SAS Dean: Rosemary Stevens of H&SS

Dr. Rosemary A. Stevens, chair of the Department of History and Sociology of Science, has been chosen as Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and Thomas S. Gates, Jr., Professor, President Sheldon Hackney and Provost Michael Aiken have announced.

Pending trustees’ confirmation, Dr. Stevens will take office September 1 as the sixth dean of SAS—and the first woman to head the school. She succeeds Dr. Hugo F. Sonnenschein, who served as dean from 1988 until June 1, when he became provost of Princeton. Dr. Walter Wales of physics has served as acting dean of SAS.

The School, with its 28 departments, 498 standing faculty members, and 7957 undergraduate and graduate students, is the largest school in the University. It includes the oldest unit of Penn—The College, which offers 43 disciplinary and interdisciplinary majors; the Graduate Division, offering Ph.D. programs in 36 fields; and the College of General Studies with 12 under-graduate majors and two masters’ programs for evening students.

Its new dean is considered one of the world’s leading experts in the history and evolution of health care administration, “distinguished not only for her breadth of knowledge ranging from the history and sociology of medicine to contemporary healthcare, but also her commitment to students and teaching,” Dr. Hackney said in announcing her appointment. “I am delighted that such a strong and effective leader will head the School at a time when momentum and spirit of cooperative research is high.”

“The challenge of arts and sciences in the ‘nineties, at Penn as at other great universities,” said Dr. Stevens, “is to build teaching, research, and community, service simultaneously when these tasks may not always seem directly compatible and when resources are naturally limited. Fortunately academia, like scholarship, thrives on well-directed tension. This is an exciting period for rearticulating what the arts and sciences are, do, and might do, and I am looking forward to working with the school’s outstanding faculty and students.”

Provost Michael Aiken added, “Professor Stevens is an affable and energetic individual, one with vision and leadership skills that promise to bring creative progress into the School’s next phase of development.”

Dr. Stevens’s wide-ranging career includes several academic appointments, honors, awards, and publications. Her most recent book, the 1989 In Sickness and In Wealth: American Hospitals in the Twentieth Century, won praise and awards for its examination of modern-day hospitals as profit-making institutions.

Dr. Stevens graduated from Oxford University in 1957 with a B.A. in English Language and Literature. She received her master’s degree in public health in 1963 at Yale, where she went on to earn her doctorate in epidemiology in 1968. Following graduation, she taught at Yale until 1976, rising to full professor during those six years. She was also Yale’s first woman master of an undergraduate college. She then joined Tulane, where in 1977 she was appointed chair of the department of health systems management.

In 1979 she came to Penn as professor of History and Sociology of Science, chairing the department from 1980-83 and again starting in 1986. She is also UPS Foundation Professor in the Social Sciences.

Dr. Stevens has been a visiting professor at numerous institutions including the London School of Economics, Johns Hopkins University, and Brookings Institution. She began her career as a hospital administrator and has served in several administrative capacities in the Government of Tanganyika’s Commission on Health Services, at Gaylord Hospital in Connecticut, and in the Ministry of Health in London.

Dr. Stevens served on the Board of Overseers of Dartmouth Medical School, 1985-1990, and is a member of the Institute of Medicine at the National Academy of Sciences and the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. She has also been a member of the National Board of Medical Examiners, the American Board of Pediatrics, Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduate, the Health Advisory Committee of the U.S. Congress Office of Technology Assessment, and the U.S. Committee on Vital Health Statistics.

Penn’s Way: Thirteen Partners in 1991-92 Campaign

Thirteen organizations will participate in the 1991-92 Penn’s Way charitable workplace campaign, the Office of the President has announced. A goal of $400,000 has been set for the campaign—the University’s first fully combined campaign in which all partners will have equal status. The organizations will be:

The Black United Fund of Pennsylvania, Inc.
The Bread and Roses Community Fund
The Catholic Charities Appeal
The Jewish Federation
The United Negro College Fund Women’s Way
The Children and Youth at Risk Fund
The Elderly Services Fund
The Family and Community Services Fund
The Hungry and Homeless Fund
The Local Health Agencies Fund
The Women’s Services Fund
Specific Care, Inc.

The latter seven funds are corporations formed by United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

The success of Penn’s campaign depends upon the combined efforts of all of the partners,” said Dean Raymond Fonseca of the Dental School, who chairs the 1991-92 Penn’s Way Campaign. “I am confident that we can work together to set new records of University support for the many people in our area who need it,” he added.

To participate in a Penn’s Way Campaign, charitable organizations must qualify as either a fundraising organization disbursing funds to ten or more constituent groups or as a joint fundraising organization which is a federation of ten or more constituent groups. (See Almanac March 5). Organizations must also be able to prove 501(c)(3) status; authorization to raise funds within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; distribution of services primarily in the eight-county Philadelphia Metropolitan Area; and a policy of non-discrimination.

The fully-combined campaign was adopted after a University-wide employee referendum initiated last March by President Sheldon Hackney. Some 9000 ballots went out, and 3045 were returned; a combined campaign was preferred over a United Way-only campaign, 1929 to 1133, with 343 giving no preference (Almanac April 9).

“This year’s campaign offers employees even more options of giving directly to the program of their choice and reflects the diverse interests of the Penn community,” said Dr. Fonseca.
Recognized Holidays

The following holidays will be observed by the University this fiscal year (July 1, 1991 June 30, 1992), on the dates listed below:
- Fourth of July, Thursday, July 4, 1991
- Labor Day, Monday, September 2, 1991
- Thanksgiving, Thursday and Friday, November 28-29, 1991
- New Year’s Day, Wednesday, January 1, 1992
- Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, 1992

In addition, staff are eligible for a floating day off each fiscal year which may be used for any reason, scheduled mutually with one’s supervisor. Floating days are not cumulative.

The special vacation granted to faculty and staff between Christmas and New Year’s Day will be December 26, 27, 30, 31, 1991. If an employee is required to be on duty to continue departmental operations for part or all of this period, the special vacation is rescheduled for some other time.

Staff members who are absent from work either the workday before, the workday after a holiday or both days, will receive pay provided that absence is charged to pre-approved vacation or personal days, or to sick days substantiated by a written note from the employee’s physician.

Vacations and holidays for Hospital employees or those employees in collective bargaining units are governed by the terms of a Hospital policy of their respective collective bargaining agreements.

—Office of Human Resources

OF RECORD

Serving on Grievance Panels

President Sheldon Hackney has approved a modification to the existing staff grievance procedure (Policy #620) which will now allow panel members to serve on panels twice a year in lieu of the once per year required by the current language. This change will remain in effect until the new grievance procedure is implemented.

—Office of Human Resources

Payroll Deductions for 1991-92

Payroll deductions for Plan Year 1991-92 Pennflex Benefits (other than Pre-Tax Expense Accounts) began with June paychecks. These deductions are based on your recent Open Enrollment elections and costs. Deductions for Pre-Tax Expense Accounts begin with July paychecks. After receiving your paycheck, if you have any questions, please contact the Benefits Office at Ext. 8-7281 immediately.

—Human Resources, Benefits

OF RECORD

Passwords for PennNet

Because of security breaches over the last 18 months, Data Communications and Computing Services (DCCS) will be implementing a password system that will verify that each person who accesses the network is a valid member of the Penn community. Network IDs and passwords will be issued to all members of the Penn community free of charge. DCSS will announce information important to all PennNet users in the September Penn Printout and in an early September issue of Almanac.

Since Penn began recycling paper just over a year ago, so much paper has been removed from the trash stream and recycled that it is the equivalent of 17,000 trees being saved, according to Al Pallanti, recycling coordinator.

“The University of Pennsylvania is the top institutional recycler in the state,” he said. This summer the level of recycling is approximately 25-30 tons per week. The level projected for the fall is 50 tons per week said Mr. Pallanti. He said that will account for about 25% of Penn’s waste stream—the percentage targeted by the EPA for the national average. Currently, the national average is 13%. He said that the City is “very satisfied with Penn’s progress.”

While there is some level of recycling in almost every Penn building, there are 76 buildings where the recycling program is fully implemented. Most of the paper being recycled here is “Mixed Paper” which includes any paper as well as cardboard, magazines, phone books, folders, napkins, cups, and envelopes.

When in doubt as to whether something is appropriate for the “White Ledger” container or the “Mixed Paper” one, Mr. Pallanti suggests putting it in the “Mixed” bin. He said it is more cost-effective to recycle “Mixed” since it yields more participation and therefore more tonnage. That in turn reduces hauling costs and is good for the environment.

The paper that Penn recycles gets made into packaging boxes, cardboard and other items that there is a “strong demand” for in the industry, he said.

Departments at Penn have begun using recycled office products in the past year and have slowly increased the use by 4% according to Carol Gegov of Purchasing. The prices of recycled products had been 10-25% higher than traditional products in January of this year; now the price differential is only 3-10% above non-recycled products.

Penn is also planning on establishing at least one, perhaps two drop-off centers for aluminum cans, plastic bottles (from milk, soda, juice, or water) and glass (of any color). These will be available for the University community to deposit items that are not collected in the buildings.

Special Recycling Note for Summer

Those in University buildings not yet on-stream, but doing major cleanups, reorganizations or preparations for moves, can call Al Pallanti at Ext. 4832 to schedule a pick-up of paper or cardboard.

School of Arts and Sciences: Relocations in Summer or Fall

As renovations and restorations continue in College Hall and Logan Hall, the following offices have been moved or are expected to move on the dates shown.

Unit Move Date New Address
Department of American Civilization June 11 Suite 400, 3440 Market Street
Dean’s Office June 18 121 College Hall
Graduate Division June 24 301 College Hall
College of Arts and Sciences July 25 Mezzanine Level, 133 S. 36th Street
Department of Folklore & Folklife August 5 Suite 370, 3440 Market Street
Department of Philosophy August 26 Suite 460, 3440 Market Street
International Relations Program August 26 Suite 450, 3440 Market Street
Department of History of Art August 16 Suite 560, 3440 Market Street
Philadelphia Center for Early American Studies August 16 Suite 540, 3440 Market Street
Women’s Studies Program August 16 Suite 590, 3440 Market Street
College of General Studies October 14 Suite 100, 3440 Market Street

Also Moving: Penn Children’s Center...

The Penn Children’s Center is moving at the end of August from 42nd and Pine Street to 42nd and Spruce Street. The Center will occupy space that had been used by the Middle Years Alternative School (MYS) in the old Divinity School complex that also houses another child care center, Parent Infant Center (PLC), and a private elementary school, University City New School (UCNS).

… and a New Home for the Center for Information Resources

The Center for Information Resources (CIR) and its affiliate, HandiSoft, have formally dedicated their new home at 4212 Chestnut Street, after renovating the 90-year-old, three-story building that began as an autodealership. CIR, which executive director James P. Vagnoni said has “often been called the finest computer-oriented training program in the Delaware Valley for persons with disabilities,” was established at Penn in 1976 as one of the first projects in a nationwide program begun by IBM to prepare persons with disabilities for computer careers. It has a 93 percent placement rate (more than 400 placed since its inception) and numbers as partners, along with Penn, data processing executives from the leading firms in the Greater Delaware Valley and the Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.
On Acquaintance Rape and Sexual Violence Policy

Introduction

The University of Pennsylvania seeks a safe and healthy environment for all community members and visitors. Thus, Penn has developed the following policy on acquaintance rape/sexual violence to set forth definitions, to reaffirm Penn’s commitment to providing resources and processes for prevention, education, support, reporting, adjudication, protection from retaliation, and to identify the range of sanctions. The University will also provide multiple advantages for collection of information about incidents and a clear process for dissemination of acquaintance rape/sexual violence statistics to the community.

The University needs a specific policy on rape and sexual violence because the prevalence of rape and sexual violence on college campuses is alarming. Statistics compel universities throughout the country to acknowledge that significant numbers of their members have been raped or will be raped. Given Penn’s history of providing national leadership with respect to rape and sexual assault education and counseling, it is timely for Penn to continue this role by adopting a specific policy on acquaintance rape and violence. The personal trauma experienced by the victims/survivors and the nature and consequences of this crime undermine the trust essential to the process of education and the mission of the University. This crime also conflicts with our very basic standards of behavior. Indeed, this form of sexual violence is particularly damaging to our community because victims/survivors often are acquainted with and must continue to interact with their assailants. Moreover, for many men and women it is difficult to define this behavior as rape.

1 In a study of 32 colleges and universities, one in four college women reported being a victim of rape or attempted rape during the preceding year. Eighty-four percent of these victims/survivors were acquainted with their assailants. The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). Ms., Project on Sexual Assault, 1987.

Definition

For the purpose of this policy, acquaintance rape/sexual violence is defined as any act in which a member of the University community forces another with whom he or she is acquainted to engage in sexual activity against her or his will without her or his consent. Assent shall not constitute consent if it is given by a person who because of youth, mental disease or intoxication is unable to make a reasonable judgment concerning the nature of or harmfulness of the activity. The policy applies to groups as well as individuals.

Intervention

The University of Pennsylvania will provide resources to support victims/survivors, will utilize University-fact finding and discrepancy procedures with appropriate jurisdiction, will publish annual statistics on incidents of acquaintance rape and attempts, and will provide comprehensive education for the prevention of sexual violence including acquaintance rape at the University of Pennsylvania. Incidents reported to the appropriate departments will be addressed promptly and treated confidentially. In addition, the University will, as appropriate, inform members of the Penn community when an incident has been so reported.

The procedures which implement this policy will take into account the need to investigate charges which may be filed and the right to confidentiality of all involved parties. When appropriate, after an incident occurs, outreach and support to faculty, students and staff affected by the particular incident will be part of Penn’s response.

Sanctions

University sanctions will be imposed in accordance with appropriate University processes upon persons found to have violated this policy. These sanctions can include but are not limited to suspension, expulsion, and/or separation from the University. In addition, an individual charged may be subject to prosecution by the Office of the District Attorney under Pennsylvania Criminal Statutes.

Beatrice J. Blackwell, 59, library services assistant in the Otto E. Albrecht Music Library of the Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center, died May 20 at HUP following a long illness. Ms. Blackwell came to Penn in 1953, soon after the creation of a branch Music Library, and for the following 37 years served that library. Chief among her duties was the supervision of the Music Library’s Listening Center, including the selection and purchase of recordings.

She is survived by her husband, Elwood Morgan, her mother, Elizabeth Jenkins, four sisters, and a number of nieces and nephews. A memorial service is being planned for late September. Donations may be made to the University’s Music Library, Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center, to be used to purchase recordings for the library’s Listening Center.

Dr. Lester W. Burket, alumnus and dean emeritus of the School of Dental Medicine, died June 29 at the age of 84.

After taking his baccalaureate and dental science degrees from Penn, and adding a medical degree from Yale in 1934, Dr. Burket joined the Penn faculty in 1937 and was dean of the Dental School from 1951 to 1972.

He was internationally known in oral medicine, publishing numerous articles and the fundamental textbook Oral Medicine. Among the many honors were the Order of Orange-Nassau from Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands and honorary professorships from several universities, including National University in Colombia and San Carlos University in Guatemala. A past president of the American Association of Dental Schools, Dr. Burket also served on the Council of Dental Education of the American Dental Association, and as a national director-at-large of the American Cancer Society.

He is survived by his wife, Grace Travers Burket, and a number of nieces and nephews. Contributions may be made to the School of Dental Medicine, or to Moravian Manor, 300 W. Lemon Street, Lititz, PA 17543.

Howard Butcher III, for whom the Trustees passed the following resolution on June 21, 1991, is survived by his wife, Elizabeth S. Taulane Butcher; sons Howard, Jonathan and McBee; a brother and three sisters.

Resolution on Howard Butcher III

January 28, 1902 ‑ June 19, 1991

Howard Butcher III was already familiar with the University of Pennsylvania when he became a freshman, after he graduated from the Hill School in 1919. His father was an 1898 graduate of Penn and had served the University with distinction.

Mr. Butcher’s service to the University of Pennsylvania spans 72 years including 32 as a trustee. Mr. Butcher received an A.B. degree in 1923 and continued to serve the University as an alumnus, financier, and entrepreneur. In 1959 he received the Alumni Award of Merit and later that year was elected a trustee. In January 1972 Mr. Butcher became a trustee emeritus. For many of those years he was responsible for the university’s financial investments and in addition served as Chairman of Alumni Annual Giving and as Chairman of the Board of Graduate Hospital. When Mr. Butcher received an honorary LL.D. degree from Penn in 1967 the citation stated: ‘His astute advice in myriad educational concerns has been complemented by the sustained quality of his leadership, while his spirited, knowledgeable assistance to sports activities, in which he himself excels, adds verve to his competence.

Mr. Butcher’s financial contributions to the University include the primary gift for the Class of 1923 Ice Rink, the Butcher Dormitory, the Butcher Professorship, and the Butcher Family Loan Fund. Many members of Mr. Butcher’s family also have graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, including his three sons: Howard Butcher IV (’59), McBee Butcher (’61), and Jonathan Butcher (’63); his nephew, Joseph J. Hill (’61) and two grandchildren. All these family members have also served the University well; one of Mr. Butcher’s sons, McBee, served as president of the General Alumni Society and subsequently as alumni trustee.

The Trustees lost their colleague on June 19, 1991.

Resolved that the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania express their deep sorrow for the death of their colleague and friend, and in recording this official minute in memory of their friend Howard Butcher III, ask the Secretary to convey to his family their affection and enduring gratitude for sharing with the University of Pennsylvania the firm and wise counsel of a respected colleague.
Legislative Alert

There are two important pieces of legislation being considered that concern all employees at Penn, particularly the working parents.

The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1991 has passed through sub-committees in both the House of Representatives and the Senate and is due for floor consideration very soon. The Act would guarantee job security, seniority and continued health insurance coverage for workers who need to take leave to care for a newborn or newly-adopted child, or to care for a seriously ill child, spouse or parent. The Family and Medical Leave Act was vetoed last year by President Bush, and he has threatened to do the same again. If you support this bill, now is the time to contact your Senators and Representatives to let them know. Ask them to vote for the bill—if the President sees that there are enough votes to override his veto, he may think twice! If you need the name, address or telephone number of your Senators or Representative, contact the Committee of Seventy at (215) 545-0104.

The second piece of legislation concerns $262.2 million that the state of Pennsylvania has received from the federal government as its Child Care and Development Block Grant. Decisions are currently being made about how this money is to be spent. Child care advocates are supporting a strong state spending plan that would include higher reimbursement rates for child care providers accepting children whose care is subsidized; one graduated eligibility scale for subsidized care; resource and referral services in all communities; and statewide coordination of all child care funding streams. If you support a strong plan as well, contact Governor Casey by calling the Governor’s Action Line at 1-800-932-0784 and let him know.

Please contact the Child Care Resource Network at 898-0313 if you require additional information.

—Karen J. Pollack, Coordinator, Child Care Resource Network

On Racial Harassment Policy

We are writing on behalf of the African-American Association to register our concerns about the proposed revision of the Racial Harassment Policy. While the draft published for comment (Almanac, April 30) is a substantial improvement over the alternative version published last fall it is still a significant departure from the current policy. The deliberation, struggle and pain which culminated in the promulgation of the current policy deserves great deference, particularly since we were persuaded by arguments that the policy need be changed. The reports from the Ombudsman’s Office show summary data but make it difficult to perform in-depth analysis of the issues raised.

However, these reports do not indicate any necessity to completely redefine racial harassment. We note with great interest that the Sexual Harassment Policy is not being re-drafted although its language is similar to that of the current Racial Harassment Policy.

The definition of racial harassment in Section H of the proposed policy contain multiple vague statements and phrases. First, the definition refers to abuse of power relationships but does not define or give examples of such abuse. We think clear examples of abuse are the three standards used to define racial harassment in Section IIB of the current Racial Harassment Policy:

1) involves a stated or implicit threat to the victim’s academic or work performance; and
2) has the purpose or effect of interfering with an individual’s academic or work performance; and
3) creates an intimidating or offensive environment.

In contrast, the proposed policy begins with statements—Section I, the introductory section of the proposed policy, should be changed. The current policy begins with a statement on the University’s philosophy on relationships between staff, students and faculty followed by statements about freedom of expression. In contrast, the proposed policy begins with statements of the University’s philosophy of freedom of expression (even when those expressions are deemed “objectionable”) and secondarily addresses its philosophy on full participation of all members of the community in the life of the University.

We propose that the current introduction be retained or the second paragraph of the proposed introduction (Section!) having to do with freedom to insult other persons be deleted from the proposed policy. Whereas, freedom of expression is laudatory and implicit at the University of Pennsylvania, we see no reason why a racial harassment policy would promote expressions that we all find “objectionable” since many of these expressions are examples of racial harassment.

—The impact of a hostile and offensive academic, living, or work environment for people of color is no longer acknowledged. Racism in its subtle forms is no less debilitating than its more blatant manifestations. The importance of the environment harassment prohibition to the successful implementation of the sexual harassment policy can not be overstated. It is well documented that most sexual harassment cases, over 85% are environmental harassment and not direct requests for sexual favors. Our experience is that, likewise, most racial harassment claims will be environmental. The omission or prohibition against creating a harmful and intimidating work or educational environment is a departure from the current policy that is intolerable.

—There is still a three-pronged test to determine whether a violation of the policy has occurred. On several occasions, we have expressed our displeasure with the burden placed on the victim of harassment which adds insult to injury.

—The education outreach program described in the Policy seem to be aimed at students. The educational outreach needed to create an harassment-free environment must be expanded to include faculty and staff. Penn employees should set an example and tone which our students are encouraged to follow. This will aid in prevention but will also increase the ability of students to come forward with complaints and concerns.

—The treatment of visitors to the campus is not addressed by the policy. Unfortunately, all too often young African-American males have unpleasant interactions with University Police and other personnel questioning their right to be here. Any policy in such an important area should address our treatment of visitors as well as members of the Penn community.

Finally, the speed at which we are hurting to create a new definition is of great concern. The proposed policy was published with a scant two week deadline for comments to be submitted. This is not sufficient time to engage our members and discuss a policy which has significant impact on people of color. We urge you to take care and in revising in haste a Policy which has, for the most part, worked well for our community. We would like an opportunity to discuss our concerns with you prior to the implementation of any revision.

African American Association of Administrators, Faculty and Staff

—Jerry Johnson, Faculty Chair
—Thomas J. Henry, Administrative Chair
—James W. Gray, Staff Chair

Speaking Out continues next page
On Animal Rights Activists

The replies of Professors Morrison and Lash to the letter by Ms. Schilling are not only patronizing, they are illogical, intolerant, and question begging. Morrison argues that there is a special class of animal rights activists who lie, distort, intimidate, and don’t believe animal experiments contribute to medical progress. It is this group that is “selfish.” But, assuming that such a subgroup exists, if its members really believe in its aims and view of reality, are they selfish because they lie? The conclusion doesn’t follow or make any sense.

Lash’s correction, that he did not call the group members fanatics, but rather that it is a “fanatical movement,” is a bit sophistical. The phrase is highly invi- dious, and Lash is using it to categorize a great many people whom he doesn’t know. He says about his designation of the movement as fanatical, that “There is little evidence to indicate that this is not true.” Has he done research on the movement? His strangely negative mode of expression suggests that he is generalizing on the basis of limited personal experience.

The crucial issues at stake in the possible misuse of laboratory animals are usually mishandled in the correspondence and petitions I have seen, as Morrison and Lash do in their respective letters, by expressing their own (and colleagues’) personal sense of responsibility and by reference to oversight committees. But there are two problems: first, whether in an environment of increasing competitive pressures to raise money and publish there won’t be significant numbers who sacrifice animals in pursuit of trivia, and treat them carelessly. Second, on the matter of oversight, not only are regulatory systems imperfect, where they are managed by individuals who are part of the interest group network of the regulated, regulatory effectiveness tends to be excepted or perverted and bends easily with the winds of institutional self-interest (the author is a veteran analyst of savings and loan, bank, and general corporate regulation).

These are serious issues that cannot be brushed aside with personal assurances of goodwill and appeals to the integrity of the scientific community. (Where was this community, incidentally, in the years of the Head Injury Laboratory?)

—Edward S. Herman

Professor Emeritus of Finance

Response to Dr. Herman

I regret that Professor Herman found my letter to Ms. Schilling patronizing. That was definitely not my intent. Although I disagreed with her, I did find her letter intelligent and thoughtful. It was a far cry from the letters received from the radical members of the animal rights movement. My apologies to both if my letter was perceived as being patronizing.

The radical animal rights movement is ever active in its attempt to halt all animal research, as well as other activities related to animals that they think “unethical.” Their concept of unethical is really quite specious. It is the specious nature of their propaganda that entices others into their fold. PETA’s well-known remark that “There is no rational basis for separating out the human animal. A rat is a pig is a dog is a boy” vividly portrays their warped version of animals and their relation to humans.

I am not expected to comment on the travails of the savings and loan regulations, but I am sure there are experts who could inform me if I wish to be better informed. For someone who wishes to be better informed on the animal rights issue I recommend the special article “Physicians and the animal rights movement” in the June 6, 1991 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine. In this article experts in the field of biomedical research, including the Secretary of Health and Human Services, express their views on the destructive consequences of the animal rights movement.

Not wishing to prolong these polemics, I will cite a quotation that can be used by all proponents of the use of animals in biomedical research. “Neither let his be slandered from our duty by false accusations against us, nor frightened from it by menaces of death.” The author of the quotation? See the fine print below.* The animal rights supporters are welcome to use the same quotation.

—Jay Lash, Professor of Anatomy, School of Medicine

* A. Lincoln, Cooper Institute speech, February 27, 1860

On Astrological Belief

Most reasons for the rise of and belief in astrology, such as insecurity about the present, fear of the future, the social convenience of character stereotypes and insidious popular belief traditions, are not accessible to astronomers qua scientists of nature, who in holding the high meter stick and checking as- trologers on, say, the consequence of the earth gyration for astrological datings (“precession”), make no contribution toward understanding nor helping solve the social ills inherent in many kinds of astrological superstition.

Who is actually closer to “life” as we non-specialists really experience it, the astrologer or the astronomer? The doings of both the popular and serious astrologers are often humorously parodied or earnestly examined. But their critics in the sciences are equally deserving of such. Today’s as- tronomers do not spend much professional time outdoors with the night stars and the planets (actually, neither did many of their Magi predecessors) or even in the natural cold of open observatories, but rather perched in front of computers and over formulae, adventurously adding tiny dots and numbers to star charts. Far removed from the center of life but sharing its colorful areas on the border of fact and fiction, some astronomers send messages (soterio- logically not irrelevant) to beings/forces possibly nonexistent or at least as yet unborn, and conjure up fanciful theories about the origin of the universe. The typical astronomer supports in an elitist “spirit of discovery” the outrageously overspent American space program which pollutes the upper skies with high-tech flotsam and misguides the American public with its own versions and visions of national prior- ities and grandeur.

The scientific enterprise necessarily entails risk, abstraction and material cost, as well as the luxury of “knowledge for knowledge’s sake”; yet it does not in practice involve short- and long-term social gains of at least comparable stature to help us carry the burdens and plot the course (this is an old argument against which the sciences seem imperiously immune). Compared to science’s claim of speaking for nature in a universal lan- guage, astronomy’s esotericism becomes far more pronounced, its meanings far less accessible than the darkest chambers of crystal ball focus.

Problematic in both the case of the astrologer and astronomer is the measure of legitimacy established by each, the way in which they use language to define and exclude proper sources and tenants of meaning. Statistical studies on the subject are equally open to this criticism, as we can see in the offerings of “Astrology at the University of Pennsylvania in 1990” (Almanac, 4/23/91), employing a checkmark statistical framework which excludes personal comment and thus more interesting (but, alas, statistically irrelevant) insights, and which for all its lack of pathos fails to adhere to its own rigid standards in both questionnaire and report (disclosure of scientific author- ship in juxtaposition with introductory remarks about the “belief” system of astrology; use of the tendentious phrasing: “Fall outside.” “still are...concepts held,” “lore,” “wasting zealous emotion inveighing against a belief system which is so empty,” etc.).

The crumbs cast our way by astrono- mers and astrologers alike can never jus- tify the enormous amounts of time and money spent on either. Surely any answer to the question “astrology or astronomy,” covertly suggested by and motivating the Penn study, will lead astronomers, helpful, rath- er, is a rephrasing of the important issues involved so as to inquire into the pos- sibility of more in-touch, naturefriendlier alternatives to both disciplines, whether “scientific” or not.

—David Odell

Secretary, German Department

Reply to Mr. Odell

It is so difficult to understand this confused screed that we chose not to comment on it. If it is rewritten we could discuss what appear to be some illfounded stereotypes.

—R. E. Davies, Benjamin Franklin Professor of Molecular Biology and University Professor Emeritus

—R. H. Koch, Professor of Astronomy and Astrophysics

Speaking Out continues next page
‘Wishful Thinking or History’

Over the past six months Almanac has published several columns on the purported historical and architectural significance of Smith Hall. (See Almanac, January 22, 1991; March 5, 1991; May 14, 1991). Summarized, Professor Kohler claims that Smith Hall (actually the Lea Institute of Hygiene) was 1. the first “fully realized laboratory of hygiene and bacteriology in the United States”; 2. that it embodies the “pragmatic research ideals that transformed American universities in the 1890s”; 3. that it is largely unaltered; 4. that it alone survives of its generation of labs at Penn; 5. that “There may be nothing comparable in such a state of preservation at any university.” Mike Lewis makes similar claims for the architectural importance of this late design by Collins and Autenrieth. According to his thesis the architects’ training in Germany in the 1840s exposed them to ideas outside the abstract German classicism of the 1820s that were particularly suited to the design of the American research lab function of the 1890s. The building that resulted from their efforts was derived from “the building prototyping in a style that ‘synthesized something new.’” Supportable, scholarly research reveals that the facts are otherwise. An earlier (one hesitates to say the first) fully realized laboratory of hygiene in the United States was the Hageland Laboratory at Brooklyn’s Long Island College Hospital erected four years before in 1887-88. It followed the even earlier (and according to Dr. Kohler’s testimony at the 1990 campus hearing, “probably demolished”) pathology lab erected in 1885 for William Welsh affiliated with Bellevue Hospital which still stands on East 26th Street in New York.

On the second point, it should be noted that Penn had constructed the Hare Building in 1878 to provide lab facilities for all of its science students. Six years later, Provost William Pepper, M.D., initiated an ambitious building program of research labs including Biology, (1884), Engineering, (1888), the Lea Institute (1891-92) and the Wistar Institute of Anatomy, (1892). Thus Penn had adopted “pragmatic research ideals” well before the 1890s and as will be seen below had resolved the major issues of lab design in the Wistar Institute.

Third, the original essentially symmetrical scheme by Collins and Autenrieth was quickly altered by the demolition of the south gabled wing and its asymmetrical replacement with the present block. Because of its inflexible interior masonry corridor walls, it has proven difficult to adapt the building to other lab uses; however, far from being “largely unaltered” it is fairer to say that most of its spaces have been altered, that its ventilation systems no longer operate and that other buildings including the Wistar Institute have proven far more flexible and capacious.

Fourth, the presence of the Hewitt Brothers’ Wistar Institute of Anatomy obviates the claim that Lea is the lone survivor of its era at Penn. Perhaps the case is being made that Wistar is not a Penn department—but it is very much a part of our landscape, was placed in West Philadelphia to collaborate with the University and its board was setup under Penn’s control. Finally, though no census of lab buildings yet been undertaken, queries to the historian working on the history of academic research facilities at the research division of the National Register of Historic Places of the U.S. Department of the Interior indicates that Lea is by no means unique on America’s campuses.

Mr. Lewis’s claims for Lea fare no better when evaluated against available historical resources. While it is true that the building shows few of the characteristic features of contemporary English or American design, this should not beguile the observer into assuming that it was something new. Rather, the shallow pediments that ornament the gable ends are similar to those used by Stephen D. Button on the Stockton Hotel in Cape May, NJ in the 1870s; the dormer window stock items for those holding onto the remnants of classicism into the 1870s. The conservative rather than revolutionary origins of the style are of course apparent in the classical pedimented doorway at the center of the building and the original, balanced, nearly symmetrical composition of the main facade on which Collins lavished most of his attention. That it is presently asymmetrical does not alter the architects’ original intent to produce a symmetrical facade based not on the plan but on the appearance of the exterior in mid-century fashion. Nor should claims of a link to German modernism disguise the polychrome coloration, the belt courses, bosses, rudimentary corner pilasters and classical pediments. It is what it is, a building that looked conservative in Philadelphia twenty years earlier.

Further to imply that this design was developed to express the character and program of this hygiene lab is grossly misleading. By the 1880s, the same architects were using variations on this scheme of brick walls, stone trim, terra cotta banding and classical pediments on most of their buildings from Henry Charles Lea’s properties on the 700 block of Sansom Street and 12th and Market streets to the Justi Dental factory at 32nd and Spring Garden streets. It might be instead claimed that by the 1880s this was the limit of their ability. Finally, lest it be assumed that Collins and Autenrieth were retained to design the building because their 1840s training put them at the cutting edge of modern lab design, let it be noted that they were Lea’s family architects, having designed places of business and his Walnut Street house among other projects for him. Indeed, that Smith Hall was plain, old fashioned, conservative and not artistic were the best things that could be said for it as we know from John Billings’ oft quoted encomiums in the dedicatory address of 1892. But if the case for the building’s importance is to rest on Billings, then his far stronger praise for Cope and Stewardson’s Pepper Clinical Laboratory of the following year should be noted as well—and his own avoidance of later publication of, and association with the Lea Lab should stand as his final comment on its importance.

While Professor Kohler has standing as an expert in the history of science, his arguments about the merits of Smith Hall and Smith Walk are ludicrous. Apart from the fundamental untruth of the claim that standing in front of or near Smith, is “the only place left where one can stand and see nothing but 19th century or turn–of–the–century buildings…” the more important truth is ignored that in Philadelphia and most other American cities, unchanged means moribund. In the case of Penn’s campus, new elements have been knitted into old producing our peculiarly dynamic and interesting campus: Fumess added the red library to the green serpentine campus; Provost Harrison added the red and white Towne lab to the Pepper red campus. The claim is in error too in ignoring Irvine, the 1960’s Music annex, and Meyerson, and a very twentieth century ear filled urban highway in the core of the view. Equally untrue is the claim that “Smith Walk … would also be destroyed.” In fact, the Smith statue–by the way, a 1920s arrival on the scene, and intended originally as part of an axis that would cause the demolition of the Furness Building, remains exactly in its familiar position; the axis of Smith Walk is unaltered and only the north edge is shifted to promote pedestrian safety and to strengthen the visual continuity of the major pedestrian spine on campus. The campus benefits by the addition of a building by the Venturi office, continuing the principles of Frank Lloyd Wright into our era; a new campus green behind the new building is added to the inventory of visual assets. In urban Philadelphia, space is increasingly at a premium making it necessary for Penn to balance the preservation of its historic buildings with the need to maintain the vitality of the entire institution on which those buildings depend. With a comprehensive survey of its historic resources in hand, and with specific, documentary research on lab history accomplished, and with the advise of its consultants, Penn has arrived at a plan that will preserve five important historic structures, and should benefit the broad Penn community.

—George F. Thomas, Lecturer in Historical Preservation and Urban Studies

Note: Dr. Thomas has directed historic research for theClio Group, Inc., which has been restoration consultant on the Furness Building and College Hall restorations, and provided the research for the campus survey. Since 1989, Clio Group, Inc. has served as consultant on the IAST.
Don’t Dial ‘1’ in 215 Area Code

Bell of Pennsylvania has made a change in the dialing procedure for calls within the 215 area code. All calls within the 215 area code must be placed by dialing the 7 digit telephone number without a “1” prefix. That is, the new dialing pattern requires that you no longer dial a “1” before placing a long distance or directory assistance call within the 215 area code.

Long distance calls outside the 215 area code will require the “1” + area code + 7 digit telephone number. The new dialing procedure is necessary because the supply of telephone numbers is running out in the 215 area code.

By making this change, Bell of Pennsylvania will be able to expand the supply of available numbers and continue to meet the demands of growth in the area.

Currently, Bell of Pennsylvania is still allowing calls to be processed both ways to permit enough time for all customers to become aware of this change. As of September 23, 1991, the new procedure will be mandatory and “1”-calls within the 215 areacode will not be completed.

This change will impact automatic dialing devices. A few examples of devices that will need to be reprogrammed are speed dialing on an electronic phone and auto-dialing on a modem and fax machine.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the Telecommunications Office at Ext. 8-4840.

—Margie B. Sjoedin
Telecommunications Specialist
The University of Pennsylvania Police Department

This six-week 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 28, 1991 and July 7, 1991.

Totals: Crimes Against Persons—2, Thefts—6, Burglaries—21, Thefts of Auto—5, Attempted Thefts Auto—1

Date Time Location Incident

34th to 36th: Spruce to Locust
05/29/91 8:39 PM Williams Hall Bike taken from rack
05/30/91 9:02 PM Williams Hall Bike taken
05/30/91 9:29 PM Williams Hall Bike taken
06/03/91 1:41 PM Logan Hall Cash taken from secured file cabinet
06/03/91 7:25 PM Williams Hall Bike taken/suspect apprehended
06/03/91 4:27 PM Williams Hall Secured bike taken from rack
06/17/91 5:01 PM Williams Hall Bike taken from rack
06/19/91 7:56 AM Irvine Auditorium Computer drives taken
07/02/91 7:02 PM Williams Hall Bike taken
07/01/91 11:39 AM Houston Hall Secured bike taken from rack
07/05/91 4:25 PM College Hall Unattended purse taken from room

34th to 38th: Civic Center to Hamilton
05/28/91 10:19 AM Medical School Backpack & contents taken from room
05/30/91 5:51 PM Medical School Bike taken from rack
05/31/91 7:56 AM Johnson Pavilion Unattended cash & wallet taken
05/31/91 6:09 PM Leidy Lab Secured bike taken from rack
06/05/91 4:03 PM Medical School Secured bike taken from rack
06/05/91 9:37 PM Clinical Res Bldg Unsecured bike taken
06/05/91 5:43 PM Medical School Wallet taken from unattended backpack
06/11/91 3:55 PM Blockley Hall Theft from auto window broken/items taken
06/12/91 3:24 PM Medical School Secured bike taken from rack
06/12/91 4:43 PM Johnson Pavilion Rear wheel taken from secured bike
06/15/91 3:19 PM Johnson Pavilion Unattended wallet taken
06/20/91 3:24 PM Blockley Hall Wallet & contents taken
07/01/91 7:27 PM Univ Hospital See entry listed above under crimes against person
07/02/91 10:00 PM Medical School Credit cards taken from unsecured room

32nd to 33rd; South to Walnut
05/28/91 3:01 AM Rittenhouse Lab Burglary/suspect apprehended
05/28/91 10:50 AM Lot #5 Auto taken
06/01/91 8:11 PM Palestra Bike taken/recovered by police
06/04/91 4:18 PM Rittenhouse Lab Unattended knapsack taken from unsecured room
06/06/91 10:37 AM Rittenhouse Lab Bike taken
06/06/91 7:56 AM Rittenhouse Lab Secured bike taken from rack
06/11/91 7:48 AM Rittenhouse Lab Bike taken from rack
06/13/91 6:01 PM Hutchinson Gym Bike taken
06/15/91 10:04 PM Lou Tennis courts Bike taken
06/19/91 10:24 AM Rittenhouse Lab Burglary/wptwtkn taken/entry through window
06/24/91 11:16 AM Hutchinson Gym Secured bike taken
06/24/91 7:48 AM Hutchinson Gym Secured bikes taken

33rd to 34th: Spruce to Walnut
05/29/91 6:52 PM Chemistry Bldg Bike taken from rack
06/01/91 12:56 PM Chemistry Bldg Secured bike taken from rack
06/03/91 11:43 AM Chemistry Bldg Secured bike taken from rack
06/11/91 3:59 PM Moore School Bike taken from rack
06/25/91 9:37 AM Moore School Unattended purse taken from office
06/25/91 3:00 PM Towne Bldg Bike taken
06/26/91 10:08 PM Towne Bldg 2 computers & 3 keyboards taken from lab
06/26/91 12:13 PM Moore School Secured bike taken from rack
07/05/91 11:54 AM Bennett Hall Suspicious male head desk/field from area

Safety Tip: When Walking: Avoid dark or vacant areas... Always be alert... If followed or if a person acts suspiciously head for well-lighted areas... Don’t walk alone after dark. Walk near curb, away from bushes and buildings... Know campus emergency telephone locations ... and avoid shortcuts.

See p. 7 for 18th District Crimes Against Persons