Anthony Braga: Jerry Lee Professor of Criminology

Anthony Braga has joined Penn Arts & Sciences as the Jerry Lee Professor of Criminology. Dr. Braga is one of the nation’s leading social scientists working to improve our understanding of crime and innovate in our justice system. His research cuts across many pressing topics of broad interest, including policing, gun violence, and crime prevention. His recent research includes a randomized controlled trial on the impact of police body-worn cameras, a study on the value of sustained investigative effort in solving homicides and nonfatal gun assaults, and the effect of court-ordered reforms on racial disparities in New York Police Department enforcement patterns. Dr. Braga is a fellow the American Society of Criminology, a fellow of the Academy of Experimental Criminology, and the 2014 recipient of the AEC’s Joan McCord Award, recognizing his commitment to randomized controlled experiments.

Dr. Braga will launch the Crime and Justice Policy Lab in the department of criminology, aiming to put Penn’s research expertise to work in addressing crime problems and solving justice system challenges in Philadelphia and beyond. Dr. Braga is joining Penn after five years at Northeastern University, serving as the Elmer V. H. and Eileen M. Brooks Distinguished Professor, the director of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, and the director of the Center on Crime and Community Resilience. From 2012 to 2016, Dr. Braga was the Don M. Gottfredson Professor of Evidence-Based Criminology at Rutgers University. Before his time at Rutgers, Dr. Braga was a lecturer in public policy and a senior research fellow at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He earned a PhD and an MA in criminal justice from Rutgers University, an MPA from Harvard University, and a BS in criminal justice from the University of Massachusetts.

The Jerry Lee Professorship was established in 2003 by Jerry Lee through the Jerry Lee Foundation to support the recruitment of faculty in the field of criminology. Mr. Lee is the founder and president of 101.1 More FM Radio in Philadelphia.

(continued on page 3)

Plans for a New Student Performing Arts Center

Penn President Amy Gutmann announced on August 5 that the University has begun the planning process to build a new student performing arts center at 33rd street and Woodland Walk adjacent to Lauder and Hill College Houses and proximate to King’s Court English College House. The University has issued a request for proposal for a feasibility study for the proposed $31-million, 36,000-square-foot center, a project which President Gutmann said has been in high demand by the collective undergraduate student body. “We are thrilled to be undertaking this extraordinarily exciting project at Penn in support of the thousands of students avidly involved in the performing arts and the dozens and dozens of thriving, talented student performing arts groups on campus,” said President Gutmann. “This project would augment the incredible resources now serving student-run performance organizations, with Platt Student Performing Arts House providing leadership in the creation and implementation of arts programming for students at Penn.”

“The proposed center would serve along with the Platt House, Irvine Auditorium, Houston Hall, Iron Gate Theatre, as well as additional spaces at the ARCH, to create a consortium of spaces for undergraduate students who are making important, imaginative, and innovative strides in theater, dance, instrumental and vocal music, comedy, and spoken word,” President Gutmann continued. “Responding to the expanding needs of Penn’s vibrant performing arts community, a terrific team has been quietly at work over the last year to discuss and consider this project. We are now excited to share this proposed vision for a new creative space at Penn.”

The proposed new student performing arts center would be entirely student-centered and include a dedicated performing arts space for undergraduate students. The facility also calls for a 450-seat theater and contemporary stage, as well as teaching, rehearsal, and practice space, and back-of-the-house support.

The center’s proposals grew from a study completed in 2019 for the University’s Vice Provost for University Life (VPUL), which concluded that additional performance and rehearsal space was needed to meet current and future demand. The study compiled an assessment of existing performing arts spaces on campus and evaluated data provided by the University’s Performing Arts Council (PAC), which consists of four student councils representing 47 student groups and approximately 1,100 students. In addition to these councils, there are an estimated 30 non-PAC groups.

In response to the study, based on extensive student input, a working group was formed (continued on page 10)

Three Presidential Penn Compact Professors Join Arts and Sciences Faculty

Wale Adebanwi, Jennifer Morton, and Keisha-Khan Y. Perry have joined the School of Arts and Sciences as Presidential Penn Compact Professors, effective July 1, 2021. The Presidential Penn Compact Professorships were conceived by Penn President Amy Gutmann as a partnership with Penn Arts and Sciences to promote faculty excellence and diversity. Funding for this initiative is provided through the Penn Compact.

Dr. Adebanwi, a political scientist and anthropologist, was previously the Rhodes Professor of Race Relations at Oxford University. His research addresses the social mobilization of interest and power in contemporary Africa as manifested in nationalism and ethnic identity politics, elites and cultural politics, democratic process, new and spatial politics. He is the author of three books, including Nation as Grand Narrative: The Nigerian Press and the Politics of Meaning. Since 2016, he has been co-editor of AFRICA: Journal of the International African Institute; previously, he was the co-editor of the Journal of Contemporary African Studies. Dr. Adebanwi joins Penn as Presidential Penn Compact Professor of Africana Studies.

Also joining Africana Studies is Dr. Perry, who has been appointed Presidential Penn Compact Associate Professor. Dr. Perry comes to Penn from Brown University, where she was an associate professor of Africana studies. Her (continued on page 3)

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TO: The Members of the Penn Faculty
FROM: William W. Braham, Chair, Faculty Senate

The Faculty Senate is the representative voice for standing faculty and is led by a tri-chair arrangement in which decisions are made jointly by the Chair (myself), the Past-Chair (Kathleen Hall Jamieson of the Annenberg Public Policy Center and the Annenberg School for Communication), and the Chair-Elect (Vivian L. Gadsden of the Graduate School of Education). All standing faculty are members of the Senate, but most of the work is conducted by an elected Senate Executive Committee (SEC) of 58 faculty that meets monthly, by eight standing committees, and by a number of select committees. All standing Faculty members are invited to observe SEC meetings by requesting access information from the Senate Office or from their constituency representative.

This annual letter by the incoming chair serves two purposes: to review the activities of the last year and to outline our priorities for the coming academic year. Last year was exceptional in many ways, both directly and indirectly, because of the global pandemic. We are grateful for the steady hand of the University leadership through this period, which will enable the campus to return to something like normal in the fall. Nevertheless, we recognize that we will be dealing with its effects for years to come.

Last year: 2020-2021

Teaching, Researching, and Serving in the Time COVID-19

To help faculty navigate the complexities of teaching online and to ensure that their intellectual property was protected we asked for and received this assurance from the Office of the Provost, distributed this statement for posting on syllabi, and encouraged Penn Athletics to create interstitial materials for classes. We asked the Provost and department chairs to clearly communicate to all teaching faculty that expending additional time on teaching and in the process downplaying some other activities will not be penalized and that departments should work to ensure that junior faculty have the wherewithal to complete the teaching, research, and service required to reach the thresholds they need to meet under the extensions that are now available.

Faculty Senate Seminars

We initiated a Faculty Senate Seminar Series in order to increase our understanding of the challenges facing Penn through the pandemic and to provide a venue in which faculty questions and concerns can be voiced and addressed. Over the year we held ten seminars, all of which are archived on the Seminar Series website. The December 2, 2020, seminar on spring semester planning was open to Penn staff as well, and the April 7, 2021, seminar on Climate and Sustainability was co-sponsored by the Undergraduate Assembly and open to students.

Resolutions

The Senate Executive Committee endorsed four resolutions. The May 2020 Resolution on Responses to the Global Climate Emergency encourages Penn community members in their individual capacities as faculty members, students, and staff to address the global climate emergency and calls on Penn leadership to improve the institutional response to the climate emergency. The October 2020 Resolution for Election Day asks all faculty and instructors teaching courses to accommodate students who wish to engage in election-related activities on Election Day. The October 2020 Resolution on Engaged Scholarship encourages annual performance reviews to credit faculty for scholarly engagement. The December 2020 Resolution on Penn Contributions expresses appreciation for Penn’s timely contributions to doctoral education at Penn and to the School District of Philadelphia through the Penn Compact.

Revising the Faculty Senate’s Rules

The Rules Governing the Faculty Senate were thoroughly revised by a committee of current and former Faculty Senate Chairs with the goal of bringing the Rules into alignment with existing practicalities and customs. On January 13, 2021, the Faculty Senate convened to vote upon the revisions; 167 voted in approval.

The revised rules, which took effect on July 1, 2021, enhance faculty engagement with the Senate by restructuring the Senate’s committees and the terms of faculty service on those committees, including the allowance of alternates on the Senate Executive Committee. They also modify procedures for constituents to address the global climate emergency and calls on Penn leadership to improve the institutional response to the climate emergency. The October 2020 Resolution for Election Day asks all faculty and instructors teaching courses to accommodate students who wish to engage in election-related activities on Election Day. The October 2020 Resolution on Engaged Scholarship encourages annual performance reviews to credit faculty for scholarly engagement. The December 2020 Resolution on Penn Contributions expresses appreciation for Penn’s timely contributions to doctoral education at Penn and to the School District of Philadelphia through the Penn Compact.

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Ron Donagi: Thomas A. Scott Professor of Mathematics

Ron Donagi, professor of mathematics and physics, has been appointed Thomas A. Scott Professor of Mathematics. Dr. Donagi is an internationally renowned scholar of algebraic geometry and string theory. His work is on the forefront of major research efforts in geometry, symplectic topology, quantum field theory, string theory and phenomenology, and the study of integrable models in condensed matter theory. Several of his former students are among the leaders in these fields. He has authored more than 100 research articles and seven books. His research has been supported by numerous National Science Foundation grants, and he is the co-recipient of a $10 million Simons Collaboration Grant to prove the Homological Mirror Symmetry Conjecture, one of mathematics’ outstanding open problems. Dr. Donagi has been selected as a Simons Fellow in Mathematics, as Deputy Director of the prominent Simons Collaboration on Homological Mirror Symmetry, and as a fellow of the American Mathematical Society.

Douglas Durian: Mary Amanda Wood Professor of Physics

Douglas Durian, professor of physics and astronomy, has been appointed the Mary Amanda Wood Professor of Physics. A condensed matter experimentalist, Dr. Durian has made groundbreaking contributions in the areas of non-equilibrium soft matter physics and optics, particularly in foams, suspensions, and granular materials, as well as in the development of multiple light scattering techniques for study of opaque materials. He is the author of nearly 150 articles, and his research has received support from numerous National Science Foundation and NASA grants. Dr. Durian has served as chair of the American Physical Society Topical Group on Soft Matter and of the Gordon Research Conference on Granular Matter. He currently serves on the editorial boards of Papers in Physics, NPJ Microgravity, and the Journal of Statistical Mechanics: Theory and Experiment. Dr. Durian leads the Interdisciplinary Research Group on Disordered Solids within the Penn Materials Research Science and Engineering Center.

This chair was established in 1947 through a bequest from James L. Wood, C’1887, in memory of his mother, Mary Amanda Wood. Mr. Wood was a well-known landscape artist.

Antonio Feros and Jared Farmer: Annenberg Professors of History

Antonio Feros, professor and chair of history, and Jared Farmer, professor of history, have been named Walter H. Annenberg Professors of History.

A leading scholar of Spain and early modern Europe, Dr. Feros is the author of two books, Kingship and Favoritism in the Spain of Philip III, 1598-1621 (2000) and Speaking of Spain: The Evolution of Race and Nation in the Hispanic World (2017), as well as three co-edited volumes and many articles. His latest publication is the co-edited volume The Iberian Worlds, 1450-1820 (2019). Dr. Feros’ teaching has been recognized with the Penn Arts & Sciences Dean’s Award for Mentorship of Undergraduate Research and the history department’s Dunn Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Dr. Farmer is an environmental historian with temporal expertise in the 19th century and regional expertise in the American West. He is the author of three books and the recipient of nine book awards, including the Francis Parkman Prize from the Society of American Historians. He has received grants from the National Humanities Center, the American Council of Learned Societies, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and the American Academy in Berlin. In 2014, he won the Hiett Prize in the Humanities, and in 2017, he was named an Andrew Carnegie Fellow. Dr. Farmer joined Penn in January 2020 from Stony Brook University. The late Ambassador Walter H. Annenberg received Penn’s Alumni Award of Merit in 1991. He and his wife, the late Honorable Leonore Annenberg, were both emeritus trustees of the University. The Annenburgs endowed many chairs in Penn Arts & Sciences and made many generous contributions to the University. They also endowed the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania in 1958.

So-Rim Lee: Korea Foundation Assistant Professor

So-Rim Lee has joined Penn Arts & Sciences as the Korea Foundation Assistant Professor of Korean Studies. Dr. Lee’s research and teaching explore the politics of representation in visual cultures and everyday embodiment in South Korea and the Korean diaspora from the intersection of performance studies, gender and sexuality studies, and cultural studies. After receiving her PhD in theater and performance studies from Stanford in 2018, Dr. Lee held postdoctoral fellowships at Columbia and Penn and taught courses at NYU and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is currently writing her first book on the visual and narrative discourses of plastic surgery in South Korea.

The Korea Foundation Professorships were established by Penn’s Korea Foundation in 1997. The mission of the Korea Foundation is to promote better understanding of Korea within the international community and to increase friendship and goodwill between Korea and the rest of the world through various exchange programs.

Ron Donagi

Keisha-Khan Y. Perry

Three Presidential Penn Compact Professors Join Arts and Sciences Faculty

Grab: The Fight for Racial Justice in Brazil, won the 2014 National Women’s Studies Association Gloria Anzaldúa Book Prize. She is currently at work on her second book, which is focused on the ways in which state violence limits activist research and writing.

Dr. Morton, the Presidential Penn Compact Associate Professor of Philosophy, is a scholar of the philosophy of education, with a particular emphasis on educational injustice. Her recent book Moving Up Without Losing Your Way: The Ethical Costs of Upward Mobility, which won the Association of American Colleges and Universities’ Frederic W. Ness Book Award, focuses on the hidden ethical costs faced by first-generation and low-income students. Dr. Morton is highly engaged in public philosophy and has been interviewed for The Atlantic, Inside Higher Education, PBS, and IAI news. She has written pieces for Aeon, The Philosophers’ Magazine, The Chronicle of Higher Education and The New York Daily News.
Deaths

Joel Bennett, Hematology
Joel S. Bennett, a groundbreaking blood researcher and a former professor of hematology/oncology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP), passed away from complications of pancreatic cancer on June 21. He was 78.

Dr. Bennett attended the University of Michigan for his undergraduate and medical education, then came to HUP in 1967 to complete a residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in hematology/oncology. Two years later, he was hired as an assistant instructor at HUP in the department of medicine. In 1971, Dr. Bennett left Penn for a brief stint as a physician in the Air Force, but he returned to Penn in 1975, this time as an associate in hematology/oncology. A year later, he was promoted to assistant professor in the same department, and he rose through the ranks to become an associate professor-clinician-educator in 1982 and a full professor in 1995. He also had a secondary appointment in the department of pharmacology.

Dr. Bennett was widely involved at Penn until his death, serving on the department of medicine’s Committee on Appointments and Promotions and on several Faculty Senate committees.

During his time at Penn, Dr. Bennett was renowned for his research in hematology. He was the first to recognize that fibrinogen bound to the platelet GPIIb-IIIa receptor, thereby defining the molecular mechanism by which platelets aggregate. This important finding paved the way for the development of drugs like abciximab and epifibatide, which have been used to treat millions of patients with coronary artery disease. Dr. Bennett was widely published, and he was recognized by the American Society for Clinical Investigation and the Association of American Physicians for the excellence and breadth of his work. In 2010, he received the Beutler Prize, the highest honor of the American Society of Hematology, in celebration of his pioneering research on GPIIb-IIIa (Almanac, December 21, 2010). Dr. Bennett is fondly remembered as a generous mentor and considerate colleague. In his personal life, Dr. Bennett was an avid tennis player.

He is survived by his wife, Evelyn; children, Lisa, Andrew, Lisa Dunn, Joe Goodman, and David Goodman; brother, David; sister, Barbara Palmer; and nine grandchildren.

Jan Paradise, Pediatrics
Jan Ellen Paradise, a former faculty member in the department of pediatrics in the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) and at Penn’s School of Medicine, died on April 12. She was 81.

Born in Baltimore in 1950, Dr. Paradise grew up in Belleair, Florida, where her father was a pediatrician. She graduated from Belleair High School, then came to Swarthmore College to get a bachelor’s degree. She then transferred to Penn, where she got a BS and then, in 1976, an MD. After completing a residency in pediatrics at Penn and a Robert Wood Johnson Fellowship in general pediatrics and adolescent medicine at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Dr. Paradise joined the medical staff at CHOP and the faculty at Penn’s School of Medicine as an assistant instructor of pediatrics in 1978. She was promoted to instructor in 1980, and two years later she became a clinical associate professor. While at Penn, Dr. Paradise provided expert and compassionate care to children and adolescents, many of whom were victims of child abuse. She also conducted seminal research on sexual abuse, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and an R01 grant from the National Institutes of Health. In 1986, she relocated to Boston to join the faculty of Harvard Medical School and the staff at Boston Children’s Hospital. She later joined the faculty at Boston University and became chief of the division of adolescent medicine at Boston Children’s Hospital. In 1999, she left academic medicine and joined Bridgewater Goddard Park Medical Associates in Easton and Brockton, Massachusetts, where she served as a pediatrician for thousands of children and adolescents. In her free time, Dr. Paradise loved dancing, playing the piano, birdwatching, and knitting.

She is survived by her husband, Gary Fleisher; children, Daniel, Carl, and Madeline; children-in-law, Yoko Mizumoto, Matthew McKenzie, and Rebecca Lewis; father, Jack; mother, Leone; and sisters, Emily and Julia. Donations in her memory can be made to the Jan Paradise Brain Cancer Research Fund at Boston Children’s Hospital, to the neuro-oncology Program at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, or to the Massachusetts Audubon Society.

Mother Dorcas Rosenlund, Pediatrics
Rev. Mother Dorcas Rosenlund (née Mary Loretta Rosenlund), a former faculty member in pediatrics in Penn’s School of Medicine and the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, and later a member of the Abbey of Regina Laudis in Bethlehem, Connecticut, cut, passed away on May 20 from complications of old age. She was 93.

Dr. Rosenlund was born in 1927 in Philadelphia and graduated from Mount Saint Joseph Academy. She received a bachelor’s degree in English from Chestnut Hill College and a master’s degree in public relations from Boston University. She worked in public relations at the now-defunct Philadelphia Bulletin and the Lily-Tulip Cup Corporation. Volunteer service at a hospital inspired Dr. Rosenlund to study for a medical degree, which she received from the Boston University School of Medicine in 1965. She then returned to Philadelphia, completing a residency in pediatrics at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and a fellowship in pediatric gastroenterology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

In 1968, Dr. Rosenlund was hired as an associate in clinical medicine at CHOP, then became an assistant professor in pediatrics at Penn’s School of Medicine two years later. She rose through the ranks at the School of Medicine, becoming an associate professor in 1977. While at Penn, Dr. Rosenlund was involved with the University community, serving on several University Council committees.

In 1982, Dr. Rosenlund left Penn to join the Abbey of Regina Laudis in Bethlehem, Connecticut. She received the Greek name Dorcas as part of her initiation. Dr. Rosenlund remained an active doctor for her first decade at Regina Laudis. From 1983 to 1990, she held consulting appointments in gastroenterology at St. Mary’s hospital in Waterbury, Connecticut and at Yale New Haven Hospital; she also served as a clinical instructor in pediatrics at Yale University School of Medicine. Dr. Rosenlund founded the Con templative Medical Center at Regina Laudis. After 1990, she retired from medicine, learning to garden and becoming the Abbey’s baker, making fondly-remembered Passover meals and mentoring many young bakers during her thirty-year tenure.

Dr. Rosenlund is survived by her monastic community, her sister Hope, and nieces and nephews. A private memorial service was held due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the New Horizons Renovation Project, c/o The Abbey of Regina Laudis, 273 Flanders Road, Bethlehem, CT 06751.

Hugo Sonnenschein, Economics and SAS Dean
Hugo Sonnenschein, the dean of Penn’s School of Arts and Sciences from 1988 to 1991 and later the eleventh president of the University of Chicago, died on July 15. He was 80.

Dr. Sonnenschein received an undergraduate degree in 1961 from the University of Rochester, then received a PhD in economics from Purdue University three years later. Afterward, he began teaching at the University of Minnesota, where he became a full professor in 1968. In 1970, he moved to UMass Amherst, then moved to Northwestern in 1973 and to Princeton in 1976. He remained at Princeton for the next twelve years, leading Princeton’s graduate group in economics and serving as a visiting professor at Stanford, Tel-Aviv, Florence, Marseilles, Paris, Strasbourg and Colombia’s University of the Andes. In the fall 1983 semester, he was a visiting lecturer in the (continued on page 5)
On July 29, the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania announced the establishment of the Roberts Family Professorship in Vaccine Research and the Katalin Karikó Fellowship Fund in Vaccine Development, providing a foundation for discoveries that will forge a new frontier in vaccine-based treatments, cures, and prevention strategies for an array of diseases.

The endowed chair and fellowship funds were created through a gift from the Aileen and Brian Roberts Foundation, underscoring the Roberts family’s strong support of Penn Medicine and their passion for cutting-edge healthcare.

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Both the professorship and fellowship honor mRNA trailblazers Dr. Weissman and Katalin Karikó, an adjunct professor of neurosurgery at Penn and a senior vice president at BioNTech. Their partnership and foundational research at Penn created a blueprint for the development of the historic COVID-19 mRNA vaccines now being deployed to combat the virus across the globe.

Designed to champion young scientists in the early years of their careers, the Katalin Karikó Fellowship Fund in Vaccine Development will provide financial support to a fellowship in vaccine research in the Penn Institute for Immunology, to be awarded to an inaugural recipient later this year. Both the professorship and the fellowship will support research aimed at creating vaccines for other infectious diseases and further cement Penn as a home for mRNA research and other novel vaccine-based approaches.

“The Roberts family has been an exceptional partner in Penn Medicine’s quest to investigate bold approaches that support our vision for the future of health care,” said J. Larry Jameson, executive vice president and provost of the University of Pennsylvania for the Health System and the dean of the Perelman School of Medicine. “Dr. Weissman and Karikó’s work laid a foundation that ensured our world was prepared to meet the unprecedented challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic. Their groundbreaking science has inspired the world and now, buoyed by the Roberts family’s tremendous generosity, it has sparked an ambitious research agenda that we are excited to see unfold in the fight against many other infectious diseases and even conditions like cancer.”

“Penn has long been at the forefront of cutting-edge research and technology advancements, and its discovery of RNA-based vaccines is another incredible achievement for the institution and the city of Philadelphia. Drs. Weissman and Karikó’s unwavering commitment to and passion for scientific discovery is astounding,” said Aileen and Brian Roberts. “It is our family’s privilege to support the life-changing research conducted at Penn and we are eager to see how the next generation of scientists and physicians work to accelerate the development of the advanced therapies of the future.”

Dr. Weissman and his team are already working on a new vaccine to target the broader class of coronaviruses—knowing that even after this current pandemic vaccines that prevent coronaviruses worldwide will continue to pose serious threats. To fight the COVID-19 pandemic that is still uncontrolled in many parts of the world, Dr. Weissman and his team are working with Chulalongkorn University in Thailand to help them generate an mRNA vaccine that will be specially dedicated to preventing COVID-19 in middle-to-low-income countries. Dr. Weissman is also at work to use the mRNA platform to create vaccines against other widespread and serious diseases, including influenza, genital herpes, HIV, and malaria.

Michael Glick: Director, Penn Dental Center for Integrative Global Oral Health

Penn Dental Medicine has named Michael Glick to lead its new Center of Integrative Global Oral Health. He has joined the school as executive director of the center and professor of clinical restorative dentistry in the department of preventive & restorative dentistry. Glick’s appointment is effective July 1, 2021.

“We are thrilled to have Dr. Glick bring his vision and leadership to our new center,” said the school’s Morton Amsterdam Dean, Mark S. Wolff. “Through public policy, education, and research initiatives, we will seek to find creative solutions to address unmet oral health needs facing us around the world, bringing together collaborators across disciplines and across borders. I’m eager to have Dr. Glick work with us to meet this challenge.”

Penn Dental is launching the center—the school’s first policy center—thanks to a $5 million gift made earlier this year by Garry Rayant, GD’77, a member of the school’s Board of Advisors, and his wife, Kathy Fields, providing the foundational support to establish the center (Almanac: February 9, 2021).

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.

Michael Glick
Penn Association of Senior and Emeritus Faculty:
2020–2021 Annual Report

Overview
Founded in 2004, the Penn Association of Senior and Emeritus Faculty (PASEF) advocates for and supports the interests of members, organizes programs and activities for them, encourages them to be active in the intellectual and social life of the University and to provide service to the University and the community. PASEF members are seniors (age 55 and above) and retired members of the standing faculty or are associate professors or professors in the research faculty, full-time academic clinicians, or full-time practice professors at Penn. Current membership numbers are 1,179 senior faculty and 812 emeritus faculty. PASEF provides information and assistance to aid faculty in transitioning to, and in sustaining, retirement and organizes intellectual and social events such as lectures, excursions to cultural attractions, and attendance at theater, opera, and orchestra presentations. It is a member organization of AROHE, the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education. The Association of Senior and Emeritus Faculty (ASEF–PSOM) is an analogous organization at the Perelman School of Medicine; its senior and emeritus faculty are also PASEF members. The two organizations regularly cooperate in planning joint programs and activities. The PASEF website is provost.upenn.edu/pasef/.

Administration
Governance and administration. PASEF operates under a set of bylaws and is governed by a council, which meets monthly during the academic year. The President, President-Elect, and Past President form the Steering Committee. Council members for 2020–2021 are listed in the Appendix. PASEF receives an annual budget from the Provost and reports to the Vice Provost for Faculty, Professor Laura Perna.

Facilities and support. PASEF has an office and an adjacent lounge on the first floor of Duhring Wing, next to the office of the Faculty Senate. Both the office and the adjacent lounge can accommodate meetings of small groups. Staff support is provided with exceptional care and diligence by Sarah Barr, PASEF’s full-time coordinator. During the past year, able assistance has also been given by the administrator for the Faculty Senate, Patrick Walsh. We are grateful for the intellectual, collegial, and financial support from Vice Provost Laura Perna. Personally, I thank the PASEF Steering Committee and Council and our ASEF–PSOM colleagues for their support, guidance, and collaboration.

Retirement
PASEF provides resources to aid senior faculty in planning the transition to retirement, as well as support for managing retirement. The closing of most in-person activities on campus due to COVID-19 created new challenges.

Special retirement program. Because many PASEF members had questions about the changes to Penn’s Retirement Savings program that occurred in spring semester, PASEF offered a special session with Susan Sproat and a TIAA representative. The virtual session, offered on February 2, 2020, featured Vicki Mulhern and Hilary Lopez to explain and answer questions about the Special Incentive Plan, offered only in 2021 for faculty retiring by June 30, 2021. Almost 100 faculty attended this virtual session. Second, PASEF sponsored a panel discussion with four emeritus faculty members discussing their decisions to retire and their experiences with retirement in early March. The topic was “Negotiating the Retirement Transitions—What’s Next?” Ninety two faculty attended this presentation and a video is available at the PASEF website. Finally, Hilary Lopez and Vicki Mulhern presented their traditional annual “Planning for Retirement: Nuts & Bolts” session virtually on April 28, 2021 to 111 faculty.

(continued from page 7)
Volunteers to help Penn. For the third year, PASEF volunteers assisted the Penn Global Engagement Fund by evaluating proposals submitted as part of a competitive grant program.

Task Force Planning
PASEF convened a retreat at the end of academic year 2019 for the PASEF Council to review operations. The implementation of suggestions coming from the retreat was discussed in our academic year 2020 report. One suggestion from the retreat, however, required actions that were undertaken in this academic year 2021: the expansion of PASEF membership to include research faculty, full-time academic clinicians, and full-time practice professors. The bylaws were amended in academic year 2021 to make this change in membership and we welcomed these new members this year.

Faculty Senate and University Council
PASEF sends non-voting representatives to the Senate Executive Committee, four Senate committees, and the University Council Committee on Personnel Benefits. The Senate committees are the Senate Committee on Faculty and the Administration, the Senate Committee on Faculty and the Academic Mission, the Senate Committee on Students and Educational Policy, and the Senate Committee on Faculty Development, Diversity and Equity.

PASEF Annual Election
Brian Salzberg chaired this past year’s Nominating Committee, and the committee’s proposed slate was approved by email voting. Marshall Meyer is the President-Elect. John Keene the Secretary, and David Manning the SEC Representative. Newly-elected at-large Council members who will serve three-year terms are Sherrill Adams, Mitch Marcus, and Ana Lia Obaid. David Manning was selected last fall to serve a three-year at-large term to fill a vacancy.

—Janice Madden, President (2020-2021)

Appendix: PASEF Council Members, 2020–2021
Roger M.A. Allen, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (SAS), Representative to the Faculty Senate Committee on Faculty and the Academic Mission
David Balamuth, Physics and Astronomy (SAS), at-large member of Council
Janice Bellace, Legal Studies (Wharton), Representative to the University Council Committee on Personnel Benefits
Peter Conn, English (SAS), at-large member of Council; chair, Program Committee
Janet Deatrick, Family and Community Health (Nursing), President-elect; co-editor, Hitchhiker’s Guide to Faculty Retirement
Marc A. Dichter, Neurology (PSOM), at-large member of Council
Barbara Kahn, Marketing (Wharton), at-large member of Council
John C. Keene, City and Regional Planning (Design), Secretary
Janice Madden, Sociology (SAS), President
David Manning, Pharmacology (PSOM), at-large member of Council
Carolyn Marvin, Annenberg, at-large member of Council
Ann Mayer, Legal Studies and Business Ethics (Wharton), at-large member of Council
Marshall W. Meyer, Management (Wharton), Representative to the Faculty Senate Committee on Faculty and the Administration
Jack Nagel, Political Science (SAS), chair, Speakers Bureau
Martin Pring, Physiology (PSOM), Representative to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee; co-editor, Hitchhiker’s Guide to Faculty Retirement
Brian M. Salzberg, Neuroscience (PSOM), at-large member of Council; chair, Nominating Committee
Jorge J. Santiago-Aviles, Electrical and Systems Engineering (SEAS), at-large member of Council; Representative to the Faculty Senate Committee on Development, Diversity & Equity
Paul Shaman, Statistics (Wharton), Past President
Anita A. Summers, Business Economics and Public Policy (Wharton), chair, Membership Committee; Representative to Faculty Senate Committee on Students and Educational Policy
Jeffrey Field, Pharmacology (PSOM), ASEP–PSOM co-President
Yvonne Paterson, Microbiology (PSOM), ASEP–PSOM co-President

PASEF Programs, 2020–2021
JUNE 1: PASEF Spring Lecture with Dean Erika James.
MAY 20: Newly Retired & Emeritus Faculty Program and Reception.
FEBRUARY 17: Planning for Retirement: Changes to Penn’s Retirement Savings Plans. Sue Sproat and TIAA representative.
JANUARY 25: PASEF Lecture. Inga Safron. What Now?
SEPTEMBER 9: Newly Retired & Emeritus Faculty Program and Reception.
Eugene Ko, Shu Yang: Advancing Oral, Craniofacial Health Award for New Biodevices

The inaugural Advancing Oral & Craniofacial Health Award was recently awarded to Eugene Ko, an assistant professor of clinical oral medicine in Penn Dental Medicine, and Shu Yang, the Joseph Bordogna Professor and chair of the department of materials science and engineering at Penn Engineering, for a project titled “Baby Seal: Promoting Intrinsic Sucking in Cleft Palate Infant Bottle Feeding.” The awards aim to develop new oral health care technologies and devices.

The award, given by Penn Dental’s Center for Innovation and Precision Dentistry (CiPD), is co-sponsored by Penn Health-Tech (PHT) and the Acceleration Lab at the Penn Medicine Center for Health Care Innovation. In addition to the Oral & Craniofacial Award, the PHT Health-Tech Accelerator Program 2021 Cohort includes four other projects in the categories of neuro-gene therapy, regenerative ophthalmology, health technology for social justice, and general.

The program empowers researchers to develop and commercialize medical devices and health technologies to advance health and health care. Award earners receive funding, hands-on advising to support development and achieve proof of concept, and access to industry experts and complementary programs to assist with engineering and design, manufacturing, regulatory guidance, quality systems, and marketing.

Dr. Ko and Dr. Yang will be working to improve the overall feeding experience and infant growth outcomes for children born with cleft lips and palates through the development of a specialized bottle system. “Hearing about the stress they went through in the first few months of their son’s life really stuck with me on a personal level, but also piqued my interest from a clinical standpoint,” said Dr. Ko. “Physiologically, infants with a palatal cleft cannot suck properly; thinking of a straw with a hole in it.”

A literature search he conducted established a consistent theme of feeding difficulties as well as a void in the market for a device that promoted the intrinsic sucking reflex. Current devices require infants to learn new biting behaviors or parents to actively squeeze milk into their infant’s throat.

“I approached Dr. Yang with a proposal to use her reversible adhesive to temporarily seal the hole in the palate during feeding,” Dr. Ko said. “Our project would enhance current specialized infant feeding bottle systems by incorporating a novel hydrolgel that will allow parents to create a temporary seal over the cleft palate.”

“This award through the CiPD and PHT has created a real path forward for our proposal and for allowing this collaboration to grow,” he continued. “We’re forward to developing the idea and helping to improve the lives of families and infants born with cleft palate.”

Marc Miskin: MIT Tech Review’s “35 Innovators Under 35”

Each year, MIT Technology Review culls through hundreds of nominations to select 35 young researchers, entrepreneurs, thought leaders and humanitarians “whose superb technical work promises to shape the coming decades.”

Marc Miskin, an assistant professor in the department of electrical and systems engineering in Penn Engineering, is among the 35 individuals on this year’s list. Named to the “Pioneers” category, Dr. Miskin’s innovations come in the design and control of microscopic robots.

Techniques used to manufacture computer chips can make robot bodies and brains en masse, but in order for those robots to move on their own, Dr. Miskin and his colleagues had to devise ways of supplying power and flexing actuators on a device smaller than the period at the end of this sentence. MIT Technology Review’s Jonathan W. Rosen described Dr. Miskin’s key development: “His technique fabricates legs from sheets of platinum a dozen or so atoms thick, capped on one side with an even smaller layer of titanium. When activated with a current—generated by solar cells attached to the robot brain—the platinum bends, causing the bot to march forward. Dr. Miskin’s initial prototype, which he developed as a postdoctoral researcher at Cornell University, requires only one-fifth of a volt to move and measures just 40 by 40 microns—smaller than many single-celled microorganisms. It’s recognized by Guinness World Records as the smallest ever walking robot, and a million of them at a time can be fabricated on a single 10-centimeter wafer.”

Dr. Miskin’s work on microscopic robots has also earned him a Sloan Fellowship (Almanac, March 16, 2021) and a pair of Young Investigator Awards (Almanac, January 19, 2021), as well as a trip to the TED stage.

Three Penn Nursing Professors: FSA Awards

The Gerontological Society of America (GSA)—the country’s largest interdisciplinary organization devoted to the field of aging—is honoring three professors with awards for their outstanding research, distinguished leadership in teaching and service, and for fostering new ideas in gerontological science. Kathryn H. Bowles, a professor of nursing and the van Ameringen Chair in Nursing Excellence; and Nancy A. Hodgson, the Anthony Buvidias Term Chair in Gerontology, professor of nursing, and chair of the department of biobehavioral health sciences, will both receive the Doris Schwartz Gerontological Nursing Research Award. This award is presented by the Society-Wide section of GSA and is given to a member of the society in recognition of outstanding and sustained contribution to geriatric nursing research.

Pamela Z. Cacchione, the Ralston House Endowed Term Chair in Gerontological Nursing and professor of geropsychiatric nursing, will receive the Joseph T. Freeman Award. This award acknowledges a prominent clinician in the field of aging, both in research and practice.

The award presentations will take place at GSA’s 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting, to be held from November 10-13, 2021 in Phoenix, Arizona. Drs. Bowles, Hodgson, and Cacchione will each present special lectures during the annual meeting. The conference is organized to foster interdisciplinary collaboration among researchers, educators, and practitioners who specialize in the study of the aging process.

Penn Medicine Hospitals: U.S. News and World Report Rankings

Penn Medicine hospitals have once again been ranked among the top in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. The combined enterprise of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and Penn Presbyterian Medical Center is ranked #13 in the nation on the magazine’s prestigious annual Honor Roll for the 15th consecutive year. HUP/PPMCM is also ranked as the top hospital in Pennsylvania and #1 in the Philadelphia metro area in the 2021-2022 survey. Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health also garnered impressive honors this year, ranking #4 in Pennsylvania.

HUP/PPMCM is among only 20 institutions named to the publication’s Honor Roll—and the only one in Pennsylvania or the Philadelphia region—out of more than 4,500 hospitals analyzed nationwide. Hospitals must perform near the top of the rankings in multiple specialties and conditions/treatments in order to earn a place on the Honor Roll.

In addition to its ranking as an Honor Roll hospital, HUP/PPMCM is nationally ranked for excellence in a dozen specialties and is rated as High Performing in 16 Common Adult Procedures and Conditions.

Additional Penn Medicine hospitals honored in the latest rankings are:

- Lancaster General Health ranks #4 in Pennsylvania and is nationally ranked in Orthopedics and Urology, and rated as High Performing in 15 Common Adult Procedures and Conditions
- Pennsylvania Hospital ranks #11 in Pennsylvania and #4 in the Philadelphia region
- Chester County Hospital ranks #14 in Pennsylvania and #8 in the Philadelphia region

Complete rankings, as well as the U.S. News & World Report Best Hospitals methodology, are available at www.usnews.com/besthospitals.

Perelman School of Medicine Recent Awards and Accolades

César de la Fuente, a Presidential Assistant Professor in psychiatry, microbiology, chemical & biomolecular engineering, and bioengineering, received a 2021 IEEE Engineering in Medicine & Biology Society (EMBS) Young Engineer Early Career Achievement Award. Dr. de la Fuente was selected for his pioneering work creating novel (continued on page 9)

ALMANAC August 10, 2021
antibiotics using principles from computation, engineering, and biology. This award is given annually to an individual for significant contributions to the field of biomedical engineering who is within 10 years of completing their highest degree at the time of the nomination.

Maayan Levy, an assistant professor of microbiology, has been recognized with a new award from Sci-alog: Microbiome, Neurobiology and Disease, a Research Corporation for Science Advancement initiative designed to advance understanding of the gut-brain axis and the roles microbiota play in neurodegenerative disorders. Dr. Levy is one of 14 early-career researchers to receive the award. Award winners are from six multidisciplinary teams of researchers from colleges and universities in the United States and Canada. At Penn Medicine, the Levy Lab studies the interface between the host and its microbiome in the gastrointestinal tract, with a focus on microbiome-derived metabolites.

Flavia Vitale, an assistant professor of neurology, and researchers in the Vitale Lab have been awarded two grants totaling $4.5 million from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. The first grant is designated for the development of a novel surgical device for delivering gene-based therapeutics to the brain. The second is for optimization and pre-clinical validation of a novel EEG electrode technology, which uses a conductive nanomaterial rather than metal and gels. The projects will last three and five years, respectively.

Max M. Wattenberg, an instructor of medicine in the division of hematology/oncology, has been named a 2021 Physician-Scientist Training Award recipient by the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation. The award provides physician-scientists the opportunity to gain the skills and experience needed to become leaders in translational and clinical research. Dr. Wattenberg’s research focuses on mechanisms of resistance to immunotherapy, with the goal of identifying novel treatment strategies for patients with cancer. This grant seeks to address the financial disincentives that often deter physicians from pursuing a research career by providing $460,000 in funding over four years. Dr. Wattenberg is one of five awardees.

Dennis Sourvanos: William B. Clark Fellowship Award

For his work to advance the science and practice of periodontics, Penn Dental Medicine periodontics resident and DScD candidate Dennis Sourvanos, GD ’23, has received the 2021 American Association for Dental Research (AADR) William B. Clark Fellowship Award in Clinical Periodontal Research and has been selected to participate in the Perelman School of Medicine Institute for Translational Medicine Applied Therapeutics (ITMAT) Certificate Program in Translational Research and the Regulatory Sciences. Both build upon his goal of ultimately pursuing a career in dentistry and research.

“My long-term goal is to become an independent investigator in the academic setting, while playing a role with public policy initiatives,” said Dr. Sourvanos. “As a clinician scientist, one has the opportunity to make a direct tangible impact in the national and international arenas.”

Dr. Sourvanos, a student in the combined graduate periodontics and DScD program, has been active in research throughout his time at Penn Dental Medicine. His research co-mentors have developed a program focused on translational clinical research. He has worked under the mentorship of periodontics program director Joseph Fiorellini to help develop delivery protocols for novel biomaterials in the preclinical model, evaluating the effects of laser stimulation on dental implant osseointegration in the animal model, and analyzing implant geometries and subsequent effects of primary implant stability in the human model.

“As a clinical interventionist in this trial, I have been able to expand upon my formal training in non-surgical and surgical periodontology, to further understand the mechanistic aspects of radiation-induced oral mucositis lesions,” noted Dr. Sourvanos.

The competitive AADR Grant Fellowship Award is designed to support a postdoctoral level researcher in pursuing clinical research to learn a state-of-the-art methodology in the field of oral health. Dr. Sourvanos was selected for a project titled “A Novel 3D Preclinical Model to Assess Efficacy of Photobiomodulation (PBM) on Alveolar Ridge Preservation, Subsequent Bone and Intrabone Tissues.” The project is a collaboration between the labs of Dr. Fiorellini and Patricia Corby at Penn Dental, and the Tim Zhu Lab at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. It is also the focus of Dr. Sourvanos’ research for the DScD program.

Drew Weissman and Katalin Karikó: Princess of Asturias Award

Drew Weissman and Katalin Karikó, the pair of researchers from the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania whose innovative mRNA research laid the foundation for the development of the COVID-19 mRNA vaccines being deployed across the globe, have been named among recipients of the 2021 Princess of Asturias Award for Technical and Scientific Research. The honor is from the Princess of Asturias Foundation (Fondación Princesa de Asturias), a Spanish non-profit organization, is conferred to individuals and organizations whose work makes significant contributions to humanity through scientific, technical, cultural, social and humanitarian work. Winners receive a prize of 50,000 Euros, and the recognition will be officially bestowed in October 2021 in Oviedo, Spain, during a ceremony presided over by their Majesties King Felipe and Queen Letizia of Spain, accompanied by HRH Princess of Asturias Leonor.

Dr. Weissman, the Roberts Family Professor in Vaccine Research in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Karikó, an adjunct professor of neurosurgery at the Perelman School of Medicine at Penn and a senior vice president at BioNTech, published research in 2005 showing how to specifically alter one of the building blocks of mRNA in order to increase its therapeutic potential. These findings and other mRNA discoveries from the two scientists, including how to effectively deliver mRNA using vaccination, were crucial to the development of the COVID-19 mRNA vaccines created by BioNTech/Pfizer and Moderna.

“We are proud of Dr. Weissman’s and Dr. Karikó’s monumental achievements in mRNA science and congratulate them on this outstanding honor, which is a fitting recognition of the global impact of their commitment to innovative, lifesaving science,” said J. Larry Jameson, executive vice president of the University of Pennsylvania for the Health System and the dean of the Perelman School of Medicine. “Their accomplishments in labs at Penn are exemplars of scientific efforts that begin with bold ideas and go on, through time and intensive vision and fortitude, to change the world.”

The Princess of Asturias Foundation, established in 1980, is a private non-profit institution whose essential aims are to contribute to extolling and promoting those scientific, cultural and humanistic values that form part of the universal heritage of humanity and consolidate the existing links between the Principality of Asturias and the title traditionally held by the heirs to the Crown of Spain. The heir to the Crown, Her Royal Highness The Princess Leonor de Borbón y Ortiz, serves as the current honorary president of the organization.
Almanac Publication Schedule

The next full issue of Almanac will appear on August 31, after which Almanac will resume weekly publication. Before August 31, watch out for Almanac Between Issues, which delivers breaking news to your inbox each Tuesday. To sign up, visit https://almanac.upenn.edu/express-almanac.
**Summer AT PENN**

**EXHIBITS**

Penn Museum
Online and in-person events. For more information and to register, visit https://www.penn.museum/calendar.

8/13 Virtual Global Guide Tour: Mexico & Central America Gallery; 2:30 p.m.
8/14 Highlights Tour; 11 a.m.
Global Guide Tour: Middle East Galleries; 2:30 p.m.
8/15 Free Summer Sunday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Also see Special Events.
Asia Galleries Tour; 11 a.m.
Global Guide Tour: Africa Galleries; 2:30 p.m.

**FITNESS & LEARNING**

8/11 Admissions Information Session: Doctorate in Clinical Social Work (DSW); 3 p.m.; Zoom meeting; register: https://tinyurl.com/dsw-info-aug-11 (School of Social Policy and Practice).
Graduate School of Education (GSE)
Online events. Info and to register: https://www.gse.upenn.edu/news/events-calendar.
8/11 Clay Pot Making Class; for staff and faculty; 2-4 p.m.
8/12 Coffee Break with Higher Education; for staff and faculty; 9:30 a.m.
  *Literary Lunch with Juliania*; for staff and faculty; noon.
8/17 Coffee Break with Raquel Arredondo, Assistant Dean of DEI; for staff and faculty; 9:30 a.m.
Sip & Paint with Bridget; 3 p.m.

Human Resources Workshops
For faculty and staff. Online events. Info and to register: www.hr.upenn.edu/registration.
8/11 Chair Yoga; noon.
  *Ensuring a Successful Return to Campus and School*; noon.
  *Using the Tuition Benefit for You and Your Family*; 12:30 p.m.

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 July 26-August 1, 2021. Also reported were 10 Crimes Against Property (3 thefts from vehicle, 2 thefts other, 1 bike theft, 1 fraud, 1 theft from building, 1 vandalism, and 1 other offense). Full 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 and includes all criminal incidents reported and made known to the University Police Department between the dates of July 26-August 1, 2021. The University Police actively patrol from Market Street 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:** 4 incidents (2 robberies, 1 assault and 1 domestic assault) with 1 arrest were reported for July 26-August 1, 2021, 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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07/27/21</td>
<td>12:20</td>
<td>3400 Spruce St</td>
<td>Complainant threatened by patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/29/21</td>
<td>2:13</td>
<td>3901 Chestnut St</td>
<td>Disorderly conduct by offender/arrest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/30/21</td>
<td>5:15</td>
<td>4000 Locust Walk</td>
<td>Complainant punched and spilt on by driver of vehicle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/30/21</td>
<td>5:45</td>
<td>4050 Chestnut St</td>
<td>Complainant punched and kicked by boyfriend</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**8/12 Back-to-School Setting Our Families Up for Success; 10:15 a.m. Also 4:15 p.m.**
8/13 30-Minute Guided Meditation; noon.
8/16 30-Minute Chair Yoga Plus Core; noon.
8/17 TIAA’s Money at Work 1: Foundations of Investing; noon.
Vinyasa Flow Yoga; noon.
  *Strengthening Resilience in Times of Change*; 12:30 p.m.
  *Tools for Career Assessment and Development*; 12:30 p.m.
TIAA’s Lifetime Income: Marketproof Your Retirement; 3 p.m.

Penn Libraries
Online workshops. Info and to register: https://guides.library.upenn.edu/workshops.
8/12 Canvas 101 for Faculty and Staff; 1 p.m.
8/13 Critical Issues in Data and Research Discussion Group: Accessibility; 11 a.m.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

8/12 White Coat Ceremony: Classes of 2024 and 2025; in-person ceremony to welcome the incoming Penn Dental classes of 2024 (at 1 p.m.) and 2025 (at 3 p.m.); Annenberg Center; info: https://www.dental.upenn.edu/about-us/white-coat-ceremony/ (Penn Dental).

8/15 Free Summer Sunday; day of free fun and festivities at the Penn Museum; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; info and to register: https://www.penn.museum/calendar/835/free-summer-sunday (Penn Museum). Also see Exhibits.

**TALKS**

8/10 Accelerated Design of Heterogeneous Materials for Improved Failure Characteristics; Chengyang Mo, mechanical engineering and applied mechanics; 10:30 a.m.; Zoom meeting; info: peterlit@seas.upenn.edu (MEAM).
8/17 Winning Customers in an Era of Endless Disruption; Barbara Kahn, Wharton; 4 p.m.; Zoom meeting; register: https://tinyurl.com/kahn-talk-aug-17 (Penn Libraries, Penn Alumni).

**AT PENN Calendars**

The Summer AT PENN calendar is online. Check back as we continue to add events. Our September AT PENN calendar will be published on August 31. To submit an event, email almanac@upenn.edu by August 16.

Almanac
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Philadelphia, PA 19104-3111
Phone: (215) 898-5274 or 5275
Email: almanac@upenn.edu
URL: www.upenn.edu/almanac

**To the Reader**

The University of Pennsylvania’s journal of record, opinion and news is published Tuesdays during the academic year, and as needed during summer and holiday breaks. Its electronic editions on the Internet (accessible through the Penn website) include HTML, Acrobat and mobile versions of the print edition, and interweb information may be posted in electronic-only form. Guidelines for readers and contributors are available on request and online.

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*Exhibit: Photo Courtesy Penn Museum*
A Message to the Penn Community About Campus Readiness for the Fall Semester
August 5, 2021

This year, more than any before, we look forward to the start of classes and our joyful pre-semester programs and events. We want to update everyone, in light of the ongoing pandemic, about our progress and the measures we are taking to keep our community safe and healthy.

We thank all of you who have provided your vaccination information, which is essential to resuming our campus life together. We expect our community vaccination rates to increase and reach 90% by September. To date, over 84% of our faculty and staff report being fully vaccinated. Even in advance of the start of classes, nearly 80% of our students enrolled in on-campus programs already report being fully vaccinated. We urge everyone to submit your vaccination records if you have not done so already: it is a quick and simple process for existing students, new students, and faculty/staff/postdocs.

Consistent with the June 1 message to the community, the University requires every member of our community to provide proof of vaccination since vaccines remain our safest and most effective defense against COVID-19 and its variants. We also will continue to require regular screening tests for all members of the community who do not provide evidence of vaccination, tests for those who are symptomatic, and gateway testing (and isolating if necessary) for all students as they return to campus this month.

Our highest priorities are the safety and readiness of the Penn community, and we will all need to remain patient and flexible this semester as we respond collectively to the changing public health situation. The University’s Coronavirus Response Team and Recovery Planning Group carefully assess the trajectory of the virus and vaccines, working closely with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health. In accordance with the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for areas with high transmission rates, we are now requiring, effective immediately, that all members of the Penn community and visitors wear masks while indoors in public or shared spaces. Exceptions to the masking requirement include single occupancy offices and shared spaces where 6ft distancing can be maintained, with roommates in our college house suites/rooms, and by permission in instructional settings for pedagogical reasons. In addition, we are instituting a required twice-a-week testing program for members of our community who are not vaccinated or choose not to report their vaccination information. We will continue to adjust our plans as public health guidance unfolds.

We are continuing the highly effective mitigation strategies that we put in place over the last year, including: identifying and isolating COVID-19 cases; using PennOpenPass to assess symptoms of and exposure to COVID-19; enhancing cleaning and disinfecting on campus; monitoring buildings to meet national American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers standards for indoor air quality; and optimizing building ventilation by increasing air flow, maintenance, and filtration systems. In addition, we are exploring other public health measures such as wastewater testing and a second COVID-19 screening program for all students at the end of September. All members of the Penn community, regardless of your vaccination status, have access to COVID-19 testing on campus, which can help bring some added peace of mind to those with added concerns such as for vulnerable members of your household.

We have learned a lot over the past sixteen months, and we are enormously grateful to every member of the Penn community for your hard work and steadfast support. We will keep you updated as the situation evolves, and we are excited to see you on campus in the weeks ahead!

—Amy Gutmann, President
—Beth A. Winkelstein, Interim Provost
—Craig Carnaroli, Senior Executive Vice President
—J. Larry Jameson, Executive Vice President, Penn Medicine and Dean, Perelman School of Medicine

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve rapidly, this information may soon become out-of-date. Visit https://coronavirus.upenn.edu/ for the latest news about the virus and the latest guidelines for living and working on campus.