Vijay Kumar: Dean of Penn Engineering

Vijay Kumar has been named dean of Penn Engineering, effective July 1. A scholar and teacher of international renown, Dr. Kumar has been a member of the Penn Engineering faculty for more than two decades and has served in a wide range of key leadership roles. The announcement was made by Penn President Amy Gutmann and Provost Vincent Price.

“Vijay’s superb academic judgment, compelling vision for the future of engineering and applied science and proven track record as a leader and administrator make him the perfect choice to lead Penn Engineering to even greater heights,” President Gutmann said.

Dr. Kumar joined the Penn Engineering faculty in 1987 and currently serves as UPS Foundation Professor with appointments in the departments of mechanical engineering and applied mechanics, computer and information science, and electrical and systems engineering. As deputy dean for education from 2008-2012, he was instrumental in the creation of several innovative master’s degree programs. Earlier, he served as chair of the department of mechanical engineering and applied mechanics from 2005-2008, deputy dean for research from 2000-2004 and director of the General Robotics, Automation, Sensing and Perception (GRASP) Laboratory, a multidisciplinary robotics and perception laboratory, from 1998-2004. During a scholarly leave from 2012-2014, he served in the White House as assistant director for robotics and cyber physical systems in the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Dr. Kumar is recognized around the world for his groundbreaking work on the development of autonomous robots and on biologically inspired algorithms for collective behavior. The author of more than 400 refereed articles and papers and more than 20 books and book chapters, he is also a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE). He is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the National Science Foundation Presidential Young Investigator Award, Penn’s Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching (Almanac, April 23, 1996), the ASME Mechanisms and Robotics Award, the IEEE Robotics and Automation Society Distinguished Service Award and the Engelberger Robotics Award. He has mentored outstanding doctoral students who are themselves leaders in research and education. He is also an exemplar of Penn’s commitment to innovation and entrepreneurship. He and his students have founded several companies using technologies and tools developed in his research programs.

The selection of Dr. Kumar as the next dean of Penn Engineering successfully concludes a comprehensive search to find a successor to Edward Glandt, whose extraordinary 17-year term as dean is a fitting capstone to a brilliant career at Penn that stretches back nearly four decades. Under Dr. Glandt’s leadership, the School of Engineering & Applied Science has grown in both size and stature, adding superb and diverse faculty and students with a commitment to interdisciplinary teaching and scholarship. The school’s research and teaching facilities have been similarly expanded and upgraded with exceptionally modern and beautiful new buildings, including Levine Hall, Skirkanich Hall and most recently the Singh Center for Nanotechnology, which the Wall Street Journal called one of the best new buildings in the nation in 2013.

“Vijay Kumar has the experience and vision—and the deep knowledge of Penn and Penn Engineering—that are critical to moving the engineering & applied science programs to a position of global preeminence,” President Gutmann said.

Penn’s Grad School Rankings 2016

Each year, US News & World Report ranks graduate and professional schools in business, medicine, education, law and engineering. This year, nursing schools were also ranked.

For 2016, Penn’s School of Nursing ranks #1 among master’s programs in nursing. The Wharton School falls to #3 among MBA programs. Penn’s Perelman School of Medicine drops to #5 among top medical schools for research and moves up to #12 in a five-way tie among top medical schools for primary care. The Graduate School of Education drops to #7 in a tie with Northwestern and Columbia. Penn’s Law School remains at #7 and also makes the list of the most diverse law schools. The School of Engineering & Applied Science remains at #19.

The rankings are available at www.usnews.com

Almanac

The University of Pennsylvania and the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania announced the opening of the Penn Wharton China Center (PWCC) in Beijing, China. The Center is an important expansion of Penn’s engagement with China, which began in 1896 when the first Chinese student enrolled at Penn. It will operate through the University’s China-based affiliate, Penn Wharton Consulting (Beijing) Co. Ltd.

The Center will serve as a valuable resource and vibrant gathering place, enhancing learning and research opportunities to the benefit of Penn’s faculty, students, alumni and friends in China. Through its consulting programs, it will also support Chinese executives and others in acquiring the practical skills and perspectives that will help them successfully lead their organizations in a global context.

“We are delighted to launch the Penn Wharton China Center,” said Penn President Amy Gutmann. “We are building on Penn’s history of broad, deep engagement with China and creating a Center that provides an impressive infrastructure and significant resources to augment the University of Pennsylvania’s many collaborations and partnerships with great Chinese educational institutions. The Center represents another major milestone in the Penn Compact 2020’s vision of bringing Penn to the world and the world to Penn.”

“The Penn Wharton China Center will play a pivotal role in furthering Penn’s dual missions of research and learning,” said Provost Vincent Price. “It will provide a much-needed, on-the-ground support for our faculty and students at Penn and Wharton, advancing both our faculty’s research and our students’ learning experiences.”

To celebrate the opening, Provost Price will lead a delegation of more than 40 faculty and senior administrators from Penn that includes Vijay Kumar. The delegation will visit China on July 1-4 to meet with Chinese university leaders to discuss issues in China.

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Launching The Penn Wharton China Center (continued from page 1) higher education, panel discussions with senior Chinese business leaders and Penn scholars, and research talks with Penn faculty and deans. These events kick off a six-month grand opening, which will bring to China the best of Penn and Wharton and culminate with a Gala Celebration and Forum in September 2015 with President Gutmann. Details on these and all events are available at http://pwcc.upenn.edu

“The Penn Wharton China Center reaffirms the Wharton School’s commitment to serving as the premier innovator in global business education and to strengthening relationships across the globe,” said Dean Garrett. “We are excited to officially open the Penn Wharton China Center, which further enhances Wharton’s position as a training ground for current and future global leaders across public and private sectors in China. The Center will be an invaluable resource available to the nearly 1,800 Wharton alumni living in China and 10,000 Penn alumni currently living in Asia.”

“With the launch of the new Penn Wharton China Center, I look forward to welcoming Penn and Wharton faculty and students to spend more time in China and to boost ties with Chinese partner institutions,” said John Zhang, Murrel J. Ades Professor of Marketing and Penn Wharton China Center executive faculty director.

PENN Wharton is also pleased to announce the creation of a fund to support research and collaborative projects that focus on China or are carried out in conjunction with a China-based partner or institution. Through the Penn China Research and Engagement Fund, the University will provide $10 million over five years for projects that create knowledge in partnership with Chinese researchers, deepen the contributions of Penn faculty members to the understanding of China, increase Penn’s engagement in China or develop innovative educational and curricular programs for Penn students and lifelong learners.

Excellence Through Diversity Fund: Call for Proposals—April 24

The University is pleased to announce the annual call for proposals for the Excellence through Diversity Fund. The Fund, announced in the Penn Action Plan for Excellence through Diversity (Almanac, September 11, 2015), will provide resources for interdisciplinary projects of University faculty on topics relating to equity, inclusion and diversity, with the goal of strengthening the Penn curriculum in these areas and recognizing excellence in these important fields of inquiry. Funds will be awarded to the Schools competitively, on a matching basis, to provide needed term resources to launch new efforts or strengthen existing ones. Proposals should include a description of efforts to obtain funding from other sources.

The Fund may support:

• Implementation of Schools’ strategic plans to diversify faculty and student populations;
• Research on equity, inclusion and diversity in higher education;
• Projects that foster and support diversity on the campus;
• Faculty work on projects aimed at advancing the ideals of the Penn Compact as they relate to increased access of students and faculty.

A list of projects funded last year can be found at https://www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v60/n03/diversityfund.html

Projects in the area of LGBT and disability studies are specifically encouraged.

Criteria for Review

Review and evaluation will be based on the following criteria:

• Relationship to the aims of the Fund as described above;
• For projects aimed at diversifying the campus environment, clarity of goals and procedures and presence of an evaluation plan;
• Potential for sustainability and/or impact over time with School, Center or extramural funding, particularly as demonstrated by matching funds;
• Likelihood of generating new insights about diversity in higher education;
• Presence of a realistic and sufficiently detailed budget;
• Potential for sustainable partnerships among Schools, departments or University programs.

Proposals are due by April 24, 2015.

Review Process

The Fund will be administered by the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty. Proposals will be reviewed for scholarly merit and significance for diversity research, teaching and service. Priority will be given to innovative designs and to plans that involve multiple Schools.

Application

Applications must include:

• A completed ETDF Budget Form, available with PennKey at:
  https://upenn.box.com/s/ptiu3bd3kupc5nxw2r9dwy6m8xagal
• A complete ETDF Cover Sheet (with all signatures) and Proposal Form; available with PennKey at:
  https://upenn.box.com/s/c33j3h44Iq6u2a24zi71nivogd4azt7; including: background; work to be undertaken; ability to enhance Penn’s teaching, research and engagement on issues relating to equity, inclusion and diversity; and demonstrated interdisciplinary linkages
• Biographies of faculty members involved in the project. Please limit to key faculty; complete bibliographies are not required.
• Evidence of additional funding from institutional or external sources;
• Outlook for the future of the project (continued activity and external funding);
• For conference support: a description of the purpose of the meeting; a proposed program agenda and list of presenters; the names of Penn faculty organizing the meeting; the number of Penn students and faculty expected to attend; an explanation of the benefit to Penn students, faculty, or center programs.

Submission

Email a complete PDF, including signed ETDF Cover Sheet, DIF Proposal Form and DIF Budget Form, to provost-fac@upenn.edu no later than April 24, 2015. The name of the PDF must be the last name of the principal investigator. At the conclusion of a project, the PI is expected to submit a DIPA/annual report to the University Secretary of the use of the funding.

From the Office of the University Secretary

Agenda for University Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 25, 2015, 4 p.m.
Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall

I. Approval of the minutes of February 18, 2015. (1 minute)
II. Follow up comments or questions on status reports. (5 minutes)
III. Reports on Budgets and Plans for the Next Academic Year. (40 minutes)
IV. Update on implementation of recommendations of the Commission on Student Safety, Alcohol and Campus Life. (30 minutes)
V. New business. (5 minutes)
VI. Adjournment.

Committee on Open Expression

Open Hearings on Rules: March 26

On Thursday, March 26, the Committee on Open Expression will hold a series of three open hearings, at noon, 12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m., soliciting the views of individuals and groups on two proposed interpretive rules, published in the March 3 Almanac and available at www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v61/n25/open-expression.html

The open hearings will be held at the Law School, 3501 Sansom Street, Silverman Hall, room 147 (enter at 34th Street between Chestnut Street and Sansom Street). Any member of the University community is welcome to submit comments in writing in advance of the hearings or to offer comments in person at a hearing.

Anyone wishing to comment in writing or to speak must email the chair of the committee at sbibas@law.upenn.edu no later than Wednesday, March 18 at noon, indicating whether the commentator wishes to speak in person and providing a summary of proposed remarks for circulation to the committee.

Finding Balance: 14th Annual Disability Symposium: April 10

Weingarten Learning Resources Center and the University of Pennsylvania invite the campus community to the 14th Annual Disability Symposium on April 10.

This year’s theme, Finding Balance, recognizes the importance of maintaining equilibrium of mind, body and emotion. Join in the discovery of innovative approaches and learn from outstanding plenary speakers Sian Beilock, University of Chicago, and Dmitri Belser, nonprofit leader, along with eight invited workshop presenters on current topics. Share thoughts and ideas during breakfast and lunch. Complete this day of growth and learning with an event-ending Snack and Chat. Leave renewed with a satisfying balance of ideas and inspiration.

For complete program descriptions and registration information, see “symposium” at www.vpul.upenn.edu/lrc

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Carmella Dixson, Classical Studies

Carmella Ulissi Dixson, an administrative assistant in the department of classical studies from 1971 to 1996, died of congestive heart failure on February 25 at Samaritan Hospice Inpatient Center in Mount Holly, New Jersey. Mrs. Dixson, a Moorestown resident, was 87 years old.

In 1971, Mrs. Dixson began working as an administrative assistant in the department of classical studies at Penn. In the 1990s, she became an administrative assistant in the graduate programs in ancient history and in the art and archaeology of the Mediterranean world.

Mrs. Dixson and her late husband, Jay, gave lectures on Abraham Lincoln and tours of Civil War battlefields with Penn faculty and students.

Mrs. Dixson is survived by her son, Lawrence; her daughter, Anne Ehly; two sisters and one brother.

Donations may be made in Mrs. Dixson’s memory to Samaritan Healthcare & Hospice, 5 Eves Drive, Marlton, NJ 08053.

Chuan-Kuo Lee, Physics

Chuan-Kuo Lee, Penn alumnus and former researcher in the department of physics, died on February 21 at Christiana Hospital in Delaware. He was 78 years old.

Dr. Lee was born in Tsingdao, Shandong Province, China. After completing his bachelor’s degree in physics at the National Taiwan University, he enrolled in the graduate physics program at Penn and received a PhD in 1970.

In 1974, Dr. Lee returned to Penn and joined the solar neutrino detection experiment that had recently begun at the Homestake Gold Mine in Lead, South Dakota. The goal was to experimentally verify that the source of the sun’s energy was a nuclear fusion reactor operating in its center. The signal was the flux of neutrinos, the neutral twin of the electron, emitted during the fusion of four protons into a helium nucleus. This experiment achieved three goals: it was the first to detect neutrinos from an astronomical source, the beginning of neutrino astronomy; it verified that the sun is a fusion reactor; and it showed that two-thirds of the neutrinos generated in the sun change into other particles on their way to the earth. This last observation was completely unexpected and opened a new area of scientific research that continues to be probed.

The fundamental importance of this experiment was recognized by the awarding of the 2002 Nobel Prize in Physics to the senior member of the group, Dr. Raymond Davis (Almanac October 15, 2002). Dr. Lee was also engaged in a number of nuclear physics experiments involving the MesoPhysics Facility at the Los Alamos National Laboratory and the Tevatron at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. He retired from Penn in 1996.

Dr. Lee was survived by two sisters, Chuan-Min Lee Liao and Chuan-Pu; a brother, Chuan-Shue and his wife, Catherine; and several nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews.

Contributions may be made in Dr. Lee’s memory to the American Kidney Fund, 11921 Rockville Pike, Suite 300, Rockville, MD 20852 or to the Food Bank of Delaware, 14 Garfield Way, Newark, DE 19713.

Shaun F. O’Malley, Former Trustee

Shaun F. O’Malley, former Penn Trustee and Wharton alumnus, died of metastatic melanoma on February 25 at his home in Chestnut Hill. He was 79 years old.

Mr. O’Malley served on the Board of Trustees from 2001-2005, and was one of the world’s foremost figures in accounting and business consultancy. He brought tremendous insight to his participation on Penn’s Audit and Compliance and Budget and Finance committees.

Mr. O’Malley also provided years of leadership at the Wharton School, where from 1991 to 2002 he served as an Overseer. He was a member of the Wharton Dean’s Council and the Undergraduate Executive Board, a director of the SEI Center for the Study of Management, an officer of the Class of 1959 and an occasional guest speaker. He generously established the Shaun F. O’Malley Endowed Scholarship Fund to put a Wharton education within reach of future business leaders and was instrumental in creating the Price Waterhouse Professorship for Accounting to help the School advance its research and teaching mission. At Penn Medicine, Mr. O’Malley was a founding member of the Board and Executive Committee and served as the first chair of the Audit Committee.

Mr. O’Malley originally came to Penn in 1952 but interrupted his studies for military duty. After resuming his studies in 1955, he financed his education through the GI Bill, summer jobs and work at the University Library. He still found time to be an active member of the Penn community, participating in the varsity rowing team, the intramural basketball and softball programs, the Interfraternity Council, the Law Review, the Newman Club, Penn Players and the West Philadelphia Tutoring Program.

He was also president of the Zeta Psi Fraternity. Mr. O’Malley graduated from Wharton with a bachelor’s degree in accounting in 1959.

Mr. O’Malley then joined Price Waterhouse as a staff accountant in the Philadelphia office. He stayed with the internationally known firm throughout his career, carrying out assignments in Japan, in the firm’s National Office Research Department and in charge of the Philadelphia office before moving into the upper tiers of management. In 1984 he was elected to the firm’s US governing board and was later elected chairman and senior partner of its US operations. In 1990, he was appointed as co-chief executive officer of the company’s worldwide organization and was named its chairman in 1992. He held that position until his retirement in 1995.

Outside of Price Waterhouse, he had served as the non-executive chairman of the Board of Freeport-McMoRan, chairman of the Philadelphia Contributionship and a director of the Horace Mann Educators Corporation, Vlasic Foods International, the Finance Company of Pennsylvania, Sequoia Group LLC, Coty, Inc. and the Philadelphia Belt Line Railroad Company. He was also active in civic affairs in both Philadelphia and New York.

In his hometown of Philadelphia, his roles included chairman of the board of the Curtis Institute of Music, trustee of Chestnut Hill College, chair of the Mayor’s Committee to Select Members of the Philadelphia School Board, chair of the Regional Planning Committee of the Greater Philadelphia First Corporation, chairman of the Committee of Seventy, vice chairman of the Monell Center, board member of the Springside School and director of the Greater Philadelphia International Network and the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia. In New York, he served on the Executive Committee of the Mayor’s Private Sector Survey, served as vice chairman of the New York City International Business Initiative, and played a leading role in the New York City Alliance for International Business.

Mr. O’Malley is survived by his wife, Lyn Buchheit; two brothers, W. Gresham III and Hills J.; two sisters, Mrs. Wallace Cooney and Mrs. Kristin Russo; his children, Brendan H., WQ’03, Sibyl H., and Aine O’Malley Pappas; his stepdaughter, Megan K. McNamara and his grandchildren, Katherine G., Peter W., Ellen I., Chloe C. Pappas and Samuel L. Pappas.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 25 at 1 p.m. at Our Mother of Consolation Church, 17 E. Chestnut Hill Avenue, Philadelphia, PA. Contributions may be made in Mr. O’Malley’s memory to the Curtis Institute of Music, 1726 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103, or in support of Dr. Lynn Schuchter’s research at the Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania Penn Medicine Development, Attn: Laura Ferriaolo, 3535 Market Street, Suite 750, Philadelphia, PA 19104; make checks in support of Dr. Schuchter’s research payable to Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania.

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

However, notices of alumni deaths should be directed to the Alumni Records Office at Room 517, Franklin Building, (215) 898-8136 or email record@ben.dev.upenn.edu

Almanac On-the-Go: RSS Feeds

Almanac provides RSS feeds so that each week there is an issue. RSS is a way to distribute new content to users of RSS readers or news aggregators directly to your computer and other web-enabled devices. Visit Almanac’s website, www.upenn.edu/almanac for instructions on how to subscribe to the Almanac RSS Feed.
Susan Davidson: Computing Research Association
Susan Davidson, Weiss Professor in Computer and Information Science, was elected chair of the Computing Research Association (CRA) Board of Directors, effective July 2015. CRA’s mission is to enhance innovation by joining with industry, government and academia to strengthen research and advanced education in computing. CRA executes this mission by leading the computing research community, informing policymakers and the public and facilitating the development of strong, diverse talent in the field.

Amy Gutmann: Reginald Wilson Diversity Leadership Award
The American Council on Education (ACE) presented University of Pennsylvania President Amy Gutmann with the 2015 Reginald Wilson Diversity Leadership Award and at their 97th Annual Meeting in Washington, DC earlier this week. The award is given annually to an individual who has made outstanding contributions and demonstrated sustained commitment to diversity in higher education. The award is named in honor of Reginald Wilson, senior scholar emeritus at ACE and founding director of the Council’s Office of Minority Concerns. “It is a privilege to present the 2015 Reginald Wilson Diversity Leadership Award to Amy Gutmann, whose vision and leadership at the University of Pennsylvania and elsewhere has shown her dedication to increasing access to higher education to all students,” said ACE President Molly Corbett Broad. “She has worked tirelessly to assist students in pursuing their dream of a college degree.”

As a first-generation college student, President Gutmann has significantly increased the number of students from low-income, middle-income and first-generation college families attending Penn.

EHRs: Collegiate Safety Award
The University of Pennsylvania Office of Environmental Health and Radiation Safety (EHRs) was selected to receive the American Chemical Society (ACS) Division of Chemical Health and Safety (CHAS) Stratus Collegiate Safety Award. The award is presented annually in recognition of a comprehensive laboratory and chemical safety program at an institution of higher learning. Nominations for the award are made by peers and the program is evaluated in ten categories by ACS inspectors. EHRs and SAS's department of chemistry worked in collaboration to develop and maintain laboratory safety programs that made this award possible.

David Srolovitz: National Academy of Engineering
David Srolovitz, Joseph Bordogna Professor of Engineering & Applied Science, has been elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) for his accomplishments in the theory and simulation of microstructure and properties of materials and leadership in computational materials engineering.

selection to the NAE is among the highest professional distinctions accorded to an engineer. Academy membership honors those who have made outstanding contributions to “engineering research, practice or education, including, where appropriate, significant contributions to the engineering literature,” and to the “pioneering of new and developing fields of technology, making major advancements in traditional fields of engineering or developing/implementing innovative approaches to engineering education.”

Dr. Srolovitz holds joint appointments in materials science and engineering and mechanical engineering and applied mechanics, and a secondary appointment in computer and information science. He is a Fellow of the Materials Research Society, Institute of Physics, The Minerals, Metals and Materials Society and ASM International. He is a leading scholar in theoretical and computational materials science who has authored more than 400 publications with over 15,000 citations in the areas of crystal defects, microstructure, deformation and morphology and their evolution with papers appearing in venues such as Nature, Science, PNAS, Physical Review Letters, Nano Letters and Acta Materialia. He is particularly well known for his work on surface stability, grain growth, mechanical behavior and film growth.

Alain Rook: ASA's Research Achievement Award
Alain Rook, professor of dermatology in Penn’s Perelman School of Medicine, has been named the recipient of the American Skin Association’s (ASA) 2015 Research Achievement Award in Melanoma and Skin Cancer. The award will be presented during the Annual Meeting of the Society of Investigative Dermatology, which will be held this May in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Research Achievement Awards were instituted in 1989 to identify and recognize established scientists in investigative dermatology and cutaneous biology who have greatly advanced work related to vitiligo and pigment cell disorders, melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancer, psoriasis, autoimmune and inflammatory skin diseases and public policy.

Sloan Research Fellowships
Three University of Pennsylvania faculty members are among this year’s Sloan Research Fellowship recipients.

Since 1955, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation has granted yearly fellowships to early-career scientists and scholars whose achievements and potential identify them as the next generation of scientific leaders.

To qualify, candidates must be nominated by their peers and selected by an independent panel of senior scholars. Each Fellow receives a $50,000 award to further his or her research.

Penn’s 2015 Sloan Fellows are:

- Zahra Fakhraai, assistant professor of chemistry, School of Arts & Sciences—At the nanoscale, materials display extraordinary behavior. A plastic water bottle, for instance, behaves more like a viscous liquid when zoomed within a nanometer of its surface. Dr. Fakhraai is interested in understanding how the properties of materials at the nanoscale differ from bulk. This includes understanding properties of amorphous solids, bio-polymers and interaction of light with matter at surface and interfaces. To do so, she and her colleagues probe surfaces with nanoparticles and nanoscale probes and observe how the molecules respond. Developing experiments and theories to explain how molecules and biomolecules pack on surfaces will help materials scientists design more effective and longer-lasting nanomaterials or predict properties of biomaterials on cell surfaces.

- Jennifer Phillips-Cremins, assistant professor of bioengineering, School of Engineering & Applied Science—Lay-cered on top of DNA is another chemical code, one that determines how genes are expressed, when and where. This so-called “epigenome” causes cells with the same genetic code to diverge into everything from heart-forming cardiomyocytes to information-processing neurons. Her laboratory uses computational, molecular and cellular tools to study how the 3-D folding of the epigenome directs development of the human brain. Her research may one day allow scientists to engineer the epigenome to prevent or reverse neurological disorders such as Alzheimer’s disease or Fragile X syndrome.

- Aaron Roth, assistant professor of computer and information science, School of Engineering & Applied Science—In the Internet age, the practice of mining consumer data for useful information is widespread and has raised concerns about individual privacy. Dr. Roth’s interests lie in designing new algorithms for querying large datasets that protect an individual’s personal infor-
his work as leader of the team responsible for the first successful and sustained demonstration of the use of CAR T cell therapy, an investigational approach in which a patient’s cells are removed through apheresis process similar to dialysis and modified in Penn’s cell and vaccine production facility. Scientists there reprogram the patients’ T cells through a gene modification technique using a viral vector that trains them to recognize specific types of cancer cells. The modified cells—known as chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T cells—are then infused back into the patient’s body, where they multiply, hunt and attack tumor cells. Dr. Wilson has also been a pioneer in the use of gene editing for HIV.

The latest results of clinical trials utilizing CAR T cells to treat blood cancers at Penn showed a response rate of 90 percent among pediatric and adult acute lymphoblastic leukemia patients. Among patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia, the earliest group the research team began clinical trials with in 2010, about 50 percent of patients respond to the therapy, and remissions among some of the first patients treated with the approach now exceed four and a half years. Early results in studies of patients with lymphoma and myeloma are also promising, and clinical trials are now underway to test this approach in patients with solid tumors.

Stretching back to the earliest days of work with gene therapy in the 1980s, Dr. Wilson’s research focus has been rare inherited diseases, ranging from cystic fibrosis to dyslipidemias to a variety of metabolic disorders. Most recently, Dr. Wilson’s laboratory discovered a family of viruses from primates that could be engineered to be very effective gene transfer vehicles. These so-called “vectors” have become the technology platform of choice and have set the stage for the recent resurgence of the field of gene therapy.

Dr. Wilson has also been active in facilitating the commercial development of these new gene therapy platforms through the establishment of several biotechnology companies. Since joining Penn in 1993, his discoveries have been translated into more than 90 issued patents.

Noelle Melartin: Office of Alcohol and Other Drug Program Initiatives

Noelle Melartin

After a national search, Noelle Melartin has been named director of the Office of Alcohol and Other Drug Program Initiatives (AOD). Previously, she served as associate director. The Office of AOD Program Initiatives seeks to reduce harm related to alcohol and other drug use by Penn students. The department offers confidential, non-judgmental interventions for individual students and groups, as well as educational programming for the entire student body.

“I am delighted that Noelle will continue to offer her expertise and support to Penn students,” said Karu Kozuma, associate vice provost for student affairs. “She brings a strong, collaborative approach to this important work.”

“I’m honored to continue my work at Penn and at AOD,” Ms. Melartin added. “I look forward to engaging the campus community in a broader capacity to reduce the risks of alcohol and other drugs while improving student health and wellness and furthering students’ academic and personal development.”

Ms. Melartin has worked at AOD since 2010, providing individual counseling for students experiencing negative consequences of alcohol. She has provided group educational interventions to more than 3,000 students, including student athletes and members of Greek fraternities and sororities. Ms. Melartin is a member of the Student Intervention Services on-call crisis response team. She also has oversight of the popular “Alcohol: It’s a Science” educational promotional series.

Ms. Melartin earned her bachelor’s degree in psychology from Wesleyan University and a master’s in social work from Columbia. While in graduate school, she completed a field placement in the counseling center at Barnard College.

Coming Soon: Updated Penn Travel & Entertainment Policy

On April 1, Penn’s updated Travel & Entertainment Policy will be officially posted. With considerable input and feedback from across the University, the updated document acknowledges Penn’s new online travel and expense management (TEM) system while formally revising areas of the policy to reflect current practice and requirements. More information will be disseminated in the coming weeks through various University communications channels.

Highlights of the policy changes include:

- Recognition of Penn’s new method of managing travel and business entertainment expenses within the Concur TEM System;
- Modified language that addresses the Global Activities Registry, underscoring Penn’s commitment and requirement to support the safety of students, faculty and staff traveling abroad;
- Updated language to reflect the University-sponsored Penn Travel Card Program, which is integrated with Concur. Revisions also have been made regarding responsibility for timeliness of payments and late fees associated with card usage;
- Clarification of the definition of reimbursable personal meals to better reflect IRS accountable plan rules; and
- General addition, deletion and reorganization of policies so that the order of policies is more intuitive.

Penn travelers as well as those individuals who oversee travel and business entertainment expense management in their Schools and Centers are encouraged to become familiar with the changes. Visit the Policies section of the Penn TEM website, http://cms.business-servic es.upenn.edu/penntravel/policies.html to learn more.

—Stephen Golding, Vice President, Division of Finance
—Marie Witt, Vice President, Division of Business Services
2015 Performance and Staff Development Program

Open and effective communication is essential when it comes to enhancing performance and achieving goals. The Performance and Staff Development Program (the annual performance appraisal program) provides staff and supervisors with a formal process to open the lines of communication and promote a productive work environment.

The performance appraisal process provides benefits for both the staff member and the supervisor, such as:
- Providing documented feedback on job expectations, performance and accomplishments from the past year
- Offering positive reinforcement as well as developmental feedback
- Allowing staff members to participate in goal-setting
- Setting performance expectations and goals for the upcoming year
- Encouraging open communication between staff and supervisors
- Promoting discussion of professional development opportunities and the competencies required to be successful on the job
- Ensuring that job performance and accomplishment information is recorded in each staff member’s official personnel file

Staff and supervisors should use the Online Performance Appraisal System to complete self-appraisals and annual performance appraisals. Performance appraisals for all eligible regular staff should be completed and entered into the Online Performance Appraisal System by June 1. The Online Performance Appraisal System can be accessed at https://apps.hr.upenn.edu/portal

Valuable information on the performance appraisal process can be found on the Human Resources website at https://www.hr.upenn.edu/myhr/payandperform/appraisal/performance

Here you’ll find a variety of materials to guide you in completing self-appraisals and providing effective performance and professional development feedback.

For more information on the Performance and Staff Development Program, contact your school or center Human Resources professional or the Division of Human Resources at (215) 898-6093.

—Division of Human Resources

Steps to Professional Success: March 31

PPSA and Human Resources’ Learning & Education have partnered to present a workshop on Steps to Professional Success.

Actively managing your career to maintain a competitive edge is important. Whether you are looking for a new position at Penn or want to hold on to the job you have, maintaining your marketability for the long term requires investing in yourself. This presentation will review key steps you can take to manage your career and develop professionally.

At the end of the session you will be able to:
- Understand the importance of managing your career
- List seven ways to increase your marketability
- Examine your network and discover ways to tap into it when needed
- Understand how to use your tuition benefits to take classes in Liberal and Professional Studies (LPS)
- Begin thinking about a plan for your career

The workshop will take place on Tuesday, March 31, on the ground level of Vance Hall (3733 Spruce Street) from noon-1 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

To register for this workshop, visit https://wharton.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3eEcxzHFnmvLnv

—Ultsch Schurmanns, Past Chair, PPSA
—Emma Grigore, Chair, PPSA
—Lucia DiNapoli, Chair-Elect, PPSA

Explore Your Creativity in a Class at The Morris Arboretum

The Morris Arboretum offers a myriad of courses this spring in the Creative Expressions category. Tap into your creative side and welcome the new season this spring in the Creative Expressions category. Tap into your creative side and welcome the new season this spring in the Creative Expressions category. Tap into your creative side and welcome the new season this spring in the Creative Expressions category.

One of the novel courses offered this season is “Green Roof Nest Box Workshop,” where students will do just that—construct and plant a green roof nest box. Budding naturalists will also be introduced to green roof benefits, learn nest box maintenance and tips on attracting birds. This course meets on Saturday, April 4 from 1-3 p.m.

The Arboretum’s green roof horticulturist, Louise Clarke, will lead the April 4 workshop where bird-friendly nest boxes will be discussed.

For additional tips, see the One Step Ahead link on the Information Security website: https://www.upenn.edu/computing/security/
**TALKS**

**NEW SONG: Half a Century of Musical Activism in Chile**

Nancy Morris, Temple; 5:30 p.m.; rm. 109, Amngebenn School (Annenberg).

**Fixing Lawyers’ Mistakes: The Court’s Role in Administering Delaware’s Corporate Statue**

CLE credits available; Honorable John W. Noble, Delaware Court of Chancery; 4:30 p.m.; rm. 245A, Silverman Hall (ILE; Penn Law).

**Hippocratic, Aristotelian and Vitruvian Winds in Sixteenth-century Italy**

Craig Martin, Oakland University; 6 p.m.; Meyerson Conference Center, Van Pelt-Dietrich Library (Italian Studies).

**Cultivating Healthy Growth and Nutrition Through the Gut Microbiota**

Jeffrey Gordon, Washington University; 4 p.m.; Rubenstein Auditorium, Smilow Center (Penn Med).

**New Insights into Molecular Mechanisms Underlying Breast Cancer Metastasis**

Zena Werb, UC San Francisco; 10 a.m.; Caplan Auditorium, Wistar (Wistar).

**Egyptomania! at the Penn Museum: March 21**

From mumification workshops to hieroglyph classes, tours, games and presentations by curators and archaeologists, to a traditional drum circle and Egyptian folk dances, the Penn Museum puts the spotlight on one of the world’s oldest civilizations with Egyptomania!, a day-long celebration on Saturday, March 21 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The family-friendly day, set throughout the Museum’s world-renowned ancient Egyptian galleries, showcases 3,000 years of ancient Egyptian culture—a culture that continues to fascinate researchers, travelers, writers, filmmakers and the general public. The celebration is free with Museum admission donation.

**CLASSIFIED—RESEARCH**

Would you like to lose weight? Tired of regaining? If so, then you may be interested in our research study that is combining behavioral weight loss program with an FDA-approved weight loss medication. The study provides 16 months of treatment and evaluation. For information call Alyssa at the University of Pennsylvania’s Center for Weight and Eating Disorders at (215) 746-5030 or email aminnick@mail.med.upenn.edu.

For information about placing an ad, call (215) 898-5274 or visit www.upenn.edu/almanac/flags.html#ad. Almanac is not responsible for contents of classified ad material.

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**The University of Pennsylvania Police Department Community Crime Report**

**About the Crime Report:** Below are all Crimes Against Persons and Crimes Against Society from the campus report for March 2-8, 2015. Also reported were 16 Crimes Against Property (7 thefts, 3 frauds, 3 other offenses, 1 auto theft, 1 disorderly conduct and 1 traffic violation). Full reports are available at: [www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v61n2/report.html](http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v61n2/report.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 March 2-8, 2015. The University Police actively patrol from Market Street to Baltimore Avenue and from the Schuylkill River to 43rd Street in conjunction with the Philadelphia Police. In this effort to provide you with a thorough and accurate report on public safety concerns, we hope that your increased awareness will lessen the opportunity for crime. For any concerns or suggestions regarding this report, please call the Division of Public Safety at (215) 898-4482.

**18th District Report**

Below are the Crimes Against Persons from the 18th District: 10 incidents with 1 arrest (4 assaults, 3 robberies, 2 rapes and 1 aggravated assault) were reported between March 2-8, 2015 by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th Street & Market Street to Woodland Avenue.

**18th District Report**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03/03/15</td>
<td>12:31</td>
<td>4733 Chestnut St</td>
<td>Assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/04/15</td>
<td>12:47</td>
<td>200 S 48th St</td>
<td>Rape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/05/15</td>
<td>12:29</td>
<td>4742 Larchwood Ave</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
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<td>03/05/15</td>
<td>10:53</td>
<td>4300 Chestnut St</td>
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<td>Assault</td>
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<td>03/06/15</td>
<td>5:39</td>
<td>4600 Osage Ave</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/07/15</td>
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<td>03/08/15</td>
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<td>4530 Spruce St</td>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/08/15</td>
<td>5:07</td>
<td>4301 Locust St</td>
<td>Assault</td>
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<td>03/08/15</td>
<td>9:43</td>
<td>4211 Baltimore Ave</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Egyptomania! at the Penn Museum: March 21**

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**Friday, March 20, 2015**

**THE WISTAR INSTITUTE/AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM**

- 8-10:30 a.m.; The Wistar Institute; register: http://tinyurl.com/mwhc777 (Wistar).

**FILMS**

**Il Giovane Favoloso: Leopardi on Screen**

Alessandra Mirra, Italian studies & Gaetana Marrone Puglia, Princeton; 7 p.m.; International House (Italian Studies; Cinema Studies).

**RECORDS & SIGNINGS**

**On-Campus Green Tours—Master of Environmental Studies & Master of Science in Applied Geoscience**

Lobby, Hayden Hall; register: www.sas.upenn.edu/lps/Also March 18, 4:30 p.m. (LPS).

**READINGS & SIGNINGS**

**America’s Battle for Media Democracy**

Victor Pickard, Annenberg School for Communication; 6 p.m.; Penn Bookstore (Annenberg).

**Spent 30 Minutes Outside Each Day for 30 Days**

Sign up for Penn’s 30×30 Challenge. Commit to spending 30 minutes outdoors each day for 30 consecutive days, from April 1-30. Sign up now through March 25 online at bit.ly/Penn30x30.

On average, Americans spend approximately 90 percent of their time indoors, according to research from the US Environmental Protection Agency. Penn’s Green Campus Partnership is sponsoring its third annual 30x30 Challenge in an effort to encourage members of the Penn community to get up and outdoors this spring. Faculty and staff who accept the Challenge are asked to spend at least 30 minutes outdoors each day for 30 consecutive days.

- Enjoy fresh air, sunshine or exercise
- Motivate your coworkers to get outdoors
- Receive a journal in which you can record what you see, hear and feel. How are these 30 days different for you?
- Join a Facebook group where you can share photos and videos about your outdoor adventures
- Take part in fun and educational activities around campus, such as a tour with Penn’s Landscape Architect and special Earth Day events, among others
- Enjoy a closing celebration at the end of April.

Questions? Email sustainability@upenn.edu

**TLC**

**March AT PENN**

**CONFERENCE**

- The Wistar Institute/ American Cancer Society Research Symposium; 8-10:30 a.m.; The Wistar Institute; register: http://tinyurl.com/mwhc777 (Wistar).

**EVENTS**

- 10:30 a.m.; lobby, Hayden Hall; register: Zena Werb, (Italian Studies; Cinema Studies).

**AT PENN Deadlines**

- March 21

**ALMANAC**

**ADVISORY BOARD:** For the Faculty Senate, March 17. For the Staff Assemblies, Nancy McCue, PPSA; Ijanaya McCarthy. For the Student Assemblies, Nancy McCabe, PPSPA; Janay Andrews, WPPSA; Jon Shaw, Librarians Assembly.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- March 21

**UPCOMING DEADLINES**

- March 21

**UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**SIGN UP FOR PENN’S 30×30 CHALLENGE. COMMIT TO SPENDING 30 MINUTES OUTDOORS EACH DAY FOR 30 DAYS.**

**SUSTAINABILITY AT PENN**

- Encourage members of the Penn community to get outdoors this spring.
- Faculty and staff who accept the Challenge are asked to spend at least 30 minutes outdoors each day for 30 consecutive days.
- Enjoy fresh air, sunshine or exercise.
- Motivate your coworkers to get outdoors.
- Receive a journal in which you can record what you see, hear and feel.
- Join a Facebook group where you can share photos and videos about your outdoor adventures.
- Take part in fun and educational activities around campus, such as a tour with Penn’s Landscape Architect and special Earth Day events, among others.
- Enjoy a closing celebration at the end of April.

Questions? Email sustainability@upenn.edu

**SUSTAINABILITY AT PENN**

**ALMANAC**

**March 17, 2015**

**www.upenn.edu/almanac**

**FSC® C012856**

**MIX**

**Paper from responsible sources**
Policy On the Use of Low-Speed Vehicles

I. Purpose
To provide for the safe operation of low-speed vehicles on campus.

II. Scope
This policy applies to all users of low-speed vehicles, including employees, students and contractors, within the Penn Patrol Zone as identified on the University of Pennsylvania Police Department website (http://www.publicsafety.upenn.edu/UPPD/), which extends from 30th Street to 43rd Street (east to west) and Market Street to Baltimore Avenue (north to south), as well as within the Pennovation Works site.

III. Definitions
Low-Speed Vehicle: As used in this policy, this term includes golf carts, John Deere Gators, utility vehicles (e.g. Kubotas) and any other electrical, gas or diesel vehicle not registered with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for on-road use and not used for an industrial purpose (e.g., street sweepers, loaders, etc.).

IV. Policy
A. Purchasing and Equipment
1. University schools, departments, divisions and centers (hereinafter, “departments”) may purchase low-speed vehicles only through the Business Services Division (Purchasing Services Department) and only after receiving approval from the Low-Speed Vehicle Authorization Group (hereinafter, “LSVAG”), comprising representatives from the Division of Public Safety, the Office of Risk Management & Insurance, the Business Services Division (Purchasing Services Department) and the Office of the General Counsel.
2. All purchased or leased low-speed vehicles must have required safety features as determined by the LSVAG, including a back-up alarm and seatbelts. All purchased vehicles shall display University marks or logos as approved by the LSVAG, in accordance with the Office of the University Secretary, and a University registration number.
3. Golf carts may not be purchased and may be leased only for special events through a vendor approved by the Business Services Division.

B. Registration and Inspection
1. Any department using any low-speed vehicle must register such vehicle with the Office of Risk Management & Insurance. Registration includes vehicle identifying information and indication of ownership or rental, as well as a list of authorized drivers.
2. Each department must submit an updated inventory annually to the LSVAG.
3. Inspection of vehicles shall be as required by the LSVAG.

C. Rules of Operation
1. The speed limit on campus shall be 10 miles per hour, except in that portion of campus bounded on the north side by Walnut Street and on the south side by Spruce/South Street, including Smith Walk and Locust Walk, where the speed limit shall be 5 miles per hour.
2. Low-speed vehicles may not travel on sidewalks alongside highways within the Penn Patrol Zone, unless crossing at an intersection.
3. Low-speed vehicles may not travel alongside any construction sites constraining the flow of vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
4. Low-speed vehicles may not be used later than one hour before sunset unless equipped with proper lighting. Proper lighting shall include headlights, taillights and rooftop strobe light. Golf carts may not be used later than one hour before sunset, or earlier than one hour after sunrise, irrespective of equipment.
5. Low-speed vehicles are to be used for University operations only and the transport of materials and are not to be used by employees solely for the transport of personnel, except where approved in advance as a reasonable accommodation where more limited alternatives are unavailable. University students may not use low-speed vehicles except when performing work in furtherance of University operations or in connection with special events.
6. Low-speed vehicles may not carry a number of persons greater than that allowed by the available seating and seatbelts within the vehicle. Available seatbelts shall be worn by operators and passengers at all times.

D. Routes of Travel
Each department registering or using a low-speed vehicle must submit to the LSVAG for approval a proposed map of routes that may be used by authorized drivers, consistent with the following guidelines:
1. Low-speed vehicles shall minimize use of highways within the Penn Patrol Zone.
2. Market Street, Chestnut Street, Walnut Street and Spruce/South Street may not be used for east-west travel through campus. Smith Walk and Locust Walk may be used for travel through campus. Numbered streets and walkways may be used for north-south travel through campus. Sansom Street may be used for westbound travel west of 34th Street. Eastbound travel through campus shall be by way of Locust Walk and Smith Walk.
3. Low-speed vehicles may be used on lower Walnut Street and within Pennovation Works and Penn Park.
4. Low-speed vehicles may not be used for travel between main campus and Pennovation Works.
5. Departments leasing or renting low-speed vehicles for the purpose of special events (e.g. Commencement, Alumni Weekend) must submit a plan of use 30 days prior to the scheduled event for review by the LSVAG. Traffic patterns during special events shall be as determined by the Division of Public Safety.

E. Safety and Reporting
1. All authorized users must undergo training conducted by the Division of Public Safety or the Office of Risk Management.
2. Authorized users must possess a valid (i.e. not suspended or expired) driver’s license issued in the United States.
3. Any accident involving personal injury or property damage or any collision involving a low-speed vehicle and a pedestrian, another vehicle or University property (irrespective of damage), must be reported immediately to the Penn Police Department at (215) 573-3333. Penn Police will notify the Office of Risk Management and Insurance promptly after the accident information is gathered.
4. Any authorized user involved in a reportable accident or collision, or who has committed more than two infractions of this policy shall have his or her use privileges subject to review and suspension by the LSVAG.
5. The use of handheld portable electronic devices (including but not limited to cellular telephones, portable music players and headphones) while operating a low-speed vehicle is prohibited.

F. Responsibility
1. Department supervisors are responsible for enforcing this policy, including administering discipline and/or revoking privileges for employees and students found to have violated the policy.
2. Overall responsibility for the interpretation and administration of this policy rests with the LSVAG, in conjunction with the Division of Public Safety.