About Dr. Nelson, a colleague says, “In addition to a clear and engaging lecturing style, he has done the very best job of developing new courses which convey the excitement and the beauty of contemporary physics. [These courses] are triumphs—imaginative, substantive, and challenging. He is committed to conveying the aesthetic as well as the technical aspects of his subject.”

Since its creation in 1983, the Ira H. Abrams Memorial Award for Distinguished Teaching has been the highest teaching honor in the School of Arts and Sciences. The award recognizes teaching that is intellectually challenging and exceptionally coherent and honors faculty who embody high standards of integrity and fairness, have a strong commitment to learning, and are open to new ideas.

I’ve taken in the CCEB.” Dr. Kimmel also serves as the Director of the Epidemiology Track of the MSCE Program. His enthusiasm and sense of humor in his teaching is contagious. Dr. Kimmel has consistently received the highest rankings possible from students, and he is equally well regarded by his peers for his ability to fuse the basic science of epidemiology with clinical medicine.

Dr. Emma Meagher, Assistant Professor of Medicine, is the Co-director of pharmacology education for medical students. Dr. Meagher is highly regarded by faculty and students alike for her enthusiasm for teaching and curriculum development. She has consistently emphasized the importance of integration of pharmacology and therapeutics throughout the medical school curriculum and has recently spearheaded an initiative to develop a new course on therapeutics. In addition to her role in medical student education, Dr. Meagher is also the director of the School of Medicine Patient Oriented Research Training Program for post-graduate students. Her clinical practice is in the area of cardiovascular risk assessment and management with a particular interest in hypertension, women’s cardiovascular health and lipid disorders. She is the Associate Director of PENN CATCH, the Penn Center for the Assessment and Treatment of Complex Hypertension and, in addition is a member of the Cardiovascular Risk Intervention Program and the Center for Experimental Therapeutics.

The Blockley-Osler Award was created in 1987 by the Blockley section of the Philadelphia College of Physicians and is presented annually to a member of the faculty at an affiliated hospital for excellence in teaching modern clinical medicine in the bedside tradition of William Blockley and Osler.
COUNCIL Agenda

University Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 25, 4 to 6 p.m., Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall

I. Approval of the minutes: Minutes of March 28, April 18 and 25 will be distributed to the Council membership in the fall.

II. Follow-up comments or questions on Status Reports (reports distributed via e-mail with agenda), 5 minutes.


IV. 2000-2001 Year-End Reports of Council Committees, Presentation 5 minutes, discussion 10 minutes each.
   A. Admissions and Financial Aid
   B. Community Relations
   C. Libraries
   D. Pluralism
   E. Quality of Student Life

V. Preliminary discussion of issues to be dealt with in the coming academic year (Bylaws IV.3(e)) discussion 15 minutes.

VI. Adjournment by 6 p.m.
Report on Arts and Culture Committees and Activities

Provost Robert Barchi has convened three committees comprised of students, faculty and staff, all of which deal with various aspects of the artistic and cultural environment at Penn. They are:

- The Provost’s Council on Arts and Culture
- The Provost’s Advisory Committee on Music Performance at Penn
- The Student Advisory Committee on Arts and Culture at Penn

Mission Statements:

The Provost’s Council on Arts and Culture: The Provost’s Council on Arts and Culture was established in the fall of 1999 for the purpose of promoting artistic and cultural endeavors at Penn. The Council is comprised of the Directors of all of Penn’s major arts and culture venues and is chaired by Deputy Provost Peter Conn. The Council’s goal is to design and execute new cooperative initiatives which build on the centers’ various strengths and provide mutual benefits. Current objectives include raising student awareness of the arts and culture opportunities available to them at the University and developing new audiences from throughout the Delaware Valley.

The Provost’s Advisory Committee on Music Performance at Penn: In the spring of 2001, the Provost convened a new advisory committee whose mission is to evaluate the position of music in the cultural life of the University and to consider ways in which the role of music at Penn may be enhanced. The recent creation of a College House System and, more generally, the University’s renewed effort to strengthen undergraduate education at Penn call for re-evaluation of the role of music in the social and cultural life of the academic community. This committee, which is comprised of faculty and staff members from across the University, will set goals for enhancing musical activity at Penn and consider how these goals might best be realized. The committee is chaired by Deputy Provost Peter Conn.

The Student Advisory Committee on Arts and Culture at Penn: The mission of this committee is to work with the two bodies described above to promote access to arts and culture at Penn among the student body. Comprised of students representing many areas of artistic endeavor, the committee both develops proposals on its own and works cooperatively with the Music Committee and the Arts and Culture Council to raise the visibility of the arts on campus. Next year, graduate student representatives will join the undergraduates currently on the Committee.

Membership of the three bodies is as follows:

Arts and Culture Council
Rebecca Bushnell, Associate Dean for the Humanities, SAS
Peter Conn, Deputy Provost, Chair
Terry Conn, Assistant Vice Provost for University Life
Aaron Couch, Chair of Student Advisory Committee on Arts and Culture
Vincent Curren, General Manager of WPKN
Al Filreis, Director of Kelly Writers House
Anita Gelburd, Assistant to the Deputy Provost
Bonnie Gibson, Exec. Dir. of Administrative Affairs for the Provost’s Office
Claudia Gould, Director of the Institute for Contemporary Art
Gary Hack, Dean of the Graduate School of Fine Arts
Amy Johnson, Chair of Special Projects for Business Services
Valarie Swain-Cade McCoullim, Vice Provost for University Life
Eugene Narmour, Director of the Penn Humanities Forum
Nancy Nowicki Nicely, Exec. Dir. of External Affairs, Office of the Provost
Al Filreis, Director of Kelly Writers House
Anita Gelburd, Assistant to the Deputy Provost
Penn Prize for Excellence in Teaching by Graduate Students

Last year, following a meeting between President Judith Rodin and GSAC Chair, Eric Eisenstein, Dr. Rodin established a new University-wide award to honor teaching by graduate students. President Rodin personally funded the ten $500 awards both last year and this year. At last year’s award ceremony Dr. Rodin said, “Through our graduate students, we are creating the academic community of tomorrow. Acknowledging extraordinary teaching is a natural and important way to engage and entice our graduate students to strive for excellence.”

A University-wide selection committee consisting of faculty and past awardees solicited nominations from undergraduates through email, the DP and a new web page. More than 280 nominations were received. Thirty of the top candidates were invited to submit a statement of their teaching philosophy and a letter of support from a faculty member who had supervised their teaching. From those, ten were chosen as this year’s awardees:

Paulina L. Alberto
Sanjay K. Chugh
Timothy Duncan
Thomas J. English
Amy C. Garrett
Fariba Khan
Samuel Trieu Nguyen
John Oberdiek
Erik C. Simpson
Jonah Steinberg

History
Economics
Chemistry
Chemical Engineering
History
South Asia Regional Studies
Mathematics
Philosophy
English
Anthropology

Dr. Walter Licht, who chaired the selection committee said, “It was exciting to see the response from the undergraduate community and to read the inspiring statements by the graduate students. It was very difficult to narrow the field to ten. We are delighted to have this opportunity to honor some of the University’s most outstanding graduate student teachers and to publicly recognize the valuable contributions these budding scholars make to our undergraduate programs.”

The ten awardees will be honored by a noontime reception Thursday, April 26, at the Arthur Ross Gallery.

www.upenn.edu/almanac
School of Arts and Sciences (continued from page 1)

Kahn Award for Educational Excellence:
This award is given to a department in SAS, undergraduate program, graduate group, or research center that demonstrates an extraordinary collective commitment to teaching, innovation, and service. In its fourth year, the Kahn Award honors the Department of History in recognition of its commitment to general education for Penn undergraduates; its development of opportunities for undergraduate research for history majors, much of which is published in the student-edited Penn History Review; its mentoring of graduate students; and its highly successful involvement in Penn’s Senior Associates program. The chair of the department is Dr. Lynn Hollen Lees.

Dean’s Award for Innovation in Teaching:
This two-year old award honors creativity and innovation in instruction. The award this year goes to Dr. Millicent (Penny) Marcus, the Mariano DiVito Professor of Italian Studies in the Department of Romance Languages. Dr. Marcus is being recognized for her courses on Italian cinema, which faculty and students praise for their ability to “bring an entire culture to life” through a multifaceted approach that integrates film with history and literature. A colleague also notes her “truly inspiring leadership” of the new Film Studies minor, which has “made film a very real presence in Penn’s liberal arts curriculum and, more generally and fundamentally, in Penn’s intellectual life.”

Edmund J. & Louise W. Kahn Award for Distinguished Teaching by an Assistant Professor:
This award, established last year, recognizes a member of the junior faculty who demonstrates unusual promise as an educator. This year’s recipient is Dr. David Koerner of the Department of Physics and Astronomy. Dr. Koerner is an enthusiastic research mentor to both undergraduate and graduate students, and his course “Life in the Universe”—which he has also adapted for the College’s Pilot Curriculum—has a strong following among undergraduates, who praise Dr. Koerner’s ability to engage a wide audience in an interdisciplinary introduction to the subject.

Dean’s Award for Mentorship of Undergraduate Research:
Also in its second year, this award honors meaningful engagement of undergraduate students in research that is the direct result of exceptional nurturing and facilitating by the faculty member. The winner for 2001 is Dr. Cary Mazer of the Department of English, who is being honored for his work in the undergraduate Theatre Arts program, which he directs. Many students cite Dr. Mazer’s mentorship on their senior theses as the highlight of their undergraduate careers. A colleague adds that he “teaches both intellectually challenging ideas as well as hands-on knowledge about theater production. As a result, a number of his students have seen themselves as having enjoyed a kind of apprenticeship with him, a pedagogical training that has introduced them to a set of invaluable tools for staging plays.”

Senior Class Award for Teaching Excellence:
The recipients of this award are chosen by Penn’s Class of 2001. Students identify a faculty member who demonstrates an enthusiastic commitment to excellent teaching, exceptional accessibility to students, a mastery of the subject matter, and an outstanding ability to communicate that subject to students. This year the awards go to Dr. Alan Mann, who teaches physical anthropology in the Department of Anthropology, and Dr. Rudra Sil, who teaches comparative politics in the Department of Political Science.

Dean’s Award for Distinguished Teaching:
This award recognizes the outstanding service of teaching assistants or graduate students teaching their own courses. This year’s awards go to: Paulina Alberto of history, Jennifer Ebbeler of classical studies, Robert Kane of history, Michelle Lamas of comparative literature, Samuel Trieu Nguyen of mathematics, Brandy O’Neill of anthropology, Mark Sample of comparative literature, James Saporito of history, Juliet Shields of English, and Kiernan Snyder of linguistics.

All Aboard Express Almanac
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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.

School of Medicine (continued from page 1)

Osler. This year it is presented to Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg, assistant professor of pediatrics, in the division of adolescent medicine at CHOP. He emphasizes the biopsychosocial approach to adolescent care and works to build trainees’ skills in communication with adolescents. He emphasizes that clinicians are the only people who see youth repeatedly and confidentially throughout adolescence, and as such are uniquely positioned to make a difference in their lives. However, he teaches that they can best do so if they understand how to create the necessary zone of safety within the health care setting and are equipped with the skills to guide patients toward positive behavioral change.

The Robert Dunning Dripps Memorial Award for Excellence in Graduate Medical Education was established in 1983 by the department of anesthesiology, recognizes a faculty member who exemplifies excellence in the education of residents and fellows in the areas of clinical care, research, teaching and/or administration. This year it is presented to Dr. Catherine

(continued on page 5)
Manno, associate professor of pediatrics. Dr. Manno graduated from Duke University in 1974 with a degree in zoology and received her MD from Hahnemann Medical College in 1978. She then served as a post doctoral fellow in pediatrics at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children. Presently, Dr. Manno is the Medical Director for the Blood Bank and the Director of Transfusion Service at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

The Dean’s Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Training was established in 1992-93 to recognize excellence in graduate education. This year it is presented to Dr. Tracy McIntosh, Robert A. Groff Professor of Neurosurgery, Director of the Head Injury Research Center who holds a triple appointment as Professor in the Department of Neurosurgery, Bioengineering, and Pharmacology. He is also Vice-Chair of research in the Department of Neurosurgery. One of the country’s leading researchers in central nervous system (CNS) injury, Dr. McIntosh is funded through both federal and private research grants for the study of CNS shock and trauma, including three from the National Institute of Health (NIH), Veterans Administration Health Service and the Brain Injury Association. He lectures extensively in brain injury throughout the world and has authored or co-authored more than 100 journal articles and 35 textbook chapters. Dr. McIntosh is past president of the Neurotrauma Society where he now serves as counselor. He also serves on the Scientific Advisory Committee of the National Head Injury Foundation.

The Dean’s Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching at an Affiliated Hospital was established in 1987 to honor commitment to medical education and excellence in clinical teaching by recognizing outstanding faculty members from affiliated hospitals. Two recipients were chosen this year: Dr. Charles Cantor and Dr. Michael Gliatto.

Dr. Charles Cantor, serves as Medical Director of the Pennsylvania Hospital Sleep Disorders Center and as neurologic consultant to the Penn Center for Sleep Disorders. His major interest within the field of neurology is in sleep medicine, and he maintains an active practice in sleep disorders at Pennsylvania Hospital and at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Michael Gliatto, is board certified in both internal medicine and psychiatry. He has worked at the Philadelphia Veterans Administration Medical Center since 1992 and has been active in teaching medical students and residents in both the inpatient unit and outpatient clinic.

The Dean’s Award for Excellence in Basic Science Teaching was established in 1987, and honors exemplary teaching and commitment to medical education specifically in the basic sciences. This year it is presented to Dr. Richard Hodinka, associate professor of pediatrics. Dr. Hodinka is the Director of the Clinical Virology Laboratory at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. He is actively involved in providing state-of-the-art testing services for the diagnosis of viral diseases, participating in viral research activities and teaching in the School of Medicine. For freshman, Dr. Hodinka is responsible for a number of virology lectures and is a laboratory section leader in the “Module I Microbiology/Mechanisms of Infection” course. He also teaches in an elective course on mechanisms of microbial diseases offered to juniors and seniors. He encourages students to develop insights, reason out their conclusions, and read the literature.

This year there are four Special Dean’s Awards, which honor special achievements by Penn faculty members. Dr. William Beck, associate dean of student affairs and professor of obstetrics and gynecology, is the recipient of a Special Dean’s Award, in recognition of his outstanding service to the students of the School of Medicine. He has been a full-time faculty member in the School of Medicine since 1972, working for 20 years at Pennsylvania Hospital where he also served as Director of Residency Training. He has been the Associate Dean for Student Affairs since 1992, working with medical students as they plan for their residencies and future careers in medicine. He was also Director of Residency Training at HUP in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Dr. G. Paul Dabrowski, assistant professor of surgery, is the recipient of a Special Dean’s Award in recognition of his outstanding teaching and commitment to the students of the School of Medicine. Although he sees himself as a general surgeon with an interest in trauma and surgical critical care, he presently functions mainly as a “non-operative trauma surgeon”. He is also the Course Director of the integrated Surgery/Emergency Medicine/Anesthesia clerkship. Recent research projects include evaluating the trauma surgery experience of chief residents from disparate training programs, nutritional assessments in the SICU, the benefit of allowing medical students to audit the ATLS course during their surgery clerkship, developing and validating a tool to assist with the allocation of residents onto the various surgical services, the use of standardized patients for teaching and evaluating students’ physical exam skills during their surgery clerkship, and an examination of the Penn experience using damage control techniques for destructive pancreatic injuries.

Dr. Leonard Jarett, Distinguished Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, is the recipient of a Special Dean’s Award in recognition of his outstanding service and commitment in the role of former chair of the Department of Pathology at the School of Medicine. As Chair of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, he quickly transformed the educational activities of the Department into the top rung, including the medical and graduate student teaching, post-doctoral training and residency and fellowship training programs. Dr. Jarett provided various incentives to encourage outstanding teaching as well as research. The major changes were to recruit people interested in research and to include at least two years of research as well as to have each resident specialize in a subspecialty of anatomical or clinical pathology. Over the next decade, the program rapidly grew from 15 to 44 residents and fellows. It became one of the three top programs in the country.

Dr. Jon Morris, associate professor of surgery, is the recipient of a Special Dean’s Award, in recognition of his outstanding service to the students of Medicine. Dr. Morris has had a major role in the educational mission of the Department of Surgery as well as the School of Medicine. He was the Director of the Core Clerkship in Surgery from 1993 to 1998. During that time, he developed the problem base-learning curriculum, which has now been adopted and utilized heavily in many of the other core clerkships. In 1997, he was appointed Associate Dean for Clinical Education at the School of Medicine. Over the last five years, Dr. Morris has been the Director of Housestaff Education for the Department of Surgery. Dr. Morris’ clinical focus has been in the area of gastrointestinal surgery and he had recently edited The Surgical Clinics of North America devoted to surgery of Crohn’s Disease, and is the surgical editor for the Yearbook of Gastroenterology.

Medical Student Government Awards
The graduating class selects annual recipients of these two awards.

The Basic Science Teaching Award
Dr. Alan C. Rosenquist, Professor of Neuroscience and Associate Dean for Basic Science Education, is this year’s recipient and was the recipient of the MSG Teaching Award for Basic Science in 1997, 1998 and 1999. He won a Lindback Award in 1978.

The Clinical Medical Teaching Award
Dr. John W. Hirshfeld, Professor of Medicine is this year’s recipient. He won the Penn Pearls Award in 1999. Dr. Hirshfeld was a 1990 Lindback Award winner.
245th Commencement

University of Pennsylvania Commencement Events 2001

School Ceremonies

Baccalaureate  
Sunday, May 20
Irving Auditorium
1:30 p.m.–Ceremony for students whose last name begins with A-K
3 p.m.–Ceremony for students whose last name begins with L-Z
Speaker: Reverend Dr. Floyd H. Flake, pastor of the Allen African Methodist Episcopal Church in New York, and retired U.S. Representative

Commencement  
Monday, May 21
Franklin Field
8:30 a.m.–Gates Open
9:30 a.m.–Procession Enters Franklin Field
10:15 a.m.–Ceremony Begins
Speaker: U.S. Senator John McCain

Honorary Degree Recipients
- Peter C. Doherty, D.V.Sc., Ph.D., Chairman of the Department of Immunology, St. Jude Children’s Hospital, and Professor of Pathology, University of Tennessee; 1996 Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine; Doctor of Science
- Andrés M. Duany, FAIA, and Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, FAIA, Architects and Urban Designers, Duany Plater-Zyberk and Company; Doctor of Fine Arts
- Daniel Kahneman, Ph.D., Eugene Higgins Professor of Psychology and Professor of Public Affairs, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University; Doctor of Science
- The Honorable John S. McCain, United States Senator, Arizona; Doctor of Laws
- Ruth J. Simmons, Ph.D., President, Smith College; President Designate, Brown University; Doctor of Humane Letters

For additional information on May 20-21 events:
Commencement Website:
www.upenn.edu/commencement
Commencement Hotline:
(215) 573-GRAD
New Design for Penn’s Commencement 2001

This year, students, faculty and guests at the University of Pennsylvania will participate in a Commencement that is significantly different from previous years. The ceremony has been redesigned in form and in orientation to use the space of Franklin Field for a more engaging event. Most evident will be a new stage in a new position at the center of the Field, with the skyline of the University and West Philadelphia as its backdrop.

For the first time, all of the Franklin Field Commencement ceremonies will be held on the same stage—designed to be re-usable and universal in its function. The ceremony will focus on the stage, which is large in scale with a unique fabric umbrella canopy and large screen video monitors. The procession will move from the campus through the stage and around the Field; this flow is intended to represent a passage of promise, as the University’s graduates symbolically take their places in the world. The goal of the new design and production is to add richness to the ceremony, making the day more meaningful and memorable for everyone.

The project began in Spring 2000 with the intent to reconsider the format of Commencement for 2001, to better celebrate the excellence of the University.

The Project Team identified four objectives:

1) Optimize the Possibilities of Franklin Field as a Venue
   - Franklin Field is a natural setting for University events—one that honors the tradition of Penn and its presence in Philadelphia.
   - As in previous years, the Commencement Procession will wind along Locust Walk and Smith Walk to enter Franklin Field from the west side.
   - The event is oriented to be seen with the skyline of the University and West Philadelphia as a backdrop.
   - Nearly 20,000 anticipated guests can be seated on the north, south, and east stands, like an arena, so their energy and enthusiasm will become part of the event.
   - Guest access is improved by gaining entrance at both the north and south sides of the Field.

2) Realize Long-Term Economies for the University
   - The set is designed and oriented so that it can be used both by the University for Commencement, as well as by the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Engineering, and the Wharton School for their individual ceremonies. This avoids the need for redundant sets, audio/visual production systems, and chair arrangement as in previous years.

3) Design the Event to be Memorable and Meaningful
   - The set represents the University as an institution—the physical presence of the landscape and the buildings, as well as the place of ideas and traditions.
   - The set has two components, designed to feature two essential aspects of the ceremony: celebration and achievement. These are the Scene, which presents a graphic backdrop to the event, and the Stage, where the efforts of the University community are recognized.
   - There is a dramatic movement of the Commencement Procession through the portal created by the Scene, and around the Field to the participants’ respective places in the ceremony. This flow is intended to represent a passage of promise, as the University’s graduates symbolically take their places in the world.

4) Create a Focus for the Ceremony
   - Located at the 30 yard line, the set subdivides the space of Franklin Field into a size more suitable for the scale of the event.
   - Two large screen video monitors are integrated into the design of the set, as are audio and lighting production technologies.
   - The Scene is made from standard construction scaffolding, creating a large scale and flexible structure for graphics and the video monitors.
   - The two freestanding frames are 65’ wide by 25’.
   - The stage canopy is a uniquely-shaped fabric umbrella that defines the participants, but does not enclose them. It is supported by a bundle of ten radiating frames that are cantilevered over the stage.

The Penn participants on the Team included representatives from the Office of the President, Office of Facilities Services and Office of the Secretary of the University. They consulted with the designers, MGA Partners, a Philadelphia-based architectural firm recognized for innovative projects and awards, most recently the addition and renovation to the Annenberg School for Communication.

—Leslie Laird Kruhly, Secretary of the University

Above is the architect’s rendering of the view of the new stage design from the upper east stands of Franklin Field, with the graduates seated on the field in the foreground. For more views of the new design, see www.upenn.edu/commencement/newdesign.html.
I. Introduction

Council bylaws state that, “The Committee on Libraries shall advise the vice provost and director of libraries on the policies, development, and operation of the University libraries.”

In addition, this year’s Committee was specifically charged as follows to:

• Monitor the Library’s response to the authentication burden that will be placed on its proxy server when the modem pool is closed.
• Advise Library staff on the design and oversight of implementation of a user survey.
• Work with the Library staff to continue the improvement of outreach services to students.

The Committee met five times to consider these and other issues which arose during the course of the year. Among the additional issues we confronted were: 1) Allocation of library resources to digital vs. print media; 2) The role of the library in facilitating the electronic classroom at Penn; 3) The role of the library system in support of the University’s research mission.

II. Deliberations

A. Monitor the Library’s response to the authentication burden that will be placed on its proxy server when the modem pool is closed. This issue was addressed several times during the year. Last summer, free remote access to the Internet via PennNet by telephone was severely restricted, and students, faculty and staff were encouraged, and ultimately required to obtain access to the Internet from third party Internet Service Providers (ISP’s). While this policy has a number of consequences for the Penn community, there are particular problems associated with the library which required monitoring and resolution.

The principal library-associated problem resulting from this change in connectivity is that access to proprietary material, which is freely available to Penn students, faculty and staff when connected directly to PennNet, requires authentication when connecting via an outside ISP. For example, searching the Lexis/Nexis database from a PennNet connected computer only requires accessing the appropriate link in a web browser. Accessing the same database from home, via an outside ISP requires the user to 1) have the right web browser installed (The AOL browser, Netscape 6 and Internet Explorer for Macintosh and version 5 for Windows are difficult/impossible to configure); 2) configure the correct browser to access the library’s proxy server; 3) know the authentication procedure (last name and last 10 digits of your PennCard number). This quite complicated procedure has been in place for some time, but most people were unaware of it until forced to use it because of the change in connectivity.

The complexity of the authentication procedure suggested that users might experience significant difficulties. The Committee considered a number of questions associated with this issue: 1) how serious is the “user unfriendliness problem”? 2) how has the library system anticipated and dealt with these problems? 3) How can the procedure be improved?

1. User problems with the proxy server: Both the Committee on Communications and the Committee on Libraries have conducted informal surveys seeking to discover the extent of user dissatisfaction resulting from the change in the modem pool. The result of these unscientific investigations supports the suggestion that user problems are neither numerous nor widespread. Instead, there appear to be a small number of very dissatisfied users, who are experiencing specific problems in connectivity. The reasons for this somewhat surprising result are not fully apparent. Some students and colleagues report that they restrict use of proprietary material to those times when they are on campus and can benefit from the easy access PennNet affords. In addition, the Library has attempted to make the configuration process as easy as possible by providing extensive information on their open access web pages (e.g. http://proxy.Library.upenn.edu/). Also, colleagues report that local service providers (ISP’s) and knowledgeable friends have been able to coach them through these arcane procedures. Despite generally positive results, a small group of users remains dissatisfied and unhappy. Reports reached the Committee of petitions from groups of colleagues, but there is little in the way of published protest in the Almanac or Daily Pennsylvanian. Both the Committee on Communications and the Committee on Libraries concur in finding that the transition to the new remote access system has gone remarkably smoothly, and that any remaining deficiencies can be remedied by increasing the information available to the user community, and by increasing public awareness of these enhanced help facilities. Both the Library and ISC are working to implement these enhancements.

2. The response of the Library to the remote access challenge. Two specific issues were discussed with respect to how the Library is coping with the modem pool problem: one involves the increased demand for proxy service and authentication, and the second, discussed above, involves user education and support. Since the phase out of the modem pool began, the Library proxy server has experienced a 200-400% increase in proxy server activity. However, the Director of Information Systems for the Library, Roy Heinz, assured the Committee that the current proxy servers had adequate capacity to handle the load, and that proxy service capacity could easily be increased, if necessary. Thus, like other anticipated problems resulting from the new policy, this one did not seem to materialize. Moreover, Mr. Heinz reported to the Committee that he and his staff were working hard to resolve the remaining configuration issues, and pledged to make himself and his staff available to help users with difficulties, resolve them. It seems likely that users with specific configuration or access problems can resolve them, and that the Library has been responsive to user needs in this area.

3. The future of remote access and authentication. The ultimate solution to the authentication problem is to create a simpler, more transparent authentication system. Mr. Heinz reported that the Library is already testing a new proxy system, which does not require user configuration. Users are encouraged to try the new system and comment on it to the Library staff. The system can be accessed from the Library’s home page, or directly from www.library.upenn.edu/prototype/. In addition, the Library is working with ISC on a campus wide authentication, which will replace all current authentication systems. These developments promise to both alleviate the problems discussed above and create new ones. Resources need to be continuously made available for user support and education.

B. Advise Library staff on the design and oversight of implementation of a user survey. This issue, which was also part of last year’s charge, was not acted on by the Committee, since the Library was participating in the LIBQUAL project of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), which was specifically aimed at developing such a survey. Briefly:

LibQUAL is a research and development project undertaken to define and measure library service quality across institutions and to create useful quality-assessment tools for local planning. Service quality has always been a value for libraries; LibQUAL provides a measure of that value. LibQUAL currently tests a tool for measuring library users’ perceptions of service quality and identifies gaps between desired, perceived, and minimum expectations of service. The project will continue as an R&D endeavor based at the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) in collaboration with the Texas A&M University Libraries through 2003, by which time LibQUAL will evolve into an ongoing service quality assessment program at ARL.

As a participant in the LIBQUAL pilot project, the initial survey was administered to some selected Penn undergraduate students (N=900), graduate and professional students (N=600), and faculty and staff (N=600). While some interesting indications were discovered (see below), the Library staff and the Committee were critical of the LIBQUAL instrument, which is too long and redundant, and focuses too much attention on users perception of the Library as a quiet haven for introspection. The length of the LIBQUAL survey may be responsible for the low number of respondents, which averaged about 13%. At the last meeting of the Committee, Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Paul Mosher presented a draft survey for comment, which he and his staff believe address these problems. His plan is to fine tune the survey based on the comments of the Committee and others, test it here, and then coordinate with peer institutions to create a cross institution service quality tool which will allow us to measure our own performance, and relate it to that of sister institutions. The Committee supports these efforts, and suggests that this issue conview
continue to be monitored next year.

C. Work with the Library staff to continue the improvement of outreach services to students. This issue also continues from last year. The focus of the issue is to make sure that students are comfortable with the Library, know how to use it, or at least how to find out how to use it, and find it a positive factor in their experience at Penn. As the LIBQUAL survey discussed above was aimed at discovering just such information, the Committee looked at the results of the survey to see whether this issue needs more attention. Based on the preliminary data from the LIBQUAL pilot, undergraduates rated Penn’s Library the best of the 11 Libraries participating in the pilot. Graduate and Professional students rated the Library lower, and the data indicate that a predominant factor in lowering our scores was the low rating of the physical facilities by those in the life sciences. While these data are too preliminary to be wholly reliable, they are a wake-up call to pay more attention to some library facilities, and to collect more reliable data on these issues.

In addition to the survey information, student members of the Committee raised similar concerns. One specific concern raised by undergraduates is the issue of their access to graduate and professional libraries. Specifically access to the Law School Library is restricted to Law School students, although undergraduates and others can obtain permission to use the facility when necessary for their research needs. Upon further discussion, the nub of this issue seems to be about quality study space, and the proximity of such space to student living spaces. Thus, for example, students from Sanson Place (grad towers) prefer to study in the Law Library, which is proximate to their location, rather than to use those libraries associated with their discipline. The effect of these preferences is to overwhelm the available study space in some libraries, making it impossible for students in that discipline, who require access to special collections, to complete their work. This issue was vigorously discussed, with some concrete outcomes: 1) the Law School may be able to adopt a more open door policy in the future; 2) the improvement of study space in other libraries (e.g. BioMed) may lower the pressure on specific libraries to provide space for “outsiders”; 3) encouragement for wider use of dorm based study space could also help relieve the pressure on the libraries.

Another topic brought forward by undergraduate students was the issue of co-mixing food for thought with actual consumable food. Students suggest that they would like to eat in the library, and Vice Provost Mosher indicated that he would like to serve them in the cybercafé he planned to open, as part of the Undergraduate Study Center. According to Dr. Mosher, this plan is currently on hold, awaiting approval from the Provost. The Committee did not have sufficient information on the pros and cons of this issue to make a recommendation, and suggests that it be revisited next year.

D. Allocation of library resources to digital vs. print media. The Committee devoted significant time to this issue, at several meetings. There are a number of ramifications to this issue. For example, Dr. Mosher reports that despite efforts to balance acquisitions between print and digital media, the cost of digital resources has increased much faster than that of print media. There are discipline specific issues: some disciplines require access to the latest information, which is currently being supplied in pre-publication form by several scholarly journals, while other disciplines require access to the latest information, which is currently available only in digital form. There are issues of copyright, and access to databases. There are concerns about the future of print media, as hardware and software evolve rapidly, and digital storage media age rapidly. The Committee reached the following conclusions: 1) to remain competitive with our peers, and to maximize the scholarly activity at Penn, plans for the digital library must go forward; 2) point 1 notwithstanding, our print collections and archives must be maintained and strengthened; 3) Penn faculty should press forward with and support national schemes such as “Public Library of Science”, “PubMed Central”, and support and create new online, open-access scholarly journals (e.g. Organic Letters) to decrease the costs associated with obtaining online access to scholarly publications; 4) Penn should enhance support for broadband data communications required for the transmission of high resolution digital images.

E. The role of the library in facilitating the electronic classroom at Penn. Over the course of the last two to three years, Penn faculty have begun to utilize online course delivery systems for teaching. The three most utilized systems are Blackboard, the predominant system (7 schools), webCafe (Wharton), and eCollege (School of Dental Medicine). Typically, these course delivery systems accept digital media from faculty, and then mount it on a web server under a consistent student user interface. The responsibility for creating the digital material rests with the faculty. One key issue revolves around the creation of digital versions of reserve material not already in that form, such as older journal articles and textbook snippings. Faculty have increasingly turned to the Library for assistance in scanning and uploading this material. The Library has begun a program to provide this service for the Blackboard system, at a substantial cost in resources. These have come from the schools and central administration, as well as the Library. The anticipated growth in this activity is high, and it is likely that even more funding will need to be diverted to this activity. The Committee also raised the question of how other non Blackboard systems will be supported. In general the Committee was supportive of this activity. The faculty need support in moving toward electronic teaching, and the Library appears to have the appropriate expertise and equipment to do the job.

F. The role of the library system in support of the University’s research mission. It seems almost silly to formally discuss the role of the Library in the research mission of the University; no one would dispute that it must play a central role. Nonetheless, in this rapidly evolving digital information world, the traditional roles of the Library in supporting faculty and student research have been enlarged. In particular, there may be divergent views within constituencies for library services from different Penn constituencies. To ensure that the Library is properly and fully supportive of research, the Vice Provost for Research, Neal Nathanson, addressed the committee on his view of the role of the Library. The primary issues addressed by Dr. Nathanson involve his perception that some libraries need to evolve as a result of the shift toward digital publishing, particularly in the BioMedical areas. The Committee was impressed by his presentation and expressed an interest in adding his expertise to the Committee’s resources. Accordingly, the following resolution was introduced and unanimously voted:

The interests of the Penn research community in the function of the Library would be well served if the Vice Provost for Research were part of the Council Committee on Libraries, and the Library would benefit his council. We therefore recommend that Council take the necessary steps to appoint the Vice Provost for Research as an ex officio member of the Council Committee on Libraries.

III. Recommendations

• The Committee should continue to work with Library staff on the creation of an appropriate Service Quality survey tool, and monitor the data produced from these surveys.
• A Library open door policy should be encouraged, where possible, to increase access for Penn students and faculty to all Library resources on campus.
• We recommend that the central administration reconsider the Library’s proposal for a “cybercafé” to allow students to fortify themselves for the rigors of academic pursuits, and that consideration of this issue be continued next year.
• The Committee should continue to advise the Library on issues relating to digital publishing, and the acquisition of online journals.
• To encourage faculty to support and contribute to online journals, the Provost may need to develop policies relating to the weight given to digitally published material in consideration of scholarly activity for faculty promotion and tenure.
• To encourage faculty to migrate to electronic teaching methods, the Library should continue to provide digital reserve materials for online course delivery systems; resources from the Schools and the Central Administration need to continue to be applied to this effort.
• The Vice Provost for Research should be appointed as an ex officio member of the Council Committee on Libraries.

IV. Membership

The Council Committee on Libraries acknowledges the contributions of Elizabeth Slusser Kelly, Biddle Law Library Director and Professor of Law, who is retiring this year. We all wish her well in her new endeavors.

—Ellis Golub, Chair

Committee members listing is available on-line at www.upenn.edu/v47/n31/Libraries.html.


Department of Recreation Changes

Membership Information

New and renewal memberships begins in April. All current members of the Fitness Center will receive membership information by mail.

The Recreation Fee is free to Penn faculty and staff. This includes access to the basketball courts, swimming pools, Ringe Squash Courts, and locker facilities.

The Fitness Center Fee includes use of Cardiovascular, Selectorized and Free weights in Gimbel and Hutchinson Gyms.

Payroll Deduction is available to Penn faculty and staff as payment for an annual Fitness Center fee. The annual membership period is from September 1–August 31.

Gimbel Gym will be closed during the summers of 2001 and 2002. The closure is to do re-piping of the Sheerr Pool and to transition parts of Gimbel Gym to be used during the academic year.

Gimbel Gym will be closed this summer from May 22 – September 5. Hutchinson Gymnasium will be available for recreational activities this summer.

In the Fall of 2001 Gimbel Gym will reopen for the academic year. The facility will have the following transitional changes:

- Main Gimbel entrance will be on Sansom Street (not Walnut)
- The Recreation services and membership offices will be permanently relocated to Hutchinson Gym. Gimbel Gym will not process any financial transactions.
- The Katz Fitness Center (Cardiovascular Room) will be relocated to the second level
- The spinning room will also be located on the second level
- Gimbel Gym will only have two basketball courts available for use.
- Permanent lockers will not be available at Gimbel. All lockers will be day of use only.

Postruck Health and Fitness Center Program Element

A more detailed description of the program element (including a level-by-level description) is available at www.upenn.edu/recreation.

17,000 sq. ft. of Fitness Space

Climbing Wall

Multipurpose Rooms for dance, martial arts, and aerobic activities

Golf Center

Wide/Dr Classrooms

Natorium

Basketball Courts

Spinning Room

Pro Shop and Juice Bar

Men’s/Women’s Locker and Shower Facilities

Administrative and Recreation Program Offices

Customer Service Areas

Restroom areas located on each activity level

Main Atrium with bridge and stairs to all levels

Department of Recreation


EHRS Required Training Programs: May

The following training programs are required by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (DEP), for all employees who work with hazardous substances including: chemicals, human blood, blood products, fluids, and human tissue specimens and radioactive materials. These programs are presented by the Office of Environmental Health & Radiation Safety (EHRS). Attendance is required at one or more session, depending upon the employees potential exposures.

Introduction to Laboratory Safety at Penn (Chemical Hygiene Training): provides a comprehensive introduction to laboratory safety practices and procedures at Penn and familiarizes the laboratory personnel with the Chemical Hygiene Plan. This course is designed for employees who have not previously attended Laboratory Safety at the University. Required for all University employees who work in laboratories.

Introduction to Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens: this course provides significant information for employees who have a potential exposure to human bloodborne pathogens. Topics include a discussion of the Exposure Control Plan, free Hepatitis B vaccination, recommended work practices, engineering controls and emergency response. This course is designed for employees who have not previously attended Bloodborne Pathogens training at the University. Required for all University employees potentially exposed to human blood or body fluids, human body fluids, and/or human tissue. May 16, 9:30 a.m., Austrian Auditorium, CRB.

Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens (In a clinical setting): required for all University faculty and staff who have potential clinical exposures to blood and other human source material. It is intended for employees with direct patient contact, or those who handle clinical specimens, and administrators who routinely work in a clinical environment. Topics include: risks, protection, work practice controls, engineering controls and emergency procedures. This course is designed for employees who have not previously attended Bloodborne Pathogens training at the University. It is available at www.ehrs.upenn.edu.

Laboratory Safety—Annual Update: this program is required annually for all laboratory employees who have previously attended Chemical Hygiene Training. Topics include chemical risk assessment, recommended work practices, engineering controls and personal protection as well as an update of waste disposal and emergency procedures. Faculty and staff who work with hazardous substances, HIV or hepatitis viruses must attend the Laboratory Safety and Bloodborne Pathogens—Annual Update. May 10, 9:30 a.m., Class of 1962, John Morgan Bldg.

Laboratory Safety and Bloodborne Pathogens—Annual Update: this program is required annually for all faculty and staff who work with human source material. HIV or hepatitis viruses and have previously attended Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens. Issues in general laboratory safety and bloodborne pathogens are discussed. Topics include bloodborne diseases, risk assessment, recommended work practices, engineering controls and personal protection as well as an update of waste disposal and emergency procedures. Participation in Laboratory Safety—Annual Update is not required if this program is attended. May 17, 9:30 a.m., Class of 1962, John Morgan Bldg.

Radiation Safety Training—New Worker: this program provides information on fundamental radiation concepts and requirements for the use, storage and disposal of radioactive materials at Penn. Personnel working in laboratories where radioactive materials are present are required to attend this training before beginning their work followed by annual attendance at the training program described below. Training can be completed on-line at www.ehrs.upenn.edu.

Additional programs will be offered on a monthly basis. Check the EHRS web site www.ehrs.upenn.edu for dates and time. If you have any questions, please call Melanie Wilkinson at (215) 898-4453.

Retirement Seminars

The following seminars will be presented by The Vanguard Group and TIAA-CREF in room G-16 of Irvine Auditorium. No pre-registration is required.

The Vanguard Group: Wednesday, April 25, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1-2 p.m. New Faculty & Staff

TIAA-CREF: Monday, April 30, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. New Faculty & Staff

TIAA-CREF: Monday, April 30, 1 p.m.—2 p.m. Maximizing Your Retirement Contributions: Understanding How Your Maximum Exclusion Allowance is Calculated

The Vanguard Group: Tuesday, May 1, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Take Charge of Your Savings

The Vanguard Group: Tuesday, May 1, 1-2 p.m. Retirement Distribution Options

TIAA-CREF: Wednesday, May 2, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Maximizing Your Retirement Contribution: Understanding How Your Retirement Maximum Exclusion Allowance is Calculated

TIAA-CREF: Wednesday, May 2, 1-2 p.m. Retirement Distribution Flexibilities

Programs for New Bolton Center & Morris Arboretum will be scheduled at a later date.

—Division of Human Resources

Last Week for Open Enrollment

Remember: Open Enrollment for the 2001-2002 plan year ends this Friday, April 27. If you would like to make any changes to your benefits elections, you must do one of the following:

• log on to the Open Enrollment website at www.hr.upenn.edu/openenroll any-time—24 hours a day—prior to midnight on April 27, or

• call the Penn Benefits Center at 1-888-PENN-BEN (1-888-736-6236) between the hours of 8:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m., prior to 5:30 p.m. on April 27.

For more information about your plans, be sure to stop by one of the Open Enrollment Fairs which will be held at New Bolton Center (Tuesday, April 24, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.) and Houston Hall (Thursday, April 26, 10 a.m.—2:30 p.m.).

—Division of Human Resources
PHILADELPHIA FESTIVAL OF WORLD CINEMA

Films to be screened at the Annenberg Center, Through April 30. For ticket information call (215) 733-0608 ext. 701 or (215) 735-7887 or on-line at www.philiffest.com.


FITNESS/LEARNING

SPRINGTIME BIRTHING ALONG THE NEW JERSEY SHORE: bird watching at the Edwin B. Forsythe Wildlife Refuge: 7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m.; meet at Morris Arboretum: Cost $54 members, $60 nonmembers (Morris Arboretum).

ARBOR DAY-EARTH DAY CELEBRATION; plant a tree seedling, make a tree mask, spring Arbor Day-Earth Day Celebration; through April 30.

ALUMNI PERFORMING ARTS CAREER SYMPOSIUM; panel discussion with Penn alumni with careers in music, theatre, film, and television; 1-5 p.m.; Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall (Student Performing Arts Council).

MUSIC

28 Jamie Bard: Jamie Bard singer-songwriter, Penn undergrad; 8 p.m.; Arts Café (Kelly Writers House).

READING/SIGNING

26 Old English Program: Bob Perelman; Susan Stewart, Herman Beavers, Kathy Lou Schultz, poets; 5 p.m.; Kelly Writers House.

MISSISSIPPI Floods: Designing a Shifting Landscape: Anuradha Mathur and Dilip da Cunha, authors; 6 p.m.; Dian’s Alley, Meyerson (Landscape Architecture).

TALKS

25 Robb Armstrong Talks At The Kelly Writers House: Robb Armstrong, cartoonist; 5 p.m.; Kelly Writers House (Kelly Writers House).

26 How to Model Mobile Computing: Robin Milner, Cambridge University; Heilmeier Hall, Towne Building (Dept. of Computer & Information Science; Institute for Research in Cognitive Science; SEAS).

27 Aspects of the Multifunctional Roles of Osteopontin in Mammalian System Physiology: Uma Magal, Dulles (UPMC Division of Urology).
Federal Relations

President George W. Bush presented his detailed budget proposal for FY2002 on April 9. The President is proposing to increase discretionary spending by $25.7 billion, or 4 percent, to $660.7 billion. Departments and agencies of importance to the University of Pennsylvania are slated to be funded at the following levels:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Proposed Funding Level for FY2002</th>
<th>Change from FY2001</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Defense Research Programs¹</td>
<td>$1.345 billion for basic research; $3.741 billion for applied research</td>
<td>+2 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Education</td>
<td>$44.5 billion</td>
<td>+11.5 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Energy Science Programs</td>
<td>$3.2 billion</td>
<td>level funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institutes of Health²</td>
<td>$23.1 billion</td>
<td>+13.5 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NASA</td>
<td>$14.5 billion</td>
<td>+2 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Endowment for the Arts</td>
<td>$105 million</td>
<td>level funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Endowment for the Humanities</td>
<td>$120 million</td>
<td>level funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation for National Service</td>
<td>$733.3 million</td>
<td>-4.3 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Science Foundation</td>
<td>$4.47 billion</td>
<td>+1.3 percent</td>
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The President’s budget proposal would also permanently extend the research and experimentation tax credit, allow tax-free distributions from state tuition plans, and allow private colleges to offer prepaid tuition plans.

Within the Department of Education, President Bush has proposed to spend $1.9 billion on programming for K-12 education, a 10% increase. He would spend $49.4 billion for federal student aid programs, a 4.6 percent increase over FY2001. The budget would provide level funding for the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) and Jacob K. Javits fellowship programs at $31 million and $10 million, respectively. President Bush proposes an increase of $1 billion for the Pell Grant program, with an increase of $100 in the maximum grant (to $3,850). President Bush would level fund all campus-based aid programs; Federal Work Study, $1.1 billion; Supplemental Educational Opportunities Grants (SEOG), $691 million; Perkins capital contributions, $100 million; Perkins loan cancellations, $60 million. He proposes an increase of $50 million, to $780 million, for TRIO and level funding for the Leveraging Education Assistance Partnership program at $55 million. President Bush would allocate $227 million for GEAR UP, a reduction of $68 million. The budget includes level funding at $67 million for Title VI Domestic International Programs.

For questions or further information about the President’s budget request or the Congressional budgeting process, contact the Office of Federal Relations at (215) 898-1532.

¹ The President’s budget request for Defense research may change as a result of the top-to-bottom review of the Department of Defense being undertaken by Secretary Donald Rumsfeld.

² This continues on the path to doubling the NIH budget over five years.

City and Community Relations

On April 18, 2001, Mayor John F. Street launched a five year $1.6 billion plan to eliminate blight, preserve and restore neighborhoods, and reverse population declines. The Neighborhood Transformation Initiative (NTI) is designed to implement policies and programs that will preserve and restore all Philadelphia’s neighborhoods by reducing the City’s inventory of vacant, deteriorating buildings and trash-strewn lots. The initiative also includes a comprehensive, strategic redevelopment plan for Philadelphia, which, among other things, is expected to reverse a 50-year-long pattern of population decline the City has experienced.

The initial down payment for the program will be through the issuance of $250 million of government, private activity and taxable bonds, which will require City Council approval. The $250 million in bond financing will be allocated as follows: Residential Demolition ($140 million); Land Assembly & Relocation ($35 million); Encapsulation ($30 million); Neighborhood Investment Programs ($20 million); Commercial & Industrial Sites ($20 million); Management Information System ($5 million). The remainder of the funding calls for blight elimination funding ($492.5 million) and housing resources ($887.4 million) from public sources, over its initial five years of operation.

The Initiative is expected to produce nine specific outcomes:

• sweeping reform of the City’s delivery systems
• 16,000 new housing units
• 14,000 demolitions, including all dangerous buildings
• 2,500 encapsulations of properties to be rehabilitated
• creation of a Philadelphia Land Bank that will manage all city-owned vacant land
• clearing of all 31,000 vacant lots in the first year with the implementation of an ongoing maintenance system
• a 65 percent decline in the city’s total vacant property rate
• facilitation of neighborhood planning in a citywide context
• restoration of citizen faith and optimism

First-year activities will not only include clearing the City’s vacant lots, but will also focus on: the recruitment of 500 new block captains in neighborhoods across the City; the removal of 4,300 dangerous street trees; the hiring of six community planners; the launch of a short dumping initiative; the launch of a citywide anti-litter campaign; and the launch of a new tree planting campaign.

Additional information regarding the Mayor’s NTI program can be found on the City’s website at www.phila.gov.

—Carol R. Scheman, Vice President for Government, Community and Public Affairs
**NEW FILMS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Dreams of Hind and Camila</em></td>
<td>Arabic film, 7 min., Oregon State Museum of Natural History (Modern Program Language)</td>
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</table>

**ON STAGE**

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<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td><em>Laughing Hermit</em></td>
<td>Featuring performers with directors and stars in attendance, see <a href="http://www.penn.edu/theatre">www.penn.edu/theatre</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ALUMNI WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Classes without Quizzes, formerly known as Alumni/Faculty Events, are a highlight of Alumni Weekend.

For information, please see the Alumni Web site at www.alumni.upenn.edu/AlumniWeekend.

Friday, May 18

1-2 p.m. 
Dr. January H. Flory’s The Nature of Life and Lessons Learned: Sue McDermott of the Department of Psychology discusses research techniques and approaches to teaching about the study of the biological and social aspects of human nature. The discussion will explore elements of life’s complexity and interrelatedness.

3-4 p.m. 
From Conscience to e-Health: The Challenge of the New Economy. Panel discussion on the new economy’s impact on the study of bioethics and health care will explore the implications of the recent technological advancements.

4-5:30 p.m. 
The Art of Storytelling. Four Penn researchers from the School of Arts and Sciences discuss how the art of storytelling can be applied to enhance learning and communication.

Saturday, May 19

9:30-10 a.m. 
A T  P E N N Presentations. Chick Corea performs with his band.

9:30-11 a.m. 
A T  P E N N Presents. Mike Gershenson and Couples Learning Center present a panel discussion on the impact of the new economy on aviation.