IN BRIEF

Judicial Administrator: Dr. John M. Stockton, professor of legal studies at the Wharton School, has been named Judicial Administrator of the University. His post, a key one in the new Student Judiciary Charter revised in Council last year and finalized by the President over the summer, is described in the Of Record document self-contained in the center four pages of this issue. "I am delighted that Professor Stockton has agreed to serve and that the new charter is in place," said Provost Thomas Ehrlich. "His background and experience will help to ensure that the new charter is implemented successfully."

New Photo ID Hours: Beginning September 10, the new hours for Photo ID's will be 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday. The Department of Public Safety reminds the University community that before an ID card is issued, the following criteria must be met: all forms from a department for an ID must have the departmental stamp, date the form is issued, signature and title of issuing person; photo must be taken within ten days of issuance of the form; an additional piece of identification, i.e. driver's license, will be required from the person receiving the photo; all students must also have a validated matric card and another piece of identification. For information call Ext. 4482.

Burgers, Bagels...: Renovation is still in progress in the Houston Hall Mall but in a few weeks the food outlets currently in the basement, Conversation Cafe and the Candy Shop as well as a new Donut Hole and Richmond's, offering ice cream and sundaes will be joined by Wendy's, serving hamburgers and a salad bar as well as Skolnik's, a bagel bakery featuring deli sandwiches on bagels, homemade soups and fruit cups. The new food services will share the main dining hall which is being expanded to seat 300. "These shops offer the types of foods and service recommended in the Houston Hall Food Service Survey conducted last spring," said Thomas Hauber, student life associate director.

It's All Over But the Aftermath

A Penn secretary who was abducted from a campus parking lot at rush hour on a Friday evening—and dramatically rescued the following Sunday when her brother rammed the car where she was still imprisoned in the trunk—is at home with her family, recovering from knife wounds and other injuries.

Members of a Penn psychiatric study unit, whose offices her assailant took over the following Tuesday after a second parking lot abduction, are unharmed.

One of the four counselors he held hostage at gunpoint has given birth to the baby she was overdue to deliver at the time she was taken captive.

The man arrested for the bizarre incidents is being held in $1.6 million bail.

The story now is one of aftermath. Via the Family... Student Assistance Programs, some of the victims are in counseling and the Public Safety Department's victim accompaniment program—which provides support during court processes—is in operation. The Law School has already called its staff into safety training sessions conducted by Public Safety—which welcomes requests to conduct more as the campus returns to academic-year population strength. And the Human Resources, Parking, Public Safety and other offices are brainstorming safety issues in the wake of the events of August 10 through 14.

For example, said Public Safety Director John Logan, "the first woman was abducted from an open parking lot at what we would normally think of as a safe time—just after 4:30. But there was a torrential rain, so that says something about a form of vulnerability people might not think about: even in daylight with others around, lack of visibility sets up a risk.

"One thing I'd like to get across to all members of the University is that our officers would rather answer any number of false alarms than to have anyone hesitate to go to that emergency phone and call if they see anything suspicious. We don't know whether this man was loitering beforehand or not; but any time anyone even suspects such a thing, we will send a radio car out pronto."

Some faculty and staff knew about the first abduction, from week-end telecasts as the victim's family sought media help in locating their missing daughter. Buddy systems were set up for walking to cars. People working late, but parked at a distance, began moving their cars closer to entrances after the rush-hour departure of traffic. Many others, however, were away and missed news reports warning that the suspect was at large.

"Some years ago I understand it was a question whether to downplay incidents to allay fear, or to announce them so people could be alert. There's no question today: being alert is the important thing," Mr. Logan said.

He credited the alertness of a close-knit and caring family for the rescue of the first victim, and the quick-thinking and calm professionalism of those involved in the Tuesday hostage incident. "The Philadelphia Police were tremendous, and so were our own officers[they were commended by the Provost for their work]," Mr. Logan said.

The unprecedented series of events of mid-August began Friday afternoon, August 10, when a 23-year-old secretary leaving the Law School at 4:30 normal time was accosted at knife point, forced into her car and violently assaulted. The assailant then drove away with her, later forcing her into the trunk of her car.

"Her family knew her, knew she would not have failed to come home without calling," Mr. Logan said. When the family called Public Safety Friday night, officers searched the Law School and the parking lot at 34th and Chestnut. When the vehicle proved to be missing the Philadelphia Police put it on their search sheet. "We're still not sure where the car was taken to keep it out of sight for a long time."

That the family could provide not only auto information, but also banking details, turned out to be important. According to press reports, it was the attempted use of her machine withdrawal card that narrowed the search to the 9th and Girard area. Sunday morning one of the victim's brothers and a family friend who is a security professional spotted the empty vehicle, called police and set watch on the car. But before officers arrived, an unknown man with a woman companion got into the car and started it away; the brother rammed his sister's car with his own and the man fled on foot. A slight sound from the trunk made them rip open the lid, and the victim was there, unconscious.

The fleeing man's companion identified him as Timothy Wright, 19, of North Philadelphia. City police issued an All-Point Alert and compiled a list of suspects; after the local police were commended during the investigation for "incredible effort" and "giving all they had," they were commended by Phildeiphia Police later. During the four hours at the Center, I think one of the most important things was the way the hostages handled themselves.

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**SENATE**

From the Chair

Hello, Thanks, Welcome ... Let's Go!

In fifth grade we had to memorize some lines from Kipling, one of which has stayed with me ...

"... The tumult and the shouting dies ..."

While the context is profoundly different, the words press themselves upon me as I begin my work as Chair of The Faculty Senate. This column becomes, then, my "Hello" as Chair, to my colleagues and to the entire University community. It's a good opportunity to thank all my well-wishers who perform as always with congratulations with a measure of sympathy. I have had that experience twice before when assuming other responsibilities of a not-wholly pleasurable character, so this time I tried a different sort of reply: "I'm ready. I hope to do a good job and I expect to enjoy it." While "welcomes" to students and colleagues fill the air, let me add mine to our new Chair-elect Tony Tomazinis, and new members of the Senate Executive Committee who have accepted their important, sometimes onerous and always time-consuming responsibilities with great spirit and encouraging energy. We have a great deal to do and I will be using this space in *Almanac* to inform the faculty of the issues and concerns being discussed at the Senate Executive Committee and Steering Committee of the University Council, to invite your suggestions for topics for consideration and to elicit broad expressions of opinion on these matters. Some items for the SEC agenda for September 12 are:

- Consideration of a proposal from the Law School for the establishment of a Practice Professorship which is quite close in form but not identical to the Wharton School Practice Professorship.
- A discussion with Admissions Dean Lee Stetson of his organization and of the role of the Faculty in the admissions process.
- Discussion of proposed rule changes for the Senate.

If you have advice, questions, or suggestions on these or other matters, please let us know by mail to Room 15 College Hall or by phone at Ext. 6943.

Whether as officer, representative or constituent, we have important work before us. Let's go!

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**FOR COMMENT**

Proposal for a Visiting Professorship of Flemish Studies

The University of Pennsylvania has been invited by the Flemish Regional Government of Belgium to submit a proposal to establish a Visiting Professorship of Flemish Studies at Pennsylvania, with all costs to be borne by the Flemish Regional Government. The professorship, which would become an integral part of the University's Dutch studies program within the department of Germanic languages and literatures, would be held for one semester each year by a prominent specialist from one of five participating Flemish universities: Universitaire Instelling, Antwerp; Vrije Universiteit, Brussels; Rijksuniversiteit, Ghent; Katholieke Universiteit, Leuven; and Universitaire Centrum, Limburg.

As the University's deans now review the draft proposal before submission to the Flemish Regional Government, all members of the University community are invited to review the document and submit comments to the Office of International Programs within two weeks. For a copy of the draft and further information, please contact Dr. Joyce M. Randolph, director, Office of International Programs, 133 Bennett Hall/DI, Ext. 4665 or 4661.

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**Diabetes Research Grants**

The Diabetes Research Center of the University of Pennsylvania requests submission of applications for support to perform pilot and feasibility studies in diabetes-related fields. Young investigators who wish to start a career in diabetes research or senior investigators who wish to take a new direction in their studies are encouraged to submit applications by December 3, 1984. The standard NIH form for R01 grant applications should be used (OMB No. 0925-0001). Grants will be reviewed by the Diabetes Research Center Advisory Board and, if needed be, by extramural consultant experts.

Maximum projected funding level is $15,000 and grants will be made for one year with the possibility of extending funding to a second year depending on the progress report. Therefore, investigators who are currently in the 01 year of support through this Pilot and Feasibility program may reapply for an additional year of funding. Such continuation applications need to be very carefully justified, however. Equipment requests are discouraged. Notification of an award will be made in March 1985. We anticipate sufficient funds to award five to seven grants.

We also expect to have funds available for supporting a Visiting Scientist to the Diabetes Research Center for a stay of about six months during 1985-86. We solicit suggestions or detailed proposals of potential candidates for this position as soon as possible. Submit applications and proposals to Franz M. Matschinsky, director, Diabetes Research Center, 414 Anatomy/Chemistry Building, 36th and Hamilton Walk/G3.

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It's All Over But the Aftermath (continued from page 1)

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From the President

The Thouron Award

Since the fall of 1960, 220 Pennsylvania students have been selected for post-graduate study in Great Britain and 253 students from the United Kingdom have been chosen to pursue programs of study at the University of Pennsylvania under the auspices of the Thouron-University of Pennsylvania Fund for British-American Student Exchange. In recent years, the Thouron program has selected approximately ten new Fellows annually from each country for Awards, which are renewable for a second year when necessary to complete a degree program.

With the death of Lady Esther du Pont Thouron this past spring, income from certain trusts is no longer available to support the Award. Nevertheless, because the University has built up a modest accumulation fund over the years, I am pleased to report that the Thouron Award program will continue, though at a sharply reduced level. Two or possible three new Awards will be provided to Pennsylvania students each year beginning with the Awards for 1985-86. A similar number of Awards will be provided to British students who will pursue graduate or professional degree programs at our University. Of course current Award holders will, as in the past, be eligible for renewal of their Awards.

We are still working on selection arrangements for Pennsylvania students, to ensure fairness and to maintain the integrity of the Award. As soon as the arrangements are established, I will report details to the University community.

Sethuram Shankar
Chair of Academic Planning and Budget Committee

Academic Planning and Budget Committee Report

Throughout the 1983-84 academic year, the full Academic Planning and Budget Committee met in weekly, two-hour sessions. Much of the preparatory work for these meetings was done by subcommittees: one for each School, one that examined the major Resource Centers, and one that reviewed the interdisciplinary research institutes. As in the past, staff support for the Committee was provided by the Offices of Budget Analysis and Planning Analysis with additional support from the Office of the Provost. This report summarizes the Committee’s activities for the year. Though for purposes of discussion, issues may be categorized as “academic” or “budgetary,” in actual practice no such neat divisions emerge: issues were examined in the context of both academic and financial implications, with a commitment to the concept that academic judgments must lead budget decisions.

Much of the full term was devoted to a review of the Schools’ draft five-year plans. Each School subcommittee—assisted by staff analyses of the academic and budgetary elements of each draft plan—prepared a discussion paper that served as a basis for full committee consideration. As a result of these discussions, a memorandum was sent to each School requesting elaboration, clarification, and refinement of particular aspects of its draft plan. These memoranda and the resultant responses are part of an interactive exchange. Our aim is to ensure plans that are consistent with overall University priorities and that clearly articulate each School’s vision of its future and the strategy by which its goals are to be achieved.

Details of this process are reviewed in “Planning at Penn: A Progress Report” (Almanac, May 1, 1984).

The Committee was also instrumental in the decision reached last year to move to a twenty-four-month budget cycle as a way to bring academic and budgetary planning into tandem. A major focus of Committee attention throughout this year was monitoring the transition. Budgetary parameters were developed in keeping with the stated goals of real growth in faculty income and deceleration in the rate of tuition increases.

In late February, an accreditation team from the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools visited the University. By prior agreement, the team concentrated on the planning process itself, assessing the efficacy of the steps previously taken and suggesting adjustments. The analyses and responses generated in the Committee review of the draft School plans, the plans themselves, and the President’s planning documents comprised the institutional self-study submitted to the team prior to its arrival on campus. The Committee served as a resource during the team visit, meeting as subcommittees to discuss each School’s planning process and the resulting plan.

Later in the spring term, the Committee began consideration of the draft five-year plans of the Resource Centers: the Museum, the Library, the Department of Recreation and Intercollegiate Athletics, the Annenberg Center and the University Press. These plans were examined in a manner similar to that used for the Schools, with both suggestions and requests for clarification sent to each Director at the end of Committee discussions.

This spring, for the first time, a subcommittee of the Academic Planning and Budget Committee undertook a study of a group of the University’s interdisciplinary research institutes. Using a survey instrument developed by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research with generous assistance from former Wharton Associate Dean Ronald Frank, the Committee made a set of proposals concerning the development of these units. These proposals are now under review.

Budgetary concerns in the form of discussions of the fiscal year 1986 parameters and capital budget planning occupied the Committee during late spring. As always, the Committee was the source of advice regarding the academic and financial aspects of a wide range of specific issues.

In early May, the Committee met in a full-day session that served to summarize the year’s judgments and to outline the work of next year. The group will continue to engage in dialogue with the Schools and Resource Centers regarding the refinement of their plans. Issues of continuing concern—graduate education, and balance among various programs to cite just two examples—remain on the agenda for next year.

Several members leave the Committee this year and deserve special thanks. Professor James Emery and Professor Daniel Perlmutter served on the Committee since its inception and made major contributions to its development. Professor Paul Bender leaves the Committee and the University to become Dean of the Law School Arizona State. Bette Kauffman, graduate student representative, also made major contributions to the Committee. Michael Laccovara, CAS ’84, and Ed Szczepkowski, Wharton ’84, served as undergraduate representatives during the past year. Professor Rochel Gelman, who will be on leave next year, fortunately will return to the Committee in the fall of 1985. New members will aid in our deliberations in the coming year: Professors David Hildebrand, John Quinn and Anita Summum, Chris Johnson, a graduate student in Geology, and Craig Carnaroli, Wharton ’85, and Allan Rinaldi, SEAS/Wharton ’85. We look forward to another busy and challenging year.

—Thomas Ehrlich, Provost and Chair of Academic Planning and Budget Committee
September on Campus
September on Campus
Nichols Chair: Dr. Dunn

Dr. Richard Dunn, professor of history, is the first Roy F. and Jeannette P. Nichols Professor of American History. The Nichols Chair was established through the lifetime gifts and a bequest totalling over $1,650,000 from Drs. Roy F. and Jeannette P. Nichols, who spent nearly 50 years at Penn. He was vice provost and later dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. She headed the graduate group in economic history (Almanac October 25, 1983).

Dr. Dunn, who began teaching at Penn in 1957, has a B.A. from Harvard, and an M.A. and Ph.D., both in history, from Princeton. He served as chair of the history department, 1972-77, then served as director of the Philadelphia Center for Early American Studies, 1978-80. In 1980 he became chair of the Center's Advisory Council.

He coedited, along with his wife Mary Maples Dunn, The Papers of William Penn, Volume One: 1644-1679; Volume Two: 1680-1684 and William Penn and the Founding of Pennsylvania, 1680-1684. A Documentary History:

His works in progress include volumes 3 and 4 of the Penn Papers to be published by the University of Pennsylvania Press, as well as The World of William Penn, a volume of essays from the 1981 conference of the same name, also to be published by the Press.

Pancoast Chair: Dr. Kligerman

Dr. Morton M. Kligerman, professor of radiation therapy in the School of Medicine and attending physician in the department of radiation therapy at HUP, has been named the Henry K. Pancoast Chair. Dr. Kligerman received his degrees at Temple University and the Universities of Delaware and Virginia (M.A. '65, Ph.D. '67). Dr. Pauly taught at Northwestern University from 1967-83 and was named professor of economics in 1974. He has been a visiting scientist at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Laxenburg, Austria, and a visiting research fellow at the International Institute of Management in Berlin. His other appointments have included: faculty research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research and consultant to the Office of Management and Budget, the Office of the Secretary at DHEW, and the National Institutes of Health, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Mellon Chair: Dr. Santomero

Dr. Anthony M. Santomero, professor of finance and co-chairman of the finance department, has been named the Richard K. Mellon Professor of Finance. The Mellon Professorship in Finance was endowed at the Wharton School in 1966 through a $500,000 gift to the University by Lieutenant General Richard K. Mellon, Pittsburgh financier and philanthropist.

Dr. Santomero has also been appointed vice dean of the Wharton School's Graduate Division. The position includes responsibility for the school's MBA program—admissions, student affairs and corporate placement—and the Wharton Executive MBA Program, and with it memberships in both the Dean's Advisory Council and the Administrative Group.

Dr. Santomero joined Wharton in 1972 as an assistant professor of finance and became an associate professor in 1977. He was associate director of doctoral programs from 1975-77. Before coming to Penn, he had been an assistant professor of economics at Baruch College, City University of New York. From 1977-78 he was a visiting professor at the Ecole Superieure des Sciences Economiques & Commerciales in France and at the European Institute for Advanced Studies in Management in Belgium.

Dr. Santomero has been a consultant to the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia and other banking institutions. He was a member of the Advisory Committee in Economics, Council for International Exchange of Scholars, from 1978-81.

Currently Dr. Santomero is the associate editor of six financial journals. He has written numerous scholarly articles on monetary policy, financial markets, and banking and financial institutions. He is a graduate of Fordham University (A.B. '68) and Brown University (Ph.D. 71) in economics.
Torsten Althin Chair: Dr. Hughes

Sweden's Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm has created a special chair for Dr. Thomas P. Hughes, professor of history and sociology of science.

Continuing full-time teaching here during the academic year, Dr. Hughes will spend one month at the Royal Institute each summer for five years, teaching courses on the history of technology, giving seminars at both the Royal Swedish Academies of Engineering and Sciences, and lecturing at other universities in a program that seeks to establish the history of technology as an academic discipline in Sweden.

The Torsten Althin Chair in the History of Technology and Society is named for the man who was Sweden's leading historian of technology and director of the Stockholm Museum of Technology.

A Chair Established

The Albert M. Kligman Chair of Dermatology has been established, with more than $1.2 million pledged, to honor Dr. Kligman, professor of dermatology. A search committee for the new chair will be appointed soon.

A Penn alumnus, Ph.D.'42 and M.D.'47, Dr. Kligman has taught here since 1951. His research includes disorders of the hair, acne, fungus and bacterial infections, poison ivy, dry skin, photobiology and aging. He is a member of a number of professional societies and has served as president of the Society for Investigative Dermatology, 1977-78, and the president of the Philadelphia Dermatological Society, 1975-76. He has co-authored, with Dr. Gerd Plewig, a major work on acne entitled Acne: Morphogenesis and Treatment.

An endowed lectureship has been established to honor the memory of the late Dr. Donald M. Pillsbury, emeritus professor of dermatology. He joined the department in 1928 as an assistant instructor, worked his way up the ranks to professor in 1945 and chairman of the department from 1946 to 1963. He became emeritus in 1971 and died in October 1980 at the age of 77. More than $50,000 has been donated with the majority from alumni.

Dr. Herman Beerman, emeritus professor of dermatology, is being honored for his 51 years spent at Penn, with a Conference Room dedicated to him. The Herman Beerman Teaching Room, on the second floor of Maloney Building, HUP, was dedicated at a ceremony in the spring. A photo portrait by Bachrach of the 84-year-old former chief of Pennsylvania Hospital and Graduate Hospital will be hung in the room.

Dr. Carl F. Schmidt, emeritus professor of pharmacology, is the 1984 recipient of the School of Medicine's Distinguished Graduate Award for "substantial and unusual contributions to the medical profession and the School of Medicine." A 1918 graduate of the Medical School, he studied a Chinese drug, while a member of the Peking Union Medical College, and made applications and analyses that lead to the isolation of ephedrine, announced in 1924 at the Society of Experimental Biology and Medicine's meeting in Peking.

Dr. Julia V. Bukowski, assistant professor of systems engineering in the Moore School of Electrical Engineering, will be honored at the IEEE Centennial Celebration in its final event to be held in December. The theme, "Keys to the Future," characterizes a small number of young engineers who show "greatest promise for applying evolving technologies in their respective fields to the development of new industrial products and systems for the improvement of society." Dr. Bukowski will receive the award for her work in "reliability.

Dr. Jerre Mangione, Professor Emeritus of American Literature, was recently awarded the Chapel Legion of Honor Medalion by trustees and members of the Chapel of Four Chaplains in Philadelphia. Author of Mount Allegro, An Ethnic at Large, and The Dream and the Deal, Dr. Mangione was honored for "in recognition of loving service rendered...to persons regardless of their race or religious faith." The Chapel of Four Chaplains perpetuates the memory of four Army Chaplains of different denominations who gave up their lives to save four young soldiers when their troopship, the S.S. Dorchester, was torpedoed by a Nazi submarine in 1943.

President Emeritus Martin Meyerson, University Professor and chairman of the University of Pennsylvania Foundation, was cited for distinguished achievement by the University of California at Berkeley commencement ceremonies.

The University of Pennsylvania Press will receive a Silver Gavel Award from the American Bar Association for the publication of Groundwork: Charles Hamilton Houston and the Struggle for Civil Rights by Genna Rae McNeil, the story of a black lawyer whose strong influence on American law and society is detailed for the first time. Published in 1983, the book is being recognized as an outstanding contribution to public understanding of the American legal system.

The Annenberg School of Communication's quarterly journal, Studies in Visual Communication, has received a certificate of excellence for each of its 1983 issues, designed by Penelope Malish of the Philadelphia firm Malish & Pivin, at the American Institute of Graphic Arts jury and show in May. Sixty pieces were selected as examples of the best communication design in the 80s from submissions of graphic artists and design firms in the area.

And Other Things...

Dr. Robert Dyson, Museum director, was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in May.

The Reverend Dr. Gretchen A. Wood, vice dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for academic advising and member of the English faculty, was ordained a priest last month at St. Mary's Church, Hamilton Village, by the Rt. Rev. Lyman C. Ogilby, Bishop of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Wood has been an active member of St. Mary's Church since 1972, and was ordained a deacon a year ago. She is the third woman of both St. Mary's and the University ordained priest this year. The others were the Rev. Carolyn M. Craft (Ph.D. 1973) and the Rev. Coryl Lassen-Willems (B.A., 1977), who are now serving in Virginia and Rhode Island respectively.
All Serious Daring Starts From Within

I welcome you to the University of Pennsylvania, an institution rich in the potential for discovery. Over the next four years, you have extraordinary opportunities to explore. My urgent plea today is that you be bold in exploiting those opportunities. In the process of discovery, if you are willing to reach out—to take intellectual chances—you will gain insights about all around you, what has come before, and what will lie ahead. Most of all, you will become increasingly excited about your own potential, and the ways in which you best can contribute your special talents for a better world.

A wonderful writer, Eudora Welty, recently wrote a book of reminiscences about growing up in Jackson, Mississippi. In closing, she stressed that she "came of a sheltered life." But, she added, "A sheltered life can be a dangerous life as well. For all serious daring starts from within."

Most of you have led what would be called sheltered lives. Sheltered in comparison not simply to those of your age living in the poverty that abounds throughout most of the globe, but sheltered relative to most Americans. There are exceptions among you, but whether or not you are one of them, the serious daring that is now called for on your part is indeed from within.

In academic terms, that daring requires a willingness to reach out across the entire range of this great research University. This week you are hearing five teacher-scholars who represent a sampling of that range. Each is a giant in her or his field. Each is actively engaged in major research on the frontiers of knowledge. Each has defined a problem, undertaken an intensive search for evidence, proposed an approach to a solution based on that evidence, and developed new knowledge as a result. As you listen and reflect on what they say, remember that they are but five of the 1800 members of Penn's standing faculty, though admittedly they are among the stars. In one sense, their lectures are no more than glimpses of coming attractions—a tasting session for the future. In another sense, however, they illustrate why this great research University offers you such special opportunities.

Penn provides you with the chance to be daring with your mind. It is easy enough to choose a curriculum that is wholly within areas of some familiarity, particularly if you seek a professional career, for example, in medicine or engineering. I do not mean that the courses you may take in those fields are easy—far from it. But a seminar in art history when you know nothing about art, or a course in psychology when you have no knowledge of the field—that takes a special daring that I urge. If you do reach out, you will find yourself enriched for life. You will gain each time you enter a museum as you see art in new ways, just as you will gain understanding of those with whom you deal personally and professionally, from an exposure to psychology.

A vital dimension of your undergraduate education will be the shift to a process of life-long self-education, and forays into the intellectual unknown will enrich that process. A psalm in the Dead Sea Scrolls calls on us to "bound God's righteousness by the measuring line of occasion." Exposure to a variety of disciplines helps set your own measuring lines in varying occasions. They will expose you to how different academic fields view what evidence is relevant and why it is relevant. They will give you a sense of the process of discovering new knowledge—from the flash of insight to exhausting hours of search and much in between.

A rich diversity in your curriculum will aid you to become appropriately skeptical, without letting that skepticism corrode into cynicism. "Beware of labels: they may be on the wrong suit." is one of my favorite relative's favorite sayings. This University has no place for absolutes; it calls for questioning, reexamining, always with an open mind—though not at both ends. I do not mean that there are ultimate questions that cannot be answered by more knowledge in an academic sense. Much of what is and should be most important in our lives is and should be beyond rational inquiry. The special province of a university, however, is the inquiring mind at work—probing, exploring, questioning, and always seeking. An act of faith is involved, but it is faith that new knowledge is important, and that the search for that knowledge must continue.

Cynicism is so dangerous because it is a facile excuse for laziness. The cynic is comforted by the thought that nothing she or he does makes a difference, accordingly, the cynic does nothing except complain. You will witness over and over again at Penn, just how much difference one individual can make. On countless occasions here I have seen individual students make extraordinary contributions because they cared and tried. I hope you will follow their lead.

Perhaps most important, over the course of your four years here, the exposure to diverse disciplines will help you to find your own voice. In this community of discoverers, you are unique and the expression of your own identity in a manner you find appropriate is essential.

You are used to being told all the advantages you have that were unavailable to preceding generations, and it seems only fair to admit that there is another side to the story. One of my heroes, John Gardner, the founder of Common Cause, put it this way:

"In the stable periods of history, meaning was supplied in the context of a coherent community and traditionally prescribed patterns of culture. On being born into the society, you were heir to a whole warehouse full of meanings."

Today you can't count on any such patrimony. You have to build meaning into your life, and you build it through your commitments—whether to your religion, to an ethical order as you conceive it, to your life's work, to loved ones, to your fellow human beings. People run around searching for identity, but it isn't handed out free anymore—not in this transient, rootless, pluralistic society. Your identity is what you've committed yourself to.

A Penn education is no guarantee, of course, of finding your identity or of the ability to express it, but that education can help you immeasurably in determining your commitments and how best to channel your talents and energies in ways that produce maximum benefits to others and satisfaction to yourself.

Much of the process will go on outside the classroom, and Penn offers an incredible array of activities—in the arts, in newspapers and journals, in music, in sports, in student government, and in countless other arenas. I hope you will become involved in a number, for each can contribute to your own process of self-discovery.

To operate as it should, indeed to exist at all, the University community requires each of us to respect the person and personality of each other community member. Tolerance is needed, but much more than tolerance is involved. It is important that you reach out affirmatively: To learn about those around you, particularly those of different races, religions, and backgrounds from your own, and then to help others to the extent you can. That is a significant obligation, but if you see it as an opportunity—as I hope you will—an opportunity to enrich your life, it may be among the most important parts of your Penn education. The University has relatively few rules of conduct, but it does not permit conduct that abuses others. My expectation is that you will far exceed that minimum requirement and feel better about yourself because you do.

A great university president said that undergraduate education should equip you to entertain three things: An idea, a friend, and yourself. I have every confidence that your Penn education will do all three, and be fun in the process.

We congratulate ourselves on your presence. The pleasure of your company is our good fortune.

Good luck. I wish you well.

Thomas Elsboth

(The Provost's Address to the Freshman Class September 4, 1984)