Gutmann College House Named for President Emerita Amy Gutmann

The University of Pennsylvania has announced the naming of a newly named college house on Penn’s campus, named Gutmann College House. This move follows the naming of the Gutmann College, a new college funded by a $125 million gift from former Penn President Amy Gutmann and her husband, Joseph. The Gutmanns pledged the funds in honor of Gutmann’s tenure as president.

Amy Gutmann, the longest-serving president of an Ivy League institution, stepped down in 2018. Her tenure was marked by significant growth and development, including the addition of several new buildings and the expansion of on-campus housing. The University of Pennsylvania has announced the naming of Gutmann College as a fitting tribute to her contributions to the institution.

Claire Bruno: Assistant Dean of Admissions and Student Life

The University of Pennsylvania’s School of Veterinary Medicine (Penn Vet) has named Claire Vanna Bruno, a senior higher education professional with more than 18 years of recruitment experience, as its new assistant dean of admissions and student life. Her appointment began on July 25, 2022.

Bruno comes to Penn Vet from Villanova University’s School of Business, where she served as assistant dean of graduate admissions and oversaw that institution’s wide-ranging recruitment plans for 12 graduate programs, including the MBA, executive MBA, and specialized masters programs. Before her appointment as assistant dean at Villanova in 2020, she served as that school’s director of graduate admissions.

Igor Brodsky: Robert B. Marshak Professor at Penn Vet

Andrew M. Hoffman, the Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania (Penn Vet) has named Igor Brodsky, an internationally recognized microbiologist, the inaugural Robert R. Marshak Professor.

Dr. Brodsky holds an extraordinary record of scholarly accomplishments. His research program focuses on the interplay of bacterial virulence mechanisms and host

Three New Endowed Chairs in the School of Arts and Sciences

Melissa Lee: Klein Family Presidential Assistant Professor

Melissa M. Lee has joined Penn Arts and Sciences as the Klein Family Presidential Assistant Professor of Political Science. A specialist in conflict studies as well as the international and domestic politics of statebuilding and state development, Dr. Lee comes to Penn from Princeton University, where she was an assistant professor of politics and international affairs. Her book, Crippling Leviathan: How Foreign Subversion Weakens the State, examines how foreign subversion by enemy countries creates geographic spaces beyond the state’s control and limits the government’s ability to provide public services. Dr. Lee has received several honors and recognitions of her work, including a Perry World House Lightning Scholar Fellowship. She earned her PhD in political science from

Frank Matero: Gonick Family Professor in the Weitzman School

Frank Matero has assumed the first endowed professorship in the graduate program in historic preservation in the Weitzman School of Design—the first named full professorship created at the school since 2006—thanks to a gift from Dawn Gonick, MSHP’94, and Brian Gonick, W’86.

Over 32 years as a professor at Weitzman, Mr. Matero has been driven by a guiding principle: that historic preservation is as much about people as it is places. “As a discipline and practice, historic preservation has evolved to understand its responsibility to the social dimensions of built heritage,” Mr. Matero said. “Today, heritage conservation defines a more integrated and sustainable notion of legacy as that which ties people and communities to places and things through negotiated and shared values rather than imposed ones.”

With initiatives such as the Center for the

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Brian Vivier: Inaugural Director of the Center for Global Collections of Penn Libraries

The Penn Libraries has announced the appointment of Brian Vivier as its inaugural director of the Center for Global Collections, effective July 21, 2022. Dr. Vivier, who has been the Penn Libraries’ coordinator of area studies collections and Chinese studies librarian since 2012, brings a deep expertise in collection development, scholarship, and support for Penn’s students and staff. In his new role, he will provide strategic vision, leadership, and oversight for the center in building world-class distinctive global collections and engaging programs.

Dr. Vivier takes the helm of the Center for Global Collections, which builds on the Penn Libraries’ area studies collections to highlight non-Western voices, languages, and cultures. He will supervise the work of eight librarians supporting Africana studies, Chinese studies, Japanese and Korean studies, Latin American studies, Middle East studies, Russian and East European studies, and South Asian studies. He will also aid scholars in using the center’s resources and assist Penn faculty in using global collections materials to enrich the classroom experience.

“I am delighted to appoint Brian as director of the Center for Global Collections,” said Brigitte Weinsteiger, the Gershwind & Bennett Family Associate Vice Provost for Collections and Scholarly Communications. “Brian has demonstrated his commitment to driving the center toward an ever-higher standard of excellence, innovation, and access through a creative strategic vision. Brian has built upon his studies in Chinese history to not only become an expert in the field of Chinese studies—most recently completing a year in Taiwan as a Fulbright U.S. Senior Scholar—but also to develop collections and manage support for the Penn community across all global studies. I look forward to seeing Brian shape a destination for students and scholars to explore the languages, cultures, and experiences of people all over the world.”

Dr. Vivier will add new staff, collections, and programming to the Penn Libraries, while engaging in new partnerships across and beyond Penn. “For me, the most exciting aspect of librarianship is working together with creative colleagues to connect researchers and students with information around the world,” Dr. Vivier said. “With the new Center for Global Collections, I am looking forward to expanding that work, both to incorporate a broader range of voices in our collection development and to bring our work in conversation with even more parts of Penn. The center will serve as a hub, both within Penn and within the community of research libraries, for engagement with a true world of information.”

Dr. Vivier’s research focuses on the economic and social history of Middle Period China and on China’s frontiers from the 10th to the 13th centuries. He is an adjunct associate professor of Chinese studies at Penn. Dr. Vivier serves on the Bibliography of Asian Studies advisory committee, is the book review editor for the Journal of Song-Yuan Studies, and is a board member of the Council on East Asian Libraries. Over the past two years, he has chaired the international collections and content group at the Center for Research Libraries, a group advising research libraries on support for the future of international librarianship and the development of more respectful and inclusive approaches to global collections.

Before joining the Penn Libraries, Dr. Vivier was the coordinator of public and information services at the Asia Library at the University of Michigan and special projects manager at Yale’s East Asia Library. He holds a BA from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, a PhD in Chinese history from Yale University, and a MLS from Southern Connecticut State University.

Claire Bruno: Assistant Dean of Admissions and Student Life at Penn’s School of Veterinary Medicine

(continued from page 1)

and director of diversity initiatives. Ms. Bruno previously held admissions positions at Penn’s Wharton School and at Temple University’s Fox School of Business.

As assistant dean of admissions and student life, Ms. Bruno will be responsible for delivering visionary leadership to achieve strategic recruitment, retention, and graduation goals. She will also oversee all aspects of admissions, financial aid, and student life. She will also lead best practices and benchmarking initiatives to measure progress toward strategic enrollment objectives, as well as supporting student academic success.

“Claire has an outstanding record of achievement. She brings extensive expertise in graduate admissions and firsthand knowledge of the value of inclusion and diversity efforts,” said Andrew M. Hoffman, the Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of Penn Vet. “Her belief in our relationship-orientated culture, and in the unique nature of our veterinary program, will be essential as we prepare students for whatever career pathways they invent, whether in private practice or research, academia or public policy, or some unique combination of all.”

Ms. Bruno’s most significant accomplishments at Villanova include a yield program that penetrated smaller recruiting markets in the southern and midwestern regions of the United States, programming that integrated diversity and inclusion into Villanova’s business school culture, and corporate outreach that accelerated employer desirability for Villanova business school students.

“I am thrilled and honored to join Penn’s School of Veterinary Medicine,” said Ms. Bruno. “The school has a dynamic and forward-looking educational mission and a vision for the future of veterinary medicine. I welcome this extraordinary opportunity to work with the entire Penn Vet community in preparing our students for a world characterized by rapid medical discovery and escalating societal needs.”

New College House: Renamed for President Emerita Amy Gutmann

(continued from page 1)

classrooms and seminar rooms, study rooms, a coffee shop, and the Quaker Kitchen, a demonstration cooking space.

The building, which will soon be updated with signage featuring the name Gutmann College House, was designed by Philadelphia-based, internationally acclaimed architecture firm Bohlin Cywinski Jackson. The facility was recently designated as LEED Silver, aligning with Penn’s sustainability goals laid out in Penn’s Climate and Sustainability Action Plan 3.0.

“I am truly humbled and honored to have this deeply meaningful space bear my name,” said Dr. Gutmann, who now serves as U.S. Ambassador to Germany. “Its community-friendly design, its Quaker Kitchen, and its wide-ranging student-centered offerings are incredibly appealing. Above all, there will always be a special place in my heart for the diverse and brilliant community of students who now call—and for generations will call—this college house their home.”

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Three New Endowed Chairs in the School of Arts and Sciences
(continued from page 1)

Stanford University in 2015. Scott M. Klein established the Klein Family Presidential Professorship in 2021. He is a member of Penn’s Southern California Regional Advisory Board. Mr. Klein is one of the founders of Beach Point Capital Management LP, where he serves as co-chairman and co-CEO. In addition to the professorship, he established the Klein Family Social Justice grant program at Penn Arts and Sciences, and supports under- graduate scholarship at Penn. Mr. Klein graduated from Penn in 1988 with degrees from Wharton and the College of Arts and Sciences.

Joshua Teplitzky: Joseph Meyerhoff Associate Professor of Modern Jewish History

Joshua Teplitzky has joined Penn Arts and Sciences as the Joseph Meyerhoff Associate Professor of Modern Jewish History. Previously an associate professor of history at Stony Brook University, Dr. Teplitzky is a leading expert on the culture and life of Jews in modern central Europe. He is the author of Prince of the Press: How One Collector Built History’s Most Enduring and Remarkable Jewish Library, which won several awards. Dr. Teplitzky has been a fellow at the University of Oxford, the Rare Book School at the University of Virginia, at Harvard University, Tel Aviv University, and the Yad Hanadiv/Beracha Foundation Programme in Jerusalem. In addition, he has twice been a fellow at Penn’s Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies. His research has been supported by numerous grants, and he serves as an associate editor of the Encyclopedia of Jewish Book Cultures Online, as co-director of the humanities project Footprints: Jewish Books Through Time and Place, and on the editorial board of the German Jewish Cultures monograph series. He is currently at work on a second book, titled Quarantine in the Prague Ghetto: Jews, Christians, and the Plague in Early Modern Europe.

The late Herbert D. Katz, W’51, and Elea nor M. Katz were longtime supporters of Penn Arts and Sciences and Jewish Studies. They endowed this chair in 1989 through the Joseph Meyerhoff Memorial Trust. The chair supports an outstanding scholar of modern Jewish history. Mr. Katz served as a chair of the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies’ Board of Advisors and on the Penn Arts and Sciences Board of Advisers. In 2008, the Katz family endowed the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies in his memory.

Erik Wibbels: Presidential Penn Compact Professor

Erik Wibbels has joined Penn Arts and Sciences as the Presidential Penn Compact Professor of Political Science. A scholar of political geography, political accountability, and political economy, Dr. Wibbels was previously the Robert O. Keohane Professor of Political Science, and co-founder of Dev-Lab@Duke at Duke University. He is the author of several books, and his articles have been published in top journals. His research has received support from numerous grants, including the United States Institute of Peace, USAID, the World Bank, and the National Science Foundation. He joins Penn as the founder of Dev-Lab@Penn and a member of Penn’s Development Research Initiative. In those roles, Dr. Wibbels works with governments, international donors, and civil society organizations to improve the rigor of development programming and engage in policy-relevant research around the world.

The Presidential Penn Compact Professorships were conceived by Penn President Emerita 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.

Center for Social Norms and Behavioral Dynamics: $3 Million Grant from Templeton & Koch Foundations

The Center for Social Norms and Behavioral Dynamics in the School of Arts and Sciences has received a combined grant of $3 million from the John Templeton Foundation and the Charles Koch Foundation to support a three-year research project that will examine the social and behavioral dimensions associated with poverty in the United States.

The Center for Social Norms and Behavioral Dynamics aims to support positive behaviors on a global scale, across both informal and organizational settings. It partners with organizations around the world by using its expertise in measuring behavioral norms and attitudes, developing behavioral data, and identifying systematic behavioral drivers.

“The absence of financial resources is closely linked with deficits in other types of capital, including human capital, social capital, and health capital,” said Cristina Bicchieri, the Sascia Jane Patterson Harvie Professor of Social Thought and Comparative Ethics and director of the center. “Building these other forms of capital, which encompass factors such as education, skills, networks, relationships, and well-being, is essential for individuals to be able to permanently escape poverty.”

The grant will allow the center to conduct local pilots and a national measurement of local beliefs, expectations, norms, preferences, and trust levels among rural and urban poor populations across different areas of the United States. The resulting information will give a unique insight into what makes a community resilient and which attitudes and behaviors could play an important role in escaping poverty, which in turn will allow researchers to suggest promising and feasible interventions to moderate or change these social dimensions across different groups.

The project will be headed by Dr. Bicchieri, a world-renowned specialist in the field of behavioral and social norms measurement and change. She is also a professor in the School of Arts and Sciences’ departments of philosophy and psychology and a professor of legal studies at the Wharton School. Co-principal investigators are Enrique Patas, a professor of practice in behavioral and decision sciences, and Kevin Vallier, an associate professor of philosophy at Bowling Green State University.

The John Templeton Foundation is funding $2.5 million of the grant. The Templeton Foundation supports research and catalyzes inspiring conversations. The foundation’s aspiration is to help people create lives of meaning and purpose and to become a global catalyst for discoveries that contribute to human flourishing.

The remainder of the funds come from the Charles Koch Foundation, which partners with social entrepreneurs to remove the barriers that prevent people from reaching their potential.

COVID-19 Protocols for the Fall Semester
August 1, 2022

We hope that everyone has been enjoying a great summer. As we welcome those new and returning to campus in the weeks ahead, we are writing to update you on protocols related to COVID-19 for the fall semester. Over the summer, we have continued to meet and consult across our community and with our partners at the Philadelphia Department of Public Health. Mandatory testing and classroom masking mandates on campus were lifted, and testing was consolidated at one PennCares location at 3734 Spruce Street.

We strongly encourage everyone who is arriving on the Penn campus for the fall semester to self-test at home before arrival. PennOpen Pass will be discontinued and will no longer be required to access campus buildings or available for any other purposes. However, we will continue to provide PennCares testing at 3734 Spruce Street for members of the Penn community who are symptomatic or have recently been exposed, and the testing center also now offers at-home antigen tests.

Masks are recommended in indoor public settings for individuals with underlying medical conditions that make them more vulnerable to severe disease. As classes begin at the end of the month, instructors have the option to require masking in their classrooms and teaching spaces and should communicate that requirement in their course syllabus.

The University’s comprehensive FAQs are your best resource for any questions, and we will continue to update them throughout the semester. UPHS-affiliated faculty and staff should follow specific guidance from the Health System. As the semester progresses, we will continue to consult across our community, remain prepared for any future circumstances, and follow guidance from the Philadelphia Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

We look forward to seeing all of you back on campus in the weeks ahead!

—Beth A. Winkelstein, Interim Provost
—Craig Carnaroli, Senior EVP
—J. Larry Jameson, EVP for the Health System

Plaque in Early Modern Europe.

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From the Interim Provost, Senior EVP, & EVP for the Health System

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The remainder of the funds come from the Charles Koch Foundation, which partners with social entrepreneurs to remove the barriers that prevent people from reaching their potential.
Josh and Marjorie Harris: $1 Million Support for the Penn Medicine-Wharton Fund for Health

Philanthropists Josh Harris, managing partner of the Philadelphia 76ers, and his wife, Marjorie Harris, plan to invest $1 million in companies founded by the Penn Medicine-Wharton Fund for Health, a collaboration between Penn Medicine and the Wharton Social Impact Initiative of the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School that invests in early-stage businesses working to improve the social determinants of health of economically disadvantaged Philadelphians. The initiative was first announced in August 2021, with initial plans for a $5 million investment over the following three years.

“We are thrilled to continue collaborating with Penn Medicine through the Fund for Health to improve the health of Philadelphia communities, particularly underserved communities that may not have access to the same resources,” said Mr. Harris. “There are so many factors that contribute to overall health and well-being—the goal of this initiative is to invest in innovative companies that are directly addressing the issues that lead to health inequities and support them as they scale.”

Social determinants of health include issues such as food insecurity and lack of access to quality healthcare or stable housing, which affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes. Philadelphia County is among the hardest hit cities in the nation by the toll of these disparities, with more than 25 percent of residents living in poverty, 20 percent coping with food insecurity, and nearly 15 percent of its residents uninsured, according to Penn Medicine’s 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment report.

“No one’s zip code should determine whether they’re able to live a healthy life, but tackling longstanding, systemic problems requires a creative and diverse approach—two factors which were at the foundation of our creation of the Fund for Health,” said University of Pennsylvania Health System CEO Kevin B. Mahoney. “We can make an even greater impact when like-minded collaborators who share this mission also decide, following their own diligence, to make follow-on investments. I am thrilled Josh and Marjorie Harris will be joining forces with us in this way to propel our vision to improve the social determinants of health in our city.”

So far, four companies have received a total of $850,000 through the Penn Medicine-Wharton Fund for Health. They include:

- Kinvolved, a leader in developing communications software to reduce absenteeism in underserved school districts, which has subsequently been acquired by PowerSchool, a cloud-based K-12 educational software provider.
- Lula, which provides a platform and support for small, family-owned convenience stores to deliver to customers via apps like DoorDash, Grubhub, and Uber EATS.
- Utrust, a customer relationship management tool that helps keep people out of the criminal justice system by helping them avoid unnecessary technical violations, like missing court dates or probation appointments.
- RecoveryLink, a telehealth and electronic recovery platform that improves availability and delivery of recovery support services to people experiencing substance use and mental health disorders.

This effort continues Harris Philanthropies’ work with Penn Medicine, with whom they collaborated to deploy COVID-19 antibody testing to Philadelphia doctors and nurses, along with $76 million in funding to support Penn’s response to the pandemic. Both Mr. Harris and Mr. Blitzer are graduates of the University of Pennsylvania.

The fund is fueled by a diverse investment team including students from Wharton and Penn Medicine, who work to identify and vet early-stage, for-profit companies whose work is geared towards addressing these key socio-economic issues which pose barriers to good health. Support from the program also offers opportunities for consultation with Penn faculty and staff and opportunities to use insights from Penn Medicine’s and Wharton’s own work.

Philip Meilman: Director of Counseling Services

Wellness at Penn announces the appointment of Philip (“Phil”) Meilman as the new director of counseling services within Student Health and Counseling, effective July 15, 2022. Dr. Meilman is a college mental health scholar and clinical expert who brings a wealth of experience to the University of Pennsylvania.

“I am thrilled to have joined the team at the University of Pennsylvania,” said Dr. Meilman. “I look forward to engaging with students and supporting the Student Health and Counseling staff as we work together to offer a welcoming and supportive environment for students and mental health care services.”

Dr. Meilman has previously served as the director of the Counseling and Psychiatric Service at Georgetown University from 2005 to 2020 and as a professor in the department of psychiatry there. Before Georgetown, Dr. Meilman worked at Cornell University, the College of William and Mary, Dartmouth College, and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He earned an AB from Harvard University and a PhD in clinical psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Dr. Meilman served as editor of the Journal of College Student Psychotherapy for five years and has authored numerous books, monographs, and journal articles.

“We are extremely fortunate to have Dr. Meilman join our Wellness team,” said Benoit Dubé, associate provost and chief wellness officer. “His extensive experience in behavioral health, and his understanding of the complexities of the college experience, will be a tremendous asset to our clinical team. Together, we will remain dedicated to caring for students through their academic journey.”

In his role, Dr. Meilman will assist the current leadership team to improve access to and support of behavioral health services. Dr. Meilman will oversee Penn’s mental health and behavioral health programs in an effort to nurture the resilience and success of more than 26,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students.

Igor Brodsky: Robert B. Marshak Professor at Penn Vet

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inner immune recognition strategies, including how bacterial pathogens are sensed by host cells, how this sensing contributes to antimicrobial immune defense, and how bacterial pathogens evade innate immune recognition. Dr. Brodsky is a member of several graduate groups and interdisciplinary research groups at Penn, including the immunology graduate group, cell and molecular biology graduate group, Institute for Immunology, and the Penn Center for Genome Integrity.

He has received over 100 grants from National Institutes of Health (NIH) support and is currently principal investigator (PI) on two R01 grants and one R21 grant, and mentor or co-PI on several other grants from the NIH, the National Science Foundation, and the American Heart Association. He has mentored more than 20 students and fellows from across the United States and the world.

“Dr. Brodsky’s scientific work has appeared in over 70 peer reviewed publications, literature reviews, and invited commentaries in high-impact journals,” said Dean Hoffman. “His outstanding achievements have earned him numerous awards, including the highly competitive Burroughs Wellcome Fund Investigator in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease Award. Dr. Brodsky has published in journals such as Nature, Immunity, Infection and Immunity; Journal of Immunology; PLoS Pathogen; Journal of Experimental Medicine; PNAS; and Cell. He is highly sought after by editorial boards and grant review panels, and as a presenter to invited and named scientific lectures.”

Dr. Brodsky received his AB from Princeton University in molecular biology and his PhD from Stanford University in microbiology and immunology. Following postdoctoral fellowships at Stanford University and Yale University, Dr. Brodsky joined Penn Vet’s faculty as an assistant professor of pathobiology in 2011. Six years later, in 2017, he was promoted to associate professor with a secondary appointment as an associate professor of microbiology in the Perelman School of Medicine.

Dr. Brodsky was appointed chair of the department of pathobiology in 2021 (Almanac, September 7, 2021). He provides extensive service to the community as a member of the editorial boards for PLoS Pathogens and Infection and Immunity, and as a member of NIH study section panels.

“The late Dean Emeritus Robert R. Marshak, DVM, DACVIM, established the National Cancer Institute-sponsored Bovine Leukemia Cancer Institute-sponso red Bovine Leukemia Pathogens Research Center, and conceived of the Animal Health and Diagnostic Commission and tripartite Pennsylvania Diagnostic Laboratory system in the wake of a major outbreak of avian influenza in the 1980s,” said Dean Hoffman (Almanac November 3, 2020). “It is most fitting that Dr. Brodsky, a leader and eminent scholar in the field of infectious diseases, should be honored as the inaugural Robert R. Marshak Professor-ship. He is a born educator and a devoted mentor who embraces the whole mission of Penn Vet.”

The naming of a named, endowed professorship is the highest honor bestowed upon a faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania and reflects a commitment to scientific discovery, mentorship, and service.
Deaths

Clelia “Sally” Mallory, Chemistry
Clelia Wood “Sally” Mallory, a former lecturer in the department of chemistry in the School of Arts and Sciences and the director emerita of Penn’s Organic Chemistry Laboratory, passed away on July 28. She was 84.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, Dr. Mallory was educated at St. Mary’s School in Peekskill, New York before attending Bryn Mawr College, where she received a BA in chemistry in 1959. Four years later, she received a PhD in organic chemistry, also from Bryn Mawr. Dr. Mallory began her career working as a research associate in chemistry at Bryn Mawr, then served as a lecturer at Yale University.

In 1980, she joined Penn’s faculty as a lecturer in chemistry and was promoted to senior lecturer four years later. There, she was responsible for the undergraduate laboratory program in organic chemistry, teaching the lab courses that were required for pre-health professions. In 1989, she won a Provost’s Award for teaching in a non-tenure track position. “Students welcome her lectures as well organized and delivered—and her guidance in the lab, where she is known as caring, diligent, able to instill a sense of control by the student, and willing to spend time to discuss the work, to work with students on experiments and ‘often to calm down nervous and jittery pre-meds’” (Almanac April 4, 1989). Eighteen years later, she won the School of Arts and Sciences’ Dean’s Award for Distinguished Teaching by Affiliated Faculty; a colleague remarked that “she constantly generates great student enthusiasm … and yet she does it by getting her students to work really hard” (Almanac April 24, 2007). With her husband Frank Mallory, a professor of chemistry at Bryn Mawr College, she co-authored several dozen peer-reviewed articles. She retired from Penn in 2018.

Dr. Mallory was predeceased by her husband in 2017. She is survived by her stepchildren, Mary Mallory Wrenn (Robert), Paul Mallory (Kelly), and Michele Mallory Penner (Terry); seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. A memorial is planned for a later date.

Claes Oldenburg, Designer of Button Sculpture
Claes Oldenburg, a Swedish-American pop artist and co-creator of the Split Button statue on Penn’s campus, died July 18. He was 93.

The Split Button that sits in front of Van Pelt Library, constructed in 1981, weighs 5,000 pounds and is 16 feet in diameter. It was created along with visual artist Coosje van Bruggen. Mr. Oldenburg’s approach to everyday objects, performance, and collaboration has continued to influence generations of artists. As he focused more and more on sculpture, he began increasing the scale of his work, taking as his starting point ordinary objects like hamburgers, ice cream cones, and household appliances and then enlarging them to unfamiliar, often imposing dimensions.

Mr. Oldenburg was heavily influenced by the French artist Jean Dubuffet, who brought so-called outsider art into galleries and museums, upsetting the status quo of institutional art. Like many pop artists, Mr. Oldenburg also took cues from Marcel Duchamp, whose so-called ready-made sculptures from the early 20th century were actually ordinary, mass-produced objects (such as a bicycle wheel or a urinal). Mr. Oldenburg’s sculptures, however, were handcrafted rather than store-bought, and he wanted them to be, as he put it, “just as mysterious as nature.”

Mr. Oldenburg is survived by two stepchildren, Paulus Kaptyn and Maartje Oldenburg; and three grandchildren.

Penn Vet: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Budget Report
On July 8, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf signed the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget into law, directing more than $42.7 billion in General Fund expenditures. The budget is supplemented by $2.2 billion in federal COVID-19 relief funds through the American Rescue Plan. The School of Veterinary Medicine received a five percent increase in its appropriation to more than $33.55 million. The school’s non-preferred legislation, Senate Bill 1105, received a unanimous vote of 49-0 in the state Senate and a vote of 196-4 in the state House of Representatives.

The General Appropriations bill, Senate Bill 1100, increases funding to Penn Vet’s veterinary diagnostic laboratory via the Animal Health and Diagnostic Commission appropriation. The commission’s General Fund supplemental appropriation increases $4 million to $6 million, of which approximately half will be apportioned to Penn Vet. The commission will receive a one-time investment of $6 million to help Penn Vet and its partner laboratories cover costs of vaccine development to a recent highly pathogenic avian influenza outbreak.

Funding to Penn Vet’s Working Dog Center remains level at $250,000, and the budget’s Fiscal Code ensures the Race Horse Development Trust Fund will cover drug testing and research costs of the Pennsylvania Equine Toxicology and Research Laboratory through June 2025.
Erin Cross, Influential LGBTQ+ Leaders Lists

Erin Cross, director of the LGBT Center, was named on two prominent lists for influential LGBTQ+ leaders in Philadelphia.

Metro Philadelphia named Dr. Cross on the “Power Players” list. The accompanying write-up highlighted how she has advocated for and expanded LGBTQ+ campus support for more than 20 years, most recently around inclusive healthcare and restrooms, implicit bias, and educating coaches at her faculty about LGBTQ+ issues.

Dr. Cross was also named to the 2022 Pride Power 100 list, where her accomplishments in leading the effort to add gender identity to the University’s nondiscrimination protections were highlighted. She is frequently invited to present at national conferences and consults with Penn and outside K-12 schools, universities, and nonprofit and for-profit organizations about LGBTQ+ issues.

Dr. Cross serves as Penn’s LGBTQ+ Faculty Working Group co-chair and has increased the LGBT Center’s ties to West Philadelphia through partnerships. Outside of the center, Dr. Cross co-founded White Educators Committed to Anti-Racism and Equity, which supports white educators addressing racism. She also convenes the campus-wide DEI group and teaches at Penn’s Graduate School of Education.

Consortium for DEWATS Dissemination Society (CDD): Barry & Marie Lipman Family Prize

The Wharton School has announced that the 2022 winner of the annual Barry & Marie Lipman Family Prize is the CDD Society, which exists to innovate, demonstrate, mainstream and promote the idea of DEWATS (Drinking Water and Sanitation Treatment System), which delivers an 18-year-long intervention to children in need of care and protection.

All three honorees will receive executive training and ongoing support from the Wharton School and Penn.

Joe Miller: MLB Draft

Joe Miller, a 2022 Penn grad and former pitcher on Penn’s baseball team, was selected in the 11th round of the MLB Draft by the Detroit Tigers.

From Hatboro, Pennsylvania, Mr. Miller started 11 of his 13 appearances for the Quakers this past season. He had a 6.40 ERA, and 91 strikeouts in 74.1 innings pitched. His innings pitched and strikeout totals were the top ones on the team and in the Ivy League, and his 91 strikeouts represented the second-highest single-season total in school history and the most since Paul Cusick had 80 in 2011.

Mr. Miller was a First-Team All-Ivy selection in 2022 and had three double-digit strikeout games, including 14 against Princeton on May 15, the most by an Ivy League pitcher this season.

Penn’s baseball team finished the 2022 campaign with a 33-15 record, the most wins in school history, and were regular-season conference co-champions. They advanced to the Ivy League Championship Series, where they fell to Columbia, two games to one. Across four years at Penn (and primarily only two-and-a-quarter because of COVID), Mr. Miller made 33 appearances, started 24 games, pitched 132.1 innings, and compiled a 10-8 record with a 4.49 ERA and 160 strikeouts. His career strikeout total is ninth in Penn history.

Mr. Miller is the 17th Quaker to be drafted since 1991, and the ninth to be drafted under John Yurkow, the W. Joseph Blood Head Coach, and Mr. Miller is ninth in Penn history.

Melissa Sanchez: Excellence Through Diversity Fund

Melissa Sanchez, the Donald T. Regan Professor of English in the School of Arts and Sciences, was recognized by the Excellence Through Diversity Fund, an annual University-wide initiative by the Office of the Provost that provides resources for innovative interdisciplinary projects on topics related to diversity and inclusion.

Penn Medicine Awards & Accolades: July 2022

Gregory L. Beatty, an associate professor of hematology-oncology, has received the 2022 Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN) Precision Medicine Targeted Grant Extension, a bonus grant of $200,000, in addition to the one he was awarded in 2021, to fund research to use patients’ tumors’ molecular characteristics to help determine the best treatment options. Dr. Beatty has also been named one of six recipients of the Therapeutic Accelerator Collaborative Award, a new PanCAN initiative to bring together industry, academic scientists, and clinicians to understand and enhance the effects of a novel investigational treatment combination being tested, and to drive the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry to prioritize pancreatic cancer. This $365,000 award will support Dr. Beatty’s work in the development of novel immunotherapies for the treatment of pancreatic cancer.

Derek Oldridge, an assistant professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, has been recognized as an early career researcher by the Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy (PICI) and as a 2022 Parker Bridge Fellow for his research on treatments for deadly brain cancers. Dr. Oldridge and eight other postdoctoral researchers from leading academic institutions will share up to $4.5 million in fellowship and scholarship awards.

Kyle G. Rodino, an assistant professor of pathology and laboratory medicine and assistant director of the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory and drag by Jali B. Jalal, an assistant professor of clinical pathology and laboratory medicine, have been included in the American Society for Clinical Pathology’s (ASCP) “40 under Forty” list. This prestigious ASCP recognition program honors emerging leaders and innovators of pathology and laboratory medicine.

Darwin Ye, a PhD candidate in cancer biology training in the laboratory of Andy Minn at the Abramson Cancer Center, has been recognized by the Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy (PICI) as a 2022 Parker Scholar. The award is given to graduate students and researchers who are entering their first postdoctoral appointments and are focused on ambitious, high-impact projects. Mr. Ye, whose project involves learning how cells become resistant to immunotherapy to inform design of more effective cancer clinical trials, is one of nine postdoctoral researchers from leading academic institutions to share up to $4.5 million in fellowship and scholarship awards.
Kyle Vining: Appointment to Faculty of Penn Dental Medicine and Penn School of Engineering and Applied Science

Penn Dental Medicine and the School of Engineering and Applied Science welcome recent recruit Kyle Vining, who joined the two schools and the Center for Innovation & Precision Dentistry (CIDP) on July 1, 2022. Kyle Vining is appointed an assistant professor of preventive and restorative sciences in the School of Dental Medicine and in the department of materials science and engineering in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, pending approval by Penn Dental Medicine’s personnel committees and the Provost’s office.

“We are thrilled that Dr. Vining has joined us,” said Penn Dental Medicine’s Morton Amsterdam Dean Mark S. Wolff. “With his combination of dental and engineering training and depth of research experience, he will play a vital role in the work and advancement of the CIDP and our goal of accelerating the development of new solutions and devices to address oral health needs.”

Dr. Vining, who holds a PhD in bioengineering from Harvard University (2020) and an M.D. from the University of Minnesota School of Dental Medicine (2014), comes to Penn Dental Medicine from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, where he has been a postdoctoral researcher for the past two years. A primary focus of Dr. Vining’s research has been targeting mechanical regulation of tissue inflammation in bone marrow disease and head and neck cancer. He is also developing strategies to target inflammation and promote tissue repair and regeneration in oral and maxillofacial tissues.

Among his projects in the area of biomaterials development, he engineered a novel antimicrobial coating for titanium dental implants and developed a new polymeric dental material that supports differentiation and proliferation of dental pulp stem cells for regenerative dentistry applications. His most recent work was published in Nature Materials.

Dr. Vining has been an active research mentor to graduate and undergraduate students throughout his postdoctoral training. He is currently a councilor in the oral and maxillofacial research group of the International Association for Dental Research and is a scientific peer reviewer for 13 journals, including the American Chemical Society journals and the Journal of Dental Research.

“This is an update to the Summer AT PENN calendar, which is online now. The next monthly calendar, September AT PENN, will be published on Tuesday, August 30. To submit events for a future AT PENN calendar or weekly update, email almanac@upenn.edu.

The University of Pennsylvania Police Department

About the Crime Report: Below are the Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Society and Crimes Against Property from the campus report for August 1-7, 2022. Also reported were 11 crimes against property (3 bike thefts, 2 thefts from building, 1 theft from vehicle, 1 fraud, 1 vandalism, 1 other offense, and 2 other thefts) with 1 arrest. 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 for the dates of August 1-7, 2022. The University Police actively patrol from Market St to Baltimore 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.

08/04/22
11:50 PM
4103 Chestnut St
Report of textings/calls of harassment

08/05/22
9:25 AM
3735 Walnut St
Attempted bank robbery, no weapon

18th District

Below are the Crimes Against Persons from the 18th District: 5 incidents (2 assaults, 2 aggravated assaults, and 1 robbery) were recorded for August 1-7, 2022 by the 18th district, covering the Schuylkill River to 49th St & Market St to Woodland Avenue.

08/02/22
7:08 AM
S 48th & Pine Sts
Assault

08/02/22
6:40 PM
S 46th & Chestnut Sts
Robbery

08/02/22
12:01 PM
3400 blk Market St
Aggravated Assault

08/02/22
11:31 AM
S 48th & Spruce Sts
Aggravated Assault

08/04/22
3:07 AM
3401 Civic Center Blvd
Aggravated Assault

The University of Pennsylvania Police Department
Community Crime Report

Almanac

Summer AT PENN

FITNESS AND LEARNING

8/23 Master in Law Information Webinar: learn more about the benefits of pursuing advanced credentials of the Master in Law Degree if you wish to incorporate a legal perspective in the issues that intersect with your professional fields and academic interests; noon; Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/master-in-law-aug-23 (Penn Law).

TALKS

8/16 Toward Agile Legged Locomotion in a Novel Quadrupedal Robot with an Axially Twisting Spine; J. Diego Caporale, mechanical engineering & applied mechanics; 10 a.m.; room 313, Towne Building (MEAM).

Revisiting the Model of Limb Development and the Propriospinal System and Skeletor; Elazar Zeitel, Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel; Austrian Auditorium and Lobby, CRB; 1:30 p.m. (Penn Center for Musculoskeletal Disorders; Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia).

8/18 The Dynamic Spread of Buddhist Print Culture: Mapping Book Roads under Mongol Rule; Susan Huang, Rice University; Identifying the Illustrated Sutra Prints from Inside the Museum’s Lacquer Buddha C405A; Bryce Heathery, east Asian languages & civilizations; 1:30 p.m.; Penn Museum; register: https://tinyurl.com/huang-heatherly-aug-18 (Penn Museum).

8/23 Disease Indicator Prediction in Vascular Flows via Physics-Informed Deep Learning; Georgios Kissas, mechanical engineering & applied mechanics; 10 a.m.; room 313, Towne Building (MEAM).

Twitter Spaces: Promoting Civic Engagement in Nursing; Alison Hernandez, policy advisor to U.S. Senate; Melissa Batchelor, author; 6 p.m.; Twitter spaces livestream; info: innovation@nursing.upenn.edu (Penn Nursing).

Quantum Engineering Summer Seminar Series


8/19 NISQ Era Quantum Computing; Nick Bronn, IBM; noon.

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 web (accessible through the Penn website) include HTML, Acrobat and mobile versions of the print edition, and interim information may be posted in electronic-only form. Guidelines for readers and contributors are available on request and online.

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The University of Pennsylvania's values are diversity and inclusion, excellence, and integrity. The University of Pennsylvania does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, creed, national or ethnic origin, citizenship status, age, disability, veteran status or any other legally protected class status in the University’s administration of its admissions, financial aid, educational or athletic programs, or other University-administered programs or in its employment policies, practices. Questions or complaints regarding this policy should be directed to Sam Statsky, Executive Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity Programs, 421 Franklin Building, 3451 Walnut Street, Philadelphia PA 19104-6205; or (215) 898-6993 (Voice).
Goodbye to the Iconic Quad Elm

Marking the end of an era, Penn’s historic “Quad elm” was removed the week of July 25 due to safety concerns.

In place in the heart of Penn’s Quadrangle dormitories for more than a century, the tree has been steadily declining in recent years, despite the exhaustive efforts of Penn staff, Morris Arboretum urban forestry consultants, and other contracted arborists. The site will be replanted at a future date with a trio of white oaks, a native species.

“The Quad elm is such an iconic tree,” said Bob Lundgren, the University landscape architect. “Old trees like that create a special place, a place to reflect, and they are significant parts of the campus landscape.”

There are few trees that rival the American elm’s historical significance in Philadelphia. Most notably, the original “Treaty” elm was a large, wide-spreading tree under which William Penn and Tamanend, a chief of the Lenni-Lenape Nation, are believed to have signed a treaty of peace in 1683. Descendants of this elm are still scattered around the region at various arboreta and gardens, including one on Penn’s College Green. Over the years, staff at the Morris Arboretum have produced many clones of the tree to distribute.

The Quad elm is another majestic American elm. Planted around 1910, the tree grew as the University did, its canopy spreading to about 85 feet wide and its trunk growing to almost 10 feet in circumference.

Generations of students have enjoyed the benefits that the tree has provided, including its far-reaching shade and picturesque fall foliage.

The tree’s appearance is rather unusual relative to other American elms because it is not as tall, and the branches arch slightly downward, resulting in an almost closed, dome-like crown. The origins of the tree are uncertain, leaving the variety or cultivar up for speculation.

The exact cause of the Quad elm’s decline is unclear. In recent years, the tree’s caretakers have treated it for Dutch elm disease (Ophiostoma ulmi), the most common cause of death in native elms in the Philadelphia area, but test results ruled it out. Bacterial leaf scorch (Xylella fastidiosa) could be a cause. The tree tested positive and has been treated for this disease, which is relatively common for oaks, but is not as frequently seen on elms. Branch samples also tested positive for Botryodiplodia canker, a fungal pathogen that affects the living wood and causes early leaf dieback.

Jason Lubar, associate director of urban forestry at the Morris Arboretum, said he will miss the tree’s presence on campus. “The Quad elm was a wonderful, spreading umbrella of green and really defined the space it was in,” he said. “I was surprised how quickly it declined after years of good biological and structural health, even with the best of care. It’s a tree that will be missed by all on campus, but removing it is an opportunity to plant more trees for the future.”

If the wood is of high enough quality, Penn staff will count the growth rings to confirm its age.

And, as a silver lining, the removal allows the University a rare opportunity to replant in a wide open space. Mr. Lundgren and colleagues will check with nurseries to find a selection of three healthy, attractive white oaks that will grow and create new and lasting special space, for students and wildlife alike.

“They’re one of the most efficient species at attracting pollinators and butterflies and all those good critters. They also have great longevity, better than elms. With luck, the three we plant will be growing there for 200 years, serving generations of students to come.”

Adapted from a Penn Today article by Katherine Unger Baillie, July 22, 2022.

Providing shade for lounging students in 1976 (upper left), eye-catching fall color in 2015, or a beautiful backdrop for a snowy day in 2011, the formidable canopy of the Quad elm has been a campus landmark for more than a century. Dieback in recent years (lower right) however, meant it was time to remove the tree for safety reasons.