On the Audit of Federal Indirect Research Cost Recoveries

The federal government has identified $231,604 that its auditors believe the University of Pennsylvania should not have charged to indirect research costs in 1987, according to a report released in a Congressional hearing today.

Last week, national press reports incorrectly stated the amount was $941,476. This amount reflects the University’s total costs for certain activities, of which only a portion—$231,604—is allocated to research and therefore subject to reimbursement by government or other research sponsors.

The prepared testimony of Richard P. Kusserow, Inspector General of Health and Human Services, incorrectly implied that the amounts at Penn were totally charged to the federal government.

As University officials noted in discussions with HHS auditors late last month, Penn agrees that it inadvertently charged a portion of alumni activity costs—amounting to $192,381—contrary to federal guidelines.

Although other costs cited, such as those for memberships and dues for associations and for the President’s house, are legitimately charged to research under current federal guidelines, we have chosen not to charge the federal government for these in the future. In 1987, Penn attributed $14,521 in operating expenses for the President’s home as general administration costs connected with research since many official events held at the President’s house involve discussions of issues related to federally sponsored research programs and infrastructure.

These charges cited by HHS represent approximately 0.3% of the indirect cost rate of 61% for fiscal year 1987, which was negotiated with and approved by the federal government. Actual indirect costs amounted to 70.35% of Penn’s modified total direct costs for research, and the University absorbed the difference between the 61% rate reimbursed and the 70.35% actual incurred rate. This means Penn absorbed approximately $7 million in uncharged indirect costs.

Penn’s predetermined rates since 1987 also do not take into account other costs for research for which Penn is not currently reimbursed. One example is the more than $2.5 million annually in depreciation, interest and operations and maintenance, for its new Clinical Research Building.

We have been forthright and cooperative with the HHS review team and have supplied them with everything they requested, and we will continue to do so.

We agree that the current system for reimbursement of research costs is ambiguous and difficult to administer for both institutions and government. We welcome a substantive review of the process and will actively participate in making constructive changes that will promote the system of supporting basic research that has served the nation so well. We think the recent OMB recommendations are a positive first step. We will work with Congress, federal research agencies and the OMB to ensure stability, predictability, and cost-effectiveness, which would be an improvement over the precipitous actions taking place in the current climate of contentiousness.

In the meantime, our internal auditors are reviewing accounts to ensure only expenses allowed by OMB Circular A-21 are included. We are intensifying training for University personnel who process more than 1 million transactions per year. These and other steps will ensure that only proper research costs are submitted.

— Marna C. Whittington, Senior Vice President

Law’s Harvey Levin Award: Edmund Spaeth

The Hon. Edmund B. Spaeth, Jr., (above) has been chosen for this year’s Harvey Levin Award for Excellence in Teaching at the Law School.

Judge Spaeth, a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard University, joined Penn Law in 1973 as a lecturer and is now a Senior Fellow. After serving in the Court of Common Pleas, he was appointed to the Pennsylvania Superior Court and later became its President Judge.

Judge Spaeth is called by his nominators “an outstanding instructor.” His students describe him as “courteous, respectful, brilliant, and gentle,” recalling his “charming anecdotes that illustrate key concepts of evidence.” The Levin award is named for an alumnus (B.S. ’55, L.L.B. ’58) and antitrust law specialist who died in 1976 at the age of 43. Since 1978 Mr. Levin’s firm, Schnader, Harrison, Segal and Lewis, has donated funds for the purchase of books selected by each year’s winner to be donated to the Biddle Law Library.
Morris Arboretum from page 1
decided to Penn in 1932 to be developed as a public arboretum and center for research and education. Now the official arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, it is accredited by the American Association of Museums and listed in the National Register of Historic Places as one of America’s finest Victorian landscape gardens. “I am delighted with the appointment of Paul Meyer to the directorship,” said Provost Michael Aiken. “His service to the University has been marked by dedication and commitment, and I am certain that the Arboretum will continue to flourish under him.”

A-1 Assembly Officers for the Academic Year 1991-92

Linda Hyatt, Chair
Assistant to the President
Dennis Mahoney, Chair-Elect
Manager, Human Resources/Benefits
Robert Furniss, Immediate Past Chair
Director, Transportation and Parking
Helen Mulhern, Secretary
Cash Manager
Barbara Murray, Secretary-Elect
Manager, Field Communications and Training

Members at Large

Terms Expire: June, 1992
Ornice Dorsey-Leslie
Assistant Dean & Admissions
School of Social Work
Cheryl Hopkins
Director, Community Relations
Nancy Martino
Associate Director of Development
School of Veterinary Medicine

Terms Expire: June, 1993
Laurie Coursart
Manager, Telecommunications
Annel George
Head of Rosengarten Reserve Room
Saul Katzman
Director, Administrative Affairs
School of Arts and Sciences

Appointed Representatives to University Committees

Representative to Almanac Advisory Board: To be announced
Representative to Parking Violations Board: To be announced
Representative to University Council: Term expires June, 1992
Patricia Gilbert
Senior Planning Associate
School of Medicine
Representative to Benefits Committee: Term expires June, 1992
Jill Maser
Manager, Class of 1923 Ice Rink
COUNCIL: Money, Debates and Election

At the University Council May 8, President Sheldon Hackney urged faculty, staff and alums to write to their Pennsylvania legislators and urge restoration of Penn funding. "Money worries top our agenda for the summer," he said. "We must make our own case now, when it counts." He said he appreciated receiving copies of the letters Penn members send to Harrisburg. (Almanac April 23, p. 6, has advice on writing.)

Money came up elsewhere in Council opening presentations—as in Dr. Hackney’s reiteration of the “no-no-never” rule on Penn’s giving to other eleemosynary institutions (Almanac May 7), in Provost Michael Aiken’s statement supporting continuation of need-blind admission but pointing to risks ahead. In other presentations the president was upbeat about Dr. Raymond Fonseca’s leadership of the next Penn’s Way Campaign and about the success of the first West Philadelphia Day.

Dr. Hackney said an ad hoc group led by Senior Vice President Marna Whitney and VPUL Kim Morrison has been working on a draft policy on sexual violence and acquaintance rape, which he hopes to publish this month. He also said Penn has renewed its urging of Federal action to give temporary safe haven to Lebanese refugees.

GAPSA’s Michael Goldstein presented two resolutions recently passed on escort service (right), and UA’s Mitchell Winston said UA is concentrating now on a waste management study, support of need-blind admission, and letters to Harrisburg and Washington on support of higher education.

Discussion: Both items on the agenda were continuations—on racial harassment policy, zeroing in on the latest draft published April 30, and on ROTC following the Committee on Conduct finding of discrimination and its recommendation to phase out ROTC (Almanac May 7).

Debate on racial harassment policy continued to center on the definition, with issues of breadth vis-a-vis free speech again at the forefront. Dr. Hackney said he will incorporate some of the comments and publish a racial harassment policy Of Record on May 28, and in the fall will publish For Comment a more comprehensive draft policy.

Three students who are present members of ROTC units spoke as invitees to Council, urging that Penn continue to have a unit not only for the student body but for the liberalizing effect of having military leadership trained at this kind of institution rather than exclusively at military schools or conservative private institutions. Provost Aiken urged careful consideration of their views, and some student members of Council favored retention, but all other Council speakers vehemently urged elimination of ROTC by 1993 on grounds that it violates University policy against discrimination on the basis of affectional preference. A faculty speaker likened the language of the military policy to the phrases used to justify segregation of African-Americans in the military in the past.

Election: In Steering Committee elections, Council members chose for the four faculty slots Dr. June Axinn of the School of Social Work, Dr. Frederick Frey of mathematics/SSAS, Dr. Helen Davies of microbiology/Med., and Dr. Kenneth George of the Graduate School of Education. Elected to the two student opening were Susan Garfinkel, GSAS/American Civilization, and You-Lee Kim, College ‘93.

GAPSA Resolutions on Escort Service
Passed unanimously April 25, 1991

On Summer Weekend Escort Service

The University of Pennsylvania provides a night-time Escort Service to members of the Penn community in recognition of the need for a means of safe travel both around campus and between campus and off-campus locations. During the academic year, this service is available nightly.

Currently, the administration plans to offer Escort Service during the summer months for Monday through Friday only, from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Many students, particularly graduate and professional students, continue to use University facilities on the weekends during summer months.

Therefore be it resolved:
The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly commends the University’s intention to provide safe transport for its students.

The graduate and Professional Student Assembly calls upon the University administration to extend summer Escort Service to include Saturdays and Sundays, in time for the coming summer months.

On Extending Escort Service Across the Schuylkill River

The University of Pennsylvania provides a night-time Escort Service to members of the Penn community in recognition of the need for a means of safe travel both around campus and between campus and off-campus locations.

At present, Escort Service does not extend to locations across the Schuylkill River, such as Center City or the Art Museum areas.

Locations in Center City and the Art Museum area can be closer or closer to the Penn campus as parts of West Philadelphia.

Over 1,500 graduate and professional students live in the Center City, Art Museum and Society Hill areas, a figure composing 26% of the off-campus graduate population.

Therefore be it resolved:
The Graduate and Professional Students Assembly commends the University’s intention to provide safe transport for its students.

Escort Service should be extended into the Center City and Art Museum areas.

Permit Parking Rates for 1991-92

The permit parking fee for 1991-92 has been reviewed with the University Council Committee on Facilities. The general fee structure is responsive to the University policy requiring the Parking Program to be self-supporting. Parking income is used to cover the cost of surface improvements (e.g., pavement, fencing, striping, control gates), pay the salaries of attendants, reduce the construction debt on garages, finance new construction of parking garages, pay real estate rental fees, and cover the cost of miscellaneous expenses.

For the 1992 academic year permit parking fees will increase by 44 cents a week in most University parking lots. This amounts to just $2.09 per working day and compares favorably with the minimum daily rate of 5% that non-permit holders must pay in Penn’s transient parking lots.

Parking Permit Class

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<th>(Sept.-May)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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—Office of Transportation and Parking
Speaking Out

Overwhelmed by Support

When I opened the April 30th Almanac to pages 5-7, I was overwhelmed. Although I was well aware of Jay Lash's efforts on my behalf, the grand display of signatures still affected me deeply. I thank all for their courageous support. I say "courageous" because the leading lights of the animal rights movement are a vindictive lot hiding behind their humanitarian masks. I hope that they are beginning to realize that there are just too many of us to intimidate.

More than half who signed are individuals whose names I learned for the first time. Although they support me, they clearly signed for you, the reader; for they recognize that among the numerous adjectives one might use to describe the animal rights extremists, "selfish" heads the list. Many of these extremists are alive and well today thanks to animal research. They are uncrippled by polio, rheumatic heart disease, tuberculosis, or other afflictions and have pets not saddled with heartworms, or the aftermaths of canine distemper and the like. They would deny your children and their descendants the opportunity to avoid such disasters as Alzheimer's disease, various cancers, lifelong disability from traumatic injury to the brain or spinal cord; all of which will eventually be conquered through biomedical research with animals, not computers.

I take this opportunity to challenge the well-known leaders of the movement to forsake all medical attention in the future, in addition to meat, leather shoes and pets. I will allow them to accept anesthesia, some organ transplants, kidney dialysis, insulin, rabies vaccinations, and other medicines and medical procedures now available—and even give them five-year grace periods; but they had better quickly wean themselves from visists to the doctor or elsewear the label "veterinarian," and other medicines and medical procedures as well.

I can only hope that it wasn't too expensive to send them by Express Mail.

Response

Dr. Campbell is correct in noting that overseas mail service has been much slower than normal during the past several months. The recent Persian Gulf War has had a major impact on all types of international mail. Transit times were doubled and tripled during the first three months of the year and still have not returned to normal. This is due to the fact that international flights were cut back over 50% during that period and that the planes used by airlines were smaller and had less cargo space available for international mail.

The University has been using "remail," the posting of international air mail in a third country such as the Dominican Republic or Denmark, as a means of reducing costs for several years. Our experience has been that the use of remail has historically added an average of one or two days time in transit as compared to the much more expensive U.S. Postal Service system. This practice has saved the University $300,000 per year.

Recognizing the continuing concerns of the University community, Penn Mail Service recently suspended the use of remail (in favor of USPS) until the international postal situation has completely returned to normal.

James Bean, Manager
Penn Mail Service

Bicycles: Say Yes, But...

I have followed the clamor concerning bicycles and thoughtless riding thereon crowded portions of the campus, and I certainly sympathize with those who may have anxiety either of collisions with a person's bicycle or bicycle-to-bicycle collisions.

May I point out that the bicycle has made the campus accessible to a wide range of students, faculty and visitors residing as far away as Society Hill, on the one hand, or Upper Darby, on the other. It is thereby providing (a) a tremendous relief to the parking problem and (b) a useful and, at some, an essential recreational activity to those living from work, which indeed may do nothing less than save their lives. For me, the bicycle is of greatest importance in order not only to commute but also to reach lectures all over campus, ranging from Biology to Physics to the Childern's Hospital.

It does seem logical that reasonable speeds should not be exceeded on crowded routes—for example, 6 m.p.h.

Thus I recommend two things: one, a speed limit in congested areas; and two, a demarcated zone on each side of the walkway, as indeed there are on highways, where bicycles are permitted. If at the side of the walkways there was a 2-foot wide, clearly marked white line indicating where bicycles are permitted, it would be of the greatest help.

With respect to bicycle parking, the University has made a number of false moves in this respect. First, by constructing an unsuitable bicycle retaining device. Secondly, by being slow in installig proper bike racks where they are most needed. Thirdly, by providing inadequate surveillance to insure that "10-speed ripoff" occurs only infrequently.

On behalf of those who actually require bike riding for health and those who do not wish to commute by automobile or congest the parking lots, I urge a responsible response from the riders and from the University administration. The economy of a bicycle parking slot as compared with an automobile parking slot is easily recognizable.

As I may have some readers captive, let me put in an admonition: wear a helmet. This is for your benefit and for that of the animals. Proper bike racks where they are most needed, and other responsibilities from the riders and from the University administration. The economy of a bicycle parking slot as compared with an automobile parking slot is easily recognizable.

-Briton Chance
Emeritus University Professor of Biochemistry and Biophysics / Med.

Overseas Mail

I write with reference to our University overseas mail service. There is no doubt that efforts to reduce the cost of overseas mailings are desirable, but only if there is not a prohibitive time loss in transit. This semester I have had an exchange of letters with a German colleague who, if he obtains a government grant, plans to be a research associate in my department next year. In connection with these plans he needed several letters including one confirming his research associate status. When letters failed to reach him after many weeks, he telephoned and I sent copies by Express Mail. The original letters were delivered to Mail Service according to required procedures. Writing on March 25 he informed me: "Concerning the three belated letters I must tell you that the first one (dated February 1) [the letter of appointment, nearly two months late] reached me just before I received the copies sent by Express Mail [posted February 28]. It made its way via a certain Mr. Isserwecz in Denmark. The second and third letters (dated February 8 and 13) came in last week [i.e., 4-5 weeks after mailing]. They both spent time in Santo Domingo/Donominican Republic. The copies [i.e., the ones sent by Express Mail] were an invaluable help for me when outlining my intended project, as required by the DFG. I can only hope that it wasn't too expensive to send them by Express Mail."

I fear this is not a unique example. I know that colleagues have experienced time lapses in correspondence of sufficient duration to raise suspicions that the letters had been sent surface mail by error—only later to discover that they had been couriered to intermediated locations, then sent more cheaply to their intended destinations. Unfortunately, when attenuated transmission time results in international phone calls, FAXing, or Express Mailings, precious little economy is achieved and our aspirations to be a truly international university are negated.

-Malcolm Campbell
Professor and Interim Chair, Department of the History of Art
Smith Hall Controversy

The plan to demolish Smith Hall, a registered historic building, continues to excite controversy on this campus. The proposed Institute for Advanced Science and Technology is not that controversial: only its siting is. There are alternative sites: especially, the large, under-utilized parking lot on Walnut at 33rd Street. Is it really necessary to build in the crowded historic precinct on Smith Walk? Many of us in the University community think it is not necessary. We think compromise is possible.

Finance has been the key argument for the Smith Walk site: a building on the Walnut Street site, we have been told, would cost $21 million more than one on the Smith site. But would it really? A close look at the figures suggests that the difference has been grossly and improperly exaggerated.

Thus, a replacement or "land development" cost of $7 million was charged to the Smith site but no comparable charge ($5.5 million, say) was made to the Smith site. Such a charge is standard to any building project. A figure of $7.5 million for "minimal" relocation for current use of the Smith, Morgan and Music Buildings was charged to the Walnut Street site option. But these buildings would not, in this plan, be used by the Institute.

No cushion for inflation ($1.5 million, minimally) was charged to the Smith site, even though it is standard practice for a two-phase building project.

It is claimed that a project on the Walnut Street site would cost $61 million, compared with $45 million for a project on the Smith site. But take $7.5 million from the Walnut Street site and add $5.5 million to the Smith site, and the costs of these alternatives are about the same. The issue, note, is not actual building cost but accounting practices.

We ask you, Provost Aiken, for specific answers to the following questions:
1. Why is a standard "land development" cost not charged to the Smith site?
2. Why is a $7.5 million renovation of buildings currently in use by humanities departments charged to the Walnut Street site plan?
3. Why is an inflation cushion not charged to the Smith site plan?

University representatives have been asked these questions in public hearings and have responded evasively. May we now hear some plain and clear answers, please?

—Robert E. Kohler
Professor of History and Sociology of Science.

Response to Dr. Kohler

Professor Kohler's letter is inaccurate both in its claims and in its conclusions. The cost differences between a remote site and a site adjacent to existing science facilities are explained in detail in the publicly available January, 1991, Addendum to the Institute for Advanced Science and Technology Feasibility Study. Previous cost comparisons were based on an unspecified site. The Addendum cost comparisons use a logical open

(continued past inserts)

1991 Summer Hours and Compensation Practices

Beginning Monday, July 1, 1991, the University will alter its regular schedule of weekly hours worked for the months of July and August. The summer schedule of hours worked at the University, as referred to in this statement, is 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday with a one-hour lunch period, resulting in a work week of 32.5 hours.

The following should serve as a set of guidelines in the implementation of summer hours for this year.

A. Effective Period

Summer hours resulting in the following time reductions will be observed Monday, July 1 through Friday, August 30, 1991.

1/2 hour per day totaling 2-1/2 hours per week.
35.0-hour work week is reduced to 32.5 hours;
37.5-hour work week is reduced to 35.0 hours;
40.0-hour work week is reduced to 37.5 hours.

B. Guidelines for Implementation

In recognition of the varying operating requirements throughout the University, a particular department or school may need to adopt a flexible schedule to meet its particular needs. However, the summer schedule of hours worked cannot exceed the reduced rate of weekly hours indicated above without additional compensation. Supervisors should advise employees as soon as possible what the summer schedule of hours worked will be in their department or school.

Departments are given flexibility in the scheduling of the reduced work week. Some examples follow:

Scheduled Work Week

(Using a 35-hour work week reduced to 32.5 hours)

A. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
B. Staggered hours to extend daily coverage:
   Employee I: Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
   Employee II: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
   Employee III: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
   Friday, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*

* Employees choosing to take the 2-1/2 hours off in any one day must work the regularly scheduled hours on the remaining four days in order to accrue the 2-1/2 hours. Paid time off, i.e. sick, vacation, personal days, etc. do not count as days worked.

C. Compensation Practices

1. All employees working the summer schedule of hours are to be paid their regular weekly salary.
2. Any unit deciding to maintain the regular week schedule throughout July and August should discuss this decision with the Office of Staff Relations prior to July 1, 1991.
   a) If a weekly-paid employee works more than the summer schedule of hours, that employee is to receive, in addition to the regular weekly salary, extra compensation for those hours worked at straight time up to forty hours worked in the week.
   b) If the supervisor and employee mutually agree, compensatory time may be taken equal to the additional straight-time hours worked (compensatory time must be taken before November 29, 1991).
3. If a weekly-paid employee works more than forty hours in a week, that employee is to receive compensation at time and one-half (1 1/2) for all hours worked in excess of forty (40).

Examples

| Regularly | Summer | | | | Total |
| Scheduled | Worked | Straight | One-Half | Hours |
| Hours | Hrs. | Time | Hrs. | Paid | Paid |
| 35 hrs. | 32.5 | 35.0 | | | 35.0 |
| 35.0 | 37.5 | 0 | 37.5 |
| 40.0 | 42.5 | 0 | 42.5 |
| 42.0 | 42.5 | 2 | 45.5 |
| 37.5 hrs. | 35.0 | 37.5 | 0 | 37.5 |
| 37.5 | 40.0 | 0 | 40.0 |
| 40.0 | 42.5 | 2 | 45.5 |
| 42.0 | 42.5 | 0 | 40.0 |
| 40.0 | 42.5 | 2 | 45.5 |

D. Exclusions

Regular part-time employees, temporary employees, University employees working at HUP whose unit does not observe the summer hours schedule, and employees covered by collective bargaining agreements are excluded from this reduced summer hours procedure.

E. Questions

Any questions concerning the above should be directed to the Office of Staff Relations at extension 8-6093.

—Office of Human Resources
site alternate—a parking lot site on the north side of 34th Street just east of the Laboratory for Research on the Structure of Matter.

Professor Kohler states that $21 million is the reported cost premium to be paid for at a remote site scheme over the recommended 34th Street scheme. In fact, the cost premium as presented by the Addendum ranges between $17.3 and $23.0 million. His letter does not explain that these cost premiums are based on land replacement and duplication of facilities, equipment, and staffing for building the IAST facility at a remote site. Since campus utilities are in place at both sites, land development costs are assumed to be similar.

His letter inaccurately states that a $7 million replacement or land development cost was charged to the Walnut Street site. In fact, that land replacement cost was $2.4 million.

Professor Kohler then questions why there is not a $5.5 million land development cost assigned to the recommended 34th Street scheme. His figure of $5.5 million is not explained. Since the project uses a building replacement approach to meet the needs of the first phase of the IAST project, land replacement costs are not required. Even if the $2.4 million assigned to the 34th Street site, the cost premium for the remote site alternative would still be significantly large—between $14.9 and $20.6 million.

He mentions that a figure of $7.5 million for renovation of the Smith, Morgan and Music Buildings along 34th Street was charged to the LSRM site alternate. This is also inaccurate; the Addendum cost comparison does not charge these costs to the LSRM alternative. It should be pointed out that the IAST project would not only spend renovation and restoration monies on the Morgan and Music Buildings, it would also in later phases renovate and restore Hayden Hall, the Cret Addition to the Chemistry Complex, and parts of the historically significant Towne Engineering Building.

Professor Kohler asks why there isn’t a cushion for inflation charged to the 34th Street scheme. The IAST project must be phased to match the availability of funds regardless of its location; therefore, escalation costs would be similar.

We believe that our assessment of cost premiums associated with a remote versus a contiguous site for the IAST is accurate. As a result of the Philadelphia Historical Commission’s request for additional cost information, we have addressed real cost issues that underscore the qualitative and quantitative reasons why the IAST should be constructed within the historic district and adjacent to existing chemistry and engineering facilities. Our recommended scheme will enhance the architectural and academic quality of the scientific and historic precinct. It focuses restoration efforts on five historic buildings, revitalizes science programs which are badly in need of expansion space, and creates a unique symbolic center for greatly needed collaborative research and educational programs at the core of Penn’s campus.

—Michael Aiken, Provost

Edward Collins and Smith Hall by Michael Lewis

Smith Hall, the University of Pennsylvania’s former hygiene laboratory on 34th Street, stands like an overlooked sentinel at the western end of Smith Walk. Its modest size, its utilitarian brick construction, and the lack of any ornament beyond the terra cotta panels set in its austere walls have guaranteed it a low profile on Penn’s campus—particularly on a site where it is fairly shouted down by the architectural acrobatics of Frank Furness’ library and Irving Auditorium across the street. And so Smith Hall, ignored rather than unloved, has come down to us slightly tattered and frayed on the one-hundredth anniversary of its construction. But the building tells one of the most unusual architectural tales on the Penn campus.

Smith Hall is at first glance unprepossessing: a two-story brick building with a low roof pitch and almost without ornament except for the classical entrance portico in the center and the machine-pressed terra cotta panels set into its walls. But the building is perhaps most remarkable for what is missing. With none of the crenellated parapets or moody gargoylets of the Quad, it lacks the characteristic Anglophilia of most of the University’s buildings. While Penn’s buildings—and the buildings of most American universities—were carefully drawn from English models, linking them to Oxford and Cambridge, Smith Hall deviated from the pattern, drawing its cues from Germany rather than England. As such it records that moment in the nineteenth century when American colleges, even as they were dressing themselves in things English, were closely studying the method and curriculum of the German university.

Smith Hall was the creation of German architect Edward Collins. Despite his English name, Collins was born in Königsberg, East Prussia, in 1821. In the two decades following his birth, a new approach to architecture came into being and Collins travelled across Germany to learn it. In 1844 he enrolled at the Polytechnical college in Karlsruhe, one of Germany’s leading schools of architecture, where he was influenced by the great German architectural theorist Heinrich Hildebrand. These were decades of scientific revolution in Germany—Humboldt was cataloguing the natural world, while Hegel was seeking to find order in human history, likewise at Karlsruhe architecture was treated according to a rational and scientific manner. All of architectural history was subjected to systematic study; students were not to use one style, like the Gothic fiction of the Penn Quad, to convey associations. Instead they were taught to study the styles and to derive from the abstract principles which could serve to create a new modern style. This new style would be neither classical nor medieval, for either of those would evoke the past; instead it would be a synthesis of them both, showing the result as the unmistakable creation of the present.

In the wake of the revolution of 1848 Collins fled to Philadelphia where he found himself the city’s first academically trained architect. Together with a German friend he formed the partnership of Collins & Autenrieth and soon established a prominent practice, designing such major buildings as the Union Railroad Station in Pittsburgh and the Lit Brothers Store in Philadelphia.

As designed by Collins, Smith Hall does not evoke the Middle Ages way the Penn Quad does, nor does it evoke any other part of the past. There was a compelling reason for this; there was nothing like it in the past. In function and type, the hygiene research laboratory was absolutely modern, and it would not do to arouse the memories of Greek research or of Medieval medicine. Instead it was Collins’ task to convey the modernity of the building type, besides providing for its function and utility. For this there were no historical models to emulate while there were some well-developed German models, such as recent laboratories in Berlin and Zurich. From them Collins took his stern brick walls, the flat roofline, and the neither Gothic nor Classical character. As he had learned to do at Karlsruhe, Collins based the character of Smith Hall on no historical model but on the building program itself. The arrangement of the building shows this: the southern flank, originally planned an auditorium while the long flank on Smith Walk is more window than wall, generously providing indirect northern light for the hygiene experiments within.

In the final decades of the nineteenth century, hygiene research was new in America—an import from the universities of a young and vigorous Imperial Germany. This radical new emphasis on research transformed American chemistry programs, which has once been oriented toward the teaching of a fixed body of knowledge. Of the American institutions to take part in this “research revolution,” the University of Pennsylvania was one of the first; Smith Hall, the University’s oldest surviving dedicated research laboratory, documents this vital chapter in the history of science. In this sense, the style of the building was the appropriate language for that which went on within. A building devoted to the manufacture of new knowledge rather than the transfer of old, it is fitting that Smith Hall did not copy an old style, but synthesized something new, its style as speculative and questing as the research that took place behind its walls.

Smith Hall brought Collins back to the German ideas and principles of his youth. As with the best architectural solutions, many conflicting requirements were resolved economically and gracefully, creating a building that was at once modern, referred to its German origin, and was consummately integrated into its surroundings, to which Collins linked it by colors and materials, roof heights and discrete scale. In Collins’ crisp architectural essay, a German architectural style and a new German building type collided. The result is a vivid document of the peculiar place of Germany and the German university system in America’s educational history.

Dr. Lewis, who took his Ph.D. from Penn in 1989, lectures in architectural history at Bryn Mawr.
Commencement and the Surrounding Celebrations

For Commencement itself, the gates open at 9 a.m. and the procession will enter the field at 9:35 a.m. The ceremony will begin at 10:15 a.m., concluding at about noon. The ceremony is open to the entire University community, and no tickets are required for admission. Those participating in the academic procession are reminded to report to the Annenberg Center Lobby by 8:15 a.m. under the arches of the South Stands of Franklin Field. The decision to call off the procession will be made only on the morning of Commencement and will be signalled by announcements on radio stations KYW (1060 AM) and WCAU (1210 AM) and the lowering of the flag atop College Hall to half-staff.

Baccalaureate Monday, May 20
Organ Concert: 3:30 p.m.
Ceremony: 4 p.m., Irvine Auditorium
Speaker: Dr. Claire Fagin, Dean of the School of Nursing.
Commencement Tuesday, May 21
Procession: 9:30 a.m. from Superblock
Ceremony: 10:15 a.m., Franklin Field
Speaker: Ted Koppel, ABC newsman.

School Commencements and Receptions
Receptions immediately follow commencements, unless otherwise noted.
College of General Studies
Ceremony: 12:30 p.m., Wistar Institute Courtyard
College of Arts and Sciences
Ceremony: Civic Center, Convention Hall, 2 p.m.
Reception: Civic Center Plaza
Speaker: Sen. Joe Biden (D-Del.)
Graduate Faculties (A.M., M.S., Ph.D.)
Reception: Following Commencement, College Hall 200
Speaker: Dean Hugo Sommerschein
Graduate School of Fine Arts
Ceremony: 1 p.m., Furness Plaza
Reception: Furness Plaza
Speaker: Anne W. Sparn, Chair, Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
School of Engineering & Applied Science
Ceremony: 12:30 p.m., Palestra
Reception: West Lawn, Towne Building
Speakers: Dean Gregory Farrington, Associate Dean John Keenan
School of Nursing
Ceremony: May 20, 8 p.m., Harrison Auditorium, University Museum.
Reception: Nursing Education Building, Lobby Area
Speaker: Vernice Ferguson, deputy assistant chief and medical director for nursing programs, Veterans' Administration.
School of Dental Medicine
Ceremony: 1 p.m., Irvine Auditorium.
Reception: Dental School.
Speaker: Robert V. Walker, University of Texas, Southwest Medical Center.

Wharton School (undergraduate) and Wharton Evening School
Ceremony: Civic Center, Convention Hall, 6 p.m.
Reception: Steinberg-Dietrich Hall, 3 to 5 p.m.

Wharton Doctoral Program
Ceremony: May 20, 5:30 p.m., Chinese Rotunda, University Museum
Dinner: May 20, 7 p.m., Upper Egyptian Gallery, University Museum.

Wharton Graduate Division
Ceremony: 1 p.m., Pennsylvania Hall, Civic Center
Reception: Class of 1920 Commons
Speaker: Leszek Balandowicz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Poland

Graduate School of Education
Ceremony: International House, Hopkinson Hall, 2:30 p.m.
Reception: International House, South America Room, 4 p.m.

Annenberg School for Communication
Ceremony: 2 p.m., Room 110, Annenberg School
Reception: Annenberg School Forum

School of Veterinary Medicine
Ceremony: 10:30 a.m., Irvine Auditorium, University Museum
Reception: Assembly Room, Penn Tower Hotel
Speaker: Joel Reeser, Department of Human Services.

School of Medicine
Ceremony: 4 p.m., Irvine Auditorium.
Reception: University Museum, Upper Egyptian Gallery
Speaker: C. Everett Koop, former Surgeon General.

Law School
Ceremony: 2 p.m., Second National Bank (between 4th and 5th on Walnut) Rain Location: Class of 1923 Ice Rink, 2 p.m.

Biomedical Graduate Studies
A Hundredth Birthday Party at CA

To celebrate its 100th anniversary, during Alumni Weekend the Christian Association will hold a series of events open to the University community. The Class of 1951 sponsors a coffee hour, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday, followed at 11 a.m. by a ribbon-cutting with Paul Miller, the centennial celebration’s honorary chair. The rest of the day it’s Open House (to 4 p.m.) with a host of Christian Association leaders of yesteryear—among them Bill Knox, Ralph Moore, David Seymour, Hart Helmich, Harold Viehman, Dick Fernandez, Dean Snyder, Maureen Doggett, and John Scott.

On Sunday, a worship service is held, 11 a.m. in the chapel, 3rd-floor of the CA, 36th and Locust Walk.

University of Pennsylvania Police Department

This report contains tallies of part 1 crimes, a listing of part 1 crimes against persons, and summaries of part 1 crime in the five busiest sectors on campus where two or more incidents were reported between May 6, 1991 and May 12, 1991.

**Date** | **Time** | **Location** | **Incident**
--- | --- | --- | ---
36th to 38th; Hamilton to Spruce | 05/08/91 11:25 AM | Bodine Dorm | Secured bike taken from rack
| 05/09/91 6:48 PM | Speaksman Dorm | Attempted burglary/door lock pried open
| 05/11/91 5:04 PM | Butcher Dorm | Monitor taken from unsecured room
| 05/12/91 4:48 PM | Provost Tower | Unattended VCR taken

30th to 34th; Walnut to Market

| 05/06/91 9:54 AM | LRSM | Purse taken/recovered minus cash
| 05/07/91 5:40 PM | Zeta Psi | Car window broken/clothing taken
| 05/11/91 11:15 AM | Hill House | Computer taken from unattended room
| 05/11/91 4:54 PM | Hill House | TV & phone taken from unattended room

36th to 37th; Locust to Walnut

| 05/08/91 3:34 PM | Delta Phi | Unsecured bike taken
| 05/10/91 1:01 PM | Christian Assoc. | Wallet taken from purse
| 05/11/91 5:53 AM | Phi Gamma Delta | Unauthorized male entered/entered/locked/unattended

32nd to 33rd; South to Walnut

| 05/07/91 3:14 PM | Rittenhouse Lab | Unauthorized coat taken
| 05/08/91 2:50 PM | Franklin Field | Unauthorized wallet taken from dressing room
| 05/09/91 4:06 PM | Lot #5 | Auto taken from parking lot

36th to 42nd; Walnut to Market

| 05/09/91 2:03 AM | Alpha Phi | Computer taken from room
| 05/12/91 4:31 PM | Kappa Delta | Unattended knapsack left outside taken
| 05/12/91 4:31 PM | Kappa Delta | Unattended knapsack left outside taken

Safety Tips: Help reduce car theft opportunities by following these tips when you park.
- Before leaving your parked car, secure windows, vents, glove compartment, trunk & doors;
- Transfer clothes, packages and personal items to locked trunk prior to final parking location;
- Do not leave money, valuables, or wallet in your car at any time.
- If you see a suspicious person tampering with a car call the University Police immediately.

18th District Crimes Against Persons Report

Schuylkill River to 49th Street, Market Street to Woodland Avenue

| Date | Time | Location | Offense/Weapon | Arrest |
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
04/29/91 | 11:02 PM | 322 S. 46 | Robbery/strong-arm | No
04/30/91 | 12:02 AM | 4700 Pine | Robbery/gun | No
05/01/91 | 8:55 AM | 4600 Market | Robbery/strong-arm | No
05/01/91 | 6:15 PM | 4000 Sansom | Aggravated Assault/blackjack | Yes
05/01/91 | 6:15 PM | 4000 Sansom | Aggravated Assault/pipe | Yes
05/01/91 | 12:12 AM | 4900 Paschall | Robbery/gun | No
05/01/91 | 2:25 AM | 4700 Cedar | Robbery/gun | No
05/01/91 | 12:55 PM | 3000 Market | Robbery/strong-arm | Yes
05/03/91 | 9:00 PM | 4439 Spruce | Aggravated Assault/rock | Yes
05/03/91 | 8:56 PM | 4063 Sansom | Robbery/gun | No
05/03/91 | 11:53 PM | 241 S. 49 | Robbery/strong-arm | Yes
05/05/91 | 12:05 PM | 4744 Larchwood | Robbery/strong-arm | Yes
05/05/91 | 5:25 AM | 4333 Pine | Purse Snatch/strong-arm | No
05/05/91 | 5:54 AM | 4400 Market | Robbery/gun | No
05/05/91 | 8:56 AM | 1345 S. Markoe | Robbery/strong-arm | Yes

**Update**

**MAY AT PENN**

**EXHIBITS**

16 **Art and Poetry:** the poetry and images of artist Ed Kerns. Reception with live music: 5 p.m., Esther Klein Art Gallery, University City Science Center. Through June 28.

17 **Photographs:** Marc C. Abrams; retrospective of this internationally known photographer; Faculty Club. Through May 24

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

17 **Minority Permanence Reception:** the Penn family is invited to this celebration of minority presence; 4:30 p.m., Annenberg Center Plaza. Reservations Ext. 8-0104 (Office of the President, Provost, Campaign for Penn, General Alumni Society, African American Resource Center, and African-American Association).

**TALKS**

16 **Meditation: the Gentle Path to Stress Management:** Frank Guaranaccia, staff counselor; noon, Ben Franklin Room, Houston Hall (FSAP).

Proteins on Excocytic Vesicles Mediate Calcium-Triggered Fusion; Steven Vogel, Laboratory of Biochemistry and Metabolism; 4 p.m., Department of Physiology Library, Richards Building (Department of Physiology).

17 **Man and Evolution:** Bert Zink, director of medicine, Zurich, Switzerland; 4 p.m., Wistar Auditorium (Wistar Institute).

**20 Differential Amlyoid Gene Splicing in Alzheimer's Disease:** Gerals Higgins, National Institute of Aging; noon, Pharmacology Seminar Room M100-101, John Morgan Building (Department of Pharmacology).

Adoption of Monoclonal Antibody Technologies for the Treatment of Gram Negative Sepsis; Kevin Schulman; Second Floor Conference Room, Ralston Penn Center.

21 **Burnout: How to Avoid it, What to Do About It:** Bete Begleiter, staff counselor; noon, Ben Franklin Room, Houston Hall (FSAP).

**Correction:** In last week’s article on the Presidential Young Investigators, the year that Dr. Russell Composto won the Tau Beta Pi Excellence in Engineering Teaching Award should have been 1983. In the same article, Dr. Vijay Kumar’s title was incorrect; he is assistant professor of mechanical engineering and applied mechanics with a secondary appointment in computer and information science.