Three Penn Vet Faculty Appointed to Endowed Professorships

Andrew M. Hoffman, the Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, announced professorship appointments for three faculty members. Thomas D. Parsons has been appointed the Marie A. Moore Professor of Animal Welfare and Ethics. Christopher J. Lengner has been appointed the Harriet Ellison Woodward Associate Professor of Biomedical Sciences, and Amy L. Johnson has been appointed the Marilyn M. Simpson Associate Professor of Equine Medicine. Each of the appointments will go into effect on July 1, 2022.

Thomas D. Parsons, who is currently a professor of swine medicine in the department of clinical studies at New Bolton Center; professor of otorhinolaryngology at the Perelman School of Medicine (PSOM); and director of the Swine Teaching and Research Center, is a graduate of Amherst College. He received his VMD and PhD (neuroscience) from the University of Pennsylvania. While at Penn, Dr. Parsons studied in the veterinary medical scientist training program and then was supported by the von Humboldt Society to train at the Max Planck Institute for Biomedical Research in Heidelberg, Germany. He joined Penn’s faculty in 1995 as assistant professor of swine medicine; he was promoted to associate professor of swine pro-
motion; he recently became senior associate professor of swine disease. Dr. Parsons is an experienced mentor and has a proven record of excellence in teaching, research, and service. His dedication to excellence in teaching and research has earned him numerous awards, including the teaching excellence award, the research award, and the mentorship award. Dr. Parsons is an active member of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP), where he has served on several committees and task forces.

Christopher Lengner is a professor of animal welfare and ethics. He received his VMD and PhD (ethics) from the University of Pennsylvania. While at Penn, Dr. Lengner studied in the veterinary medical scientist training program and then was supported by the von Humboldt Society to train at the Max Planck Institute for Biomedical Research in Heidelberg, Germany. He joined Penn’s faculty in 1995 as assistant professor of swine medicine; he was promoted to associate professor of swine pro-
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Amy L. Johnson is a professor of animal welfare and ethics. She received her VMD and PhD (ethics) from the University of Pennsylvania. While at Penn, Dr. Johnson studied in the veterinary medical scientist training program and then was supported by the von Humboldt Society to train at the Max Planck Institute for Biomedical Research in Heidelberg, Germany. She joined Penn’s faculty in 1995 as assistant professor of swine medicine; she was promoted to associate professor of swine pro-
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2022 Penn Nursing Faculty Award Recipients

All the honorees will be recognized at the Student, Alumni, and Faculty Awards event on Thursday, May 13, 2022 from 4-5:30 p.m. Dean’s Award for Undergraduate Scholarly Mentorship and the Doctoral Student Organization’s Barbara J. Lowery Faculty Award

Dalmacio Dennis Flores is an assistant professor of nursing in the department of family and community health. Dr. Flores has had a pronounced positive impact on undergraduate students and their understanding of nursing research, mentoring students in classes like LGBT Health and in extracurricular settings, including the Asian Pacific American Nursing Student Association, where he serves as faculty advisor. As the principal investigator for research initiatives pertaining to parent-child sex communication, Dr. Flores has demonstrated exceptional leadership in mentoring students who possess a distinct interest in pursuing the research field. In particular, he is able to exceed students’ expectations in acquiring an understanding of research skills by making certain that each individual has the opportunity to undertake various endeavors in this discipline. Leading by example, Dr. Flores’ resilience and flexibility with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on his current research projects, which include the Sexual Health Inclusivity and Community Engagement (SHIFT) Study, encourages his students to find innovative ways to conduct and engage with research. His ability to build a mutually rewarding relationship with his students, both inside and outside of the classroom, speaks to Dr. Flores’ embodiment of an ideal undergraduate scholarly mentor.

Since joining faculty in 2018, Dr. Flores has stood out as an engaged and energizing mentor to PhD students. He offers his mentees opportunities to develop their careers, whether through co-authorship on manuscripts, invitations to guest lecture for his classes, or his practical career advice. Dr. Flores has a lively sense of humor, which has given many students a good laugh amid their challenging program. Additionally, Dr. Flores’ genuine interest in his students’ lives has helped them to find balance between their academic goals and their physical and emotional health. As one of the only Filipino tenure-track faculty across the university and as a publicly “out” member of the School of Nursing faculty, Dr. Flores brings himself 100% to his role as a mentor. He has carved spaces for more diversity among PhD students, having helped to coordinate focus groups with doctoral students for the Graduate Group’s Social Justice Task Force. The Doctoral Student Organization

(continued on page 4)

Ellen L. Hanson and Richard E. Perlman Donate $10 Million to the Wharton School

The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania is pleased to announce a $10 million commitment from Ellen L. Hanson and Richard E. Perlman, W’68, that will further the University’s commitment to inspiring innovation among students. Their contribution will establish Entrepreneurship Through Acquisition (ETA) and support other programs at Venture Lab, a central resource for entrepreneurial education that brings together students from across the University.

“The University has long been committed to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship,” said Interim President Wendell Pritchett. “This generous commitment from Ellen Hanson and Richard Perlman will greatly enhance our efforts to inspire innovation by Penn students. We are exceedingly grateful that Ellen and Richard’s vision and philanthropy will advance our position as leaders in the study and practice of entrepreneurship through acquisition and ensure that the entrepreneurial spirit continues to thrive at Penn.”

New Wharton ETA programming will increase awareness that many successful entrepreneurial endeavors—including those of numerous alumni—thrive through a new owner’s investment and dedication to growing an existing small business. Ms. Hanson’s and Mr. Perlman’s gift will support wide-ranging programs and initiatives within an emerging ETA program at Venture Lab, including curriculum development and delivery; workshops and research; and support for Expert in Residence advisors and staff. Their contribution will also provide financial support for University graduates—known as Perlman Fellows—who wish to explore ETA, incentivizing students by making ETA more financially accessible and professionally supportive.

With a focus on instructional learning opportunities for current students and hands-on opportunities after graduation, ETA will bring together faculty and alumni to provide structured guidance and mentorship for students pursuing these ventures. The ETA curriculum is designed to provide students with a tactical and applicable understanding of business, delivered in formats ranging from faculty-led classroom instruction to workshop series and guest speakers. As Perlman Fellows, recent graduates will benefit from alumni mentoring, gain experience with search, and optimize resources supporting their journey.

“The future of business is reliant on forward-thinking, innovative leaders who will challenge (continued on page 4)
An Update on Classroom Masking
March 24, 2022

We announced last week that masking would be required in classrooms until March 28. We are now extending the requirement of masks in classrooms beyond March 28, following consultations with students and faculty across campus. This is a provisional decision, consistent with guidance at peer universities, that we will continue to reassess in an ongoing consultative process. Our highest priority is to maximally protect the health of our community, as we all head into the closing weeks of the semester, final exams, and Commencement. We thank you for your great partnership in this effort, and we will continue to keep you updated.

—Wendell Pritchett, Interim President
—Beth Winkelstein, Interim Provost
—Craig Carnaroli, Senior Executive Vice President
—J. Larry Jameson, Executive Vice President for the Health System
Penn’s Benefits Open Enrollment is your annual opportunity to make changes to your health plans, life insurance, and flexible spending accounts. While Open Enrollment is still a few weeks away, we want to give faculty and staff plenty of time to learn about the upcoming 2022-2023 plan year. Be sure to carefully review the Benefits Enrollment Guide that will be mailed to your home soon.

This year, the Division of Human Resources will host an on-campus Open Enrollment Benefits Fair as well as virtual benefits presentations. Penn provides many other tools and resources to help you make an informed decision.

For more information about your benefits, visit www.hr.upenn.edu/openenrollment. You’ll have access to benefit comparison charts, contribution charts, and more.

Looking Ahead to a New Plan Year on July 1, 2022

On-Campus Open Enrollment Benefits Fair and Virtual Benefits Presentations

This year the Open Enrollment Benefits Fair will return to campus on Monday, April 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Inn at Penn. Penn Benefits staff, representatives from Penn’s healthcare providers, and wellness partners will be there to answer your questions.

Live, virtual Open Enrollment presentations will also be held on the following dates:

<table>
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<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
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<td>April 19</td>
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Penn Benefits Open Enrollment: Monday, April 18-Friday, April 29, 2022

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Ellen L. Hanson and Richard E. Perlman Donate $10 Million to the Wharton School

(continued from page 1)

 norms, and bring fresh, new ideas and approaches to the world,” said Mr. Perlman. “There is no better investment than in the next generation of great business leaders, and Ellen and I are proud to lend our support to the incredible work being done at Wharton and Penn to further that progress. We are hopeful that expanding the curriculum will inspire more students to pursue ETA.”

The experiences and reflections of recent Wharton MBA ETA Club President Austin Lee, WG’21, illustrate the promise of this gift dedicated to expanding ETA opportunities.

“The decision I made to pursue a career in entrepreneurship through acquisition was informed and influenced greatly by the professors, students, and ETA Club at Wharton,” said Mr. Lee. “At Wharton, I learned the business fundamentals required to find success while managing a small company. There are more Wharton alumni in the ETA space than most realize, a passionate and supportive group of folks that have helped me greatly both as a student and now as a graduate on a fun and exciting career path.”

This new gift also expands upon Ms. Hanson’s and Mr. Perlman’s previous support by adding to the Perlman Grand Prize. Established in 2013, the Perlman Grand Prize is the largest endowed gift to the Startup Challenge, the culminating competition for Penn student-founded new ventures. Their support increases the prize amount from $30,000 to $50,000, which is awarded to exceptional entrepreneurial students.

“Through their generosity, Ellen and Richard are enhancing programs and opportunities for today’s aspiring entrepreneurs and nurturing a growing community of motivated, driven, curious students who are ready to approach the greatest challenges in society and business as innovative problem solvers,” said Wharton Dean Erika James. “We could not be more grateful for their profoundly thoughtful investment.”

Richard Perlman is the founder and executive chairman of ExamWorks Group, Inc., which provides evidence-based medical evaluations to the property and casualty market for workers compensation, automotive, and general liability injury claims. An undergraduate alumnus of Wharton, Mr. Perlman remains dedicated to the entire University through his philanthropy and service as a member of the Wharton Undergraduate Executive Board.

Three Penn Vet Faculty Appointed to Endowed Professorships

(continued from page 1)

ducation medicine in 2005 and became a full professor in 2019. Dr. Parsons is a charter member of the American College of Animal Welfare, and serves as the faculty coordinator for Penn’s masters program in animal welfare and behavior, as well as head of mammalian field investigations for the Pennsylvania Diagnostic Laboratories at New Bolton Center (PADLS). His research focuses on the advancement of sustainable models of agriculture through the study of animal behavior, health, welfare, and applications of technology. Parsons is recognized globally by scholars and industry leaders for re- envisioning swine housing and feeding systems to improve welfare.

Christopher J. Lengner, who is currently an associate professor in the department of biomedical sciences at Penn Vet; associate professor in the department of cell and developmental biology at the Perelman School of Medicine (PSOM); co-director of the Center for Animal Transgenesis, and associate director of the Institute for Regenerative Medicine; is a graduate of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He received his PhD from the University of Massachusetts Medical School, then went on to become a Ruth Kirstchtein Postdoctoral Fellow at the Whitehead Institute and at MIT in the lab of Rudolf Jaenisch. As a postdoc, he made seminal contributions to the field of epigenetic reprogramming in the generation of induced pluripotent stem cells—knowledge which is now broadly applied in tissue engineering and development of cell-based therapies. Dr. Lengner joined Penn’s faculty in 2011 as an assistant professor. In 2017 he was named associate professor, and he was appointed a Penn Fellow in 2019. He is a member of the PSOM’s NIH P30 Center for Molecular Studies in Digestive and Liver Diseases and the Tumor Biology Program of the Abramson Cancer Center. Currently, the Lengner lab employs genetic and genomic tools in organoid models to understand the molecular mechanisms that govern stem cell self-renewal, and how those mechanisms become dysregulated in disease states, particularly cancer. Dr. Lengner’s research has appeared in nearly 100 peer-reviewed publications including in field-leading journals such as Cell, Stem Cell, Cancer Cell, and Gastroenterology.

Amy L. Johnson, who is currently an associate professor of large animal medicine and neurology, in the department of clinical studies at New Bolton Center, is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. She received her DVM with distinction from Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Johnson completed a residency in large animal internal medicine at Cornell, followed by a residency in neurology at Penn. She was the first American veterinarian, and the second veterinarian in the world, granted dual certification in neurology and large animal internal medicine through the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM). Dr. Johnson joined Penn Vet as a lecturer at New Bolton Center in 2007; became an assistant professor in 2011; and in 2019, was promoted to associate professor and assumed the role of section chief of Internal Medicine and Ophthalmology. Dr. Johnson’s primary research focus is on improving antemortem diagnosis of neurologic disease in horses; with a secondary interest in infectious diseases including equine protozoal myeloencephalitis (EPM) and Lyme neuroborreliosis.

“Doctors Parsons, Lengner, and Johnson are excellent role models; the consummate blend of scientist, teacher, and mentor that our endowed professors should embody,” said Dean Hoffman. “All three of them reflect the values and dedication that are vital to the mission of Penn Vet and to our community. I am delighted to have them on our faculty; their collective research and academic leadership are undeniably fitting for these signature professorships.”

The awarding of named endowed professorships are the highest honor bestowed upon faculty at the University of Pennsylvania. Endowed professorships reflect excellence in scholarly achievement and embody a commitment to scientific discovery, clinical excellence, mentorship, and service.
Deaths

Harold Bonavita-Goldman, SP2 Board of Advisors

Harold Bonavita-Goldman, a former member of the board of advisors at the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Social Policy & Practice and the first openly gay president and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, passed away on February 5 of complications of cancer and COVID-19. He was 79.

Born in Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. Bonavita-Goldman grew up in an Orthodox Jewish family. He earned his bachelor’s and law degrees at the University of Memphis and a master’s degree in social work at the University of Illinois. At first, he worked in Tennessee and Illinois, providing legal aid to the needy. He then became chief legal counsel to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. In 1984, he became the CEO of the Jewish Family and Children’s Service of Greater Philadelphia, a role he held until 1999 and in which he was a prolific fundraiser, inspirational mentor, and an entertaining dinner party raconteur. From 2000 to 2006, he then served as president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia.

He is survived by his husband, John Bonavita-Goldman, M’73, GM’77; his sister, Marilyn Weinman; and his niece, Sharon Weinman. Services were February 8. Donations in his name may be made to the president’s challenge scholarship fund at the State University of New York-Ulster, 491 Cottekill Rd., Stone Ridge, N.Y. 12484, and America Votes, 1155 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20036.

Barrie Cissileth, Medical Sociology

Barrie Joyce Rabinowitz Cassileth, PhD’78, a former associate professor of medical sociology in Penn’s School of Medicine and a pioneer of cancer care, passed away on February 26 from complications of Alzheimer’s Disease. She was 83.

Born in Philadelphia, Dr. Cassileth studied social sciences at Bennington College, graduating in 1959. After taking a hiatus when her husband was called up for military service, she turned to the U.S. and received her BSN (1969) and her RN degree (1972). She was 94.

She was 94.

Rosed Kershbaumer, Penn Nursing

Sister Rose Kershbaumer, BSN’69, MSN’71, a former faculty member at Penn Nursing and the founder and director of several Penn centers that had global impact, passed away on March 20.

Sister Rose received her RN degree from the Thomas Jefferson University School of Nursing in Philadelphia in 1951, then joined the Medical Mission Sisters. She trained as a nurse-midwife at the Catholic Maternity Institute in Santa Fe, New Mexico. In 1954, she went to Ghana, where she spent ten years as a nurse and administrator at MMS Hospitals in Berekum and Techiman. Afterward, she served as director of nursing and local superior in Fort Portal, Uganda. She returned to the U.S. and received her BSN (1969) and her MSN (1971) from Penn Nursing, then earned a MEd and a PhD in education from Columbia University. Afterwards, Sister Rose reassembled her work abroad, serving as a nurse educator for the World Health Organization (WHO) in Kenya and Malawi for ten years. At the Ministry of Health in Malawi, she worked as Chief Assistant Nursing Officer for several additional years. She was also a nurse-midwife educator consultant for many organizations, including the Peace Corps and the Rockefeller Foundation.

Sister Rose returned to the U.S. again in 1990 and dove into international education advocacy. She took a faculty position at Penn Nursing, where she co-founded a post-master’s Teacher Education Program. She also served as associate director of Penn’s PAHO/WHO Center for Nursing and Midwifery Leadership and coordinator of the Penn-Malawi Women for Women’s Health project. In Malawi, she delivered between 1.500 and 2.000 newborns. Inspired by Sister Rose, eleven Malawians came to Penn Nursing for their master’s degrees and doctorates.

“They’re all currently serving in Malawi, and I think that’s really fantastic,” she said in a 2007 Philadelphia Inquirer piece. “You hear so much about brain-drain among professionals there, but they are all actively engaged.”

Sister Rose also used her expertise and Penn’s resources to initiate and maintain a continuing education program for nurses in Haiti, successfully recruiting Penn Clinical faculty for several programs in Haiti. In 2015, she joined Penn’s 25-Year Club.

Over the course of her career, Sister Rose published several journal articles and book chapters about her work, including multiple works discussing how she learned to incorporate Western medicine with the traditional medicine she encountered in Africa. After retiring from the WHO Collaborating Center in 2003, Sister Rose took on more work with the Medical Mission Sisters of North America, with whom she served in several administrative roles at their North American headquarters in the Fox Chase neighborhood of Philadelphia.

“Sister Rose was described as someone who was always thinking of ways to make motherhood safe across Africa,” said Penn Nursing Dean Antonia Villarruel in an online tribute. “Here at Penn Nursing, Sister Rose worked collaboratively with colleagues to set up innovative programs to keep women and infants healthy in remote villages in East Africa. She brought in supplies and expertise to help local staff learn how to prevent and manage obstetrical complications.”

Sister Rose is survived by her brother, Lou Kershbaumer. A funeral mass will be held March 29 at 10:45 a.m. at the Medical Mission Sisters’ Chapel, 8400 Pine Road, Philadelphia, PA 19111. The mass will be livestreamed at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81248015261. Remembrances of Sister Rose can be shared at www.medicalmissionsistors.org.

To Report A Death

Almanac appreciates being informed of the deaths of current and former faculty and staff members, students and other members of the University community. Call (215) 898-5274 or email almanac@upenn.edu.

However, notices of alumni deaths should be directed to the Alumni Records Office at Suite 300, 2929 Walnut St., (215) 898-8136 or email record@ben.dev.upenn.edu.
Mia Bay: Bancroft Prize
Mia Bay, the Roy F. and Jeannette P. Nichols Professor of American History in the School of Arts and Sciences, has won this year’s Bancroft Prize for her book, Traveling Black: A Story of Race and Resistance. The prize is considered one of the most prestigious honors in the field of American history. Columbia University’s Mae Ngai was the other recipient for her book, The Chinese Question: The Gold Rushes and Global Politics.

Traveling Black explores when, how, and why racial restrictions took shape across transportation methods from stagecoaches to planes, and portrays what it was like to live with them. The book was described by the jury as “a major intervention in our understanding of the civil rights movement and the everyday life of racial domination,” which draws on “exhaustive and imaginative research in trade publications, litigation records, memoirs, oral histories and the press.”

“Mia Bay’s splendid and pathbreaking research lays bare the routine strictures experienced by Black Americans in their efforts to move about the country on trains, buses, and automobiles,” said Jeffrey Kallberg, Associate Dean for Arts and Letters in Penn’s School of Arts and Sciences. “Traveling Black not only explores and explicates the effects of Jim Crow laws in a troubling era of the past, it sheds light on Black Americans’ current struggles for equality in the public sphere.”

A well-recognized scholar of late modern American intellectual and cultural history with a focus on African American history, Dr. Bay came to Penn from Rutgers University, where she served as a professor of history and director of the Rutgers Center for Race and Ethnicity. After coming to Penn from Rutgers University, where she served as a professor of history and director of the Rutgers Center for Race and Ethnicity, she served as a professor of history and director of the Rutgers Center for Race and Ethnicity. She is the author of two other books, and the recipient of numerous other honors, awards, and grants, including a National Humanities Center recipient of numerous other honors, awards, and grants, including a National Humanities Center Fellowship and an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship.

The Bancroft Prize, which includes an award of $10,000, was established in 1948 by the trustees of Columbia University, with a bequest from the historian Frederic Bancroft. Books are evaluated for “the scope, significance, depth of research, and richness of interpretation.”

Jordan Dingle, Kayle Padilla: First-Team All-Ivy Honors
Sophomore Jordan Dingle of the men’s basketball team and junior Kayla Padilla of the women’s basketball team have been selected First-Team All-Ivy, the conference recently announced.

A guard from Valley Stream, New York, Mr. Dingle is a unanimous awardee and only the 13th sophomore in school history to earn First-Team All-Ivy accolades. His 20.9 points per game were tops in the conference. He is just the fifth player in school history to average 20 points per game and the first in 44 years, since Keven McDonald in 1977-1978.

In 23 of 26 games in which he played, Mr. Dingle scored in double figures, and he scored 30 or more points six times.

Mr. Dingle also ranked second in the Ivy League in free throw percentage (.810) and third in three-point field goals per game (2.5). Among his teammates, he ranked first in minutes per game (31.9), second in assists (62), and third in steals (21).

Ms. Padilla, a guard from Torrance, California, earned her second consecutive First-Team All-Ivy honor; she was also a First-Team selection in 2019-2020 and the 2019-2020 Ivy League Rookie of the Year. (Mr. Dingle, too, was the 2019-2020 Ivy League Rookie of the Year.)

Her 18.5 points per game ranked No. 1 in the conference. She also ranked first in minutes per game (37.6), first in free throw percentage (.789), first in assist-to-turnover ratio (2.0), second in three-point field goals per game (2.8), third in assists per game (4.2), and third in three-point field goal percentage (.368).

Against Memphis on November 27, she scored a career-high 36 points in Penn’s 73-68 overtime win and drained a school-record nine three-pointers.

Nancy Hodgson: International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame
Penn Nursing’s Nancy A. Hodgson, the Claire M. Fagin Leadership Professor in Nursing and chair of the department of biobehavioral health sciences, will be honored by Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) for her contributions to the nursing profession during the organization’s 33rd International Nursing Research Congress in Edinburgh, Scotland, in July.

“I am deeply honored and humbled to join a world-renowned group of researchers who work diligently to generate evidence for nursing practice that ultimately transforms health care,” said Dr. Hodgson. “I am especially grateful to my study team members, my students, and mostly the individuals and families who have participated in our studies to improve dementia care.”

“Nan Hodgson’s induction into the Hall of Fame is a well-deserved recognition of her work and impact to preserve the dignity of persons with dementia care while providing support to caregivers,” said Penn Nursing Dean Antonia M. Villarruel. “She is an internationally recognized nurse scientist and a Penn Nursing alumna—and we are all very proud of her accomplishments and to count her among our faculty.”

Dr. Hodgson is a leading gerontologist with a strong program of research focused on incorporating evidence-based findings into geriatric nursing practice to conquer challenges in palliative care such as promoting dignity, minimizing symptoms, and honoring peoples’ preferences for care at the end of life and advancing palliative dementia care. Her research has been published in high-impact, peer-reviewed journals, and she is co-author of Better Living with Dementia: Implications for Individuals, Families, Communities and Societies (Elsevier Academic Press), based on a MOOC with over 80,000 participants worldwide. For more than 20 years, she has received continuous research and training grants from both federal agencies and private foundations.

Dr. Hodgson has served as director of Penn’s Hillman Scholars Program in Nursing Innovation. She is an academic research representative on the Pennsylvania Long-Term Care Council, a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and the Gerontological Society of America, and was recently appointed to the thirteenth cohort of the Penn Fellows Program.

Benjamin Nadolsky: Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board
Benjamin Nadolsky, L’24, WG’24, has been appointed to a seat on President Biden’s Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board.

“Accessibility isn’t an issue that can be tackled by one side alone. You need everyone focused and paying attention to it,” Mr. Nadolsky said. “In my time at Penn and at my time [as an undergraduate] at Yale, I was always the only student in a wheelchair. There is no representation, and if you don’t have representation, then you don’t have people thinking about the needs that people have, so you have to lend your voice in any way possible.”

On the access board, Mr. Nadolsky is looking forward to conversations at the intersection of accessibility, education, and technology. As a high school student, Mr. Nadolsky was interested in science and almost accepted an offer to Stanford’s Engineering program; however, he ultimately chose to attend Yale, where he switched his focus to global affairs and history. While he was there, he founded Yale’s only student organization dedicated to disability rights—Disability Empowerment for Yale—and as he continued to study, work, and engage, he became increasingly more interested in advocacy.

Following his graduation from Yale, Mr. Nadolsky taught for two years in Nashville with Teach for America. Still passionate about engineering, Mr. Nadolsky founded the school’s FIRST Robotics team—a group he continues to coach and mentor, even as a law student at Penn’s Carey Law School. In the fall of 2020, he joined the Biden campaign, started a consulting firm specializing in disability accessibility in education, and served as a consultant for the World Institute on Disability, which would lead to his participation on the nonprofit’s Board of Directors.

The Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board is an independent agency within the federal government that provides opinions and support on policies related to disability accessibility across the country.
April

AT PENN

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

1  Deadline to Order Regalia for Commencement 2022; Info: https://prod.campusexpress.upenn.edu/graduation/

18  Advance Registration for Fall Term & Summer Sessions. Through May 1.


CHILDREN’S ACTIVITIES

Penn Museum

Unless noted, online events. Info: https://www.penn.museum/calendar.

2  Scout Day; 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; in person.

5  Global Voyagers: Indigenous North America; 11 a.m.

At-Home Anthro Live: Incantation Bowls; 1 p.m.

12  At-Home Anthro Live: Preserving the Past; 1 p.m.

19  At-Home Anthro Live: Designing Pomo Baskets; 1 p.m.

21  History Alive! Super Heroes; 6 p.m.

22  Virtual Passport Day: Archaeology & Science; 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

26  At-Home Anthro Live: Weaving with Recycled Materials; 1 p.m.

CONFERENCES

1  Beyond the Rose and the Nightingale: What Makes Islamic Literature Islamic?: will further our understanding of literary and cultural production in the Islamic world and center Islamic cultures as productive contexts for intellectual inquiry; 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Golkin Room, Houston Hall, and online webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/wolf-conference-april-1 (Wolf Humanities Center). Also April 2, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Asian American Experience: Diversity and Challenges; will address the complexities of Asian American identity, data and methodological innovations, the diversity of the U.S. Asian population, and Asian youth and activism; 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; the Forum, PCPSE; info and to register: https://web.sas.upenn.edu/cssr/upcoming-events/ (Center for the Study of Ethnicity, Race and Immigration).

2  Reclaiming Narratives; will explore the power dynamics that shape and marginalize Asian American narratives; 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; room 108, ARCH; register: https://tinyurl.com/asam-conf-april-2-in-person Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/asam-conf-april-2-zoom (Asian American Studies).

Lid Delun in Philadelphia: Ethnography, Archives, and Music Across the Pacific; a public symposium, pop-up exhibit, antiprinal honor ing Lid Delun, a conductor, multi-instrumentalist, and advocate for the arts in the People’s Republic of China (PRC) who was often hailed as the father of Western classical music in China; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Class of ’78 Pavilion, Kislak Center; Van Pelt Library and Zoom webinar; info and to register: https://www.library.upenn.edu/about/exhibits-events/l-delun-philadelphia (Penn Libraries).

7  Wharton Future of Work Conference; while work is evolving, seeks evidence rather than opinion when considering the questions of how, where, and when we work; includes keynote speakers Satya Nadella, Microsoft CEO; Carol Dewick, psychologist; John Amaechi, APS Intelligence; 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; online event; info and to register: https://wpa.wharton.upenn.edu/conference/ (Wharton).

8  Philosophy of Disability and Illness: the 6th annual Minorities and Philosophy (MAP-Penn) conference focusing on aspects of the philosophy of disability and illness; 11:20 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; online event; info and to register: https://tinyurl.com/minorities-philosophy (Wolf Humanities Center). Through April 10, noon-5 p.m.

14  Medicine & the Afterlives of Slavery; will examine Penn Medical School’s historical entanglements with the institution of slavery and the continuing legacies of slavery in the production of medical knowledge, practice, and policies; 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; online event; info and to register: https://tinyurl.com/minorities-philosophy (Wolf Humanities Center). Through April 10, noon-5 p.m.

11 a.m.-5 p.m.; all day, Perry World House; info and to register: https://www.whartonfuturecities.com/ (Wharton, Institute for Urban Research).

3  Annual Minorities and Philosophy (MAP-Penn) conference; will discuss the impact of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act on sustainable urban development; all day, Perry World House; info and to register: https://www.whartonfuturecities.com/ (Wharton, Institute for Urban Research).

21  “Ethel Day” Symposium: Unearthed History of Black Garden Clubs in America; honors African American gardeners who have contributed to the gardening paradigm, the beautification movement, and American history, marking the 90th Anniversary of the Negro Garden Club of Virginia; 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; online event; register: https://experience.morrisarboretum.org/Info.aspx?EventID=22 (Morris Arboretum).

EXHIBITS

Museums Near Campus

For up-to-date information about, exhibits, prices, hours and COVID-19 restrictions for several museums on and near Penn’s campus, visit these websites.

Arthur Ross Gallery: http://www.arthurrossgallery.org/visit/schedule-your-visit/

Brodsky Gallery: http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/involved/series/brodskygallery/

Esther Klein Gallery: https://sciencecenter.upenn.edu/discover/ekg.


Meyerson Hall: https://tinyurl.com/y27e5d-ly.

Morris Arboretum: http://www.morrisarboretum.org/visit_hours.shtml.

Penn Museum: http://www.pennmuseum.org/visit/plan-your-visit.

Quorum: https://sciencecenter.org/discover/quorum.


Van Pelt Library: https://www.library.upenn.edu/about/hours/vp.

Wistar Institute: https://wistar.org.

Upcoming

6  @12; quick tour of an Arthur Ross Gallery artifact with Siyuan (Alice) Zhao, history; Catherine Bartch, CLALS; noon; Arthur Ross Gallery and Zoom webinar; join: https://tinyurl.com/12-at-12-april-6 (Arthur Ross Gallery).

Now

Building in China: A Century of Dialogues on Modern Architecture; an exhibition tracing China’s shifting design practices over a century in which many of its leading practitioners and scholars were educated at Penn; Architectural Archives, Fisher Fine Arts Gallery. Through April 22.

No Ocean Between Us: Art of Asian Diasporas in Latin America & The Caribbean, 1945–Present; features modern and contemporary art by Latin American and Caribbean artists of Asian descent, highlighting artists whose work reflects the global dialogues between their Asian heritages and their Latin American or Caribbean identities; Arthur Ross Gallery. Through May 23.

Mark Stockton: 100 People; examines how and how we venerate and connect, using a group of 100 hand drawn portraits, photo-referent, made with graphite on paper, and intended to be received as a single work in form and experience; Feintuch Family Lobby, Annenberg Center. Through May 31.

The Stories We Wear; reveals how clothing and accessories offer powerful expressions of identity and examines the purpose and meaning behind what we wear, showcasing 2,500 years of style via 250 objects; Penn Museum. Guided tour: April 9, 1 p.m. Through June 12.

FCC On 6, 7, 8: Na Kim; installation comprising bold colors, shapes, and patterns inspired by everyday life, designed by conceptually-driven graphic designer Na Kim; ICA. Through July 10.

Ongoing

Art By Mail; display of art made by community members with kits distributed by Kelly Writers House in January; Brodsky Gallery, Kelly Writers House.

Late for Revision, Drawings by Jen Wrobleski; a group of small graphite drawings by Jen Wrobleski that investigate the peculiar capacity of line and mark to cohere into narrative that exists outside of syntactic structures; Brodsky Gallery.

Martha Rich: It Goes By Fast; an exuberant and joyful splash of energy that takes full advantage of a 75' by 20' brick wall, painted by Martha Rich, MFA ‘11; Penn Live Arts Annenberg Center.

Morris Arboretum

Loop de Loop: Patrick Dougherty Installation; stick-work sculpture. Ongoing until deterioration.

Out on a Limb; tree adventure exhibit celebrating its 11th year.

Penn Museum

Africa Galleries: From Maker to Museum; explore the origins of African civilizations.

ALMANAC March 29, 2022

www.upenn.edu/almanac/at-penn-calendar

All events are in EST unless noted.
Ancient Egypt: From Discovery to Display; examines the process of building an exhibit.
Asia Galleries; view ancient Asian artifacts, many of which show the development of Buddhism.
Canaan & Ancient Israel Gallery; explore ancient artifacts from several civilizations that have inhabited this land.
Egypt Galleries; view highlights from the Museum’s mummy collection and more.
Etruscan Italy Gallery; learn about the first great rulers of central Italy.
Greece Gallery; explore the ancient history of the Greek empire.
Living with the Sea: Charting the Pacific; highlights Penn Museum’s rarely-seen Oceanian collection.
Mesopotamian Galleries; explore everyday items from the Mesopotamian civilizations.
Native American Voices; see ancient Native American artifacts alongside contemporary perspectives.
Roman Galleries; examine several distinct societies and collections.
Middle East Galleries; trace the histories of Mesopotamian civilizations.
Native American Voices; see ancient Native American artifacts alongside contemporary perspectives.
Sphinx Gallery; view the Sphinx among sympathetic objects from across the globe.

**FITNESS AND LEARNING**

1. 30x30 Challenge; month-long challenge to spend at least 30 minutes outdoors each day during the month of April; info: [https://tinyurl.com/30x30-2022](https://tinyurl.com/30x30-2022) (Penn Sustainability, Wellness at Penn, Nature Rx).
2. Chinese Queer Women’s Group; Mandarin-speaking group; 4 p.m.; LGBT Center (LGBT Center). Also April 15, 29.
3. Penn Day at the Penn Ice Rink; $5 admission, including skates; 1-2 p.m.; Penn Ice Rink (Business Services).
4. Master in Law (ML)/Master in Regulatory Affairs (MRA) Dual Degree Information Session; will cover the ML/MRA dual-degree requirements, curriculum, the application process, and the student experience; noon; Zoom webinar; register: [https://tinyurl.com/mra-ml-info-april-5](https://tinyurl.com/mra-ml-info-april-5) (Carey Law School).
5. Planning for Retirement: Nuts & Bolts of Retirement; a panel of retired Penn faculty talk about the retirement process; 3:30 p.m.; online webinar; info: [pasef@pobox.upenn.edu](mailto:pasef@pobox.upenn.edu) (Penn Association of Senior and Emeritus Faculty).
7. Working Dog Center Tour; watch as the Working Dog Center staff explains the step-by-step process to preparing a dog to serve as an explosive detection, search & rescue, cancer detection, and more; 2 p.m.; Penn Innovation Center; register: [pwdoutreach@vet.upenn.edu](mailto:pwdoutreach@vet.upenn.edu) (Penn Vet).
8. TEDxPenn 2022: Effect; explore the reciprocal nature of action via speakers ranging from artists to activists, from executives to restaurateurs, who will consider how their journeys have been affected, as well as the effect that they have left on the world; 1 p.m.; Zellerbach Theater, Annenberg Center; tickets: [tickets.annenbergcenter.org/0/75962](https://tickets.annenbergcenter.org/0/75962) (TEDxPenn).
10. Jazz for King; Dr. King Goes to Africa; 6-8 p.m.; Inn At Penn.

**COLLABORATIVE EVENTS**

8. Fellowship Explained; 3 p.m.
9. Fulbright U.S. Student Program Information Session; 4 p.m. Also April 22, 3 p.m.
10. Behind the CV: Stories from Faculty; Elizabeth (Zab) Johnson, Wharton; 4 p.m.
11. How to Build an Effective Fellowship Application; 2 p.m.
12. Crucial Conversations; noon.
13. WOCAP Noontime Lunch Series Presents: Developing Political Savvy: Hard Work and Talent are Not Enough; noon.
14. Men of Color (Monthly Huddle Meeting) Presents: Ready to Move Up: Career and Professional Development; 1 p.m.
15. Community Lunch Program: Open Forum with AARC and PWC; noon.

**COLLEGE OF LIBERAL AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (LPS)**

1. Master of Environmental Studies Virtual Café; noon.
2. Fels Institute of Government Virtual Information Session; 6 p.m.
3. Master of Science in Applied Geosciences Pre-Health Post-Baccalaureate Programs Community Lunch Program: Open Forum; noon.
4. Men of Color (Monthly Huddle Meeting); 6 p.m.; room M20, Harrison College House.
5. Fulbright U.S. Student Program Information Session; 4 p.m. Also April 22, 3 p.m.
6. Behind the CV: Stories from Faculty; Elizabeth (Zab) Johnson, Wharton; 4 p.m.
7. How to Build an Effective Fellowship Application; 2 p.m.
8. Fellowship Explained; 3 p.m.
9. Fulbright U.S. Student Program Information Session; 4 p.m. Also April 22, 3 p.m.
10. Behind the CV: Stories from Faculty; Elizabeth (Zab) Johnson, Wharton; 4 p.m.
11. How to Build an Effective Fellowship Application; 2 p.m.
21 Coffee Break; Raquel Arredondo, assistant dean for DEI; for faculty and staff; 9:30 a.m.; GSE Tent.

Human Resources
Unrelated noted, online events. Info: https://tinyurl.com/penn-hr-programs.

1 30-Minute Guided Meditation; noon. Also April 8, noon; April 15, noon; April 22, noon; April 29, noon.
2 30-Minute Chair Yoga Plus Core; noon. Also April 11, noon; April 18, noon; April 25, noon.
3 Resilience Workshop: Joy Multiplier; 12:30 p.m.
4 Chair Yoga; noon.
5 Monthly Wellness Walk – April; noon; meet in front of College Hall.
6 Assertiveness Skills; 12:30 p.m.
7 Guided Mindful Meditation; noon.
8 Conflict Resolution; 12:30 p.m.
9 Managing Money in Today’s Uncertain Times; 11:30 a.m.
10 Mindful Use of Technology; 12:30 p.m.
11 Bodypump; noon; in-person.
12 Resilience Workshop: Positive Emotions and Resilience Symbols; 12:30 p.m.
13 Time and Energy Management: Ideas for Sustainable Life Balance; 11 a.m.
14 How to Make Yourself Indispensable; 12:30 p.m.
15 Maximizing Campus and Virtual Visits: Presented by Penn Admissions; noon.
16 Express Workshop: Deskercise with Campus Recreation; noon.
17 Mindfulness-Based Tools for Self-Care; 3 p.m.

Institute for Contemporary Art (ICA) RAW Académie
Hybrid events at ICA and Zoom webinars. Info: https://icaphila.org/calendar/

1 Louis Massiah; filmmaker; 6 p.m.
2 Gudkut; Indonesian learning platform; 6 p.m.
3 Sarah Workneh; Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture; 6 p.m.
4 Compression — Transmission; Bryant Wells, designer; 6 p.m.
5 Closing Event; Linda Goode Bryant, filmmaker, and RAW Académie fellows; 6 p.m.

Morris Arboretum
In-person events at Morris Arboretum. Info: https://experience.morrisarboretum.org/

2 Installation of the Bees; Edian Rodriguez, Erdenheim Farm beekeeper; 10 a.m.-noon.
3 We Need to Talk About Lawn; Lucy Dinsmore, Plant Lady Lucy; 10:30 a.m.
4 Wellness Walk; 10:30 a.m. Weekends.

Penn Libraries
Zoom webinars. Info: https://guides.library.upenn.edu/workshops/

1 Meditative Writing; 1 p.m.; Also April 8, 15, 22, 29.
2 Introduction to Online Academic Profile Services; 2 p.m.
3 Raising the Visibility of Your Scholarship through Scholarly Platforms and Measuring Your Impact; 1 p.m.
4 Coffee with a Codex; noon. Wednesdays.
5 Dissertation & Copyright; 1 p.m.
6 Ethical Dissertation Writing: Reuse, Permission, and References; 2 p.m.
7 Spotting Red Flags for Low-Quality Journals; 2 p.m.

Penn Nursing
Online events. Info: https://www.nursing.upenn.edu/calendar/

6 ONR Colloquium Event: New Kids on the Block - Three New Assistant Professors; noon.
13 ONR Colloquium Event: Doctoral Fellow Lightning Round; noon.
14 Admissions Webinar for High School Students; 6 p.m. Also April 27.

Music Department
Various locations. Info: https://music.sas.upenn.edu/events/

1 Penn Jazz Ensembles: Part One; 6 p.m.; room 419, Fisher-Bennett Hall.
2 Penn Jazz Ensembles: Part Two; 7:30 p.m.; room 419, Fisher-Bennett Hall.
3 Speak to Us of Joy and Sorrow: Music for These Unprecedented Times: An Afternoon of Nine Readings & Songs; 3 p.m.; St. Mary’s Church, 3916 Locust Walk.
4 Penn Wind Ensemble Spring Concert; 3 p.m.; Irvine Auditorium.
5 Penn Flutes; Museum Crawl; 4 p.m.; Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall.
6 Music for Spirit and Soul; featuring Penn College Musicum; 7:30 p.m.; St. Mary’s Church, 3916 Locust Walk.
7 I Want Magic!; featuring Penn Opera and Musical Theater; 7 p.m.; room 419, Fisher-Bennett Hall.
8 Penn Baroque and Recorder Ensembles Spring Concert; 8 p.m.; room 419, Fisher-Bennett Hall.
9 Penn Arab Music Ensemble Spring Concert; 8 p.m.; Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall.
10 Penn Chamber: Part One; 3 p.m.; room 419, Fisher-Bennett Hall.
11 Penn Chamber: Part Two; 6 p.m.; room 419, Fisher-Bennett Hall.
12 Penn Symphony Orchestra; 8-10 p.m.; Irvine Auditorium.
13 Penn Samba Spring Concert; 7:30 p.m.; Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall.
14 Penn Live Arts
In-person events. Info: https://pennlivearts.org/events/

1 Patience; Penn Singers Light Opera Company presents a Gilbert and Sullivan classic featuring a milkmaid in a quaint village who has never understood everyone’s obsession with love; 5:30 p.m.; Harold Prince Theater, Annenberg Center. Also April 2, 1 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.
2 Quaker Notes: Y2Quake; a cappella group the Quaker Notes sing all your favorite 2000s throwbacks and more; 8:30 p.m.; Harold Prince Theater, Annenberg Center. Also April 2, 5:30 p.m.
3 SFJAZZ Collective; a group of contemporary jazz all stars perform a program of new
compositions written in response to the extraordinary social and global issues we have faced in recent years; 7 p.m.; Zellerbach Theater, Annenberg Center.

7 Zakir Hussain: Triveni; “the presiding genius and global ambassador for North Indian classical music” leads an exploration of the varied musical dialogues of North and South Indian rhythm traditions; 7:30 p.m.; Zellerbach Theater, Annenberg Center.

8 Joel Ross & Gabrielle Garo; break out jazz vibraphonist Joel Ross and flautist Gabrielle Garo tour to promote Mr. Ross’s second studio album; 7:30 p.m.; Harold Prince Theater, Annenberg Center, and online livestream.

21 Lila Downs; performance by a global superstar whose exquisite artistry bridges the musical traditions of Mexico and South America with North American folk, jazz and blues; 7:30 p.m.; Zellerbach Theater, Annenberg Center.

ON STAGE

16 Penn Chinese Theater: Goodbye, Mr. Loser; Chinese comedy with elements of music and twists of today’s pop culture; 6 p.m.; Harold Prince Theatre, Annenberg Center.

5 The Soviet Issue: A Jewish Currents Reading and Release Party; celebrate the release of the latest issue with local contributors and guest editors; 6 p.m.; room B6, Stiteler Hall (Russian & East European Studies).


13 Celebrating New Faculty Books: On Screen and Off: Cinema and the Making of Nazi Hamburg; Anne Berg and Warren Breckman; history; 5 p.m.; room 209, College Hall (History).

11 A Conversation: Applebaum Editors and Publishers Series; John Freeman, editor at Alfred A. Knopf; 6 p.m.

12 Stand-Ups Sit Down; Emmy Blotnick and Gary Galman, comedians; 6 p.m.

13 Speakeasy Open Mic Night; 7:30 p.m.

18 A Conversation: 2021-2022 Hartman Symposium; Dana Stevens, author; 6 p.m.

19 Circuits of the Sacred: Faggotology in the Black Latinx Caribbean; Carlos Decena, Rutgers University; 6 p.m.

20 Liu Program: Reading, Conversation, and Book Party; Fayyaz Vellani, critical writing; 6 p.m.

21 Marathon Reading: Kafka on the Shore; 9 a.m. until end of book.

25 A Reading; Doug Glanville, baseball player and author; 6:30 p.m.

26 A Conversation; Doug Glanville, baseball player and author; 10 a.m.

27 Creative Writing Program Honors Thesis Reading; 5 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS

6 Norma M. Lang Distinguished Award for Scholarly Practice and Policy; presentation of a biannual award to Regina S. Cunningham, CEO, University of Pennsylvania Health System, featuring a lecture, The 3’s, Influence, Inspire, and Impact: The Road to Success; 3 p.m.; Bluejeans webinar; join: https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/register/pscgrxgd (Nursing).

SPORTS

Penn home games only. Locations and more info: https://pennathletics.com/.

2 Baseball vs. Dartmouth; 11:30 a.m.

2 (M) Tennis vs. Princeton; 2 p.m.

2 (M/W) Track & Field hosts Big 5 Meet; all day.

3 (W) Lacrosse vs. Northwestern; noon.

3 (W) Tennis vs. Harvard; 12:30 p.m.

5 Baseball vs. Villanova or Delaware State; 3 p.m.

6 Softball vs. Villanova or Delaware State; 4 p.m.

9 (M) Lacrosse vs. Brown; 1 p.m.

9 (M) Tennis vs. Brown; 1 p.m.

10 (M) Tennis vs. Yale; 1 p.m.

16 Baseball vs. Cornell; 11:30 a.m.

(W) Lacrosse vs. Brown; noon.

17 Baseball vs. Dartmouth; 12:30 p.m.

(W) Tennis vs. Harvard; 1 p.m.

20 Softball vs. Drexel; 4 p.m.

22 (M) Tennis vs. Columbia; 1 p.m.

23 Baseball vs. Brown (DH); 11:30 a.m.

24 Baseball vs. Brown; noon.

(W) Tennis vs. Cornell; 1 p.m.

26 (M) Lacrosse vs. Saint Joseph’s; 7 p.m.

27 Baseball vs. Rider; 3 p.m.

29 Softball vs. Yale; 2 p.m.

30 Softball vs. Yale (DH); 12:30 p.m.

Song of Salt

A film by EMMA BATADA & NICOLAS SNYDER

Li Delun (left), a composer and multi-instrumentalist who is said to have brought western classical music to the People’s Republic of China, will be honored during a Penn Libraries conference on April 2. A photo of the isolated mining town (right) that is the subject of the film, Song of Salt. A preview of the film will be hosted by the department of cinema and media studies on April 19.

TALKS

1 Poland’s Constitutional Breakdown; Wojciech Sadurski, University of Sydney; Claire Finkelstein, Carey Law School; R. Daniel Kelemen, Rutgers University; noon; room 108, ARCH; register: https://tinyurl.com/sadurski-talk-april-1 (Russian and East European Studies).

Searching for Signs of Life and its Origin on Other Planets; Laurie Barge, NASA Jet Propul-
TEDxPenn: Affect, which will take place at the Annenberg Center on April 16, will feature speakers that range from artists to activists, and executives to restaurateurs.

- Hickey, Penn State University; 10:30 a.m.; Wu and Chen Auditorium, Levine Hall (Materials Science and Engineering).

- Mechanisms of HIV Persistence - A Single-Cell Multi-omics Approach: Ya-Chi Ho, Yale University; noon; BlueJeans webinar; info: https://www.med.upenn.edu/cfar/seminar-series.html (Center for AIDS Research).

- Urban Environments, Nature and Well-Being: An Environmental Neuroscience Perspective; Marc Berman, University of Chicago; 4:30 p.m.; room 218, Houston Hall (Center for Neuroscience and Society).

- Migration and Empires in Latin America and the Caribbean: How to Explain the Large Presence of Asians in the Americas; Evelyn Hu-DeHart, Brown University; 5:30 p.m.; Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/hu-dehart-talk-april-4 (Arthur Ross Gallery).

- 40 Years of Queer BIPOC Feminism; Jennifer Nash, University of Michigan; 3 p.m.; Zoom webinar; info: https://tinyurl.com/feminar (Mechnanical Engineering & Applied Mechanics).

- Revisiting Spatially Targeted Policies for Regional Development; panel of speakers; 1:30 p.m.; online webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/tur-talk-april-5 (Penn Institute for Urban Research).

- Laminitis: A Path to Prevention; Andrew van Eps, Penn Vet; 6:30 p.m.; online webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/arbitter-talk-feb-1 (Penn Vet).

- With Nonchalance at the Abyss: the New Munich Group, Klaus Lemke’s SYLVE, and the Lightness of a Left Without Leftism; Marco Abel, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; noon; Zoom webinar; join: https://tinyurl.com/abel-talk-april-6 (Cinema & Media Studies).

- Diabetes: A History of Race and Disease; Arleen Tuchman, Vanderbilt University; 4 p.m.; BlueJeans webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/tuchman-talk-april-6 (Nursing).

- The Abend Family Lecture; Anna Dyson, Yale University; 6:30 p.m.; Plaza Gallery, Meyerson Hall; register: https://tinyurl.com/dyson-talk-april-6 (Architecture).

- Hierarchically Ordered Block Copolymer Materials via Nonequilibrium Processing; Robert Fine Arts Building; register: https://tinyurl.com/affec-talk-april-13 (Historic Preservation).

- Gracian between Oracolo Manuale e L’Uomo di Corre: Roger Chartier, history; 5:30 p.m.; Lea Library, Van Pelt Library (Italian Studies).

- Addressing Structural Racism in Medicaid from Planarians to Parasites: Unexpected Porosity/Fusion; Steven Holl, Steven Holl Architects; 6:30 p.m.; Plaza Gallery, Meyerson Hall; register: https://tinyurl.com/holl-talk-april-20 (Architecture).

- Fels Public Policy in Practice Speaker Series; Cindy Dunn, secretary of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; 6 p.m.; online webinar; register: https://www.fels.upenn.edu/events/ppp-speaker-series-cindy-dunn (Fels Institute of Government).

- How Trees Speak to Us: The Human-Tree Connection; Jared Farmer, history; Bill Cullina, Morrist Arboretum; Michelle Kondo, USDA; noon; online webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/earth-day-panel-2022 (Morris Arboretum).

- Orrin Evans and All Negro Comics; Sean Quimby, Kislak Center; noon; Zoom webinar; register: https://libcal.library.upenn.edu/event/8905746 (Penn Libraries).

- Samuel P. Martin, III, MD Memorial Lecture; Alicia Fernandez, University of California San Francisco; noon; auditorium, Colonial Penn Center, and Zoom webinar; info: https://tinyurl.com/fernandez-talk-april-22 (Leonard Davis Institute).

- From Planarians to Parasites: Unexpected Roles for Monoamine Transmitters; Phil Newmark, Morgridge Institute; noon; Zoom webinar; join: https://tinyurl.com/penn.zoom/j/91921012777 (Penn Vet).

- Who is Speaking? Stenography and the Cultural Technique of the Liberal Subject in Modern Japan; Miyako Inoue, Stanford University; noon; room 345; Penn Museum (Anthropology).

- The Friending Plot: Sexual and Economic Freedoms in Early-Twentieth-Century Caribbean Fiction; Kanesha Parsons, University of Chicago; 4 p.m.; Zoom webinar; info: https://www.enews.upenn.edu/events/ (English).

- The Eukaryotic RNA-Protein Interaction to Promote Health Equity; Cara James, Grantmakers in Health; Leighton Ku, George Washington University; Emma Sandoe, Duke University; noon; Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/ldi-talk-april-15 (Leonard Davis Institute).

- 20 Plant Homologs of PIEZO Mechanosensitive Ion Channels Localize to the Tonoplast and Affect Vacuolar Morphology; Ivan Radin, Washington University in St. Louis; 11 a.m.; Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/future-leaders-mb (Center for Engineering MechanoBiology).

- How Common is Common Sense? Duncan Watts, PIK professor; 3 p.m.; Singh Center and Chen Auditorium, Levine Hall (Materials Science and Engineering).

- To Promote Health Equity; Cara James, Grantmakers in Health; Leighton Ku, George Washington University; Emma Sandoe, Duke University; noon; Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/ldi-talk-april-15 (Leonard Davis Institute).

- How Common is Common Sense? Duncan Watts, PIK professor; 3 p.m.; Singh Center and Chen Auditorium, Levine Hall (Materials Science and Engineering).

- To Promote Health Equity; Cara James, Grantmakers in Health; Leighton Ku, George Washington University; Emma Sandoe, Duke University; noon; Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/ldi-talk-april-15 (Leonard Davis Institute).
Asian American Studies

Unless noted, hybrid events at room 473, McNeil Building and Zoom webinars. Info: https://asam.sas.upenn.edu/events.

7 Asian America Across the Disciplines: Race and Media/Film Representations; John Jackson, dean of the Annenberg School; noon.
11 Asian America Across the Disciplines: Jason Chu, hip hop artist; 5:15 p.m.; room 315, Williams Hall.

Carey Law School

4 Crypto and the Climate Crisis; Lawrence Baxter, Duke University; 2 p.m.; Zoom webinar.
5 Administrative Law’s Racial Blind Spot; Daniel Ho, Stanford University; 5 p.m.; Zoom webinar.
7 Creating Common Law in the Corporate Context – Delaware Style; Karen Valihura, Delaware Supreme Court; 4:30 p.m.; room 240A, Silverman Hall.
13 Implicit Bias, Structural Bias, and Implications for Law and Policy; Goodwin Liu, California State Supreme Court; 4 p.m.; room 100, Golklin Hall.

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

6 Progressive-Cleavage and Functionalization-Cleavage for Deconstruction of Polyolefins; Aaron Sadow, Iowa State University; 3:30 p.m.
13 Molecular and Cocholoidal Interactions in Water; Nicholas Abbott, Cornell University; 3:30 p.m.
20 Design of Advanced Functional Surfaces Using Oxygen-Tolerant Photopolymerization; Christian Pester, Penn State University; 3:30 p.m.

Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS)
Zoom webinars. Info: https://ceas.sas.upenn.edu/events/.

14 Language and Truth in North Korea; Sonia Ryang, Rice University; 5:15 p.m.
18 March 11th, 2011... Community and Architecture; Hitoshi Abe, University of California Los Angeles; 5:15 p.m.
21 Vietnam: Fifty Years On; Edward Miller, Dartmouth University; 5:15 p.m.

Chemistry

Unless noted, in-person events at Carol Lynch Lecture Hall, Chemistry Complex. Info: https://www.chem.upenn.edu/events/.

4 Alkenes as Universal Functional Group Progenitors; Keary Engle, Scripps Research Institute; noon.
6 Driving the Production of Chemical Fuels from Sunlight; Jillian Dempsey, University of North Carolina; 5 p.m.; Kleinman Energy Forum, Fisher Fine Arts Building, and Zoom webinar.

7 What 2DIR Can Tell Us About Complex and Heterogeneous Biophysical Systems; Arnaldo Serrano, University of Notre Dame; 1 p.m.
11 How Molecular Catalysts Mediate the Electrochemical Generation Of Fuels; Jillian Dempsey, University of North Carolina; 3 p.m.
21 Genome Organization through Phase Separation: Random yet Precise; Bin Zhang, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; 1 p.m.

Center for Latin American and Latinx Studies (CLALS)

Unless noted, hybrid events at room 473, McNeil Building, and Zoom webinars. Info: https://clals.sas.upenn.edu/events.

4 Embracing Multiple Visions of Indigenous Education in Latin American Universities: Experiences in Mexico and Peru; panel of speakers; 4 p.m.; online webinar.
5 The Constitution on the Throne: Emotions and Archetypes in the First Republic of Colombia; Juan Pablo Ardila, history; noon.
19 Dispossessions in the Bolivian Highlands; Carmen Medeiros, CLALS; noon.
20 Retaking the Land and Defending our Territory: The Struggle of the Tupinambá in Bahia, Brazil; Glicéria Jesus da Silva (Célia Tupinambá), Tupinambá de Olivença Indigenous Territory; 10 a.m.; in-person location TBA.
26 Venezuelan Politics; Maryhen Jiménez, University of Oxford; 4 p.m.

Center for the Study of Contemporary China (CSCC)

Unless noted, in-person events at room 418, PCPSE. Info: https://cscs.sas.upenn.edu/events.

7 Building a New JV University from Scratch in China: The Case of Duke Kunshan University; Denis Simon, Duke University; 4:30 p.m.
11 Can China Stop Climate Change?: Eyck Freymann, University of Oxford; 1:45 p.m.; hybrid event.
12 Constitutionalism in Context: The Extreme Cases of China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan; David Law, University of Virginia; Albert Hung-yee Chen, University of Hong Kong; Cora Chan, University of Hong Kong; 10 a.m.; hybrid event.
15 Grand Strategy or Grand Tragedy? China’s Foreign Policy in the Xi Jinping Era; Jude Blanchette, Center for Strategic and International Studies; 12:30 p.m.; online webinar.
22 When Autocrats Clean House: Xi Jinping’s Anti-Corruption Campaign and Its Consequences; Chris Carothers, CSCC; 12:30 p.m.

Classical Studies

Unless noted, in-person events at Widener Lecture Hall, Penn Museum. Info: https://www.classics.upenn.edu/events.

7 Farming, Food and Diet: Living On (And Off) the Land in Early Greece; Lin Foxhall, University of Liverpool; 4:45 p.m.; room 402, Cohen Hall, and Zoom webinar.
14 Public Matters: Prompts for the Study of Ancient Cultures; Joy Connolly, American Council of Learned Societies; 5 p.m.
19 The Skills of World-Making: Joy Connolly, American Council of Learned Societies, President; 5 p.m.
21 Collaborator, Translator, Constructor; Joy Connolly, American Council of Learned Societies, President; 5 p.m.

Penn Dental
Online webinars. Info: https://www.dental.upenn.edu/news-events/events/.

4 The Quest for Excellence in Orthodontics; Ute Schneider-Moser, orthodontist; 6:30 p.m.
5 Inspiring Impact Faculty Series: Transforming the Future of Oral Health; Michel Koo, Center for Innovation & Precision Dentistry; noon.
20 Letting the Air Out of Orthodontic Treatment of Sleep Disordered Breathing in Patients with Down Syndrome; Marc Ackerman, dentist; 5:30 p.m.

Economics

Unless noted, in-person events at room 101, PCPSE. Info: https://economics.sas.upenn.edu/events.

4 Bayesian Persuasion: Reduced Form Approach; Rakesh Vohra, economics; noon; room 200, PCPSE.
5 Information Cost Trilemmas; Alexander Bloedel, California Institute of Technology; 4 p.m.
6 Coordination and Commitment in International Climate Action: Evidence from Palm Oil;
Garden Jams at Penn Museum

Celebrate the coming of spring with a series of casual Friday concerts in the picturesque Warden Garden of the Penn Museum.

On Fridays at noon in April (April 8, 15 & 22), visitors are invited to the Penn Museum for Garden Jams, which will feature student music groups.

Bring a lunch, soak up the sun, and enjoy seasonal serenades provided by live bands from our friends at Penn’s department of music.

Don’t let stormy weather deter you—the show will go on, rain or shine. The event is free and open to the public.

Garden Jam schedule:
Friday, April 8: Penn Jazz Ensembles
Friday, April 15: Penn Flutes
Friday, April 22: Penn Chamber

For more information, visit https://fb.me/e/3A1YNXlpE.

Energy Week: April 4-8

From April 4–8, the Kleinman Center and Vagelos Institute for Energy Science and Technology will host a week of energy-focused events across Penn’s campus. The event lineup includes student lightning talks, a live podcast about the crisis in Ukraine and its energy impact, and a conversation with climate fiction author Kim Stanley Robinson.

Energy Week at the University of Pennsylvania is open to students, faculty, practitioners, and the public. Join in for meaningful discussions about the world’s energy transition. For in-person events, in accordance with the University of Pennsylvania’s COVID-19 guidelines, visitors will be required to wear a mask and present a green PennOpen Pass (for members of the Penn community) or PennOpen Campus pass (for visitors) to attend. Further details for joining in-person will be emailed with your registration.

For the full schedule, visit https://energyweek.upenn.edu/.

From the Senate Office

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Actions

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

Report from the Senate Tri-Chairs. Faculty Senate Chair William Braham reported on the following matters:

• A draft academic calendar for academic year 2024-2025 is available for faculty comments by SEC members. Comments should be directed to the Office of the Vice Provost for Education by April 4.

• The Excellence through Diversity Fund is accepting applications for project funding through April 29. More information can be found at https://faculty.upenn.edu/diversity/fund/

• Senate Faculty of the Penn Trustees, will meet with SEC at its April 20 meeting; questions by standing faculty for Mr. Bok are welcomed to the Senate Office by emailing senate@pobox.upenn.edu.

• In May 2020, SEC passed a “Climate Pledge” calling on faculty and staff to take steps in their own personal and professional lives that are climate friendly. CIRC (the Senate Select Committee on the Institutional Response to the Climate Emergency) is creating a brief video and will request of deans and department chairs that it be shown at upcoming faculty meetings. The pledge and accompanying resources can be found at www.pennfacultyclimatepledge.org.

• CIRC has also been working with the Division of Human Resources and TIAA to help faculty understand climate-friendly options for the investments in their personal retirement accounts. On February 25, TIAA held a Responsible Investing webinar, of which a recording is now available along with accompanying resources.

Resolution on Formalizing and Making Accessible School and Departmental Faculty Bylaws or Standing Rules. A draft resolution was presented by the Senate Committee on Faculty and the Academic Mission. Following discussion, the resolution was returned to committee for further revision.

Campus Masking Mandate. Benoit Dubé, Associate Provost and Chief Wellness Officer, and Jennifer Pinto-Martin, Former Faculty Senate Chair and Executive Director of the Center for Public Health Initiatives, were welcomed to the meeting to discuss the status of the campus masking mandate. The masking mandate was lifted in all campus areas on March 15 except in classrooms, healthcare spaces, and Penn Transit. All public health guidance has been enacted in a collaborative way with public health experts, infectious disease experts, and epidemiologists from Penn Medicine. The March 15 decision matched the city’s guidance and the CDC guidance that now considers elements other than COVID positivity rates, including average number of cases per day, number of hospitalizations, and severity of disease. The Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPh) recommended keeping classroom masking requirements in place until a period after spring break. The COVID Response Team met on March 24 to make a decision on whether to lift the classroom mask mandate on March 28. Penn’s quarantining policy for positive cases has been positive cases show positive antigen tests at the 5-day mark. With 2/3 of positive cases show positive antigen tests at the 5-day mark. The Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPh) recommended keeping classroom masking requirements in place until a period after spring break. The COVID Response Team met on March 24 to make a decision on whether to lift the classroom mask mandate on March 28. Penn’s quarantining policy for positive cases has been extended from the CDC-recommended 5 days to 10 days since campus data reveal that 2/3 of positive cases show positive antigen tests at the 5-day mark.

The masking guidelines reflect the “new era” of the pandemic. Persons on campus are urged to wear the highest quality mask available for self-protection purposes, a shift from early in the pandemic in which masking was understood to protect others. On a question about whether faculty can require students to wear masks in their classes even if the mandate is lifted, SEC members were reminded that a high quality well-fitted mask is effective at protecting oneself from virus transmission. A concern was noted that some persons choosing to wear a mask in a non-masking environment may inadvertently convey personal health information about those masked persons.

An announcement on classroom masking requirements will be made no later than Tuesday, March 29, with new requirements to be effective immediately upon announcement. (A University-wide announcement was distributed on March 24 indicating that the classroom masking mandate would continue without a defined end date.)

Faculty Senate Seminar: Inclusion and Free Speech on Campus.

At 4 p.m. ET, a Faculty Senate Seminar was held virtually and open to all standing faculty, of which an archived recording is available on the Faculty Senate website.

Salvatori Awards 2022: Call for Applications

The Center for Italian Studies offers annual research grants endowed by the late Henry Salvatori, C’1923, to support Penn students and faculty whose research investigates Italian culture and society.

Graduate students and full-time faculty members (standing and associated) may apply. Each award is up to $3,000 and is intended to support expenses related to research, accommodation, and travel, occurring between May 1, 2022, and April 30, 2023. A report is required by October 1, 2023.

As funds are limited, requests below the upper limit are encouraged. It is not possible to apply for two consecutive years. If awarded a grant, advance travel funds are not available. Applications are evaluated by a committee of at least two faculty members plus the director of the center.

Applications (Word or PDF) should include:
A two-page proposal (ca. 6,000 characters with no spaces), an estimate of expenses, a timetable, and a list of past Salvatori Awards obtained (if applicable). Graduate students need to provide one letter of support from a standing faculty member in the most relevant department or program.

Applications and recommenders should send an email with the subject “Salvatori Awards 2022” to Ann Moyer, professor in the department of history, at moy e r@upenn.edu by April 15, 2022.

The awards will be announced by April 30, 2022.

The next call for applications will be in the spring 2023. For more information, visit www.sas.upenn.edu/italians/resources/salvatori.
30 Curator-Led Tour: RAW Academie at ICA: Infrastructure; 6 p.m.; Institute of Contemporary Art.

**FITNESS AND LEARNING**

31 Lina Wertmüller, the Woman in White Glasses; spotlight on Lina Wertmüller, the visionary and groundbreaking Italian director, who went on to make more than 30 films—becoming the first woman ever to receive Academy Award nominations for Best Director, Best Original Screenplay and Best Foreign Film; 5:30 p.m.; room 401, Fisher-Bennett Hall (Cinema Studies).

**ON STAGE**

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

30 Wharton Dance Studio: Decadence; popular student group’s 10th anniversary showcase with 11 dances, 250+ dancers and surprise bonus performances; 7 p.m.; Zellerbach Theater, Annenberg Center.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Community Crime Report
About the Crime Report: Below are the Crimes Against Persons or Crimes Against Society from the campus report for March 14–20, 2022. Also reported were 11 crimes against property (4 burglaries, 3 other thefts, 2 thefts from building, 1 fraud, and 1 other offense ) with 1 arrest. Full reports are available at: http://almanac.upenn.edu/seetions/crime. Prior week’s reports are also online, —Eds.

This summary is prepared by the Division of Public Safety and includes all criminal incidents reported and made known to the University Police Department between the dates of March 14–20, 2022. The University Police actively patrol from Market St to Baltimore Avenue and from the Schuylkill River to 43rd St in conjunction with the Philadelphia Police. In this effort to provide you with a thorough and accurate report on public safety concerns, we hope that your increased awareness will lessen the opportunity for crime. For any concerns or suggestions regarding this report, please call the Division of Public Safety at (215) 898-4482.

### 18th District

Below are the Crimes Against Persons from the 18th District: 6 incidents (3 assaults, 1 aggravated assault, 1 indecent assault, and 1 robbery) with 2 arrests were reported for March 14–20, 2022 by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th St & Market St to Woodland Avenue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03/15/22</td>
<td>3:30</td>
<td>4715 Walnut St</td>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>Michael Lee was arrested for assault on 4715 Walnut St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/15/22</td>
<td>8:40</td>
<td>26th &amp; Chestnut Sts</td>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>Brady S. was arrested for burglary on 26th &amp; Chestnut Sts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/16/22</td>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>4000 Walnut St</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>Christopher H. was arrested for robbery on 4000 Walnut St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/16/22</td>
<td>11:35</td>
<td>3600 Walnut St</td>
<td>Indecent Assault</td>
<td>Jorie D. was arrested for indecent assault on 3600 Walnut St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/16/22</td>
<td>5:54</td>
<td>2400 Chestnut St</td>
<td>Aggravated Assault/Arrest</td>
<td>Jared T. was arrested for aggravated assault/arrest on 2400 Chestnut St</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/18/22</td>
<td>6:57</td>
<td>4800 Walnut St</td>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>Hailey A. was arrested for assault on 4800 Walnut St.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Building Confidence and Accommodating the Busy Student

Knashawn H. Morales

In my field, biostatistics, I face two key challenges that are relevant for many faculty teaching now: teaching students who are anxious about learning and teaching students who have to miss class for one reason or another. Students who are apprehensive about learning a subject, particularly those without a quantitative background or who have not been exposed to quantitative topics in some time, appear to lack confidence and, as a result, can be less engaged in lectures. Additionally, it can be a challenge to teach students with demanding careers who often need to take as much as a few weeks off for their other responsibilities. My challenge as an instructor for both kinds of students is to make sure every student walks away with a firm grasp of the material, and I’ve found a similar solution for both types of students. I believe that taking the time to make small adjustments can create an environment that facilitates better engagement, relieves anxiety, and builds confidence while allowing the student to manage competing demands. Here I share a few basic thoughts on how I approach these challenges. Dr. Amrit Thapa provides complementary tips in “Methods to Demystify Methods” (Almanac October 26, 2021), which I found to be very insightful and resonated with my teaching approach.

I am currently faculty in the department of biostatistics, epidemiology and informatics at the Perelman School of Medicine and member of the graduate group in epidemiology and biostatistics. My teaching experience began with introductory statistical methods and applications courses for graduate students pursuing a degree in biostatistics. Since then, my teaching role has expanded to include non-statistical degree learners. Over the past seven years, I have taught for the Clinical Epidemiology Certificate Program and the Master of Science in Health Policy Research Program. I teach standard semester courses as well as shortened summer period courses. These introductory courses often have no prerequisite, which means the group of students have varying levels of prior mathematics/statistical training, from no recent exposure to mathematics to several recent courses in statistics. Students in these classes come from a variety of backgrounds including physicians and public health practitioners, as well as research scientists with an interest in clinical research. Students often differ from traditional full-time biostatistics students, not only in their varied background, but they take classes alongside simultaneous demands of maintaining professional and personal responsibilities. Students in these situations may have a two-week absence from class to prepare for medical board exams or need to travel to give a lecture at a professional conference.

My approach to accommodating busy students begins with organization of course materials. In preparation for virtual teaching for the first time during the spring semester of 2021, I joined the Faculty Course Building Club led by Sherri Place of the Penn Online Learning Initiative. The club was very helpful in providing strategies for success and tools for the virtual environment. Before the pandemic and forced virtual classes, I would use Canvas as a simple file folder system without putting much thought into the layout or organization. By taking advantage of the application’s features (such as modules, pages, and surveys), I removed clutter from the students’ view of Canvas while at the same time disabling menu options or attributes that I did not need (and they didn’t need to see). Additionally, I used the rich content editor to create pages with clear sections marked by larger headings. I designed a home page that contained all of the relevant information for the course with embedded hyperlinks to other pages and materials. I divided the semester into eight topical sections and presented each of them in modules. Each module included the reading assignments (required and supplemental), lecture notes, homework assignments, and surveys. The module would be made available on the home page approximately a week prior to starting each new topic to further reduce clutter on the courses home page. By these small changes, I was able to make course materials easily accessible, relieving some of the stress for students who felt less confident and for those students who needed to be away.

I seek to make statistics accessible to everyone, no matter their background. I regularly ask for student feedback through anonymous surveys at the end of each section via Canvas, that count towards the class participation grade. I ask students to “note one thing learned from the lectures” and “note one thing you did not understand from the lectures.” Then I organize student answers into themes and share those with the class at the beginning of the next lecture. I also provide a review which gives students an opportunity to raise questions in a comfortable manner and allows for dynamic assessment of the students’ understanding of topics. Students’ confidence is boosted when they see that other students have the same questions and when everyone gets to hear the answer. These sessions also allowed me to make sure no one was left behind, even when students couldn’t come to class.

Finally, fostering a welcoming and respectful environment is important in any classroom. What I have taken away from webinars sponsored by statistical professional societies on creating a sense of belonging is that small steps can go a long way toward incorporating diversity, equity, and inclusion in courses. Rather than revamping an entire course, smaller, more intentional steps—such as using inclusive language in the syllabus or swapping a few existing reading materials to include more diverse authors—can send a message to all students. I also gave students a group project instead of a final exam, which offered diversity in the type of assessments and also relieved anxiety around the demands of the course. I assigned groups of 4-5 students to use an existing dataset to develop research questions and hypotheses, to perform a statistical analysis to test the hypotheses, and to present the study to the class. There were also small milestone assignments during the semester and time for each group to share their progress and challenges. The datasets that I selected consisted of diverse and timely topics including: drug use among young adults; health and well-being of lesbians, gay men, and bisexual individuals; fatal shootings by police in the U.S.; and college students coping with COVID-19. The discussions around the projects were thought provoking, engaging, and created a sense of community among the students.

In summary, my role is to communicate a fundamental understanding of statistics needed to conduct clinical research and communicate effectively with statisticians. Anxiety related to a lack of confidence in approaching the subject as well as competing demands can be eased by making sure the course materials are organized, the topics are accessible, and the environment is welcoming.

Knashawn H. Morales is associate professor of biostatistics in the department of biostatistics, epidemiology, and informatics at the Perelman School of Medicine.

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.