Internet2’s First Educational, International Videoconference Project

Business students at Penn and the University of Grenoble participated in a pioneering videoconference held via Internet2, the high-speed, high-bandwidth web of the future. The online session linked students here and in Grenoble in a cross-cultural discussion of the viability of a fast-food franchise in the French city.

Believed to be the first integration of Internet2-based international conferencing into university coursework, the April 6 session is a milestone for the heavy-duty successor to today’s Internet. It also helps pave the way for future conferences to use Internet technology—not travel—to bring together speakers, panels and audiences around the world.

The videoconference was the culmination of a joint project undertaken this semester by business students in Wharton and their peers at the École Superieure des Affaires in Grenoble. Students at both institutions have been considering whether, in light of its successful expansion in Asia, the KFC Corporation should open a franchise in Grenoble. At the April 6 session—a eagerly awaited by KFC—the 20 American and French students shared their recommendations—in French peppered with "spicy barbeque sauce"—including their views on the legal, financial and cultural issues raised by the case.

The conference was the fourth and final session linking Penn and Grenoble this semester. A faculty videoconference occurred February 26, and the students had their first online conference February 28 and another last month. The quality and speed of these transmissions has approximated that of a live television broadcast.

At Penn, the project has been a highly collaborative one, involving Wharton’s Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies, the Department of Romance Languages in SAS, the distance learning program in CGS, the Office of Information Systems and Computing Networking & Telecommunications and the Law School’s multimedia center.

Language professors have embraced the effort as a way to advance language education in business settings, while business professors say the interaction informs students of the importance of cultural sensitivities and differences in multinational transactions. Dr. Richard Herring, director of the Lauder Institute, said that Internet2 allows students to their peers in other nations.

SAS 2001 Dean’s Forum: Tom Wolfe

Each year the School of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Forum presents leading figures in the arts and sciences that exemplify the liberal arts tradition. This year SAS presents author Tom Wolfe, who will discuss The Third Millenium and the Spirit of the Age, on Wednesday, April 18.

Known as the father of New Journalism, Mr. Wolfe’s books include The Bonfire of the Vanities, In Our Time, From Bauhaus to Our House, The Right Stuff and A Man in Full.

Mr. Wolfe was born and raised in Richmond, Virginia and educated at Washington and Lee University and Yale University. He began his newspaper career in 1956 at the Springfield Union, and in 1960 was The Washington Post’s Latin American correspondent. During his time there he won the Washington Newspaper Guild’s foreign news prize for his coverage of Cuba. In 1962 he joined the New York Herald Tribune.

In 1965 his first book was published, The Kandy Kaled Tangerine-Flake Streamline Baby, which became a bestseller and established Mr. Wolfe as a leading figure in the literary experiments in nonfiction that became known as the New Journalism.

The SAS Dean’s Forum offers the University community and the general public the opportunity to meet with leading intellectual figures that exemplify the liberal arts tradition. The SAS Dean’s Forum also recognizes outstanding undergraduate and graduate students in the arts and sciences for their academic performance and intellectual promise.

The forum is free and will be held in the Harrison Auditorium at the University Museum, at 4:30 p.m. on April 18. For more information call (215) 898-5262 or visit www.sas.upenn.edu/home/alumni/deanforum.html.

The 2001 Models of Excellence award winners and honorable mention recipients were honored at a ceremony last week where they received an etched glass award and a monetary award. See Almanac February 27 for a list of the honorees and their contributions to the University.

IN THIS ISSUE

2 SENATE: SEC Actions; Death: Dr. Gordon; UCD Search for Executive Director
3 PPSA Call for Nominations; Fulbright Scholar Program; McCabe Fund Awards; Alice Paul Breakfast; Volunteers for Alumni Weekend
4 UA: Resolution on Studying Abroad and International Student Representation
6 Home Buyers Fair; Penn & UPHS Job Fair; HR: Open Enrollment Reminder; Arthur Ross Gallery Opening; April Volunteer Opportunities
7 Museum Guides Benefit Party; Update: CrimeStats; Classifieds
8 Arbor Day in University City: Creating A Green Belt
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 Larry Gross or Executive Assistant Carolyn Burdon, Box 12 College Hall/B303, (215) 898-6943 or burdon@pobox.upenn.edu.

Actions Taken by the Senate Executive Committee

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

1. Chair’s Report. Professor Gross reported that the April 3 Almanac contained the Slate of Senate Officers and Committee members for next year. If no nominations are received by petition April 17 the slate of candidates will be declared elected. Constituency members in constituencies holding elections this year (the odd-numbered constituencies) were encouraged to remind their colleagues to participate. Professor Gross noted that the 2001 SCUE White Paper that appeared in the April 3 Almanac contains matters of interest to the faculty, and it may come up for discussion later. The panel expects to complete the study on confidentiality of Personal Information chaired by Professor Gerald J. Porter will release its report shortly and this will be on the agenda of University Council April 18 and the Senate Executive Committee May 2. The report examines how student, faculty and staff personal information is used and what the University does to protect personal information.

2. Past Chair’s Report on Academic Planning and Budget and Capital Council. Professor Phoebe Leboy reported that the Academic Planning and Budget Committee had met once since the last SEC meeting. A portion of the meeting was occupied with completing the discussion of the Graduate School of Fine Arts review, and the remainder was devoted to a report from Deputy Provost Peter Conn on planned changes in graduate education policy.

There were no scheduled meetings of Capital Council in the last month.

3. University Research Foundation Policies. Vice Provost for Research Neal Nathanson raised the matter of whether to publish the full membership of the Research Foundation Panels or only the names of the four chairs on the vice provost’s web site. There is a desire for openness and transparency of the system. In contrast, there is reason to insulate panel. SEC supported publishing the names of the panel members on the Web site, with the recommendation that the panel membership be published in Almanac. SEC also endorsed posting a statement to accompany the membership lists instructing applicants to confine all inquiries to the Office of the Vice Provost for Research or the panel chair and to not contact committee members directly. Vice Provost Nathanson also recommended an annual exchange between SEC, the four Research Foundation panel chairs and himself to assure distribution of expertise, appropriate representation across schools and departments, and the number of panel members needed. Professor Gross stated that in the meantime the Faculty Senate would continue to appoint two faculty members to each of the four panels.

4. Graduate Education Policy Changes. Deputy Provost Peter Conn outlined the changes that are underway for some of the 4,000 Ph.D. students: (1) the University will pay the health premium through the 6th year for some 1,100 full time, fully funded Ph.D. students; (2) the minimum Ph.D. stipend will be increased; (3) by September a Graduate Center for social and academic activities will open at the former Veranda; and (4) Summer stipend for two or three of the first three summers will be increased for Fontaine Fellows. Deputy Provost Conn also stated that teaching for Ph.D. students will become an official part of the doctoral programs in SAS, entailing mechanisms for supervision, oversight and evaluation.

The provost is hoping to introduce this requirement in the other schools in the future. SEC members raised issues including: the relationship of the teaching component to the Pennsylvania English speaking standard for instructors; the tax implications of defining graduate student teaching as a requirement, the potential for unionization, and the request to share information on these policy changes with the schools.

5. Informal Discussion with President Rodin and Provost Barchi. At Professor Gross’ request President Rodin touched on the graduate education policy changes. She stated that recruitment and retention of the best graduate-professional students is an important goal and that they are working on providing more resources to students and departments.

Regarding Study Abroad, President Rodin stated that the University strives to maintain the Penn level of quality and wants to ensure that students have a rich, significantly scholarly experience. Professor Gross proposed charging next year’s Senate Committee on Students and Educational Policy to consider the questions raised by the Undergraduate Assembly resolution released April 2, 2001 (http://dolphin.upenn.edu/~uaut/resources/documents). The questions include program location restriction and assigning a grade adjusted to Penn grades. Professor Gross expects that the UA resolution will be considered by the Senate at its meeting later this month.

Provost Barchi announced that a review of disability services has been completed, a report has been submitted and accepted by the president and the administration is considering ways to implement the recommendations. Major issues are: the need for a centralized location under the vice provost for university life, expanded capabilities to accommodate the increased demand on the system, and the maintenance of an academic connection. One of the recommendations is to appoint a faculty disability liaison officer for each of the schools. Deputy Provost Conn stated that the faculty should play a key role and that faculty should be provided with information on their responsibilities but not become personal disability providers. A SEC member requested that faculty be provided with guidelines on dealing with cognitive disabilities, noting that this area requires confidentiality. The discussion illuminated the importance of educating students regarding the importance, as well as the legal requirement, of providing reasonable accommodation to students with certified disabilities. Deputy Provost Conn said that the University is now scheduling events that are open to all students in ADA accessible buildings.

6. Progress Report on Faculty Gender Equity Study. SEC member and Co-chair of the committee Phoebe Leboy reviewed the analysis thus far, outlining the initial findings regarding hiring and retention patterns of faculty across schools and departments. It is hoped the report will be completed in the fall.

Search for UCD Executive Director

The board of directors of the University City District (UCD) formed a committee to seek candidates for the organization’s chief administrator position. The UCD’s current executive director, Paul Steinke, announced his resignation on March 23.

Chaired by Campus Apartments president David Adelman, the committee will undertake a national search for Mr. Steinke’s successor. The panel expects to release a position description mid-month and evaluate applications through May. Until the new director is in place, Executive Vice President John Fry, who is also chairman of the UCD Board, will act as the UCD’s interim executive director. Mr. Steinke will remain in his post until May 18.

Established by a partnership of University City institutions, businesses, and communities in August 1997, the UCD has been led by Mr. Steinke since its inception (Almanac October 7, 1997). Working first to make University City cleaner and safer through its Public Space Maintenance and Public Safety programs, the UCD’s activities have grown to include such high impact efforts as 40th Street streetscape rehabilitation, LUCY transit service, Clark Park Renewal Project, Go West! 3rd Thursdays in University City, and Neighborhood Rehabilitation Initiatives.

The organization also has been a frequent partner in such city-wide events as Sunoco Welcome America, the Republican National Convention, Philadelphia College Town Festival, Blues Fest, and the Philadelphia Festival of World Cinema.

Its 25-member board is a balance of community associations, commercial businesses, university and health care institutions, and private non-profits. Mr. Adelman looks forward to the search process, “Based upon the tremendous success that the UCD has achieved, we anticipate an overwhelming response to fill the position. The next executive director will have the benefit of taking over the reins of an organization that has a highly motivated staff as well as many visible programs and community initiatives,” he said. For more information about UCD programs, visit www.UCityphila.com.

Deaths

Dr. Gordon, Biblical Specialist

Dr. Cyrus Herzl Gordon, author and semi-Confucian died on March 30, at the age of 93. Dr. Gordon took three degrees from Penn; he received his B.A. in 1927, an M.A. in 1928, and a Ph.D. in 1930. From 1930-31 he taught Hebrew and Assyrian at Penn. In 1986 he published the monograph The Pennsylvania Tradition of Semiotics: A Century of Near Eastern and Biblical Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Gordon specialized in Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern studies. He was an archeologist in Palestine and Iraq in the 1930s and taught at Johns Hopkins, Smith, Princeton, Dropsie, Brandeis and NYU, from which he retired in 1990. During World War II Dr. Gordon spent time as a cryptanalyst deciphering Arabic, Turkish, and Persian codes.

He is survived by his wife, Constance; three daughters, Deborah Friedrich, Sarah Krakauer and Rachel Bernstein; two sons, Noah and Dan; two brothers, Norman and Maurice; and 10 grandchildren.

Wednesday, April 4, 2001
Call for Nominations: Officers for 2001-2002

The Penn Professional Staff Assembly encourages all full-time, monthly-paid, staff members to run for a position in the upcoming election.

The PPSA is an organization of administrative and technical staff who serve the teaching, research and business missions of the University. PPSA accomplishes its mission by providing a forum where staff can express their opinions; seminars and programs to broaden and expand staff’s background and knowledge; representation on major University committees; and a supportive network to work toward achieving the University’s goals and objectives and enhancing professional status of staff.

The following positions on the PPSA Executive Board will be available for the coming year: Chair-elect: The Chairperson is the principal executive officer, who calls meetings, prepares agendas, presides over meetings, and represents the PPSA on University and other University Council and other meetings. After one year, the chair-elect automatically succeeds to the office of Chairperson.

Vice-Chair-elect: The Vice-Chairperson records the proceedings of the Executive Committee and also functions as treasurer. After one year, the Vice-Chair-elect automatically succeeds to the office of Vice-Chair.

Members at Large: 3 positions are available. The Members at Large participate in Executive committee meetings and can serve on other University committees.

Current members are asked to self-nominate or submit names for consideration to Beth Hagovsky at hagovsb@wharton.upenn.edu no later than Friday, April 20, 2001.

The home department and campus extension of the nominee should be included. A supporting statement can be included, if desired. The nominating committee will review the names and contact the nominees. A list of candidates will be prepared and distributed to the PPSA membership prior to the election.

The election will occur during the annual meeting on May 24, noon-1:30 p.m. (location TBA).

Questions on the nominating and election process contact Beth Hagovsky or Trish DiPietrae at tdp@vet.upenn.edu.

2002-2003 Fulbright Scholar Program

The Fulbright Scholar Program is offering 138 lecturing/research awards in education for the 2002-2003 academic year. Award opportunities are available not only for college and university faculty and administrators, but also for professionals from business and government, as well as artists, journalists, scientists, lawyers, independent scholars, and many others.

Awards for both faculty and professionals range from two months to an academic year. A new short-term grants program—the Fulbright Senior Specialists Program—offers two-to-six week grants. While foreign language skills are needed in some countries, most Fulbright lecturing assignments are in English. The Fulbright Scholar Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Application deadlines for 2002-2003 awards are:

- May 1, 2001, for Fulbright Distinguished Chair awards in Europe, Canada and Russia
- August 1, 2001, for Fulbright traditional lecturing and research grants worldwide
- November 1, 2001, for spring/summer seminars in Germany, Korea and Japan for international educators and academic administrators and for the summer German Studies Seminar
- Rolling deadline for Fulbright Senior Specialists Program

For further information, contact:

The Council for International Exchange of Scholars
3007 Tilden St., NW, Suite 5-L, Washington, DC 20008
www.cies.org or (202) 686-7877 by phone
—Joyce M. Randolph, Director, Office of International Programs (OIP)

McCabe Fund Awards 2001-2002: Call for Applications

The McCabe Fund Advisory Committee is calling for applications for the Thomas B. and Jeannette E. Laws McCabe Fund Fellow and Pilot awards for 2001-2002. The McCabe Fund awards were established in 1969 by a generous gift from Mr. Thomas B. McCabe to the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine to support junior faculty who initiate fresh and innovative biomedical and surgical research projects and who have received no or limited external research funding while in their first or second year at the School of Medicine or the School of Veterinary Medicine.

Junior faculty members who are interested in applying for an award this year, can contact the chair of their department or call Dana J. Napier, School of Medicine Administration, at (215) 573-3221. The deadline for submission is Monday, May 14.

Last year, Dr. Joseph H. Gorman, III, Department of Surgery, Dr. Mitchell J. Weiss, Division of Hematology, and Dr. Ming H. Yuk, Department of Microbiology each won a $50,000 McCabe Fellow Award. Winners of the McCabe Pilot Project Award of $28,000 were: Dr. Andrea L. Cheville, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine; Dr. Diego Contreras, Department of Neuroscience; Dr. Dennis J. Dlugos, Division of Neurology; Dr. Issam A. Mardini, Department of Anesthesiology; Dr. Muredach P. Reilly, Department of Medicine; Dr. David A. Roberts, Department of Radiology; Nicholas Stettler, Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology; Dr. Emil Chuang, Division of Gastroenterology and Nutrition; Dr. Jean B. Patel, Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine; Dr. Eline T. Luning Prak, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine; Dr. Jonathan M. Spergel, Division of Immunologic Diseases; and Dr. Paul Thornton, Division of Endocrinology.

Volunteers for Alumni Weekend

Would you like the chance to meet other faculty, staff, students, and alumni in an exciting social atmosphere? Do you want to participate in one of the oldest and most spirited traditions of this great University?

Then volunteer for Alumni Weekend: May 18-20—Reunion picnics, Kids Korner, Parade of Classes, Town Meeting—the possibilities are endless.

Contact Rashida Holmes at rholmes@ben.dev.upenn.edu to sign up or for more information.
—Rashida Holmes, Alumni Weekend 2001 Volunteer Coordinator, Programs & Special Events Development & Alumni Relations
Resolution on Studying Abroad and International Student Representation

April 1, 2001

The Undergraduate Assembly calls upon the University to re-evaluate its policy regarding the treatment of grades earned abroad, the cost of studying abroad, the location of the Office of International Programs, and the lack of International student representation in the decision-making process at Penn.

Section One: Treatment of Grades Earned Abroad

Each year, hundreds of students flood the Office of International Programs with requests to travel and study around the globe. Some students opt to live with families, some travel through Europe on the weekends, and others attempt total cultural immersion, but all come back more culturally aware and with a deeper understanding of life and education in a foreign country. While learning is the primary goal of Penn’s abroad program, students are equally concerned with their academic performance while away. To our dismay, under the current grading structure, certain students are unfairly encouraged to study abroad while others are unfairly discouraged.

Topping the list of reasons to study abroad is that students believe that abroad classes are easier and those who go abroad receive higher grades. This system unfairly benefits those who choose to study abroad, where programs often offer less challenging classes than those at Penn.

Conversely, Penn’s study abroad grading policies can penalize students who study abroad and discourage others from participating in abroad programs. The University attempts to “translate” grades earned abroad into American grades when classes are not taught based on the American grading system.

Given the variety of grading paradigms around the world, this practice seems imprecise and inaccurate. Students in the Argentine program receive grades on a 10-point scale. Those studying in the United Kingdom were surprised to discover that teachers rarely award students with As. Students may be discouraged to study in programs that employ such unorthodox grading policies:

“You may be worrying about your ability to perform well academically in an unfamiliar environment and be afraid that your grades will go down. It is true that you are likely to encounter challenging differences in the teaching styles, academic expectations, and grading standards of your professors abroad in comparison to what you are used to at Penn. No matter how hard you work, you may feel that you are not rewarded with the grade you think you deserve given your effort. Grades in the ‘B’ range are normally expected of university students in most grading systems around the world and will be more commonly awarded than ‘A’ grades because the latter are reserved for truly exceptional performance.”

The UA is deeply concerned with the possibility that University policy may have an unintentional effect of discouraging study abroad opportunities and penalizing those who do study abroad in countries with different grading structures.

Section Two: Cost of Going Abroad

Unlike our peer institutions, students who choose to study abroad “remain registered at Penn and...pay regular Penn tuition and the study abroad fee for the semester or year.” It comes as a surprise to some, including the UA, that students have not sought to change Penn’s practices in this regard.

In order for Penn to include grades and count credits earned abroad on a student’s academic record, students must apply to a Penn-affiliated program. While Penn students may find a program organized at one of our peer institutions to be more academically and culturally enriching—and oftentimes cheaper—they are forced to enroll in Penn-sponsored programs if they wish to receive academic credit and grades for their studies. Students, however, do not mind paying more than any other school in our peer group to go abroad because they know that:

1. It is the only way for them to receive grades for classes taken abroad
2. It is the only way for them to receive credits for classes taken abroad
3. It is worth the investment to pay for a Penn-program when the majority of Penn-sponsored programs are known to award students with inflated grades

Penn should act immediately to lower the costs of studying abroad by requiring students to pay only the tuition of the foreign school to which they are attending and a fee to compensate OIP for assistance with respect to advising Penn students about abroad options. Students studying abroad should not pay Penn tuition, as no one should be forced to pay for services that they are not capable of using.

Section Three: Expanding Study Abroad Options

In bold letters, the OIP website exhales: “Petitions for study on non-affiliated programs are not routinely approved.” This includes abroad programs organized by Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and other peer institutions. Aside from lowering the barriers to non-affiliated study abroad programs, Penn should also expand the opportunities it affords students within our own programs. Currently, students who wish to study abroad are only allowed to apply to one program. Certain programs are so popular that only a small percentage of qualified students receive admittance. If, for example, students were able to select a first, second, and third choice, those who are currently denied from their preferred program may be able to find open space on other programs.

Spanish-speaking students who are denied a space in the Madrid program, for example, may find open space on a program in Latin America. Similar to the credence given to an early application to Penn, a student’s abroad program selection could be weighted based on the order in which it appears on his or her list of preferred programs.

Penn’s peer institutions grant credit by departmental petition to students who study through programs organized by other universities. Penn stands alone in refusing to grant such transfer credit. Incongruously, Penn students may receive transfer credit by petition for courses taken at other institutions in the U.S., many of which pale academically to the programs our peer institutions offer abroad. Penn, therefore, engages in sending students to programs that—in theory and practice—are not always the most affordable nor the most appropriate. The University should take steps to allow students to receive credit for classes taken abroad on programs organized by other U.S. institutions, as long as the student is able to meet Penn’s standards for going abroad.

Penn also differs from each of its peers in declining to grant credit for students who enroll directly to their abroad institutions. It stands to reason that if a Penn student is denied admission to a Penn-affiliated program that he or she should still be able to apply directly to that program and receive credit for classes taken there. If, for example, there are only 20 spaces open at a Penn-sponsored program at a given University in Asia, students who meet Penn’s standards for going abroad but are not allotted one of the 20 spots should be able to receive transfer credit if they find another means by which they can enroll in classes at that University. By calling a program Penn-approved but only allowing students to apply to it through OIP makes it appear as if Penn truly engages in selling credits and grades.

Penn also differs from each of its peers in declining to grant credit for students who enroll directly to their abroad institutions. It stands to reason that if a Penn student is denied admission to a Penn-affiliated program that he or she should still be able to apply directly to that program and receive credit for classes taken there. If, for example, there are only 20 spaces open at a Penn-sponsored program at a given University in Asia, students who meet Penn’s standards for going abroad but are not allotted one of the 20 spots should be able to receive transfer credit if they find another means by which they can enroll in classes at that University. By calling a program Penn-approved but only allowing students to apply to it through OIP makes it appear as if Penn truly engages in selling credits and grades.

Section Four: Location of the Office of International Programs

As noted in the recent report released by the International Programs Committee of the University Council, “Space limitations greatly dampen the otherwise welcoming atmosphere in OIP. There is insufficient office space, an inadequate reception area, and there are no facilities to host activities of internationally oriented scholar groups.” The UA agrees with the committee’s observations and believes that international students, students interested in studying abroad, and the entire Penn community would benefit from a more centrally-located, resource-rich center for
International Programs. The UA—again agreeing with the International Programs Committee—also believes that the University should create an International Student Center to unite and provide resources for the International community at Penn.

Section Five: Recognition of International Student Concerns

With over 800 students from 89 countries, Penn has the largest percentage of international undergraduates in the Ivy League. Unfortunately, the interests of the international community at Penn are often fragmented. While umbrella organizations exist on campus to unite the myriad of ethnic and cultural student groups, there is no central organization that speaks for the entire community of international students. As such, the interests of international students as a whole often go unnoticed by the Administration, as well as the Undergraduate Assembly.

Recently it came to our attention that next year’s Winter Break is one week shorter than every other year in recent memory. While the University compensated for this reduction by adding one week to Summer Recess, international students on campus were disproportionately affected by this change.

Penn’s diverse campus includes many students from distant countries who rely on Winter Break as a chance to return home. A great deal of international students use this break as their one opportunity to travel home during the year, as many opt to take summer internships in the United States which traditionally pay substantially higher salaries than internships in foreign countries. Having a shorter break means that International students who choose not to spend their summers at home have considerably less time to spend with their friends and family.

Furthermore, when one takes into account the time spent traveling home, the time required to recover from jetlag, and the cost of flying, international students spend substantially less time and incur proportionally higher costs when visiting their families and relaxing before the start of the Spring Semester. It is certain that some students will simply not travel home next year because it is not worth the financial investment for such a short visit.

Therefore, we, the Undergraduate Assembly, the elected representatives of the undergraduate student body, do hereby resolve:

Resolved: The University should follow the lead of our peer institutions (see Appendix) and discontinue the practice of translating grades earned abroad.

Grades earned abroad should appear on student transcripts in non-translated formats with appropriate explanations of foreign grading systems when necessary.

Resolved: Transcripts should clearly differentiate classes taken abroad from classes taken at Penn.

Resolved: In the interest of fairness, the UA urges Penn to allow students to pay tuition and fees for their host institution plus a fee to cover advising services and operating costs for the Office of International Programs. Students studying abroad should not pay Penn tuition.

Resolved: Penn should give students the option to apply for more than one abroad program.

Resolved: Students who study abroad in a program not affiliated with Penn should be allowed to apply for transfer credit from the appropriate department.

Resolved: The Office of International Programs should be moved to a more centrally-located, resource-rich facility on campus.

Resolved: An International Student Center should be created to unite and provide resources for the International student community at Penn.

Resolved: The University should make efforts to take the interests of all students into consideration when making policy and calendar decisions at Penn.

Appendix

Comparing Penn’s Abroad Grading & Financial Policies to Our Peer Institutions

University of Pennsylvania

Grades are reported on the Penn transcript and are counted in students’ cumulative grade point average. Grades given on different scales are translated. (www.upenn.edu/oip/sfa)

Administratively, in order to receive academic credit toward your Penn degree, you must apply and register for semester and full-year study abroad through the Office of International Programs (OIP); there are no exceptions to this rule. Credit is not awarded retroactively after a return from a leave of absence during which you may have studied abroad independently. During your participation in a study abroad activity recognized by Penn Abroad for credit, you must remain registered at Penn and accordingly you pay regular Penn tuition and the study abroad fee for the semester or year. (www.upenn.edu/oip/sfa/policy/performance.html).

Princeton University

“In most cases, your Princeton University transcript will not list courses taken abroad or grades except for the junior independent work grade. The transcript will indicate the program or university you attended, its location, and the length of your stay.”

“In addition to the cost of the program abroad, Princeton charges a study abroad fee. While abroad you remain a fully matriculated student at Princeton and have access to academic advising and other services provided by the various offices at the University. All other study abroad program expenses, tuition fees, room, and board are payable directly to the program or university that you attend. Billing procedures for some Princeton-affiliated programs may be different, depending upon the program. If you receive financial aid at Princeton and decide to study abroad while on a program at the University, you will continue to receive aid while abroad on an approved program.” (www.princeton.edu/pu/pub/sa/03.htm).

Yale University

“The Committee on the Junior Year Abroad uses grades or other evaluations of work abroad only to establish that work has been satisfactory for the award of credit towards the bachelor’s degree. Computations determining eligibility for General Honors (cum laude, etc.) and Phi Beta Kappa only use grades earned in courses taught at Yale. However, directors of undergraduate studies may use grades earned on Junior Year Abroad in their computations for Distinction in the Major. The Yale transcript will report the Junior Year Abroad and only the number of credits awarded.”

“Students on Junior Year Abroad do not pay tuition fees to Yale University... All fees go directly to the program or foreign university, and it is the student’s responsibility to make sure all fees are paid. Students who have been approved to study abroad by the Committee, and who receive financial aid from Yale are eligible for aid while abroad.” (www.yale.edu/iefp).

Harvard University

“Courses for which you are receiving credit will not appear on your Harvard transcript; only the name of the institution will be listed with the number of grades transferred. The grades will not be figured into your Harvard Rank List Group.”

“Harvard University charges no fees for study abroad. If you are not receiving financial assistance from Harvard, all study abroad program expenses—tuition, fees room and board—are payable by you directly to the program or university that you attend... If you are receiving financial assistance from Harvard and your program has been approved for academic credit, you may be eligible to receive aid while studying out of residence, depending on the cost of your program.” (www.oacs.fas.harvard.edu/pdf/HCGSA.PDF).

Cornell University

“Study Abroad grades will appear on the Cornell transcript exactly as they are recorded on an original transcript generated by your study abroad program or foreign university. Foreign grade scales are not converted into the U.S. grade scale, and study abroad grades will not be averaged into your Cornell GPA.”

“In 1999-00 students attending Cornell Abroad sponsored programs and the 18 affiliated universities in the United Kingdom will be charged the uniform Cornell Abroad Tuition of $14,650 per semester, or $29,300 for the entire academic year. The Cornell Abroad Tuition, which includes tuition, housing, orientation, program sponsored events and trips, and the International Student Identity Card.

Cornell students enrolled directly in overseas universities and study abroad programs sponsored by other accredited institutions will be charged program costs as identified by the host institution (tuition, room, board, program fees, etc.), plus the International Program Tuition of $3,400 per semester.” (www.einaudi.cornell.edu/CUAbroad/handbook/academics.html#grades).
Almanac April 10, 2001

Transformation: Jews and Modernity—Exhibit and Colloquium

The Arthur Ross Gallery’s upcoming exhibition Transformation: Jews and Modernity—which focuses on how 20th century ideas shaped Jewish art and artists, opens on Wednesday, April 25 with a reception from 5 to 8 p.m. It runs through June 17. The exhibit includes 58 works on paper from such 19th and 20th artists as Chagall, Feingold, Kitaj, Lichtenstein, Lissitzky, Nevelson, Rivers, Segal and Steiglitz as well as work on Jewish themes by Delacroix and Warhol.

In addition to the exhibit, the seventh annual Gruss Colloquium in Judaic Studies at Penn will be held at Room 17, Logan Hall on April 30-May 2. The topic will be Modern Jewry and the Arts. Subjects to be addressed by academicians and artists participating in this year’s program include vaudeville and klezmer, 50s TV and jazz records, Hollywood and contemporary art.

April Volunteer Opportunities

Dear Penn Community,

The following is a list of the monthly posting of community service opportunities. Each month, Penn Volunteers In Public Service (Penn VIPS) posts a list of volunteer opportunities developed from the many requests we get from the surrounding community for assistance. During the month of March, Penn VIPS undertook a penny drive to benefit Haddington Elder Care Services. We are in the process of counting the donations and in May we will let you know the total collected. Thanks for your support of this venture.

Please contact me via e-mail (sammapp@pobox.upenn.edu) to volunteer for any of the programs.

—Isabel Mapp, Associate Director, Faculty, Staff and Alumni Volunteer Services, Director, Penn VIPS, Center for Community Partnerships (CCP)

Volunteer to help out at the Penn Relays: Contact Isabel Mapp no later than April 11 for further information.

Take Our Daughters To Work Day: 1,000 Girls Are Waiting, Thursday April 26: Volunteer to host a high school student from University City High School who would not otherwise have an opportunity to spend the day in a workplace setting. Take your student to the many events that will be held around campus and share with her information about your career.

Students will meet mentors on Penn’s campus around 9:30 a.m. and will be dismissed around 2 p.m. Contact Isabel Mapp no later than April 11 for further information.

Volunteer for CPR Saturday: The American Heart Association is having a “Learn CPR For Free” day on Saturday, April 28. Volunteer to work with the Set Up Committee, be a Parking Lot Marshall, help with registration. The event will be held on the Saint Joseph’s University campus located on 56th Street and City Line Avenue. Contact Isabel Mapp by April 16 for additional information and/or to volunteer for this program.

Computers Needed: Is your department upgrading its computers? Would you like to donate your used computers to a worthy cause? The Center for Community Partnerships and a group of volunteers are working to provide computers to West Philadelphia schools, churches, families and nonprofit agencies. Join us by donating your used computers to this cause.

Contact Isabel Mapp for additional information.

How Would You Like to Help Prepare a University City High School Student or a West Philadelphia High School Student for the World of Work?: Hire them to do general office work and expose them to their areas of interest. We have students interested in the medicine, law, computers and much much more! Students are participants in the School to Career Program and are often paid by the program. Contact Isabel Mapp for additional information or to volunteer for this program.

Tutoring Opportunities: Zion Temple, 60th Street near Spruce Street, Adult Education Program. Provide GED tutoring on Wednesdays from 6-7:30p.m. Ford-McKarobin Foundation of Learning, Inc. 52nd & Jefferson Streets: Tutor students in English, Math & Science. Work on Arts & Crafts Program operates daily from 2:30-7 p.m. Flexible schedules can be arranged. Contact Isabel Mapp.

May Preview: Participate in a Career Day at Turner Middle School at 59th Street & Baltimore Avenue, on May 3, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Join them for an hour or two to share information about your career.

Dear Penn Community,

The following is a list of the monthly posting of community service opportunities. Each month, Penn Volunteers In Public Service (Penn VIPS) posts a list of volunteer opportunities developed from the many requests we get from the surrounding community for assistance. During the month of March, Penn VIPS undertook a penny drive to benefit Haddington Elder Care Services. We are in the process of counting the donations and in May we will let you know the total collected. Thanks for your support of this venture.

Please contact me via e-mail (sammapp@pobox.upenn.edu) to volunteer for any of the programs.

—Isabel Mapp, Associate Director, Faculty, Staff and Alumni Volunteer Services, Director, Penn VIPS, Center for Community Partnerships (CCP)
14 Aural Text In (aural) Reception featuring Andrew Ziter; 7 p.m. Kelly Writers House (Writers House Junior Fellows Program).

All Aboard Express Almanac: To register, send an e-mail message with “subscribe” as the Subject to almanac@pobox.upenn.edu and include your name, e-mail address, and mailing address. —Ed.

Bookstore Inventory: Penn’s bookstore will be closed for inventory on Saturday, April 14.

The University Museum: The Museum’s Upper Egyptian Gallery and the adjacent exhibit, The Egyptian Mummy: Secrets and Science will be closed to the public from Wednesday, April 11 through Saturday, April 14, to apply a fire-retarding treatment to the gallery’s drapes. Please note that the Museum is also closed on Sunday, April 15 for Easter.

The University of Pennsylvania Police Department Community Crime Report

About the Crime Report: Below are all Crimes Against Persons and Crimes Against Society from the campus report for March 26 through April 1, 2001. Also reported were 16 Crimes Against Property: (including 15 thefts, and 1 attempted theft). Full reports on the Web (www.upenn.edu/almanac/v47/n29/crimes.html). Prior week’s reports are also on-line.—Ed.

This summary is prepared by the Division of Public Safety and includes all criminal incidents reported and made known to the University Police Department between the dates of March 26 and April 1, 2001. The University Police actively patrols from Market Street to Baltimore Avenue and from the Schulykill River to 43rd Street in conjunction with the Philadelphia Police. In this effort to provide you with a thorough and accurate report on public safety concerns, we hope that your increased awareness will lessen the opportunity for crime. For any concerns or suggestions regarding this report, please call the Division of Public Safety at (215) 898-4482.

PROPERTY INSPECTION

Need Home Repairs? Your insurance company could owe you thousands of dollars. Do you have any of the following problems in your home: leaky roofs, water stains, fire, broken hot water heater, plumbing overflows, cracked ceramic tile, theft, vandalism, power surges, leaks, broken siding, etc., Claims denied by your insurance company? Call me for a free no obligation, policy evaluation & property inspection. Call Lisa Smith, Licensed & Bonded Public Adjuster (215) 668-4180. An advocate for the owner of residential and commercial property.

THERAPY


To place a classified ad, call (215) 898-5274. Almanac is not responsible for contents of classified ad material.

CLASSIFIED—PERSONAL

RESEARCH

The University of Pennsylvania Health System needs volunteers for a male osteoporosis research study. If you are generally healthy and are 18 to 80 years old, you may be eligible to participate. Volunteers will receive a general physical examination and blood tests at the time of the first visit. Those who qualify will be asked to return for a second visit for magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the spine and wrist, and a dual energy X-ray absorptionometry (DEXA) scan of the spine and hip. Both exams are performed on the same day and take approximately 45 minutes each. The tests will be repeated in 6, 12, and 24 months. Participants will be compensated for their participation. Please contact Louise Loh or Helen Peachey at (215) 898-5664 for more information.

Shoulder Study: do you have shoulder pain or tendinitis? You may qualify for free therapy. We are studying the effectiveness of a new, scientifically based shoulder exercise program. Testing and treatment are being performed by a physical therapist experienced with managing shoulder problems. Call Jason Blaiker MPT at Penn Therapy and Fitness to arrange for initial testing to see if you qualify (215) 614-0680. Experiencing neck and shoulder pain for three months or more? You may be eligible for a study at the UPenn Pain Medicine Center involving free Botox injections. Call Lisa Bean at (215) 662-8736.

Almanac

Suite 211 Nichols House 3600 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106 Phone: (215) 898-5774 or 5275; FAX: (215) 898-9137 E-Mail: almanac@pobox.upenn.edu URL: www.upenn.edu/almanac

The University of Pennsylvania’s journal of record, opinion and news is published Tuesdays during the academic year, and as needed during summer and holiday breaks. Its electronic editions on the Internet (accessible through the PennWeb) include HTML and Acrobat versions of the print edition, and interim information may be posted in electronic form only. Guidelines for readers and contributors are available on request. EDITOR Marguerite F. Miller ASSOCIATE EDITOR Margaret Ann Morris ASSISTANT EDITOR Tina Bejan STUDENT ASSISTANTS Angie Liou; Chris McFall; Alicia Simmons; William Yeoh Shantee Rutherford UCHS INTERN ALMANAC ADVISORY BOARD: For the Faculty Senate. Martin Fring (Chair), Peter Freudy, Larry Gross, David Hackney, Phoebe Lebow, Steven Meister, and W. Meister, Dean of the School of Arts and Administrative, Lor N. Doyle. For the Staff Assemblies, Michele Taylor, PPSA, Karen Pinkney, A 3 Assembly; David N. Nelson, Librar- ians Assembly. The University of Pennsylvania values diversity and seeks talented students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds. The University of Pennsylvania does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, or status as a Vietnam Era Veteran or disabled veteran in the administration of educational policies, programs or activities; admissions policies; scholarship and loan awards; athletic and other University administered pro- grams or employment. Questions or complaints regarding this policy should be directed to the Director, Office of Affirma- tive Action, 3600 Chestnut Street, 2nd floor, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6105 or (215) 898-6993 (Voice) or (215) 898-7883 (TDD).
UC Green, like its predecessor UC Brite—which installed outdoor lights—has been collaborating with community organizations, city agencies and corporate sponsors to improve the quality of life in University City. This time the goal is to turn University City into a Garden Village with greenways along streets, pathways to schools and parks, landscaping and plantings around homes and apartments and the conversion of vacant lots into community assets.

University City is a giant step closer to becoming greener. UC Green’s recent Arbor Day project involved planting more than 100 trees along Walnut Street from 43rd to 48th Streets on Saturday, March 24. Hundreds of volunteers had been recruited from the community and Penn and from the University of Tennessee. But when the day of planting came, so did even more volunteers than had been anticipated. There were more than 1,200 registered volunteers who pitched in. They planted Ginko trees, Hackberry trees, Honey Locusts trees, London Plane trees, Red Bud trees, and Red Maple trees. These types of trees were carefully chosen by landscape architect Steve McCoubrey, with input from the community groups. There were crews of five people per tree, led by a crew leader who had completed tree-planting training prior to the event. Each tree weighed nearly 400 lbs. and will be full blown in about a year and a half.

Esaul Sanchez, director of UC Green, said, ‘UC Green would like to thank the over 1,200 volunteers who worked on planting the trees. This Arbor Day 2001 project was successful beyond our wildest dreams thanks to your participation and commitment. The convergence of so many different people and talents for this event is a testimony of the best of us and what we can do working together.”

Mr. Sanchez added, “This project would not have been the success it was without the participation of dozens of partners.” Participants included: Allied Security, Association of Islamic Charitable Programs, Cambodian Association of Greater Philadelphia, Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell, Drexel University, Morris Arboretum, Neospin Consultants, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, Philadelphia Green, Philadelphia Urban Resources Partnership, Philadelphia University, Salvation Army F.A.I.T.H. & Soup’s On! Programs, Sherman Properties, Steve Davis, The Inn at Penn, The Restaurant School, U.S. Department of Agricultural Forest Service, UCA, UCD, Penn, University City Sheraton, University of Tennessee Volunteer Center, University of the Sciences, Walnut Hill Community Association, West Philadelphia High School Construction Programs, West Philadelphia Partnership, and White Dog Café.

President Judith Rodin thanked the UA and GAPSA for their role in mobilizing and organizing students and congratulated everyone who cooperated, especially all the community groups who participated.

Lauren Leatherbarrow, an architect from University City, said, “I was privileged to be a volunteer participant and I am blown away at how successful the entire project was and I want to say thank you from the neighborhood to all the people who spent months in preparation and to everyone else who showed up on the day to help.”

Last year, UC Green secured funding for and helped in the planning, organization and implementation of 16 landscape and streetscape improvement projects in the area. For more on UC Green, see www.ucgreen.org.

Photos by Sylvia Barkan

Volunteers of all ages pitched in to help out.

Dispensing the tools, preparing the site, digging the dirt, balancing the bale, positioning the tree, steadying the trunk, smoothing the soil, lending a hand, beaming with pride.