$12 Million from National Institutes of Health for Penn Researchers to Establish Pancreas Research Program

The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) has awarded Penn Medicine a $12 million, four-year grant to establish the Human Pancreas Analysis Program (HPAP).

“The past decades have seen a dramatic improvement in our ability to profile human tissues relevant to Type 1 diabetes at the genomic, epigenomic, protein and functional levels,” said Klaus H. Kaestner, the Thomas and Evelyn Suor Butterworth Professor in Genetics and associate director of the Penn Diabetes Research Center, in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

HPAP is focused on procuring and phenotyping pancreatic tissues from individuals with or at risk for Type 1 diabetes, Type 2 diabetes or other types of pancreatic islet dysfunction characterized by changes in beta cell mass. The team will also promote additional analysis of samples, including sharing of biobanked HPAP tissues and the resulting multi-dimensional data with the diabetes research community through an open-access database.

The program, directed by Ali Naji, a professor of surgery, in Penn’s School of Medicine, consists of six teams at Penn with expertise in:
- Physiological phenotyping of pancreatic islets, led by Doris Stoffers, the Sylvan H. Eisman Professor of Medicine
- Immunology and epigenetics, particularly involving T and B cells, led by Michael R. Betts, an associate professor of microbiology
- Molecular profiling of islets, led by Dr. Kaestner
- Tissue analytics and biobanking, led by Michael Feldman, a professor of pathology and laboratory medicine
- Bioinformatics, led by Jason H. Moore, the Edward Rose Professor of Informatics and director of the Institute for Biomedical Informatics

The Program is also collaborating with teams at University of Florida, led by Mark A. Atkinson, and Vanderbilt University, led by Alvin C. Powers, who are funded by a separate award. HPAP, the newest program in the NIDDK-funded Human Islet Research Network, will build upon well-established collaborations among Penn investigators.

An unparalleled multidisciplinary approach, such as the mapping of the “immune atlas” of the pancreas and cutting-edge technology, such as single cell analysis by mass cytometry, are some of the program’s strengths. This and other technological platforms will allow researchers to study diabetes and pancreatic islets with unprecedented resolution, said the investigators.

Penn’s Vice President and University Secretary Leslie Laird Kruhly has announced the 2017 honorary degree recipients and the Commencement Speaker for the University of Pennsylvania. The Office of the University Secretary manages the honorary degree selection process and University Commencement.

The 261st Commencement ceremony begins at 10:15 a.m. on Monday, May 15, 2017, and will be preceded by student and academic processions through campus. The ceremony will feature the conferral of degrees, the awarding of honorary degrees, greetings by University officials and remarks by the Commencement speaker. It will be streamed live on the Penn website. For University of Pennsylvania Commencement information, including historical information about the ceremony, academic regalia, prior speakers and honorary degree recipients, see www.upenn.edu/commencement.

See pages 4-5 of this issue for the biographies of this year’s honorary degree recipients.
Deaths

Peter McDougall: Wharton

Peter S. McDougall, WG ’64, a former faculty member in the Wharton School at University of Pennsylvania, died on January 19. He was 76.

Mr. McDougall received an MBA from Wharton in 1964 and a Juris Doctor from Rutgers School of Law in 1980. He worked at Wharton as a student and became a full-time personnel records officer in 1964. In 1970, he became the administrative course director in Wharton’s systems design training program. He joined the Dean’s office at Wharton in 1977 as a research administrator, a position he held until his resignation in 1981.

Mr. McDougall then went on to work as an attorney for 37 years.

He is survived by two sons, Scott and Greg; granddaughter, Laura; brother, Alan (Joan); sister, Janet; former wife, Nancy; nieces, Anne Burgess (Allen), Susan Balcerski, Beth Caputo (Anthony) and Laura McGuire (James); and nephews, Steven (Wendy), John (Andrea) and Arthur Collier (Christine).

Beatrice Nichols, Penn Museum Catering Company

Beatrice “Bea” Nichols, who co-owned and managed University of Pennsylvania’s Museum Catering Company for more than 20 years, died on December 19, 2016. She was 67.

Mrs. Nichols was born in Bern, Switzerland. She lived in Switzerland until 1973, when she and her husband Bruce moved to Philadelphia for him to attend graduate school at Penn’s Annenberg School of Communications.

Mrs. Nichols taught French and German at Germantown Academy before taking a job at The Gold Standard. She opened her own restaurant, ECCO, at 17th and Lombard streets, in the mid-1980s. Through ECCO, the Nichols met Robert Dyson, then-director of Penn Museum, who encouraged the couple to open the Museum Catering Company (MCC). The Nichols opened MCC in 1989 and later secured an exclusive contract with Penn Museum. MCC hosted events including Book and Cook, the annual beer dinner featuring legendary beer aficionado Michael Jackson and University dinners with visiting dignitaries. The Nichols celebrated the 20th anniversary of MCC in 2009.

Mrs. Nichols is survived by a brother, Marco (Jeanne); and a sister, Carla (Walter), her son and grandchildren. A Memorial Service celebrating her life is being planned for a later date at St. Marks Episcopal Church.

José Regueiro, Romance Languages

José M. Regueiro, G’72, associate professor emeritus of Romance languages at the University of Pennsylvania, died on January 22 after a long battle with cancer. He was 78 years old.

Dr. Regueiro was affiliated with the University for 47 years; first as a graduate student, then as an instructor, and from 1972 onwards, as a member of the standing faculty of both Romance languages and Spanish. He retired in 2015 (Almanac April 7, 2015).

To date, Dr. Regueiro is the longest serving undergraduate chair in Spanish. He also served as graduate chair, managing editor of the Hispanic Review and director of the CGS Summer Program in Spain. He also represented Romance languages in the Faculty Senate.

He is survived by his wife, Kathryn K. McMahan, director of language instruction in Romance languages at Penn; two sons, Miguel and Richard; and several grandchildren.

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

To Report A Death

Power Down 2017—Signal a Change

Penn’s Power Down Challenge is planned for February 1-24, 2017. Start thinking now about ways you can join this campus-wide energy reduction campaign! How can you encourage members of the Penn community to reduce their energy consumption and deepen their understanding of energy-related issues? The Power Down Challenge includes educational and interactive events, culminating in a campus-wide, 24-hour Energy Reduction Challenge on Wednesday, February 22.

As in the past, Penn’s Sustainability Office will be awarding a donation prize to CURF’s Climate Action Research Grants based on the amount of energy saved during the 24-hour Energy Reduction Challenge. Last year, the campus reduced energy by 5.8% and the office was able to donate $5,800 for student research grants to advance climate research at Penn.

The 2017 Power Down Challenge will also focus on the Provost’s Academic Theme Year of Media, by asking members of the Penn community to “signal a change” in their energy consumption habits. To download this year’s poster (below) visit: http://bit.ly/pennpowerdown
From the President

Immigration Restrictions

To Faculty, Staff and Students,

As a follow-up to the message that we sent earlier Sunday morning regarding the Administration’s executive order on immigration, I wanted to share with you a statement, issued by the Association of American Universities, that Penn strongly supports. Penn is an active member of the AAU, which represents the 62 most distinguished research universities in North America.

The issue of immigration and a well-functioning visa system is a critically important one for all of higher education. At the same time as our dedicated staff and faculty here at Penn work with us to support the international students who are on our campus from affected countries and others, our team also is reaching out to our government officials to express concern about the negative impact that this order is causing for Penn and our country’s mission of higher education. The AAU statement (at right) summarizes the concerns that we will be expressing to our government officials, and so I thought it important to share it with you.

—Amy Gutmann, Penn President.

Following is a statement by Association of American Universities President Mary Sue Coleman.

We recognize the importance of a strong visa process to our nation’s security. However, the administration’s new order barring the entry or return of individuals from certain countries is already causing damage and should end as quickly as possible. The order is stranding students who have been approved to study here and are trying to get back to campus, and threatens to disrupt the education and research of many others.

We also urge the Administration, as soon as possible, to make clear to the world that the United States continues to welcome the most talented individuals from all countries to study, teach, and carry out research and scholarship at our universities. It is vital to our economy and the national interest that we continue to attract the best students, scientists, engineers, and scholars. That is why we have worked closely with previous administrations, especially in the wake of 9/11, to ensure our visa system prevents entry by those who wish to harm us, while maintaining the inflow of talent that has contributed so much to our nation.

Other countries have set the goal of surpassing the United States as the global leader in higher education, research, and innovation. Allowing them to replace this country as the prime destination for the most talented students and researchers would cause irreparable damage, and help them to achieve their goal of global leadership.

Section IV.3(c) of the Council Bylaws provides that a University Council meeting “shall incorporate an open forum to which all members of the University community are invited and during which any member of the University community can direct questions to the Council.” All members of the University community are invited to bring issues for discussion to the

University Council Open Forum
Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 4:40 p.m.
Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall

Individuals who want to be assured of speaking at Council must inform the Office of the University Secretary (ucouncil@pobox.upenn.edu) by Monday, February 13, 2017. Please indicate the topic you would like to discuss. Those who have not so informed the Office of the University Secretary will be permitted to speak only at the discretion of the Moderator of University Council and in the event that time remains after the scheduled speakers.

Please see the format given below. Questions may be directed to the Office of the University Secretary at (215) 898-7005 or ucouncil@pobox.upenn.edu

—Office of the University Secretary

The University Council will devote a substantial portion of its February 22, 2017 meeting to a public forum. The purpose of the Open Forum is to inform Council of issues important to the University’s general welfare and of the range of views held by members of the University. The forum is open to all members of the University community under the conditions set by the Bylaws, following guidelines established by the Steering Committee of Council:

1. Any member of the University community who wishes to do so may attend the Council meeting. Individuals who want to be assured of speaking at Council, however, must inform the Office of the University Secretary (ucouncil@pobox.upenn.edu) by Monday, February 13, 2017, indicating briefly the subject of their remarks. Those who have not so informed the Office of the University Secretary will be permitted to speak only at the discretion of the Moderator of University Council and in the event that time remains after the scheduled speakers.

2. Speakers should expect to be limited to three minutes with the possibility of additional time in cases where members of Council engage the speakers with follow-up questions or remarks. The Moderator may restrict repetition of views. Speakers are encouraged to provide Council with supporting materials and/or written extensions of their statements before, during, or after the Council meeting.

3. Following the deadline for speakers to sign up in the Office of the University Secretary, the resulting order of the Open Forum of University Council will be made available no later than the Tuesday before the meeting, to be published on the Office of the University Secretary website (http://www.upenn.edu/secretary/council/openforum.html) and, if deadline constraints allow, in The Daily Pennsylvanian and Almanac.

4. Speakers’ statements should be framed so as to present policy issues and directed to University Council as a body through the Moderator. The Moderator will have discretion to interrupt statements that are directed against persons and otherwise to maintain the decorum of the meeting, as provided for in the Bylaws. In cases where questions or positions can be appropriately addressed by members of Council, or where a colloquy would seem to be productive given the time constraints of the meeting, the Moderator may recognize members of Council to respond to speakers’ statements, with opportunities for follow-up by the speakers.

Trump, Philosophy, and American Politics: February 3

The Penn Center for Philosophy, Ethics and Public Affairs will be hosting Trump, Philosophy, and American Politics: Philosophical Implications of the 45th Presidency. This half-day conference on February 3 brings together scholars to discuss issues raised by the election, the transition from Obama Administration to Trump Administration and the early days of a Trump presidency. Speakers will examine the future rule of law, media, post-truth politics, race in the election and much more.

This event at Claudia Cohen Hall on Friday, February 3, from noon to 6 p.m. is free and open to the public.

Register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/trump-philosophy-and-american-politics-tickets-31107049021

Moderator: Jon Ehrens (WHYY)

Speakers:

Elisabeth Camp (Rutgers University): Varieties of Manipulative Meaning in Trumpian Talk

Clare Finkelstein (University of Pennsylvania): The Trump Administration and the Future of the Rule of Law

Alex Guerrero (Rutgers University): Institutional Sanity as a Political Value: Five Questions for Electoral Democracy

Eugene Kiely (FactCheck.org): The Media and Donald Trump

Lisa Miracchi (University of Pennsylvania): Liberals Own Up: Diagnosing Our Intellectual Role in Producing Post-Truth Politics

David Livingstone Smith (University of New England): The Politics of Salvation

Quayshawn Spencer (University of Pennsylvania): The Rise of Trump... How Did Race Matter?

Jason Stanley (Yale University): Authoritarian Propaganda

Kenneth A. Taylor (Stanford University): Philosophy and Resistance in the Age of Trump

ALMANAC January 31, 2017

www.upenn.edu/almanac

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Commencement 2017: Commencement Speaker and Honorary Degree Recipients

Commencement Speaker

Cory A. Booker
Cory A. Booker is a Democratic United States Senator representing the state of New Jersey. Born in Washington, DC, he was raised in Harrington Park, New Jersey, and has lived his life as a proud New Jerseyan. Senator Booker is a graduate of Stanford University, where he received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees and played varsity football. A Rhodes Scholar, Senator Booker also received a graduate degree from the University of Oxford, Queen’s College. After earning his JD from Yale Law in 1997, Senator Booker moved to Newark—where he still lives—and started a nonprofit organization to provide legal services for low-income families and tenants seeking to improve living conditions. In 1998, at the age of 29, he sought and won election to the Newark City Council. In 2006, he was elected the mayor of Newark. During his seven-year tenure, the city saw economic growth unmatched in decades and a significant decline in overall crime. Senator Booker also introduced new initiatives to improve education and public services and create new public parks and green space. Senator Booker was elected to the United States Senate in a special election in 2013, and was then re-elected to a full six-year term the next year. In the Senate, he has emerged as an across-the-aisle leader on issues such as criminal justice reform, ensuring support and resources for local law enforcement, comprehensive immigration reform and fostering economic opportunity for all Americans. Senator Booker serves on the Senate’s committees on Commerce, Science and Transportation; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; Environment and Public Works; and Foreign Relations. Senator Booker is the author of United: Thoughts on Finding Common Ground and Advancing the Common Good. Senator Booker will be receiving an honorary Doctor of Laws.

Honorary Degree Recipients

Isabel Allende
Chilean-American author and human rights advocate Isabel Allende came to worldwide acclaim in 1982 at age 40 with her bestselling first novel, The House of the Spirits. The book, based on a farewell letter to her grandfather, established her as a feminist force in Latin America’s male-dominated literary world. Chile’s 1973 military coup had forced Ms. Allende, a prominent journalist, to flee with her family to Venezuela, where they remained in exile for many years. She eventually emigrated to the United States and settled in California in 1987. Today, her more than 20 fiction and nonfiction books and three memoirs, all written in her native Spanish, have been translated into over 35 languages, with over 65 million copies sold. Her works, many adapted for film, theater, opera and ballet, include Of Love and Shadows, Maya’s Notebook, Ripper and her latest, The Japanese Lover. Following the death of her daughter, Paula, Ms. Allende established the Isabel Allende Foundation in 1995 in her honor. The Foundation works on behalf of women and girls worldwide, supporting many nonprofit organizations that provide vulnerable women and children life-saving access to reproductive services, healthcare, education and protection from violence. Among many honors, she has received France’s Chevalier de L’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, the Chilean National Prize for Literature, the Library of Congress Creative Achievement Award for Fiction and the Hans Christian Andersen Literature Award. The Times of London in 2009 named The House of the Spirits one of the “Best 60 Books in the Past 60 Years.” Ms. Allende received the 2014 Presidential Medal of Freedom. A US citizen since 1993, Ms. Allende speaks internationally on women’s rights and empowerment, Latin American and world politics, writing and spirituality. A member of the US Academy of Arts and Letters, her work also appears in newspapers and magazines throughout the United States and Europe.

Clara Franzini-Armstrong
Clara Franzini-Armstrong is Professor Emerita of Cell and Developmental Biology at Penn’s Perelman School of Medicine. A pathbreaking scientist and educator for over 50 years, she is recognized as the world’s leading electron microscopist, making seminal and fundamental contributions to the understanding of muscle biology, particularly the structural basis of excitation-contraction coupling. The concepts developed and electron microscopy techniques pioneered by Dr. Franzini-Armstrong’s work are standard inclusions in all major physiology and cell biology textbooks. Dr. Franzini-Armstrong has also been a leading influence over many years in promoting a culture empowering women in science at Penn and in the field of cell biology, offering mentorship and training new generations of scientists. A native of Firenze, Italy, Dr. Franzini-Armstrong as a student was one of the two the first electron microscopists at the University of Pisa. Her postdoctoral studies were completed with eminent Cell Biologist K.R. Porter at Harvard University, with physiologist R.J. Podolsky at the National Institutes of Health and with Nobel-winning biophysicist Sir Andrew Huxley in London. Before her arrival at Penn in 1975, Dr. Franzini-Armstrong held research and faculty positions at Duke University and the University of Rochester. She also served on the executive board of the Biophysical Society. In recognition of her and her husband’s independent work, a lecture series named for Clay and Clara Armstrong was established in 2014 by the Society of General Physiologists. Dr. Franzini-Armstrong received the 1989 K.C. Cole and the 2007 Founder’s Awards from the Biophysical Society and an honorary MD from the University of Pisa. A member of the National Academy of Sciences and the European Academy of Sciences, she is also a foreign member of the Royal Society of London and Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei of Rome. Dr. Franzini-Armstrong continues her active electron microscopy and training of young scientists.
Terry Gross
Terry Gross is the host and an executive producer of *Fresh Air*, the Peabody Award-winning weekday magazine of contemporary arts and issues and one of public radio's most popular programs. Each week, over five and a half million listeners tune in to *Fresh Air*, which is broadcast on over 624 National Public Radio (NPR) stations across the country and Europe. In 2015 and 2016, the program was also the most downloaded podcast on iTunes. Ms. Gross is widely regarded for her insightful, in-depth interviews characterized by “a remarkable blend of empathy and warmth, genuine curiosity, and sharp intelligence,” according to *The San Francisco Chronicle*. A native of Brooklyn, New York, she received a bachelor’s degree in English and a MEd in Communications from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Ms. Gross began her radio career in 1973 at public radio station WBFO in Buffalo, where she hosted and produced several programs, including *This Is Radio*, a live, daily three-hour magazine program. In 1975, she joined Philadelphia’s WHYY-FM as the producer and host of *Fresh Air*. The program has been distributed nationally by NPR since 1985, first as a weekly half-hour program, and since 1987 in its daily, one-hour format. Ms. Gross has received many awards for her work, including the Corporation for Public Broadcasting’s Edward R. Murrow Award for her outstanding contributions to public radio, the Literarian Award from the National Book Foundation and the Authors Guild Award for Distinguished Service to the Literary Community. President Barack Obama presented her with a 2015 National Humanities Medal in recognition of her “artful probing of the human experience.” Ms. Gross is the author of *All I Did Was Ask: Conversations with Writers, Actors, Musicians and Artists*.

Ada Hinshaw
Nursing research pioneer Ada Sue Hinshaw, with a career that spans over 50 years, is known as one of her field’s most impactful leaders. Named a Living Legend by the American Academy of Nursing in 2011, she is Dean Emerita of the Daniel K. Inouye Graduate School of Nursing at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences as well as the University of Michigan’s School of Nursing. Her research on quality of care, patient outcomes, and positive nursing work environments has led to fundamental policy improvements in her field. Dr. Hinshaw received her undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas, an MSN from Yale University, and an MA and PhD from the University of Arizona. The first permanent director of the National Center of Nursing Research and the first director of the National Institute of Nursing Research at NIH, she was instrumental in establishing and securing dedicated nursing research funding for the nation. In 2008, Dr. Hinshaw left retirement to head USU’s Graduate School of Nursing, launching the Faye Glenn Abdellah Center for Military and Federal Health Care Research. The Center supports research and evidence based practices for the care of the deployed, the wounded, and their families. A member of the Institute of Medicine, now the National Academy of Medicine (NAM), and its Governing Council, she is the recipient of many awards, including the Health Leader of the Year Award from the United States Public Health Service, the Distinguished Leader Award from the National Institute of Nursing Research and the Walsh McDermott Award from the NAM. Dr. Hinshaw is a past president of the American Academy of Nursing, and a member of the American Nurses’ Association. Dr. Hinshaw also taught at the University of Arizona’s College of Nursing; the University of California, San Francisco, and the University of Kansas. A prolific academic author, Dr. Hinshaw is a frequent speaker in her field.

Robert Parris Moses
American educator and civil rights activist Robert Parris Moses is president and founder of the Algebra Project, Inc., which prepares students who have performed in the lowest quartile on standardized exams to graduate from high school on time and ready to take on college mathematics. Mr. Moses received a BA in philosophy from Hamilton College in 1956 and an MA in philosophy from Harvard University in 1957. Mr. Moses directed the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee’s Mississippi Voter Registration Project from 1961-1964 and served as co-director of the Council of Federated Organizations. He was instrumental in organizing the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, which in 1964 challenged that state’s all-white delegation to the National Democratic Convention. Having formerly taught mathematics in Tanzania, Mr. Moses used his 1982 MacArthur Fellowship award to begin the Algebra Project. He is the recipient of numerous other awards and honors, including the Heinz Award for the Human Condition and the Puffin/Nation Prize for Creative Citizenship. Mr. Moses is co-author of the 2001 book *Radical Equations—Civil Rights from Mississippi to the Algebra Project* and co-editor of 2010’s *Quality Education as a Constitutional Right—Creating a Grassroots Movement to Transform Public Schools*. An adjunct lecturer at the NYU School of Law from 2012–2016, he was named a Frank H.T. Rhodes Class of ’56 Professor at Cornell University in 2006 and served as a Distinguished Visitor for Princeton’s Center for African American Studies in 2011-2012. Mr. Moses has served on the Education Advisory Committee of the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute since 2004. A frequent keynote speaker nationwide, he is the subject of Dr. Laura Visser-Maessen’s 2016 biography *Robert Parris Moses—A Life in Civil Rights and Leadership at the Grassroots*.

Paul Muldoon
A native of County Armagh, Northern Ireland, poet, professor and critic Paul Muldoon has been described as “one of the great poets of the past 100 years.” On the faculty at Princeton University since 1987, Mr. Muldoon is the Howard G. Clark ’21 Professor and Founding Chair of the Peter B. Lewis Center for the Arts. He has also been the poetry editor of *The New Yorker* since 2007. A former radio and television producer for the BBC in Belfast, Mr. Muldoon served as professor of poetry at the University of Oxford, where he is an honorary Fellow of Hertford College. His first book, *New Weather*, was published when Mr. Muldoon was just 21 and a student at Queen’s University, Belfast. Today, he is the author of 12 major collections of poetry, including *Gravel*, for which he won the 2003 Pulitzer Prize, 2015’s *One Thousand Things Worth Knowing*, as well as *Moy Sand, Maggot, Horse Latitudes, Hay, Mules and Quoof*. He has also published a great many smaller collections, works of criticism, opera libretti, children’s books, song lyrics and radio and television drama. Mr. Muldoon’s work has been translated into 20 languages. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In addition to the Pulitzer Prize, Mr. Muldoon has received many honors, including an American Academy of Arts and Letters Award in Literature, the T.S. Eliot Prize, the Griffin International Prize for Excellence in Poetry, the American Ireland Fund Literary Award, the Shakespeare Prize, the Aspen Prize for Poetry and the European Prize for Poetry. Much in demand as a reader and lecturer, he also occasionally appears with a spoken word music group, *Rogue Olifant*.
Summary Annual Report for The University of Pennsylvania Health & Welfare Program

This is a summary of the annual report of The University of Pennsylvania Health & Welfare Program, Plan No. 503, sponsored by The Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, EIN 23-1352685, for the period that began on July 1, 2015 and ended on June 30, 2016. This annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"). Please note that not all employees are eligible to participate in all of the benefits available under the Plan. Please consult your Plan materials for specific eligibility information.

Medical, Prescription Drug, Dental, and Long Term Disability Benefits

The University of Pennsylvania has committed itself to pay certain medical and prescription drug claims, dental benefits and long-term disability benefits incurred under the terms of the Plan on a self-fashioned basis. In addition, the Plan has a contract with CIGNA Health and Life Insurance Company to pay certain medical claims incurred under the terms of the contract. The total premiums paid for the plan year ending June 30, 2016 to CIGNA were $887,229. The Plan also has a contract with Standard Insurance Company to pay certain long-term disability benefits incurred under the terms of the contract. The total premiums paid to Standard Insurance Company for the plan year ending June 30, 2016 were $1,230,204.

Vision Benefits

The Plan has contracts with Davis Vision and Vision Service Plan to pay vision claims incurred under the terms of the contract. The total premiums paid under these contracts for the plan year ending June 30, 2016 to Davis Vision were $684,344 and to Vision Service Plan were $368,166. The Plan also has a contract with Aetna Life Insurance Company to pay long-term care claims incurred under the terms of the contracts. The total premiums paid under these contracts for the plan year ending June 30, 2016 to John Hancock Life Insurance Co. were $1,254,636 and to Genworth Life Insurance Co. were $821,807.

Long-Term Care Benefits

The Plan has contracts with John Hancock Life Insurance Company and Genworth Life Insurance Company to pay long-term care claims incurred under the terms of the contracts. The total premiums paid under these contracts for the plan year ending June 30, 2016 to John Hancock Life Insurance Co. were $1,254,636 and to Genworth Life Insurance Co. were $821,807.

Your Right to Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. Insurance information is included in this annual report. The items listed below are included in that report:

1. financial information and information on payments to service providers; and
2. insurance information including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers.

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of the Plan Administrator, c/o Joanne M. Blythe, Retirement Manager, University of Pennsylvania, 3401 Walnut Street, Suite 527A, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6228, (215) 898-9947. The charge to cover copying costs will be $5 for the full annual report or 25 cents per page for any part thereof.

You also have the legally protected right under ERISA to examine the annual report in the offices of the Employer at the address for the Plan Administrator, above, and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., or to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to: Public Disclosure Room, Room N-1513, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

—Division of Human Resources

Celebrating the Palestra’s 90th Birthday

On Tuesday, February 7, Penn Athletics will officially celebrate the Palestra’s 90th birthday as the Penn men’s basketball team hosts Princeton at 7 p.m. A pre-game fan fest will be held there at Rockwell Gymnasium with giveaways of food and Penn Athletics spirit wear to commemorate this historic anniversary. Penn faculty and staff save $5 off regular price tickets; and

Vision Benefits

The Plan has contracts with Davis Vision and Vision Service Plan to pay vision claims incurred under the terms of the contract. The total premiums paid under these contracts for the plan year ending June 30, 2016 to Davis Vision were $684,344 and to Vision Service Plan were $368,166.

Life Insurance Benefits

The Plan has a contract with Aetna Life Insurance Company to pay life insurance, dependent life insurance, and accidental death and dismemberment insurance claims incurred under the terms of the contract. The total premiums paid under this contract for the plan year ending June 30, 2016 were $7,310,420.

One Step Ahead

Security & Privacy Made Simple

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

Tax Time Can Be Scam Time!

Tax season is upon us, and so are the scammers who would use personal information. Efforts to prey upon you through tax-related scams often increase during this time of year. The good news is that there are strategies you can use to protect your information.

First, be aware that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will never contact taxpayers by email, telephone or social media. If you receive a telephone call purported to be from the IRS, assume that it is a scam and disconnect the call. To help protect others, you can report these calls to the IRS at phishing@irs.gov.

Scammers also use email and social media to try and steal your personal information via “phishing” attacks. Phishing is a communication that is crafted to appear legitimate, but is not. This is an attempt to persuade you to reveal personal information, such as your bank account or Social Security number. Be wary of emails that promise you a large refund, unexpected windfalls like a surprise raise or seek to collect money by sending you tax collection notices or other types of invoices for expensive items you didn’t order. Information Security maintains an archive of identified phishing attempts you can reference if you receive email you feel is suspicious: http://www.upenn.edu/computing/security/phish/ Please report suspicious email from a Penn email address or referencing the University to security@upenn.edu

Keep your PennKey password secure: do not share it with anyone under any circumstances. To learn how you can turn on two-step verification to provide extra security when you use your PennKey, visit: http://www.upenn.edu/computing/weblogin/two-step/

Finally, make sure all your computers are secure and free from viruses and other forms of malware. The University makes Symantec Endpoint Protection antivirus software freely available to active faculty, staff and students at https://www.isc.upenn.edu/how-to/symantec-endpoint-protection

For more information on information security and your taxes, see: https://www.irs.gov/individuals/taxes-security-together

For additional tips, see the One Step Ahead link on the Information Security website: www.upenn.edu/computing/security/
At the ICA Through March 19: The Freedom Principle: Experiments in Art and Music, 1965 to Now

The Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) at the University of Pennsylvania presents The Freedom Principle: Experiments in Art and Music, 1965 to Now. This large-scale group exhibition links the vibrant legacy of avant-garde jazz and experimental music of the late 1960s (particularly within the African American arts scene on the South Side of Chicago) and its continuing influence on contemporary art and culture today. The exhibition occupies the entire museum and is on view until March 19.

Million Dollar Bike Ride Registration

Registration is now open for the fourth annual Million Dollar Bike Ride on Saturday, May 20, to raise money for rare disease research, organized by the Penn Orphan Disease Center. The ride starts and finishes at Highline Park, 31st & Chestnut Streets. Online registration is open until midnight on Sunday, May 14. Early registration fee: $25 (must raise at least $250 before the event); fundraising cyclists will receive an official 2017 Million Dollar Bike Ride cycling jersey and a T-shirt. Must register by March 10 to receive the jersey at the event. Walk-up registration ($100) is available at the Class of 1923 Penn Ice Rink on Friday, May 19 from 4-7 p.m. and on Saturday, May 20 at 6 a.m.

Proceeds will help further research by the Penn Medicine Orphan Disease Center. To register:


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 January 16-22, 2017. Also reported were 8 Crimes Against Property (4 thefts, 2 frauds and 2 other offenses). Full reports are available at: www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v63/n21/creport.html

Prior weeks’ reports are also online. —Eds.

This summary is prepared by the Division of Public Safety and includes all criminal incidents reported and made known to the University Police Department between the dates of January 16-22, 2017. 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: 14 incidents with 2 arrests (8 robberies, 2 indecent assaults, 2 assaults, 1 domestic and 1 domestic assault) were reported between January 16-22, 2017 by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th Street & Market Street to Woodland Avenue.

18th District Report

01/18/17 9:46 PM 51 N 39th St Unwanted calls received
01/19/17 3:37 AM 124 S 39th St Unknown male in residence
01/19/17 8:30 PM 51 N 39th St Unwanted calls received
01/20/17 12:29 AM 3400 Spruce St Complainant grabbed by unknown male
01/21/17 12:25 PM 3700 Walnut St Male attempted to rob complainant/Arrest

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ALMANAC ADVISORY BOARD: For the Faculty Senate: Martin Perna (chair), Sunday Akintoye, Christine Bradway, Al Fitt, Cary Mazer, Guobin Yang, Kathleen Hall, Beth Linker, Melissa Wilde. For the Administration: Stephen MacCarty. For the Staff Assemblies: Nancy McGuire, PPFA; Janaya Blackwell, WPPSA; Rachelle R. Nelson, Librarians Assembly.

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, 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 other 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, 3800 Chestnut Street, Suite 228, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106; or (215) 898-6993 (Voice).
W-2 Information

University of Pennsylvania is required by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to furnish all employees with a Form W-2 (Wage and Tax Statement) to report the employee’s compensation and tax withholding amounts for the calendar year, on or before January 31st of the following year.

If you did not “opt out” of printing your W-2 Form, then the W-2 Form was mailed to your permanent address as it appeared on the Payroll/Personnel File (Employee Database). If your permanent address was not completed on the Payroll/Personnel File, the W-2 Form was mailed to your current address.

Whether you chose to opt out or not, you can still access your W-2 form online by following the instructions listed below.

- Login to ADP W-2 Services from the following secure web site: https://medley.isc-seo.upenn.edu/penn_portal/u@penn.php
- Click on “My Tax Info” in the “My Pay” section at U@Penn
- Login with your PennKey and password
- Enter your birthdate and last four digits of your Social Security Number
- Click continue on the next screen
- Click on the link that says “Click here for W-2 information for tax years 2013 and later”
- This will take you to the ADP site
- First page will be the Dashboard
- On upper left hand corner, click “Pay
- Choose year of tax statement you want to view
- Download statement

For a complete breakdown of each box represented on your W-2, please visit the Tax & International website at http://www.finance.upenn.edu/comptroller/Tax_International_Operations/Payroll_Tax/W-2_Breakdown.shtml

1042-S Information

Form 1042-S is created for anyone considered a nonresident alien for US tax purposes who received payments from Penn for fellowship/scholarship, independent contracted services or royalties as well as anyone with a benefit under a tax treaty with their resident country.

Form 1042-S is sent to the local address for any active employees or students and to the foreign address for anyone who has since left the University on or before March 15 of the following year. Form 1042-S is available online for individuals. Please contact the Tax Helpdesk for information.

Tax and International Operations can only provide information related to general tax questions. For assistance with the information reported on Forms W-2, 1042-S, and Non-service Fellowship letter, please contact the Tax Helpdesk at https://www.finance.upenn.edu:44301/apps/TaxHelpDesk/or (215) 898-6291.

1095-C Information

As part of the Affordable Care Act, employers must provide employees eligible for health care coverage with the 1095-C form—an annual statement describing the insurance available to them. This year, benefits-eligible Penn employees will receive a 1095-C form in late January by mail. Your form will also be available online on January 31, 2017 in the My Pay section of the secure U@Penn portal at www.upenn.edu/u@penn Select “My 1095-C form” to access yours. If you receive a Form 1095-C from Penn, be sure to keep it for your records. You don’t need to fill out the 1095-C to file your taxes. Like last year, you’ll need to indicate on your tax return if you had qualifying health coverage.

If you have specific questions about the Form 1095-C, please call the Equifax Call center at 1 (855) 823-3728. Employer Name or Code is 10476. For general questions about the Form 1095-C, visit the IRS website at www.irs.gov or consult your tax advisor.

Tax Rate Changes for 2017

The federal withholding tax tables for 2017 can be found in the IRS Publication 15 at: http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p15.pdf Supplemental Pay Withholding: Withholding on payments less than $1 million in a calendar year remains at 25% for 2017 and withholding for payments in excess of $1 million in a calendar year remains at 39.6%.

The Social Security Administration (SSA) has announced that the 2017 social security wage base will be $127,200, an increase of $8,700 from 2016 wage base of $118,500. The FICA tax rate will remain the same at 6.2% for the employee portion to match with the employer portion. There is no limit to wages subject to the Medicare Tax; therefore, all covered wages are still subject to the 1.45% until an employee reaches $200,000. Then, an additional .9% to the employee Medicare Tax will be withheld for the employee portion only. The maximum Social Security Tax that employees and employers will each pay in 2017 is $7,886.40. This is an increase of $539.40 from the 2016 maximum tax of $7,347.00.

If you have questions or require additional information, please contact the Tax Helpdesk at https://www.finance.upenn.edu:44301/apps/TaxHelpDesk/or (215) 898-6291.

—Victor Adams
Supervisor, Tax & International Operations

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