Andrew R. and Mindy H. Heyer
Lobby at Penn Vet’s Ryan Hospital

Clients and pets alike can enjoy the newly renovated lobby at Penn Vet’s Ryan Hospital. Andrew and Mindy Heyer generously funded the $1.5 million, six-month renovation project. New features include:

- Recycled rubber floors
- New chairs and bench seating
- Automatic doors
- Recessed LED lighting
- A coffee bar
- Improved flow of traffic
- A serene, earth-tone color scheme
- A concierge to answer client questions
- TV monitors
- Architectural features
- Animated art installation
- An illuminated sign at the entrance that can be seen from the street.

The Heyers have a long history of engagement with Penn Vet and the University of Pennsylvania—beginning as undergraduates, continuing through graduate school and becoming involved alumni, holding many volunteer leadership roles. Mrs. Heyer serves as chair of Penn Vet’s Board of Overseers, and Mr. Heyer serves on Penn’s Board of Trustees and on the Penn Medicine Board.

“Mindy and Andy Heyer are exemplary Penn citizens,” said Penn President Amy Gutmann. “They are passionate about the University, and their generous philanthropy has made a profound impact on so many areas at Penn. The Heyer Lobby creates an entry to Ryan Hospital that is commensurate with the level of care provided to animals and the commitment to innovative treatment that is exemplified every day. The space is warm and inviting in a way that is truly representative of the Heyer family and the talented doctors, faculty and students that make up the Penn family.”

“Andy and I are incredibly passionate about Penn and Penn Vet and knew this could be a transformative project for the hospital,” said Mrs. Heyer. “As Ryan Hospital clients, we have experienced firsthand the high level of compassionate care that Penn Vet provides. We were excited to have the opportunity to make the lobby reflective of that level of excellence.”

“We are so grateful for Andy and Mindy’s most generous support of this important project,” said Joan C. Hendricks, the Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. “First-class care calls for a first-class facility. When our clients come to Ryan Hospital, it’s often a stressful time for them and their pets. The new lobby offers a calming, comfortable environment and features significant improvements to benefit both our clients and patients.”

The lobby is now bigger, better and more serene with a non-slip floor as well as much more natural light since a large brick wall was removed and replaced with a huge window.

School of Nursing 2015 Teaching Awards

Dean’s Award for Exemplary Teaching

Bart C. De Jonghe, assistant professor of nursing, is the recipient of the Dean’s Award for Exemplary Teaching, which is given for demonstrated commitment to educational leadership across the curriculum and for developing innovative teaching methods that stimulate, inspire and challenge students.

Dr. De Jonghe is a member of the nutrition faculty at the School of Nursing and also teaches several critical science courses. Dr. De Jonghe was selected for this award for being a master teacher with great depth of knowledge and for his innovative methods for enhancing the educational experience for his students. He is fully present for every course he teaches and is generous with his time as a guest lecturer in other courses, both in Penn Nursing and across campus. He makes himself available for students who are struggling by providing additional time after every course for discussion, either one-on-one or in small group settings. He is known for conversing with his students rather than lecturing and for teaching about nutrition by preparing meals for his students. As a colleague said, “his creativity and charisma is virtually unmatched, and his enthusiasm and collegiality are unwavering.” In addition to classroom teaching, Dr. De Jonghe works closely with students to foster their research interests. One of his students noted, “Many faculty can convey substance of coursework and knowledge; however, it takes a unique talent to bridge the academic world with the clinical world. It takes an even more special talent to use that bridge to reignite a true passion for learning within a student. Dr. De Jonghe has done that for me.”

(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 Andrea Thomas at the Senate Office either by telephone at (215) 898-6943 or by email at senate@pobox.upenn.edu

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Agenda
Wednesday, May 13, 2015
3-5 p.m.
Hourglass Room, University Club, Inn at Penn

1. Approval of the Minutes of April 15, 2015 (2 minutes)
2. Chair’s Report (10 minutes)
3. Past-Chair’s Report on Academic Planning and Budget & Capital Council (1 minute)
4. Senate Committee Reports (40 minutes)
   a. Senate Committee on Students and Educational Policy (SCSEP)
      Chair Paulo Arratia
   b. Senate Committee on Faculty and the Academic Mission (SCOF)
      Chair Santosh Venkatesh
   c. Senate Committee on Faculty and the Administration (SCOA)
      Chair Polk Wagner
   d. Senate Committee on Faculty Development, Diversity and Equity (SCFDE)
      Chair Mitch Marcus
5. Issues Requiring a Vote:
   a. Ballot: 2015-16 University Council Steering Committee Members (5 minutes)
   b. Proposed Changes to Faculty Senate Rules (10 minutes)
   c. Changes to Teaching Reduction Policy (5 minutes)
6. Discussion of SCFDE Faculty Advocate Proposal (20 minutes)
7. Discussion of Mental Health Wellness Ambassador Initiative (15 minutes)
8. New Business (10 minutes)
9. Passing of the Torch (2 minutes)
10. Reception

Deaths

Ralph A. Jessar, Rheumatology
Ralph A. Jessar, a retired assistant clinical professor at the Perelman School of Medicine and former chief of rheumatology at Graduate Hospital, died on April 15. He was 93 years old.

Dr. Jessar was born in Philadelphia and graduated from Central High School. He earned his bachelor of science in 1943 from Penn’s College of Arts & Sciences. He earned his MD in 1946 and GMD in 1947 from what is now Penn’s Perelman School of Medicine. He served in the US Navy as a lieutenant, junior grade.

Dr. Jessar returned to Penn in 1953 as a research fellow in rheumatology. In 1954, he joined the teaching staff as an instructor. He was promoted to assistant professor of medicine in 1956, then to assistant professor of medicine in 1962. He was appointed assistant professor of clinical medicine in 1971. As a rheumatologist, Dr. Jessar was a member of the research team that developed the use of corticosteroid injections for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. He also served as chief of rheumatology at Graduate Hospital before retiring from Penn in 1986.

Dr. Jessar is survived by his wife, Gayle; his children, Hilary Schaper (Reed Schaper), Todd Jessar, Jamie Jessar (Robert Dunn), Kevin Jessar (Nancy Siegel); six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Contributions may be made in Dr. Jessar’s memory to Holisticare Hospice, 1131 Lancaster Avenue, Suite 200, Berwyn, PA 19312.

Anna S. Lev-Toaff, Radiology
Anna S. Lev-Toaff, professor of radiology at Penn, died from complications secondary to multiple myeloma on April 3. She was 60 years old.

Dr. Lev-Toaff earned her bachelor of arts in biology in 1975 and her medical degree in 1979, both from New York University. Early in her career, she was an instructor in radiology at the Perelman School of Medicine from 1985-1986. She was also on the faculty at Thomas Jefferson University for 18 years and at Temple University for four years.

Dr. Lev-Toaff returned to Penn in 2008 as a professor of radiology in the Perelman School of Medicine and a member of the Clinical Practices of the University of Pennsylvania (CPUP). She taught and practiced at Penn until 2014.

Dr. Lev-Toaff was an accomplished academic radiologist, prolific researcher and expert clinician. She was a great friend to many radiologists nationally and internationally, as well as to her community of neighbors, staff and colleagues, and will be remembered for her sharp wit, generosity to those in need and commitment to her profession and patients.

Dr. Lev-Toaff is survived by four children, Rachel Toaff-Rosenstein (Arye), David Toaff, Miriam Toaff and Benjamin Toaff; two sisters, Esther Shkop and Debbie Shenken; her former spouse, Michael Toaff; and three grandchildren, Matan, Gefen and Naveh.

Donations in Dr. Lev-Toaff’s memory can be made to the Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound Foundation, 1891 Preston White Drive, Reston, VA 20191, Attn: Heidi Salkeld. Please note that the contribution is in memory of Anna S. Lev-Toaff, MD.

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

Trustees Meetings: May 14
A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Trustees will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2015. A meeting of the Budget & Finance Committee will be held the same day. The meeting schedule is below: 9-10:35 a.m. Budget & Finance Committee Location TBD
1:15-1:30 p.m. Executive Committee Location TBD
Call (215) 898-7005 if you plan to attend.
School of Nursing 2015 Teaching Awards (continued from page 1)

Dean’s Award for Undergraduate Scholarly Mentorship
Margaret C. Souders, assistant professor of human genetics, is the recipient of the Dean’s Award for Undergraduate Scholarly Mentorship, which is given toexceptional mentoring of undergraduate students in the introduction of and participation in undergraduate nursing research. Dr. Brawner was selected for this award for being a passionate expert in her field who fully engages students within her research in order to provide them with a safe and fully supported environment in which they might foster their own research endeavors. She treats each student with respect and provides mentoring tailored to each individual that fosters personal as well as professional growth. As one student noted, “she encourages her students to ceaselessly improve their research skills and knowledge, be it through a new statistics program or helping to brainstorm novel recruitment strategies of research subjects; or to submit the abstract for publication, despite our hesitations. She exudes a patience and passion for nursing research that inspires me.” As Dr. Brawner would place it, “Pat is the consummate giving citizen who well represents the best in civic duty, generosity in spirit and giving of herself to all.”

Dean’s Award for Exemplary Practice
Margaret Souders, assistant professor of human genetics, is the recipient of the Dean’s Award for Exemplary Practice, which is given for excellence in clinical or professional nursing practice and for the integration of practice into scholarship and teaching. In addition to being a member of the Standing Faculty—Clinician-Educators in the School, Dr. Souders is a certified pediatric nurse practitioner at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). Dr. Souders was chosen for this award for her scholarly practice in child and adolescent psychiatry in the Autism Integrated Care Program and the Clinical Genetics Center in the 22q and You Center, where she cares for some of the most complex and unique of patients. In her care of this latter group, a colleague wrote, “I know firsthand about the complexity of these patients and am in awe of the care that Margaret provides to this very unique population.” In addition to conducting comprehensive psychiatric evaluations for children and adolescents, she specializes in the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorders, neurodevelopmental disorders and youth with behavioral sleep disorders. With her research in sleep disorders in children at the heart of her practice, she is committed to providing the highest quality care for her patients, resulting in an enhanced quality of life for patients and their families.

Dean’s Award for Exemplary Citizenship
Patricia D’Antonio, Killiebrew-Censits Endowed Term Chair in Undergraduate Education and chair of the family and community health department, is the recipient of the Dean’s Award for Exemplary Citizenship, which is given to a member of the senior faculty for significant contributions to the School over time. Dr. D’Antonio was selected for this award by her peers for representing the highest qualities of scholarship, service and for her contributions to the Penn Nursing and University communities. Dr. D’Antonio exemplifies innovative teaching of service, mentorship and leadership, consistently going over and above what could be expected of any faculty member. Her door is always open to colleagues, students and staff alike and she is never too busy to provide mentorship, advice or just a listening ear. She is also well known for stepping up to offer her own services and those of her department’s staff in supporting other members of the faculty when in need. With years of willing and highly engaged committee service, Dr. D’Antonio has represented the School of Nursing and demonstrated her commitment to the University; campus-wide, she is considered a force for nursing and women. She is also an exemplary citizen for nursing nationally and internationally through her scholarly work in nursing history. In all her roles, her advocacy and service are based on her scholarly research on the power of women and the power of nurses. As one colleague noted, “Pat is the consummate giving citizen who well represents the best in civic duty, generosity in spirit and giving of herself to all.”

Dean’s Award for Teaching Excellence by Non-Standing Faculty
Wendy Hobbie, lecturer, is the recipient of the Dean’s Award for Teaching Excellence by Non-Standing Faculty, which is given to a cadre of nationally sought-after nurses who have demonstrated excellence in teaching, having established a highly successful Pediatric Oncology NP program and is the associate director of the Cancer Survivorship Program at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. In addition, she developed and directs the Pediatric Oncology NP concentration, the only one of its kind in the country. She is also a pioneer in distance education, having established a highly successful Pediatric Oncology NP Program with St. Jude’s Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. Ms. Hobbie was chosen for this award for being an expert in her field and for her ability to transfer her clinical excellence and expertise to her students with the goal to develop a cadre of nationally sought-after nurses who have greatly enhanced the practice of pediatric oncology nurse practitioners. In addition to her leadership and teaching, Ms. Hobbie is a committed mentor for her students, which begins prior to their arrival on campus and continues beyond graduation. She takes the time to get to know each as an individual and offers mentorship suited to their learning style in order to support their success. As one former student noted, “I would never be who I am today without the guidance of Wendy Hobbie. Wendy brings truthfulness, high expectations and a wealth of knowledge to her role as educator.”

SNAP Undergraduate Award for Teaching
Chloe Brawner, lecturer, is the recipient of the Undergraduate Award for Teaching, which is given by the undergraduate nursing students (SNAP) for excellence in teaching, demonstrated by knowledge of the subject matter, ability to stimulate student interest and professional development, innovative teaching methods and student responsiveness. The undergraduate students selected Ms. Brewer for her attentiveness, compassion and kindness as an instructor. As one remarked, “Chris is an amazing lecturer and clinical instructor who is continuously supportive, caring and compassionate towards her students. She is passionate about what she does and that clearly shines through in her teaching.” Among the academic staff, Ms. Brewer is known for being a positive force who inspires confidence in her students by creating a dynamic and supportive environment that fosters learning.

GSO Outstanding Nurse Educator Award
Susan K. Keim, advanced senior lecturer, is the recipient of the GSO Outstanding Nurse Educator Award, which is given by the master’s students (GSO) for excellence in teaching as demonstrated by knowledge of the subject matter, ability to stimulate student interest and professional development, innovative teaching methods and student responsiveness. Ms. Keim is the director of the nursing & healthcare administration and health leadership programs and a well-respected member of the academic staff. She is known by her students for her energy and creativity in supporting them throughout all levels of their career development. One of her students commented, “she is truly a leader, with an inspirational attitude and innovative approach to the nursing and healthcare administration and health leadership programs.”

Barbara J. Lowery DSO Faculty Award
Salimah H. Meghani, associate professor of nursing, is the recipient of the Barbara J. Lowery DSO Faculty Award, which is given by the Doctoral Student Organization (DSO) to a member of the faculty who has advanced nursing science through exemplary and unswerving doctoral student mentorship. Dr. Meghani was selected for being truly invested in her students and demanding high quality work from them, while fostering a nurturing, supportive environment in which students can grow and thrive. One of her students noted, “she has always made herself available to us outside of class, for personal and professional matters alike. Her guidance and mentorship are invaluable! Great mentorship skills for doctoral students as evidenced by how she helps students organize their thought processes and walks them through their topic step by step until they reach their specific research question... her knowledge and skills in qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods made her a great resource person for all students with different interests.”
University Council Committee on Committees
Report on the Functioning of Council Committees
during Academic Year 2014-2015

Executive Summary
This report summarizes the general functioning and procedures of University Council Committees during the 2014-2015 academic year. These committees are: the Committee on Academic and Related Affairs (CARA), Committee on Campus and Community Life, Committee on Facilities, Committee on Personnel Benefits, and Committee on Diversity and Equity. Suggestions for enhancing the functioning of these committees typically covered these areas: (1) committee chairs should attempt to explain duties to new members with greater clarity, especially to student members, and to identify committee members’ roles more clearly; (2) meetings need to be scheduled more carefully to accommodate the schedules of all members; (3) charges among committees with overlapping responsibilities, including committees of the Faculty Senate, need to be identified and a way found to enhance communication among such committees; and (4) there was a general sentiment to provide for each committee meeting beverages and snacks from funds of the Central Administration.

Mechanism of Evaluation
Each faculty member on the Committee on Committees was assigned to review a Council committee. Each review consisted of in-person, phone, and/or email interviews, typically conducted with the Committee Chair, Administrative Liaison, and staff support person, using the questions below. Committee members were encouraged to speak with members of the various committees in order to explain the nature of the review in greater detail. In some cases other members of the committees were asked for responses to these questions as well. Other University constituencies were asked to provide information on committee performance via their members who serve on the committees. All committee members then reported their findings to the Committee on Committees in March for discussion. This report provides an overview of the general findings, as well as specific comments on the functioning and procedures of each committee. Steering is nevertheless encouraged to look at the individual committee reports to gain a complete view of how the committees are performing.

Questions Posed to Each Committee Chair
1. Was the committee’s specific charge for this year clear and appropriate?
2. What changes, if any, do you think need to be made in the committee’s general charge? Do you feel the scope of the committee is appropriate?
3. What issues were addressed this year and were they resolved, or will they likely be resolved by the end of the academic year?
4. How many times did the full committee meet? If subcommittees were created, how many were created, how often did they meet, and what was their purpose?
5. Based on the charges for this year, and the discussions to date, was the committee able to satisfactorily resolve the issues discussed, and what do you see as issues emerging for consideration next year?
6. Which members would you recommend to serve on the committee next year? Is there anyone on the current committee who is the logical successor as chair, either now or in the future?
7. Is the membership of the committee well suited to the committee’s charge? (Expertise, representation of interests, etc.) Does the chair demonstrate sufficient leadership?
8. What was the role of the Administrative Liaison in your committee? (The liaison is an appropriate administrative person who can provide relevant information for a committee charge or connect the committee with others on campus with relevant information.)
9. Did someone from the Administration provide explicit feedback on last year’s recommendations? Was the feedback satisfactory? Were there any remaining aspects that have not been resolved or a path developed?
10. What problems did the committee encounter, e.g., access to necessary resources?
11. Did the committee structure work involving opportunities for oversight, opportunities to work with your Administrative Liaison to resolve specific issues, and opportunities to generate larger recommendations?
12. What recommendations about the committee’s process and organization would you make going forward?
13. Is there any question that should have been asked about process that was not included?
14. Students only: Do the student members feel their voices are heard? Was there a primary and an alternate student representative on each committee?

General Comments
Each University Council (UC) committee has two major roles:
1. Broad review in its area(s) of interest, as well as monitoring to determine whether there are any issues requiring deeper exploration. Sometimes no recommendations emerge from this process, but the University is well served by having a representative body tracking important institutional and community matters on a consistent basis. Additionally, each committee performs a more in-depth consideration of a small number (typically three to five) of issues that arise from last year’s agenda and its recommendations, or new information relating to the work of the previous year’s committee. These issues might be examined by the committee as a whole, or by subcommittees, and will likely involve multiple meetings and conversations with people around the University engaged with the issue. Most can be resolved by working directly with the administrators responsible in the focus area to clarify issues and consider policy modifications. In the absence of a resolution of a given matter, the relevant committee may request that Council Steering reexamine the issue. Committee and Council Steering should nevertheless bear in mind the importance of closure on matters addressed by the various committees.
2. In order to be effective in fulfilling the above two roles, the most important factors are: the clarity of the chairs in explaining the purpose of the committee; delineation of the roles of the various members of the committee; scheduling meetings so that as many as possible of the members can attend; and beginning to meet as soon as feasible in the fall semester. In the UC Committee on Committees’ review, many University Council committee members, especially students, asked for more orientation and a better explanation of their role in the committee, and the committee’s
General Comments:
Committee on Campus and Community Life (CCL)
Committee on Academic and Related Affairs (CARA)
This year's committee members typically served one-year terms. In light of the foregoing, and other feedback the Committee on Committees received, specific recommendations for next year include the following:
1. Enhance orientation and explanation of duties to new members, especially for students. Provide all of last year’s committee reports to committee members and encourage them to review the charges and outcomes.
2. Invite the members of the previous year’s committee to attend the first half of the first meeting of the new academic year, in order to facilitate continuity from one year to the next.
3. Continue the Administration’s practice of giving verbal feedback at the first meeting of the year to the full Committee regarding recommendations from the previous year.
4. Consider incorporating an informal lunch or reception at the first committee meeting that would give committee members time for informal interaction. Request funding from Central Administration for beverages and snacks at each meeting of full committees.
5. Work to ensure as much continuity of the membership year-to-year as possible. Admittedly, this is difficult for the student representatives, who typically serve one-year terms.
6. Each committee should formally re-consider its general committee charges and report annually to the Committee on Committees.

Committee on Academic and Related Affairs (CARA)
General Comments:
The Committee met four times, and considered the topics of the arts, academic integrity, and the library. The Committee provided oversight and found no issues to resolve regarding any of those topics. There was a suggestion to encourage some informal interactions among committee members and extend the potential time of each meeting to 1.5 hours. Some thought the General Charge for this committee was too broad; for example, the bookstore focus was superfluous.

The University Council Committee on Committees suggested the possibility of changing the Undergraduate Assembly election process to allow undergraduate members to serve longer terms on the committees, providing more continuity for student members of the committees. The UA representative will bring this to the attention of the UA. Additionally, the Committee on Committees recognizes that the general charges of CARA are quite broad, but at this time, recommended retaining a consolidated committee structure.

Committee on Campus and Community Life (CCL)
General Comments:
Reports suggested the Committee functioned well and that the charges were clear and appropriate. A subcommittee on student housing met in addition to the regular meetings of the Committee. Attendance was good but some members, especially the GAPSA representatives, had difficulty arranging their schedules to attend. The relationship between the Chair and the staff representative, while productive, could be defined better in advance. Some of the student representatives expressed a desire to be more involved in discussions and formulation of recommendations.

The University Council Committee on Committees recognizes how efficiently CCL functioned this academic year. Still, the general comments on initial orientation, scheduling of meetings, and focus on more profound issues pertain to CCL.

Committee on Diversity and Equity
General Comments:
This Committee broadened the diversity of its membership, to good effect. A suggestion was made to improve continuity by requesting a three-year commitment of the faculty and staff representatives, with only one representative in each group rotating off each year. Additionally, the requirement that the current chair serve as past-chair for at least one year was suggested. The Committee met monthly. Much effort was devoted to fact-finding and gathering. Access to data was sometimes difficult, especially regarding diversity among the staff.

The University Council Committee on Committees recommends holding a joint meeting with the Senate Committee on the Economic Status of the Faculty in the fall; the purpose is to compare notes on gender equity. Otherwise, the general comments on continuity of membership pertain.

Committee on Facilities
General Comments:
The Committee focused on Penn Connects, bicycling safety, classroom utilization, conference space, recycling, and energy utilization. A report on Penn Connects is forthcoming. All other issues require on-going study and deliberation. The student representatives felt marginalized, both because of a lack of input on scheduling and a sense that the Committee lacked organization.

The University Council Committee on Committees suggests that the issues surrounding public safety have been adequately addressed for now and that other specific charges be considered for the coming academic year. The general comments on scheduling meetings so all (especially students) can attend pertain.

Committee on Personnel Benefits
General Comments:
The Committee met monthly and addressed most of its specific charges. In particular, the Committee worked with Human Resources to address the short term disability/maternity leave policy and to put a new plan in place. The plan will be implemented over the course of two years, and the Committee recommends that it be charged with monitoring the implementation of the revised short term disability plan. The Committee addressed mental health benefits and expressed concern about the implementation of Penn Behavioral Health administration of out-of-network claims. The Committee recommends that it be charged with addressing the administration of out-of-network mental health benefits. The Committee felt there was a productive working relationship between the Committee and the Administrative Liaisons, Jack Heuer and Sue Sproat.

The University Council Committee on Committees applauds the success of CPB in addressing the issues of Committee leadership and interaction with the Administrative Liaisons this academic year. The members of the Committee were all engaged and valued members. The Committee felt the composition of the Committee was appropriate given its charges, and the Committee was able to address its charges effectively and collaboratively.

Committee on Committees 2014-2015
Chair: Reed Pyeritz; Staff: Vicki Hewitt and Joseph Gasiowski; Faculty: Dwight Jaggard, Claire Finkelstein, Brendan O’Leary, Michael McGarvey, Melissa Wilder; GAPSA: Emma Grigore; WPPSA: Loretta Hauber; GAPSA: Alounso Gilzene; UA: David Scollan

Ed. Note: See supplement in this issue for the other University Council Committee 2014-2015 Year-end Reports.
Recognized Holidays for Fiscal Year 2016

The following holidays will be observed by the University of Pennsylvania in the upcoming fiscal year (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016) on the dates listed below:

**Independence Day**, Friday, July 3, 2015
**Labor Day**, Monday, September 7, 2015
**Thanksgiving**, Thursday and Friday, November 26 & 27, 2015
**Christmas Day**, Friday, December 25, 2015
**New Year's Day**, Friday, January 1, 2016
**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**, Monday, January 18, 2016

To the University Community:

Each year, the Provost and EVP assess the feasibility of observing Penn’s traditional Special Winter Vacation. Thus, the Special Winter Vacation granted to faculty and staff will be December 28, 29, 30 and 31, 2015. If an employee is required to work to continue departmental operations for part or all of this period, the Special Winter Vacation can be rescheduled for some other time.

Staff members who are absent from work either the work day before a holiday, the work day after a holiday or both days will receive holiday pay if that absence is charged to preapproved paid time off or to sick days substantiated by a written note from the staff member’s health care provider.

Vacations and holidays for hospital employees or staff members in collective bargaining units are governed by the terms of hospital policies or their respective collective bargaining agreements.

—Division of Human Resources

Fiscal Year 2016

**Independence Day**
Fri., 7/3/15

**Labor Day**
Mon., 9/7/15

**Thanksgiving**
Thurs. & Fri., 11/26, 11/27

**Christmas Day**
Fri., 12/25/15

**New Year's Day**
Mon., 1/1/16

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**
Mon., 1/18/16

**Memorial Day**
Mon., 5/30/16

Fiscal Year 2017

**Independence Day**
Fri., 7/4/16

**Labor Day**
Mon., 9/5/16

**Thanksgiving**
Thurs. & Fri., 11/24, 11/25

**Christmas Day**
Mon., 12/26/16

**New Year's Day**
Mon., 1/2/17

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**
Mon., 1/16/17

**Memorial Day**
Mon., 5/29/17

Fiscal Year 2018

**Independence Day**
Fri., 7/4/17

**Labor Day**
Mon., 9/4/17

**Thanksgiving**
Thurs. & Fri., 11/23, 11/24

**Christmas Day**
Mon., 12/25/17

**New Year's Day**
Mon., 1/1/18

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**
Mon., 1/15/18

**Memorial Day**
Mon., 5/28/18

Penn Vet Recruiting Dog Owners for Survey

Measuring the Effects of Dog Ownership on Quality of Life

Does owning a dog improve one’s quality of life? Experts in Penn Vet’s Cardiology Service, in partnership with HUP researchers, are now validating a survey designed to answer this question.

Up to 300 dog owners are needed to respond to the Dog Owner Quality of Life Survey, which concentrates on ten different aspects of everyday life that are important to dogs and their owners and how they might positively or negatively affect quality of life. Responses will enable researchers to fine-tune the survey before making it more widely available.

“There are relatively few studies looking at the potential effects, both positive and negative, of pet ownership on humans,” said Mark Oya-

ma, professor of cardiology at Penn Vet. “We’re looking forward to better understanding the effects of dog ownership, intervention and animal-assisted therapy on quality of life.”

Previous studies have shown that a variety of physical health benefits are associated with dog ownership, including increased physical activity, decreased blood pressure and increased survival following cardiac surgery. Studies have also shown that dog ownership is associated with psychological benefits, including decreased anxiety and social isolation and improved self-esteem and social support. Relatively few studies have examined the effect of dog ownership on overall quality of life or tried to balance the potentially positive aspects of ownership with more negative aspects, such as increased responsibility or damage to property or belongings.

Dog owners interested in taking the Dog Owner Quality of Life Survey can access it at https://redcap.med.upenn.edu/surveys/?s=1KuXiHdJjP.

Participants will be asked to provide general information, including their birth year, gender, marital status, zip code and home environment. No specific identifying information, such as name or address, will be collected. The survey takes less than ten minutes. There is no compensation for participation.

Volunteer Opportunities

Dear Penn Community,

Thank you for your spirit of volunteerism. Your continued support of the many volunteer opportunities offered at the University is unprecedented. Thank you all so very much for your contributions to benefit our surrounding community during the past holiday season. Many families were adopted, an abundance of food, coats and toys were distributed and many benefitted from various kinds of gestures displayed by the Penn community. We were also fortunate to be joined by members outside the Penn community who willingly participated in our Adopt a Family initiative. There are no words to adequately describe the level of generosity. Many benefit from your continued willingness to share. We receive many expressions of gratitude from community members and agencies we have partnered with. The University community continues to work towards being good neighbors in our shared community. We thank you for your overwhelming support and for your generosity.

—Isabel Mapp, Associate Director, Netter Center for Community Partnerships

The Orphan Disease Center at the University of Pennsylvania is hosting its 2nd Annual Million Dollar Bike Ride for rare disease research on Saturday, May 9 at 8 a.m. at Highline Park (31st and Chestnut Streets). They are in need of volunteers, including parking lot assistance, checking in on cyclists at the start/finish line, SAG support, course marshals and more. Take a look at the various opportunities available and register at: http://www.milliondollarbikeride.org/volunteer-opportunities/ For additional info about volunteering, contact Samantha Charleston, scharle@mail.med.upenn.edu or (215) 573-6822 or Isabel Mapp at samapp@pobox.upenn.edu

For additional tips, see the One Step Ahead link on the Information Security website: www.upenn.edu/computing/security/
Yoga at Morris Arboretum

Give yourself the gift of relaxation with a yoga class at Morris Arboretum. Focus on your body, mind and spirit while gaining balance, strength and flexibility, surrounded by the Arboretum’s peaceful ambiance.

Join Jennifer Schelter, one of Philadelphia’s premier yoga teachers, as she leads three classes in the garden this spring and summer. In *Yoga in the Garden: Ten Enchanted Evenings*, participants will have the opportunity to study vinyasa (flow style) yoga. All levels of experience are welcome in this course on ten consecutive Tuesdays: June 2 through August 4 from 7-8:15 p.m.

Enjoy the calm rejuvenation and the extraordinary early morning setting of *Yoga Out on a Limb*, held 50 feet up at eye level with leaves and birds, on four Sundays: June 14, July 12, August 9 and September 13 from 8:30-10 a.m.

*Mini Radiant Yoga Retreat: Inspiring Mindfulness in Motion* will be a relaxing getaway of revitalization, physical flexibility and a nurturing mindset on Saturday, June 13 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

To register for one of these courses and/or to obtain a complete list of the more than 75 classes offered this spring, check the website: https://online.morrisarboretum.org/classes or call (215) 247-5777, ext. 125.

Morris Arboretum’s Free Plant Clinic

The Morris Arboretum’s free Plant Clinic is now accessible any time the Arboretum is open. This service is available for inquiries related to pest, disease, identification, plant culture or other plant questions. Visitors may leave questions and/or specimens at the front desk in the Widener Visitor’s Center from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on weekends, now through October. Queries may also be posed, as always, via the Plant Clinic phone line: (215) 247-5777, ext. 141 and email address: plantlinc@upenn.edu. For more information about the Plant Clinic or other garden topics, please visit the website at www.morrisarboretum.org

The University of Pennsylvania Police Department
Community Crime Report

About the Crime Report: Below are all Crimes Against Persons and Crimes Against Society from the campus report for April 20-26, 2015. Also reported were 19 Crimes Against Property (12 thefts, 3 frauds, 2 liquor law violations, 1 other offense and 1 vandalism). Full reports are available at: www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v61/n33/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 April 20-26, 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: 6 incidents with 3 arrests (4 robberies and 2 aggravated assaults) were reported between April 20-26, 2015 by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th Street & Market Street to Woodland Avenue.

04/21/15 11:42 AM 3900 Locust Walk Robbery/Arrest
04/21/15 11:42 AM 3900 Locust Walk Robbery/Arrest
04/25/15 1:48 AM 4201 Walnut St Robbery
04/25/15 11:43 PM 4206 Ludlow St Aggravated Assault
04/26/15 6:25 PM 3401 Civic Center Blvd Aggravated Assault

04/21/15 9:40 AM 3900 Locust Walk Male attempted to rob complainant/Arrest
04/21/15 12:39 PM 3737 Market St Male assaulted by ex-girlfriend
04/22/15 3:41 AM 4000 Market St Complainant harassed by ex-boyfriend
04/22/15 8:06 PM 3400 Civic Center Blvd Male attempted to take complainant’s bike/Arrest
04/25/15 11:13 PM 4026 Ludlow St Complainant cut in abdomen by known male

About the University of Pennsylvania:

The University of Pennsylvania values diversity and seeks talented students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds. The University of Pennsylvania does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, creed, national or ethnic origin, citizenship status, age, disability, veteran status or any other legally protected class status in the administration of its admissions, financial aid, educational or athletic programs, or any University-administered programs or in its employment practices. Questions or complaints regarding this policy should be directed to Sam Starks, Executive Director of the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Programs, Sansom Place East, 3600 Chestnut Street, Suite 208, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106; or (215) 898-6993 (Voice).
259th Commencement

University of Pennsylvania Commencement Events 2015

School Ceremonies and Speakers

Annenberg School for Communication
Bachelor of Arts Ceremony: Sunday, May 17, 10 a.m., Zellerbach Theatre, Annenberg Center
Reception: The Agora, Annenberg Public Policy Center, following the ceremony
Speaker: Whitney Cummings, C’03, comedienne, actor and producer
PhD Ceremony: Monday, May 18, 1:30 p.m., Room 110, Annenberg School
Reception: The Agora, Annenberg Public Policy Center, noon-1:30 p.m.

School of Arts & Sciences
College of Arts & Sciences:
Ceremony: Sunday, May 17, 6:30 p.m., Franklin Field
Class of 2015 Speaker: Nadia Laher, C’15
Speaker: Maria Zuber, C’80, vice president of research, MIT
Graduate Division, SAS:
Ceremony: Monday, May 18, 1 p.m., Harrison Auditorium, Penn Museum
Speaker: Andrew Rappe, professor of chemistry, professor of materials science & engineering, co-director, Penngrey
Fels Institute of Government:
Ceremony: Sunday, May 17, 1:30 p.m., Fels Institute of Government
Speaker: Dave Reed, G’01, house majority leader, PA House of Representatives

School of Dental Medicine
Ceremony: Monday, May 18, 1 p.m., Irvine Auditorium
Speaker: Peter J. Polverini, professor of dentistry & dean emeritus, University of Michigan Dental School and professor of pathology and visiting scholar, Center for Child Health Evaluation and Research, University of Michigan Medical School
Reception: Immediately following the ceremony, Robert Schattner Center

School of Design
Luncheon: Monday, May 18, noon, Meyerson Hall
Ceremony: Monday, May 18, 1:30 p.m., Meyerson Plaza
Reception: Meyerson Hall, 3:30 p.m., following the ceremony
Speaker: Michael Nutter, W’79, Mayor of Philadelphia

Graduate School of Education
Ceremony: Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m., Franklin Field
Speaker: Sonja Santelises, vice president, K-12 Policy and Practice, The Education Trust

School of Engineering & Applied Science
Undergraduate Ceremony: Monday, May 18, 2:30 p.m., Franklin Field
Speaker: Sam Schwartz, EE’85, WG’90, chief development officer, Comcast Cable
Open House and Luncheon: Monday, May 18, immediately following the University’s Commencement ceremony
Master’s Ceremony: Saturday, May 16, 2:30 p.m., Franklin Field
Speaker: Kanwar Chadha, GEE’83, WG’83, Binatone Global
PhD Ceremony: Thursday, May 14, 3:30 p.m., Irvine Auditorium

School of Law
Ceremony: Sunday, May 17, 9 a.m., Verizon Hall, Kimmel Center
Speaker: Cass R. Sunstein, Robert Walmsley University Professor, Harvard University; Constitutional scholar
Reception: Law School, following the ceremony

Perelman School of Medicine
Ceremony: Saturday, May 16, 9 a.m., Verizon Hall, Kimmel Center
Speaker: Gaetano Thieme, professor of cardiovascular pathology, University of Padua
Reception: Kimmel Center, immediately following the ceremony

Biomedical Graduate Studies:
Ceremony: Monday, May 18, 1:30 p.m., BRB II/III Auditorium

School of Nursing
Ceremony: Monday, May 18, 3 p.m., Verizon Hall, Kimmel Center
Speaker: Major General Margaret C. Wilmoth, deputy surgeon general for mobilization, readiness and army reserve affairs in the office of the Surgeon General of the US Army
Reception: Monday, May 18, noon, Carol Elizabeth Wire Lobby, School of Nursing

School of Social Policy & Practice
Ceremony: Monday, May 18, 6:30 p.m., Irvine Auditorium (tickets required)
Speaker: Benjamin Jealous, civil & human rights leader, former NAACP president, venture capitalist & author
Reception: Houston Hall, immediately following the ceremony

School of Veterinary Medicine
Ceremony: Monday, May 18, 2:30 p.m., Zellerbach Theatre, Annenberg Center
Speaker: Tracey S. McNamara, A.C.V.P., professor of pathology, Western University of Health Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine
Reception: Annenberg Center, immediately following the ceremony

Wharton School

Wharton San Francisco MBA for Executives
Ceremony: Sunday, May 3, 10 a.m., Nourse Theatre, 275 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA
Speaker: Josh Kopelman, W’93, founder, First Round

Wharton Doctoral Division
Ceremony: Saturday, May 16, 11 a.m., Kintner-Dietrich Galleries, Penn Museum

Wharton MBA for Executives
Ceremony: Saturday, May 16, 3 p.m., Zellerbach Theatre, Annenberg Center
Speaker: Dave Pottruck, C’70, WG’72, chairman of HighTower Advisors

Wharton Undergraduate Division
Ceremony: Sunday, May 17, 9 a.m., Palestra
Speaker: Dylan Slinger, W’15
Faculty Speaker: Samir Nummohamed, assistant professor of management

Wharton MBA Division
Ceremony: Sunday, May 17, 1 p.m., Palestra
Speakers: Neil Blumenthal and Dave Gilboa (both WG’10), co-founders, Warby Parker

For additional information on Commencement 2015, visit the Commencement website: www.upenn.edu/commencement or call the Commencement information line (215) 573-GRAD