$24 Million from National Science Foundation for Penn Scientists to Establish Mechanobiology Center

Penn Medicine received a five-year, $3.7 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to support an academic unit to improve access to treatment for mental health disorders. The grant will establish a new Center for Integrated Behavioral Health in Primary Care in the department of family medicine and community health at the Perelman School of Medicine, in partnership with the department of psychiatry and the School of Nursing. The Center will serve as a national hub to develop, test and share best practices and enhance training in integrated behavioral health.

“This funding is timely for addressing unmet mental health needs in the new era of population health,” says project director Chyke A. Doubeni, chair and the Presidential Professor of Family Medicine and Community Health. “We have an epidemic of mental illness in this country and unacceptably large disparities in access to care persist in our communities. Mental health disorder is one of the biggest drivers of low-value care and high healthcare cost in the United States.”

Mental illness is one of the most common chronic conditions and is a major contributor to the overall global burden of disease. Depression is the leading cause of disability in the world. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 8% of US adults have depression and Americans make 8 million ambulatory care visits primarily for depression each year.

The World Health Organization states that an estimated 350 million people worldwide of all ages suffer from depression and that suicide is the second leading cause of death in 15- to 29-year-olds. An estimated 31% of adults in Philadelphia have a mental health diagnosis. Lack of access to mental health care and lack of accurate identification of mental health disorders. Integrating behavioral health into primary care is effective at improving access to care by providing services where people normally receive their primary care and allowing for warm handoffs to a mental health care team during the time of a visit with the primary care provider.

As many as one in four patients in primary care has depression, but less than one-third of these patients are accurately identified by primary care providers, and many are inadequately treated. Among patients seen in the department of family medicine and community health’s ambulatory care practice, about 77% of frequent users of the emergency departments have a mental health and/or substance use diagnosis.

“Ensuring that patients have access to mental health care improves outcomes not only in terms of mental illness, but also in terms of other medical outcomes. This cutting-edge project can serve as a model for the nation as we work toward integrated care for our patients and psychiatry is trained healthcare professionals is a major barrier to receiving optimal treatment for mental health disorders.”

By bringing together primary experts in plant and animal mechanobiology into an integrated framework of research and training, the Center will catalyze a new vision for biological, biomedical and agricultural science,” Dr. Shenoy said.

The Center will also have faculty members dedicated to translating findings from basic research into applications. This knowledge transfer arm will be led by Dr. Mauck and Dan Huh, the Will Family Term Assistant Professor of Bioengineering in Penn Engineering.

To strengthen the pipeline of diverse young scientists entering the field, the Center will actively recruit from the minority-serving institutions in the partnership, providing summer programs, bootcamps and Research Experiences for Undergraduates; more information is available at https://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/ Dr. Hunter will direct the Center’s diversity outreach, and Dr. Wells will direct the Center’s educational program.

Research will be conducted in three groups, each dedicated to a different scale at which mechanobiological forces are at play: individual cells’ molecular components and microenvironments, how cells use mechanical cues to signal to one another, and how these interactions come together to form larger assemblies and structures, which could be the inspiration for new biomaterials. Communication and coordination between the partner institutions will be led by Dr. Ostap.

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7 Arboretum: Scarecrows & Tours; Update; CrimeStats
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Call for Honorary Degree Nominations: November 15

Dear Colleagues,

We invite you to nominate candidates to receive honorary degrees from the University of Pennsylvania for the 2017 Commencement ceremony and beyond. Candidates would exemplify the highest ideals of the University, who seek to educate those who will change the world through innovative scholarship, scientific discovery, artistic creativity and/or societal leadership.

We encourage you to involve your faculty colleagues, within and across departments and schools, in the nomination process. Nominations should explain how nominees meet the criteria for selection and outline the nominees’ achievements and contributions. Please include as much biographical and other supporting information as possible, but do not contact the nominees, who should not know that they are being considered. We particularly encourage nominations from departments and schools whose fields have not been recognized by the awarding of honorary degrees in recent years. Please note that it is University policy not to consider Penn standing faculty, trustees, or school and center administrators for honorary degrees.

Nominations are welcome any time, but for consideration by this year’s University Council Honorary Degrees Committee, they must be received by November 15. Recommendation letters or a brief statement of support are appreciated. All nominations should be sent to the Committee on Honorary Degrees at: University Council Committee on Honorary Degrees, c/o Office of the University Secretary, 1 College Hall, Room 211/6303.

For more information on the University’s tradition of bestowing honorary degrees, please visit http://honorarydegrees.upenn.edu for a list of previous recipients. Questions about the nomination process should be directed to Loretta Deeds at (215) 898-5274 or email loretta.deeds@upenn.edu.

Sincerely,

—Daniel Raff, Chair, University Council Committee on Honorary Degrees

Death

Alexander Riasanovsky, History

Alexander Valentinovich Riasanovsky, a former professor of Russian history at Penn, died on September 4. He was 88 years old.

Dr. Riasanovsky was born in Harbin, Manchuria, to Russian parents. When he was 9 years old, Japan invaded China and his family fled to Eugene, Oregon. After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the Army as a para trooper on September 28, 1946, serving in Japan as part of the occupation force. He earned both a World War II Victory Medal and an Army of Occupation Medal. In Japan, he separated from the Army with an honorable discharge in 1948.

Dr. Riasanovsky earned a bachelor’s degree from University of Oregon and was accepted as a Rhodes Scholar into St. John’s College, Oxford University, where he received a B.A. degree. He then received a PhD from Stanford University in Russian medieval history.

He married Barbara Hearst and the couple had two daughters, Katya and Nina.

Dr. Riasanovsky was a faculty member at Penn for nearly 35 years. He joined as an associate professor in 1965 and earned a Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award that same year (Almanac October 13, 1987). He became a professor of history in 1972 and then a professor of Slavic languages in 1991. He retired as a professor emeritus in 1999.

He was featured in an article in Philadelphia Inquirer Magazine on “Ten Top Profs” in Philadelphia in 1986. In the article, he was described as “a living legend [at Penn]” (Almanac December 9, 1986). He served on Faculty Senate committees including the community relations committee, the committee on international exchanges and the student affairs committee.

Dr. Riasanovsky co-authored Readings in Russian History: Volumes I-IV and published a book of his own poetry, The Family Album. He was also a talented artist in the Modigliani style.

He is survived by his wife, Janis; daughters, Nina Rowland (Skip) and Katya Riasanovsky; grand children, Beauregard Rowland, Bruce Neal, Alexander Riasanovsky and Alexandra Rowland; stepson, Scott Silverman; and step-grandsons, Justin Silverman and William Silverman.

In lieu of flowers, contributions to Melech Hospice House, chaptershealth.org or the Alzheimer Society, www.alz.org are appreciated.

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. Call (215) 898-8136 or email record@ben.dev.upenn.edu
University-wide Teaching Awards

Nominations for Penn’s University-wide teaching awards are now being accepted by the Office of the Provost. Any member of the University community, past or present, may nominate a teacher for these awards. There are three awards:

- **The Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching** honors eight members of the standing faculty—four in the non-health schools (Annenberg, Design, Engineering and Applied Science, GSE, Law, SAS, Social Policy & Practice, Wharton) and four in the health schools (Dental Medicine, Medicine, Nursing, Veterinary Medicine).
- **The Provost’s Award for Distinguished PhD Teaching and Mentoring** honors two faculty members for their teaching and mentoring of PhD students. Standing and associated faculty in any school offering the PhD are eligible for the award.
- **The Provost’s Award for Teaching Excellence by Non-Standing Faculty** honors two members of the associated faculty or academic support staff who teach at Penn, one in the non-health schools and one in the health schools.

The nomination forms are available at http://provost.upenn.edu/education/teaching-at-penn/teaching-awards The deadline for nominations is Friday, December 2, 2016.

Full nomination forms with complete dossiers prepared by the nominees’ department chairs are due on Friday, February 3, 2017.

**Note:** For the Lindback and Non-Standing Faculty awards, the health schools—Dental Medicine, Nursing, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine—have a separate nomination and selection process. Contact the relevant Dean Office in order to nominate a faculty member from one of those schools.

There will be a reception honoring all the award winners in the spring. For more information, please e-mail provost-ed@upenn.edu or call (215) 898-7225.

**Criteria and Guidelines**

1. The Lindback and Provost’s Awards are given in recognition of distinguished teaching. “Distinguished teaching” is teaching that is intellectually demanding, unusually coherent and permanent in its effect. The distinguished teacher has the capability of changing the way in which students view the subject they are studying. The distinguished teacher provides the basis for students to look with critical and informed perception at the fundamentals of a discipline, and she relates that discipline to other disciplines and to the worldview of the student. The distinguished teacher is accessible to students and open to new ideas, but also expresses his/her own views with articulate and informed understanding of an academic field. The distinguished teacher is fair, free from prejudice and single-minded in the pursuit of truth.

2. Skillful direction of dissertation students, effective supervision of student researchers, ability to organize a large course of many sections, skill in leading seminars, special talent with large classes, ability to handle discussions or structure lectures—these are all attributes of distinguished teaching, although it is unlikely that anyone will excel in all of them. At the same time, distinguished teaching means different things in different fields. While the distinguished teacher should be versatile, as much at home in large groups as in small, in beginning classes as in advanced, she may have skills of special importance in her/her area of specialization.

3. The Lindback and Provost’s Awards have a symbolic importance that transcends the recognition of individual merit. They should be used to advance effective teaching by serving as reminders to the University community of the expectations for the quality of its mission.

4. Distinguished teaching occurs in all parts of the University. Therefore, faculty members from all schools are eligible for consideration. An excellent teacher who does not receive an award in a given year may be re-nominated in some future year and receive the award then.

5. The Lindback and Provost’s Awards may recognize faculty members with many years of distinguished service or many years of service remaining. The teaching activities for which the awards are granted must be components of the degree programs of the University of Pennsylvania.

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Stephen A. Quayle, President & CEO. “The awards honor leading actions of an individual or team that significantly advance the development of sustainable purchasing practices at Penn.”

Three Green Purchasing Awards were presented this year.

With Penn’s dedication to environmental sustainability, it is important for Purchasing Services to not only promote green purchasing, but to recognize those individual champions throughout our Schools and Centers.”

When we review nominations each year, it’s important to encourage those who are doing the right thing for the right reasons, whether that’s about the smart, responsible purchasing activities of the Relief Projects, or the world-renowned chimpanzee research at hundreds of recycling cans in public spaces.

The first award was bestowed to Janel Baselice, executive director of Purchasing Services, for her leadership in the implementation of the 2017 Green Idea program. Baselice’s “Bright Green Idea” was to purchase and install reusable, reusable dining ware, which would reduce the number of disposable utensils and plates. This project has significantly reduced the amount of waste sent to the landfill stream.

The second award was presented to Dr. Garret A. FitzGerald, professor of oncology and environment at the Perelman School of Medicine, for his efforts in supporting the development of environmental policies. FitzGerald was recognized for his leadership in the implementation of the Green Campus Partnership program. FitzGerald was presented this year.

The awards recognize the impact of his leadership on the campus and the community, and his willingness to speak out on the things that matter, have made her an active member of our diaspora who is significant contributions to nursing and health services (FRES).”

The award was bestowed to Lea Ann Matura, a registered nurse and assistant professor at the School of Nursing (Penn Nursing) faculty members will receive the following scores: 85.9 for teaching; 85.1 for research; 87.5 for service and scholarship; 85.4 for international and intercultural activities; 85.1 for student-faculty interactions; 87.4 for overall teaching and mentoring; and 87.1 overall.

The College of Science and Mathematics is Philadelphia has a rich history, international roots, and Philadelphia Association and Campus Philly, are the diversity programs manager at the Penn Museum, Hitomi Yoshida, said. "Many people who come to the museum are interested in the cultural diversity so that we may identify those most deserving of this award. Nomination forms may be submitted he is the first recipient in the new category of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.”

The awards are open to all schools, colleges, and departments, and are awarded biennially. The awards will be presented on January 19, 2017, as part of Penn’s commemoration of the King scholar, and scholars at the 6 Penn World Campus Conference on Social Change Executive Planning Committee of the University of Pennsylvania is pleased to announce the 22nd Annual Community Involvement Recognition Awards. The awards honor members of the University community involved in community service and/or who live outside of Ireland can be nominated for recognition either as individuals or as groups. Only one nomination per group is allowed.

The Penn Genetics and Penn Genome Frontiers Institute team); Mark Mills, executive director (Penn Purchasing Services). The award was presented to Pietras Barnes, senior project manager; George Zdaphoulos, director, design and construction; John Zielinski, project manager; and John Zurn, Century Bond project director.

The Disposable Petri Dish Reduction Project also was a Green Purchasing Award recipient. The project involved the reduction of petri dishes, which are used to grow bacteria and fungi in the laboratory. The project has significantly reduced the amount of waste sent to the landfill stream.

The University of Pennsylvania’s Brennen Gormon Award for Distinguished Achievement in Biological Anthropology was bestowed to Dr. Janel Baselice, professor of anthropology and environment at the Perelman School of Medicine, for her efforts in supporting the development of environmental policies. Baselice was recognized for her leadership in the implementation of the Green Campus Partnership program. Baselice was presented this year.

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So You Wanna Be an Archaeologist?
Penn Museum Marks International Archaeology Day
with Focus on Ancient Italy, Modern Archaeology Laboratories
Day-Long Event: Part of Ciao Philadelphia, the Italian Cultural Month

To all aspiring archaeologists, Viva l’Italia!
So You Wanna Be an Archaeologist?—Penn Museum’s all-ages celebration of International Archaeology Day, shines a spotlight on ancient Italy, and modern scientific studies, Saturday, October 15, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the Penn Museum galleries, with special behind-the-scenes tours of research rooms and activities in the Museum’s Center for the Analysis of Archaeological Materials (CAAM). Activities abound for children and adults, from an Indiana Jones-style obstacle course to “Ask an Archaeologist” conversations, storytelling, group and individual mosaic making, Rome gallery tours—even a chance to enlist in an ancient Roman militia!

Inside CAAM: The Center for the Analysis of Archaeological Materials

Guests can meet some of the expert instructors mentoring archaeology students through the Museum’s Center for the Analysis of Archaeological Materials, a multimillion-dollar set of teaching labs and facilities that opened in 2014. Behind-the-scenes CAAM tours depart every 15 minutes beginning at 1 p.m. and continuing until 4 p.m. (limited availability, by signup). Guests have an opportunity to learn about the usually behind-the-scenes research that takes place in the Museum, as experts in archaeobotany, ceramics, archaeometallurgy, zooarchaeology, digital archaeology and physical anthropology participate in the open house tours.

Hot off the press, the October edition of the academic magazine has won awards for excellence in educational publishing. For the October 2016 issue, readers “meet” a Roman emperor and explore the world he lived in. For the Let’s Go Digging section, readers go behind the scenes with CAAM at the University of Pennsylvania’s Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, “visiting” the labs as researchers analyze, preserve and conserve ancient objects in the Museum’s collection and objects being recovered in the field today.

Conservation plays a big part of the collaborative science of archaeology, and visitors are welcome to watch Museum conservators work on mummies and more inside In the Artifact Lab. The conservator opens a window to answer guests’ questions at 12:30 and 3:30 p.m.

Games, Stories and Fan Finds Throughout the Day

Throughout the celebration, guests can visit a Roman militia station, try on reproduction gear, learn what it takes to enlist and discover more about life in the ancient militia. The truly daring can test their skills at an Indiana Jones-style obstacle course set up in the Museum’s inner garden, dodging a rolling boulder (make that a giant beach ball) or forging ahead through a snake pit and a tangle of spider webs. For those who prefer a calmer experience, a Roman Cartifact station invites all to discover life in ancient Italy through toy-sized reproduction artifacts.

The Museum’s Rome Gallery features fine examples of mosaics, and guests inspired by the ancient originals can create their own paper mosaics at a craft table throughout the day. At 1 p.m., everyone is welcome to join in the construction of a giant mosaic made up of 4,000 tesserae. At 11 a.m. and again at 3 p.m., guests can listen to ancient Roman tales about the origins of the seasons at a storytelling session.

Gallery Tours and Archaeologist Talks

Worlds Intertwined: Etruscans, Greeks & Romans is a suite of Mediterranean galleries. Featured are more than one thousand artifacts including marble and bronze sculptures, jewelry, metalwork, mosaics, glass vessels, gold and silver coins and pottery, dating from 3000 BCE to the 5th century CE, that help to tell the story of these remarkable peoples. Tours of the Roman Gallery in this suite are offered at 11:45 a.m. and again at 2 p.m.

A marble cult statue head (above), probably of the goddess Diana, from the late 2nd century BCE, on display in the Museum’s Worlds Intertwined: Etruscans, Greeks & Romans gallery suite.

So You Wanna Be an Archaeologist? Guests are invited to ask real archaeologists more about what it is like, at Ask an Archaeologist sessions at noon and again at 2:30 p.m.
Grab Your Mobile Device and Awaken Your Senses with New Online Tours at Morris Arboretum

What brings you to the garden? A love of plants? Learning about the historic landscape? Spending time with family and friends? Morris Arboretum now offers opportunities to enhance your visit through a series of new web-based tools. For more information, visit www.morrisarboretum.org.

Then and Now Tour highlights Lydia Morris, one of the original owners of the property.

Update

October AT PENN

TALK

18 Let motorists. Laurence Rickels, The European Graduate School; 6 p.m.; rm. 402, Claudia Cohen Hall (Germanic Languages & Literature; Comparative Literature; Literary Theory).

AT PENN Deadlines

The September AT PENN calendar is online at www.upenn.edu/almanac. The deadline for the November AT PENN calendar is today, October 11. Info is on the sponsoring department’s website; sponsors are in parentheses. For locations, call (215) 898-5000 or see www.facilities.upenn.edu.

The University of Pennsylvania Police Department

Community Crime Report

About the Crime Report: Below are all Crimes Against Persons or Crimes Against Society from the campus report for September 26-October 2, 2016. Also reported were 16 Crimes Against Property (11 thefts, 2 instances of disorderly conduct, 2 DUs and 1 fraud). Full reports are available at: www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v63/n09/creport.html. Prior week’s 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 September 26-October 2, 2016. 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: 11 incidents with 3 arrests (5 robberies, 4 assaults, 1 aggravated assault and 1 domestic assault) were reported between September 26-October 2, 2016 by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River between 44th Street & Market Street to Woodward Avenue.

09/26/16 7:41 PM 4740 Hazel Ave Robbery
09/26/16 9:47 PM 45th & Ludlow Sts Robbery
09/27/16 2:30 PM 4500 Market St Robbery/Assault
09/27/16 11:06 PM 48th & Osage Ave Robbery/Assault
09/28/16 4:05 AM 250 S 36th St Assault
09/28/16 3:37 PM 3800 Woodward Walk Robbery
09/28/16 2:53 PM 4249 Walnut St Assault
10/01/16 11:51 AM 2970 Market St Assault
10/02/16 6:22 AM 4624 Walnut St A aggravated Assault
10/02/16 7:31 PM 4710 Locust Assault
10/02/16 5:25 PM 43rd and Chester Ave Assault

09/28/16 2:07 AM 250 S 36th St Male trespassing/Assault
09/28/16 3:30 PM 3800 Woodward Walk US currency forcibly taken from complainant
09/30/16 2:53 PM 4249 Walnut St Complainant struck by patron

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 in its employment practices. Questions or complaints regarding this policy should be directed to Sam Starkes, Executive Director of the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Programs, Sansom Place East, 3600 Chestnut Street, Suite 22B, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106; or (215) 898-6993 (Voice).
Christian Association's 125th Anniversary: October 29

On Saturday, October 29, 2016, the Christian Association at the University of Pennsylvania (CA) — the nation's oldest active ecumenical campus ministry — will celebrate its 125th anniversary with an evening filled with great food, fellowship, special guests, raffle prizes, a silent auction and more. The celebration, which will take place at the University City Sheraton Hotel and begin at 6:30 p.m., will feature a special conversation between the CA's two honorees, the Rev. Charles L. Howard, University chaplain, and the Rev. William C. Gipson, associate vice provost for equity and access and former University chaplain. They will discuss important issues facing college students, the role of campus ministry, faith life at Penn and their favorite memories from the CA.

Tickets cost $60 each or $500 for a table of 10. Tickets can be purchased online at [http://upennca.org/125celebration](http://upennca.org/125celebration) or via mail. Checks should be made payable to Christian Association, and sent to 118 S. 37th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

The CA's long and colorful history has been closely intertwined with the history of the University of Pennsylvania itself. The CA was founded in 1891 as an ecumenical Protestant campus ministry at the University of Pennsylvania (Almanac October 21, 1997). Housing Protestant ministries and encouraging faith development, the CA lived out its mission over the years by advocating for peace and social justice, welcoming immigrants, establishing hospitals in India and China, providing scholarships for students to do social justice and service projects during the summer, opposing war in Vietnam and Iraq, advocating equal rights for women and LGBT people, operating the Green Lane Camps for at-risk Philadelphia children, managing settlement houses for the poor, offering hospitality and dialogue on issues of the day and always providing a community to be safe and to ask questions.

In the early years the CA shared space with the student union in Houston Hall. From 1896 to 1922, the CA took over the student employment agency. In 1928, the CA erected a new building on Penn-owned land, at 3601 Locust Walk with $700,000 raised from students, faculty, alumni and churches in Philadelphia. The building was based on a design by Thomas, Martin and Kirkpatrick, Architects. At this time there were 14 full-time student pastors and directors, several assistants, and many part-time workers at the CA, with a combined annual budget of over $181,000.

In 1999, the CA sold its building to Penn and the building is now known as the ARCH building and houses cultural resource centers (Almanac May 16, 2000). The building is listed in the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places.

In 1997, Penn bought the Westminster House, an outbuilding of the Tabernacle United Church located at 37th and Sansom streets. At the same time, Penn signed a long-term lease on the church basement and the theater, which it renamed the Iron Gate Theater. In 2001, the CA moved into its current home, the Westminster House (Almanac February 20, 2001). The Tabernacle United Church was designed by Theophilus Parsons Chandler and constructed in 1884 at a cost of $206,000.

Today, the Christian Association continues to be a vibrant part of campus life and a “community of hospitality, service and advocacy and faith exploration,” said Rob Gurnee, who has been the executive director of the CA since 2010. More information can be found at [www.upennca.org](http://www.upennca.org)