enhance and improve access to expert genetic providers in geographically and sociodemographically diverse populations with limited access to genetic services. Investigators: Timothy Rebeck, Angela Bradbury, Katherine Nathanison and Jinbo Chen.
Four 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 and one is from the School of Arts & Sciences.

They are among 401 members who have been awarded this honor by AAAS because of their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications.

*Resford S. Ahima*, professor of medicine at the Perelman School of Medicine and director of the Obesity Unit, Institute for Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism, was elected for distinguished contributions to the fields of obesity, diabetes and metabolism, particularly using mouse models to study adipokine signaling in the brain and peripheral organs.

*Marisa S. Bartolomei*, professor of cell and developmental biology at the Perelman School of Medicine, was elected for distinguished contributions to the fields of genetics and epigenetics, particularly for mechanistic studies of genomic imprinting and environmental impacts on epigenetic gene regulation.

*Charles L. Epstein*, Thomas A. Scott Professor of Mathematics and professor of radiology in mathematics, in the School of Arts & Sciences, was elected for distinguished contributions to applied analysis, especially microlocal analysis, index theory and boundary value problems; and significant achievements in the mathematics of medical imaging.

*Robert G. Kalb*, professor of neurology at the Perelman School of Medicine, was elected for distinguished contributions to understanding synaptic function in disease.

New fellows will be honored in February at the AAAS Fellows Forum during the 2015 AAAS Annual Meeting in San Jose, California.

**Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr. Lytle**

Penn GSE professor emerita *Susan Lytle* received the 2014 Distinguished Scholar Lifetime Achievement Award. The award recognizes Dr. Lytle’s decades of pioneering work in literacy, developing and teacher learning and the influence she has had on the LRA membership. In 1986, Dr. Lytle founded the Philadelphia Writing Project (PhilWP). Throughout her career, she used PhilWP as the main site for much of her research. It allowed her to interact with K-12 Philadelphia teachers on topics such as teacher professionalism, teacher knowledge and community in relation to the field of literacy theory, research and practice.

During her time working with the School District of Philadelphia, Dr. Lytle vastly expanded her understanding of urban education and teacher practice and was able to effectively translate this understanding through her research, which has had significant impact in the fields of literacy, practitioner knowledge and teacher learning.

She began her career as a public school English teacher in Massachusetts and California, in addition to volunteering with the Peace Corps in Manila, Philippines. After arriving at Penn, she began supervising secondary English interns and went on to co-lead the Joseph L. Calihan Term Chair in Education in recognition of her collaborative research on teacher inquiry. In the late 1970s, Dr. Lytle met Marilyn *Coehran-Smith*, then a doctoral candidate at Penn GSE. Dr. Coehran-Smith went on to become an important research partner. They have written together since the mid-1980s when Dr. Lytle was beginning her deep involvement with teachers in the School District of Philadelphia and Dr. Coehran-Smith was directing Penn GSE’s master’s program in elementary education. They used their sites of practice as the source of their inquiry—raising questions about what they were learning and publishing research that reflected the dialectic of empirical and conceptual work. During their nearly three decades of collaboration, they have co-authored numerous articles, as well as “Inside/Outside: Teacher Research and Knowledge and Inquiry as Stance: Practitioner Research in the Next Generation,” for which they have received national awards. Dr. Coehran-Smith, currently LRA Chair in Teacher Education for Urban Schools at Boston College, is a co-recipient of this year’s Distinguished Scholar Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Lytle has published widely in the field of literacy and is co-editor of the *Practitioner Inquiry Series* for Teachers College Press.

PhilWP continues to be a space of exploration and inquiry with a network over 700 educators in the greater Philadelphia region. Dr. Lytle continues to support PhilWP, serving as vice chair of the project’s advisory board.

**Inspiring and Innovative: Penn Hillel’s Jewish Renaissance Project**

Penn Hillel’s *Jewish Renaissance Project* (JRP) was named one of America’s top innovative and inspiring programs in the North American Jewish community and education for college students who want to figure out what Judaism means in a particular way to explore life through a Jewish lens, but who don’t have a formal connection to Jewish culture.

During their nearly three decades of collaboration, they have co-authored numerous articles, as well as “Inside/Outside: Teacher Research and Knowledge and Inquiry as Stance: Practitioner Research in the Next Generation,” for which they have received national awards. Dr. Coehran-Smith, currently LRA Chair in Teacher Education for Urban Schools at Boston College, is a co-recipient of this year’s Distinguished Scholar Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Lytle has published widely in the field of literacy and is co-editor of the *Practitioner Inquiry Series* for Teachers College Press.

**Inspiring and Innovative: Penn Hillel’s Jewish Renaissance Project**

Penn Hillel’s *Jewish Renaissance Project* (JRP) was named one of America’s top innovative and inspiring programs in the North American Jewish community and education for college students who want to figure out what Judaism means in a particular way to explore life through a Jewish lens, but who don’t have a formal connection to Jewish culture.

**Norma M. Lang Award: Dr. Polomano**

*Rosemary Polomano*, professor of pain practice in the School of Nursing, has received the 2014 Norma M. Lang Award for her distinguished and scholarly practice in pain research. Dr. Polomano’s career-long work in advancing pain science has influenced medical practice, pain management policy and technology innovation. Her work as the chair of the US Pharmacopeia Executive Leader-ship changed policy for medication safety, resulting in stricter packaging and labeling criteria for drugs and improved safety in drug administration.

Dr. Polomano also developed several patient-reported outcomes instruments and scales, including the American Pain Society Patient Outcomes Questionnaire—Revised, that has been translated into several languages and adapted for an international pain registry.

She has collaborated on several military pain studies with the Defense and Veterans Center for Integrative Pain Management (DVCIPM) moving research in pain science to the battlefield, designing and testing new pain outcome measures for use in battlefield hospitals and US military facilities. Dr. Polomano is also a professor of anesthesiology and critical care (secondary) at the Perelman School of Medicine, a research consultant for the DVCIPM at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and a frequent national advisor on pain science and pain management.

Dr. Polomano is the third recipient of the Lang Award, given annually to a University of Pennsylvania nursing faculty member or a graduate from the School’s doctoral program, who has made a distinguished contribution to nursing through scholarly practice.

**Nichols Prize for Visionaries in Urban Development: Dr. Rodin**

*Judith Rodin*, president emerita of the University of Pennsylvania and president of The Rockefeller Foundation, has been chosen as the 2014 recipient of the Urban Land Institute (ULI) J.C. Nichols Prize for Visionaries in Urban Development, which is the institute’s highest honor.

The Prize recognizes a lifetime commitment to the creation of communities that prosper by providing a high quality of life for all citizens and which reflect the highest standards of design and development.

Dr. Rodin is the 15th recipient of the honor. She was recognized for her leadership in the revival of the neighborhood surrounding the University of Pennsylvania while serving as the University’s president and for her current leadership of The Rockefeller Foundation’s efforts to create healthy, thriving communities worldwide.

The 2014 prize jury chairman, James D. Klingbeil, said, “Dr. Rodin is a true leader in community building, and her work epitomizes what the prize is all about.”
As the Ink Flows: Drawings from the Pen of William Steig 2015 Calendar

Artist, cartoonist and children's book author/illustrator William Steig (1907-2003) is perhaps best remembered for the drawings, cartoons and covers which appeared in *The New Yorker* for over 60 years, beginning in 1930, and for his many children's books, from *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*, winner of the 1969 Caldecott Medal, to *Shrek*, whose screen adaptation was winner of the first Academy Award for Best Animated Feature. This calendar highlights some of the over 2,500 original drawings given to the University of Pennsylvania Libraries by his widow, Jeanne Steig, in 2013. It was published in conjunction with the fall 2014 exhibition *As the Ink Flows: Works from the Pen of William Steig* organized by the Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Penn Libraries. The calendar is designed by Andrea Gottschalk; size: 12" x 12"; 13 month wall calendar; list price: $14.99.

Stop into Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center, go up to the Kislak Center's Reading Room to purchase the calendar and other items such as the illustrated volume (below) or notecards, in person during the following hours: 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday.

Constellations of Atlantic Jewish History, 1555-1890: The Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica

Edited by Arthur Kiron; preface by Beth S. Wenger; prologue by Arnold H. Kaplan; and essays by Dianne Ashton, Aviva Ben-Ur, Arthur Kiron, Adam Mendelssohn and Jonathan D. Sarna.

This illustrated volume serves as a companion to the 2014 exhibition of highlights from the Kaplan Collection, including five scholarly essays that respond to and illuminate the selections of curator and editor Arthur Kiron. With a prologue by the collector, an introduction by the curator, an exhibition checklist and a bibliography, it is a valuable introduction to the collection. The Kaplan Collection, donated to Penn in 2012 and considered to be the most important collection of its kind, consists of over 11,000 books, manuscripts, art and everyday objects documenting commercial, social, religious, political and cultural Jewish life from colonial times through the end of the 19th century.

Publisher: University of Pennsylvania Libraries (June 2014); size: 8.5" x 11". Hardbound ($50) and softcover ($25) editions available.

Penn Bookstore Sale-A-Bration

In addition to the vast selection at the Penn Bookstore, shop and save through this Year’s Bookstore Catalogue, featuring a selection of insignia apparel and Penn merchandise. Go to www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/pennbookstore/giftcatalog2014/

As a reminder, take advantage of the Penn Bookstore’s Annual Winter Sale: A-Bration Thursday, December 11 and Friday, December 12. Save 20% on Penn branded merchandise, books, games and other items. Stop by from 4-6 p.m. and enjoy complimentary hot chocolate and cookies. Complimentary photos with a holiday backdrop will be taken both days from 2-6 p.m.

In conjunction with the Bookstore’s Annual Winter Sale: A-Bration, stop by the Computer Connection on the second floor of the Bookstore for prizes, refreshments and giveaways.

Send Red & Blue holiday greetings the green way. Visit www.upenn.edu/educeard to see the snow fall on College Green, watch Frosty dance or shake a snow globe! You can also select from winter scenes or season’s greetings, courtesy of Penn’s Division of Business Services.

40 Winks with the Sphinx

Celebrate the Answer

40 Winks with the Sphinx, the Penn Museum’s unique overnight experience, makes a great holiday gift. Inspired by ancient artifacts and imaginative conversations, children ages 6 to 12 and their parents can enjoy a real night at the Museum! Guests receive a souvenir patch in the morning that grants them Museum admission for the rest of the day, as well as the remainder of the school year. 40 Winks is $50 per person (adults and children); $40 for Museum members.

The sleepover program begins select Friday evenings at 5:30 p.m. and concludes Saturday mornings at 9 a.m.—such as February 27-28. One parent or chaperone is required for every five children. For details, 2015 dates and online registration for 40 Winks, visit the Museum website at www.penn.museum/40winks

Penn Museum Membership Deal

For a limited time, those who purchase a membership to the Penn Museum and a copy of the stunning art publication History of the World in 1,000 Objects receive a discount. The gloriously illustrated full-color book published recently contains more than 200 objects from the Penn Museum’s world-renowned international collections. Save $25 on an individual membership and a copy of the book, or save $30 on dual membership and a copy of the book. The offer expires December 15. Get one for someone special now, at www.penn.museum/membership/gift-membership

World Cafe Live Gift Cards and CDs

World Cafe Live gift cards are available in denominations of $20, $25, $50, $75, $100 and $150. WCL’s online store, ShopLive, has musical paraphernalia including drinkware and apparel bearing the WCL logo. Gift packages are available to enjoy music all year long.

The newest Live at the World Cafe CD is available now for a pledge of support for WXPN. Pledges start at $12 per month. Past CDs can be purchased online or from a select group of local retailers including World Cafe Live.

Penn Glee Club’s Holiday Music

The Penn Glee Club’s holiday album, *A Song By The Fire*, includes their favorite fugues and carols ready to be played during the winter season. Purchase for $15.

In addition, order your very own DVD of the Penn Glee Club’s 2014 spring show for $20 and shop for unique PGC merchandise on t-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, stickers and more. See www.dolphin.upenn.edu/geeclub/store.shtml

Pennchants’ Newest Album

Close Enough, the Pennchants’ newest album which came out in April 2014, is their first studio album released in four years, making it an extra special gift for the holidays. Buy your CD now for $15, by contacting the Pennchants via their website http://pennchants.com/contact/

Mask and Wig Club’s Wishful Sinking

For the holidays, purchase the recording of The Mask and Wig Club’s spring 2014 soundtrack recording of their 126th annual performance, *Wishful Sinking*. The CD is available from CD-Baby.com, or on iTunes and Amazon.

Penn Museum's Annual Winter Sale

The Penn Museum membership and a copy of the 40 Winks Catalogue and the Guideline are available for $15.

A Piece of the Palestra

Own a piece of the Palestra. Completed in 1927 and dubbed “the birthplace of college basketball,” the Palestra holds a special place in collegiate athletics. The basketball lover in your life will cherish a writing pen ($140) or cuff links ($150) made from the original hardwood court flooring. Also available is a traditional bottle opener made with basketball hoop netting ($85). Order your Palestra keepsake at www.upenn.edu/palestrawoodcraft
Human Resources Special Winter Vacation Hours

As we near the end of the 2014 calendar year, the Division of Human Resources wants to remind you of our schedule during the holidays. Human Resources will be closed from Thursday, December 25–Friday, January 2 for the Special Winter Vacation. However, some of our resources will still be available to faculty and staff as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Holiday Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Penn Benefits Center</td>
<td>1-888-PENN BEN (1-888-736-6236) <a href="http://www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/benefits">www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/benefits</a></td>
<td>Penn’s health and welfare benefits</td>
<td>December 25: closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Retired Call Center</td>
<td>Penn’s retirement plans</td>
<td>January 1 &amp; 2: closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1-877-PENN-RET (1-877-736-6278) <a href="http://www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/benefits/retirement">www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/benefits/retirement</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staff and Labor Relations</td>
<td>Emergency employee relations issues</td>
<td>December 25: open 8 a.m.-1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Employee Assistance Program</td>
<td>Personal and professional life issues</td>
<td>Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1-888-321-4433 <a href="http://www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/worklife/healthy/eap">www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/worklife/healthy/eap</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Care.com Backup Care</td>
<td>Temporary in-home backup care services</td>
<td>Care available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1-800-688-4697 <a href="http://www.hr.upenn.edu/backcare">www.hr.upenn.edu/backcare</a></td>
<td>to help you manage your professional</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>responsibilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Suspension of Normal Operations

Although Penn normally never stops operating, emergencies such as severe weather conditions may sometimes result in the cancellation of classes and/or the full or partial closure of certain areas of the University. Decisions affecting work schedules and class cancellation are made by the Executive Vice President in consultation with the Provost. The University will announce a closing or other modification of work schedules through the following means:

- communications from the Division of Public Safety
- KYW News Radio (1060 AM)
- the UPennAlert Emergency Notification System (for University-related incidents & crises)

Be Prepared for Snow Days with a Backup Child Care Plan

Snow days give children a reason to celebrate, but they can create havoc if you don’t have alternative child care available. While the kids want to play in the snow, you have to scramble to find backup care or rearrange your schedule. Thankfully, Penn offers a snow day solution both you and your child can appreciate—Snow Day Child Care. It’s convenient, affordable backup care in a safe, fun environment.

Pre-registration is required, so take time now to learn more and register at https://www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/worklife/family/snowday/register

In partnership with the Penn Children’s Center (PCC), the Snow Day Child Care program provides backup care for dependents of benefits-eligible faculty and staff when the Philadelphia School District is closed but the University is open. Even if your child attends another school district, you can take advantage of the program.

“As a faculty member, I don’t want to cancel a class if at all possible and lose the momentum of the student’s semester. Since my youngest son is at PCC already, it was the perfect place for my first grader to spend the snow day playing with new friends, helping the teachers and leading art projects as the big kid in the pre-school room,” says Kara Finck, practice associate professor of law at Penn Law.

The program is available:
- From December 1, 2014-April 3, 2015
- Full-day, from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m.
- For children ages 3 months to 12 years old

The cost for the day ranges between $15 and $35, depending on the child’s age and your salary. Space is limited, and care requests are met on a first-come, first-served basis.

Visit the Snow Day Child Care page at https://www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/worklife/family/snowday for additional details, including a link to required registration forms. For information about backup care for children and dependent adults through Care.com, visit the Backup Care web page at https://www.hr.upenn.edu/backcare

Be in the Know Health Screening Documentation Forms: December 23

If you missed this year’s Be in the Know biometric screenings, you can still participate in the wellness campaign by submitting a Health Screening Documentation Form, available for download at https://www.hr.upenn.edu/beintheknow. Simply download and complete the form, then submit the screening results from your health care provider by December 23. Results obtained between July 1 and December 23, 2014 are valid for this year’s Be in the Know program.

After you’ve completed the biometric screening or you’ve submitted the health screening documentation form, the next step is to complete the online health assessment in January 2015. Once you’ve finished the screening and assessment, you are eligible for the $100 cash incentive. You can earn an extra $35 by completing bonus actions. (All incentives are less applicable payroll taxes.)

No matter how you participate, your information is confidential.

Visit the website https://www.hr.upenn.edu/beintheknow for more information, including details about the upcoming online health assessments and bonus actions. If you have any questions, please contact Penn’s Wellness specialist at https://www.hr.upenn.edu/contact/online?&id=1CMH

One Step Ahead

Security & Privacy Made Simple

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

Traveling Securely

International travel introduces new risks to your data and devices. Below are a few key tips to keep you safe while going global.

Network Security

Select WiFi connections that encrypt traffic are restricted with a password and are provided by a trusted source (University, colleague, etc.) whenever possible. Use encrypted services (e.g., HTTPS over HTTP) when web-browsing. Avoid accessing sensitive websites from public computers, such as at Internet cafes, as their security is highly unreliable.

Updates, Backups and Encryption

Identify your Local Support Provider (LSP), and let them know you will be traveling.

Ask your LSP if a sanitized “loaner” computer is available. If not, work with them to conduct a full backup of your system and all its data. Also ask your LSP to confirm that all software is up to date and appropriate security tools (such as disk/device encryption, password locking, location services and remote wiping) are functional.

Encrypt sensitive data if it is essential that you take it with you. (Note: users intending to travel to Cuba, Libya, North Korea, Syria, Sudan, Iran or Iraq should consult the Office of Research Services for assistance before exporting Penn owned equipment).

Additional Tips

Take with you only the personal or otherwise confidential information that you absolutely need. And don’t forget about sensible non-tech solutions to minimize risk. For example, do not carry your Social Security card in your wallet. Use your credit card, rather than your debit card, in order to maximize your legal protections in case of fraud.

A full list of suggestions for security while traveling can be found here:
http://www.upenn.edu/computing/security/advisories/InfoSec_Data_Security_Travel_Tips.php
Safe travels!

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

The University will be introducing eShip@Penn™ a new and enhanced express shipping process, in the coming months. While the primary goal of the new system is to minimize the University’s risk associated with moving hazardous or other regulated materials and to ensure compliance with safety and other mandates, the online system also offers benefits to all University shippers. These include allowing users to:

- Choose from a variety of carriers (UPS, FedEx and DHL) to determine which one best meets their specific needs;
- Shop and compare costs to ensure that Schools and Centers receive the best price available;
- Track shipments from an integrated at-a-glance dashboard, regardless of the carrier used to ship the package; and
- Preprint shipping labels.

For those individuals who do need to ship hazardous materials, the system verifies that shippers have the proper training and helps ensure that shipments are prepared in accordance with the most current dangerous goods regulations from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the United States Department of Transportation (DOT). The system also provides assistance to those who need to ship internationally.

This is a joint project of the Division of Business Services, Information Systems & Computing, Office of Research Services, the Department of Environmental, Health & Radiation Safety, and the International Student & Scholar Services. The University is working closely with an external provider, eShipGlobal, to implement the system at Penn.

The eShip Project Team together with eShip Advisory Council, comprised of School and Center representatives, is currently working on developing a training and rollout schedule. Questions about this project can be addressed to the project team at: eShip@exchange.upenn.edu

---

**CLASSIFIED—RESEARCH**

Are you an African-American or Black man with high blood pressure? Are you taking blood pressure medication? You may qualify for a research study to understand factors that influence men taking medication. School of Nursing seeks men age 18 and older to track your medication intake for 12 months. Participation includes five study visits to complete surveys and have your blood pressure taken. Compensation provided. For information, call (215) 746-6078.

* Prizes valued at over $100 will be subject to local, state & federal income taxes.

---

**Updated Almanac**

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 iterations on the Internet (accessible through the Penn website) include HTML, Acrobat and mobile versions of the print edition, and internal information may be posted in electronic-only form. Guidelines for readers and contributors are available on request and online.

**Almanac Schedule**

There will be an issue next Tuesday that will contain the January AT PENN calendar. Almanac will resume publishing weekly starting with the Tuesday, January 13 issue. Submissions for that issue are due no later than Monday, January 5, space permitting.

Breaking news will be posted in the Almanac Between Issues section of the Almanac website and sent out to Express Almanac subscribers. To subscribe, see www.upenn.edu/almanac/express.html

---

**Introducing eShip@Penn**

The University will be introducing eShip@Penn™ a new and enhanced express shipping process, in the coming months. While the primary goal of the new system is to minimize the University’s risk associated with moving hazardous or other regulated materials and to ensure compliance with safety and other mandates, the online system also offers benefits to all University shippers. These include allowing users to:

- Choose from a variety of carriers (UPS, FedEx and DHL) to determine which one best meets their specific needs;
- Shop and compare costs to ensure that Schools and Centers receive the best price available;
- Track shipments from an integrated at-a-glance dashboard, regardless of the carrier used to ship the package; and
- Preprint shipping labels.

For those individuals who do need to ship hazardous materials, the system verifies that shippers have the proper training and helps ensure that shipments are prepared in accordance with the most current dangerous goods regulations from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the United States Department of Transportation (DOT). The system also provides assistance to those who need to ship internationally.

This is a joint project of the Division of Business Services, Information Systems & Computing, Office of Research Services, the Department of Environmental, Health & Radiation Safety, and the International Student & Scholar Services. The University is working closely with an external provider, eShipGlobal, to implement the system at Penn.

The eShip Project Team together with eShip Advisory Council, comprised of School and Center representatives, is currently working on developing a training and rollout schedule. Questions about this project can be addressed to the project team at: eShip@exchange.upenn.edu

---

**18th District Report**

Below are the Crimes Against Persons from the 18th District: 2 incidents with no arrests (1 aggravated assault and 1 robbery) were reported between November 24-30, 2014 by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 43rd Street in Philadelphia to Woodland Avenue.

11/24/14 2:46 PM 38th and Chestnut Sts
Aggravated Assault

11/24/14 11:44 PM 223 Ferragut St
Robbery


---

**SPECIAL EVENT**

18 Red Cross Blood Drive: 8 a.m.-1 p.m. in Class of ’49 Auditorium, Houston Hall; sign up at www.redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code: UPENN-PPSA (PPSA).

**AT PENN Deadlines**

The December AT PENN calendar is online at www.upenn.edu/almanac

The deadline for the February AT PENN calendar is Tuesday, January 13.

Info. is on the sponsoring department’s website; sponsors are in parentheses. For locations, call (215) 898-5000 or see www.facilities.upenn.edu

---

**PPSA Clothing Drive: Now Through December 19**

Now that we’ve given thanks for what we have, let us consider sharing some of it with others in our Philadelphia community. Bethesda Project is in need of new or gently used men’s clothing, as well as toiletries. Dress for Success is in need of new or gently used women’s business attire, including accessories, shoes and professional handbags. Cradles to Crayons partners with social service organizations to facilitate community connections in delivering much needed resources to children ages 12 and under.

The Penn Professional Staff Assembly will be collecting items to share with these three Philadelphia organizations now through Friday, December 19 at several locations across campus. Please join the PPSA on December 19 from noon-2 p.m. at McClelland (the Quad) to help fold, sort and package the donations. We’ll be serving light refreshments and holiday cheer.

**Clothing Collection Locations:**
- Steinberg Hall-District Hall, 3620 Locust Walk, Suite 450
- Franklin Building, 3451 Walnut St., 1st Floor Lobby
- Info Center, The Quadrangle, 3700 Spruce St.
- Kress Entrance, Penn Museum, 3260 South St.
- School of Nursing, 418 Curie Blvd.
- Information Systems & Computing, 3401 Walnut St., Suite 265C
- Division of Public Safety, 4040 Chestnut St.
- Law School, 3501 Sansom St.
- Stouffer Commons, Lobby
- 3600 Market St., Suite 501

---

**2015 Summer Camps at Penn**

A listing of numerous summer camps and programs taking place on Penn’s campus will be published in a late January 2015 issue of Almanac. Those who are planning on holding camps at Penn next summer are encouraged to notify Almanac by Monday, January 12 to be included.
Announcing the 2015 Penn Reading Project and the Year of Discovery as Theme Year 2015-2016

Penn Reading Project

This year is the 25th anniversary of the Penn Reading Project (PRP), which was created as an introduction for incoming freshmen to academic life at Penn.

On the afternoon of Monday, August 24, 2015, the entire freshmen class will gather in small groups with Penn faculty and senior academic administrators for a discussion of The Big Sea. Prior to the small group discussions, students will write an essay on the book; all PRP participants will also take part in a morning presentation on The Big Sea and its themes.

Published in 1940, when Hughes was 38 years old and already among America’s most celebrated poets, The Big Sea is an elegantly structured memoir (in short essays) of his early experiences, and a chronicle of his self-realization and invention. Hughes explores his early life, growing up in an African-American family in the Midwest; later, he would travel extensively to Mexico, France and Africa where his sense of identity would be questioned, formed and redefined. Throughout the book, Hughes’ personal discoveries are set in broader contexts, including the extraordinary world of the Harlem Renaissance, in which he was one of the primary creative artists.

Past Penn Reading Projects have included Anne Fadiman’s The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down, Adam Bradley’s Book of Rhymes, John Patrick Shanley’s Doubt, Lawrence Lessig’s Free Culture, Benjmin Franklin’s Autobiography, Chinua Achebe’s Things Fall Apart, Maxine Hong Kingston’s The Woman Warrior, Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein, Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass and Tom Stoppard’s Arcadia—as well as Thomas Eakins’ painting, The Gross Clinic.

More information about the Penn Reading Project and its history can be found at: www.yearofdiscovery.org

Faculty members and senior academic administrators in all twelve Schools are invited to take part as PRP discussion leaders. You may sign up directly at: www.prpleaders.org (If you have participated in the last few years, you can simply update your information.)

The Year of Discovery

The Big Sea and the Penn Reading Project will open the Year of Discovery, devoted to exploring the theme of discovery across many areas of inquiry. Discoveries can be personal or more wide-ranging, the result of planned research toward an expected goal, or more spontaneous and serendipitous. Small discoveries occur every day; larger ones may take centuries. Discovery itself is a vital part of the human experience and of the collective processes of education and intellectual growth.

Penn’s academic theme years aim to provide a shared intellectual experience for the entire Penn community, with programming that is developed both centrally and in individual Schools and centers. We offer funding beginning in April to support theme year programs for the following year, and we invite current students, faculty and staff to design collaborative program opportunities across our campus and community. More information about applying for these grants can be found at www.themeyeargrants.org

Recommendations for Future Penn Reading Project Books and Theme Years

Penn Reading Projects and Academic Theme Years are selected by the Office of the Provost and the Council of Undergraduate Deans from nominations by members of the Penn community. We invite all current Penn students, faculty and staff to participate in the process at: www.prpsuggestions.org

The PRP text should be an outstanding work that will form the basis for a lively discussion. PRP texts can be fiction or nonfiction, historical or contemporary. They can also be films, musical compositions and other works of art. When you submit your suggested text, tell us why you think it will make a good PRP—and also suggest a theme year topic that arises from it. These topics should be broad in scope (e.g. Year of Discovery, Year of Proof, Year of Sound) and encourage interdisciplinary exploration across all Penn Schools and centers. Submissions can be made at any time and will be reviewed by a nomination committee as they are submitted. For priority consideration for 2016-2017, submissions should be made by April 10, 2015.

For more information

Contact David Fox, director of New Student Orientation and Academic Initiatives, University of Pennsylvania, at dfox@upenn.edu or (215) 573-5636.

Provost Vincent Price, Vice Provost for Education Andrew Binns, the Council of Undergraduate Deans and the Office of New Student Orientation and Academic Initiatives are pleased to announce the Year of Discovery as the Academic Theme Year for 2015-2016, and The Big Sea by Langston Hughes as the Penn Reading Project for 2015.