A Celebration of Chemistry’s Claim to Fame

At a ceremony in the Chemistry Building last Thursday afternoon, the popular place to study known as The Pit was transformed into the new Alumni and Faculty Nobel Hall of Fame. Larger-than-life portraits were unveiled of six Nobelists who have all been affiliated with the Department of Chemistry over the past several decades. Two of the honorees collaborated at Penn on the work for which they shared the 2000 Nobel Prize in Chemistry: Dr. Alan G. MacDiarmid, the Blanchard Professor of Chemistry, and Dr. Hideki Shirakawa who had been a postdoctoral research associate at Penn, 1976-77. Dr. MacDiarmid and Dr. Shirakawa, along with Dr. Alan Heeger, then a professor of physics at Penn, discovered and developed a new form of organic polymer that conducts electricity (Penn, 1976-77). Dr. Hideki Shirakawa who had been a postdoctoral scholar of Chemistry, and Dr. Prusiner, the winner of the 1997 Nobel Prize in Medicine, Dr. Michael S. Brown who received his M.D. at Penn in 1966, and Dr. Stanley B. Prusiner, winner of the 1972 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, took his Ph.D. at Harvard. Dr. Ahmed H. Zewail, the 1999 Nobelist in Chemistry, took his Ph.D. in Chemistry in 1974 under the tutelage of Dr. Robin Hochstrasser.

President Judith Rodin payed homage to the “six extraordinary scientists” who had the “courage to push ahead with difficult experiments, even against stiff resistance from an often skeptical scientific community.”

SAS Dean Samuel Preston said that the achievements of these six individuals over three decades is the result of a nurturing environment—a testament to Penn’s longstanding commitment to excellence in teaching and research.

The Nobelist who recently received the Order of New Zealand—Sir Alan MacDiarmid—addressed all of those gathered as “fellow students” saying that “we are all learning; when you stop learning, you start dying.” He said that this event is not only a recognition of the six persons, and the chemistry department, but also Penn’s administration. “Science is people,” he stressed, adding “first class faculty attract first class students.” Although this is his 46th year on the Penn faculty, last semester Dr. MacDiarmid graciously taught a freshman seminar, said Dean Preston.

Vagelos Gift: MacDiarmid Chair
Chemistry alumnus Dr. P. Roy Vagelos has created the Alan MacDiarmid Endowed Term Chair, to be held by a mid-career scholar in the Department of Chemistry. The chair, which was announced last week, honors Dr. MacDiarmid.

Dr. Vagelos (C’50) is retired Chairman and CEO of Merck & Co. He was formerly President of Merck Sharp & Dohme Research Laboratories. A 1954 graduate of Columbia University School of Medicine, he is a discoverer of acetyl-carrier protein and a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society.

Dr. Vagelos was Chair of Penn’s Trustees, 1994-99. He and his wife, Diana, have supported a wide variety of Penn priorities and programs. They established the Vagelos Molecular Life Sciences program, including endowment and scholarship funds. They also established the Vagelos Scholarship in SAS. The Vagelos Laboratories of IAST was named in recognition of their support.

Nobel Laureates in Chemistry’s New Alumni and Faculty Hall of Fame

At left, gathering after unveiling the portraits, (from left to right) Dr. P. Roy Vagelos, Dr. Alan MacDiarmid, President Judith Rodin, Provost Robert Barchi, SAS Dean Samuel Preston, School of Medicine Dean Arthur Rubenstein and Chemistry Chair Dr. Hai-Lung Dai, look at the wall opposite the portraits which Dr. Dai noted, “provides ample space for future Nobelists’ portraits to join these.” (See Almanac’s website for more about these Nobel laureates.)
COUNCIL Coverage

After President Judith Rodin called last week’s University Council meeting to order she turned the floor over to the moderator, Dr. Larry Gross who wished everyone “Happy 2K2.” The minutes from the December meeting were approved. President Rodin then called attention to the “significant Chemistry Department event” (see page 1). GAPSA Chair Christopher Leahy announced that student fellows who were hired for the Graduate Student Center, an increase of five from last semester. Dr. Gross introduced Pedro Ramos, vice president and chief of staff (Almanac December 4, 2001). Dr. Barbara Lowery and Dr. Phoebe Leboy presented the Report on Faculty Gender Equity Study (Almanac December 4, 2001) which they characterized as a “mixed report” since there are “some good things happening and some areas where a lot needs to be done.” Provost Robert Barchi summarized the administrator’s reply to the report, noting that there are departmental level problems and that Gender Equity will be addressed in the new Strategic Plan. In response to a question about mentoring, Dr. Leboy said that it is a faculty-based initiative which is difficult to mandate. She concluded by noting that all the Tables in the Report are available online at Almanac’s website.

Dr. David Smith, chair of the Committee on Communications, presented a report to Council of the Findings from a One-Year Review of the Policy on Privacy in the Electronic Environment (to be published in the next issue of Almanac). The Policy defines specific circumstances under which electronic records may be reviewed and by whom. The Committee recommends that while the Policy be continued as-is, without revision at this time, another review should be scheduled for 2004. The Policy, which was initially in effect for a one-year trial period (Almanac September 19, 2000) has been extended.

A lengthy follow-up on the Report of the Task Force on Privacy of Personal Information (Almanac April 17, 2001) was provided by some of those who have been involved in implementing the 17 Recommendations outlined last spring. Vice President for ISC Robin Beck reported that the use of social security numbers has been eliminated in many of the student records databases as well as in the payroll system. PENNInTouch still uses the S.S. # as an identifier but it does not show up on the screen. She said Penn is fully compliant with recommendation # 11 which said, “access to social security numbers should be provided only for those applications where their use is mandated by law.” The Task Force is revising how directory information is used (recommendation # 13). Vice President for HR Jack Heuer, said that employees in Human Resources sign a confidentiality statement annually to ensure data integrity. He said that Penn is working with Independence Blue Cross to have social security numbers removed from the Keystone health insurance cards. Deputy Provost Peter Conn said that an ad hoc group has been meeting monthly to pursue the numerous recommendations. He said that they are working toward the appointment of a Chief Privacy Officer to coordinate University-wide compliance. Dr. Jerry Porter said Penn is “out in front of the curve” but more should be done. He suggested lobbying legislators to prohibit the sale of social security numbers.

On the issue of privacy Dr. Gross put things in perspective, quipping “so the message is, when you have e-mail with somebody, you’re having e-mail with everyone they’ve had e-mail with.”

Dr. Rhoads’ Memorial Service: February 7

On Thursday, February 7, at 4 p.m. the Department of Surgery will host a Memorial Service to celebrate the life of Dr. Jonathan Rhoads. The program will be held in Irvine Auditorium and a reception will follow. The University community is invited to attend. Dr. Rhoads died January 3 at the age of 94 (Almanac January 8).

Rubinstein Memorial Fund

Many people have asked how to make contributions to the fund in honor of Al Rubinstein (Almanac January 8) that I announced at the memorial service. The fund will be used to support an annual prize for excellence in teaching by a graduate student in political science at Penn, along with a plaque that will be prominently displayed in Stiteler Hall.

Contributions to the fund should be in the form of a check made out to Trustees, University of Pennsylvania. There should be a note on the check or in a letter directing the gift to the Rubinstein Memorial Fund. Checks may be sent either to: Rubinstein Memorial Fund, c/o Political Science Department, University of Pennsylvania, 217 Stiteler Hall, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6215 or to: SAS External Affairs, Suite 300, 3440 Market Street University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3325.

—Jack Nagel, Chair of Political Science

Minority Equity Committee

At the recommendation of the University Council Steering Committee, and in follow up to the Faculty Gender Equity Study, President Judith Rodin, Provost Robert Barchi and Faculty Senate Chair David B. Hackney have appointed a committee to undertake a systematic review of the status of minority faculty at the University. The Minority Equity Committee will assess the status of minority faculty across the University.

The committee will be chaired by John B. Jemmott, the Kenneth B. Clark Professor of Communication at the Annenberg School for Communication. The Minority Equity Committee will begin its work this semester, with the goal of reporting by Fall, 2002. A list of the committee members follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minority Equity Committee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John B. Jemmott III, Ph.D. (chair), the Kenneth B. Clark Professor of Communication, Annenberg School for Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elijah Anderson, the Charles &amp; William Day Professor of the Social Sciences, School of Arts and Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jorge J. Santiago-Aviles, Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering, School of Engineering and Applied Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vivian Gadsden, Associate Professor of Education, Graduate School of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Gladney, Associate Professor of Physics, School of Arts and Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace Kao, Assistant Professor of Sociology, School of Arts and Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Lowery (ex officio), Associate Provost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgette Chapman Poindexter, Associate Professor of Real Estate, Legal Studies, and Law, Wharton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacqueline N. Sadashige, Assistant Professor of Classical Studies, School of Arts and Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Salcido, Chair, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Health System</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summer Research Support for Junior Faculty

The Trustees’ Council of Penn Women offers three $3,000 summer research stipends to female faculty, or faculty members whose research is centrally concerned with the role of women in society, science, or arts and letters. These awards are given to assist in the promotion of standing faculty to the permanent rank of Associate Professor. Faculty who have already won an award are eligible to apply again. Those who have previously applied and did not receive an award are also encouraged to apply again.

If you are interested in applying for the stipend, please submit a 2-page summary of the research you wish to undertake, an explanation of how the stipend will facilitate the research, a curriculum vitae, and the name of a University reference. In your application please stress how you will use the award and why it would be particularly useful to you at this time. The summary should be sent to:

Summer Research Award
The Alice Paul Research Center
411 Logan Hall
249 S. 36th St. Philadelphia, PA 19104-6304
no later than Friday, March 8, 2002.

Research proposals will be reviewed, and the stipend awarded, through a peer review process. It is expected that the research, or a significant subset thereof, will be concluded during the summer of 2002, and a written report will be submitted to the review panel and to the Trustees’ Council. Any subsequent publication of the research results should acknowledge the support of the Council.

*Note: The amount of the award varies according to whether the recipient chooses to receive it as salary or to use it for research expenses.

—Luc N. Martin, Women’s Studies Program, Alice Paul Center for Research on Women

2 www.upenn.edu/almanac

ALMANAC January 29, 2002
**Update**

**JANUARY AT PENN**

**CHANGE**

29 Use of Power; discussion/luncheon; Valerie Swain-Cade McCoulum, will be held in the Ben Franklin Room, Houston Hall at noon.

30 Peace and Social Justice: Principles of Non-violent Change; panel discussion will be held in the Ben Franklin Room, Houston Hall at 5:30 p.m.

**MUSIC**

30 The Princeton University Orchestra with the University of Pennsylvania Symphony Orchestra; concert to benefit the victims of September 11th. (See website for schedule of events).

**ON STAGE**

30 Women in Modern Civilization (including Afghani Women); Bina Scharf; 6:30 p.m.; Graduate Student Center (Middle East Center).

31 Nigger: The Strange Case of a Troublesome Word; Randall Kennedy, author; discussion and signing; 12:30 p.m.; Penn Bookstore (Bookstore).

**READINGS/SIGNINGS**

31 Male Reproductive Aging: Mechanisms and Consequences; Barry Zirkin, Johns Hopkins University; noon; Auditorium, BB3 III (CRRWH).

**TALKS**

30 A Cultural History of Fear: U.S. Television, Terrorism, and the Middle East; Melani McAlister, George Washington University; 4:30 p.m.; B-26 Stittler Hall (Middle East Center).

**MEETINGS**

31 Setting Goals and Reaching Your Dreams; Paulette Adams; noon; Greenfield Intercultural Center (Single Parents Association).

**Films**

29 The Silence of the Palaces; Moufida Tlatli (Tunisia); 7:30 p.m.; TV Lounge, Gregory House (Al-Bait Al-Arabi).

**Penn Web Survey**

We’re seeking faculty input concerning the Penn web. All are urged to participate by Friday, February 1. Just click on the “Take our web survey” link on the homepage, www.upenn.edu.

—Office of University Communications

**CLASSIFIEDS—UNIVERSITY**

**ACCOUNTANT**


Almanac is not responsible for contents of classified ad material.

**CLASSIFIEDS—PERSONAL**

**ACCOUNTANT**


Have you had breast cancer? The Center for Bioethics at Penn (located at 34th and Market) is conducting research to learn about women’s experiences with breast cancer. Subjects compensated $25 for participating in a confidential 60-90 minute, audio taped interview at the Center. We are looking for women who were diagnosed with breast cancer less than five years ago and who are one year post-treatment. For more information, please call 1-800 716-2614, extension 1 and leave a message for the “Understanding Difference Study.”

To place a classified ad, call (215) 898-5274.

**Computer Connection Hours**

Due to our quarterly inventory procedures, the Computer Connection will have the following hours during the last week of January: January 29-31—8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
February 1—8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
February 2—closed
February 3—closed
February 4—resume normal hours, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Please visit our website at www.upenn.edu/computers.

—Jeff Rusling, Manager, Computer Connection

**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 January 14 to 20, 2002. Also reported were 3 Crimes Against Property (including 10 Thefts, 1 retail theft, 1 stolen auto and 1 burglary).

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 January 14, 2002 to January 20, 2002. The University Police actively patrols from Market Street to Baltimore Avenue and from the Schuylkill 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.

**18TH DISTRICT REPORT**

7 incidents and 1 arrest (including 6 robberies, 1 aggravated assault) were reported between January 14 to 20, 2002 by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th St. & Market St. to Woodland Ave.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Offense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01/14/02</td>
<td>5:49 PM</td>
<td>42nd/Chestnut</td>
<td>Male stopped/wanted on warrant/Arrest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/15/02</td>
<td>2:05 PM</td>
<td>411 Walnut</td>
<td>Complainant threatened by male with object/Arrest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/15/02</td>
<td>1:58 AM</td>
<td>4000 Locust</td>
<td>Male loitering in area/wanted on warrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/17/02</td>
<td>7:40 AM</td>
<td>3400 Spruce St</td>
<td>Complainant kicked by pedestrian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/17/02</td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>100 S. 41st St</td>
<td>Confidential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/18/02</td>
<td>1:50 AM</td>
<td>3620 Locust Walk</td>
<td>Male arrested for domestic abuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/19/02</td>
<td>6:47 PM</td>
<td>4200 blk Walnut</td>
<td>Intoxicated driver arrested</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Please visit our website at www.upenn.edu/computers.

—Jeff Rusling, Manager, Computer Connection

**Annanberg**

**Research**

Want to Lose Weight After the Holidays? The Penn Weight and Eating Disorders Program is offering a free 2-year weight loss program. Women aged 21-50 who are 50 or more pounds overweight (BMI 30-40) may be eligible. If interested, please call Leanne at (215) 898-3184 for more details.

Have you had breast cancer? The Center for Bioethics at Penn (located at 34th and Market) is conducting research to learn about women’s experiences with breast cancer. Subjects compensated $25 for participating in a confidential 60-90 minute, audio taped interview at the Center. We are looking for women who were diagnosed with breast cancer less than five years ago and who are one year post-treatment. For more information, please call 1-800 716-2614, extension 1 and leave a message for the “Understanding Difference Study.”

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—Office of University Communications

**ALMANAC**

**January 29, 2002**

www.upenn.edu/almanac
The University has recently mailed over 29,000 Calendar Year (CY) 2001 W-2 Forms to our employees’ home addresses as they appear on the Payroll File (Employee Database). An explanation of the contents of the various boxes on the W-2 form is as follows:

A. Wages, tips, other compensation: this represents the total amount of Federal Taxable compensation paid or imputed to you during Calendar Year 2001 through the University Payroll System. This amount includes:

a. The value of your taxable graduate and/or professional tuition benefits, if you, your spouse and/or your dependent children have received such benefits;

b. The value of Group Life Insurance coverage for amounts greater than $50,000. The premium payments for this excess coverage, if any, have been included as imputed income (see Excess Insurance Premium—below);

Amounts which are excluded from this amount are:

c. Tax deferred annuity contributions (i.e., TIAA/CREF);

d. Health, Dental and Vision Care insurance premiums that have been sheltered;

e. Amounts voluntarily contributed to a dependent care or a medical reimbursement account. Also included this year are fees for Parking, Transit Checks, TransPass and the Van Pool.

B. Federal income tax withheld: this represents the amount of Federal Income tax which was withheld from your earnings during the year and paid to the Internal Revenue Service, on your behalf, by the University.

C. Dependent care benefits: this represents the total amount which you have voluntarily “sheltered” for dependent care expenses, regardless of whether you have been reimbursed by the University for the expenses associated with this “shelter” as of December 31, 2001.

D. Social security wages: this represents the total amount of compensation paid to you during Calendar Year 2001 which was subject to Social Security (FICA/OASDI) tax, including all of your tax deferred annuity contributions and excess life insurance premiums, if applicable, but excluding health and dental insurance premiums and any voluntary dependent care or medical reimbursement account contributions which you have “sheltered”.

E. Social security tax withheld: this represents the total amount of Social Security (FICA/OASDI) tax which was withheld from your earnings during the year and paid to the Social Security Administration, on your behalf, by the University.

F. Other: If you have received certain fringe benefits, the value of such benefits is shown here. These benefits include the value of taxable graduate and/or professional tuition benefits and other benefits relating to imputed income. If you have received any of these benefits the University has recently advised you, individually and personally, concerning their taxability; please refer to those communications specifically.

G. Medicare wages and tips: this represents the total amount of compensation paid to you during Calendar Year 2001 which was subject to Medicare tax, including all of your tax deferred annuity contributions and excess life insurance premiums, if applicable, but excluding health and dental insurance premiums and any voluntary dependent care or medical reimbursement account contributions which you have “sheltered”.

H. Medicare tax withheld: this represents the total amount of Medicare tax which was withheld from your earnings during the year and paid to the Social Security Administration, on your behalf, by the University.

I. Excess insurance premium: the Internal Revenue Service requires that the premiums paid by an employer for group life insurance coverage in excess of $50,000 be imputed as income to the employee. The amount which appears in Box 12 and labeled (C) is the value of the premiums paid for this excess insurance coverage. This amount is based on an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) table which identifies premiums for different age groups.

J. Tax deferred annuity contributions: this represents the total amount of contributions made by an employee to a retirement plan on a tax-deferred basis. The amount is shown in Box 12 and labeled (E).

K. Excludable moving expense reimbursements: this represents the nontaxable moving expenditures that were paid to you as a reimbursement. The amount is shown in Box 12 and labeled (P). If any reimbursements or third party payments were deemed to be taxable income you were notified of these amounts under separate cover.

L. Employee’s social security number: this is the number that the Federal and State Governments use to identify you with the tax returns that you file, so please review it for accuracy. If the number is incorrect, then the University Payroll system is also inaccurate and you should contact the Payroll Office, immediately, before you file your returns.

M. State wages, tips, etc.: this represents the total amount of compensation paid to you during Calendar Year 2001 which was subject to Pennsylvania State Income Tax, including all of your deferred annuity contributions, if applicable, but excluding health and dental insurance premiums and any voluntary medical reimbursement account contributions which you have “sheltered”.

N. State income tax: this represents the total amount of Pennsylvania State Income Tax withheld during Calendar Year 2001 and paid to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, on your behalf, by the University. If you do not live in Pennsylvania no amount will be reflected in this box. If you lived a portion of the year in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and another portion in New Jersey or Delaware, you will receive two W-2 forms, one showing the state taxes paid to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the other showing no taxes paid to the other jurisdiction.

O. Local wages, tips, etc.: this represents the total amount of compensation paid to you during Calendar Year 2001 which was subject to Philadelphia City Wage Tax, including all of your deferred annuity contributions.

P. Local income tax: this represents the total amount of Philadelphia City Wage Tax withheld from your earnings during Calendar Year 2001 and paid to the City of Philadelphia, on your behalf, by the University.

When you receive your W-2 form, please review it immediately to ensure that your name is spelled correctly and that your Social Security number is correct. If you feel that any information on your W-2 is incorrect, review your calculations carefully and compare the information on the form with your final 2001 pay stub.

If you have availed yourself of certain tax-exempt benefits please review any additional information which was provided to you, under separate cover, concerning these benefits and their impact on your tax status. If you still believe that your W-2 is in error, please contact the W-2 Office at (215) 573-3277 or write to W-2 Office, Room 310, Franklin Building /6284.

You should have received, via the U.S. Postal Service, your Federal and State Income Tax Forms and related instructions for filing. Federal Tax forms are available at the Internal Revenue Service, 600 Arch Street, Philadelphia, or by calling (800) TAX-FORM. Pennsylvania Income Tax forms are available at the State Office Building, 1400 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, or by calling (800) 362-2050. Federal and State forms are also available at many libraries and U.S. Post offices.

—John Christina, Jr., Manager, Payroll Department