Welcome Back From the President

Penn's Unsurpassed People: Building on Penn's Momentum

Not long before the Thanksgiving holiday, I was thrilled to help cut the ribbon on the newest jewel on Penn’s campus. The Ronald O. Perelman Center for Political Science and Economics brings together the Political Science and Economics programs, along with the School’s globally focused research centers, in a brilliantly renovated and expanded 1925 Art Deco bank building across from the Penn Bookstore on the corner of Walnut and 36th streets. A building designed to further advance our deep dedication to cross-disciplinary learning and research, it also underscores Penn’s commitment to open dialogue and wide-ranging exchange of ideas in pursuit of understanding.

At the ribbon-cutting ceremony, we celebrated the great generosity of Ronald Perelman and also were honored to welcome Vicki Kennedy, widow of Senator Ted Kennedy, and Cindy McCain, widow of Senator John McCain, who was making her first public appearance since her husband passed away in August. These two American icons appeared jointly to speak to the pressing need for comity and consideration in our national and international politics and to celebrate the kind of robust, yet civil debate fostered at the Perelman Center and across Penn’s campus. “I hope from this building will come a younger generation that will talk together, honestly debate together, and do it in a civil fashion for the good of all,” said Cindy McCain, who made the fundamental observation that the life of a great university such as Penn is at its heart a matter of “working together to solve our biggest problems,” recognizing “that what unites us is stronger than what divides us.”

Countless recent Penn achievements epitomize our shared and enduring commitment to open exchange and dynamic dialogue. Among them, we celebrate Penn’s newest Rhodes Scholars, Adam Abebe and Anea Moore. We are equally proud of recent grad Theodore Caputi, who earned a Marshall Scholarship, and Adedotun Adejare, Johnathan Chen and Zhongyuan Zeng, who all earned Schwarzman Scholarships. These scholarships are not only among the most distinguished and competitive in the world. They help bring incredibly promising Penn people, ideas, and values to the world. Whether at Oxford in the UK or Tsinghua in Beijing, across geographic and ideological borders, it has never been more important for Penn people to continue championing the robust and open sharing of knowledge, ideas, and action.

As we celebrate these and the many other accomplishments of the Penn community, I want to remind our seniors and their mentors that the deadline for both the President’s Engagement Prize and the President’s Innovation Prize is January 25. These Prizes not only publicly recognize and reward creative projects that promote the greater good. They also proclaim our most cherished values as a university: to educate and support our students for feasible, longer-term projects.

Each Prize bestows a generous living allowance for one year after graduation and up to $100,000 in project expenses. All full-time undergraduates who will graduate in May, August, or December of this award year are eligible to apply. I encourage seniors with a great idea to apply, and I very much look forward to receiving them.

From our newest Rhodes Scholars to Penn’s latest interdisciplinary breakthroughs to student projects that change the world for the better, everything we achieve here can be attributed directly to Penn’s unsurpassed people. I have only the highest praise for our outstanding faculty, students, staff, volunteer leadership, and alumni. Especially as we continue to build on Penn’s momentum with The Power of Penn Campaign, I am deeply grateful for everything you do to strengthen this Penn community we all love. Here’s to an excellent new year at Penn!

S$2 Million from US State Department to Penn to Preserve Cultural Heritage in Northern Iraq

When ISIS terrorists in northern Iraq destroyed cultural heritage sites in and around Mosul, they frequently targeted minority groups, including Christians, Yazidis, Shia, and Kurds, for cultural cleansing and genocide. Now, in an effort to revitalize the city and the culture of the people who live there, the US Department of State has awarded the University of Pennsylvania $2 million for a three-year, two-phase stabilization project.

In part one, already underway, a team led by Penn archaeologist Richard L. Zettler and archaeologist Michael Danti, a Penn alumnus, will conduct assessments and implement small-scale repairs at 15 to 20 sites in the area. The second phase will involve the prioritization of sites for conservation.

“Our goal is to rewound and repair the damage done, to address the blatant attempts to erase cultural memory and freedom of expression,” says Dr. Danti, who earned his doctoral degree from Penn in 2000 and has joined the effort as project manager. “ISIS aggressively targeted cultural heritage and cultural diversity in Mosul. Anything that didn’t conform to their narrow interpretation of Islam was fair game.”

Penn has been active in Iraq for more than a century, and Dr. Zettler, an associate professor in the department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, has had a relationship with the University of Mosul, a key partner in the new project, for the past five years. “We feel deeply connected to our colleagues in Mosul and appreciate the chance to help them rebuild their region after the Islamic State’s devastating campaign of cultural genocide,” Dr. Zettler said.

In November, the researchers visited the area for 10 days to conduct an initial on-the-ground survey. They saw the damage inflicted on Christian churches and monasteries in east Mosul, as well as in the old city on the west side of the Tigris. They also visited the site of what had been the bent minaret of the al-Nuri mosque, an important symbol of Mosul blown up by the terrorist group as the Iraqi army closed in on the area.

Though ISIS was driven out in July 2017, its presence is still palpable across the city. Dr. Danti describes the destruction as something akin to the hardest-hit areas in Europe in the mid-1940s, with rubble heaps and unexploded devices on block after block. “This is the worst cultural heritage crisis since the Second World War,” he said. “We’re going to be dealing with this for decades.”

This project is an important start, Dr. Danti added. “It’s a very complicated area of cultural heritage. We look at this first three-year period as triage. It’s going to take a long time. When you back up and look at what happened, the whole of Mosul had been flattened.”

With the help of Ali Jubbouri, former dean of the University of Mosul’s College of Archaeology, and the assistance of architects and engineers in Mosul’s College of Engineering, Dr. Zettler and colleagues will begin assessing the condition of 15 to 20 sites. They’ll undertake any immediate repairs needed and then, at the end of six months, make recommendations to the US government for feasible, longer-term projects.

Part of the feedback will come from input from Dr. Zettler’s colleagues at Penn, such as historian Paul Cobb, who focuses on medieval history; Joseph Lowry, an expert on Islamic law and literature; and historian Heather Shankey, who concentrates on minority religious communities in the Middle East.

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Seymour Cohen, Pediatrics

Seymour S. Cohen, a Nobel Prize-nominated research scientist and the first chairman of the department of therapeutic research in Penn’s School of Medicine, died December 30. He was 101.

Dr. Cohen was born in New York City. He received his BS from the City College of New York in 1936 and his PhD in biochemistry from Columbia University in 1941.

During World War II he worked with the US Army to develop an improved typhus vaccine that was an important aid to US troops in Italy and North Africa. He worked at the Rockefeller Institute in Princeton in 1942.

Dr. Cohen came to the department of pediatrics of the University of Pennsylvania and Children’s Hospital in Philadelphia in 1943. He later moved to Penn’s School of Medicine, where in 1963 he was named the first chairman of the department of therapeutic research and the Hartzell Professor in Therapeutic Research.

Dr. Cohen’s work was deep and broad. In 1947, he became aware of viral infection spread within cells by linking a radioactive isotope to a virus and observing the pattern of infection within cells. He also worked extensively on the biochemistry of bacteriophages and patterns of growth in plants.

He received numerous awards, including the Eli Lilly Prize for his work on virus and cells and the American Society for Nutrition’s Mead Johnson Award. In 1957 he was named as the first Lifetime Professor of the American Cancer Society for his role in the development of new compounds to fight cancer. Dr. Cohen was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the US National Academy of Sciences (NAS).

He was nominated several times for the Nobel Prize and is therefore included among the group of people who hold the “Forty-First Chair” (scientists deemed worthy candidates for the Nobel Prize by the Nobel committee).

In 1970, Dr. Cohen moved to the University of Colorado Medical School in Denver as a professor of microbiology. Five years later, he was named the Albert Schweitzer Distinguished Professor at the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Dr. Cohen’s scientific papers, including more than 250 publications, are held in the Seymour S. Cohen Papers, 1938-1990, at the Library of the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Cohen died on October 28 in Havertown, Pennsylvania. He was 92.

Dr. Cohen was born in Hamburg, Germany. In 1944, he was drafted into the Wehrmacht and dispatched to the Eastern front. Soon after his arrival, he was almost killed by a land mine which destroyed most of his right leg.

After the war, Dr. Knauer studied classics at the University of Hamburg with Ernst Zinn. He earned his PhD in 1952 and from 1952 to 1954 he was a fellow at the Institute for the Thesaurus Linguae Latinae in Munich. He taught at the Free University of Berlin from 1954 to 1974. During this time, he was also a British Council Scholar at the University of London, visiting professor at Yale, Nelly Wallace Lecturer at Oxford, and a member of the Institute for Advanced Study.

He is best known for the book that originated as his 1961 Habilitationsschrift on Vergil’s imitation of Homer in the Aeneid, Die Aeneis und Homer. His study of Vergil and Homer remains one of the most frequently cited books in the field of classics.

Ultimately, the volatile political situation caused Dr. Knauer to move to the US. In 1975, he joined the faculty at Penn, where he remained until his retirement in 1988. While at Penn, he also served as a visiting professor at Columbia. In 1979, he was a Guggenheim Fellow, in 1984 a Fellow of the National Endowment for the Humanities, in 1985 a Resident to the American Academy in Rome, in 1989 a Resident of the Rockefeller Foundation in Bellagio, and in 1991 and 2002 a guest researcher of the Herzog August Bibliothek in Wolfenbüttel.

According to Joseph Farrell, professor of the Nobel Prize by the Nobel committee).

Bob Crocker, Hockey

Robert (“Bob”) Crocker, former head coach of Penn’s now-defunct hockey program, died December 22. He was 90.

Mr. Crocker, who played at Boston University in the 1950s, served as an assistant coach at Boston University, where his team won two NCAA championships (1971, 1972). He served as head coach at Penn for four seasons from 1972 to 1976. The 1972-1973 team finished fourth in the ECAC and advanced to the ECAC semifinals, which was the best finish in the program’s short history.

After leaving Penn, he became well-known for his scouting, earning the moniker the “Dean of New England Scouts.” He scouted for the New York Rangers 1992-2005, winning a Stanley Cup there. He later scouted for the Los Angeles Kings, with whom he won another pair of Cups.

Mr. Crocker also scouted for the NHL’s Calder Cup with the Hartford Wolfpack, returning to where he was an assistant general manager in the NHL with the Whalers after leaving college hockey.

Mr. Crocker was honored with the NHL’s Lester Patrick Award in 2015 for his contributions to ice hockey in the US. He was also inducted into the Massachusetts Hall of Fame.

To Report A Death

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

However, notices of alumni deaths should be directed to the Alumni Records Office at Room 517, Franklin Building, (215) 898-8136 or email record@ben.dev.upenn.edu.

Deaths

Paul Messaris, Annenberg School

Paul Messaris, the Lev Kuleshov Emeritus Professor of Communication in Penn’s Annenberg School of Communication, died last month after a short illness. He was 71.

Socrates Paul Angelo Messaris was born in South Africa in 1947, and he was raised in both South Africa and Greece. He received his bachelor’s degree in economics Phi Beta Kappa from Princeton, and he earned both his master’s and doctorate degrees (1969, 1975) from the Annenberg School for Communication, where he studied under Larry Gross. Dr. Messaris was also heavily influenced bySol Worth, who helped build the foundation of the school’s visual communication curriculum.

Dr. Messaris began his career as an assistant professor in 1975 at Queens College. Following Dr. Worth’s sudden death in 1977, Dr. Messaris was hired by Penn to join the faculty as an assistant professor. He remained at Penn until his retirement in 2017.

“Overall there was an element of precision in his thinking—he was deliberate, careful, precise—which also helped make him a good writer,” says his doctoral advisor Larry Gross, now professor of communication at the University of Southern California’s Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. That same skill translated into his books. In class, students don’t have the benefit of stopping to re-read a sentence, and Paul would conduct them through a line of argument in a clear fashion that they could readily follow.”

Dr. Messaris was one of the preeminent scholars of visual communication and how people make sense out of visual language. His books Visual “Literacy”: Image, Mind, and Reality and Visual Persuasion: The Role of Images in Advertising are classic texts in the category. His central focus was on the psychology of perception and the way meaning is constructed. He was also co-editor of editions of Digital Media: Transformations in Human Communication. In 1998, Dr. Messaris worked with SEAS and PennDesign to develop the Digital Media Design interdisciplinary major, one of the early programs to focus on computer graphics, animation and games.

He taught numerous courses in visual communication, including the much-loved undergraduate course Visual Communication Lab. Beloved for his dynamic teaching style, he always encouraged his students to pursue their interests, no matter how seemingly unusual.

Upon his retirement in 2017, Annenberg’s media lab was renamed the Paul Messaris Media Laboratory in his honor. He is survived by his wife, Carla Sarett (ASC ’81).
Penn Faculty Fellowships

The Wolf Humanities Center offers fellowships each year to standing faculty at Penn in the humanities and allied departments. The fellowships are for research that relates to the Center’s theme for the year in which the award is granted. Applications are being accepted for research on the topic of Kinship, the Center’s topic for 2019-2020.

Junior scholars receive a $5,000 research fund stipend (paid in two installments). Senior scholars are invited to apply for either a $5,000 research fund stipend or one, possibly two, course reliefs. The Wolf Humanities Center provides course replacement money for up to two courses, to be paid to the fellow’s department at Penn’s LPS instructor rate and to be used solely for course replacement. Advance written approval of any course relief request is required from the applicant’s department chair. Scholars who have already had one semester of course relief between Fall 2016 and Spring 2019 may only apply for a $5,000 research fund stipend.

Fellows are required to attend the Center’s weekly Mellon Research Seminars (Tuesdays, noon-1:50 p.m.)* and present their research at one of the sessions during the year. In addition to full academic obligations, Fellows may attend the Center’s Mellon Research Seminar, held Tuesdays noon-1:50 p.m.* during the academic year, and present their work at one of the sessions. Seminar members also include postdoctoral fellows, faculty from Penn and regional universities, and the Center’s director and topic director.

NOTE: Interested applicants are advised to check well ahead with their department(s) to avoid conflicts in scheduling classes and other obligations.

To apply: go to http://wolfhumanities.upenn.edu/forms/penn-faculty-fellowship-application and submit the following information as a single PDF, and name it: your Last name_First Name.pdf (Franklin_Ben.pdf). Please include:

- Your name, title, and department
- Project Title
- Project Abstract (125 words maximum)
- Project Proposal (approx. 1000 words)
- Up-to-date c.v.
- If you are applying for course relief, ask your department chair to email Sara Varney, the Center’s associate director by March 20, 2019 with their written approval of your application and course relief request.

Questions: Please email or call Sara Varney at (215) 746-5940, saravarney@sas.upenn.edu

Penn Graduate Student Research Fellowships

The Wolf Humanities Center is currently offering two one-year research fellowships at $2,500 each to Penn graduate students in the humanities who are ABD. Students should be conducting dissertation research related to the Center’s theme for the year in which the award is granted. Fellows are required to attend the Center’s Mellon Research Seminar, held Tuesdays noon-1:50 p.m.* during the academic year, and present their work at one of the sessions. Seminar members include postdoctoral fellows, faculty from Penn and regional universities, and the Center’s director and topic director.

NOTE: Interested applicants are advised to check well ahead with their department(s) to avoid conflicts in scheduling classes and other obligations.

Two $2,500 fellowships are available for Penn ABD graduate students in the humanities whose dissertation research relates to Kinship, the Center’s topic for 2019-2020. To apply, please provide the following information:

- Your name and department
- Project Title
- Project Abstract (125 words maximum)
- Project Proposal (approx. 1000 words)
- Up-to-date c.v.
- Please submit all information to their secure online server as a single PDF, naming your file <your Last name_First name>.pdf (e.g., Franklin_Ben.pdf)
- Also required: One confidential letter of recommendation from your dissertation advisor or graduate chair. Please ask your referee to upload their letter to the Center’s secure server no later than the application deadline.

Graduate Research Assistantship

The Wolf Humanities Center announces a Graduate Research Assistantship for the 2019-2020 academic year for a University of Pennsylvania dissertation-level (ABD) student in the humanities whose work pertains to Kinship.

The RAship provides full support for the 2019-2020 academic year (tuition plus a stipend of approx.$25,500), and carries membership in the Center’s Mellon Research Seminar on Kinship. Applicants may not be holding other positions and must be in good academic and financial standing with the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

The RAship is awarded competitively. Semi-finalists are interviewed on campus in March/April as part of the selection process.

The half-time position requires 15-20 hours per week of service in a variety of functions:

- Assist the administrative staff of the Wolf Humanities Center and the Price Lab for Digital Humanities in carrying out general business.
- Requires some evenings and, rarely, weekends to help staff events.
- Staff and participate in the Center’s weekly Mellon Research Seminar and the bi-weekly Price Lab Mellon DH Seminar.
- Serve as the lead organizer of a one-day conference or symposium related to the theme of Kinship.

To Apply: Complete the following information and upload to their secure server as a single PDF:

- Cover letter expressing interest in the RAship
- Project title, 125-word abstract
- Project proposal (500 words) describing the research to be carried out during the course of the year and its relation to the Wolf Humanities Center’s 2018-2019 theme, Kinship.

Curriculum vitae and scan of unofficial Penn course transcript.

Also required is one confidential letter of recommendation from either your dissertation director or your graduate chair. Please ask your referee to upload that letter to the Center’s secure server no later than March 20, 2019. Letters should not be emailed.

Penn Undergraduate Research Fellowships

The Wolf Humanities Center offers fellowships each year to Penn undergraduate students from any school who are interested in conducting extracurricular research in the humanities on some aspect of the Center’s annual theme. Students must be full time, on campus for the full academic year of the award and in good academic standing.

Fellows become members of the Wolf Humanities Forum, a community of undergraduates who meet biweekly to discuss and present their research, pursue various cultural activities of common interest, and occasionally meet in special receptions with the Center’s distinguished speakers. The year’s program culminates in a spring conference at which students give formal presentations on the results of their research.

The Wolf Humanities Center is offering 12 fellowships for the 2019-2020 academic year for Penn undergraduates from any school who are interested in conducting research on some aspect of Kinship. Applicants must be full time and in good academic standing. Awards are available in three categories:

Research Fellowship and Undergraduate Chair (one $2,000 award)
Research Fellowship and Member, Executive Board (two $1,750 awards)
Research Fellowships (up to nine $1,500 awards)

To Apply: What’s needed? Your complete application form, unofficial transcript and one letter of recommendation from your undergraduate chair or a faculty member in your major. Please note that the application form asks applicants to consult with and identify a faculty advisor who will work with them on their proposed research during the fellowship year.

Please upload your application form and an unofficial copy of your transcript as a single PDF to the secure server no later than March 20, 2019. Please name your file: Last_Name_first_Name.pdf.

Please ask your referee to upload their confidential letter of recommendation to the Center’s secure server no later than March 20, 2019. Letters should not be emailed.
Joshua Baker: Glenn Foundation Grant

Joshua Baker, assistant professor of rheumatology, received a $50,000 research grant from the Glenn Foundation for Medical Research and the American Federation for Aging Research to study age and obesity-related changes in skeletal muscle energy production and fat distribution, and associations with joint inflammation and cartilage breakdown in osteoarthritis.

Ryan Baker: CSSP Educational Research Award

The Council of Scientific Society Presidents (CSSP) recently announced Ryan Baker, associate professor in the teaching, learning, and leadership division of Penn’s Graduate School of Education and director of the Penn Center for Learning Analytics, as this year’s recipient of the society’s Educational Research Award. The Educational Research Award recognizes a leader in educational research to improve children’s learning and understanding.

Dr. Baker researches how students use and learn from educational games, intelligent tutors and other kinds of educational software. Drawing on the fields of educational data mining, learning analytics and human-computer interaction, he develops methods for mining the data that come out of the interactions between students and educational software. He then uses this information to improve the understanding of how students respond to educational software, and how these responses influence their learning.

CSSP noted in the announcement that by “using automated detectors of data, he has made real-time inferences about students’ motivational and meta-cognitive behaviors. His deep understanding of the myriad of complexities of that transition have led to models of basic discoveries about human learning and learners.”

Mathias Basner: NASA Grant

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LAUREN MASSIMO: AFTD PILOT GRANT

The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration (AFTD) awarded Lauren Massimo, assistant professor at Penn Nursing and a member of the Penn Frontotemporal Degeneration Center, the inaugural AFTD Pilot Grant for Nonpharmacological Therapies and Tools.

Dr. Massimo will lead a team that includes Penn neuropsychologists and smartphone application developers who will use the grant to develop and test an app that will help persons diagnosed with FTD overcome apathy.

In her proposal, Dr. Massimo hypothesized that the app could provide a framework for symptom management in people with behavioral variant FTD, and that regular use of the app would contribute to the achievement of everyday goals and activities of daily life in the population. She further surmised that app use could result in increased functional activity, leading to beneficial returns for care partners, as well.

Dr. Massimo and her team have tested a model version of the app. “The second stage is a clinical trial, and we hope that this Pilot Grant will provide the preliminary data we need to pursue a larger grant from the National Institutes of Health,” she said.

KIRAN MUSUNURU: JUDSON DELAND PRIZE

Kiran Musunuru, associate professor of cardiovascular medicine at the Perelman School of Medicine, received the Judson Daland Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Clinical Investigation from the American Philosophical Society for his work discovering and therapeutically targeting genes that contribute to cardiovascular disease. Dr. Musunuru’s award comes with $50,000 prize in recognition of his outstanding achievement in patient-oriented research.

University of Pennsylvania: Two Green Awards

The University of Pennsylvania is one of the most environmentally responsible colleges in the United States, according to The Princeton Review. The education services company has given Penn a Green Ranking of 94/99. The Princeton Review chose the schools for its ninth annual edition of their “Green Guide” based on data from the company’s 2017-2018 survey of hundreds of four-year colleges concerning the schools’ commitments to the environment and sustainability.

Additionally, The Sustainable Campus Index, a publication by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), has recognized Penn as a top-performing university as measured by the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). The report highlights innovative and high-impact initiatives from institutions that submitted STARS reports in the most recent calendar year. The Index highlights Penn’s campus and its designation as a Level II Arbornet-Certified arboretum, and labels Penn a top performer in the Diversity & Affordability and Transportation categories.

Penn Med: CSO50 Award

Penn Medicine was named as a winner of a CSO50 award for its Just in Time Awareness (JITA) project, a platform created to deliver in-the-moment digital security education as employees access potentially risky websites. Penn Medicine was one of 50 organizations recognized by CSO—an online news outlet focused on cyber security—for security initiatives that display “outstanding business value and thought leadership.” The award will be given out during the CSO Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona, in April 2019. Seth Fogie, director of IS security, Andrea Thomas-Lloyd, director of information assurance, Dwight Hobbs, senior security engineer, Dan Costantino, chief information security officer, and Gary Davidson, senior vice president and chief information officer of Lancaster General Health, were involved with the project.

Wharton: Poets & Quants

The newest ranking of the best undergraduate business schools by Poets & Quants for Undergrads, a social network for those interested in undergraduate business school education, gave the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School top honors for the second year in a row. Behind Wharton was the University of Virginia’s McIntire School, Washington University’s Olin Business School, the University of Michigan’s Ross School of Business and the University of Notre Dame’s Mendoza College of Business.

The announcement noted, “Wharton is a powerhouse of opportunity. Students lucky enough to overcome the School’s high admission hurdles are awarded with one of the best undergraduate teaching experiences in the world. And when they graduate, world-class employers are waiting for the school’s graduates with open arms. Some 95% of the graduates land jobs within three months of commencement at starting base salaries and sign-on bonuses that bring [average] starting pay to a record $92,057 this year.”

Isabel Perera: John Heinz Dissertation Award

The National Academy of Social Insurance announced Isabel M. Perera (Gr’18), a post-doctoral fellow in the department of medical ethics and health policy in Penn’s Perelman School of Medicine, as the winner of the 2019 John Heinz Dissertation Award. Dr. Perera joins a prestigious and diverse network of over 40 previous Heinz Dissertation Award recipients who are scholars in social insurance and closely related fields. Dr. Perera’s dissertation, “States of Mind: A Comparative and Historical Study of the Political Economy of Mental Health” was submitted for her doctorate in political science at Penn. Dr. Perera was nominated by Julia Lynch, associate professor of political science at Penn.

Dr. Perera will receive $3,500 in prize money and travel expenses to attend the Academy’s policy conference on Regenerating Social Insurance for Millennials and the Millennium. The Heinz Dissertation Award will be presented on January 30, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC as part of the Academy’s 2019 conference.

Amy Stornaiuolo: Applebee Award for Excellence in Research on Literacy

In her proposal, Dr. Stornaiuolo hypothesized that the app could provide a framework for symptom management in people with behavioral variant FTD, and that regular use of the app would contribute to the achievement of everyday goals and activities of daily life in the population. She further surmised that app use could result in increased functional activity, leading to beneficial returns for care partners, as well.

Dr. Massimo and her team have tested a model version of the app. “The second stage is a clinical trial, and we hope that this Pilot Grant will provide the preliminary data we need to pursue a larger grant from the National Institutes of Health,” she said.

KIRAN MUSUNURU: JUDSON DELAND PRIZE

Kiran Musunuru, associate professor of cardiovascular medicine at the Perelman School of Medicine, received the Judson Daland Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Clinical Investigation from the American Philosophical Society for his work discovering and therapeutically targeting genes that contribute to cardiovascular disease. Dr. Musunuru’s award comes with $50,000 prize in recognition of his outstanding achievement in patient-oriented research.

University of Pennsylvania: Two Green Awards

The University of Pennsylvania is one of the most environmentally responsible colleges in the United States, according to The Princeton Review. The education services company has given Penn a Green Ranking of 94/99. The Princeton Review chose the schools for its ninth annual edition of their “Green Guide” based on data from the company’s 2017-2018 survey of hundreds of four-year colleges concerning the schools’ commitments to the environment and sustainability.

Additionally, The Sustainable Campus Index, a publication by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), has recognized Penn as a top-performing university as measured by the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). The report highlights innovative and high-impact initiatives from institutions that submitted STARS reports in the most recent calendar year. The Index highlights Penn’s campus and its designation as a Level II Arbornet-Certified arboretum, and labels Penn a top performer in the Diversity & Affordability and Transportation categories.

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Dr. Massimo and her team have tested a model version of the app. “The second stage is a clinical trial, and we hope that this Pilot Grant will provide the preliminary data we need to pursue a larger grant from the National Institutes of Health,” she said.
Lunar New Year Festival at Penn Museum: January 19

Get ready to ring in the Lunar New Year on Saturday, January 19 with a vibrant daytime festival and evening performances at the Penn Museum. In many Asian communities around the world, the Lunar New Year is among the most important and festive holidays of the year. This family-friendly day features brilliant dance performances by the Little Mulan Dance Troupe and CAGE (Cambodian American Girls Empowering) Dance Group, traditional music by Kurt Jung and Qin Qian, contemporary Asian film, tangram workshops, martial arts demonstrations, storytelling, calligraphy and art-making for all ages. Join in the traditional Lion Dance, then grab a cocktail as the festival kicks into high gear with a K-Pop dance performance and workshop by L8NITE, chamber pop music by Murayama, a comedy performance by Gary Chau, and more. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

Family-friendly activities (1-5 p.m.) are free with Museum admission. Evening festival activities (5-8 p.m.) are $15; $10 for Penn Museum members. Presented in partnership with the Asian Arts Initiative.

Students from Cheung’s Hung Gar Kung Fu Academy (above) take part in the Lion Dance Parade. The Little Mulan Dance Troupe from the Great Wall School (below) will perform.
AT PENN Deadlines
The January AT PENN calendar is now online. Today is the deadline for the Update in the January 15 issue. The deadline for the February AT PENN is Monday, January 14.

WXP Policy Board Meeting: January 16
The next meeting of the WXP Policy Board will take place on Wednesday, January 16 at noon at WXP, 3025 Walnut Street. For more information call (215) 898-0628 during business hours.

Netter Center in New Location
The Netter Center for Community Partnerships moved its offices to a new location on December 18, 2018. Its new address is:

Suite 120
St. Leonard's Court
3819-33 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-3171
The phone # remains (215) 898-4097.

Annual PPSA Clothing Drive: Now through January 11
PPSA is collecting items to share with three Philadelphia organizations:
- Bethesda Project is in need of new or gently used men’s clothing, as well as toiletries.
- Broad Street Ministries are in need of warm men’s clothing.
- Project HOME is in need of gently used clothing for men, women and children, specifically pants, shirts, coats and new socks. See https://ppsa.upenn.edu/events/annual-ppsa-clothing-drive/for details.

The drive, now underway, will run through Friday, January 11. Clothing collection boxes will be out through Thursday, January 10.

Some of the Clothing collection locations:
- College Hall, 1st floor, West Wing Hallway
- Duhring Wing, 216 S. 34th St., Lobby
- School of Nursing, 1418 Curie Blvd., mezzanine level
- PCAM South Pavilion, 8th Floor, ask from desk
- Penn Museum, 3260 South St., Kress Entrance
- Stouffer Commons, 3702 Spruce St.
- Van Pelt-Dietrich Library, opposite the circulation desk

Penn staff members are welcome to drop clothes off at Houston Hall’s Bistro Lobby on Friday, January 11, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Breakfast and coffee will be available. If you have time to spare, PPSA would also enjoy your help in folding, sorting and packaging the donated materials.

Morris Arboretum: Free Admission for Federal Employee Families
The federal government may be shut down, but Morris Arboretum is open and welcomes all federal employees and their families to visit for free through the end of the government shutdown. Simply show your ID at the kiosk.

Penn Newman Center Moved
The Penn Newman Center, the oldest Newman Center in the country—it has served the campus since 1893—has relocated temporarily to the refinished lower level of the St. Agatha-St. James Church where they will hold the majority of their programming and events for the 2018-2019 school year. It is accessible through the entryway in the back. They will then move into the new Newman Center, the three-story building on the parish property, recently vacated by the Netter Center, in the fall of 2019.

Free Dog and Cat Vaccination Clinic
Registration is now open for Penn Vet’s Free Dog and Cat Vaccination Clinic on Monday, January 21. The free vaccinations and examinations will be available by appointment only for approximately 250 dogs and cats, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Penn Vet’s Ryan Hospital, 3900 Spruce St. To schedule an appointment, pet owners should call (215) 898-4680 mornings 8-10 a.m. There is a two pet per household limit. For additional questions regarding the clinic, please call (215) 898-2210.

Update January AT PENN

EXHIBITS
8 Lens on Latin America; opening reception; 6 p.m.; Lightbox Film Center, IHP. Info: https://lightboxfilmcenter.org/programs/lens-on-latin-america-opening-reception

TALKS
8 Hematopoiiesis, Leukemia, Inflammation at Single Cell Resolution: Iannis Aifantis, New York University School of Medicine; noon; Sarah and Matthew Caplan Auditorium (Wistar).
24 Writing and Reading Rubrics in the Renaissance Decameron; Rhiannon Daniels, senior lecturer in Italian, School of Modern Languages of the University of Bristol, the inaugural fellow of the new SIMS/Italian Studies Fellowship. The fellowship is sponsored by the Center for Italian Studies, the Italian Studies section of the department of Romance languages, and the Schoenborn Institute for Manuscript Studies. The recipient spends a week at Penn working on manuscript material from the library’s collections of rare books and manuscripts, offering, in exchange, a graduate student workshop and a talk on the research conducted while in residence; 5 p.m.; Class of 1978 Orrery Pavilion, Van Pelt-Dietrich Library.

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Planning an Event? Email Almanac
Mounting an exhibit? Orchestrating a concert? Planning a play? Showing a film? Let Almanac know so it can be included in the monthly AT PENN calendar!

Almanac’s monthly AT PENN calendar is the only all-inclusive calendar of Penn events on campus. With a readership in print and online, a free listing in the AT PENN increases visibility and attendance.

Email us at almanac@upenn.edu with your event details, including the event date, time, topic, speaker information and sponsors. For more information, visit https://almanac.upenn.edu/deadlines-for-submitting-at-penn-information

The University of Pennsylvania's journal of record, opinion and news is published Tuesdays during the academic year, and its needed during summer and holiday breaks. Its electronic editions on the Internet (accessible through the Penn website) include HTML, Acrobat and mobile versions of the print edition, and internal 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 values diversity and seeks to attract, mentor and graduate students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds. 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 administration of its admissions, financial aid, educational or athletic programs, or other University-administered programs or in its employment practices. Questions or complaints regarding this policy should be directed to Sam Starks, Executive Director of the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Programs, 3221 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6205; or (215) 898-6993 (Voice).
Penn’s Human Capital Management Transformation Initiative—An Overview

On July 1, 2019 the University of Pennsylvania will launch Workday@Penn, a major component of Penn’s Human Capital Management Transformation Initiative. The HCM project is transforming how Penn delivers services related to the broad range of human capital management, such as staff recruitment, faculty and staff personnel and benefits administration, payroll, time management, and more. It is not just a technology replacement project. Faculty, staff and student workers will enjoy simplified, efficient, modern processes that provide more access to their own information. For those who have more complex process and management responsibilities, known as HCM stakeholders, Workday@Penn will offer dramatically improved transparency, real-time information, and a platform expected by a twenty-first century workforce.

Workday harnesses powerful, cloud-based technology. Workday is different from Penn’s previous implementations of major, campus-wide software. It is a service that is configured, rather than customized. The benefit is that Penn will keep pace with improving technology and changing requirements as Workday makes periodic system updates. Guiding principles from the beginning of the Penn project ensure processes and decisions support success. These principles are:

- **Think “One Penn”** — Do what is best for the University, not just one school or center. Be transparent, collaborative and inclusive.
- **Adopt, Don’t Adapt** — Change the HCM process, not the software.
- **Keep It Simple** — Minimize the HCM data entry and modifications of the same information and shared data fields in multiple systems. Use one HCM technology to enable efficient, uniform processes University-wide.
- **Be Accountable** — Every HCM data source, process, procedure and policy requires an owner.
- **Strive for Clarity** — Agree on consistent HCM terms, such as “headcount” or “employee transfers.”
- **Innovate and Improve** — Consider new approaches and ideas. Monitor and measure HCM services for quality and efficiency, and take corrective action if needed.

From vendor selection to the present day, the project involved a wide community of Penn subject matter experts and leaders. Six Executive Sponsors lead the project. They are:

- Mark Dingfield, associate provost, finance and planning, Office of the Provost
- Trevor Lewis, vice president, budget and management analysis
- MaryFrances McCourt, vice president, division of finance, and treasurer
- Jack Heuer, vice president, division of human resources
- Chris Masotti, vice dean, finance and operations, Perelman School of Medicine
- Tom Murphy, vice president, information systems and computing, and chief information officer

In addition, a Steering Committee of leaders from throughout the University contributes its counsel and expertise.

Penn anticipates exciting innovations from implementing Workday@Penn. It will help the University’s HCM systems perform at an optimal level and enable individuals to do their jobs better, but even positive change presents challenges. Penn supports schools, centers, and departments with communications and will provide upcoming training on the new processes and systems. Key staff members from all schools and centers participate in the HCM Change Agent Network to help ensure ongoing, two-way communication between their groups and the project.

While the change strategy engages stakeholders and leadership across the University, it also evaluates change readiness and impact, and addresses concerns and capabilities through ongoing communications that will broaden as Penn approaches “go-live” on July 1.

Change agents, in addition to key teams in the divisions of human resources, finance, information systems & computing, all the schools and centers, collaborate with project technical and functional leads who are dedicated to the transition to Workday@Penn. Long-time Penn employees Christopher Blickley, Ernie Chieffo, and Julie Shuttleworth direct the HCM Program Management Office in collaboration with experienced project managers from Deloitte, Penn’s selected system integrator. The PMO manages joint Penn and Deloitte teams of technical, functional, service delivery, and change management experts.

The project is currently in the test phase, the third of the four major phases of architect, configure & prototype, test, and deploy. End-to-end testing examines whether all of the business requirements in Workday@Penn, including the integration of all connect Penn backend systems and external vendors—more than 100 integrations—perform as designed. In early spring, parallel payroll testing and user acceptance testing will make sure Workday will handle the required tasks in real-world scenarios. Another activity during the test phase is the development of the training materials. Training will provide faculty, staff and student workers with a learning experience tailored to their future use of Workday. This blended learning approach will utilize diverse methods, tools and platforms to deliver process and role-based learning experiences, which may include in-person, hands-on training for advanced business processes; online facilitated training events; step-by-step instructions for completing key business processes; and open office hours to provide additional hands-on training assistance.

This change on July 1 will affect almost everyone in the University, including faculty, staff, postdocs and student workers. The initial implementation of Workday@Penn is the first step towards continuous improvement. It will ultimately increase access and ability to maintain and manage information, create a personalized experience, and accomplish certain HCM tasks in one system of record that currently reside in different systems. Workday@Penn is truly using its guiding principle to “Think One Penn,” to do what is best for the University, and to be transparent, collaborative and inclusive.