Elisa Scioscia: Director of Penn Violence Prevention

Associate Vice Provost for University Life Sharon Smith has announced that Elise Scioscia has joined University Life as the new director of Penn Violence Prevention.

Ms. Scioscia joined Penn at Women Against Abuse, Pennsylvania’s largest provider of services for people experiencing domestic violence, where she served for the past 11 years, most recently as the chief of staff. Ms. Scioscia’s work at Women Against Abuse was expansive and included organizational strategic planning, operational management, and public policy and prevention education work. In addition to her role as the chief of staff, Ms. Scioscia has also served as a member of the organization’s Racial Equity Audit Task Force, working to unearth and correct for institutional racism and bias that exists in the workplace.

While at Women Against Abuse, Ms. Scioscia managed the development of Shared Safety: Philadelphia’s Response to Relational Violence, which was awarded the 2017 Barry and Marie Lipman Family Prize at the University of Pennsylvania—a global prize recognizing organizations innovatively solving problems in the social sector.

Ms. Scioscia earned her master of arts in strategic communication from Villanova University while working in Villanova’s gender and women’s studies program.

“I am honored to be joining the Penn Violence Prevention team, especially at a time when we are looking ahead to what University life looks like post-pandemic and as more members of our community return to campus—it is more critical than ever to promote safety and support in our environment,” said Ms. Scioscia. “Penn Violence Prevention is well-poised to continue its survivor-centered, collaborative programming while investigating new opportunities to engage the full Penn community in deeper violence prevention strategies. I look forward to working with the PVP team, all of my partners, and each member of our campus community in our shared commitment to preventing interpersonal violence.”

Penn Purchases Carbon Emission Offsets for Air Travel

The University of Pennsylvania has begun purchasing carbon offsets for its air travel emissions as part of its plan to achieve carbon neutrality by 2042. The offsets purchased through the Travel Sustainability Fund—Penn’s first offset purchases related to its air travel emissions—will be supported by a Climate Impact Offset charge (CLIO) applied to Penn’s schools and centers that make travel-related purchases. This will be the first time Penn has purchased offsets specifically related to its air travel emissions.

Air travel comprises 5-10% of Penn’s main campus carbon emissions. Penn faculty, staff and students who travel on University business are encouraged to choose more sustainable transportation methods when possible, but it is acknowledged that some level of air travel will continue within the Penn community.

An Air Travel Working Group of faculty and staff designed the CLIO process. Penn Procurement records the number of domestic and international flights from each school or center and charges them a pre-set fee for each. The funds are gathered into a central Travel Sustainability Fund, which is used to purchase offsets.

Penn is committed to funding only high-quality offset projects. Projects must meet or exceed Second Nature’s Carbon Markets and Offset guidance, address environmental justice impacts, and, where relevant, follow the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The newly established Air Travel Offset Selection Committee is responsible for selecting projects in accordance with these guidelines.

A nitrous oxide (N2O) abatement project is the first investment from Penn’s Travel Sustainability Fund. This is regarded as a compensating action to destroy or eliminate an appropriate amount of nitrous oxide to compensate for the jet fuel burned when Penn faculty and staff fly on planes.

“The University selected this project because we could easily verify the destruction of the nitrous oxide, a powerful greenhouse gas,” said Benjamin Pierce, the Henry Salvatori Professor of Computer and Information Science and a member of the Air Travel Offset Selection Committee.

“The Penn Sustainability Office, Penn Procurement, and expert faculty all came together in the Air Travel Working Group to develop and implement this innovative program that can only be found at a few other higher education institutions,” said Nina Morris, director of sustainability with the Penn Sustainability Office. “As we learned from other schools, we hope to help other institutions develop similar programs.”

“I was delighted to see the CLIO charge when I purchased an airline ticket through World Travel for upcoming travel to South Africa,” said Alison Buttenheim, a professor of nursing and health policy and a member of Penn’s Committee for the Institutional Response to the Climate Emergency (CIRCLE). “It’s critical that we...” (continued on page 3)
Arthur Asbury, Neurology
Arthur Knight Asbury, HON’15, the Van Meter Professor of Neurology Emeritus at the Perelman School of Medicine, former interim dean and vice dean of the School of Medicine, and executive vice president of the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center, and a 2015 Penn honorary degree recipient, died on October 19 from prostate cancer and dementia. He was 93.

Born to two physicians in Cincinnati, Ohio, Dr. Asbury grew up at the historic Forest Retreat, a thoroughbred horse farm in Carlisle, Kentucky. He attended high school at Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, then earned a bachelor’s degree in agriculture from the University of Kentucky. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve from 1951 to 1953, where, based on his BS degree, he was assigned to the First Guided Missile Group as an instructor. He then graduated first in his class from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine in 1958 and completed an internship and residency at Massachusetts General Hospital, then held research and clinical fellowships at the hospital and Harvard Medical School from 1963 to 1965. In 1969, he became chief of the neurology service at the San Francisco Veterans Administration Medical Center. At the same time, he was first an associate professor, then a professor and vice chair of neurology and a professor of pathology at the Medical School of the University of California, San Francisco.

In 1974, a year-long national search selected Dr. Asbury as the chair of neurology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. During his first decade at Penn, he was active in his field, becoming a leading researcher in peripheral neuropathies like Guillain-Barré Syndrome and writing a book and over 100 articles on the subject. He stepped down as chair in 1982 and was appointed to the Van Meter professorship the next year. (Almanac, January 17, 1982). His leadership in Penn’s health system was far from over, however: He served as interim dean and executive vice president of the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center in 1988-89 (Almanac, July 12, 1988; April 11, 1989), then fulfilled a three-year term as vice dean for research and a four-year term as vice dean for faculty affairs. Dr. Asbury retired and took emeritus status in 1997, but remained active at Penn, again becoming interim dean of the School of Medicine in 2000-2001 (Almanac, February 22, 2000).

During his periods of leadership of the School of Medicine, Dr. Asbury continued to teach, and in 2000, he won Penn’s Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching (Almanac, April 18, 2000). “It was because Dr. Asbury was chairman that I sought out my residency at Penn; he was known as a superior clinician and teacher,” wrote a resident. “He was and is the consummate traditional academic clinician.” A physician wrote, “Because of his combination of academic achievement, intellectual skills and personal qualities, Dr. Asbury is one of the pivotal individuals in my neurological training.” A student said, “Dr. Asbury’s importance as a mentor has never flagged. I still turn to him when I need help with a particularly challenging clinical problem. He is a strong advocate for young scientists and epitomizes excellence in teaching.”

The School of Medicine established the annual Arthur Asbury Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award and the Arthur Knight Asbury Professorship in Neurology on his honor, and a portrait of him hangs in the second floor of Penn’s Clinical Research Building.

At Penn and in the field, Dr. Asbury was renowned for his clinical and experimental studies of peripheral neuropathies, particularly those seen with chronic kidney failure, and in patients with diabetes mellitus and Guillain-Barré syndrome. This research has continued to impact diverse treatments, ranging as far as swine flu vaccines. Over the course of his career, his work was published in over 230 articles, chapters and books. He was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, led many editorial boards, and was chief editor of the Annals of Neurology. Dr. Asbury was involved with the World Federation of Neurology, the American Neurological Association, and the Council of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, and was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Royal College of Physicians. Dr. Asbury received the Penn Health System I.S. Ravdin Master Clinician Award, the Lifetime Achievement Award of the World Federation of Neurology, and the Meritorious Service Award of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. For several years in the 1990s, Dr. Asbury was listed in the annual The Best Doctors in America publication.

In 2015, Penn awarded him an honorary doctorate of sciences (Almanac, February 17, 2015). Dr. Asbury skied, played tennis and golf, and had season tickets for the Phillies. He enjoyed the Philadelphia Orchestra, and he and his family vacationed in Maine.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; his daughters Dana and Lyndia; his son, Will; two grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; a sister; and other relatives. Donations in his name may be made to the GBS-CIDP Foundation International, 375 East Elm St., Suite 101, Conshohocken, PA 19428; Penn Medicine Hospice Services, 150 Montgomery Rd., Suite 200, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010; and the Arthur K. Asbury Accelerator Fund, Penn Medicine Development, 5335 Market St., Suite 750, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

Stephen Gale, Political Science
Stephen Chaim Zelig ben Yehuda v’Sarah Gale, an associate professor emeritus of political science in the School of Arts and Sciences, died on October 30. He was 80.

Dr. Gale received his BS, MA, and PhD degrees from the University of Michigan, then served a postdoctoral fellowship and lectured at the University of California, Berkeley. In 1970, he joined the faculty of Northwestern University at the assistant professor level, then came to the Wharton School at Penn in 1973 as an assistant professor of peace science, the predecessor of political science. In 1978, he was promoted to associate professor and chair of a department that had since been renamed regional science and relocated to the School of Arts and Sciences; he also held a secondary appointment in the former School of Public and Urban Policy.

Dr. Gale was an engaged faculty member, sitting on several Faculty Senate and University Council committees (chairing the Council committee on Research and Student Affairs and the Senate Committee on Students and Educational Policy at various times). He also served on ad-hoc committees, including ones for the selection of high-ranking Penn officials and for the construction of an (unbuilt) campus recreation center in 1990. Dr. Gale also served as the faculty master of Community House in the Quad and was Penn’s judicial administrator from 1993-1995. Dr. Gale helped build the Dynamics of Organization graduate program and was a faculty member in the Foreign Policy Research Institute. In 2012, he retired from Penn and took emeritus status.

While at Penn, Dr. Gale conducted research and teaching in technology transfer and business development, real estate analysis, security, and project evaluation. His work on terrorism dealt with the creation and use of software systems for integrated security analysis, the development and analysis of security scenarios, and the application of negotiation models. Renowned for his research, he testified on Capitol Hill, and appeared frequently in the media, consulted for a variety of corporations and governmental agencies.

Dr. Gale worked with Sandia and Los Alamos National Laboratories, the U.S. Department of Energy, and other defense-related agencies. In addition, he has worked on security projects for private sector organizations like Exxon, Johnson & Johnson, and the American Society for Industrial Security. He wrote many peer-reviewed articles and co-authored the book The War on Terrorism: 21st-Century Perspectives in 2012.

A service was held on November 6. Dr. Gale’s family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Project Gutenberg.

Charles Jarvis Jenkins, Penn Libraries
Charles Jarvis Jenkins, former Penn Libraries operations manager, died on April 22. He was 82.

Born in Rich Square, North Carolina, he moved to Philadelphia with his family in the 1950s. In 1958, Mr. Jenkins graduated from Overbrook High School. Mr. Jenkins started working at the University of Pennsylvania as a stack attendant before he was promoted to the Van Pelt Library night supervisor. He was the first African American library administrator in charge of operations, maintenance, and security in all of Penn Libraries. He was promoted to manager of operational services at Van Pelt Library before retiring in 1999 after 41 years of service.

(continued on page 3)
At Penn, he oversaw visiting dignitaries, including Presidents and Vice Presidents of the United States and other celebrities, but he considered his most memorable guest to be movie star Cicely Tyson. He served as a member of Penn’s Librarians’ Assembly Executive Board.

Mr. Jenkins is survived by his sister, Brenda Kay Jenkins; his children, Crystal Richardson, Tonya West (Jimmy), and Charles Anthony Jenkins; his grandchildren, Christopher West (Stacey), Nicolle Jones (Mike), India Harris, Jamie West, and Brooke Richardson; his great-grandchildren, Mia Harris and Zoey Harris; his former wife, Catherine Blackman; stepsons, Curtis Jennings, Paul Blackman, Ronnie Blackman, and Walter Blackman; and several nieces, nephews, cousins, family, and close friends.

Marc Lapadula, Cinema Studies

Marc Lapadula, C’83, a former lecturer in the School of Arts and Sciences’ cinema and media studies department, died on August 9. He was 62.

Mr. Lapadula was born in 1946. He earned a bachelor’s degree in English from Penn in 1983, an MA in creative writing from the University of East Anglia in 1984, and an MFA in theater arts and dramaturgy from the University of Iowa Playwrights’ Workshop in 1987. He was a visiting lecturer at Penn between 1992 and 2009, and from 1991 to 2013, he created and ran Johns Hopkins’ screenwriting program. He taught screenwriting seminars in Yale University’s film studies program from 1992 until his death.

Mr. Lapadula was a prolific playwright and screenwriter. His work includes award-winning stage plays, screenplays, and film productions. His plays, including StripHer, Not by Name, and Two Shakes, have been produced in New York off-Broadway, England, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C., Baltimore, and Iowa. He had several screenplays commissioned or optioned, including Distant Influence and At Risk, and screen adaptations of Mikhail Bulgakov’s Heart of a Dog and Miguel de Unamuno’s Saint Emmanuel the Good, Martyr. He produced Angel Passing, starring Hume Cronyn and Teresa Wright, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and won the grand prize at WorldFest Houston. He also co-produced Mentor, which premiered at The Tribeca Film Festival.

His former students wrote, directed, or produced dozens of critically acclaimed films including La La Land, (500) Days of Summer, The Disaster Artist, and The End of the Tour, and have scripted for television shows including Family Guy, Scrubs, Law and Order: SVU, and Queen Sugar. In 2009, Mr. Lapadula received a Distinguished Faculty Award from the University of Pennsylvania. He received the 2009 Outstanding Teaching Award from the Hopkins Masters in Creative Writing Program, the Heritage Commission of Delaware County Award for Outstanding Contributions to Historic Architectural Preservation in 2011.

He is survived by his wife, Jami.

Summary Annual Report of the University of Pennsylvania Health & Welfare Program

This is a summary of the annual report of the University of Pennsylvania Health & Welfare Program, Plan No. 503, sponsored by the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, EIN 23-1352685, for the period that began on July 1, 2021 and ended on June 30, 2022. This annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”). Please note that not all employees are eligible to participate in all the benefits available under the plan. Please consult your plan materials for specific eligibility information.

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

The University of Pennsylvania has committed itself to pay certain medical and prescription drug claims, dental benefits and long-term disability benefits incurred under the terms of the plan on a self-insured basis. In addition, the plan has a contract with Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company to pay certain medical claims incurred under the terms of the contract. The total premiums paid for the plan year ending June 30, 2022 to Cigna were $123,992. The plan also has a contract with Standard Insurance Company to pay certain long-term disability benefits incurred under the terms of the contract. The total premiums paid to Standard Insurance Company for the plan year ending June 30, 2022 were $1,216,726.

**Vision Benefits**

The plan has contracts with Davis Vision Plan and Vision Service Plan to pay vision claims incurred under the terms of the contract. The total premiums paid under these contracts for the plan year ending June 30, 2022 to Davis Vision Plan were $650,055 and to Vision Service Plan were $964,362.

**Life Insurance Benefits**

The plan has a contract with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company to pay life insurance, dependent life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment insurance claims incurred under the terms of the contract. The total premiums paid under this contract for the plan year ending June 30, 2022 were $7,953,051.

**Long-Term Care Benefits**

The plan has contracts with John Hancock Life Insurance Company and Genworth Life Insurance Company to pay long-term care claims incurred under the terms of the contracts. The total premiums paid under these contracts for the plan year ending June 30, 2022 to John Hancock Life Insurance Co. were $1,212,224 and to Genworth Life Insurance Co. were $967,497.

**Your Rights to Additional Information**

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

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

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of the plan administrator, c/o Joanne M. Blythe, director of retirement and leave administration, 3451 Walnut Street, Franklin Building, 6th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6205, (215) 898-9947. The charge to cover copying costs will be $5.00 for the full annual report or 25 cents per page for any part thereof.

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

—Division of Human Resources

**Penn Purchases Carbon Emission Offsets for Air Travel**

(continued from page 1)

Penn considers purchasing offsets in situations where other options are not viable, as supplements to its ongoing and accelerating efforts to reduce emissions, such as through regular, cyclical recommissioning of its campus buildings, and the creation of energy from renewable sources, such as will be generated through Penn’s recent solar power purchase agreement (PPA).

This is Penn’s first carbon offset purchase for air travel, but Penn has previously purchased offsets to address carbon emissions from steam purchased by Penn to heat and cool its buildings.

—Penn Sustainability

**Reappointment of Vice Provosts**

Dawn Bonnell and Ezekiel Emanuel (continued from page 1)

stronger partner in its local, national, and global communities.

Zekie Emanuel’s twelve-year tenure as Vice Provost for Global Initiatives has similarly transformed Penn’s campus and its wider world. With a goal of providing a meaningful global experience to every Penn student, he and the outstanding Penn Global team created the highly successful Global Seminars and Global Research and Internship Program, which enable our students to have substantive global experiences that are both shorter and better integrated with their academic goals than traditional semester- or year-long study abroad programs. He has advanced Penn’s place as a leader in global research and dialogue through two five-year strategic plans that have driven Penn’s progress on three core goals: to educate global citizens, catalyze transformative ideas, and bring the world to Penn and Penn to the world.
2022 Recipients of Penn’s Green Purchasing Awards

The University of Pennsylvania’s 2022 Green Purchasing Awards, presented by Penn Procurement Services and Penn Sustainability, were recently announced.

The award recipients, who are recognized for their outstanding contributions that significantly advance the development of sustainable purchasing at Penn, are Danielle Cavalcanto, associate director of interiors with the Perelman School of Medicine (PSOM), and the Division of Finance’s disbursements department.

Ms. Cavalcanto is being honored for her outstanding contributions to projects where she brings her expertise in planning and knowledge of sustainable practices to advance the many initiatives that support PSOM’s research and academic community.

As a talented interior designer, Ms. Cavalcanto instills sustainable factors in her designs, frequently matching inventory in storage to newly configured workspaces. In FY22, her reuse of PSOM furniture saved over $230,000. In addition, she participated in specifying $3 million in sustainable furniture selections as well as approximately $1 million of sustainable finishes within most of the $28 million of FY22’s capital projects. Her work has led to sustainably sourced products for over 14% of PSOM’s total capital purchases in FY22. Over the next five years, PSOM’s capital budget is expected to increase to more than $200 million/year. That expansion will account for sustainable furniture and finish selections of up to $30 million per year. That does not include the finish selections placed on furniture that she guides decision-making on for almost every one of PSOM’s 80–100 projects per year, which helps place healthy and sustainable items in buildings.

Among Ms. Cavalcanto’s other accomplishments are spearheading PSOM’s e-waste collections and larger lab-clearing efforts. She also helped review the school’s lab-clearing process, culminating in the transfer of unused lab equipment now used across PSOM. Other noteworthy contributions in the area of sustainability include warehouse product disposal and electronics and battery recycling.

The staff of the disbursements department, in the division of finance, includes Naoko Allen, Yvonne Allen, Bob Bonhage, Sarah Boyer, Virginia Drier, Laurissa Helton, Crystal High, Donna Jastrzebski, Michelle Miller, Kim Montgomery, Renee Nowaczyn, Shanel Plummer, Mike Popko, Ty Saekouay, and Lisa Smith.

The disbursements team is recognized for three key accomplishments where advances were made in achieving their sustainability goals. One significant achievement was going 100% paperless in its processing of Purchase Order and Non-Purchase Order invoices. By transitioning to a complete electronic system and process, approximately 172,000 invoices which typically are generated on an annual basis, are now submitted electronically. This change went into effect on July 1, 2022.

Several benefits have been realized by moving to electronic invoicing:

- Eliminates supplier paper and postage cost
- Reduces fuel consumption from transportation
- Removes the delay formerly experienced in receiving an invoice via postal mail
- Expedites the time to load invoices in the system, resulting in quicker payment to suppliers

The team also focused on decreasing the number of paper checks issued to suppliers. Over the past year, electronic payments increased by 18%. Suppliers are paid more quickly and safety while sustainably reducing costs. In addition, disbursements have increased the use of Zelle and PayPal/Venmo payments.

In February 2022, the team launched the new Greenphilere ClinCard platform that offers a virtual VISA ClinCard in addition to the physical VISA ClinCard. Of the 295 University clinical studies and programs in this card platform, there are 7,910 card participants; 4,699, or 59%, of the card population received a virtual card in place of plastic.

These noteworthy accomplishments from the 2022 recipients of the Green Purchasing Award align with Penn’s Climate and Sustainability Action Plan 3.0, Penn’s comprehensive strategic roadmap for environmental sustainability.

Matthew McHugh: Claire M. Fagin Distinguished Researcher Award

Matthew McHugh, the Independence Chair for Nursing Education, professor of nursing, and director of the school’s Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research, is renowned for his program of research that addresses critical problems that affect the nursing profession and enhances health system quality. The biennial award honors the best scholarly qualities that Dr. Fagin, the school’s third Dean, exemplified. It is given to a Penn Nursing faculty member, or a graduate from the school’s doctoral program, who has made a distinguished contribution to nursing scholarship.

Dr. McHugh’s impactful program of research has demonstrated in large-scale studies that almost all policy mandated healthcare quality performance measures are associated with nursing care and nurse resources. His work with multiple populations and health systems shows that a broad range of patient outcomes are better in institutions where nurses care for fewer patients, where a higher proportion of nurses have bachelor’s degrees, and where the quality of the nurse work environment is supportive of professional nursing practice. His research shows that nursing care is a major driver in improving patient satisfaction, reducing hospital mortality and failure-to-rescue rates, readmissions, poor glycemic control and other adverse outcomes, and high cost-low value care including excessive ICU use. Cumulative knowledge from his research makes a convincing case that treating nursing as a soft target for cost reductions actually increases rather than decreases costs due to expensive adverse outcomes. Dr. McHugh’s research on Magnet-recognized hospitals has increased adoption of Magnet best practices in U.S. and abroad. His research evaluating outcomes of health system redesign shows that replicating the structure of successful integrated systems often fails to translate into better outcomes if not accompanied by investments in nurses and nurse-led interventions. Dr. McHugh has demonstrated causal linkages between improvements in nurse staffing and improved patient outcomes by using natural experiments like legislation mandating safe nurse staffing levels, and this work has been a catalyst for more recent legislation around nurse staffing.

As recognition of the impact of his work, a selection of Dr. McHugh’s accolades include election as a fellow of the National Academy of Medicine (2020) and the American Academy of Nursing (2012), and being named a Fulbright Scholar (2001), and a Robert Wood Johnson Nurse Faculty Scholar (2011-2014). He has received top awards and recognition for his publications such as the top 10 papers for Health Affairs (2013 and 2011) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation top five most influential research articles (2011). He has led six NIH-funded R01 grants over the last 10 years and served as co-investigator on four other R01s. He has been funded in excess of $70 million for his research and published over 100 papers in high-profile peer reviewed journals such as Health Affairs, The Lancet, The Lancet Global Health, Medical Care, and JAMA Surgery.

The award will be presented on April 13, 2023.
vost/Netter Center Faculty-Community Partnership Award.

The Provost/Netter Center Faculty-Community Partnership Award is an annual award that recognizes sustained and productive faculty-community partnership projects. This recognition awards $10,000 ($5,000 to the faculty member and $5,000 to the community partner) in order to further develop the partnership project.

Dr. Flanagan-Cato is an associate professor of psychology and co-director of the Undergraduate Neuroscience Program at Penn. She and the science program teachers at Paul Robeson High School have partnered together since 2018 for the Academically Based Community Service (ABCS) course “Everyday Neuroscience.” This award recognizes the quality and far-reaching impacts of “Everyday Neuroscience,” the additional Penn-Robeson partnerships cultivated by this faculty-community team, and Dr. Flanagan-Cato’s leadership in advancing research on community-engaged scholarship at Penn.

In “Everyday Neuroscience,” Penn students develop science communication and teaching skills by implementing hands-on labs with 10th graders at Paul Robeson High School that develop foundational STEM skills and scientific curiosity. Dr. Flanagan-Cato and the science teachers at Robeson work together each year to align the labs with the high school students’ classroom instruction. Lou Lozzi, the Paul Robeson High School school-based teacher lead for science/mathematics, noted that the Penn-Robeson STEM partnerships his team cultivated with Dr. Flanagan-Cato has significantly contributed to the growth in Robeson students’ scores on the Pennsylvania Keystone exam in recent years. Dr. Flanagan-Cato has also published research on the course’s impacts on Penn students, which found preliminary indicators of growth in Penn student well-being, confidence in expressing their own ideas, and social awareness/informed citizenship. This partnership exemplifies a meaningful and mutually transformative integration of research, teaching, learning, and service.

An award ceremony was held on December 12 in Houston Hall, during which Vice Provost for Faculty Laura Perna and Netter Center founding director Ira Harkavy presented the Provost/Netter Center Faculty-Community Partnership Award.

Chin Chin Choi, Aaron Guo, Moksh Jawa, Jiaqi Liu: Schwarzman Scholars

Penn senior Chin Chin Choi and alumni Aaron Guo, Moksh Jawa, Jiaqi Liu, and Edward Zhi En Tan have been named to the eighth class of Schwarzman Scholars. The program’s core curriculum focuses on leadership, China, and global affairs, according to the Schwarzman program. The academic program is updated each year to align with current and future geopolitical priorities. The coursework, cultural immersion, and personal and professional development opportunities are designed to equip students with an understanding of China’s changing role in the world.

This year, 151 Schwarzman Scholars were selected from a pool of 3,000 applicants from 36 countries and 121 universities.

Chin Chin Choi, from Hong Kong, is in the Nursing and Health Care Management dual-degree program, administered through the School of Nursing and the Wharton School. She served as the president of the Wharton Council and is a member of the Wharton Junior-Senior Advisory Board. Last summer, she worked for J.P. Morgan in its health care investment banking division. Outside of school, Ms. Choi spends time volunteering with the Yleana Leadership Foundation, where she serves as a college mentor for underserved, low-income high school students. She is a Girls Who Invest Scholar, a Gates Scholar, and a QuestBridge Scholar. She hopes to use her experience as a Schwarzman Scholar to improve global health care policies and access.

Aaron Guo graduated in 2017 from the University of Pennsylvania’s Jerome Fisher Program in Management and Technology, a dual-degree program between the Wharton School and the School of Engineering and Applied Science. He currently works on Google’s central infrastructure. Mr. Guo also works with One Million Lights Philippines, a nonprofit organization developing zero emissions rural electrification infrastructure. At Penn, he was a research assistant in Adam Grant’s Impact Lab, a fellow at the Schwarz Family Penn Social Impact House, and a lead consultant with Penn International Impact Consulting. As a Schwarzman Scholar, he hopes to gain insight into China’s environmental sustainability infrastructure initiatives.

Moksh Jawa graduated summa cum laude from Penn’s Jerome Fisher Program in Management and Technology in 2021 with a bachelor’s and master’s degree in computer science from the School of Engineering and a bachelor’s degree in economics from the Wharton School with a concentration in management entrepreneurship. At Penn, Mr. Jawa served as class president his freshman year, built StoreWithPenn, a summer storage business, and developed a free AP computer science curriculum used by more than 50,000 students. Mr. Jawa currently works as a software engineer at Re-tool, a low-code startup based in San Francisco. As a Schwarzman Scholar, he plans to better understand how tech policy drives outcomes in an increasingly tech-driven society and how to best position a government to be technically forward and leverage software in supporting its citizens.

Jiaqi Liu earned her master’s degree in bioengineering in the School of Engineering and Applied Science in 2021. After graduation, she returned to China and works in global early-stage venture capital. Mr. Liu is passionate about promoting medical equality and affordable health care solutions and has experience in medtech startup, global pharmaceutical company, health care consulting, and health care venture capital.

Edward Zhi En Tan graduated in 2022 summa cum laude from the College with a major in international relations. At Penn, Mr. Tan was a student fellow at the Perry World House, an associate editor of the Sigma Iota Rho Journal of International Relations, and an editor of the Harvard Kennedy School Singapore Policy Journal. Before coming to Penn, Mr. Tan served as a Singapore Armed Forces Commando. He was subsequently awarded an overseas public service scholarship by the government of Singapore. He is currently pursuing a master’s degree in regional studies—East Asia (China, social science) at Harvard. As a Schwarzman Scholar, he hopes to deepen his understanding of China’s growing presence in international organizations. Upon graduation, Mr. Tan will begin his public service career at the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore’s Air Transport Division.
Looking for that perfect holiday gift idea for your literary friend or family member? Penn faculty, staff, alumni, and students have been busy writing books in all genres. Somewhere in our annual book supplement is sure to be the perfect stocking stuffer for all kinds of readers!

2022 Books by Penn Authors

ALMANAC December 13, 2022


Night, by Buzz Bissinger, C’79. This true crime story tells of the story of the incredible concentration of murders in the most notorious hotel in Wildwood, New Jersey. From their origin in the Doo Wop decade of Elvis Presley to their whereabouts today. Hardcover: $24.99.

The Labyrinth of Doom, by Steven D. Knott and Ken Knight, in-training Tim and his best friend, Graph, are on a quest to save Princess Grace from a magical labyrinth. In this hilarious, highly illustrated graphic novel, the reader will keep readers on the edge of their seats. For teen readers. Hardcover: $17.99; paperback: $12.99; eBook: $9.99.


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January AT PENN

Disclaimer: Because of its early publication date, this calendar is necessarily a work in progress. Follow along with weekly calendar updates at www.upenn.edu/almanac to see late-breaking events.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

11 First day of classes (Monday classes on Wednesday).
16 MLK, Jr. Day observed (no classes).
24 Course Selection Period ends.

EXHIBITS

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

Arthur Ross Gallery: http://www.arthurrossgallery.org/visit/schedule-your-visit/.
Brodsky Gallery: http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/involved/series/brodskygallery/.
Meyerson Hall: https://tinyurl.com/y27c5dtv.
Morris Arboretum: http://www.morrisarboretum.org/visit_hours.shtml.
Penn Museum: https://www.penn.museum/visit/plan-your-visit.
Quorum: https://sciencecenter.org/discover/quorum.
Slought: https://slought.org/.
Van Pelt Library: https://www.library.upenn.edu/about/hours/vp.
Wistar Institute: https://wistar.org/.

Now

Arthur Tress and the Japanese Illustrated Book; displaying a selection of Japanese books from the Arthur Tress collection along with his own photography, this exhibition engages Mr. Tress’s practices as both artist and collector, juxtaposing the two media to present moments of unexpected visual poetry that resonate across place and time; Goldstein Gallery, sixth floor, Van Pelt Library. Through December 16.

John E. Dowell: Paths to Freedom; presents 26 large-scale photographs and an immersive installation by Philadelphia-based artist John E. Dowell, who took photos that were staged in cotton fields at night and which conjure the spirits of his enslaved ancestors as they sought freedom; Arthur Ross Gallery, Fisher Fine Arts Building. Through December 18.

Sissel Tolaas: RE__________; the largest presentation to date of Norwegian-born artist Sissel Tolaas’s work, which has been devoted to the olfactory rather than the visual or auditory; all the works on display are site-specific, developed or reworked especially for this exhibition; Institute of Contemporary Art. Through December 30.

Book.Data.File.; explores digitized books and resources and answers the question of what it takes to make digital objects useful for research; pushes the boundaries of data-driven research and scholarship with library collections; Kamin Gallery, first floor, Van Pelt Library. Through March 7, 2023.

Excluded/Inclusion: The Work of Chen Lok Lee; 18 prints, watercolors, and lithographs show the journey of Chen Lok Lee, a political refugee who swam to Hong Kong to escape Chinese political persecution; shows the human spirit of determination, personal agency, and the power of choice to survive; Arts Lounge, Annenberg Center. Through May 31, 2023.

Upcoming

Penn Museum
Info: https://www.penn.museum/calendar.
7 Highlights of the Penn Museum Tour; 11 a.m.
8 Asia Galleries Tour; 11 a.m. Also January 29.
14 Rome Gallery Tour; 11 a.m. Also January 15.
22 Mexico & Central America Gallery Tour; 11 a.m.
28 Eastern Mediterranean Gallery Tour; 11 a.m.

Ongoing Special Exhibits

Arthur Tress and the Japanese Illustrated Book; various artists from the “I Am” Collective; a storytelling initiative showcasing the diversity of social identities that exist within Penn, finish the sentence “I am...”, creating a blend of ink, paint, words, passion, and power; Brodsky Gallery.

Ancient Egypt: From Discovery to Display; provides a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to walk in the shoes of an archaeologist; includes more than 200 fascinating objects, many of which have never been on view before, throughout a three-part, 6,000-square-foot exhibition; Penn Museum.

Eastern Mediterranean Gallery; contains 400 artifacts from the Eastern Mediterranean, which has been a crossroads of cultural exchange between diverse peoples, where merchants, migrants, and soldiers met to raise monuments to kings and gods, sail ships across the vast Mediterranean Sea, and share ideas in unexpected ways; Penn Museum.

U-2 Spy Planes & Aerial Archaeology; offers a look at the United States military’s top-secret aerial reconnaissance during the 1950s and 1960s, the key geographic features and lost landscapes they captured accidentally, and the role of “aerial archaeology”, using large-scale printed images and a small selection of objects from the Penn collection; West Merle-Smith Gallery, Penn Museum.

FILMS

8 At the Edge of the Bazaar; Uyghur filmmak- ers share a glimpse of rural craftsmen who use centuries-old techniques to transform raw materials like reeds and wood into fine merchandise sold at the local weekly market; includes conversation with director Darren Byler, Simon Fraser University; 2 p.m.; Penn Museum; register: https://tinyurl.com/bazaar-film-jan-8 (Penn Museum).

Penn Live Arts

In-person screenings at Bruce Montgomery Theater, Annenberg Center. Info and tickets: https://pennlivearts.org/events/.
19 An Evening of Dance Short Films; five short dance films, all recently selected for film festivals; 7:30 p.m.
25 Black Theatre: The Making of a Movement; explores the birth of a new theater from the civil rights activism of the 1950s, ‘60s and ‘70s in a video encyclopedia of the leading figures, institutions and events of a movement that transformed the American stage; 7:30 p.m.
26 Slam; follows Ray Joshua who, while trapped in the drug-infested war zone of southeast Washington, D.C., is sucked into the criminal justice system, but saves himself with help from a charismatic writing teacher; 7:30 p.m.

FITNESS & LEARNING

5 Penn Home Ownership Services: Home Buying 101; provides participants with an overview of the entire homebuying process; designed for first-time homeowners, but relevant to anyone interested in buying a home; 1 p.m.; online webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/penn-home-owner-seminars (Business Services).
10 Working Dog Center Tour; see firsthand what it takes to train detection dogs; watch as the Working Dog Center staff explains the step-by-step process of preparing a dog to serve in explosive detection, search & rescue, cancer detection, and more; 10 a.m.; Penn Working Dog Center; register: pwwdcoutreach@vet.upenn.edu (Penn Vet).

Virtual Information Session: Master of Science in Nutrition Science; Health System employees are invited to join a virtual information session with UPHS-specific information on Penn Nursing’s master of science in nutrition science program; 6 p.m.; online webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/msns-info-jan-10 (Nursing). Public information session January 30, 6 p.m.

Knitting Pattern Swap & Advanced Technique Demonstration; attendees can swap pattern suggestions; group leader will share demonstrations of the techniques used in those patterns (like mosaic slipped stitches, triple-dropped stitches, etc.); 7 p.m.; online webinar; register: https://www.nursing.upenn.edu/details/forms.php?id=173 (Penn Nursing, Project Knitwell).

11 Master’s Online Information Session; learn about the School of Social Policy & Practice’s master of social work, master of science in social policy, and master of science in nonprofit leadership degree programs; 10:30 a.m.; online webinar; register: https://www.sp2.upenn.edu/admissions-events/ (SP2).
College of Liberal & Professional Studies

Online events. Info: https://www.gse.upenn.edu/news/events-calendar.

Human Resources Workshops
Unless noted, online events. Info: https://www.hr.upenn.edu/.
9 Virtual 30-Minute Chair Yoga Plus Core; noon. Also January 23, 30.
11 Virtual Chair Yoga; noon. Also January 25.
13 Virtual 30-Minute Guided Meditation; noon. Also January 20, 27.
14 Deskercize; noon. Also January 25.
16 Hitting the Reset Button-Goal Setting for the New Year; 12:30 p.m.
18 Art of Effective Communication; 12:30 p.m.
19 Indoor: January Wellness Walk; 11 a.m.; the Palestra.
20 Introduction to Mindfulness-Based Stress Management for People of Color; noon.
31 Virtual Workshop with PNC: Strengthening Your Financial Foundation: What’s Next; noon.

Kelly Writers House
In-person events at Arts Café, Kelly Writers House. Info: https://writing.upenn.edu/wh/calendar/0123.php.
19 A Poetry Reading; Taije Silverman, English; 6 p.m.
20 Mindful Painting Session; participants will paint on a number of large, communal canvases; noon-4:30 p.m.
22 Mind of Winter; embrace the post-holiday doldrums with a celebration of winter’s comforts, inspired by Wallace Stevens’s poem, “The Snow Man”; 5 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS

21 CultureFest! Lunar New Year: ring in the Lunar New Year and the Year of the Rabbit with a vibrant array of activities, including traditional dance and music, hands-on workshops, storytelling, calligraphy, and art-making for all ages; 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Penn Museum; included with admission (Penn Museum).
22 Penn Ice Rink Winterfest; $5 admission including skate rental; 6-7 p.m.; Penn Ice Rink (Business Services).
TALKS

10 The CARD8 Inflammasome in the Pathogenesis of HIV and Other Retroviruses; Liang Shan, Washington University; 4 p.m.; Austrian Auditorium, CRB, and BlueJeans webinar; info: https://www.med.upenn.edu/cfar-seminar-series.html (Center for AIDS Research).

11 World Heritage in South Africa’s Cradle of Humankind; George Leader, anthropology; 6 p.m.; Penn Museum and online livestream; tickets: $15/general, $10/member, $5/virtual; tickets: https://tinyurl.com/leader-talk-jan-11 (Penn Museum).

12 Systemic Discrimination: Theory and Measurement; Aislinn Bohren, economics; noon; room 1104, Blockley Hall, and Zoom webinar; join: https://upenn.zoom.us/j/95353951407 (Medical Ethics & Health Policy).

13 Unpacking Consolidation in Health Care; panel of speakers; noon; Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/ldi-talk-jan-13 (Leonard Davis Institute).

Notes on the Underground: Giorgio Vasari, António Vieira, and Giorgio Vasari (Again); David Young Kim, history of art; 3:30 p.m.; room B3, Meyerson Hall (History of Art).


17 Casta and José María Arguedas’ Todas las Sangres; Nico Millman, English; noon; room 473, McNeil Building (Center for Latin American & Latinx Studies).

18 Fields of Social Media Production; Drama and Extreme Content Among Vegan Influencers; Angele Christin, Stanford University; noon; room 286-287, McNeil Building (Sociology).

20 Rooted in Research; Green Cities for Health, Safety, and Well-Being; panel of speakers; noon; online livestream; register: https://tinyurl.com/jur-talk-jan-20 (Institute for Urban Research).

23 The Role of Empathy in Morality: A Force That Can Bind or Blind Us; Jean Decety, University of Chicago; 3:30 p.m.; auditorium, Levin Building (Psychology).

26 Change Over Time Dialogues: Legacies of Detention, Isolation, and Quarantine; Kecia Fong, historian; 4 p.m.; Eastern State Penitentiary; David Barnes, history & sociology of science; noon; Kleinman Forum, Fisher Fine Arts Building; register: https://tinyurl.com/historic-pres-talk-jan-26 (Historic Preservation).

27 Title TBA; Wen-Ying Sylvia Chou, National Cancer Institute; 12:15 p.m.; room 500, Annenberg School, and Zoom webinar; info: https://www.asc.upenn.edu/news-events/events/ (Elihu Katz Colloquium).

28 Applying the Religious Studies PhD Beyond the Professoriate; Rebecca Mendelson, Penn Libraries; Rose Muravchick, University of Delaware; Alex Ramos, Penn State University; 3:30 p.m.; location TBA (Religious Studies).

29 The Grotesque Law of Property; Shira Brisman, history of art; 3:30 p.m.; room B3, Meyerson Hall (History of Art).

30 The Chernobyl Disaster and the Mortality Crisis in Eastern Europe and the Former USSR; Jose Tapia Granados, Drexel University; noon; room 150, McNeil Building (Population Studies Center).


13 Unpacking Consolidation in Health Care; panel of speakers; noon; Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/ldi-talk-jan-13 (Leonard Davis Institute).
Give Your Retirement Plan a Tune Up

As the calendar year comes to a close, you may be thinking about financial goals for the New Year. If so, keep your retirement savings in mind and consider what you can do to plan for and build long-term financial security. The University of Pennsylvania is here to help you give your retirement plan a tune up with changes it will soon make to the Basic Plan that will increase your savings.

Effective January 1, 2023, Penn’s non-matching contributions to the Basic Plan will increase by one percentage point. If you’re eligible for the Basic Plan, Penn makes non-matching contributions for you based on your age. The increase will apply to all age ranges.

If you don’t have to take any action to receive this higher contribution from the University. You will see the increase in your Basic Plan contributions reflected in your pay statements. Here is what the contribution increase will look like for different age groups:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participant’s Age on January 1 of the Plan Year</th>
<th>Basic Plan contributions before January 1, 2023</th>
<th>Basic Plan contributions after January 1, 2023*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under age 30</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 30-39</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 40 +</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The first weekly pay for this increase will be January 13, which is the first full pay for January.

If your retirement savings aren’t where you would like them to be, the extra 1% to the Basic Plan can add up over the years.

If you’re contributing 5% to the Matching Plan, the additional Basic and Matching Plan contributions from Penn bring your total monthly contributions to 12.5% to 15%, depending on your age.

If you’re eligible for the Matching Plan but aren’t making employee contributions, or are contributing less than 5% and leaving some of Penn’s match dollars on the table, consider whether you could contribute more.

Steps to Enroll

1. Decide what percentage of your standard gross pay per pay period you’d like to contribute to the Matching or Supplemental retirement plan. If you’re thinking of contribution in terms of a flat dollar amount, here’s how to convert it to a percentage:
   - (dollar amount of contribution) ÷ (standard gross pay per pay period) = percent. For example: $200 contribution ÷ $4,000 standard gross pay per pay period = 5%
2. Choose whether you want your contributions to be pre-tax or Roth. For help, you can schedule an appointment with a TIAA retirement plan counselor at tiaa.org/schedulenow-upenn or call (800) 732-8353. Appointments are confidential, without obligation, and at no additional cost to you.
3. Let the plan choose your investment for you (the Vanguard Target Retirement Fund closest to the year you turn 65), or choose your own fund(s). A TIAA retirement plan counselor can help you with this, too.
4. Go online to enroll:
   a. Go to the Retirement Plans home page and click on the “Enroll or Make Changes” link in the blue box.
   b. At the top of the TIAA landing page, click on the Actions button.
   c. In the Top Actions section on the next page, click on the Contributions button. One of the webpages will ask for an access code, but our plan doesn’t use an access code. Disregard that and click on the yellow Manage My Contributions button.
   d. Follow the prompts from there. For assistance, call the TIAA Retirement Call Center at (877) 736-6738.

Consider IRS Limits on Elective Employee Contributions

In 2023, the IRS limits for 403(b) plans will be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elective employee contributions for individuals up to age 49 (as of January 1, 2023)</th>
<th>$22,500</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elective employee contributions for individuals age 50 or above (as of January 1, 2023)</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of employee compensation on which employer contributions can be based</td>
<td>$330,000*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This limits employer match contributions to $16,500.

Review Your Quarterly Statements

TIAA sends a quarterly statement for your Penn retirement plan account in early January, April, July, and October. The default delivery option is mail, but you can choose to receive an email notice instead by logging into your TIAA account or calling the TIAA Retirement Call Center at (877) 736-6738. Your statements give you a valuable snapshot of how your retirement plan account has performed in the last three months.

If you need help interpreting your statement, or want qualified help with deciding whether there’s any action you should take, you can make an appointment with a TIAA retirement plan counselor at TIAA.org/schedulenow-upenn or call (800) 732-8353. Appointments are confidential, without obligation, and at no additional cost to you.

Check or Set Your Beneficiaries

Take a few minutes to review or change your beneficiary designations. Your beneficiaries are listed on your quarterly statements, and your online Penn retirement plan view at TIAA. You can update your beneficiary designations here, or request a form from the TIAA Retirement Call Center at (877) 8736-6738.

Your beneficiary designation for life insurance does not apply to the retirement plan, so you need to designate beneficiaries separately for your retirement plan savings. You need to designate a beneficiary for each retirement plan contract under each plan in which you’re invested. Any contracts without a beneficiary designation will default to your estate and be distributed through probate, which costs time as well as money, and may not reflect your wishes.

If your family situation changes (marriage, divorce, childbirth, etc.), be sure to update your beneficiary designation. Another option is to list your beneficiary designation as ‘refer to my will,’ then name your beneficiaries in your will. For more information, contact the TIAA Retirement Call Center at (877) 736-6738.

One Step Ahead

Security & Privacy

Made Simple

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

Avoid Holiday Purchasing Scams

Now that Thanksgiving is over, holiday gift purchasing is beginning in earnest. Keep the following in mind to make your shopping scam-free:

1. Do not make purchases from unfamiliar websites. Just because a website advertises on social media does not mean it is legitimate.
2. Check prices. A rock-bottom price for a hot item might not be legitimate. If it sounds too good to be true, it likely is.
3. If you are buying used or vintage, make sure you know the condition of what you are buying, and check that it is documented in the listing.
4. Ensure you understand the store’s purchase, shipping, and return policies. When buying from an auction or marketplace site, purchase using the method suggested by the platform to avoid problems. For example, are there restocking fees for returns? Do you pay shipping fees to return an item? What documentation or packaging do you need to return something? How are complaints or concerns handled?
5. If your family situation changes (marriage, divorce, childbirth, etc.), be sure to update your beneficiary designation. Another option is to list your beneficiary designation as ‘refer to my will,’ then name your beneficiaries in your will. For more information, contact the TIAA Retirement Call Center at (877) 736-6738.

For additional tips, see the One Step Ahead link on the Information Security website: https://www.isc.upenn.edu/security/news-alerts#One-Step-Ahead.
Winter Break Hours

This is a listing of the hours of several Penn offices, dining institutions during the Winter break. These hours are subject to change; therefore, links to find more up-to-date information have been provided.


Hilton Inn at Penn: Open and operating on a regular schedule. Info: www.theinnatpenn.com.

Hospitality Services: Closed December 26-January 2; re-opens January 3 at 9 a.m. Info: www.upenn.edu/hospitalityservices.

Morris Arboretum: Open to the public daily from 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; last ticketed entry at 3 p.m. Closed December 24, December 25, December 31, and January 1. Info: www.upenn.edu/arboretum.


Off Campus Services: Closed December 26-January 2; re-opens January 3 at 9 a.m. www.upenn.edu/offcampuservices.

Penn Bookstore: Closed December 25 and January 1. Open from 10 a.m.–5 p.m. on December 24 and 26-29. Normal operating hours resume January 2. Info: www.upenn.edu/bookstore.


PennCard Center: Closed December 24-January 2. Normal operating hours resume January 3. 20. Info and requests: PLA-boxoffice@upenn.edu.

Penn Dining: Dining cafés open normal hours through December 22. All cafés closed December 23-25. Dining services resumes with limited hours/locations on January 3. A complete list of winter break dining hours can be found here. Info: www.upenn.edu/penncard.


Penn Mail Services: Outgoing mail received by Penn Mail Services after 11 a.m., December 23 will be delivered to the USPS on December 27. Closed December 26. A special delivery schedule is in effect on December 28 and 30 (no delivery or pickup unless special arrangements have been made). December 30 mail will be delivered to USPS on January 3. Closed December 26 and January 2. Regular hours resume January 3. Info and requests: mailservices@upenn.edu.


Penn Parking Services: Closed December 24-January 2. Regular hours resume January 3. Permits holders will always have access to their garage during the Winter Break. Info and assistance: (215) 898-6933.

A Plan to Unlock Campus?

Is there a plan to unlock campus buildings again or is our continued locked-down status just supposed to be our norm now?

I’ve been looking forward to seeing the doors to my academic building return to unlocked as campus activities have resumed following the campus shut-down of 2020, but this hasn’t happened. Our main lobby doors are in sight of a full-time security guard and so it’s been surprising and inconvenient that they have remained locked, particularly given that a PennCard has always been required to enter the floors above the lobby. As winter comes, visitors will have to wait outside until we retrieve them or until they make themselves and their reason for visiting understood on the security boxes outside. Is this necessary when the lobby is already staffed?

Recently, I have had reason to go to Houston Hall to attend campus meetings and work the polls on Election Day and I have been disappointed that all but one entry to the nation’s oldest student union remains locked during business hours. This is both a prominent campus meeting place and also the closest dining location for the tens of thousands of Penn admissions visitors annually. Outside Houston Hall you can spot people tugging on the big, historically locked doors in vain.

Who is making the decision to keep campus buildings locked? Is there a plan to reopen them? These locked buildings are both inconvenient and unfriendly; but also, knowing that our movements around campus can be tracked with every door swipe entry, in addition to the 168 cameras mounted around the core Penn campus alone, is disconcerting. It seems undemocratic that we would move to this continually locked down and tracked status without a broader campus community discussion. Who is making the decisions that are keeping campus doors locked and do we have any say? —Heather Calvert (GR’14), Staff, School of Arts and Sciences

Response from the Division of Public Safety

We appreciate your feedback about building access.

The University secures spaces on campus while still allowing for access to the greater community. We call this initiative Operation Building Safe (OBS). An OBS-compliant building provides a welcoming environment by identifying a main entrance staffed by a concierge or security officer; at the entrance, the concierge or officer is responsible for greeting guests, offering PennCard access, and/or operating an intercom that grants guest access. These options are available to all guests during the building’s hours of operation. Additional building access remains available to those with PennCard access and includes signage indicating door locations and guest entrances. All exterior doors are always available for egress.

Data shows that theft and other crimes are reduced when a building practices OBS. This also allows us to quickly secure buildings during an emergency, such as an active threat. Many buildings in the Greater Philadelphia area practice similar security measures. Our goal is to ensure all building occupants are safe and comfortable while working, studying, and researching.

The University and its Division of Public Safety are committed to the safety and well-being of the Penn and West Philadelphia communities. This practice ensures a welcoming and safe environment for students, staff, faculty, alumni, and visitors.

—Division of Public Safety

Speaking Out welcomes reader contributions. Short timely letters on University issues can be accepted, subject to right-of-reply guidelines.—Ed.

From December 24-January 2 (excluding Sunday, December 25 and January 1), the Penn Museum and World Travel Garages will be open for visitor parking from 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Regular hours resume January 3.

Penn Transit Services: Closed December 24 at 3 a.m.-January 3 at 3 a.m. Limited transportation service available December 26-January 2 from 6 p.m.-7 a.m., excluding Dec. 31. Request service on PennTransit Mobile or call (215) 898-9EDE (7435). Info: www.upenn.edu/PennTransit.

Procurement and Travel Services: Closed December 26 and January 2. Open December 27-30 from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Normal hours resume January 3. Info and assistance: sourcing@upenn.edu.


World Travel: Agents available 24/7; book travel online through Concur or call World Travel directly at (888) 641-9112. PennCard Access: Access will be restricted to residents of the open buildings and authorized staff. Access to Du Bois, Lauder, Gregory, Gutmann, Mayer, Harnwell, Harrison, and Rodin, will be restricted to only those residents who have registered with Residential Services as staying in the building during the break. Sansom West will be restricted to residents of that building only. Those who have not registered and who will live in the building for the spring semester will be required to register online in order to enter the building. PennCard access for live-in faculty or staff will not change. Residential Services, College Houses, Public Safety and Facilities Services staff, and any University office tenants such as those in Sansom Place, will also have PennCard access. Allied Universal security staff will visually check PennCards at the building entrances as they monitor swipe access.

Information Center and residential mail and package operations will be available on a limited basis; hours are posted at www.upenn.edu/housing.

Facilities issues in a residence hall during the break should be called in directly to Facilities Services at (215) 898-7208. During the break, the front desks of open buildings will be staffed around the clock. Additionally, a housing manager on duty may be reached in an emergency by calling the Sansom Place West Information Center at (215) 898-6873.

Complete information can be found at www.upenn.edu/housing.
EXHIBITS

17 Smell That?: An Afternoon in Celebration of Sissel Tolaas; RE… test and visualize your own sense of smell in a nose print workshop, listen to poetry readings about smell and memory, and tour the exhibition with chemosensory scientists from Monell Chemical Senses Center as your guides; 3-6 p.m.; ICA; register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/free-for-all-smell-that-tickets-476106139897 (Institute of Contemporary Art).

Penn Museum
In-person events at Penn Museum. Info: https://www.penn.museum/calendar.

16 Global Guide Tour; 2:30 p.m.
17 Egypt Galleries Tour; 11 a.m.
18 Rome Gallery Tour; 11 a.m.
23 Global Guide Tour; 2:30 p.m.
30 Global Guide Tour; 2:30 p.m.

FITNESS & LEARNING

13 International Reporting Student Fellowship Information Session; meet the 2022 fellows, learn about their projects and the mentoring they received, and find out how you can become the next Pulitzer Center Student Fellow; noon; room 473, McNeil Building, and online webinar; register: https://www.nursing.upenn.edu/details/forms.php?id=178 (Nursing).

14 Cocoa Kickback; study break featuring hot chocolate bar, snacks and holiday crafts; noon-3 p.m.; 1st floor lounge, ARCH (Cultural Resource Centers).

Graduate School of Education
Online events unless noted. Info: https://www.gse.upenn.edu/news/events-calendar.

14 GSE’s Staff & Faculty Holiday Party; for faculty and staff; 4 p.m.; World Café Live.

Learning Analytics Virtual Information Session; 7 p.m.
15 Education Entrepreneurship Program Information Session; noon.
Independent School Teaching Residency Information Session; 5 p.m.
16 Friday Virtual Chat; noon.

SPECIAL EVENTS

13 Cultural Resource Centers Ugly Sweater and Karaoke Party; put on your ugliest sweater and come join the Cultural Resource Centers for an evening of karaoke and hot chocolate; 7-9 p.m.; lobby, ARCH (Cultural Resource Centers).

TALKS

14 Roundtable Discussion on Annie Ernaux; Jacqueline Dougherty, French & Francophone studies; Max Cavitch, English; Sam Martin, French & Francophone Studies; noon; events room, 2nd floor, Penn Bookstore (French & Francophone Studies).

Electronics 5.0: New Materials and Devices for Edge Intelligence; Tomás Palacios, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; 12:30 p.m.; room 337, Towne Building (Electrical & Systems Engineering).

15 Designing and Evaluating Pragmatic Trials of Behavioral Science-Based Interventions to Support Deprescribing; Julie Christine Lauffenburger, Harvard University; 9 a.m.; BlueJeans webinar; join: https://bluejeans.com/873734674/4474 (Center for Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics).

Special Briefing: 2023 Outlook for States and Localities; panel of speakers; 11 a.m.; Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/iur-dec-15 (Penn Institute for Urban Research).

From Brains to Bandgaps: How Novel Materials Synthesis can Provide New Semiconductor Platforms for Optoelectronics, Acoustics, Electromagnetics and Neuromorphic Computation; Alan Doolittle, Georgia Institute of Technology; 12:30 p.m.; room 225, Towne Building (Electrical & Systems Engineering).

16 How Climate Change Media Can Evoke Emotions and Motivate Public Support for Climate Action; Lauren Feldman, Rutgers University; 12:15 p.m.; room 500, Annenberg School, and Zoom webinar; register: https://tinyurl.com/feldman-talk-dec-16 (Elihu Katz Colloquium).

This is an update to the December AT PENN calendar. To submit events for an upcoming AT PENN calendar or weekly update, send the salient details to almanac@upenn.edu.

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University of Pennsylvania Libraries Acquires Archives of the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Academy of Music

Two iconic Philadelphia institutions are teaming up to provide public access to an extraordinary historical collection. The University of Pennsylvania Libraries has acquired the archives of the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Academy of Music in an agreement that will facilitate research and access to more than a century of Philadelphia’s rich musical history.

“These archives are an invaluable resource for scholars and a treasured part of the cultural life of the city of Philadelphia,” said Penn President Liz Magill. “Through this unique partnership, Penn is helping to preserve these materials and provide access that will spur new research in music, history, architecture, and other fields. We are honored to have the Penn Libraries serve as home to these important historical treasures.”

The materials document the early history of both institutions, starting with the time leading up to the Academy of Music’s opening in 1857 and the Philadelphia Orchestra’s founding in 1900, and trace the development of both organizations through the early twenty-first century. The Philadelphia Orchestra has owned the Academy of Music since 1957 and performed there for 101 seasons before moving to the Kimmel Center in 2001.

“The cultural history of Philadelphia is in many ways defined by stories of the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Academy of Music,” said Matias Tarnopolsky, president and CEO of the Philadelphia Orchestra and Kimmel Center, Inc. “That this rich history will now be widely available to anyone interested in learning more about music and culture in Philadelphia and beyond is entirely thanks to this flagship collaboration.”

The archives will become part of the Penn Libraries’ Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books, and Manuscripts, where they will be made accessible to the public after being processed and catalogued. The Kislak Center is also home to the personal papers of legendary Philadelphia Orchestra conductors Leopold Stokowski (1882-1977) and Eugene Ormandy (1899-1985) and many other collections relating to the city’s musical and artistic heritage.

“The Penn Libraries is eager to begin the work of accessioning, processing, preserving, and making this remarkable collection newly available for research and discovery,” said Constantia Constantinou, H. Carleton Rogers III Vice Provost and director of the Penn Libraries. “It is sure to inspire critical inquiry and creative expression by students and faculty at Penn, partner organizations in Philadelphia, and researchers around the world.”

At more than one thousand linear feet, this collection is prodigious in both physical size and in its research significance. With records that include everything from early stock certificates and bylaws to conductors’ files, photographs, programs, and sound recordings, the archive will enable research by musicologists, architectural and urban historians, and practicing musicians and conductors.

“The Philadelphia Orchestra played a crucial role in the complex unfolding of western art music in the 20th century: it was equally important to such disparate composers as Sergei Rachmaninoff and Edgard Varése,” said Jeffrey Kallberg, a specialist in music of the 19th and 20th centuries and Associate Dean for Arts and Letters in the School of Arts and Sciences at Penn. “Musicologists will now have the opportunity to explore in depth the inner workings of one of the world’s great musical institutions, and thereby expand on and deepen our understanding of a significant era in music history.”

The Penn Libraries has already begun processing the collection and will gradually allow for access as descriptive guides, known as finding aids, are published to help researchers navigate the large collection. The process is expected to take several years to complete. As materials are made available, there will likely be an immediate demand for their use: the collections have been closed to researchers for the past fifteen years and the Philadelphia Orchestra has fielded almost-daily requests from those hoping to access its archives.

The partnership will also allow for continued growth over time: the institutions will collaborate to archive new materials produced by the Philadelphia Orchestra and will explore digitization of especially valuable research materials in all formats.

The Academy of Music, a National Historic Landmark, is the oldest continuously operating opera house in the United States. Its archive extends back to its planning in the early 1850s and documents the opening of the building in 1857 and its functions, events, and activities thereafter. Records consist of administrative and financial documents; daily ledgers and journals of concerts and events; concert and event programs; correspondence; seating and subscription records; scrapbooks and clippings; prints, illustrations, and photographs.

The records of the Philadelphia Orchestra encompass a wide range of formats: printed and published matter, manuscript materials, photographs, original audio/visual materials, commercially released LPs and recordings, and more. There are account books and ledgers dating from 1900 that document the early finances of the orchestra, as well as early administrative, legal, and personnel records. Major categories include board minutes, concert programs, and files of conductors, musicians, and guest artists.

The orchestra archive also contains materials from individuals and groups affiliated with the organization: images by Adrian Siegel (1898–1978) who began his Philadelphia Orchestra career as a cellist in 1922 and later became its official photographer until the mid-1970s; a complete set of the orchestra’s original 78 rpm recordings from the collection of Donald Wetzel, audio engineer for the Philadelphia Orchestra’s radio broadcasts from 1962 to 1977; and files from the Philadelphia Orchestra Women’s and Volunteer Committees.

Photos courtesy of Eric Sucar

Early charter documents of the Philadelphia Orchestra Association. From the Philadelphia Orchestra Association and Academy of Music Archives at the Kislak Center.

Sean Quimby, associate university librarian & director, Jay I. Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books, and Manuscripts and director of the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies, shows Penn President Liz Magill items from the collection displayed in the Lea Library on the sixth floor of Penn’s Van Pelt Library.