Penn’s 2024 Commencement Speaker and Honorary Degree Recipients Announced

Siddhartha Mukherjee
Physician, researcher, and best-selling author Siddhartha Mukherjee will be the speaker at the 2024 University of Pennsylvania Commencement on Monday, May 20, 2024. He and five other individuals will each receive an honorary degree from Penn.

Medha Narvekar, Penn’s Vice President and University Secretary, has announced the 2024 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 268th Commencement begins at 10:15 a.m. on Monday, May 20, 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 https://commencement.upenn.edu/.

Julia Hartmann: Fay R. and Eugene L. Langberg Professor in Mathematics in SAS

Julia Hartmann has been named the Fay R. and Eugene L. Langberg Professor in Mathematics in the School of Arts & Sciences. Dr. Hartmann specializes in algebra and arithmetic geometry, a new field that applies techniques from algebraic geometry to solve problems in number theory.

Sarah E. Light: Inaugural Mitchell J. Blutt and Margo Krody Blutt Presidential Professor

Penn Interim President J. Larry Jameson and Wharton Dean Erika H. James have announced the appointment of Sarah E. Light as the inaugural recipient of the Mitchell J. Blutt and Margo Krody Blutt Presidential Professorship at the Wharton School, which is one of three Presidential Professorships that Mitchell J. Blutt, C’78, M’82, WG’87 and Margo Blutt have established at the University of Pennsylvania. The three Presidential Professorships are at the Wharton School, Penn Arts & Sciences, and the Perelman School of Medicine, the three Penn schools Dr. Blutt attended.

Catherine McDonald: Chair of the Department of Family and Community Health in Penn Nursing

Catherine C. McDonald has been appointed chair of Penn Nursing’s department of family and community health (FCH), effective July 1, 2024. Currently, she is the vice-chair of the department and the Dr. Hildegard Reynolds Endowed Term Chair of Primary Care Nursing.

“Dr. McDonald is an accomplished and well-respected researcher in injury science who has demonstrated strong leadership abilities both within and outside of Penn Nursing,” said Penn Nursing dean Antonia M. Villarruel. “As vice chair of FCH, she has excelled at providing...”

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The following is published in accordance with the Faculty Senate Rules. Among other purposes, the publication of SEC actions is intended to stimulate discussion among the constituencies and their representatives. Please communicate your comments to Patrick Walsh, executive assistant to the Faculty Senate, by email at senate@pobox.upenn.edu.

### Faculty Senate Executive Committee Actions

**Wednesday, March 20, 2024**

**Report from the Tri-Chairs.** Faculty Senate chair Tulia Falleti offered a report regarding the vacancy on the Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Responsibility (SCAFR), upon which nominations were solicited during the previous meeting. SEC members agreed that it would be best not to fill the interim vacancy through the current term, which expires on June 30, 2024.

**Update from the Office of the Senior Executive Vice President.** Senior Executive Vice President Craig Carnaroli offered updates across four areas: University leadership, financi, operational progress, and strategic relationships.

**New Business.** A SEC member raised new business about the role of shared governance with the Center for Community Standards and Accountability (CSA, formerly the Office of Student Conduct).

**Adjournment to Roundtable, “Free Speech on Campus: Questions for Challenging Times.”** Following the meeting’s adjournment, SEC members were invited to join a “roundtable” sponsored by the Faculty Senate that included guests Barbara A. Lee (Distinguished Professor of Human Resources Management at Rutgers University, New Brunswick) and Robert C. Post, Sterling Professor of Law and dean (2009-2017) of the Yale Law School, moderated by Sigal R. Ben-Porath, MRMJ President Professor at Penn GSE. A recording of the roundtable is available here: [https://button.provost.upenn.edu/senate/free-speech-campus-questions-challenging-times](https://button.provost.upenn.edu/senate/free-speech-campus-questions-challenging-times).

### Nominations Requested from Standing Faculty for Co-Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Innovation

Provost John L. Jackson, Jr. and Deputy Provost Beth A. Winkelstein invite nominations and expressions of interest from standing faculty members to be faculty co-director of the **Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Innovation**.

Peter Decherney, the Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Professor in the Humanities, who has been the inaugural faculty co-director of the center since its launch and served from 2017 to 2023 as faculty director of the Online Learning Initiative, will step down from this role at the end of June 2024.

“We are extremely grateful for the visionary leadership of Peter Decherney, who has been a pioneer of new methods of teaching and learning at Penn,” said Provost Jackson.

“He was integral to establishing online learning across every part of our campus—which was indispensable to sustaining our educational mission during the years of the pandemic—and has been the essential driver of this expanded new center, which will catalyze our work at the forefront of teaching innovation.”

The Center for Teaching, Learning, and Innovation, which opened on November 1, 2023, brings together the long-standing work of the Online Learning Initiative and the Center for Teaching and Learning to advance Penn’s leadership in teaching excellence and innovation, especially by:

- Enhancing the quality, reach, and impact of a Penn education and the learning experiences of all Penn students and learners, across the wide range of both in-person and online education in all twelve schools
- Supporting instructors in all disciplines in realizing their teaching goals and developing teaching technologies
- Centering teaching in discussions of new digital initiatives
- Expanding the reach of programs to advance pedagogy and providing all Penn schools with better access to support for teaching, with or without technology

Masa Sako, the Arifa Hasan Ahmad and Nada Al Shoaii Presidential Professor of Physics and Astronomy, will serve as one faculty co-director of the center beginning April 1, 2024. The center encourages applications from standing faculty members who have experience in teaching and learning, in person and/or online, and an interest in shaping the future of teaching across Penn’s schools to be a second faculty co-director of the center, beginning on or around July 1, 2024. Inquiries and nominations can be emailed to Deputy Provost Beth A. Winkelstein by May 1, 2024.

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**Sherry (Xue) Gao: Presidential Penn Compact Associate Professor in CBE in Penn Engineering**

The Presidential Penn Compact Professorships were created by Penn President Emerita Amy Gutmann to recruit and support faculty like Dr. Gao: transformative leaders working at the intersection of multiple fields with “a yen for collaboration,” as Dr. Gutmann told *The Pennsylvania Gazette* in 2021.

Dr. Gao joins Penn Engineering from Rice University, where she received numerous accolades, including the 2024 BMES-CMBE Rising Star Award, a 2022 NSF CAREER Award, the 2022 Outstanding Young Faculty at Rice School of Engineering Award, and the 2020 NIH MIRA R35 Award.

As a member of Penn’s Center for Precision Engineering for Health (CPE4H), Dr. Gao will partner with colleagues from across the School of Engineering & Applied Science to develop technologies that bridge disciplines, all in the interest of advancing healthcare.

“We are very excited to have Sherry as a new member of the center,” said Daniel Hammer, the Alfred G. and Meta A. Ennis Professor of Bioengineering and inaugural director of CPE4H.

“Gene editing is an important new tool that can precisely alter cell behavior by deleting or redirecting cell pathways, as well as enhancing and suppressing gene expression. She will have significant interactions with other members of the center, such as Mike Mitchell and myself, as well as the broader Penn community, especially with the CAR therapists.”

One of Dr. Gao’s primary goals is to make gene-editing tools more accurate. As Dr. Gao has discovered, CRISPR, the revolutionary technology developed by Nobel-prize winners Jennifer Doudna and Emmanuille Charpentier, doesn’t always work perfectly. More generally, Dr. Gao is fascinated by enzymes, the class of molecules to which CRISPR belongs, which enable chemical reactions by lowering the activation energy required for a reaction to take place.

This fall, Dr. Gao will teach a course on genetic engineering, which will be open to both graduate and undergraduate students. She is also developing a course within CBE to focus on biomolecules, with a particular interest in enzymes.

**Progress of the Presidential Commission on Countering Hate and Building Community**

The Presidential Commission on Countering Hate and Building Community was convened and charged on December 20, 2023 by Interim President J. Larry Jameson. The commission, which consists of faculty, staff, students, alumni, trustees, and two *ex-officio* members, was tasked to address bias, discrimination, and hate on campus as Penn strives to be a community that leads with care and compassion. The commission met with Interim President Jameson last month to share the progress that has been made.

To read the executive summary in its entirety, visit [https://president.upenn.edu/initiatives/presidential-commission/progress-update](https://president.upenn.edu/initiatives/presidential-commission/progress-update).

The commission has encouraged community input via a dedicated email address since January, and recently unveiled a series of in-person and virtual small group listening sessions and a new survey for students, faculty, staff, and postdocs.
Presidential professorships allow the University to recruit and retain exceptional faculty. The Mitchell J. Blutt and Margo Krody Blutt Presidential Professorship was established in 2017 and is dedicated to a Wharton faculty appointment. This professorship enables the school to recognize the academic achievements of Wharton professor Sarah E. Light in a way that befits her meaningful contributions.

“The Presidential professorship recognizes and supports Sarah Light’s pathbreaking research and teaching, which explores critical connections between business and law and addressing climate change—an area of focus for Penn’s strategic framework In Principle and Practice,” said Interim President Jameson. “I am grateful for Mitchell and Margo Blutt and their ongoing, generous support for boosting Penn and its academic enterprise.”

Dr. Light has been a member of the Wharton faculty since 2013, when she joined as an assistant professor. She rose to become an associate professor with tenure in 2019 and was promoted to a full professor of legal studies and business ethics in 2023. Dr. Light’s research focuses on climate and environmental law and policy and private environmental governance. Also serving as the faculty co-director of Wharton’s Climate Center, Dr. Light’s research and other academic activities advance the study and dialogue of issues that sit at the intersection of corporate sustainability and business innovation.

“Mitchell and Margo Blutt are stalwart members of the Penn community, giving their time and resources to myriad important causes across the University,” said Dean James. “I am immensely grateful for their longstanding support of the Wharton School, including their most recent Presidential Professorship.”

“Professor Light’s research examines critical aspects of environmental policy, governance, and business practices, and will undoubtedly influence how corporations address sustainability issues in the 21st century. This professorship is an investment in our exceptional faculty and supports our students in their exploration and understanding of the role of business in addressing climate challenges.”

The Blutts have supported a breadth of initiatives across Penn, giving to the Wharton School, the Perelman School of Medicine, Penn Athletics, Penn Engineering, Penn Arts & Sciences, and the School of Social Policy and Practice. In addition to their three named Presidential professorships, they further support teaching and research through their contributions to the Jean-Marie Kneehley President’s Distinguished Professorship, the Mitchell Blutt, MD Visiting Professorship in Entrepreneurship, and the Blutt Endowed Internship, for business students, faculty, and research, the Blutts have enriched arts and cultural opportunities at Penn through the Blutt Singer-Songwriter Symposium, the Blutt Band Slam, and the Blutt College House Music Program.

Dr. Blutt said, “It has been a joy for us to be able to create, fortify, and enhance worthy causes across Penn, from formative student experiences to backing faculty and, through them, their research. It is an honor and privilege for us to help advance the careers of exceptional Wharton professors, especially those who make significant contributions to the most important issues we face as a society.”

Dr. Blutt is the CEO of Consonance Capital, an investment firm focused in healthcare. In addition to his multiple Penn degrees, he and Margo Blutt are proud Penn parents, with their son having graduated in 2023. Rounding out the family’s generosity with service, Dr. Blutt is a former Penn Trustee and past Penn Medicine Board member. He currently serves as a member of the Wharton Board of Advisors and an emeritus member of the School of Arts & Sciences Board of Advisors. The University has honored his many contributions through Penn’s Alumni Award of Merit in 2018 and the School of Medicine’s Alumni Service Award in 2007.

Sarah E. Light: Inaugural Mitchell J. Blutt and Margo Krody Blutt Presidential Professor

Catherine McDonald: Chair of the Department of Family and Community Health in Penn Nursing

Margo and Mitchell Blutt

neurism and Medicine Endowed Fund, and the Penn National Clinician Scholars Program Endowment Fund.

Extending their generosity to students, Mitchell and Margo Blutt have established an MD/MBA scholarship for medical students who have studied business as well as a scholarship for students at Penn Arts & Sciences. They have given to the Alumni Association Fellowship Fund in honor of June Kinney, for Wharton MBA students in healthcare management, and the Blutt Endowed Internship, for business and research internships in the Roy and Diana Vagelos Program in Life Sciences & Management.

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Commencement 2024: Commencement Speaker and Honorary Degree Recipients

Commencement Speaker

Siddhartha Mukherjee

Siddhartha Mukherjee, MD, DPhil, is a physician, researcher, and author who serves as an associate professor of medicine at Columbia University and as an oncologist at the university’s medical center. Dr. Mukherjee’s trilogy of books has made a vast contribution to the public discourse on human health, medicine, and research.

The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer earned the 2011 Pulitzer Prize for General Nonfiction, and The Gene: An Intimate History won international awards and was recognized by The Washington Post and The New York Times as one of the most influential books of 2016. Both books have been adapted into PBS documentaries by the renowned filmmaker Ken Burns. The Emperor of All Maladies was also named among TIME magazine’s 100 best nonfiction books of the past century.

As a medical scholar, Dr. Mukherjee has conducted groundbreaking innovative research that signals a paradigm shift in cancer pathology and has enabled the development of treatments that disrupt current pharmaceutical models toward new biological and cellular therapies. He was among the first to make cellular therapies available in India. His groundbreaking research is now being translated into a record number of concurrent clinical trials across the globe, spanning novel therapies for ovarian, breast and endometrial cancer, leukemias and lymphomas, and a variety of other diseases. Only a select few medical scholars have been able to translate their work into human trials of such depth and breadth.

Dr. Mukherjee writes for The New Yorker, The New York Times Magazine, and many other publications. He has received numerous awards for his scientific work and has published his original research in leading journals such as Nature, Cell, and The New England Journal of Medicine. He is a member of the National Academy of Medicine.

A native of India, Dr. Mukherjee received his bachelor’s degree from Stanford University and was a Rhodes Scholar at Magdalene College, University of Oxford. After graduating from Harvard Medical School, he completed his internal medicine residency at Massachusetts General Hospital and his hematology-oncology fellowship at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Dr. Mukherjee will receive an honorary Doctor of Sciences.

Honorary Degree Recipients

Ingrid Daubechies

Ingrid Daubechies, PhD, is the James B. Duke Professor of Mathematics and Electrical and Computer Engineering at Duke University. Dr. Daubechies’ academic work focuses on mathematical methods for the analysis of signals, images, and data.

Early in her career, she constructed particularly convenient families of wavelets, mathematical tools that enable the compression of images without loss of the crisp detail; their use has become commonplace on today’s electronic screens. The New York Times called her the “godmother of the digital image.” Over the years, Dr. Daubechies has expanded the application of wavelets. She frequently collaborates with experts in a wide range of fields, such as geophysics, neuroscience, biological morphology, medical imaging, and in art conservation.

Dr. Daubechies has received numerous awards. She was the first woman to receive the Wolf Prize, one of the most prestigious in mathematics. She is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering and the National Academy of Science, as well as a fellow of the American Mathematical Society, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the MacArthur Foundation, and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

An advocate for the field of mathematics, Dr. Daubechies recently collaborated on a mixed media art installation, titled “Mathemalchymy,” that celebrates the beauty, creativity, and fun of mathematics. The project is currently touring the United States.

A native of Belgium, Dr. Daubechies earned her PhD in theoretical physics from Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Free University of Brussels).

Dr. Daubechies will receive an honorary Doctor of Sciences.

Karl Deisseroth

Karl Deisseroth, MD, PhD, is the D.H. Chen Professor of Bioengineering and of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University, and an investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

Dr. Deisseroth is a practicing psychiatrist at Stanford with specialization in major depression and autism-spectrum disease, employing medications along with neural stimulation. His laboratory has developed groundbreaking technologies to better understand brain circuitry and improve mental health care, including optogenetics, which engineers individual brain cells to be controlled by light, and CLARITY, which allows for the investigation of intact biological systems.

Dr. Deisseroth received his undergraduate degree from Harvard University and both his PhD and MD from Stanford. He also completed his postdoctoral training, medical internship, and adult psychiatry residency at Stanford, and is board-certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology.

In 2021, he published his highly acclaimed first book, Projections: A Story of Human Emotions, a work of literary nonfiction in which he shares perspectives on his patients with psychiatric disorders.

Among many other honors, Dr. Deisseroth was the sole recipient for optogenetics of the Koester Prize (2010), the Nakasone Prize (2010), the W. Alden Spencer Prize (2011), the Richard Lounsbery Prize (2013), the Dickson Prize in Science (2014), the Keio Medical Science Prize (2015), the Luir Prize in Biomedical Sciences (2015), the Albany Prize (2015), the Dickson Prize in Medicine (2015), the Redelshemer Prize (2017), the Else Kröner Fresenius Prize (2017), the NOMIS Distinguished Scientist Award (2017), the Frances and Kenneth Eisenberg Translational Research Prize (2018), the Kyoto Prize (2018), the Heineken Prize in Medicine from the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (2020), and the Japan Prize (2023).

He was selected as a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator in 2013 and was elected to the U.S. National Academy of Medicine in 2010, to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences in 2012, and to the U.S. National Academy of Engineering in 2019.

Dr. Deisseroth will receive an honorary Doctor of Sciences.

Kenny Gamble

Born in Philadelphia, Kenneth Gamble grew up surrounded by music and spent much of his youth working in the music industry. He cut his first records at local penny arcade recording booths, brought coffee to WDAS morning radio personalities Georgie Woods and Jimmy Bishop, and operated his own record store in South Philadelphia.

In the mid-1960s, Mr. Gamble met Camden native and pianist Leon Huff and the two quickly discovered their shared love of songwriting and composing. After some early successes with their own homemade labels, Mr. Gamble and Mr. Huff created “Philadelphia International Records” (PIR) in 1971, giving birth to what would become widely known as “the Philly Sound.”

Within a year of PIR opening its doors, the O’Jays had #1 R&B and pop hits, including “Backstabbers” and “Love Train.” Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes were riding high with “If You Don’t Know Me By Now,” and Billy Paul earned the label’s first Grammy with “Me and Mrs. Jones.” During the early 1970s, PIR was a dominant force in the R&B and pop music industries. Two years after its creation, PIR was the second largest African American-owned music company in the United States, just behind Motown. CBS Records was now distributing more soul music than at any time in the company’s history. In 2008, forty-five years after the duo’s first collaborations, Mr. Gamble and Mr. Huff were inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame with the inaugural Ahmet Ertegun Award, one of many honors they have received over the years. In 2015, Mr. Gamble and Mr. Huff served as the first African American members of the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

Currently, Mr. Gamble serves as an honorary member of the Board of Directors of the Songwriters Hall of Fame, which honors the legacies and accomplishments of songwriters globally. He also continues to advise local singers, producers, and musicians on building their music careers.

Mr. Gamble will receive an honorary Doctor of Music.
Leon Huff
Born in Camden, New Jersey, Leon Huff was first exposed to music through his mother, who taught her son the basics on the family’s piano, the only one on the block. He went on to receive formal training and as a young man, performed as a session musician with his musical idols, Jerry Lieber and Mike Stoller, and many others.

When Mr. Huff met fellow musician Kenneth Gamble in the mid-1960s, the duo discovered they had a common interest in songwriting and production. They began a songwriting partnership that exists to this day. Along with Mr. Gamble, Mr. Huff has written or co-written more than 3,500 songs over 60 years, including R&B #1 hits, pop #1 hits, gold and platinum records, Grammy winners, and more. By 1971, Mr. Huff and Mr. Gamble had formed their own label, Philadelphia International Records (PIR), and secured a distribution deal with CBS. With a stable core of artists – the O’Jays, Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes, Billy Paul, and others, PIR generated hit after hit almost from day one.

Mr. Huff and Mr. Gamble have received countless honors, including their 1995 induction into the National Academy of Songwriters’ Hall of Fame. They received the 1999 Trustees Award from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, as well as induction into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1994 and the Dance Music Hall of Fame in 2005. In 2010, they were honored by the City of Philadelphia in a special ceremony to rename the block of South Broad Street they made famous to “people all over the world” as “Gamble & Huff Walk.”

Today, Mr. Huff continues to produce and write songs, and is never far from a piano or keyboard when the inspiration arises.

Mr. Huff will receive an honorary Doctor of Music.

Maya Lin
Artist, designer, and environmentalist Maya Lin interprets the natural world through science, history, and culture to create works that have a profound impact on how we view our history and how we relate to the natural world. Since her very first work, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Ms. Lin has gone on to a remarkable and highly acclaimed career in both art and architecture, while still being committed to memory works that focus on some of the critical historical issues of our time.

Ms. Lin has been recognized around the world for her distinct aesthetic vision with groundbreaking site-specific art installations such as the recent Madison Square Park installation, Ghost Forest, and the recently completed Decoding the Tree of Life for Penn Medicine’s Pavilion. Her celebrated architectural projects range from the Nielsen Library for Smith College to Novartis’ campus headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts, with buildings in progress for a performing arts lab space at Bard College, to the new design for the Museum of Chinese in America in downtown Manhattan. She is deeply committed to sustainable and site sensitive design methods in all her projects.

Ms. Lin is a member of the Bloomberg Foundation, the What is Missing? Foundation, and she is a National Geographic Explorer-at-Large. She has been profiled in TIME magazine, The New York Times Magazine, and The New Yorker, among others. In 2009, she was awarded the National Medal of Arts, the nation’s highest honor for artistic excellence. In 2016, President Barack Obama awarded Ms. Lin the nation’s highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, praising her for a celebrated career in both art and architecture and for creating a sacred place of healing in the nation’s capital.

Ms. Lin earned a bachelor’s and a master’s degree at Yale University.

Ms. Lin will receive an honorary Doctor of Arts.

Take Our Children to Work Day: April 25

Since 2019, Heather Isbell Schumacher, an architectural archivist in the Stuart Weitzman School of Design, has collaborated with her colleagues in Fisher Fine Arts Library in Fisher Fine Arts Library to create an array of memorable activities for Penn’s annual Take Our Children to Work Day event. She started bringing her daughter Lena to the event five years ago; this year, she looks forward to having her youngest daughter Hazel come to campus as well.

“I think it’s interesting for my kids to see a variety of things that people do here at Penn, and that they could do,” Ms. Schumacher said. “What I do is kind of abstract to them and they don’t really get it. This event makes my job visible and tangible to them and it brings us closer together.”

This year, Take Our Children to Work Day will be held on April 25. The event is an opportunity for children to receive enriching hands-on experiences in Penn’s innovative, diverse working environments through an array of activities and programs. The event is geared towards children ages 9-15, offering age-appropriate academic learning activities, although children of any age are welcome to attend.

You can see all of this year’s activities on the Division of Human Resources Take Our Children to Work Day webpage. Participants can sample a variety of fields from athletics to robotics. Plus, each child can get a souvenir PennCard with their photo. Reflecting on last year’s event, Ms. Schumacher said, “Lena loved going to get her PennCard made and the kite flying and engineering activities. We also did ice skating and took the art and architecture tour in the Fisher Fine Arts Library.”

Paula Leaky, a research assistant phlebotomist in Penn Medicine’s department of dermatology, said that her daughters Mackenzie and Haley took a special interest in the Nursing School’s “Hands-on Fun with Simulated Patients” activity when they attend last year’s event. “They absolutely loved it. We also did the walk at the BioPond, Boba Tea Making, and had lunch at Franklin Square. There are just so many fun activities for these kids to see and learn. It’s just a wonderful experience, so I asked them, if they had the opportunity to do it again this year, would they, and they said absolutely.”

Schools, departments, and groups across Penn are collaborating to offer dozens of developmental activities for your children this year. Advanced registration is required and opens on Monday, April 1 at 9 a.m. Here are just a few of the activities that can be enjoyed:

- Play homemade carnival games at the Penn Libraries with booths based on famous literature.
- Meet a registered dietitian to learn about how they turn the science of nutrition into easy-to-understand information and experience a no-cook cooking demo.
- Play 9-square and lawn games, participate in a fitness obstacle course, and shoot baskets with the Division of Recreation and Intercollegiate Athletics.
- Participate in an interactive session and explore the use of task trainers and manikins with the School of Nursing.
- Explore physical phenomena at David Rittenhouse Laboratory—rainbows to telescopes, and so much more, the physics and astronomy department will host hands-on activities.
- Learn about earning, saving, spending, and giving money with the Division of Finance.
- Attend sessions at the Pennvoltion Works complex featuring robots, a demo from the Penn Vet Working Dogs, and other fun activities.

During this entertaining day, participants can also enjoy the Penn Relays, explore the Penn Museum, go backstage at Penn Live Arts, skate at Penn’s Ice Rink, enjoy expanded offerings from Penn Engineering such as learning about chemical and biomolecular engineering through ice cream making, and much more.

Sessions include activities in three different categories. Get to Know Penn’s Campus and Wellness Activities are both primarily open registration, unless otherwise indicated, and you and your children may attend as many as you like. Youth and their sponsors may attend one Special Topic activity only. Mark your calendar to register on April 1, because space is limited for certain events.

Supervisor approval is required for staff, faculty, and postdocs to attend activities. Participating staff must accompany children to all activities, so be sure to work with your supervisor to ensure coverage for operational needs.

Erica Lu, head of global studies technical services at Van Pelt-Dietrich Library, said she looks forward to bringing her daughter Serena back again this year. “Take Our Children to Work Day is a fun experience for the kids, and they can feel proud about where we work, but it also increases the integrity of the University and incorporates the University’s core values of inclusiveness because it shows Penn values not just us, but our family members as well.”

—Division of Human Resources
April AT PENN

ACADEMIC CALENDAR
1 Advance Registration for Fall Term. Through April 8.
2 Last day to withdraw from a course.

CHILDREN’S EVENTS
27 Storytime at the Morris: a reading of a selected book and a craft activity afterward; 10:30 a.m.; Morris Arboretum & Gardens; register: https://www.morrisarboretum.org/ (Morris Arboretum & Gardens).

Penn Museum
Online webinars. Info: https://www.pennmuseum.organ.

5 At-Home Anthro Live: Senet: Make and Play an Ancient Egyptian Board Game; dating back over 5,000 years, the popular ancient Egyptian game senet is one of the oldest board games in the world; students will make their own senet boards and learn how to play; 1 p.m.

12 At-Home Anthro Live: Pets in Archaeology; students will track the history of pets across different ancient cultures by studying artifacts in the Penn Museum collection, then design their own pet collar; 1 p.m.

19 At-Home Anthro Live: Weaving with Recycled Materials; in honor of Earth Day, students will join Penn Museum educators to learn more about weaving techniques from around the world and then try some paper weaving of their own; 1 p.m.

26 At-Home Anthro Live: Indigenous Games; using collection artifacts, students will learn the rules and significance of games played by Indigenous peoples from North, Central, and South America and how many of those games are still played today; 1 p.m.

CONFERENCES
2 Symposium on Immigration Policy and the 2024 Election; brings together policy analysts, immigration scholars, and representatives of nonprofit advocacy organizations to discuss immigration policies and their impact, as well as the role of academic research in informing the broader debate; 1-6:30 p.m.; room TBA, PCPSE; register: https://events.alf.org/XC1n6x13dTH8e (Center for the Study of Ethnicity, Race, and Immigration, Penn Migration Initiative, Population Studies Center).

3 From Anguish to Action: Improving Criminal System Accuracy; the Quattrone Center advocates for a “systems approach” to improving the quality and accuracy of the criminal justice system, working with police, prosecutors, defense attorneys, courts, and others to ensure that innocent people are not convicted of crimes they didn’t commit; engage with researchers and policy makers on these important issues; 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Fitts Auditorium, Golkin Hall; register: https://event.mee/Mm0oN (Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice). Also April 4, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

8 16th Annual Conference on Statistical Issues in Clinical Trials: Optimizing Dose Selection Across the Clinical Trials Spectrum; features twelve keynote speakers and panelists; 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Rubenstein Auditorium & Commons, Smilow Center for Translation Research; register: https://event.mee/92nWW4?locale=en (Biostatistics, Epidemiology & Informatics).

11 The Nexus of Climate Change, Nature-Based Solutions, and CSO Remediation in the Northeast Mega Region; an afternoon of panel discussions, followed by the presentation of WaterNow Alliance’s Emerging Leader Awards; noon-6 p.m.; Fitts Auditorium, Golkin Hall; register: https://tinyurl.com/water-center-conf-apr-11 (Water Center at Penn).

12 Machiavelli the Aristotelian? Discussing the Greek Sources of Modern Political Thought; brings together scholars to discuss the role of late medieval and early modern Aristotelianism in Machiavelli, and the relationship between Machiavelli and Aristotle’s philosophical and political ideas as they were represented both in scholarly and humanist contexts; 2-7 p.m.; Class of 1955 Conference Room, Van Pelt Library (Italian Studies).

12 Women in International Political Economy Workshop; features eight keynotes by leading women researchers in economics; 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; room 250, PCPSE; register: https://tinyurl.com/browne-center-conf-apr-12 (Christopher H. Browne Center for International Politics).

Crafting Revolutions: Undergraduate Humanities Forum Research Conference; under graduates students from across the humanities and beyond present their research; 9:30 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; Class of 1978 Orrery Pavilion, Van Pelt Library; register: https://tinyurl.com/wolf-center-conf-apr-12 (Wolf Humanities Center).

2024 Spring Research Symposium; an engaging day of undergraduate research; talk with student researchers from diverse fields during the poster session, followed by 5-minute flash talks with students; 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Game Room, Houston Hall; 12:30-2:30 p.m.; Golkin Room, Houston Hall (Center for Undergraduate Research & Fellowships).

English Honors Thesis Symposium; hear presentations from nine undergraduate students; 2-5 p.m.; room 135, Fisher-Bennett Hall, and Zoom webinar; join: https://tinyurl.com/english-conf-apr-12 (English).

18 Everyday Forms of Digital Activism and Resistance: An International Symposium; people around the world engage in quotidian forms of mundane activism and resistance that advance their communities; this symposium brings leading researchers together to examine the role the internet plays in activism; 4:30-6:45 p.m.; room 500, Annenberg School (Center on Digital Culture & Society). Also April 19, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.

25 Premodern Literature and Global Histories: A Conference in Honor of David Wallace; brings together more than thirty of Dr. Wallace’s former doctoral students to consider the future of medieval literary studies, with special emphasis on the recent global turn in premodern studies and other emerging theoretical and methodological frameworks; 3-7:30 p.m.; Myerson Conference Room, Van Pelt Library, and Kelly Writers House; register: https://tinyurl.com/wallacefest-apr-25 (English). Also April 26, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

EXHIBITS
Upcoming
1 Risky Beauty: Aesthetics and Climate Change; as the risks associated with climate change grow globally and locally, artists are exploring diverse methods to widen climate communications beyond the written word of scientists and journalists; this exhibit showcases artwork in different media that draws in viewers with its sensual beauty, while stimulating awareness and changing perceptions; Annenberg School for Communication. Through May 2.

12 A Selection of Mexican Ex-Votos; gain insight into Mexican religious folk practices through ex-votos and devotional paintings on medical subjects; Holman Biotech Commons. Through October 18, 2024.

Now

Time of Change: Civil Rights Photography of Bruce Davidson; see six powerful photographs by Bruce Davidson, who documented the experiences of Freedom Riders challenging segregation during the Civil Rights era; East Elevator Bay, Van Pelt Library. Through May 20.

Barbara Earl Thomas: The Illuminated Body; first exhibition in Philadelphia of the work of an artist whose work draws from history, literature, folklore, mythology, and the Bible to reflect the social fabric of our times; Arthur Ross Gallery, Fisher Fine Arts Library. Though May 21.

Barbara Earl Thomas: In Process; presented in concert with Barbara Earl Thomas: The Illuminated Body, on view in the Arthur Ross Gallery; this exhibition shares insights into Thomas’ artistic process, featuring photographs and materials from the artist’s studio; first floor, Fisher Fine Arts Library. Through May 22.

Revolutionary Aesthetics: Afterlives of Central American Insurgency; selections from a recently-acquired collection of posters from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama offer a window into Central America’s Cold War-era conflicts from the 1960s to the 1990s; Goldstein Family Gallery, 6th floor, Van Pelt Library. Through May 24.

Thomas Evans' Bicentennial Birthday; honors the 200th birthday of Thomas Evans, Penn Dental Medicine’s earliest benefactor, by showing highlights from the Thomas Evans col-
On April 2, the Korean Studies Program, the Center for East Asian Studies, and the Program on Gender, Sexuality and Women’s Studies will screen Coming to You, a film about mothers who support their LGBTQ+ children. See Films.

lecion; Levy Dental Medicine Library, Evans Building. Through May 31.

Dominique White and Albert Whittle: Sargasso Sea; takes its name from the only body of water that is defined solely by oceanic currents rather than shorelines; upends the colonization, trafficking, and trade that have taken place on this body of water with counter images of shipwreck, salvage, reciprocity and Black feminist led-revolution; Institute of Contemporary Art. Through June 2.

Tomashi Jackson: Across the Universe; is the first solo exhibition to bring together paintings, video, prints, and sculpture from different bodies of work Ms. Jackson has created over the past eight years, providing an overview of the threads in her practice and her use of materials; presents examples of videos in dialogue with paintings and sculpture; Institute of Contemporary Art. Through June 2.

Etchingroom1: Safety Instructions; the first-ever U.S. exhibition for Kyiv-based artists Anna Khodkova and Kristina Yarosh, founders of the print studio Etchingroom1; an artistic exploration into the fragility and transience of safety within the modern world; Feintuch Family Lobby, Annenberg Performing Arts Center. Through June 28.

Penn in the Field: Student Fieldwork Photography; experience fieldwork and research travel of current undergraduate and graduate students as documented through their own lenses; Library in Academic Wing 3, Penn Museum. Through August 31.

Entrways: Nontsikelele Mutiti; the inaugural project for a new series that commissions artists to activate the façade of ICA’s building in partnership with Maharam, North America’s leading creator of textiles for commercial and residential interiors; features the work of Nontsikelele Mutiti, a Zimbabwean-born visual artist and educator, who decorated the windows with African hair braiding patterns and hair clips; Institute of Contemporary Art. Through December 2024.

Films

2. Coming to You; offers a look at mothers who support their queer children in South Korea; includes Q&A with director Byun Gyuri; 5:30 p.m.; room 401, Fisher-Bennett Hall (Korean Studies, Center for East Asian Studies, Gender, Sexuality & Women’s Studies).

12. To Be Invisible; every week for the past three years, Alexis and Kellie have stood outside Durham County’s child welfare agency, demanding the return of their children; together, they embark on a journey to bring their children home; 5:30 p.m.; location TBA; info: https://prss.sas.upenn.edu/ (Penn Program on Race, Science & Society).

Fitness & Learning

Penn Ice Rink Events; daily hockey classes, skating lessons, and open skating sessions; Class of 1923 Ice Rink; full schedule: https://icerink.business-services.upenn.edu/calendar.

1. Italian Studies Open House; undergrads interested in learning more about the courses and program are invited to an informal aperitivo; 5-7 p.m.; room 543, Williams Hall (Italian Studies).

3. Fels Executive MPA Virtual Info Session and Meet & Greet; learn from Fels students and alumni about the executive master of public administration (EMPA) program, from the course work to the culture; noon; online webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/fels-info-session-apr-3 (Fels Institute of Government).

4. Penn Student Vote Making Workshop; learn how people in the past made and stored their precious scented oils, see beautiful perfume vessels from the Penn Museum’s collections, and make your own perfumed oils to take home; 6 p.m.; Penn Museum; open to Penn students with a PennCard; register: https://www.penn.museum/calendar/55/penn-student-vote-making-workshop (Penn Museum).

5. Friday Virtual Chat; connect with admissions team and fellow prospective students in a virtual information session that will provide insight into the admission process, financial aid opportunities, and the student experience at Penn GSE; 9 a.m.; online webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/gse-chat-apr-5 (Graduate School of Education). Also April 12, noon; April 19, 9 a.m.; April 26, noon.

9. Longevity Awareness and Financial Decision Making Later in Life; Olivia Mitchell, Wharton, will investigate ways to save for retirement, including longevity insurance; noon; Zoom webinar; info: nasef@pobox.upenn.edu (Penn Association for Senior & Emeritus Faculty).

The Deep Dig: Ancient Maya and the Cosmos; a 4-week course that delves into the rich tapestry of ancient beliefs and mythologies that shaped the Maya civilization’s understanding of the universe; explore the wisdom of the Popol Vuh, a pivotal Indigenous text, and witness how it intertwines with ancient images to illuminate fundamental Maya concepts; 6:30 p.m.; online webinar; registration for 4-session course: $175/general, $125/member; register: https://tinyurl.com/deep-dig-apr-2024 (Penn Museum). Also April 16, 23, 30.

10. Ancient Alcohol After Hours: Reviving Philly’s Roots; a sensory expedition into the captivating history of winemaking in the heart of Philadelphia; 6-9 p.m.; Penn Museum; tickets: $50; register: https://tinyurl.com/alcohol-after-hours-apr-10 (Penn Museum).

11. Digs & Dice: Let’s Play Koi-Koi; celebrate Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month by learning about hanafuda, a style of Japanese playing cards that date to the 1600s, and play koi-koi, a two-player hanafuda game; 6 p.m.; online webinar; tickets: $10/general, free/members; register: https://tinyurl.com/koi-koi-apr-11 (Penn Museum).

16. Working Dog Center Tour; see firsthand what it takes to train leading detection dogs; watch as the Working Dog Center staff explains the step-by-step process to preparing a dog to serve in explosive detection, search & rescue, cancer detection, and more; 10 a.m.; Penn Working Dog Center; RSVP: pvwdcoutreach@vet.upenn.edu (Penn Vet).

18. Teaching Polarizing Topics; Anthea Butler, religious studies, gives participants advice on how to teach topics like religion, race, and gender during politically charged times and how to facilitate productive discussions in the classroom; 3:30 p.m.; room 204, Cohen Hall (Religious Studies, CETLI).

African American Resource Center

Locations TBA. Info: https://aarc.upenn.edu/events.

17. Women of Color at Penn Lunch Series; noon.

18. Men of Color Monthly Huddle Meeting; 1 p.m.

26. Community Lunch Program with Penn Women’s Center and African American Resource Center; noon.
College of Liberal & Professional Studies

Online webinars. Info: https://www.lps.upenn.edu/about/events.

1 Understanding Substance Use Disorders and Treatment Options; noon.
2 April Wellness Walk; noon; meet at Ben Franklin statue, College Hall.
3 Joy Multiplier; 12:30 p.m.
4 Considering Home Ownership with PNC; noon.

Human Resources Workshops

Unless noted, online webinars. Open to Penn faculty and staff. Info: https://www.hr.upenn.edu/.

1 Understanding Substance Use Disorders and Treatment Options; noon.
2 April Wellness Walk; noon; meet at Ben Franklin statue, College Hall.
3 Joy Multiplier; 12:30 p.m.
4 Considering Home Ownership with PNC; noon.

MUSIC

9 Music in the Stacks: A Musical Journey to Cyprus; Nicoletta Demetriou (voice), Nikitas Tampakis (viola), and Roger Mgrdichian (oud) lead an imaginary journey to Cyprus through...
traditional songs of love, sorrow, and hope; 7 p.m.; Class of 1978 Orrery Pavilion, Van Pelt Library; register: https://library.upenn.edu/calendar/events/176828 (Penn Libraries).

Music Department
In-person events. Info: https://music.sas.upenn.edu/events
10 Music in the Pavilion: Perspectives on Bartók’s Second Quartet; Daedalus Quartet explores Bartók’s Second Quartet in the context of Orientalism, Arabic influences, and musical nationalism; 7 p.m.; Class of 1978 Orrery Pavilion, Van Pelt Library.

Opera and Musical Theater Workshop; 7:30 p.m.; performances of opera, operetta, and musical theatre by an ensemble that teaches students to combine believable acting with expressive singing; 7:30 p.m.; room 419, Fisher-Bennett Hall.

13 Penn Wind Ensemble; three-decade-long Penn mainstay ensemble performs a wide range of repertoire, drawing on newly composed works for wind band as well as works from the core wind repertoire; 8 p.m.; Irvine Auditorium.

14 Penn Chorale; performance by an ensemble that sings a variety of choral music, concentrating on music composed in the 21st and late 20th centuries; 3 p.m.; St. Mary’s Church, 3916 Locust Walk.

Penn Flutes; one of the largest flute choirs in the U.S. presents a repertoire that spans a variety of genres, from the Renaissance through Modern eras; 5 p.m.; Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall.

Also April 19, 1:30 p.m.; 1st floor library, Penn Museum.

17 Penn Baroque and Recorder Consort; members of this ensemble work in individual groups of 3 to 6 musicians for a full semester, focusing on style, ornamentation, interpretation, and ensemble technique; 8 p.m.; room 419, Fisher-Bennett Hall.

21 Penn Chamber Music; Penn’s chamber music program performs works by Beethoven, Bartok, Schoenberg, Ravel, Shostakovich, etc. in ensembles that include string quartets, piano trios, four-hands piano, and other combinations; 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.; room 419, Fisher-Bennett Hall. Also April 24, 7 p.m.

22 Penn Collegium Musicum; a select chamber choir with a special interest in historically-informed performance practice performs music from the Medieval, Renaissance, and early Baroque periods; 7:30 p.m.; St. Mary’s Church, 3916 Locust Walk.

25 Penn Arab Music Ensemble; performance by an ensemble that explores a wide range of Arab music genres; 8 p.m.; Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall.

26 Penn Symphony Orchestra Spring Concert; Penn’s premiere orchestral ensemble performs Italian composer Respighi’s Pines of Rome and French composer Saint-Saëns’s Organ Symphony, the latter featuring Irvine Auditorium’s Curtis Organ; 8 p.m.; Irvine Auditorium.

27 Penn Sound Collective, Featuring the Daedalus Quartet; performance by doctoral students in Penn’s music program; 7:30 p.m.; room 419, Fisher-Bennett Hall.

29 Penn Samba; ensemble featuring instruments like the surdo, caixa, repinique, tambourim, gaiza, and agogó, among others, performs a wide variety of rhythms from different regions of Brazil; 7 p.m.; Hall of Flags, Houston Hall.

Penn Live Arts
In-person events. Info and tickets: https://pennlivearts.org/events.

12 Orquesta Akokán; mambo group that channels the fiery Cuban mambo revolution of the 1940s and 50s while pushing the grooves to new heights; 8 p.m.; Zellerbach Theater, Annenberg Center; tickets: $29-$59.

14 Alarm Will Sound; new-music ensemble celebrates the life and work of avant garde composer Steve Reich, including Music for 18 Musicians, perhaps the most influential minimalist work of all time, Clapping Music, which uses hands as the sole instrument, Vermont Counterpoint, and Radio Rewrite, inspired by the music of Radiohead; 7 p.m.; Zellerbach Theater, Annenberg Center; tickets: $29-$59.

25 Ruth Naomi Floyd: Are We Yet Somehow Alive? Philadelphia’s own sacred jazz vocalist/composer performs a moving world premiere that pairs jazz, blues, and gospel with fine art projections to share compelling first-person accounts from enslaved Africans in America; 7:30 p.m.; Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral, 19 South 38th Street; tickets: $42. Also see Talks.

ON STAGE


19 MOMIX; the dancer-illusionists of MOMIX return to Penn Live Arts, using the human form, nature, and music to create vivid, surreal worlds of wonder; 10:30 a.m. and 8 p.m.; Zellerbach Theater, Annenberg Center; tickets: $29-$69; register: https://pennlivearts.org/event/momix2024 (Penn Live Arts, Also April 20, 2 and 8 p.m.

READINGS & SIGNINGS

15 Poetry Reading and Discussion of Translations; Safaa Fathy, Franco-Egyptian poet; Rawad Wehbe, Near Eastern languages & civilizations; 3:30 p.m.; room 135, Fisher-Bennett Hall (English).

25 Private Gardens of Philadelphia; Nicole Juday, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society; 7 p.m.; online webinar; tickets: $35 general, $30 members; register: https://tinyurl.com/juday-reading-apr25 (Morris Arboretum & Gardens).

Kelly Writers House

Unless noted, in-person events at Arts Café, Kelly Writers House. Info: https://writing.upenn.edu/wh/calendar/0424.php

1 A Reading; Harryette Mullen, University of California, Los Angeles; 6:30 p.m.

2 A Conversation; Harryette Mullen, University of California, Los Angeles; 10 a.m.

3 The American Poet Laureate: A Conversation; Amy Paeth, English; Robert Casper; Library of Congress; noon.

Caroline Rothstein Oral Poetry Program; Imani Davis, writer and poet; E. Jin, writer; Wes Matthews, poet; 6 p.m.

8 Reading and Conversation; Mira Jacob, The New School and Randolph College; 6 p.m.

11 In Conversation; Alejandro Escovedo, singer-songwriter; 5:30 p.m.

15 Brave Testimony Poetry Reading; Reginald Dwayne Betts, Freedom Reads; 5:30 p.m.

16 Investigating Homelessness; Jennifer Egan, English; Dennis Cullane, SP2; noon.

A Reading; Elysha Chang, writer; Abbey Mei Otis, writer; 6 p.m.

18 Annual Marathon Reading: Giovanni’s Room by James Baldwin; 4-9 p.m.

29 A Reading; Maggie Nelson, California Institute of the Arts; 6:30 p.m.

30 A Conversation; Maggie Nelson, California Institute of the Arts; 10 a.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS

20 Earth Week at Penn; an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to engage in cross-disciplinary events designed to educate and inspire action; this year’s theme is Restore & Regenerate – to inspire us to think of what replenishes and revitalizes our planet’s natural systems while building community; full schedule of events: https://www.sustainability.upenn.edu/campus-initiatives/earth-week (Sustainability at Penn). Through April 26.

24 Norma M. Lang Distinguished Award for Scholarly Practice and Policy; Pamela Z. Caccione, family and community health, will be honored; 3:30 p.m.; auditorium, Claire Fagin Hall; register: https://tinyurl.com/lang-award-apr-24 (Nursing).

SPORTS

Home games only. Info and tickets: https://pennnationalevents.com/calendar.

3 Softball vs. Villanova; 4 p.m.; Penn Park.

5 Women’s Tennis vs. Cornell; 2 p.m.; Hamilton/Hecht Tennis Center.

6 M/W Track & Field host Big 5 Invitational; time TBA; Franklin Field.

Softball vs. Columbia Double-Header; 12:30 p.m.; Penn Park.

7 Softball vs. Columbia; 12:30 p.m.; Penn Park.

Men’s Tennis vs. Columbia; 1 p.m.; Hamilton/Hecht Tennis Center.

13 Baseball vs. Cornell Double-Header; 11:30 a.m.; Meiklejohn Stadium.

Softball vs. Yale Double-Header; 12:30 p.m.; Penn Park.

Men’s Lacrosse vs. Harvard; 1 p.m.; Franklin Field.

Men’s Tennis vs. Yale; 1 p.m.; Hamilton/Hecht Tennis Center.

14 Baseball vs. Cornell; noon; Meiklejohn Stadium.

Softball vs. Yale; 12:30 p.m.; Penn Park.

Men’s Tennis vs. Brown; 1 p.m.; Hamlin Tennis Center.

17 Baseball vs. Saint Joseph’s; 3 p.m.; Meiklejohn Stadium.

Softball vs. Drexel; 3 p.m.; Penn Park.

Women’s Lacrosse vs. Loyola; 4 p.m.; Franklin Field.
1 Bowling Alone: Frontiers in Loneliness Research; Heather Schofield, Cornell University; noon; room 403, McNeil Building (Population Studies Center).

2 Developing Next-Generation Wireless, Bioelectronic Cellular Medicine; Siddharth Krishnan, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; 11 a.m.; room 225, Towne Building (Electrical & Systems Engineering).

3 Flow Matching and Optimal Transport with Applications to Cell Trajectories and Protein Design; Alexander Tong, Université de Montréal; 3:30 p.m.; Wu & Chen Auditorium, Levin Hall, and Zoom webinar; join: https://upenn.zoom.us/j/94916924500 (Computer & Information Science).

4 A Supreme Legacy: On 45 Years Covering the High Court; Linda Greenhouse, Yale University; Jeffrey Rosen, National Constitution Center; 5:15 p.m.; Fitts Auditorium, Golklin Hall; register: https://penncareylaw.cvente.com/1brVDq (Carey Law School).

5 A Primer on Primary Care: Vaccinations and Parasite Control; Meagan Smith, Penn Vet; 6:30 p.m.; Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/smith-talk-apr-2 (Penn Vet First Tuesday Equine Lecture Series).

6 Building a Foundation for Trustworthy Machine Learning; Elan Rosenfeld, Carnegie Mellon University; noon; room 225, Towne Building, and Zoom webinar; join: https://upenn.zoom.us/j/9567820617 (ASSET Center).

7 Mass Spectrometry Applications for Studying Ovarian Cancer; Laura Sanchez, University of California, Santa Cruz; noon; Carolyn Hoff Lynch Lecture Hall, Chemistry Complex (Chemistry).

8 Amazigh Poetics: An Emerging Indigenous Literary Field; Brahim El Guabli, Williams College; Khadija Ikan, Moroccan writer; Atlas Phoenix, translator; 5:30 p.m.; Class of 1978 Orrery Pavilion, Pelt Library; register: https://tinyurl.com/wolf-center-talk-apr-3 (Wolf Humanities Center).

9 The Decline and Fall of Classic Maya Culture, New Finds and Perspectives; Simon Martin, anthropology; 7 a.m.; online webinar; tickets: $15 general, $7 member; register: https://tinyurl.com/martin-talk-apr-3 (Penn Museum).

10 The Surface Dynamics of the Initial Stages of CU Oxidation; Judith Yang, Brookhaven National Laboratory; 10:30 a.m.; Wu & Chen Auditorium, Levine Hall (Materials Science & Engineering).

11 Shock Without Therapy: The Political Economy of the Postcolonial Mortality Crisis; Gabor Scheiring, Georgetown University in Qatar; 3:30 p.m.; room 101, Lerner Center (Russian & East European Studies).

12 Performing Preservation: White Women’s Voices and Old South Black Song; Mark Burford, Reed College; 5:15 p.m.; room 101, Lerner Center (Music).

13 Comics of the Anthropocene: Graphic Narrative at the End of Nature; José Alaniz, University of Washington, Seattle; noon; room 330, Fisher-Bennett Hall (Center for Media and Digital Studies).

14 Holding It Together: How Women Became America’s Safety Net; Jessica Calarco, University of Wisconsin-Madison; noon; room 403, McNeil Building (Sociology).

15 Using Population Descriptors in Genetics and Genomics Research; Dorothy E. Roberts, law and sociology; noon; room B102AB, Richards Building, and Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/roberts-talk-apr-10 (Medical Ethics & Health Policy).

16 Capitalism and the Political Economy of Risk; Des Freedman, Goldsmiths, College of London; 12:15 p.m.; room 300, Annenberg School; register: https://tinyurl.com/freedman-talk-apr-10 (Center for Media at Risk).

17 It’s Too Late to Mitigate: Resilience & Adaptation in Plants; Joanne Chory, Salk Institute for Biological Studies; 4 p.m.; auditorium, Levin Building (Biology).

Prescribing Reproductive Rights: Pills and the Politics of Family Planning, 1960-2024; Kelly S. O’Donnell, Bryn Mawr College; 4 p.m.; Gershwind & Bennett Family Collaborative Classroom, Holman Biotech Commons, and Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/odonnell-talk-apr-10 (Gender, Sexuality & Women’s Studies, Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing).

19 Early Readers of Machiavelli: What We Know, What They Teach Us; Gabriele Pedullà, Università Roma 3; 5:15 p.m.; room 543, Williams Hall (Italian Studies).

20 Education Fever and Low Birth Rates in Korea; SeongEun Kim, Sejong University; noon; suite 310, 3600 Market Street, and Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/kim-talk-apr-11 (Korean Studies).

Large Language Models: Challenges and Opportunities; Mayur Naik, computer & information science; noon; Zoom webinar; regis-
Capturing News, Capturing Democracy: Trump and the Voice of America; Kate Wright, University of Edinburgh; 12:15 p.m.; room 500, Annenberg School (Center for Media at Risk, Media, Inequality & Change Center).

Maladies of the Will: The American Novel and the Modernity Problem; Jennifer Fleissner, Indiana University; 5 p.m.; room 330, Fisher-Bennett Hall; RSVP: elombard@fas.sas.upenn.edu (English).

Heritage Institutions and Romani Music and Musicians in Twenty-First-Century Hungary; Lynn Hooker, Purdue University; 5:15 p.m.; room 101, Lerner Center (Music).

Selecting Our Children’s Genes: The Emergence of Polygenic Embryo Screening; Gabriel Lazaro-Munoz, Harvard University; 5:15 p.m.; hybrid; location TBA (Medical Ethics & Health Policy).

On April 14, new music ensemble Alarm Will Sound will pay tribute to minimalist composer Steve Reich at the Annenberg Center. See Music.
17 Asian American Across the Disciplines; Dian Dian, Emory University; 1:45 p.m.; Zoom webinar.
19 Food for Thought; Emily Ng, anthropologist; noon; room 473, McNeil Building.
25 Asian American Across the Disciplines; Duong Ly and Lan Dinh, VietLEAD; noon; Zoom webinar.

Cancer Biology
In-person events at Class of 1962 Auditorium, John Morgan Building. Info: https://events.med.upenn.edu/cancer-bio/

3 Programming Multicellular Interactions and Organization with Synthetic Cell Adhesion Molecules; Adam Stevens, University of California, San Francisco; 4 p.m.
11 Mapping Converging Systems: Defining Signaling Input and Metabolic Outputs of Oxidative Stress Response; Tigist Tamir, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; 11 a.m.
18 Unraveling the Systemic Impact of Cancer Therapies and Environmental Factors on Innate Immune Cells and Their Contribution to Anti-Tumor Response; Romina E. Araya, National Institutes of Health; 11:30 a.m.

Center for Latin American & Latín Studies
Various locations. Info: https://clals.sas.upenn.edu/events/
2 Drawing Deportation: Art and Resistance Among Immigrant Children; Silvia Rodriguez Vega, University of California, Santa Barbara; 5 p.m.; location TBA.
5 International Migration in South America: Emerging Trends and Challenges; Marcela Cerruti, National University of San Martin; noon; room 473, McNeil Building.
12 Territories of Health: Inter-Locating Multiple Medicines from Wallmapu/Southern Chile; Randall Burson, anthropoligist; noon; room 473, McNeil Building.
16 Making Art Using Your Environment; Pedro Osina, artist; 6 p.m.; room 473, McNeil Building.
19 In Conversation; Mariana Enriquez, Argentine writer; 4 p.m.; auditorium, PCPSE.
26 Constructing Worlds Otherwise: Societies in Movement and Anti-Colonial Paths in Latin America; Raul Zibechi, journalist; noon; room 473, McNeil Building.

Center for the Study of Contemporary China
In-person events at room 418, PCPSE. Info: https://www.gse.upenn.edu/events/
5 The Logic of Technology Transfer Policy in Rising China; John Minchik, Columbia University; 12:15 p.m.
18 High Wire: How China Regulates Big Tech and Governs Its Economy; Angela Zhang, University of Hong Kong; 12:15 p.m.
26 Markets with Bureaucratic Characteristics: How Economic Bureaucrats Make Policies and Remake the Chinese State; Yingyao Wang, University of Virginia; 12:15 p.m.

Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering
In-person events at Wu & Chen Auditorium, Levine Hall. Info: https://cbe.seas.upenn.edu/events/

3 Dynamics and Reactivity of Supported Catalysts in the Subnanometer Regime; Ayman Karim, Virginia Institute of Technology; 3:30 p.m.
10 Role of Water in Underwater Adhesion; Ali Dhojwala, University of Akron; 3:30 p.m.
17 Creating Real Steak Without the Cow: Using Insights from Wine and Biopharmaceutical Production to Commercialize Cultivated Meat; David Block, University of California, Davis; 3:30 p.m.
24 Exploring the Physics, Materials Science, and Biological Implications of Polyelectrolyte Complexation; Matthew Tirrell, University of Chicago; 3:30 p.m.

Classical Studies
In-person events at room 402, Cohen Hall. Info: https://www.classics.upenn.edu/events/
4 Roman Teamsters: Muliones (Muleteers) and the (Dis)organization of Land Transport in the Roman Empire; John Bodel, Brown University; 4:45 p.m.
11 Bodies and Boundaries: Narrative Patterns in Ovid’s Italian Rape Myths; Sara Myers, University of Virginia; 4:45 p.m.
18 The Odyssey: Beginnings; A Performance of Homer in Greek; Joseph Medeiros, performer; 4:45 p.m.
19 The Odyssey, Book 2: Gathering Performance; Joseph Medeiros, performer; 7 p.m.; RSVP for exact location.

Economics
In-person events at various locations. Info: https://economics.sas.upenn.edu/events/
1 Causal Inference with Corrupted Data: Measurement Error, Missing Values, Discretization, and Differential Privacy; Rahul Singh, Harvard University; 4:30 p.m.; room 202, PCPSE.
2 People Or Place-Based Policies to Tackle Disadvantage? Evidence from Decomposing Test Scores into Family, School, and Neighborhood Effects; Lucienne Disch, economics; noon; room 100, PCPSE.
2 Continus-Time Stochastic Games with Imperfect Public Monitoring; Benjamin Bernard, University of Wisconsin-Madison; 4:30 p.m.; room 100, PCPSE.
3 Attention Cycles; Kirthi Sastry, Princeton University; 4 p.m.; room 101, PCPSE.
4 Cultural Change Through Writing Style in the Economics Profession; Camilo Garcia-Jimeno, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago; 3:30 p.m.; room 100, PCPSE.
5 Improving the Estimation of Grouped Panel Data Models Using Auxiliary Covariates; Oriel Gonzalez-Casasus, economics; noon; room 202, PCPSE.
6 Robust Estimation and Inference in Panels with Interactive Fixed Effects; Andrei Zelenev, University College London; 3:30 p.m.; room 202, PCPSE.
7 A Macroeconomic Perspective on Taxing Multinational Enterprises; Sebastian Dyd, University of Toronto; 4 p.m.; room 101, PCPSE.
8 Health Beliefs and the Long Run Effects of Medical Information; Jerome Adda, Bocconi University; 3:30 p.m.; room 100, PCPSE.
9 Inflation and Asset Prices: A Macroeconomic Perspective; Chi Hyun Kim, University of Bonn; noon; room 202, PCPSE.
10 Estimation and Inference for Micro Responses to Macro Shocks; Martin Almazura, Federal Reserve Bank of New York; 4:30 p.m.; room 202, PCPSE.
11 Protection or Exclusion? Indigenous Education in Mexico; Ornella Darrova, economics; noon; room 100, PCPSE.
12 Equilibrium Selection in Participation Games with Applications to Security Insurance; David Frankel, Melbourne Business School; 4 p.m.; room 100, PCPSE.
13 Banks vs. Firms: Who Benefits from Credit Guarantees? Victoria Vanasco, CREI; 4 p.m.; room 101, PCPSE.
14 Recovering Treatment Effects Heterogeneity from Differences; Young Ahn, economics; noon; room 100, PCPSE.
25 Identification of Dynamic Nonlinear Panel Models Under Partial Stationarity; Wayne Yung, economics; noon; room 202, PCPSE.
26 Scenario Sampling for Large Supersmaller Games; Bryan Graham, University of California at Berkeley; 4:30 p.m.; room 202, PCPSE.

Graduate School of Education
Unless noted, in-person events at room 259, Stiteler Hall. Info: https://www.gse.upenn.edu/news/events-calendar/
5 Driver-Driven Classroom Interviewing: Focusing Qualitative Researcher Time by Selecting Cases in Situ; Ryan Baker, GSE; noon.
17 Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen; Ariana Manguel Figueroa, City University of New York; noon; room 355, Stiteler Hall.
21 In Search of Dynamic Complementarities Between Early and Later Education: Evidence from North Carolina’s Pre-K and K-12 School Funding Reforms; Juan Jenkins, University of California, Irvine; noon.
22 Distance to Opportunity: Higher Education Deserts and College Enrollment; Camila Morales, University of Texas, Dallas; noon.

GRASP Lab
Unless noted, hybrid events at Wu & Chen Auditorium, Levine Hall, and Zoom webinar. Info: https://www.grasp.upenn.edu/events/
3 Bringing AI Up to Speed; Madhur Behl, University of Virginia; 3 p.m.; room 307, Levine Hall, and Zoom webinar.
5 There’s No Bet More Lost Than the One I Won’t Even Play; Jessy Grizzle, University of Michigan; 10:30 a.m.
12 Information-Aware Algorithms for Smooth Dynamic Games; David Fridovich-Keil, University of Texas at Austin; 10:30 a.m.
19 Integrated Sensing and Actuation for Robust Flight Systems; Kristi Morgansen, University of Washington; 10:30 a.m.
26 Rethinking AV Development with AV Foundation Models; Marco Pavone, Stanford University & NVIDIA; 10:30 a.m.
History
Unless noted, in-person events in room 209, College Hall. Info: https://www.history.upenn.edu/events.
1 Peerless Among Princes: The Life and Times of Sultan Saleyman; Kaya Sahin, Ohio State University; 5:15 p.m.
19 The Unrelenting Archive; Marisa J. Fuentes, Rutgers University; noon; Golkin Room, Houston Hall.
23 W.E.B Du Bois, the First World War and Social Scientific Failure; Chad Williams, Brandeis University; 5:15 p.m.
26 Commercial Banking in the Russian Empire in the Period 1860-1913: Development and Market Integration; Sofya Salomatina, Moscow Lomonosov State University; 2 p.m.

History of Art
In-person events at room 401, Fisher-Bennett Hall. Info: https://arth.sas.upenn.edu/calendar/month/2024-04.
5 Making it Public: The Bouleuterion at Teos, Turkey; Mantha Zarmakoupi, history of art; 3 p.m.
19 An Unnatural History of Ceylon; Sonal Khullar, history of art; 3 p.m.
26 Seeing Christ Queenly: Power and the Pathetic Image in Byzantine Art; Elliot Mackin, history of art; 3 p.m.

Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies
Unless noted, Zoom webinars. Info: https://katz.sas.upenn.edu/events.
3 The Undesirable in Box 14: Jews and Opera in Gilded Age New York; Samantha M. Cooper, Harvard University; noon; Athenaeum of Philadelphia, 219 S. 6th Street.
4 Rescue or Ransack? Unraveling the Complexities of the Cairo Geniza Chain of Custody; Rebecca J. W. Jefferson, University of Florida; noon.
11 Cold War and Cultural Restitution: Postwar Transfers of Jewish Libraries from the Soviet Bloc to Israel; Anna Holzer-Kawalko, Leo Baeck Institute Jerusalem; noon.

Leonard Davis Institute for Health Economics
Unless noted, in-person events at Colonial Penn Center Auditorium. Info: https://ldi.upenn.edu/events.
2 Income-Related Inequity in Health Care Delivery: Concept, Measurement, and Recent Trends Among Working-Age Americans; José I. Escarce, University of California, Los Angeles; noon.
9 Policies and Strategies to Improve Medication Use in Older Adults; Antoinette Coe, University of Michigan; noon.
16 Medicaid from FFS to MCO: Can Market Based Ideals Drive Equity? Anthony DiGiorgio, University of California, San Francisco; noon.
19 Rural Hospitals at a Crossroad: Access, Quality, and Financing; Paula Chatterjee, medicine; Ramona Hicks, Coulee Medical Center; Harold Miller, Center for Healthcare Quality and Payment Reform; Rachel M. Werner, LDI; noon; Zoom webinar.

Mathematics
In-person events at room A2, DRL. Info: https://www.math.upenn.edu/events.
10 Some Recent Development in Minimal Surface Theory; Xin Zhou, Cornell University; 3:45 p.m.
17 Embedding Problems in 4-Dimensional Symplectic Topology; Bülent Tosun, University of Alabama and Institute for Advanced Study; 3:45 p.m.

Microbiology
1 CRISPR-Guided Insights Into the Biology of Methanogenic Archaea; Dipti Nayak, University of California, Berkeley; 4 p.m.
8 Beyond Bacterial Paradigms: Identification of Novel Lipoprotein Biogenesis Machinery in Archaea; Yirui Hong, biology; 4 p.m.
10 From Precise Microbiome Genomics to Precision Medicine; Ami Bhatt, Stanford University; noon; Austrian Auditorium, CRB.
22 Move Over 16S: Using Breath Volatiles to Study the Microbiome; Samantha Whiteside, medicine; 4 p.m.
29 Kingella Kingae Minor Pilins Have Critical Roles in Type IV Pili-Mediated Processes; Taylor Yount, microbiology; 4 p.m.

Pennsylvania Muscle Institute
In-person events at Austrian Auditorium, CRB. Info: https://www.med.upenn.edu/pmi.
1 Differential Encoding of Mammalian Proprionecrosis by Voltage-Gated Sodium Channels; Theanne Griffith, University of California, Davis; 3 p.m.
8 Bioenergetics, Mitochondrial Dysfunction and Selective Vulnerability in Parkinson’s Disease; D. James Surmeier, Northwestern University; 3 p.m.
15 Mechanisms of Hippo Pathway Dysregulation in Sarcomas; Munir Tanas, University of Iowa; 3 p.m.
22 Proteins in Motion: The Multiscale Dynamics of Store-Operated Calcium Channels; Richard Lewis, Stanford University; 3 p.m.

Physics & Astronomy
In-person events at room A8, DRL. Info: https://www.physics.upenn.edu/events.
3 Optical Neural Networks for Faster AI and Super Resolution Imaging; Alex Lvovsky, University of Oxford; 3:30 p.m.
10 Dark Matter Searches with the LUX-ZEPLIN (LZ) Experiment; Carmen Carmona, Pennsylvania State University; 3:30 p.m.
24 Topology, Spin and Orbital in DNA-Type Chiral Quantum Materials; Binghai Yan, Weizmann Institute of Science; 3:30 p.m.

Religious Studies
Unless noted, in-person events at room 204, Cohen Hall. Info: https://rel.sas.upenn.edu/events.
11 Feeling Cross-Species Kinship in Edo-Period Morality Books: Excessive Affect and the Ethic of Refraining from Killing and Releasing Life; Barbara Ambros, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; 3:30 p.m.
25 Abducting Religion: Rape and the Colonial Creation of Buddhist Sexuality in Burma; Alicia Turner, York University; 3:30 p.m.

Workshop in the History of Material Texts
In-person events at Class of 1978 Orrery Pavilion, Van Pelt Library. Info: https://penmmaterialtexts.org/about/events.
1 Hokusai’s Page Spread: A Filial Piety Book in Early Modern Japan; Ann Sherif, Oberlin College; 5:15 p.m.
8 It is Easy to Add Books: Library Catalogs in Seventeenth-Century Oxford; Lila Rice Goldenberg, history; 5:15 p.m.
15 Popular Literature and Manuscript Culture in Rural North China, 17th-19th Centuries: The Liaoazhi Collection at Keto University; Zhenzhen Lu, Bates College; 5:15 p.m.
22 Printed Books in the Indigenous Languages of Latin America During the Colonial Period: An Approach from History, Editorial Studies, and Materiality; Marina Gravero, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; 5:15 p.m.
29 Books as Portfolio; Roger Chartier, history; 5:15 p.m.
Human Resources: Upcoming April Programs

Professional and Personal Development Programs

Virtual Resilience and Well-Being Workshop 5: Joy Multiplier, 4/3; 12:30-2 p.m.; online; free. Explore how we can build trust and strengthen our relationships by responding with authentic engagement to other people’s positive experiences. This session’s attendance will be marked individually and not as a part of the series.

Models of Excellence Awards Ceremony and Reception, 4/9; 4-5 p.m.; Harrison Auditorium, Penn Museum, 3260 South Street Philadelphia, PA 19104; reception starts at 5 p.m. in the Penn Museum Check-in/lobby; free. Don’t miss Penn’s premiere campus-wide staff recognition event featuring 12 individual staff member honorees, four staff team honorees, Interim President J. Larry Jameson, Provost John L. Jackson, Jr., Senior Executive Vice President Craig Carnaroli, Senior Vice President for Human Resources Jack Heuer, and musical guests the Penny Loafers. Details and registration available at www.hr.upenn.edu/models.

Participating In Performance Appraisals for Staff, 4/10; 12:30-1:30 p.m.; online; free. Join this workshop to understand the performance appraisal process and learn how you can prepare to have a productive review session.

Virtual Training 101, 4/11; 12:30-1:30 p.m.; online; free. Using our training structure road map, we will take a look at how to prepare and execute virtual training. We will examine the phases of training and how those are structured for a virtual training, how to reformat course activities and communication to participants, tips for using video platforms, and best practices for facilitating your course.

Conducting Performance Appraisals for Supervisors, 4/12; online; free. If you are supervising or managing other employees and feel the need to learn more about how to prepare for and conduct performance appraisals, this is the course you’ve been looking for. Join us to learn about best practices for this important annual procedure.

Compassion Fatigue: Helping Those Who Help Others, 4/16; 12:30-1:30 p.m.; online; free. Compassion fatigue is an extreme state of tension and preoccupation with the suffering of the person being helped, resulting in secondary traumatic stress for the caregiver. This workshop will help those who care for others learn how to avoid burnout, recharge and re-energize, and practice effective self-care skills.

Virtual Resilience and Well-Being Workshop 6: Positive Emotions and Resilience Symbols, 4/17; 12:30-2 p.m.; online; free. Learn how positive emotions and savoring increase resilience, consolidate what we learned in this series, and reflect on our experiences. This session’s attendance will be marked individually and not as a part of the series.

Health Advocate Presents: Caring for Caregivers, 4/18; 10-11 a.m. and 4-5 p.m.; online; free. Caring for loved ones for extended periods of time can take a toll on your health and well-being, and it is important to take care of yourself in order to prevent burnout and stay energized for the long-term. During this webinar, we will discuss mindfulness and other strategies designed to promote optimal well-being while engaged in caregiving.

Time and Energy Management: Ideas for Sustainable Life Balance, 4/25; 12:30-1:30 p.m.; online; free. As part of our Ideas for Sustaining Life Balance series, this interactive workshop will explore energy management in terms of its relationship to work-life balance asserting that time is finite but energy is not. Individuals will be asked to do a personal energy assessment and to consider a habit that will serve them.

Work-Life Workshops

Virtual Workshop: Considering Home Ownership with PNC, 4/4; noon-1 p.m.; online; free. Explore the pros and cons of home ownership and what you need to do to be financially ready to buy your first house. Participants will learn what home ownership really costs, what to expect when applying for a mortgage, and which government programs can make home ownership more affordable.

2024-2025 Carrot Fertility Information Session, 4/10, 4/22; 11 a.m.-noon; online; free. Penn has partnered with Carrot Fertility to bring you inclusive, comprehensive fertility health and family-forming benefits that support wherever you are on your journey. This benefit provides you with basic fertility coverage designed to make fertility care more accessible and affordable.

The Science of Happiness: How to Make Each Day More Satisfying with the 5 Drivers of Living The Good Life, 4/10; noon-1 p.m.; online; free. Join this presentation by positive psychology and executive coach Stella Grizont, for simple and practical ways to be the most engaged, energized, and on purpose at work by following the science of happiness and the 5 drivers of living the good life, experiencing more meaning and purpose to your life.

Alcohol and Substance Abuse Challenge: Challenges and Opportunities for Support, 4/12; online; free. Substance use, notably alcohol consumption, can have detrimental effects on individuals and families across various backgrounds. It undermines relationships, job productivity, and overall health, among other aspects of life. This webinar will outline resources available to those struggling with substance abuse.

2024-2025 Open Enrollment Benefits Information Session, 4/16, 4/23, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; virtual; free. Human Resources Benefits Department will conduct a presentation on what’s new and what’s changing for 2024-2025.

2024-2025 Open Enrollment Benefits Information Session, 4/18; noon-1:30 p.m.; virtual; free. Human Resources Benefits Department will conduct a presentation on what’s new and what’s changing for 2024-2025.

VP Live Wellness Webinar: Thriving With Nature, 4/18; virtual; free. Participants will discover how spending time in nature can reduce feelings of anger, fear and stress. Nature doesn’t just make us feel better; it can improve our physical and mental health.

Penn Healthy You Workshop

Virtual 30-Minute Guided Meditation, 4/5, 4/12, 4/19; noon-12:30 p.m.; online; free. Meditation, quite simply, is training your attention. In an age of distraction, this becomes a very important skill to maintain focus and mental acuity and develop emotional intelligence and fitness. This meditation is guided to encourage spaciousness of awareness.

Virtual 30-Minute Chair Yoga Plus Core, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29; noon-12:30 p.m.; online; free. The Chair Yoga + Core program consists of moves to tone your abdominals, lengthen your spine, and strengthen your entire torso region. Many activities depend on a strong core, from simple acts of picking up shoes to the most athletic endeavors. Chair yoga for the core helps you learn to engage your abdominals correctly. With the abdominals engaged, you’ll find a natural lift and length without having to force anything. In just 30 minutes, beginners and those who regularly exercise can learn what to do without leaving your chair.

Virtual Workshop: Deskercise, 4/17; noon-12:30 p.m.; online; free. This will class will take you through a variety of movements that can be done at your desk. Be prepared to work through a 30-minute low impact strength and flexibility workout.

Virtual Guided Mindful Meditation, 4/18; noon-1 p.m.; online; free. This workshop is for those who are new to mindful meditation practice as well as more experienced practitioners. No experience is necessary, all are welcome.

Spin Class, 4/18; noon-12:30 p.m.; studio 306, Pottruck Gym; free. Free HR-sponsored spin class in partnership with Campus Recreation: Pedal your way to a fantastic workout indoors. With the use of stationary cycles, each class is led on a virtual outdoor road, complete with a variety of exercises. This class will give you an energizing, calorie-burning, fun workout and it is great for all fitness levels because you can ride at a self-directed pace.

Virtual Chair Yoga, 4/24; noon-12:45 p.m.; online; free. Plenty of people turn to yoga for exercise, but striking a pose isn’t for everyone. If you’ve been tempted to try it but don’t know where to start, it’s time to try chair yoga. Chair yoga is a more moderate form of yoga that’s done while sitting in or using a chair for support. You get the same benefits of a regular yoga workout (like increased strength, flexibility, and balance) but don’t have to master complex poses. Chair yoga can even better your breathing and teach you how to relax your mind and improve your well-being. This class is open to all levels.

Penn Healthy You Workshop

Penn Healthy You Workshop, 4/25; 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; in person; free/$3 per person. Faculty/staff can receive one (1) free adult ticket and one (1) free child ticket by showing a valid staff PennCard or a valid student ID at the Franklin Field Ticket Office on the Thursday of the Penn Relays or by ordering online using your upenn.edu email address in advance. Faculty/staff can add additional child tickets for $5 each. The offer is only valid on Thursday, April 25, 2024. Tickets can be redeemed online by clicking the link or in person at the Franklin Field Ticket Office on Thursday, April 25, 2024. Tickets are for general admission seating only. Faculty/staff can purchase up to four reserved seats for children at an additional cost. Suitable for all ages.

Take Our Children to Work Day, 4/25; 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; in person; free. Penn employees take Our Children to Work Day event will return to campus on April 25 with a range of activities and programs to suit young people’s varied interests and career goals. Advanced registration is required and opens on Monday, April 1 at 9 a.m. Visit the Take Our Children to Work Day webpage for details.

—Division of Human Resources
Penn Hosts Ribbon Cutting for Pennsylvania’s Largest Solar Power Project

On 1,600 acres in Fulton and Franklin counties in central Pennsylvania sit two solar arrays. Comprising more than 485,000 panels, these make up the largest solar project in the Commonwealth, with a capacity of 220 megawatts. As of December, the Great Cove I and II facilities are operational, putting the University of Pennsylvania one massive step closer toward its goal of 100% carbon neutrality by 2042.

Penn will purchase all electricity produced at the facilities, the equivalent of 70% of the demand of its campus and University of Pennsylvania Health System facilities in the Philadelphia area. This stems from a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) the University signed in February of 2020 with Community Energy, since acquired by Virginia-based global energy company the AES Corporation. Construction on the project began in April of 2022.

“I couldn’t be prouder that we’ve made such rapid, milestone progress toward carbon neutrality, not only for Penn but for the city of Philadelphia,” Interim President J. Larry Jameson said at a ceremonial ribbon-cutting celebrating the PPA and the solar facilities operation during Energy Week. He added that with Penn’s strategic framework, In Principle and Practice, “We’re taking on the greatest challenges we face...at the top of that list is climate change and sustainability.”

The partnership with AES “has been essential in meeting Penn’s goal to accelerate its adoption of renewable energy, and doing it in a way that serves the mission of our institution,” said Anne Papa-george, senior vice president of Facilities & Real Estate Services (FRES) at the ribbon-cutting, held at the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy in the Stuart Weitzman School of Design. “This agreement not only provides competitive pricing on electricity but also allows the University of Pennsylvania to continue to demonstrate strong leadership on climate action.”

The company, said Walter Crenshaw, senior director of origination at AES, “is one of the largest owner-operators and developers of renewable energy facilities in the country, but none of that really works unless we have a customer who is committed and shows leadership, like Penn.”

Years in the Making

In 2007, Penn President Emerita Amy Gutmann signed the American College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment to develop a plan for climate neutrality. The University then formed the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC) to make recommendations for action to achieve those goals. Penn released its first Climate Action Plan in 2009 and is now operating under the Climate and Sustainability Action Plan 3.0, which laid out the pledge for carbon neutrality by 2042.

William Brahman, a professor of architecture in the Weitzman School of Design and co-chair of ESAC’s utilities & operations subcommittee, said the committee realized that investing in buildings alone was not going to be sufficient: they needed to look at the power supply. Penn had been purchasing wind energy from a farm in Pennsylvania, but ESAC examined what it would take to expand Penn’s portfolio of renewable energy, Dr. Brahman said.

“The University gets a lot of credit, because when we started to do it, it was mostly for climate reasons: We made this pledge; we have to keep up to it,” Mr. Brahman said. Then it also became apparent that Penn could save money over time as the cost of solar development decreased.

Penn considered purchasing 50% of its electric load but later increased the amount to 70%, said Faramaz Vakili, executive director of operations and maintenance at FRES. In 2019, after receiving plans from 30 developers, Ben Suplick, Penn’s director of engineering and energy planning and co-chair of ESAC’s utilities and operations subcommittee, said FRES narrowed it down to three companies, eventually landing on Community Energy, now AES. “The main drivers were location, cost, and our confidence in the project being able to be built,” Mr. Suplick said.

Pre-panel construction occurred from April 2022 to May 2023, ahead of solar panel installation from May to December 2023, and then the substation interconnection and testing occurred in November. Mr. Vakili said AES installed more than 50 miles of medium-voltage cabling underground to connect all modules and units to the substation. He credited AES for its creative and flexible approach: The company changed its methodology and completed processes in a different order than usual because of supply chain complexities.

Mr. Vakili said AES’ commercial operations were at 80% capacity in December and the project will reach 100% by the end of March.

Addressing Penn’s Trustees Committee on Facilities and Campus Planning in late February, Mr. Vakili said the community impact of the project included 1.1 million hours of construction work using mostly local workers. Mr. Vakili also explained how the PPA works: Penn pays AES for electricity produced by the project and the University receives Solar Renewable Energy Credits. AES then sells the generated solar power to PJM, a regional transmission organization that coordinates the transfer of wholesale electricity in all or parts of 13 states, and Penn receives a credit based on those sales.

Land of Purse

Mr. Vakili said the land parcels that are now home to Great Cove I and II were previously used for dairy and crop production and were leased by AES from their owners, who were ready to retire from agriculture but wanted to retain ownership of their land.

“The farmer just likes to create something, whether it’s something that grows out of the ground or something that shines from the sky, and there’s excitement in that,” said Glenn Dice Jr., who owns some of the land that now houses the solar facilities, in a video for AES. He noted, “You can plan for 20 to 50 years with this. That’s significant.” Kenneth Lee Glazier, another Great Cove Solar landowner, commented with a laugh, “Makes you sleep at night, to keep your bills paid.”

AES will offer three summer internships for Penn students along with two full-time positions for graduates, Mr. Vakili told the Penn Trustees. In addition, AES will provide funding to Penn for education and training associated with various aspects of renewable energy and sustainability. “It’s not very often that you get to work hand-in-hand with your PPA off-taker and be able to perform studies that are going to help us with insuring that the dirt that we’re building upon is safe and clean,” Riley Shea, a project manager at AES, said in a video. “To be able to witness that for future work is also something that we’re extremely lucky to have in working with Penn.”

Adapted from a Penn Today article by Erica Moser, March 18, 2024.

ALMANAC March 26, 2024

www.upenn.edu/almanac 15
Division of Public Safety
University of Pennsylvania Police Department Crime Report

About the Crime Report: Below are the Crimes Against Persons and/or Crimes Against Property from the campus report for March 11-17, 2024. The Crime Reports are available at: https://almanac.upenn.edu/sections/crimes. Prior weeks’ reports are also online. - Eds.

This summary is prepared by the Division of Public Safety (DPS) and contains all criminal incidents reported and made known to the Penn Police, including those reported to the Philadelphia Police Department (PPD) that occurred within our patrol zone, for the dates of March 11-17, 2024. The Penn Police actively patrol from Market Street to Baltimore Avenue and from 30th Street 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 DPS at (215) 898-7297. You can view the daily crime log on the DPS website.

Penn Police Patrol Zone
Market Street to Baltimore Avenue and from 30th Street to 43rd Street

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crime Category</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault-Gun</td>
<td>03/13/24</td>
<td>3:35 PM</td>
<td>3700 Market St</td>
<td>Shots fired during a physical altercation on the highway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arson</td>
<td>03/15/24</td>
<td>4:53 AM</td>
<td>3900 Irving St</td>
<td>Offender set dumpster on fire/Arrest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bike Theft</td>
<td>03/16/24</td>
<td>9:17 PM</td>
<td>3925 Walnut St</td>
<td>Theft of a bicycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>03/13/24</td>
<td>9:12 AM</td>
<td>3737 Chestnut St</td>
<td>Various items taken from apartment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Assault</td>
<td>03/14/24</td>
<td>9:50 PM</td>
<td>4001 Chestnut St</td>
<td>Offender made threats inside restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Offense</td>
<td>03/11/24</td>
<td>8:21 AM</td>
<td>00 S 40th St</td>
<td>Failure to Appear warrant/Arrest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Theft</td>
<td>03/13/24</td>
<td>11:52 AM</td>
<td>4233 Chestnut St</td>
<td>Retail theft of alcohol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex Offense</td>
<td>03/14/24</td>
<td>11:25 AM</td>
<td>4001 Walnut St</td>
<td>Retail theft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft from Building</td>
<td>03/13/24</td>
<td>12:08 PM</td>
<td>3925 Walnut St</td>
<td>Secured scooter taken from bike room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft from Vehicle</td>
<td>03/12/24</td>
<td>6:25 PM</td>
<td>4200 Locust St</td>
<td>Theft of U.S. currency from unsecured vehicle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>03/13/24</td>
<td>3:18 PM</td>
<td>4200 Pine St</td>
<td>Theft of clothing from secured vehicle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>03/14/24</td>
<td>9:50 AM</td>
<td>4200 Pine St</td>
<td>Theft of wallet from secured vehicle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>03/15/24</td>
<td>10:02 AM</td>
<td>3800 Powelton Ave</td>
<td>Theft of firearm from unsecured vehicle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft Other</td>
<td>03/11/24</td>
<td>8:41 PM</td>
<td>3901 Locust Walk</td>
<td>Secured scooter taken from bike rack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>03/13/24</td>
<td>10:37 AM</td>
<td>4047 Locust St</td>
<td>Package taken from porch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vandalism</td>
<td>03/14/24</td>
<td>10:31 AM</td>
<td>100 S 42nd St</td>
<td>Rear passenger window broken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>03/16/24</td>
<td>2:42 PM</td>
<td>3600 Spruce St</td>
<td>Graffiti spray painted on concrete wall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Philadelphia Police 18th District
Schuylkill River to 49th Street & Market Street to Woodland Avenue

Below are the Crimes Against Persons from the 18th District: 4 incidents were reported for March 11-17, 2024 by the 18th District, covering the Schuylkill River to 49th Street & Market Street to Woodland Avenue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crime Category</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>03/11/24</td>
<td>2:46 PM</td>
<td>4300 blk of Chestnut St</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>03/15/24</td>
<td>4:55 PM</td>
<td>1100 blk of S. 45th Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>03/15/24</td>
<td>11:06 AM</td>
<td>4712 Chester Ave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indecent Assault</td>
<td>03/14/24</td>
<td>9:35 PM</td>
<td>3400 blk of Spruce St</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Division of Public Safety offers resources and support to the Penn community. DPS has developed a few helpful risk reduction strategies outlined below. Know that it is never the fault of the person impacted (victim/survivor) by crime.

- See something concerning? Connect with Penn Public Safety 24/7 at (215) 573-3333.
- Worried about a friend’s or colleague’s mental or physical health? Get 24/7 connection to appropriate resources at (215) 898-HELP (4357).
- Seeking support after experiencing a crime? Call Special Services (support and advocacy resources) at (215) 898-4481 or email an advocate at specialservices@publicsafety.upenn.edu.

- Use the Walking Escort and Riding services available to you free of charge.
- Take a moment to update your cell phone information for the UPennAlert Emergency Notification System.
- Download the Penn Guardian App, which can help police better find your location when you call in an emergency.
- Access free self-empowerment and defense courses through Penn DPS.
- Stay alert and reduce distractions. (Using cell phones, ear buds, etc. may limit your awareness.)
- Orient yourself to your surroundings. (Identify your location, nearby exits, etc.)
- Keep your valuables out of sight and only carry necessary documents.
Update
March AT PENN

CONFERENCES
27 Women in Higher Education Summit; a transformative day designed exclusively for Penn GSE students, staff, faculty, and alumni identifying as women and non-binary; this year’s theme is prioritizing self-care and professional development—a day dedicated to your growth, well-being, and success; 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sheraton Philadelphia University City Hotel; register: https://www.gse.upenn.edu/event/women-higher-education-summit (Graduate School of Education).

FITNESS & LEARNING
26 Fullbright U.S. Student Program Kick-Off Event for 2024 Penn Applicants and Future Applicants; an interactive introduction to Fullbright U.S. Student Program award opportunities for U.S. citizens to pursue graduate study, conduct research, or teach English around the world; 4 p.m.; online webinar; register: https://apply.iie.org/register/GPS6 (Center for Undergraduate Research & Fellowships).
27 Black Lunch Table Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon; edit-a-thon focusing on important but underrepresented visual artists, curators and art workers of the African Diaspora; training session will be held at the beginning but help is available throughout the event; 12:30-4 p.m.; lobby, Fisher Fine Arts Library (Penn Libraries).

ON STAGE
28 Wharton Dance Studio: Showcase 2024: World Tour; a showcase of students, faculty, and alumni from Wharton Dance Studio, including hip-hop, lyrical, jazz, and contemporary dance; 3:30 p.m.; Wharton Dance Studio, 3rd floor, Blockley Hall (Cinema & Media Studies).
27 Poetry and Global Justice; Khaled Mattawa, University of Michigan; 5:30 p.m.; Room 401, Fisher-Bennett Hall (Cinema & Media Studies).

SPECIAL EVENTS
29 2024 Celebration of Diversity; gathering is intended to showcase students, staff, and faculty from Penn Engineering in their cultural richness and heterogeneity; includes guest speakers, special performances, presentations from student affinity groups, and a variety of cuisines for all to enjoy; the last hour: 3-6 p.m.; Wu & Chen Auditorium, Levine Hall (Penn Engineering Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion).
26 Revisiting the French Canon: Beauty and the Beast and the Intersectional Gaze; 5 p.m.; room 543, Williams Hall; (Francophone, Italian, and Germanic Studies).

TALKS
26 Difficulties and Rewards of Paving a Leadership Career in Academia as Women; Magda Feres, Guarulhos University; 5:15 p.m.; Arthur E. Corby Auditorium, Dental Medicine (Penn Dental Medicine).
27 Microbiome Transmission: A New Era of Molecular Epidemiology and Microbial Therapeutics; Brendan Kelly, medicine; 9 a.m.; room 701, Van Pelt Library; register: https://ppmedicine.zoom.us/j/96442998641 (Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics).

MUSIC
29 Penn Flutes: Music in the Stacks Concert Series; one of the largest active flute choirs in the United States, delivers a medley of music; 1:30 p.m.; classroom G16, Holman Biotron Tech Commons.

CONFERENCES
27 Women in Higher Education Summit; a transformative day designed exclusively for Penn GSE students, staff, faculty, and alumni identifying as women and non-binary; this year’s theme is prioritizing self-care and professional development—a day dedicated to your growth, well-being, and success; 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sheraton Philadelphia University City Hotel; register: https://www.gse.upenn.edu/event/women-higher-education-summit (Graduate School of Education).

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READINGS & SIGNINGS
Kelly Writers House
In-person events at Arts Café, Kelly Writers House. Info: https://writing.upenn.edu/wc(calendar/0324.php).
27 Poetry and Global Justice; Khaled Mattawa, University of Michigan; 5:30 p.m.

28 Physics and Engineering of Moisture-Capturing Hydropods for Freshwater and Heat Harvesting; Carlos Diaz-Marin, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; 10 a.m. room 319, Towne Building (Mechanical Engineering & Applied Mechanics).

Special Briefing: America’s Hot Growth States; Alex Adams, budget and regulatory director for Idaho Governor Brad Little; Tom Doe, Municipal Market Analytics; Torsten Slok, Apollo Global Management; 11 a.m.; online webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/iur-talk-mar-28 (Penn Institute for Urban Research).

DELTA, Fraud and the Making of Countries; Damian Clavel, University of Zurich; Maria Christina Chatziioannou, Institute of Historical Research, NHRF; Anna Gelpert, Georgetown University; Nathaniel Millet, Saint Louis University; noon; zoom webinar; register: https://www.haiti-seminar.org (Federalist Society).

WXPN Board Meeting: April 3
An open session of the WXPN Policy Board will meet Wednesday, April 3, 2024, from 12:1-30 p.m. at WXPN. For more information, email abby@xpn.org or call (215) 898-0628 during business hours.

ALMANAC ADVISORY BOARD: For the Faculty Senate: Temporary Assistant Patrick Zazzarino; ASSOCIATE EDITOR Abby George; ASSISTANT EDITOR Jackson Betz; EDITORIAL ASSISTANT Liza Matthews; TEMPORARY ASSISTANT Patrick Zazzarino.

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Just Change 10 Minutes
LeAnn Dourte

It’s been ten years since “active learning” became a buzzword on Penn’s campus, although the concept certainly was in practice long before that. Formats vary from class to class but center around the idea of students using class time to engage actively with the course content. On one end of the spectrum, an entire class session can be spent doing student-centered activities while traditional lecture content is moved outside of class time. On the opposite end, some instructors still practice traditional lecture formats, usually working through engineering examples on the board without the need for new out-of-class content. I encourage colleagues when they ask about how to get started with active learning to “Just change 10 minutes.” The effectiveness of these 10-minute activities hinges on their alignment with learning objectives. Students are always on the lookout for anything that they see as busy-work, so articulating the purpose of such activities is paramount to their success. These are some of the goals I think about when I design activities with my learning objectives in mind. While some of these approaches are specific to subjects with quantitative problem-solving, many have applications across disciplines.

- **Initiate Thought-Provoking Challenges:** Present complex problems to spark curiosity and stimulate discussion, laying the groundwork for deeper exploration of course topics. At the beginning of class, I may ask students to work on a problem that I know they may not fully understand, but I encourage them to work until they get stuck and then write down what information they want or need to know to move forward. This is where we start class.

- **Address Common Challenges:** Provide opportunities for students to practice areas where instructor experience suggests they will have difficulty. Toward the end of the semester, I approach problems. It includes questions to ask themselves to find variations and exceptions, but gives them guidance on where to start problems without having them memorize examples (their preferred approach). In-class activities can ask students to apply these outlines to novel problems or even ask students to develop outlines themselves as study tools.

- **Encourage Diverse Perspectives:** Foster critical thinking by prompting students to engage in respectful disagreement and explore contrasting viewpoints. For instance, I may assign a short reading that I know will generate different reactions and ask students to talk to students with the opposite viewpoint. Their task is not to convince the other person of their perspective, but rather to agree on how to work together despite their different perspectives.

- **Explore Alternative Problem-Solving Approaches:** Present tasks that can be approached using different problem-solving strategies, but that result in the same final answer. Any time I design an activity to emphasize this point, I remind myself of the importance of discussing why both approaches give the same answer. I want the activity to strengthen the conceptual understanding of each theoretical approach by highlighting their relationship.

- **Challenge Assumptions:** Design activities to uncover and evaluate underlying assumptions, encouraging students to be deliberate in their reasoning processes. Can I create a problem that changes depending on the assumptions the students make? For example, in biomechanics, you can model the shoulder joint as a ball and socket with a single agonist muscle or as a ball and socket with a reaction moment representing multiple muscles. This shows that both are valid models; it just depends on what you want to know.

- **Facilitate Hands-On Exploration:** Integrate tactile experiences to facilitate deeper understanding of abstract concepts. Can a concept be physically “seen”? If so, activities can be designed to help relate the physical to the mathematical concepts.

- **Promote Error Recognition and Correction:** Structure tasks that require students to identify and rectify mistakes. When I think about the questions my students most often ask during office hours, many of them are grounded in knowing their answer is wrong but not being able to figure out why. If I present them with a solution with a mistake and have them find it, then I can foster a growth mindset and resilience in the face of challenges.

- **Cultivate Information Literacy:** Engage students in evaluating online sources and using technology responsibly. By analyzing the reliability and relevance of digital information, students develop critical thinking and research skills. As a starting point, I may ask students to do a quick internet search and evaluate the top five search results. How do they know if they are valid? What do they do if they conflict? Preparing for the activity requires me to do a quick internet search and ensure the topic I chose yields some varied search results.

- **Apply Conceptual Frameworks:** Encourage students to apply generic frameworks to specific problem-solving, emphasizing the process of solving a problem rather than the memorization of an example problem. For each major topic in my biomechanics class, I provide students with a generic outline on how to approach problems. It includes questions to ask themselves to find variations and exceptions, but gives them guidance on where to start problems without having them memorize examples (their preferred approach). In-class activities can ask students to apply these outlines to novel problems or even ask students to develop outlines themselves as study tools.

While prioritizing learning outcomes, I also value the significance of changing the type of content delivery during a class to improve student learning. Even within the confines of a 50-minute class session, expecting students to remain seated and focused can pose a challenge to even the most dedicated student. Allowing for short mental breaks gives students a chance to reflect on their own learning and, when you turn back, they can restore focus on the task at hand.

Interspersing short activities also encourages community. Knowing that another student is confused can help combat impostor syndrome and create a sense of community. Additionally, the process of explaining a concept to another student, can help solidify a concept in a student’s mind. The full range of benefits of group work are too numerous to fully discuss here, but I’ll emphasize that it’s possible to gain much of the only short interactions in groups.

These short activities help me understand my students’ progress. As I navigate through the classroom, I can gather real-time feedback regarding the areas in which my students encounter the most difficulty. Interestingly, students often feel more comfortable seeking clarification when I walk by their desks, as opposed to when I am at the front of the room. Moreover, in instances where my direct involvement is not immediately required and students are effectively engaged in peer collaboration, I can reinforce student-teacher rapport, acquaint myself with students’ names, extend greetings, and briefly collect my thoughts before transitioning to the next topic.

In summary, the journey from traditional lecture formats to active learning methods doesn’t have to be a large-scale endeavor. I have found that aligning brief 10-minute activities with specific learning goals, can yield significant educational benefits. Embracing a mindset of continual refinement has allowed me to gradually expand and refine my active learning strategies, fostering a dynamic and engaging classroom environment.

LeAnn Dourte is a practice associate professor in the department of bioengineering in the School of Engineering & Applied Science.

This essay continues the series that began in the fall of 1994 as the joint creation of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Center for Teaching and Learning and the Lindback Society for Distinguished Teaching. See https://almanac.upenn.edu/talk-about-teaching-and-learning-archive for previous essays.