$1 Million Sanford Lorraine Cross Award to Jean Bennett and Katherine High

Jean Bennett, the F.M. Kirby Professor of Ophthalmology, and Katherine A. High, emeritus professor of pediatrics, both in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, are the recipients of the inaugural $1 million Sanford Lorraine Cross Award for their work with the RPE65 mutation that has reversed an inherited form of blindness. Drs. Bennett and High pioneered the gene therapy for this mutation, took it to clinical trials and then received the first FDA approval of a gene therapy for a genetic disease.

The award, sponsored by Sanford Health, is intended to reward contributions to medicine, science and innovation. Four finalists competed for the prize; Drs. Bennett and High accepted the award on December 4 at Sanford Health’s headquarters in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Dr. High and Dr. Bennett knew that gene therapy had the potential to change this form of blindness. “The idea is to harness what we know about the defects, and then intervene,” said Dr. Bennett, who is also a scientific co-founder of Spark Therapeutics, a fully integrated, commercial gene therapy company working to accelerate the time line for bringing new gene therapies to market. Dr. High is the president and head of research and development at Spark.

The project began with studying dogs who had the same gene mutation that causes blindness in humans—the RPE65 mutation. Dr. Bennett was searching for funding when Dr. High approached her, asking if she’d like to run a human clinical trial. Gene therapy was still in its infancy, though, with roadblocks from funding to regulation.

“But I was convinced we weren’t seeing any problems that couldn’t eventually be solved,” said Dr. High. She then co-founded Spark. They and their team received the first FDA approval of a gene therapy for a genetic disease. They credit the work of their team and their singular pursuit of a solution.

“Identify the best people, then entice them and motivate them to work on this problem so you can pull together and get to the goal,” Dr. High said. “Lighting someone’s future is still what drives their vision.”

“Patients are the reason we do this work,” Dr. High said. “They are the North Star of what we do.”

At the awards ceremony, Dr. High noted, “There were many days we were discouraged, so it’s so wonderful for an award to be given for people who made it across the finish line.”

“Gene therapy quickly stood out as the field of candidates was narrowed,” said David Pearce, president of research at Sanford Health, who noted that the four finalists for the award helped lay the groundwork for much of the innovative work that is being explored now.

The other finalists included another Perelman faculty member, James M. Wilson, director of the Gene Therapy Program, the Rose H. Weiss Orphan Disease Center Director’s Professor, and professor of medicine and pediatrics. His work has paved the way for many groups to safely move promising gene therapies for inherited and acquired diseases through the translational pipeline internationally. In 2008, Dr. Wilson and the University of Pennsylvania cofounded REGENXBIO Inc., a clinical-stage biotech company designing gene therapy products.

Penn Medicine broke ground on a state-of-the-art, four-story, 250,000-square-foot multispecialty outpatient facility in Radnor, Pennsylvania, that will expand options for patients to receive advanced care close to home.

Set to open in spring 2020, the site will be home to the new Penn Medicine Radnor, replacing its current facility in the Township which has operated since 1997 on King of Prussia Road. The new location will provide comprehensive cancer care, including newly available radiation oncology services and chemotherapy provided by the Abramson Cancer Center, as well as primary care, heart and vascular, orthopaedic and neuroscience care. Additional services will include same-day surgery, with six operating rooms and four endoscopy suites, along with full radiology and laboratory services. Patients will also have access to cutting-edge Penn Medicine clinical trials, expanding access to more patients without having to travel into Philadelphia.

Officials also announced that Brandywine Realty Trust has entered into an agreement with UPHS to purchase two premier sites in Radnor where the new outpatient facility will take shape (145 King of Prussia Road and 250 King of Prussia Road) and serve as the designated developer and manager. Brandywine will transform the new buildings into high-quality facilities—including office space and a hotel—and will serve as the development manager of the medical office building, allowing Penn to expand its network and offer even more locations to deliver the level of care for which the health system is renowned.

The new LEED Silver certified building will feature natural light throughout, and a building design that wraps around a courtyard will bring nature views to patients, families and staff inside.

“More than half of our activity comes from outpatient care today, and we’re committed to investing in the very best facilities that can offer our patients more options to get the best possible care close to their homes,” said Ralph W. Muller, CEO of the University of Pennsylvania Health System. “Our mission is to offer Penn Medicine care to patients where it’s most convenient to them and their families, so we’re making more cancer, women’s health and cardiac services available to patients at Radnor to ensure they can receive a more comprehensive suite of care without having to travel downtown.”

The western section of 145 King of Prussia Road will introduce 150,000 gross square feet (GSF) of office space and a hotel component comprising 75,000 GSF, with a projected 100 rooms—which Penn Medicine officials say will help make the new facility a destination for patients traveling for specialized outpatient services from outside the area. The eastern portion of 145 King of Prussia Road will serve as a medical office parcel.

“The University of Pennsylvania has been a longtime valued partner of ours, and together we have created transformative projects that have helped to shape the city of Philadelphia that we know today, most notably FMC Tower at Cira Centre South,” said Jerry Sweeney, president and CEO of Brandywine Realty Trust. “As Penn Medicine continues to expand its footprint, we are proud to work alongside them to bring new, high-quality offerings to their patients and help fuel the great work that they continue to deliver.”

“We are excited for our partnership with Brandywine, which will develop this area of Radnor into a state-of-the-art mixed-use campus that will build on Penn Medicine’s long-standing support of health and wellness for residents of the Township and beyond,” said Kevin B. Mahoney, executive vice president and chief administrative officer for the University of Pennsylvania Health System.

The new Radnor facility, which will be double the square footage of the current Penn Medicine Radnor building, is the latest among a growing list of Penn Medicine multispecialty ambulatory centers. Other sites include the Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine, Penn Medicine University City and Washington Square in Philadelphia, as well as facilities in Bucks County, Valley Forge, southern Chester County (West Grove) and, in southern New Jersey, Cherry Hill and Woodbury Heights.

“More than half of our activity comes from outpatient care today, and we’re committed to investing in the very best facilities that can offer our patients more options to get the best possible care close to their homes,” said Ralph W. Muller, CEO of the University of Pennsylvania Health System. “Our mission is to offer Penn Medicine care to patients where it’s most convenient to them and their families, so we’re making more cancer, women’s health and cardiac services available to patients at Radnor to ensure they can receive a more comprehensive suite of care without having to travel downtown.”

The western section of 145 King of Prussia Road will introduce 150,000 gross square feet (GSF) of office space and a hotel component comprising 75,000 GSF, with a projected 100 rooms—which Penn Medicine officials say will help make the new facility a destination for patients traveling for specialized outpatient services from outside the area. The eastern portion of 145 King of Prussia Road will serve as a medical office parcel.

“The University of Pennsylvania has been a longtime valued partner of ours, and together we have created transformative projects that have helped to shape the city of Philadelphia that we know today, most notably FMC Tower at Cira Centre South,” said Jerry Sweeney, president and CEO of Brandywine Realty Trust. “As Penn Medicine continues to expand its footprint, we are proud to work alongside them to bring new, high-quality offerings to their patients and help fuel the great work that they continue to deliver.”

“We are excited for our partnership with Brandywine, which will develop this area of Radnor into a state-of-the-art mixed-use campus that will build on Penn Medicine’s long-standing support of health and wellness for residents of the Township and beyond,” said Kevin B. Mahoney, executive vice president and chief administrative officer for the University of Pennsylvania Health System.

The new Radnor facility, which will be double the square footage of the current Penn Medicine Radnor building, is the latest among a growing list of Penn Medicine multispecialty ambulatory centers. Other sites include the Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine, Penn Medicine University City and Washington Square in Philadelphia, as well as facilities in Bucks County, Valley Forge, southern Chester County (West Grove) and, in southern New Jersey, Cherry Hill and Woodbury Heights.
Scott Douglass: Vice Dean of Finance and Administration at Wharton

Scott Douglass has joined the Wharton School as vice dean of finance and administration. Mr. Douglass will lead Wharton operations and finance, including budgeting, facilities and operations, human resources, Wharton Computing and Wharton Research Data Services (WRDS).

Mr. Douglass will work collaboratively across the University of Pennsylvania representing Wharton with executive and financial leadership. He previously served in this role at Wharton from 1992 to 2004.

“I am delighted to welcome Scott back to Wharton and the Penn community. His extensive experience from decades in higher education will benefit the entire School,” said Dean Geoff Garrett.

Mr. Douglass most recently served as vice chancellor of finance and administration at North Carolina State University, where he was responsible for budget and resource management, campus enterprises, environmental health and public safety, facilities, finance, human resources and real estate and development. Prior to NC State, Mr. Douglass was the University of Delaware’s executive vice president and chief financial officer, managing a $1 billion operating budget and overseeing a $1.7 billion cash and endowment portfolio.

During his earlier tenure at Wharton, Mr. Douglass led the programming, design and construction of Jon M. Huntsman Hall, the commercialization of WRDS and the team that developed the business case for Wharton San Francisco. He previously served as vice president of finance and treasurer for the University of Pennsylvania, where he spent four years as the University’s senior financial officer and was a member of the Penn Medicine Board (Almanac July 17, 2007). Earlier in his career, Mr. Douglass was the state of Delaware’s budget director and secretary of finance.

Mr. Douglass earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in political science from the University of Delaware and completed graduate studies at Syracuse University.

University Council Coverage

At the December 5 University Council meeting, Vice President and University Secretary Leslie Kruhly reported that the problem mentioned previously concerning mold in some dorms has been resolved and the impacted students are back in their rooms.

Provost Wendell Pritchett introduced the focus topic for the meeting, New Directions in the Arts, followed by a discussion led by Vice Provost for Faculty Anita Allen. She said Penn stands for innovation in the arts and described how the arts are essential to teaching and learning as well as spurring social justice. She then introduced Christopher A. Gruits, Annenberg Center for the Performing Art’s executive & artistic director, who came to Penn in 2016 (Almanac August 23, 2016) and John McInerney, director of The Sachs Program for Arts Innovation. He came to Penn in 2017 (Almanac May 23, 2017).

(continued on page 3)

David Brainard: Associate Dean for the Natural Sciences at SAS

David Brainard, RRL Professor of Psychology, has been appointed associate dean for the natural sciences in the School of Arts and Sciences, effective January 1, 2019. He will oversee the School’s natural sciences, including the departments of biology, chemistry, earth and environmental sciences, linguistics, mathematics, physics, astronomy, and psychology, as well as the School’s research centers.

Dr. Brainard is an eminent cognitive neuroscientist whose research focuses on human vision, visual neuroscience and computational modeling of visual processing. He is a Fellow of the Optical Society and the Association for Psychological Science. In 2013, he received the School’s highest teaching honor, the Ira H. Abrams Memorial Award. His Penn affiliations include the graduate groups in neuroscience and bioengineering and the undergraduate cognitive science and visual studies programs.

“David brings to this important role a distinguished background as both a scholar and an academic leader,” said Steven J. Fluharty, Dean and Thomas S. Gates, Jr. Professor of Psychology, Pharmacology and Neuroscience.

Dr. Brainard has served as chair of the department of psychology and director of the Institute for Research in Cognitive Science. He is a former chair of the School of Arts and Sciences Personnel Committee and was a member of the 2008 faculty task force that recommended changes to the committee’s structure. Dr. Brainard is currently director of Penn’s Vision Research Center, co-director of the Penn Computational Neuroscience Initiative and a member of the Executive Committee of MindCORE, an interdisciplinary effort to understand human intelligence and behavior.

Dr. Brainard will succeed Larry Gladney, Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Professor for Faculty Excellence in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, who will become the inaugural Dean of Diversity and Faculty Development for the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Yale University in January.
Mr. Gruits talked about how the Annenberg Center not only has public programming in its three theatres but also devotes space and resources to numerous student performing arts groups that practice and perform there. The Annenberg Center is also involved with Penn’s theatre arts program as well as music, cinema & media, along with humanities. Mr. Gruits stressed that the Center engages with students in many ways, including making tickets affordable at $10 at all times, providing free rehearsal space and access to world-class artists, as well as hiring many students. Annenberg Center also interacts with various schools and centers at Penn and engages the Philadelphia community. The programming is often innovative, featuring contemporary and cutting-edge music, dance and theatre productions.

Deaths

George Azar, Football

George J. Azar, former offensive line coach for the University of Pennsylvania football team, died November 21. He was 77.

Mr. Azar grew up in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. He excelled as a three-sport athlete; he earned a state wrestling championship and all-state honors in football. He also held a local home-run record in baseball that stood for over 30 years.

He attended Michigan State University where he played football and baseball. After graduating, he served as a football and wrestling coach at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania, and then became an offensive line coach at Penn under Harry Gamble, who served at the helm of Penn football for 10 seasons and had 24 career Ivy League wins, from 1971 to 1980. Mr. Azar then held an executive position with the Philadelphia Eagles.

Mr. Azar is survived by his wife, Kay; children, Todd (Heidi) and Robyn (Steve); grandchildren, Andrew, Zach, Ryan, Jake, Kyle and Hannah; and siblings, Janet, Jim, Kathy and Mary Beth.

William R. Brennen, Chemistry

William R. (“Bill”) Brennen, emeritus associate professor of chemistry, died November 9. He was 83.

Dr. Brennen, who earned his PhD in chemistry from Harvard, joined the chemistry faculty at Penn in 1966 as an assistant professor of chemistry. He was promoted to associate professor in 1970, which he remained until retirement in 2005, at which time he earned emeritus status.

Dr. Brennen was the principal investigator of a 1970 project Excitation of Atomic Nickel in the Reaction Between Nickel Carbonyl and Active Nitrogen, sponsored by the Advanced Research Projects Agency of the US Department of Commerce. He served on the University Council’s Bookstore Committee from 1996 to 1999 and from 1997 to 1999 he served on the Library Committee.

Dr. Brennen is survived by his wife, Sherry Clearwater; sons, Will Jr. (“Bill”) and Spencer; stepson, Jamie Vagnoni (Julie Crowe); and grandchildren, Quinn and Kate Vagnoni.

James Heflin, Division of Finance

James W. Heflin, former assistant comptroller at the University of Pennsylvania, died November 21 from a stroke. He was 81.

Mr. Heflin was born in Philadelphia and graduated from Northeast Catholic High School and Drexel Institute of Technology in 1959 with a degree in business administration and accounting. In 1961, he joined the Penn staff as an accountant in the comptroller’s office. The following year he became assistant to the comptroller, and he also served as assistant to the business and financial vice president. In February 1967, he was named director of the Management Services Group, responsible for reviewing and evaluating systems and procedures, primarily in the business and financial vice president’s area. He was promoted only a few months later to assistant comptroller. He left Penn in 1968.

Mr. Heflin served as a financial and administrative officer at Nazareth Hospital in Philadelphia before beginning a long career as chief financial officer at Lourdes, now called Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center. He joined the staff in 1974 and retired in 2002.

Mr. Heflin is survived by his wife, Alma; children, Kristin Ciccarelli, Jean Kane, Eileen Dellini and David; and 15 grandchildren.

Call for College House Fellows: January 28

The Offices of the Provost and of College Houses and Academic Services invite applications for service as a College House Fellow. This is a residentially-based position that carries a two-year term.

Faculty applicants from all 12 schools within the University are welcome to apply. The most important qualification is an enthusiastic interest in mentoring and engaging undergraduate students within the residential setting. Members of the University’s faculty and full-time administrative staff in academic or student affairs who will be in their positions for at least two years are welcome to apply.

College House Fellows play a key role in connecting the Houses to the larger academic community at Penn. Fellows are responsible for working with the faculty directors to develop each College House as an educational resource that encourages intellectual inquiry, promotes academic programs in residence, fosters faculty and student interaction and builds strong, supportive House communities. Specific responsibilities will differ from House to House, but the general time commitment is approximately 10 hours per week.

Although there are 25 Fellow positions in the College House system, the number of openings rarely exceeds six. For these highly-sought-after positions, the selection process can be quite competitive. Applicants are reviewed by the undergraduate Deans, the Office of College Houses and the individual House community members, including the faculty director, House Dean and student residents.

Information about each College House, the Fellow positions and application process may be found at www.collegehouses.upenn.edu Please explore the “join us” section of the website for position information. If you have any questions please contact Marty Redman, executive director of College Houses and Academic Services, at mredman@upenn.edu The application deadline is January 28, 2019.
Grace Calhoun: NCAA Committee Chair

M. Grace Calhoun, director of athletics and recreation at the University of Pennsylvania, has been named chair of the NCAA Division I Council Strategic Vision and Planning Committee. Ms. Calhoun has served as the vice chair since her appointment to the Division I Council in July 2017 (Almanac March 28, 2017) and will lead the committee through June 2021.

The Strategic Vision and Planning Committee has oversight responsibility of administrative functions related to the management of the Division I governance structure, including business and legal affairs, strategic planning and research (including recommendations regarding research topics and expenditure of funds for such projects). The committee’s membership activities (including the reclassification process) and health and safety matters.

In the upcoming year, the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee will assist the Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee with a review of the Division’s financial sustainability and will discuss how the Association can increasingly make data-driven decisions on matters of safety and well-being. The Committee was also recently given the charge of managing the agent certification program created to address issues in the sport of basketball.

John Crocker: APS Fellow

John Crocker, professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering in the School of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Pennsylvania, has been named a fellow of the American Physical Society. Dr. Crocker was recognized “for contributions to the microrheology of soft matter and cells and to DNA-directed colloidal self-assembly.”

The APS Fellowship Program was created to recognize members who may have made advances in knowledge through original research and publication or made significant and innovative contributions in the application of physics to science and technology. They may also have made significant contributions to the teaching of physics or service and participation in the activities of the Society. Each year, no more than one-half of one percent of the then current membership of the Society are recognized by their peers for election to the status of fellow in the American Physical Society.

Correction: Donald White Obituary

In the obituary published in the December 4 issue of Almanac for Donald White, emeritus professor of archaeology and curator-in-charge of the Penn Museum’s Mediterranean section, the survivors should have also included his son, Arthur. Almanac regrets the inadvertent omission.—Ed.

4 www.upenn.edu/almanac

Zahra Fakhraai: APS John H. Dillon Medal

Zahra Fakhraai, associate professor of chemistry and graduate chair, has been awarded the 2019 John H. Dillon Medal. The medal, given annually, recognizes outstanding research accomplishments by young polymer physicists who have demonstrated exceptional research promise early in their careers. Dr. Fakhraai’s group combines experiments and modeling to explore structure, dynamics and optical properties of amorphous materials at nanometer length scale. A key aspect of these studies is to understand how surfaces and interfaces affect properties of amorphous materials and how these effects can be used to engineer novel packings of molecular glasses as well as polymers and biopolymers.

The John H. Dillon Medal was established in 1983 by The American Physical Society and the Division of Polymer Physics (DPOLY). Beginning in 1997, sponsorship of the medal was assumed by Elsevier, Oxford, UK, publishers of the journal, Polymer.

Amy Gutmann: William Penn Award and Inquirer Icon

Penn President Amy Gutmann has received two notable awards recently. The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia announced that she is the 2018 recipient of the William Penn Award, the highest honor bestowed upon a business or civic leader in Greater Philadelphia. The award, which has been given annually since 1949, recognizes an individual for their outstanding contributions toward the betterment of the region, professional accomplishments, and commitment to charity as well as to the community. President Gutmann will be honored Friday, April 26, 2019, at a gala hosted at The Bellevue Hotel. The Chamber noted that since she began in her role as president in 2004, she has increased access to higher education, advanced interdisciplinary collaborations and demonstrated the transformative impact of universities, locally, nationally and globally.

President Gutmann has also been named a Philadelphia Inquirer Business Hall of Fame Icon. President Gutmann received the award at a ceremony on November 28 at the Hyatt at the Bellevue. In a recent profile of President Gutmann, the Inquirer praised her “deft and deliberate leadership” that has helped Penn bridge the American political divide. In the same piece, Penn trustees board chair David L. Cohen said, “Any topic you want to pick, that you want to judge the president of the University of Pennsylvania on, and she has knocked the ball out of the park in every single one of them.” In her remarks at the Hall of Fame Dinner, President Gutmann said that open expression represents the core of academic freedom.

Yasmin Kafai: Google Grant

Yasmin Kafai, the Lori and Michael Milken President’s Distinguished Professor and chair of the teaching, learning and leadership division in Penn’s School of Graduate Education, has received a $97,000 grant through Google’s Computer Science Education Research Awards.

The grant will support the MADE (Music Art Design with Etextiles) program, which will introduce students in Career and Technical Education courses to more advanced computing concepts through electronic textile designs.

Ms. Kafai is a learning scientist and designer of online tools and communities to promote coding, crafting and creativity across grades K-16. Her work empowers students to use computer programming to design games, sew electronic textiles and grow applications in biology with the goal of supporting creative expression, building social connections and broadening participation in computing.

Marsha Lester: APS Broida Prize

Marsha Lester, the Edmund J. Kahn Distinguished Professor in Chemistry in the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania, has received the American Physical Society Herbert P. Broida Prize in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the field of chemical physics.

Dr. Lester received the honor for her work in “the development of innovative methods for generating and characterizing reactive intermediates using sophisticated laser techniques that elucidate important reaction pathways in atmospheric and combustion chemistry.”

Yasmin B. Kafai, as-

Michel Koo, Joshua Plotkin: AAAS Fellows

Two faculty members from the University of Pennsylvania have been named fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Hyun [Michel] Koo, a professor in the department of orthodontics and divisions of pediatric dentistry and community oral health in Penn Dental Medicine, and Joshua Plotkin, a biology professor in the School of
in the rumen assist in the cows’ digestive process by breaking down plant material, but, in the process, some microbes release hydrogen as a by-product. Methanogens, a type of microbe in the group known as archaea that are present in the rumen, consume this hydrogen to ensure that it doesn’t build up excessively in the cow’s gut. However, methanogens turn hydrogen into harmful methane, which the cows must emit.

**Dipti Pitta: USDA Grant**

Dipti Pitta, an assistant professor in ruminal nutrition at the School of Veterinary Medicine New Bolton Center, has received a USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture grant of $500,000 for her research on the rumen, the large part of the cow’s first digestive chamber, or reticulorumen.

The grant funds three years of research during which Dr. Pitta hopes to better understand microbial associations in the rumen that are essential for methane mitigation. Methane makes up 14 percent of greenhouse gas emissions globally, and is 28 times more potent than carbon dioxide at trapping heat in the atmosphere. Livestock, mostly cattle raised for dairy and beef products, produce 25 percent of methane emissions in the United States.

Dr. Pitta will study how methane inhibitors function in cows that naturally produce excessive amounts of methane, as well as in cows that naturally produce lower amounts. Microbes in the rumen assist in the cows’ digestive process by breaking down plant material, but, in the process, some microbes release hydrogen as a by-product. Methanogens, a type of microbe in the group known as archaea that are present in the rumen, consume this hydrogen to ensure that it doesn’t build up excessively in the cow’s gut. However, methanogens turn hydrogen into harmful methane, which the cows must emit.

**Julius Shaneson: AMS 2019 Fellow**

**Julius Shaneson,** Class of 1939 Professor Emeritus in the department of mathematics, is one of 65 mathematical scientists from around the world who have been named Fellows of the American Mathematical Society (AMS) for 2019, the program’s seventh year. Dr. Shaneson was recognized for his contributions to topology. The Fellows of the AMS designation recognizes members who have made outstanding contributions to the creation, exposition, advancement, communication and utilization of mathematics. The goals of the fellows program are to create an enlarged class of mathematicians recognized by their peers as distinguished for their contributions to the profession; to honor not only the extraordinary but also the excellent; to lift the morale of the profession by providing an honor more accessible than those currently available; to make mathematicians more competitive for awards, promotion and honors when they are being compared with colleagues from other disciplines; and to support the advancement of more mathematicians in leadership positions in their own institutions and in the broader society.

**Hill College House: Award of Merit**

The Mid-Atlantic chapter of the Engineering News-Record recently gave Hill College House its Award of Merit for Renovation/Restoration. The historic building, designed by eminent modern architect Eero Saarinen in 1958, underwent an $80 million renovation in 2016, which included a remodel of the building’s dining hall, installation of a new HVAC system and preservation of historic elements (Almanac August 29, 2017). Prior to its closing for renovations, it was singled out as one of the “most-loathed dorms” in the country by a 2015 New York Times article. The magazine highlighted the “numerous technical challenges” of this restoration and noted that it “reuses existing materials and features when possible to preserve the original design of noted Finnish-American architect Eero Saarinen.” Mills + Schnoering Architects of Prince-ton, New Jersey, led the design and construction team. Specialists in historic renovation, the firm previously worked on Saarinen’s Gateway Arch in Saint Louis, Missouri.

**SnackGarden: Design Value Award**

SnackGarden, a serving plate designed by Integrated Product Design (IPD) students at Penn to encourage school children to try healthy foods, has won a 2018 Design Value Award from the Design Management Institute (DMI). The product is the result of a collaboration between the Agatston Urban Nutrition Initiative and the IPD program. DMI, a Boston-based collective of design and innovation leaders, cited SnackGarden as “an excellent example of design-led change in the community, involving collaboration on complex challenges with multiple stakeholders in a very crowded public policy and service delivery space.”

In 2013, the Agatston Urban Nutrition Initiative, a program focused on providing access to healthy foods in schools, approached Penn’s IPD program about the project. IPD designed plates, produced prototypes and tested them. Then, they collaborated to brand the plates with Rebel Ventures, a student group that develops and distributes healthy snacks.

In 2015, they launched the brand SnackGarden and began distributing the plates to farmers’ markets, grocery stores and elementary schools. To date, SnackGarden plates have been distributed to several non-profit organizations and four elementary schools to be used in tasting programs.

**Public Safety: Security 500**

The University of Pennsylvania has been ranked #1 on Security magazine’s “Security 500” list for safety and security in the higher-education sector for the 12th consecutive year. Security magazine’s top 500 ranking creates a database for organizations to measure themselves compared to the performance of their colleagues. It establishes a benchmarking program among security organizations, allowing them to see where they stand in this ongoing peer-review process.

“Securing a large urban university, including its facilities, students, staff and visitors is a large undertaking,” said Diane Ritchey, editor-in-chief of Security, “that requires leadership, innovation, knowledge and strong partnerships. Maureen Rush [the vice president for public safety at Penn and superintendent of Penn police] and her team have created a national model to successfully mitigate security and risks, and we are once again thrilled to honor their accomplishments.”
Biennial Wissahickon Photo Exhibit at Morris Arboretum through December

The winning photos from the 2018 Biennial Wissahickon Photo Contest presented by Friends of the Wissahickon, Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association and Woodmere Art Museum are on display now through December 31 in the Upper Gallery at the Widen'er Visitor's Center at Morris Arboretum. This year’s was the most successful contest to date, with over 150 photographers submitting more than 450 photographs. The photos in the exhibit represent the winners across four categories: wildlife, landscapes, people, and structures, as well as the awards of Best in Show and People’s Choice.

Best in Show—Loren Berckey, Finger Bridge.

People’s Choice (most likes on Facebook)—Rachael Balascak, Wissahickon Supergirl. Forbidden Drive at Cedar House. Audrey striding to the finish during a wonderful community event along the Wissahickon Creek.

First Place Landscape—Rachael Balascak, Crossing the Wissahickon. Forbidden Drive footbridge, by Lincoln Drive. There is nothing better than the changing of the leaves in the Wissahickon.

First Place Structure—Brian Mudri, Snowy Covered Bridge. Forbidden Drive & Wissahickon Creek.

Paperless W-2 Forms
Did you know that individuals can elect not to have their W-2 printed and mailed to them? ADP, our W-2 provider, offers individuals the option to suppress the printing of your W-2 and allows you to securely view and print your W-2 from your personal computer. By going paperless, you avoid identity theft and mail delays! Follow these instructions to log in to ADP W-2 services:

- Click on “My Tax Info” in the “My Pay” section at U@Penn.
- Login with your PennKey and Password.
- Enter your birthdate and last four digits of your SSN and click “Continue.”
- Click “Continue” on the next screen.
- Click on the link that says “Click here for W-2 information for tax years 2015 and later.” This will take you to the ADP site.
- The first page will be the ADP Dashboard. Hover over your name in the upper right hand corner and select “Settings.”
- Under “Contact Preferences,” make sure your email address is correct in the box. If not, click “Edit” to add or update.
- Next under “Go Paperless,” click the slider to agree to “Receive paperless statements” and to be “Notified by Email.” This will open a new window, where you must check the box to “Receive Paperless Annual Tax Statements” and click on “I agree.”
- Remember to close all browser windows when you have finished making your updates to protect your personal information.

You have until December 31, 2018, to select this option for your 2018 W-2. Once you opt out of having your W-2 mailed, you will continue to receive it electronically each year unless you elect to receive a paper W-2 once more.

As a reminder, W-2 forms for tax year 2012 and prior will remain on the U@Penn portal under “My Tax Info”. Tax forms for the current and prior two years are available on the ADP site.

W-2 Address
W-2 forms are mailed to the address on file within the PennWorks/Personnel/Payroll System. If you have moved or need to update your address, visit the U@Penn website. Under “My Personal Data,” click “My Profile” to change your address or opt to receive your W-2 electronically.

Treaty Exemptions
Tax Treaty exemptions are granted on a calendar year basis for certain types of payments such as scholarships/fellowships and employment income. Please advise all monthly paid individuals who missed the January 2019 deadline. They should also bring their most current ID to confirm their eligibility and sign the appropriate Tax Treaty documents for the 2019 tax year. They should also bring their most current immigration document with them. Please note that we are unable to provide treaty benefits to weekly paid individuals.

In order to meet the deadline for the January 2019 payroll, students and employees must visit the Tax Office, 3451 Walnut St., Room 310, by Friday, January 18, 2019. If they do not meet the January deadline they may still apply for the exemption; however, the treaty benefits will not take effect until February. Please note that Payroll will not refund the Federal Withholding Tax for individuals who missed the January 2019 deadline. The individual can claim the exemption when filing their 2019 tax return. Please call the Tax Office with any questions or concerns at (215) 898-6291 or submit a HelpDesk inquiry at: https://apps.finance.upenn.edu:44305/TaxHelpDesk/

—Victor Adams Supervisor, Tax & International Operations

ALMANAC December 11, 2018
Celebrating the Holidays in University City

Trolley Portal Gardens is celebrating the holidays. On Saturday, December 15, along with SEPTA, the University City Arts League and Trolley Car Station, there will be a festive day of fun. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., kids ages 4-16 can ride for free (with a paid adult) on a Holiday Trolley from 40th Street to Dilworth Park. SEPTA will also bring the First Place and People’s Choice winners of their Holiday Bus Decoration contest to Trolley Portal Gardens for visitors to explore and snap pictures. Trolley Car Station will offer $1 hot chocolates or $5 spiked hot chocolates for visitors 21 and older, plus grab-and-go treats.

Want to get crafty? From 2 to 4 p.m., the University City Arts League will help you make your own painted coasters, a fun and free project for all ages and skill levels.

Environmental Health and Radiation Safety (EHSRS) and the Division of Public Safety (DPS) hosted the 9th Annual Penn Safety Fair in the Vernon & Shirley Hill Pavilion on November 7, 2018. Along with DPS and EHSRS, a variety of vendors and several Penn offices that report to the Vice Provost for Research and elsewhere shared valuable information and helped develop a research community become Safety Sleuths. Thanks to all who contributed to the Safety Fair’s success and congratulations to the winners of this year’s raffle:

Hye-eun Kim, Orthodontics; 3M WorkTunes headphones
Julia Porado, Biology; 3M WorkTunes headphones
Jaclyn Camus, Veterinary Medicine; EDGE safety glasses and mini Giantmicrobes
Elena Sorokin, Physiology; EDGE safety glasses and mini Giantmicrobes
Michele Nixon, ULAR; Reusable cloth bag, water bottle, and notebook (sponsored by Penn Sustainability)
Ba Nguyen, Pathobiology; Selfie stick (sponsored by Occupational Medicine) and mini Giantmicrobes
Yuan Liu, Dental Medicine; Sony Extra Bass headphones (sponsored by Allied Barton) and mini Giantmicrobes
Christina Go, Pathobiology; Wawa gift card (sponsored by Med-Tex) and lunch bag & water bottle
Mark Tigue, ULAR; Wawa gift card (sponsored by BodyBilt) and lunch bag & water bottle
Rochelle Dymond, Veterinary Medicine; Wawa gift card (sponsored by Curtis Bay Waste Management) and lunch bag & water bottle
Renata Mammone, Veterinary Medicine; Wawa gift card (sponsored by Curtis Bay Waste Management) and lunch bag & water bottle

Winners can pick up their prizes at EHSRS, 3160 Chestnut Street, Suite 400 during regular business hours.

Please contact EHSRS at (215)-898-4453 for directions or questions.

Gifts of Involvement

In addition to the many Penn-centric gifts of involvement that were listed in the November 20 Almanac Supplement, here is another opportunity to provide a meaningful gift:

Friends of Music: The Department of Music at Penn established the Friends of Music primarily to enhance and promote student and professional musical performances across the campus. Friends receive concert mailings and an annual newsletter along with invitations to special student and professional performances sponsored by the Department of Music. Become an Individual Friend starting at $50 up to a benefactor at $10,000 or more. Visit https://www.sas.upenn.edu/music/friends-music to donate using the secure online giving form or for details about sending a check.

The University of Pennsylvania Police Department Community Crime Report

About the Crime Report: Below are the Crimes Against Persons or Crimes Against Society from the campus report for November 26-December 2, 2018. Also reported were 13 Crimes Against Property (1 DUI, 1 vandalism and 11 thefts) with 2 arrests. Full reports are available at: https://almanac.upenn.edu/sec-tions/crimes Prior weeks’ reports are also online. –Eds.

This summary is prepared by the Division of Public Safety and includes all criminal incidents reported and made known to the University Police Department between the dates of November 26-December 2, 2018. The University Police actively patrol from Market St to 43rd St and from the Schuylkill River to 43rd St in conjunction with the Philadelphia Police. In this effort to provide you with a thorough and accurate report on public safety concerns, we hope that your increased awareness will lessen the opportunity for crime.

For any concerns or suggestions regarding this report, please call the Division of Public Safety at (215) 898-4482.

11/28/18 11:19 AM 3400 Spruce St Complainant struck by known male
11/30/18 10:55 PM 3400 Civic Center Blvd Complainant assaulted by boyfriend
12/01/18 2:47 AM 3700 Spruce St Complainant punched in face
12/01/18 7:29 PM 4000 Spruce St Complainant assaulted by unknown juveniles

18th District

Below are the Crimes Against Persons from the 18th District: 4 incidents (1 aggravated assault, 1 domestic assault and 2 assaults) were reported between November 26-December 2, 2018 by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th Street & Market Street to Woodland Avenue.

11/30/18 11:38 PM 3400 Civic Center Blvd. Domestic Assault
12/01/18 3:39 AM 3700 Spruce St Aggravated Assault
12/01/18 10:11 PM 200 S 40th St Assault
12/01/18 10:45 PM 4415 Baltimore Ave Assault

Call for 2019 Summer Camps

Almanac will run the 2019 compilation of summer camps and programs at Penn in the January 29 issue. To list a camp or other summer program, send the dates, location and other details to almanac@upenn.edu

Update

December AT PENN

EXHIBITS

13 Portals: Artmaking, Health and Human Well-Being; how art can be a portal to learning about ourselves; Esther Klein Gallery. Through January 29.

TALKS

11 Age-Related Changes in the TME Drive Tu - morigenesis; Sheila Stewart, Washington University School of Medicine; 4 p.m.; Caplan Auditorium, Wistar Institute (Wistar).


AT PENN Deadlines

The December AT PENN is online. The January AT PENN will be published in the December 18 issue. January 2 is the deadline for the Update in the January 8 issue.
University City is a dynamic employment hub for more than 80,000 people, a transportation nexus with some of the most pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly streets in Philadelphia, and a destination for food lovers and culture seekers. With its luxury apartments and small, tree-lined streets; skyscrapers and Victorian row homes; small businesses and anchor institutions, the neighborhood is a tapestry of diversity that nearly 55,000 people call home. University City is a neighborhood of growth and possibility built on a solid structure of success.

Employment: University City eclipsed 80,000 jobs for the first time in 2018, adding 5,000 jobs in just three years. At over 33,000 jobs per square mile, University City remains a top regional hub for employment and home to a compelling array of jobs that are transforming the nature of work. Led by some of the largest employers in the region—the University of Pennsylvania, Penn Medicine and the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia—the healthcare and education sectors continue to dominate the job market in University City, though other industries, like IT, hospitality and construction, are making gains.

Office: With over 4.5 million square feet of office space in the district and 350,000 more square feet on the horizon, University City’s office market is thriving. As of 2018 Q2, University City’s office occupancy sat at 91%, remaining the second tightest of all submarkets in the region. University City is proving attractive to the region’s growing number of innovation players, and major development at Schuykill Yards and uCity Square will add significantly to the portfolio of office space in the years ahead.

Retail and Hospitality: With its unique mix of college and graduate students, large employers, commuters and full-time residents, University City is an attractive market for the retail and hospitality industries. In 2018 the neighborhood added national eateries like Wawa, &Pizza and SoBoL, as well as local culinary favorites like Pitrucio Pizza, High Street Provisions and Goldie. In addition, University City now boasts over 1,000 hotel rooms. Visitors, residents and local employees have 270 bars and restaurants and over 130 shops to explore while spending time in the neighborhood.

Higher Education: With five institutions of higher education in the district, University City is renowned worldwide for its exceptional colleges and universities. Nearly 45,000 undergraduate and graduate students are drawn to University City’s nationally-ranked academic programs, global dining scene, beautiful campuses, diverse residential communities and prime location within the city and eastern seaboard. Nearly 23,000 students live in University City—far more than any similarly-sized peer innovation district—meaning that the next generation of talented workers, scientists, artists and lawyers is already soaking up what the neighborhood has to offer while developing the skills needed to successfully land the jobs on the district’s horizon.

On December 5, hundreds of guests attended the annual State of University City event at World Cafe Live. This year, the event focused on how University City is setting the pace for the future of work for the region. UCD Board Chair Craig Carnaroli and UCD President Matt Bergheiser spoke about University City’s role in the future of employment in the region and how inclusion and opportunity are as critical as innovation and development. UCD issued its annual State of University City report. Below are excerpts. For the full report, visit https://www.universitycity.org/blog/state-university-city-2019

The State of University City 2019

Healthcare: The four hospitals located within University City – Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP), Penn Presbyterian Medical Center and Philadelphia Veterans Affairs Medical Center—employ a combined 30,000 people, and are a vital part of University City’s economy. Each year, Penn Medicine and CHOP make the upper reaches of regional and national rankings. Our hospital systems are developing cutting-edge treatment options and cures for both global and local challenges, while providing premier care for the residents living in their backyard.

Transportation: Sixty eight percent of University City residents commute to work without relying on a car, far surpassing local and national numbers and outranking all peer innovation districts except Washington, DC. This year, University City once again earned a “paradise” classification for walking, biking and public transit according to www.walkscore.com. We have one of the city’s first protected bike lanes on a stretch of Chestnut Street, and between buses, trolleys and the regional rail there are ample transportation options for University City’s 55,000 residents and 80,000 employees.

People: The population of University City is young, educated and ethnically diverse, a melting pot of new families, young professionals, students and longtime residents. University City’s diverse population—which reflects Philadelphia’s growing number of immigrants—has led to cultural, religious and dining options as varied as the residents who live here. The growing population, up nearly 12% since 2010, demonstrates the improved quality of life and increased desirability of the neighborhood.

Life in the Neighborhood: University City’s fantastic amenities, great schools, excellent dining scene, eclectic arts offerings and diverse housing options make it a neighborhood of choice for nearly 55,000 residents. Our large, historic houses appeal to long-time residents and young families. University City is considered the region’s leader in science and innovation. Discoveries initiated in University City spark billions of dollars in economic growth and attract international attention to those working in fields like robotics, biotech and medicine. Forty two percent of Pennsylvania’s National Institutes of Health funding is awarded to University City institutions, which has remained consistent even as statewide funding has increased.

University City by the Numbers

• 80,000+ jobs
• 54,319 residents
• $1.48 billion in research and development funding
• 1,306,000 square feet of office space
• 90.9% office occupancy
• 59% of residents ages 25 or older have a bachelor’s degree or higher
• 20-24 minute median commute for UC residents
• 131 retailers
• 44,922 students across 5 colleges and universities
• 68% of residents walk, bike or ride public transit to work
• 4,411,662 annual Amtrak passengers at 30th Street Station
• 270 restaurants and bars
• 22% of households speak a non-English language at home
• 1,500 median apartment rents
• $400,000 median home sale price in 2017
• 5,181 outdoor seats

8 www.upenn.edu/almanac