Abramson Scientific Director: Dr. Craig Thompson of Chicago

Dr. Craig B. Thompson, a leading immunologist who now heads the University of Chicago’s Gwen Knapp Center for Lupus and Immunology Research, has been named the first scientific director of the Leonard and Madlyn Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute at the PennMed Cancer Center.

Dr. Thompson will come to Penn early in 1999 from Chicago, where he is professor of medicine and of molecular genetics and cell biology. He is also an investigator with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

His appointment signals “the Abramson Institute’s intent to position itself in the vanguard of basic research into the causes of cancer and the development of the next generation of cancer treatments,” the Institute’s announcement said. “Many oncologists believe that immune-based therapies against cancer are among the most promising types of new treatments being explored today.”

“For reasons not yet well understood,” said Dr. Thompson, “the immune system largely ignores cancers when they develop. We are looking at ways to educate the immune system to recognize cancer as abnormal and to destroy it, much as it does viral or bacterial infections.

Dr. Thompson joins an institute established last December under a $100 million pledge of the Abramson Family Foundation with a strong emphasis on combining advanced research with compassionate care and support of patients and their families during treatment.

One of his first priorities here, he said, is to begin recruiting senior investigators experienced in translational research—the process of applying laboratory discoveries to clinical usefulness.

“Craig will bring experienced, creative leadership to the Abramson Institute’s research programs, stimulating even greater scientific progress that ultimately means safer, more effective new treatments for cancer,” said Dr. John H. Glick, director of the Institute and of the Cancer Center, as well as the Leonard and Madlyn Abramson Professor of Clinical Oncology.

Added Dean William N. Kelley, “The aim at the Abramson Institute is to bring together the resources necessary to translate today’s laboratory advances into tomorrow’s cancer-fighting tools in the most efficient way possible.

Dr. Thompson took his A.B. summa cum laude from Dartmouth College in 1974 and his M.D. from Penn in 1977. After his internship and residency at Peter Bent Brigham in Boston, he spent eight years as a research medical officer in the U.S. Navy, holding research posts in the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and the Naval Medical Research Institute, and also at Boston University and at the University of Washington’s Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, where he was senior fellow in hematology and oncology in 1983-85.

In 1987 he joined the University of Michigan as assistant professor of medicine and of microbiology and immunology, and member of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute at Ann Arbor. He was promoted to associate professor in 1992. The following year he moved to his present post at Chicago.

Search Committees: Deans of Law, SEAS, and Wharton

Law School
Dr. Richard J. Herring, Professor of Finance and Vice Dean and Director of the Wharton Undergraduate Division, will chair the search committee for a dean of the Law School, where Dean Colin Diver will remain in office throughout the rest of the academic year. Members are:

Prof. Jacques de Lisle, Assistant Professor of Law
Prof. Martin Fishbein, Professor of Communications, Annenberg School for Communications
Daniel R. Garodnick, Second Year Law Student
Prof. Robert Gorman, Kenneth W. Gemmill Professor of Law
Prof. Heidi Hurd, Professor of Law and Philosophy
Paul Levy, Alumnus/Overseer
Prof. Georgette Poindexter, Associate Professor of Real Estate, Wharton
Dr. Samuel Preston, Dean, School of Arts and Sciences
Prof. Ed Rock, Professor of Law
Stephanie Whitfield, First Year Law Student

SEAS
Dr. Morris Cohen, Professor of Operations and Information Management and Co-Director of the Fishman-Davidson Center for Service and Operations Management in the Wharton School, will chair the search committee in Engineering and Applied Science, where Dr. Eduardo Glandt is now Interim Dean. On the committee are:

Alyssa Abo, Bioengineering undergraduate
Dr. Portonovo Ayaswamy, Asa Whitney Professor of Dynamical Engineering
Dr. Peter F. Davies, Professor of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine and of Bioengineering; Director, Institute for Medicine and Engineering
Dr. Peter K. Davies, Professor of Materials Science and Engineering
David Ege, Chemical Engineering Ph.D. candidate
Dr. Louis Girifalco, University Professor of Materials Science
Dr. Vijay Kumar, Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics, Computer and Information Science, and Systems Engineering
Dr. Kathleen Hall Jamieson, Dean, Annenberg School for Communication
Dr. Mitchell Marcus, RCA Professor of Artificial Intelligence; Chair, Computer and Information Science
Dr. Mitchell Quain, Alumnus; Chair, SEAS Board of Overseers

Wharton School
Gary Hack, Dean of the Graduate School of Fine Arts, will chair the search committee for a dean of the Wharton School, whose Dean Thomas Gerrity also continues in office until the end of the spring term. Members are:

Elijah Anderson, Charles and William L. Day Professor of Social Science, SAS
William Hamilton, Ralph Landau Professor of Management and Technology and Director, Management and Technology Program
Patrick Harker, UPS Professor of Transportation; Chair, Operations and Information Management
Jon M. Huntsman, Alumnus and Wharton Overseer
Richard Kihlstrom, Miller-Freedman Professor of Finance
Stephen J. Kobrin, Jr., William H. Wurster Professor of Multinational Management and Director, Lauder Institute
Abba Krieger, Professor of Statistics, Operation and Information Management, and Marketing
Joanne Lobo, Wharton undergraduate
Rebecca Maynard, Trustee Professor of Education and Director, Educational Leadership Division, Graduate School of Education
Michael L. Tarnopol, Alumnus, Wharton Overseer and Trustee
Elizabeth Woodcock, MBA student

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COUNCIL November 11

Agenda
University Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 11, 1998, 4-6 p.m.
McClelland Hall, The Quadrangle
Penn ID required for admittance to the Quad.
Observers register their interest in attending by calling the Office of the Secretary, 898-7005.

I. Approval of minutes of October 14, 1998 meeting (1 minute).

II. Status Reports of the Interim Provost and chairs of the Steering Committee, GAPSA, UA, PPSA and A-3 Assembly (reports/clarifications: 8 minutes).

III. Discussion of 1997-98 year-end report: Facilities Committee: (15 minutes).
(See page 4 of this issue for text of report.)

IV. Follow-up questions on October 14, 1998, extended report by the interim provost on the State of the University (20 minutes).

V. Adjournment by 6 p.m.

PPSA Call to Meeting

General Meeting: November 20

The first general meeting of the Penn Professional Staff Assembly (PPSA) will be held on Friday, November 20, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. in Room 350 Steinberg Hall-Dietrich Hall. This meeting has been planned as an open forum to provide members an opportunity to suggest agenda items for the year and to offer recommendations for improving the effectiveness of the organization.

We will also give updates on the work of the Board to date. Due to scheduling difficulties, the meeting with Executive Vice President John Fry has been postponed until December.

— Terri White, Chair

Housing & Conferences:
New Name, More Services

The Department of Housing Services has changed its name to include a new unit, Conference Services. Our new name, “Department of Housing and Conference Services,” reflects the expansion of services and the establishment of a “one-stop-shop” for conference customers both internal and external to the University.

Various Penn people came to our dining and housing experts for help planning conferences, meetings, and events. Our partnerships throughout the University and with external professional agencies and organizations made the joining of dining and housing a natural progression of services we were already providing University-wide. The convenience, quality, and versatility offered by this new unit will save time and energy for the Penn community and its partners.

We are located at Sansom Place East, and our phone number is 898-9319. Stay tuned to Almanac for information about Conference Services’ open house scheduled Monday, November 23.

— Doug Berger, Director, Housing and Conference Services

HONORS & ...Other Things

Wyck-Strickland Award to Dr. De Long

Dr. David G. De Long, professor of architecture and of city and regional planning at the Graduate School of Fine Arts, is this year’s winner of the prestigious Wyck-Strickland Award, given by the Germantown-based Wyck Association to honor those who have made outstanding contributions in the fields of architecture and preservation “with an understanding of and sensitivity to the past.” Dr. De Long—who recently returned from the American Academy in Rome, where he served as the first James Marston Fitch Resident in Historic Preservation—was chair of Penn’s Graduate Program in Historic Preservation from 1984-1996. He is internationally recognized for his many contributions as historian and educator, author, preservationist, curator and designer. His most recent book, Frank Lloyd Wright and the Living City, was published this year by the Vitra Design Museum, and will be released in the U.S. in January, 1999.

Alumni Award of Merit to Dr. Deubler

The University’s Alumni Award of Merit was given Homecoming Weekend to Dr. M. Josephine Deubler, the internationally renowned expert on dogs who is professor emeritus of the School of Veterinary Medicine. Despite becoming profoundly deaf in early childhood, Dr. Deubler became the first woman to graduate from Penn’s Vet School when she took her V.M.D. here in 1938. She also earned her Ph.D. at Penn, in 1944. In her 53 years on the faculty, she combined her research into diseases afflicting animals with a talent as breeder, exhibitor and judge of dogs, and added still other dimensions to animal care by establishing the School’s popular Canine Symposium and Feline Symposium. Dr. Deubler holds the School’s Bellwether Medal, Centennial Medal, and School alumni award; and the fully-endowed Dr. M. Josephine Deubler Dean’s Scholarships as well as the Jose- phine Deubler Genetic Disease Testing Laboratory are named for her.

Muscle Institute Symposium Honoring Dr. Nachmias

The Pennsylvania Muscle Institute’s Sixth Annual Retreat and Symposium, to be held Monday, November 16, in the Robert Austrian Auditorium of the Clinical Research Building, honors Dr. Vivianne T. Nachmias, a professor emeritus of cell and developmental biology who did pioneering work on contractile proteins in non-muscle cells. An extremely important recent contribution from her lab, notes a colleague, is the identification of an actin-binding protein, T-beta4, essential for the motile functions of platelets and white blood cells.

The day-long symposium on Control and Dynamics of the Cytoskeleton opens at 9 a.m. with a welcome from the Institute’s director, Dr. Yale E. Goldman. Morning presentations will be:

9:10 a.m.: Tau, Tangles and Mutations: AD and Related Tauopathies, by Dr. Virginia M-Y. Lee, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, PennMed;
10:00 a.m.: Regulation of Microtubule Dynamics by Onco-protein 18: Dual Routes to a Catastrophe, by Dr. Lynne Cassimeris, Biological Sciences, Lehigh;
10:55 a.m.: Regulation of Actin Polymerization by Cdc42, by Dr. Sally H. Zigmond, Biology, SAS;
11:25 a.m.: Signaling from Cdc42p to the Actin Cytoskeleton in Yeast, by Dr. Erfei Bi, Cell & Developmental Biology, PennMed.

The afternoon sessions will include:

2 p.m.: Cofilin Regulates Actin Filament Dynamics and Assembly — More Twists in the Tale, by Dr. Amy McGough, Department of Biochemistry, Baylor College of Medicine;
2:40 p.m.: Myosin V, by Dr. H. Lee Sweeney, Physiology, PennMed;
2:55 p.m.: Structural Dynamics of Myosin by Single Molecule Fluorescence Polarization Microscopy, by Margot Quinlan, Pennsylvania Muscle Institute, University of Pennsylvania Medical Center;
3:55 p.m.: Annual Robert E. Davies Distinguished Lecture—Probing the Mechanisms of Eukaryotic Cytokinesis, by Dr. James A. Spudich, Biochemistry, Stanford University Medical Center.

Reservations are required for a 6:30 p.m. dinner at the Penn Tower Hotel ($30 senior investigators, $20 junior investigators). For reservations or further information: Joanne Howard, 898-4543.
Thinking Globally, Visiting Penn

In a whirlwind visit to Penn October 25-27, Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn talked with scholars in five of Penn’s schools, all of them touching on some aspect of the Thai princess’s own prodigious interests in education and its application to social progress. Starting with a dinner in the President’s home on the Sunday of her arrival she made four stops on Monday: First, at Fisher Fine Arts Building there was a presentation by GSFA members including Dean Gary Hack on “Planning for Explosive Growth—The Bangkok Plan” (a project for which he is a consultant). Then to the Medical Center, for a series of talks on AIDS and HIV vaccine development and PennMed’s “Curriculum 2000,” arranged by Dr. Donald Silberberg, the associate dean for international medical programs. Arriving at the University Museum for a tour and an update on the Penn-Thai archaeological research going on in Thailand, she was the guest of Director Jeremy Sabloff and Trustees Chairman Roy Vagelos for lunch, and dessert with Thai students afterward. The afternoon was devoted to the Vet School’s New Bolton Center, where Dean Alan Kelly and leading faculty gave a presentation on Biotechnology and Animal Health and Productivity—with special attention to bovine health, in which she joined in the group discussion. Tuesday morning Her Royal Highness was back on campus for a forum at GSE, with Dean Susan Fuhrman leading the roundtable on international initiatives in literacy, scientific education and other topics. (Her Royal Highness, who did her bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in history and languages, took her Ph.D. in education and is a second doctorate in international visitors as topologists and masters’ degrees in history and languages, took her Royal Highness, who did her bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in history and languages, took her Ph.D. in education and is a second doctorate in international visitors as topologists and masters’ degrees in history and languages, took her Royal Highness, who did her bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in history and languages, took her Ph.D. in education and is a second doctorate in educational development.)

Volunteer Opportunities

Crime-Preventing Conference sponsored by State Senator Hardy Williams, November 12-14

Volunteer to help with registration and other conference-related tasks at the Wyndham Franklin Plaza Hotel in downtown Philadelphia. Volunteers attend the conference free.

Holiday Food Drive, November 9-20

There will be drop-sites throughout the Penn campus. More information will be available in the near future.

Saturday and/or Tuesday night school at Sulzberger Middle School

Volunteer to assist or teach a class. Classes begin in mid-November.

Technical Assistance

Share your expertise (computers, mediation, grant writing, etc.) with local community service agencies and schools. We get requests for assistance with building web pages, writing grants, proposal writing, special events planning, board training, etc. Join our Technical Support Team.

To the University Community

We thank you for your overwhelming support in past years. Following is a list of new and continuing volunteer opportunities and activities. If you would like to be part of any of these programs, please let me know via e-mail, at sammapp@pobox.upenn.edu.

—Isabel Sampson-Mapp, Director, Penn Volunteers In Public Service, Center for Community Partnerships

Volunteer Opportunities

Photo by Candace diCarlo

A model by Ariane Sphikas, C ‘98.

At the Fox Art Gallery:
Design of Environment Student Show

The new Fox Art Gallery on the ground floor of Logan Hall is displaying several dozen models and sketches done by undergraduates in the Design of the Environment Program, an “out-of-school” major in which College students take their courses at the Graduate School of Fine Arts. Trustee Bob Fox (C ’52) and his wife Penny (Ed ’53) contributed funds to renovate the former Audiovisual Services space as a gallery specifically for student work. Its summer debut featured Works by Members and Spouses of the University of Pennsylvania Board of Trustees—which makes this the first student exhibition in the new space. It runs through November 25, with hours Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
The following statement is published in accordance with the Senate Rules. Among other purposes, the publication of SEC actions is intended to stimulate discussion among the constituencies and their representatives. Please communicate your comments to Senate Chair John Keene or Executive Assistant Carolyn Burdon, Box 12 College Hall 6303, 898-6943 or burdon@pobox.upenn.edu.

Actions Taken by the Senate Executive Committee
Wednesday, November 4, 1998

1. Chair’s Report. The Chair informed SEC that the ad hoc committee of Professors Harris, Lesnick, and Rubin had been unable due to prior travel commitments, to meet and draft a preamble to the draft Codification of Consultation Policy. The Committee hopes to have a preamble for discussion at the December SEC meeting.

The Chair explained that the period within which the Committee on the Faculty is to address problems related to clinician educator faculty in the Medical School has been extended to coincide more closely with the work of the Faculty 2000 Committee, a new ad hoc Medical School committee, next semester. Committee 2000 will examine current Medical School faculty categories and future needs. The Senate committee will now consider the clinical faculty issue, together with the other items in its charge. SEC urged that the Committee on the Faculty continue to gather information on clinician educators. Extended discussion ensued that included a presentation that clinician educator appointments could not exceed 40% of the school’s standing faculty in the Medical School was approved by the Senate, the administration and the trustees over a decade ago, yet, starting in 1992, appointments of clinician educators were made in excess of the 40% limit. It was pointed out that last year’s recommendation to revise the Handbook to allow physicians at the hospitals acquired by the Health System to use the title clinical assistant, associate, or full professor is pending before the Faculty Senate. SEC asked the Chair to obtain from the interim provost a written statement of the policies being followed by the administration concerning current appointments of CEs; reasons the 40% cap on CEs had been, and continues to be, exceeded; whether there will be a moratorium on CE appointments, and what will occur until the Faculty Senate makes a recommendation. The interim provost’s statement should include relevant statistics.

2. Past Chair’s Report on activities of the Academic Planning and Budget Committee and on the Capital Council. A new Master of Medical Physics degree in the School of Arts and Sciences was approved, and there were a series of presentations on programs. The Past Chair reminded SEC that although her role was as liaison to the Faculty Senate, the deliberations of the committee are confidential, so that she is sharply limited in what she can report to SEC. There was no report regarding Capital Council.

3. Senate Nominating Committee. SEC elected Gregory Possehl as chair of the committee. (See committee membership and posts to be filled, opposite page.)

4. Faculty Club draft agreement. The Chair informed SEC about the Faculty Club Board of Governors’ negotiations with the University on transfer of the Club from its current location in Skinner Hall to Sansome Common, as well as a University agreement with Doubletree on management of the Faculty Club and a management and operations agreement between the University and the Club. The latter will contain details on, among other things, setting Club prices, Club maintenance, Club personnel hiring, and quality and variety of menu offerings. The Chair had urged the Board not to sign the transfer agreement until they had seen the management and operation agreement. The Board subsequently adopted a motion approving the draft transfer agreement in principle subject to the satisfactory completion of the maintenance and operation agreement.

5. Other new business. The Committee was asked to recommend whether the three Senate Chairs were consulted regarding two recently announced trustee actions involving large amounts of funding: proposal to renovate all dormitories, and the plans to purchase land in the Civic Center site. SEC was informed that the three Senate Chairs were informed of the plans to develop part of the Civic Center site, but not of the $300 million plan to renovate residential buildings. Discussion continued on the timing and level of consultation with the Faculty Senate and its leadership; funding sources for these projects; and the fact that, in the broad scheme of things, they compete with academic program development for funding support.

Two Annual Reports of the Faculty Grievance Commission

From the 1996-1997 Committee

During its 1996-97 term, the Faculty Grievance Commission handled a variety of potential grievances, one of which went to a full hearing, and several of which continued into the 1997-98 term. The grievances raised covered a number of serious issues, including denial of due process in a scientific misconduct hearing, the role of School Committees on Academic Freedom and Responsibility, employment conditions, the process of salary determination and age discrimination.

As noted, only one of the cases went to a full hearing. Two others were close to a full hearing, but ended short of that with a satisfactory remedy agreed by all parties. The remaining cases (six in total) were either rejected by the Commission or were ultimately settled, typically through a negotiation process between the faculty member, the Commission and appropriate members of the administration.

The 1996-97 term emphasized the key role of the Faculty Grievance Commission as an instrument to encourage discussion and compromise between potential grievants and the University administration. In several instances, responsible administrators had simply not taken the time to understand the issues surrounding a potential grievance. Once they did understand them, remedies were easily found. Unfortunately, however, not all cases were that simple. Faculty members who participated in panels, or prepared themselves to do so, are gratefully acknowledged. Their role is ultimately the foundation of the faculty grievance process to assure that the voice of reason will govern our affairs.

The members of the 1996-97 Faculty Grievance Commission were Paul R. Kleindorfer, chair, Barbara Bennett Woodhouse, chair-elect, and Seymour J. Mandelbaum, past chair.

— Paul R. Kleindorfer, Chair

From the 1997-1998 Committee

During its 1997-98 term, the Faculty Grievance Commission handled six potential grievances on different topics. The grievances were extremely varied, and many of them involved substantial issues of governance and/or due process. They were raised by faculty from different schools, both male and female, at different levels of seniority.

Of the matters brought before the Commission during 1997-98, two were still pending at the conclusion of the term on June 30, 1998. In addition, after exploring the facts behind several grievances, the Faculty Grievance Commission concluded they were not within its jurisdiction.

The matters complained of included failures of due process in tenure and promotion proceedings, lack of due process or unfair treatment in internal decisions of schools and departments, application of inappropriate standards for compensation, teaching assignments and promotion decisions, and allegations of race and gender discrimination.

The Commission worked diligently to resolve matters informally, if possible, as required by its rules. During the period of this report, only one grievance reached the stage of forwarding to the Provost and impaneling a panel, and no hearings were held or decisions rendered by panels. This was made possible by the collective efforts of deans of schools, department chairs, Provost and potential grievants who were willing to work constructively with the Commission. Their efforts enabled settlement in all but two of the potential or pending grievances in a manner satisfactory to all parties, either before filing of a formal grievance or before a formal hearing began. The University community as a whole benefited from the time and effort dedicated by all parties to overcoming communications gaps and achieving constructive outcomes in a non-adversarial spirit.

—Barbara Bennett Woodhouse, Chair
Under the Faculty Senate Rules, formal notification to members may be accomplished by publication in Almanac. The following is published under that rule:

**To: Members of the Standing Faculty**

**From: John C. Keene, Chair**

**Nominations for Offices Requested**

In accordance with the Rules of the Faculty Senate you are invited to suggest candidates for the posts and terms stated below, with supporting letters if desired. Candidates’ names should be submitted promptly to Gregory Possehl, Chair of the Senate Nominating Committee by telephone at 898-4042/7461 or by e-mail at gpossehl@sas.upenn.edu.

The following posts are to be filled for 1999-2000:

- **Chair-elect of the Senate (1-yr term)**
  - Incumbent: Peter Conn
- **Secretary-elect of the Senate (1-yr term)**
  - Incumbent: Rosane Rocher
- **Four At-large Members of the Senate Executive Committee (3-yr term)**
  - Incumbents: Barry Cooperman
  - Robin Leidner
  - Harvey Rubin
  - Jorge Santiago-Aviles
- **One At-large Member of the Senate Executive Committee (2-year term)**
  - Incumbent: Kenneth I. Wolpin
- **One Assistant Professor Member of the Senate Executive Committee (2-yr term)**
  - Incumbents: Julie Fairman
  - Georgette Poindexter
- **Three Members of the Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Responsibility (3-yr term)**
  - Incumbents: Rubin Gur
  - Susan Sturm
  - Susan Watkins
- **Three Members of the Senate Committee on Conduct (2-yr term)**
  - Incumbents: Joan Goodman
  - M. Susan Lindee
  - Edward R. Thornton
- **Two Members of the Senate Committee on the Economic Status of the Faculty (3-yr term)**
  - Incumbents: Peter Cappelli
  - Bruce Shenker

**Nominating Committee Elected**

The Senate Executive Committee’s slate of nominees for the Senate Nominating Committee was circulated to the Senate Membership on October 13, 1998. No additional nominations by petition have been received within the prescribed time. Therefore, according to the Senate Rules, the Executive Committee’s slate is declared elected.

Those elected are:
- Jane B. Alavi (assoc prof med at HUP)
- Helen C. Davies (prof microbiology/med)
- Peter Dodson (prof animal biology/vet)
- Charles Dwyer (prof education)
- Gerald F. Porter (prof mathematics)
- Gregory L. Possehl (prof anthropology)
- Kim Lane Scherpele (prof law)
- Barbara von Schlegell (asst prof relig st)
- Walter Wales (prof physics)

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**Facilities Committee**

**Scheduled for Discussion at Council November 11, 1998**

**I. Introduction**

This year this Committee has experienced a major change. With the prodding of the University Council, the support of the Steering Committee and the approval of the President, the Facilities Committee of the University Council was redirected to become the University Council Committee on Campus Facilities and Planning. The change could prove substantial if, in the coming years, the University utilizes this committee for the proper advisory function of planning of all major physical development projects of the campus, in addition to the review and advice function on buildings and transportation services management that the Committee has been carrying out until now. However, it will require considerable support and cooperation from the part of the Administration of the University to do so, and it will require additional efforts and commitment on the part of the Committee members before a well performing physical planning function can be initiated on this campus. On the other hand, a cooperative participatory and proactive planning function may prove very beneficial in many different ways to both the University administration and to other parts of the University community.

**II. Particulars**

The committee started very late this year. It had its first meeting on February 5, 1998. The late start was due to an unexplainable delay in defining the charge to the committee and in appointing most of its members.

The first four meetings of the Committee contained discussions about the proper role of this committee within the framework of the University Council Committees, and within an environment that changes continually due to almost constant construction, remodeling, renovation, and modification of physical projects. The conclusion was that there was no non-administrative committee on campus that could review projects proactively, with the participation of the involved and impacted parties and advise the administration properly. This function should be carried well before the design of facilities is made, before the Design Review Committee enters the picture. It should be done at the time that alternative locations, sizes, forms and functions are considered. This function should also include some kind of open hearings of all concerned parties.

The fifth meeting took place on May 4, and focused on the review of the proposed new Wharton School building on the old bookstore site (38th and Walnut Streets). This was the first true planning meeting of the Committee, and it took place because the President wanted to have the recommendations of this independent University Council Committee. Thus, the committee met, with almost full membership present in order to review and extensively discuss this project, even though the plans for the building had progressed nearly to the final pre-construction state.

The Dean of the Wharton School presented the plans and the rationale behind them, as well as some of the history of the project. The chairman of the Design Review Committee, Dean Gary Hack, was also there to inform the committee members about the views of the Design Review Committee. The Campus and Facilities Planning Committee discussed the matter and sought additional information from all present, then continued its discussions in a closed executive session. Recommendations were finalized during the executive session, and a report was submitted to the administration.

A copy of this advisory report is enclosed [with the report as submitted to the Secretary].

**III. Conclusion**

The University Council Committee of Campus Facilities and Planning is confident in recommending to the University Council and the University Administration the continuation of the major change that was achieved this year in renaming the committee and in instituting, for the first time, an independent advisory planning function on the development of the campus. Until now, only administrative groups were advising the President; they included major components of the proposers and direct operators. The University Council Committee on Campus Facilities and Planning is a much more widely based group that can review proposed major projects from a broader perspective that can incorporate easily in its process open Hearings and perform a purely advisory function that incorporates the input of all components of the University community.

We hope the University Council will accept and endorse the committee’s recommendations.

—Anthony R. Tomazinis, Chair

**1997-98 Facilities Committee Members**

**Chair:** Anthony R. Tomazinis (city & reg plng); **Faculty:** Nadia Alhasani (architecture), Stephen Hoch (mrktg), Anuradha Mathur (landscape architecture), Barbara Savage (history), Anthony R. Tomazinis (city & reg plng), Vucan Vuchic (systems engr); **Students:** Kyle Duarte (Wharton ’98), Michelle Koch (Wharton ’00); **PPSA:** Vivian Hastuk (asst. to chair, physics); **A-3:** John Hogan (Biddle Law Library); **Ex officio:** Glenn Bryan (director, community relations), Omar Blaik (vice president, fic. services and contract management), Alice Nage (coord. Program for People with Disabilities), Ronald Sanders (registrar)

*The Office of the Secretary is constructing a website where such addenda will be placed in the future. Meanwhile, the report can be found via www.upenn.edu/almanac.—Ed.*

**Community Relations and Student Affairs Committee Reports, next page**
The University Council on Community Relations met six times during the 1997-98 academic year. It was charged by the University Council with (1) analyzing the community service directory and (2) considering and recommending ways for University researchers to involve the community in research projects, including providing feedback on their project outcomes. The committee did not undertake an analysis of the community service directory as this is being done by the Center for Community Partnerships in consultation with the Program for Student-Community Involvement. The committee reviewed and discussed the Guidelines for Research in the Community. These were then forwarded to SEC and to Dr. Ralph Amado, Vice President for Research, for distribution to the larger university community.

In addition, as part of its monitoring function, the committee received reports from Glenn Bryan, Director, Office of Community Relations, John Fry, Executive Vice President, and D-L Wormley, Managing Director, Community Housing. Mr. Bryan provided a monthly update on the various community activities taking place in the neighborhoods (e.g. Mantua, Parkside, Millcreek, University City) in West Philadelphia, and on the work of the West Philadelphia Initiatives Committee and Community Relations Communications Group, two committees of the Steering committee to the President. Mr. Fry presented an overview of the economic development initiatives, particularly the new Economic Development, real estate, and Sanitation Plan as well as the implementation of the new centralized system for reserving space throughout the campus. Ms. Wormley provided an update on the new mortgage program designed to encourage and support home ownership in West Philadelphia. Further, the committee suggested that there be a packet of information made available to new hires interested in the University City. It was recommended that Ms. Wormley’s office coordinates this material and uses the resources also available through PFSNI. Several members of this committee also offered to be a resource for prospective faculty and staff who want to live in University City.

The Committee also provided consultation to Mr. Diorka, Director of Recreation, on how to increase the number of community children and funding for the National Youth Sports Program held at Penn during the summer. At various points during the year, the Committee members felt that they had not been consulted about many community initiatives. There was a great deal of discussion about the purpose of this committee particularly in light of the many other committees and groups working on community issues. Further, there was discussion of what constitutes the community and what issues this committee should be responsible for.

Based on its work this year, the Committee recommends the following:

1) The Community Relations Committee should be a proactive group that provides early consultation on community based issues and University initiatives. This would require that there be broad representation in membership and that appropriate university offices (e.g. economic development, real estate, and employment) be represented as ad hoc members. Further, this Committee should help to facilitate discussion on key issues (e.g. safety, neighborhood development, schools) among various constituency groups. It should hold forums with the Office of Community Relations in the community to gather information on the broad social issues of the residents and organizations in the community. This information should then be shared with appropriate university committees.

2) Recognizing that there are increasing numbers of students involved in community volunteer work and research, the Community Relations Committee would like to develop training materials for students on how to enter and work in the many university neighborhoods. This project should be undertaken with the Center for Community-Service Learning and the Program for Student Community Involvement.

3) The Community Relations Committee should assist with and monitor the implementation of the Guidelines for Research in the Community. It should include faculty from the various university departments and schools who are doing research in the community and ascertain how these guidelines are being used and the issues involved in community based research.

Jane Isaacs Lowe, Acting Chair, Spring 1998

The Student Affairs Committee (SAC) met 11 times during the academic year. The early meetings were devoted to orienting new members to the work of the committee and to setting an agenda for future discussions. In keeping with its primary purpose of monitoring the quality of student life at Penn, the committee decided to focus on two issues: alcohol and substance abuse on campus, and the implementation of the new residential college system.

The committee heard several reports from members of the President’s Drug and Alcohol Task Force and supported the recommendations offered to reduce binge drinking and related problem behaviors. In particular, efforts to minimize pro-alcohol messages during recruitment and orientation of freshmen and sophomores and the number of alcohol-free social activities on campus were strongly endorsed by the Student Affairs Committee. The committee also endorsed plans to hire an Alcohol Coordinator to centralize alcohol education activities and to identify gaps in services available to students with a drinking problem. Last but certainly not least, the SAC strongly supported enforcement of rules that deal with binge drinking including firm and consistent disciplinary actions against hazing practices, boisterous parties, and “drunk and disorderly” behavior by Penn students on and off campus.

The committee then initiated a careful review of the new residential college plan. Key members of the Residential Communities Working Group came to our meetings to review the plans for implementing the new system. Details about the structure, character, administration and governance of the residential colleges were discussed at length. Several concerns were raised about the new system including: 1) how the high risk colleges could be converted into residential communities; 2) how incoming students would choose among the different colleges; 3) how changes in the population of the Freshman Quad would influence intra-class relationships; 4) how the governance of the colleges (i.e., House Councils) would be carried out; and 5) how students demand for decentralized recreational facilities would be addressed.

The committee was generally supportive of the intentions of the Residential Communities Working Group but there was widespread concern that a great deal more energy and resources would be necessary, and that extensive consultation with students was absolutely essential to make the college system a success. This point was raised during the early part of the Spring semester when the committee was reviewing draft recruitment for graduate advisors. Graduate student members of Student Affairs Committee reported that recruitment had been conducted with very little student input. Moreover, many students felt that the financial arrangements for new GAs were less favorable than in previous years. These concerns were relayed to the administrators involved in the GA system.

Space for student activities was the final issue discussed by the committee. This became a great concern toward the end of the Spring semester as the closing of Houston Hall approached. It soon became apparent that alternative Communities Working Group but there was widespread concern that a great deal more energy and resources would be necessary, and that extensive consultation with students was absolutely essential to make the college system a success. This point was raised during the early part of the Spring semester when the committee was reviewing draft recruitment for graduate advisors. Graduate student members of Student Affairs Committee reported that recruitment had been conducted with very little student input. Moreover, many students felt that the financial arrangements for new GAs were less favorable than in previous years. These concerns were relayed to the administrators involved in the GA system.

Space for student activities was the final issue discussed by the committee. This became a great concern toward the end of the Spring semester as the closing of Houston Hall approached. It soon became apparent that alternative planning for the 6000 meetings held there each year was not being carried out in a centralized fashion. After expressing serious concern to the Interim Provost about this situation, the SAC met with staff from the VPUL and learned about a new centralized system for reserving space throughout the Penn campus. Under this system students can acquire space via electronic mail in a more user-friendly fashion than before. The committee was pleased to see that this vital issue was being addressed sensibly.

—Anthony L. Rostain, Chair

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—Anthony L. Rostain, Chair
Discounted Flu Shots: November 11-13

The Division of Human Resources’ Quality of Worklife Program is offering flu shots for a discounted cost of $5 per inoculation at convenient locations throughout campus:

Wednesday, November 11 — 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
School of Engineering and Applied Science
Towne Bldg, 220 South 33rd Street,
2nd floor, Raiser Lounge.

Thursday, November 12 — 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
School of Dental Medicine,
4001 Spruce Street, 2nd floor, Room S3.

Friday, November 13 — 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Wharton School, Vance Hall,
3733 Spruce Street, 1st floor, Hoover Lounge.

All University faculty and staff will be asked to fill out a Personal Health Profile and a vaccine consent form. $5 will be collected prior to administration of the vaccine.

We encourage you to take advantage of this health promotion activity and avoid the flu this winter. Please pass this information on to your colleagues.

—— Division of Human Resources

Dedication at New Bolton: Two New Labs in Animal Reproduction

The School of Veterinary Medicine dedicated two new units at the New Bolton Center on October 29, both major components of the School’s Center for Animal Transgenesis and Germ Cell Research.

The Margaret McGrath Rockefeller Laboratory in Animal Reproduction will concentrate on germ cell biology and animal transgenesis. The work will incorporate basic science and clinical approaches and will involve the Section of Reproduction. The late Mrs. Rockefeller, a breeder of Simmental cattle, spent many hours at the New Bolton Center to increase her understanding of animal reproduction and genetics, Dean Alan Kelly recalled. She “was generous in sharing her experience and knowledge,” he said, and she once organized a basic animal husbandry course for cattle breeders.

The Marion Dilley and David George Jones Laboratory in Animal Reproduction will focus on the basic science aspects of germ cell research. The late David George Jones, W ’24, maintained dairy cattle on two farms in Marlton, NJ. He was particularly interested in research in better reproductive health of food-producing animals. The new laboratory will continue to foster this intent of David George Jones at both the basic science and applied level, the Dean said.

The Center for Animal Transgenesis and Germ Cell Research was established to capitalize on the more than 30 years of pioneering research in the development of transgenic techniques by scientists at the School of Veterinary Medicine. One of its goals is the development of new approaches for producing transgenic farm animals and understanding germ cell biology.

Current research at the Center focuses on several aspects of germ cell biology, including studies on genetic regulation of the earliest events that identify cells destined to produce sperm or eggs. In addition, modifications that pre-program the genes in sperm and eggs are being investigated. A major initiative of the Center is to culture and transplant spermatogonial stem cells, which are responsible for generating spermatozoa. These approaches are expected to generate a more comprehensive understanding of farm animal reproduction, as well as provide the framework to develop new methods for introducing beneficial genes into farm animals to enhance their health and productivity.

Funds for the construction of the two new laboratories were provided by the Estate of Margaret McGrath Rockefeller, the Estate of David George Jones, and the Commonwealth and General Assembly of Pennsylvania.

Needlework: A far cry from the traditional framed sampler is the handiwork of the late Margaret McGrath Rockefeller, who came to New Bolton Center with her farm manager Don Homer to learn how to perform a C-section on cows. At the dedication of the new lab named for her, Mr. Homer displayed an example of her practice stitching, prized by her husband, David Rockefeller, who gave it the name “Peggy’s Stitches.”

Photographs by Addison Geary