Brown Chair in South Asian Studies: Michael Meister

Dr. Michael W. Meister, professor of South Asian art in the history of art department, has been appointed to the W. Norman Brown Chair in South Asian Studies, SAS Dean Samuel H. Preston has announced.

Dr. Meister received his B.A. in history and literature at Harvard College in 1964. He earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in fine arts at Harvard University in 1971 and 1974, respectively, and joined Penn’s history of art and South Asian regional studies departments in 1976. Penn awarded Dr. Meister an honorary degree in 1979. Since 1988, he has served as consulting curator for the Asian Section of the University of Pennsylvania Museum. He is currently the chairman of the newly renamed Department of South Asian Studies and director of the University’s South Asia Center.

Dr. Meister specializes in the art of South Asia, focusing primarily on temple architecture of the Indian subcontinent. His work has won numerous grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Smithsonian Institution, and the American Institute of Pakistan Studies, among others. He has also received both junior and senior Fulbright Foundation fellowships. Recently, Dr. Meister won a J. Paul Getty Interpretive Research Grant for multidisciplinary work on pilgrimage temples in Western India. This project resulted in the collection Ethnography and Personhood: Notes from the Field, edited by Dr. Meister and published by Vedams Books (Jaipur) in 2000. Another recent project, “Cooking for the Gods,” examined home worship and ritual in Bengal and culminated in exhibits at The Newark Museum, The Palmer Museum of Art, and the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. This year, a collection that he co-edited, Multiple Histories: Culture and Society in the Study of Rajasthan, was released from Rawat Publications.

Dr. Meister has been a frequent speaker at universities, galleries, and professional symposia throughout Europe, Asia, India, and Pakistan. He has been a faculty member at the American Academy in Rome from March to June 2002. His articles on South Asian art, architecture, and religious imagery have been published in major journals worldwide, including Artibus Asiae Res: Anthropology and Aesthetics, and South Asian Archaeology. Currently, Dr. Meister is an editorial advisor for the Yale Dictionary of International Architecture, an advisory general editor of the Encyclopaedia of India Temple Architecture, and a member of the Advisory Council of Scholars for South Asia Religious Art Studies (SARAS) and the Indian and Himalayan Art Committee of the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

In 1979, this endowed chair was established anonymously in honor of Dr. W. Norman Brown who advanced the study of the South Asian subcontinent throughout his career. Founder of the first academic Department of South Asian Studies, Dr. Brown spent the early part of his life in India and was a leading scholar in that area.

On Graduate Student Unionization

Last Thursday, the Regional Director of the National Labor Relations Board issued a long and complicated decision about graduate student unionization at Penn. We wanted to reiterate our response, also issued last Thursday, because of the importance of this matter to the life and work of the university community.

We maintain that our graduate students are students, and not employees. However, we recognize that the regional NLRB has reached a different conclusion. Like our colleagues at Brown, Tufts and Columbia, we believe that the issue of graduate student "as employees" warrants further legal review.

Further, as our statement makes clear, we find it both inexplicable and unfair to discriminate between the rights of different graduate students depending solely on their chosen area of scholarship. That is why we are planning to appeal this decision by the Regional Director to the full National Labor Relations Board in Washington. We believe that holding an election in which some graduate students are allowed to vote on the issue of unionization while others are barred from participation would be unnecessarily divisive. If there is to be a vote, then every graduate student should have a voice; not only a select few.

Ultimately, we believe that because Penn graduate students are skilled researchers and critical thinkers they will conclude, as Cornell graduate students did overwhelmingly last month, that a uniform union contract would not serve the unique, individualized needs of graduate scholarship.

Responding to the NLRB Decision

This afternoon [11/21/02] we received word that the National Labor Relations Board’s Regional Director issued a Decision and Direction Election finding that certain graduate students at the University of Pennsylvania are employees when they are teaching and research assistants at the University. The NLRB has directed an election to determine if a majority of these graduate students desire to be represented by a Union.

The complicated decision arbitrarily divides and discriminates among graduate students in determining who would be eligible to vote and who would not. For example, the decision includes some professional masters degree students in the proposed bargaining unit and excludes other comparable professional masters degree students. Even the regional director recognizes that there is no basis for the distinction drawn between Ph.D. candidates in the natural sciences (excluded) and the social sciences (included). The regional director says that she is “compelled to follow the NYU case,” even though she concludes that she would “otherwise agree with the University’s contention that Natural Science RA’s should be treated the same way as other RA’s.”

The decision makes no sense for graduate students at Penn. We hope that the students themselves, like their counterparts at Cornell, would come to the same conclusion.

We disagree with this decision and plan to appeal to the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, as have Brown, Tufts and Columbia.

We will continue to keep you informed of future developments in this important matter.

— Judith Rodin, President
— Robert Barchi, Provost
Deaths

At press time, Almanac learned of the deaths of two members of the Penn community. (Full obituaries will appear in the next issue.)

Dr. Charles Lee, emeritus professor of English, died on November 20 at the age of 89. Dr. Lee taught journalism, creative writing, writing non-fiction and review and criticism; he was also one of Almanac’s earliest editors, serving from December 1955 until May 1959, with Bruce Montgomery as managing editor. They jointly exhibited their paintings at the Faculty Club six times from 1985-1998. A memorial service will be held at the Annenberg Center on December 13, 3-5 p.m.

Dr. Rupert Billingham, former chair of the department of Medical Genetics from 1965 to 1971, died on November 16 at the age of 71 from complications of Parkinson’s disease. Dr. Billingham, a basic scientist, was interested in the application of transplantation to human disease. He was central to the development of a kidney transplant program at Penn in 1966. A memorial service will be held on December 3 on Martha’s Vineyard, MA.

New Research Web Site and Publication

Penn, which ranks among America’s top recipients of competitive research grants—with more than $500 million in external funding annually—has launched a new research web site and publication to share the knowledge generated by the 4,300 faculty researchers. The site and publication, both called Research at Penn, highlight the breadth of research activity across Penn’s 12 schools.

The web site www.upenn.edu/researchatpenn is accessible to all members of the Penn community and the general public. Its companion publication will be sent annually to some 10,000 friends of the University.

“For too long, people interested in learning about the latest advances in knowledge from Penn’s laboratories, libraries and classrooms have had to scour numerous web sites to gather that information,” said Provost Robert Barchi. “Now, those interested in Penn’s research contributions will be able to read about them in a single location.”

Already comprising more than 400 research news stories, the Research at Penn web site is updated continuously with information gathered from across the University to chronicle advances in the areas of health, natural science, technology, society and business. A related e-mail newsletter, distributed as developments warrant, brings Penn’s latest research findings directly to subscribers’ in-boxes.

Postdoctoral Stipend Levels for FY04

Preamble

Several recent developments have led to a revised approach to guidelines for stipend levels for Postdoctoral Fellows (PDFs). These events include:

(1) a new set of NIH guidelines for NRSA (National Research Service Awards) postdoctoral stipends that involve substantial annual increases above present levels;

(2) the lack of supplements for existing NIH research grants to accommodate the new stipend levels; and

(3) the minimal increases in grants awarded by NSF and other Federal agencies.

As a result fiscal realities have created increasingly disparate financial situations for faculty, depending upon their source of support. In view of these considerations, a decision was made in the fall of 2001 that the recommended minimum stipend levels would no longer be based on NIH guidelines.

It is important to remember that recommended stipend levels represent minimums. Penn investigators are also expected to comply with any postdoctoral stipend guidelines that are promulgated by their sponsors, if these sponsor-specified guidelines exceed the Penn minimum stipend levels.

Recommended Minimum Stipend Levels for Penn FY04

(Penn FY: July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004)

1. Beginning postdoctoral fellows, with no prior experience at Penn, will be paid a minimum of $30,880. This represents a 3% increase above the minimum for FY03.

Levels for all years are:

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2. Those current postdoctoral fellows who receive stipends in excess of the minimum should also receive an increase of at least 3%.

Other Items

• Stipends should be adjusted upwards during the course of the Penn fiscal year, either at the time of the annual postdoctoral reappointment, at the time of the annual grant renewal, or at the beginning of the NIH fiscal year.

• Individual Schools can set their own stipend levels above those recommended in this revision.

• For FY04, University of Pennsylvania postdoctoral stipend levels apply to all postdoctoral fellows.

• Under postdoctoral policy, no one should hold a postdoctoral position at the University of Pennsylvania for more than five years.

—Neal Nathanson, Vice Provost for Research

Beginning Phased Rollout

Penn’s Adverse Events Reporting System

We are pleased to announce that on November 25, the Penn Human Subjects Adverse Events Reporting (PennAES) component of the PennERA system was released to select members of the University of Pennsylvania’s academic research community. PennAES is a web-based software solution that facilitates the tracking and collecting of adverse events in clinical trials and the reporting of serious adverse events involving human subjects to the Institutional Review Boards of the University of Pennsylvania.

The system will be released in phases to facilitate orientation and the support of new users of the system. Additional members of the University community will be given access throughout the fall. This phased rollout follows a successful pilot release of the system that began in September 2002.

This is a first release and over time, as hands-on use expands, there may be enhancements to terminology and navigation features of the system. This evolutionary approach to a new system and associated processes will help ensure that PennAES will facilitate and enable improved tracking and information collection. Faculty investigators and the members of their research teams will be notified when PennAES is available for campus-wide use.

PennAES is one of the several components of the PennERA (Penn Electronic Research Administration) project. This multi-year project is designed to enhance the processes that support research and grants administration at the University.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the PennAES component of the PennERA system, or if you wish to register to use PennAES, please send an e-mail to pennaes@pobox.upenn.edu or contact Chris Sandy at (215) 746-6266. For the most up-to-date information on the PennERA project, visit the web site at www.pennera.upenn.edu.

—Robin H. Beck, Vice President of Information Systems and Computing

—Andrew B. Rudczynski, Executive Director of Research Services and Associate Vice President of Finance

—Joseph R. Sherwin, Director of the Office of Regulatory Affairs

www.upenn.edu/almanac
Protocol for the Use of Vaccinia Virus in Research

Investigators must obtain written approval from the Office of Environmental Health and Radiation Safety (EHRS) to use vaccinia virus in research. The Penn policy on the use of vaccinia virus in research follows national guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). These guidelines were revised in June 2001. Accordingly, the approval protocol for the use of vaccinia virus in research was recently revised to reflect the changes in the CDC guidelines. Vice Provost for Research, Dr. Neal Nathanson, approved the protocol after review by the University’s Institutional Biosafety Committee.

CDC recommends that all persons working with nonhighly attenuated strains of vaccinia virus be immunized, if medically eligible, before beginning work with virus. Principal investigators must offer all laboratory personnel who directly handle cultures or animals contaminated or infected with nonhighly attenuated vaccinia virus, recombined vaccinia viruses derived from nonhighly attenuated vaccinia strains or other Orthopoxviruses that infect humans, the opportunity to receive counseling and small pox immunization from HUP’s Occupational Medicine. Other healthcare workers (e.g., physicians and nurses) whose contact is limited to contaminated materials (e.g., dressings) but who adhere to appropriate infection control procedures are at a lower risk for inadvertent infection, however, vaccination can be offered to this group. Recombinant, highly attenuated poxvirus strains (MVA, NTVAC, ALVAC, and TROVAC) are unable to replicate or replicate poorly in mammalian host cells; therefore, they do not create productive infections. Vaccination is not recommended for workers who do not handle nonhighly attenuated virus cultures or materials or who do not work with animals contaminated or infected with these viruses. Both the principal investigator and the individual(s) offered immunization are required to sign the consent/declination form.

The vaccinia (smallpox) vaccine that had prior FDA approval is no longer available. The current vaccine is a new formulation that is not FDA approved. Before it can receive FDA approval, it must be evaluated for safety and efficacy. Therefore, it is being made available by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as part of a clinical trial. Personnel interested in obtaining the vaccine must become a participant in the clinical trial. For a complete copy of Penn’s vaccinia protocol, consult the EHRS web site, www.ehrs.upenn.edu/bio/vaccinia/sop.html, or call EHRS at (215) 898-4453.

—Harriet Izenberg, Institutional Biosafety Officer, EHRS

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Policy for Review and Investigation of Animal Welfare Concerns

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to describe the procedures that will be followed for addressing animal welfare concerns at the University of Pennsylvania.

Background: Congress amended the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) in 1985 in Public Law 99-198. The Secretary of Agriculture was directed to promulgate new rules governing the humane handling, care, and treatment, and transportation of animals by dealers, research facilities, and exhibitors. A requirement under the AWA is that the IACUC, as an agent for the research facility, “review and if warranted, investigate concerns involving the care and use of animals at the research facility resulting from public complaints received and from reports of noncompliance received from laboratory or research facility personnel or employees [Federal Register Vol. 54, No. 168, Thursday, August 31, 1989, final rule 2.31(c)(4)]”. “The research facility must maintain documentation of the Committee’s reviews and investigations conducted in response to complaints received in order to demonstrate its compliance with these regulations.” The research facility determines the form and method of such documentation [ibid. p. 36128].

Reporting: Animal welfare concerns can be expressed in writing, by telephone or in-person. They can be sent anonymously. Concerns can be made to the Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA), (215) 898-2614, the University Committee on Corporate Compliance (UCCO) 1-888-236-8477, the Chairperson or members of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). All concerns will be reviewed regardless as to how they are received. The two recommended ways of reporting a concern are:

1. An animal welfare concern can be reported and the individual will be known to the IACUC and will be part of the investigation process.

2. An animal welfare concern can be anonymously submitted. An individual can approach any IACUC member, the ORA office or the UCCO. The person approached will act as the complainant or employee’s representative throughout the process. The rest of the IACUC, ORA, or UCCO will not know the individual’s/employee’s name.

Procedures: The procedures when any concern involving the care and use of animals at the University of Pennsylvania is received by the IACUC, ORA, or UCCO is as follows:

1. The Director of ORA will be responsible for bringing the concern to the attention of the IACUC Chairperson and to the Vice Provost for Research. The IACUC Chairperson will be responsible for the review and if warranted the investigation.

2. The IACUC Chairperson will notify both IACUC Committee of the pending review and investigation. The IACUC Chairperson will keep the IACUC Committee informed on the progress of the review and the investigation (if warranted) on the preparation of action steps and recommendations and on the completion of the welfare concern.

3. An investigation, if warranted, will proceed immediately (normally no later than 5 working days). The investigation will involve the participation of the IACUC Chairperson and the Director of ULAR (University Laboratory Animal Resources). The investigation will include contacting the Principal Investigator for the animals which the animal welfare concern was raised, along with others, if warranted. Consultants and others may assist in the investigation.

4. Generally, within 10 working days after completion of the investigation, the IACUC Chairperson and the Director of ULAR [including consultants and additional designated resources, if deemed appropriate] will meet to discuss the review/investigation and preparation of action steps/recommendations. The results of this meeting will be provided to ORA and to the Vice Provost for Research.

5. The results of the investigation/resolution of the concern will be shared with the person reporting the animal welfare concern by ORA. This may take the form of a meeting, letter, or other communication. If the concern is anonymous, the University member (IACUC, ORA, UCCO) representing the person reporting the concern will meet as above and then inform the person of the resolution.

Record Retention: A report of the animal welfare concern and the appropriate documents from the IACUC investigation and the action steps/recommendations process will be maintained by the ORA for a period of 3 years. The AWA stipulates that “the research facility must maintain documentation of the Committee’s reviews and investigations in response to complaints received in order to demonstrate its compliance with these regulations” [ibid. p. 36128].

Public Notification: On an annual basis, the Director of ORA will submit this policy to Almanac for publication. Within the animal facilities, informational signage regarding this policy will be posted.

Joseph R. Sherwin, Director, Office of Research Administration

Speaking Out

On the Mean Streets of Penn

Addressing the ongoing hotwheels debate on the mean streets of Penn, for weeks the pages of Almanac have been smattered with bike bashing articles. It is a sensitive situation. On the one side, oh my there has only been one side—the generation “I sold my bike at a garage sale in 1979.” Are we not forgetting that Penn is full of students who have yet to buy their first internal combustion engine?

Students are young, mobile and poor. A bicycle allows for adventure and freedom. Creating a standard or policy in which students and local residents are regularly ticketed/fined or worse is not the answer.

Chief Rambo is between a rock and a soft place. I hope that the “administrative rock” does not persuade the chief into turning Penn into an episode of bike COPs. I can just see it now—I leave the office, get into my comfortable car, drive home, relax on the lazy-boy, flip on the TV, and there is Rambo on the mean streets of Penn, running down some freshman for riding across the Locust Walk bridge. Don't we have it bad enough with the parking problem?

—Wilson Stewart, PENNcap Academic Counselor
Perfect Presents: Books from Penn Press and Penn People

Looking for perfect presents as the annual gift-giving holidays are quickly approaching? There is an abundance of new books on the shelves at the Penn Bookstore, many written by Penn people—including faculty, deans, and alumni, as well as books published by the University of Pennsylvania Press. This is a sampling of the countless choices.

As Benjamin Franklin said, “From a child I was fond of reading and all the little money that came in my hands was ever laid out in books.” That must have been a lifelong tendency; his own library consisted of over 4,000 books and was the largest private library in America at the time. He also said, “Good books of all sorts may employ your leisure and enrich you with treasures more valuable than those which you might have procured in your usual vocations.”

To see some of the other tempting titles now available, visit the Penn Bookstore, or visit the University of Pennsylvania Press web site at www.upenn.edu/pennpress/ or the Penn Bookstore’s web site at upenn.bkstore.com/


“In the Days of Serfdom” and Other Stories, Leo Tolstoy. Six compelling short stories from a master writer, available for the first time in paperback. Paper/ $15.95

The Business of Sports Agents by Kenneth L. Shropshire and Timothy Davis. The latest from Wharton’s Ken Shropshire. “Every sports agent and everyone who desires to become one should treat themselves to this comprehensive book.”—Darren Rovell, ESPN. Cloth/$29.95

The Price of a Child by Lorene Cary. “Cary is a powerful story teller, frankly sensual, mortally funny…this is a generous, sardonic, full-blooded work of fiction.”—New York Times Book Review. Paper/$14.00

Independence Hall: in American Memory by Charlene Mires. A Pulitzer prize-winning journalist’s surprising history of America’s most important national treasure. Cloth/$34.95

University of Pennsylvania: The Campus Guide by George E. Thomas is a field guide to the campus and a celebration of the campus’s architecture and open spaces. Paper/ $24.95


“In the Days of Serfdom” and Other Stories, Leo Tolstoy. Six compelling short stories from a master writer, available for the first time in paperback. Paper/$15.95

To see some of the other tempting titles now available, visit the Penn Bookstore, or visit the University of Pennsylvania Press web site at www.upenn.edu/pennpress/ or the Penn Bookstore’s web site at upenn.bkstore.com/

A Matter of Degrees

Gino Segre explores how temperature is bound up with the very essence of both life and inert matter. Cloth/$24.95

Schopenhauer’s Porcupines

Intimacy and Its Dilemmas by Deborah Anna Luepnitz, recounts five stories from her practice, with patients who range from the super-rich to the homeless—as they grapple with panic attacks, psychosomatic illness, marital despair and sexual recklessness. Cloth/ $25.00

Stocks For the Long Run by Jeremy J. Siegel is “One of the Best Investment Books of all time…this is the buy-and-hold bible.” —James K. Glassman, The Washington Post. Cloth/$29.95

Uniforms: Why We Are What We Wear by Paul Fussell. In “this examination of the personal and cultural meanings of the wearing of uniforms, celebrated author Fussell creates a light, humorous tone by disclosing his almost fetishistic interest in his subject” and analyzes the symbolism behind uniforms. —Publishers Weekly. Cloth/$22.00

The Politics of Presidential Appointment: A Memoir of the Culture War by Sheldon Hackney. “Tells a troubling tale of how easily a small clique of right-wingers spun truth into lies, manipulated the mainstream media, and poisoned the debate in the U.S. Senate for its own ideological purposes…” —David Brock. Cloth/$25.95

Black Students in the Ivory Tower: African American Student Activism at the University of Pennsylvania, 1967-1990 by Wayne Glasker, describes the circumstances surrounding the university’s decision to increase its black enrollment and the consequences that followed. Cloth/ $34.95

Philadelphia Murals and the stories they tell by Jane Golden, Robin Rice, and Monica Yant Kinney. Discover through pictures and text how murals give communities a new way to define themselves, not in terms of the streets and intersections that border them, but in terms of the people who came together to create something of dramatic beauty. Cloth/$29.50
Call for Honorary Degree Nominations 2002-2003

Dear Colleagues,

We are writing to invite you to nominate candidates for University of Pennsylvania honorary degrees to be presented at future Commencement exercises. The criterion for selection is the degree to which the candidate reflects the highest ideal of the University, which is to produce graduates who change the world through innovative acts of scholarship, scientific discovery, artistic creativity and/or societal leadership.

We encourage you to involve your faculty colleagues in the procedure. A nomination may be supported by more than one letter from faculty in more than one department. Letters should state how the nominee meets the criterion for selection, what the nominee’s unique achievements and contributions are, and why the nominee should be honored by this University at this particular time. Please include as much biographical and other supporting information as possible, but please do not ask the nominee for information, because nominees should not know that they are being considered. We particularly encourage nominations from departments and schools whose fields have not been recognized by honorary degrees in recent years. Please note that it is University policy not to consider Penn standing or emeritus faculty, trustees, or school and center overseers for Penn honorary degrees.

Please send letters of nomination on your official stationery and sign them. Address nominations to the University Council Committee on Honorary Degrees, c/o Office of the Secretary, 221 College Hall/6303. They may be faxed to (215) 898-0103. If you have questions, please e-mail or telephone Molly Roth at mroth@pobox.upenn.edu or (215) 898-6408.

Nominations are accepted at any time during the year, but are not necessarily acted upon for the same year’s Commencement. In fact, the committee is increasingly working on honorary degree plans for several years into the future and it is not unusual for a candidate to be selected a few years after the initial nomination. The list of those who have received University of Pennsylvania honorary degrees in previous years can be found at http://www.upenn.edu/commencement/history/html. The University Council Committee’s recommendations are forwarded to the Trustees’ Committee on Honorary Degrees and Awards, which makes the final selection.

Honorary degrees are an important statement of our values and aspirations as a university, and we strongly encourage your participation in this process.

—E. Ann Matter, Chair, University Council Committee on Honorary Degrees
—Judith Rodin, President

December Volunteer Opportunities

Dear Penn Community,

Thank you so very much for your generosity. During the month of November, because of your generous contributions, we donated approximately 50 boxes of food to the Carroll Park Community Council’s Food Program that serves members of our West Philadelphia community. Further, we hosted 18 students from Parkway and Frankford High Schools for the Annual Shad-owing Day Event held on November 21. Our surrounding community continues to express thanks for the many services and partnerships the Penn community is involved in. Below is a list of current opportunities. I look forward to working with you as we strive to be good neighbors.

Contact Isabel Mapp at (215) 898-2020 or send an e-mail: sammapp@pobox.upenn.edu for additional information.

—Isabel Mapp, Associate Director, Faculty, Staff and Alumni Volunteer Services Director, Penn Volunteers In Public Service Center for Community Partnerships

Christmas Drive—Now through December 13 (see December AT PENN calendar)

Adopt a Family during the Christmas Holidays (see December AT PENN calendar)

Coat Drive—Now through December 13, Bring in your gently used coats to be donated to area shelters.

Volunteer a Clothing Giveaway—Saturday, November 23, 1-4 p.m.

Clothing giveaway for children in the 1200 block of North 58th Street sponsored by Sears, Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation and Housing Services. Help with the sorting and handing out clothing.

Boat People, S.O.S. is a non-profit community-based organization with over 20 years of experience serving the Vietnamese community. Our Community Technology Center (CTC) in Camden County provides a variety of services to the local population, including ESL and computer literacy classes, tax assistance and health care workshops. They need a volunteer in all areas, from teachers and tutors for ESL and computer literacy classes to technical assistance to income tax preparation. Fluency in Vietnamese is not required, but capable individuals are strongly urged to help. Whether you are interested in working directly with students or indirectly behind the scenes, they have a position for you.

Ronald McDonald House—Share A Night The Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House Needs You!

The Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House, the world’s first, needs volunteers for its Eleventh Annual Share A Night fund raising project. This major funding program has begun and ends on January 31, 2003. Volunteers are needed to write thank you notes to their generous donors, provide data input assistance, copy records and general office support. Do you belong to an organization or have a few friends that might be interested in assisting in this annual project? Volunteers are needed Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For those who are not available during the day and would like to help out, December 7 (1-4 p.m.), December 17 (6-8 p.m.) and January 9 (6-8 p.m.) are other dates to help out. On behalf of the families and children who depend on this “Home Away from Home.”

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) the country’s largest anti-poverty campaign—help low-income, working families receive the tax credits they earned—providing up to $4,008 in tax returns, a direct way to help families buy winter coats, pay bills, start a savings account. The credit creates incentives for families to work and earn more. EITC returns money to the local economy. EITC is underused in Philadelphia. 50,000 households did not file EITC claims, leaving at least $84 million in unclaimed credits in Philadelphia. In order to make this a successful campaign, volunteers are needed to help prepare tax forms at free tax filing sites across Philadelphia. The project will operate 25 sites, each of them open 3 sessions per week for 4 hours. Session days are Monday and Wednesday (4-8 p.m.) and Saturday (either morning or afternoon, but not both). Each volunteer will receive IRS training and certification and will be taught all that is necessary. United Way is coordinating the training.

Penn’s Way

For information about the Penn’s Way 2003 Campaign call (215) 746-GIVE or e-mail pennsway@pobox.upenn.edu or visit the campaign’s web site on line at www.upenn.edu/pennsway.

There will be eight winners in the third weekly raffle drawing. Pledge cards must be returned by noon on December 2 to be eligible for the drawing. Winners will be contacted December 9.

Week 3 Raffle Prizes
• Lunch for two in the Harrison dining room of the Faculty Club
• One of Two $20 gift certificates for Top Dog
• 2 teddy bears from Chris’ Corner
• $25 gift certificate to Arboretum plant sale in Spring 2003
• One Faculty Club membership
• Four passes to the Please Touch Museum
• One Gourmet Picnic Basket
• Lunch for two from Picnic

Return envelopes now to be eligible for Week Four’s fabulous prizes. There will be three winners in the fourth raffle. Pledge cards must be returned by noon on December 6. Winners will be notified on December 13.

Week 4 Raffle Prizes
• Overnight stay with breakfast at the Sheraton
• Overnight stay with breakfast for two at the Inn at Penn
• Four certificates from United Airlines for domestic flights (depending on destination, equivalent to pair of round trip tickets) from University Travel Services

Week 1 Winners
1. Susan S. Hoog, Technology Transfer: A Photographic Portrait book from Creative Communications
2. Valerie Burnett, Human Resources: A Photographic Portrait book from Creative Communications
3. Dana J. Napier, UPHS: A Photographic Portrait book from Creative Communications
4. Michael Weaver, Fitness Services: 6 $50 certificates Izzy and Zoe’s
5. Jeanette Volpe, Public Safety: Certificate for $30 at the White Dog and $10 at the Black Cat
7. Mary Armata, Transportation & Parking: Certificate for $30 at the White Dog and $10 at the Black Cat
8. Michelle Jester, President’s Office: 2 sets of two tickets to two Wrestling matches -1/19/03 vs Penn State and 2/22/03 vs Princeton

Almanac Schedule

The schedule for the remainder of the semester is as follows: Almanac will be published on December 10 and 17.

Breaking news will be posted to “Almanac Between Issues” and the Express Almanac will be e-mailed to those who have subscribed.

Get On Board Express Almanac

Sign up to receive e-mail notification when we post breaking news between issues. Send an e-mail message with “subscribe” as the Subject to almanac@pobox.upenn.edu and include your name, and e-mail address and mailing address. — Ed.
How to Reach New Facilities

The following information is in response to several requests for the phone numbers and addresses of recently completed additions to campus.

Sadie Alexander Partnership School
4209 Spruce St.
(215) 823-5465

The Bridge: Cinema De Lux
40th and Walnut St./6195
(215) 386-3300

Huntsman Hall
3730 Walnut St./6340
(215) 898-3030

Pottruck Health & Fitness Center
3701 Walnut St./6194
(215) 898-6100

Schatnner Center
240 South 40th St./6030
(215) 898-8961

CLASSIFIEDS—PERSONAL

HOLIDAY SPECIAL
Great-great grandson of Charles Dickens, Gerald Dickens, performs A Christmas Carol, Dec. 7th, 8 p.m., Arsh Hall, University of Delaware, Wilmington, 500 E. 7th, 8 p.m., Arsht Hall, University of Delaware, Wilmington, 500 E. 7th. Advance $5 for a lifetime brush with literary history. *The New York Times. www.dickensdarley.org or (800) 824-4703.

FITNESS
Grand opening of new Yoga Studio in University City. Power Yoga Works is located at 3925 Walnut Street next to Kinco’s. We offer beginner and all levels classes daily with 20 classes weekly. For more information visit our website at www.poweryogaworks.com or call us at (215) 243-9642.

THERAPY
Costly but Competent Psychotherapy. Shari D. Sobel, Ph.D. (215) 747-0460.

Almanac is not responsible for contents of classified ad material.

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

Happy Thanksgiving

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 November 11-17, 2002. Also reported were 29 Crimes Against Property (including 16 thefts, 7 retail thefts, 2 acts of fraud, 2 acts of vandalism, 1 burglary and 1 robbery). Full reports are on the Web (www.upenn.edu/almanac/v43/n14/1117crimes.html). Prior weeks’ reports are also online. —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 November 11-17, 2002. The University Police actively patrol from Market Street to Baltimore Avenue and from the Schuylkill River to 42nd 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.

11/11/02 12:01 AM 3459 Chestnut Male assaulted by other male/Arrest

11/12/02 2:09 AM 3417 Spruce Male tresspassing on property/Cited

11/12/02 12:24 PM 123 S 39 St Offenders hiding in apartment closet

11/13/02 10:05 AM 4040 Chestnut Male wanted on warrant/Arrest

11/14/02 2:09 AM 210 S 40 St Male acting disorderly/Arrest

11/16/02 4:16 AM 3700 Spruce Complainant assaulted by four males

11/16/02 4:27 PM 233 S 33 St Male acting disorderly/Arrest

11/16/02 5:10 PM 3000 South St Male acting disorderly/Arrest

11/16/02 11:24 PM 3910 Irving Male acting disorderly/Arrest

11/17/02 2:14 AM 3417 Spruce Male trespassing on property/Cited

18th District Report

3 incidents and 2 arrests (including 2 robberies and 1 rape) were reported between November 11-17, 2002 by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th St. & Market St. to Woodland Ave.

11/11/02 12:00 AM 4400 block Osage Rape

11/12/02 12:00 PM 4800 Walnut Robbery/Arrest

11/17/02 6:40 PM 4600 Springfield Robbery/Arrest

CLASSIFIEDS—UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH
Needed: Controls for Multiple Sclerosis. If you are at least 30 years old and above and would like to participate in a research study, examining several primary senses (hearing, smell, taste and balance) for which you will be compensated $100 for approximately 9 hours of participation. For more information please call (215) 862-6580.

QUIT SMOKING FOR FREE! If you are 18 years of age or older, you may be eligible to receive 8 sessions of free counseling and study medication at no cost. Interested? Call the Quit for Health Program at (877) 513-QUIT.

Does it hurt to move? Are your joints painful and swollen? Do you have Rheumatoid Arthritis? If you answered YES to these questions….Come join a rheumatoid arthritis research study at the University of Pennsylvania. For more information call Susan at (215) 662-4634. Compensation will be provided.

Are you taking estrogen replacement? Volunteers are needed for an osteoporosis research study. If you are between the ages of 45 and 55 and are taking or would like to take estrogen replacement for menopause, you may be eligible to participate. Participants are compensated. For more information, call (215) 898-5664.

WANT TO LOSE WEIGHT AFTER THE HOLIDAYS? The UPENN Weight and Eating Disorders Program is offering a free 2-week weight loss program beginning this January. Women aged 21-50 who are approximately 50 pounds overweight (BMI 30-40) may be eligible. Please call Leanne at (215) 898-3184 to see if you qualify.

Almanac is not responsible for contents of classified ad material.

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

Happy Thanksgiving
Gifts of Involvement

These are appropriate for ardent aficionados and advocates of anthropology/archaeology, art, arboreta, and academe.

... Anthropology/Archaeology: Those who treasure the past will be delighted with a full year’s membership in the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. They will enjoy free admission, Museum Shop discounts, invitations to openings and other members-only events, and Expedition Magazine; and they will be kept up-to-date about the latest discoveries from the Museum’s worldwide fieldwork and research. The gift membership will be mailed. Individual membership is $45, dual membership $55, household $65, sustaining $100, patron $250, and fellows $500. Information: (215) 898-5093 or www.upenn.edu/museum/PublicServices/membership.

... Art: Members of the Institute of Contemporary Art receive free admission to the exhibitions, lectures and programs, invitations to preview opening receptions and the annual benefit, a calendar listing lectures, programs, tours, and special events, 20% discounts on ICA catalogues, use of the ICA library, and discounts on selected Penn Presents programs. Individuals $40; family $100; contributor $250; participating $500; benefactor $1,000, with additional membership bonuses for each. Information: (215) 573-0217.

Generations of Tradition, a lithograph of the University campus by Jane Woooster Scott, is available at four different prices depending on the edition: $150, $200, $400, $1,000. Profits benefit the Shoenaker Fund for Women’s Athletics. Information: (215) 898-6123 or http://pennathletics.oscm.com/school-bioi/penn-development.html.

... Books: Library Friends are invited to exhibition openings and other special events. Information: (800)-390-1829 or www.upenn.edu/gifts and select library.

Annual membership to the Penn Press Associates is available at $100 and will receive a copy of The London Monster, and at the $500 level will receive a copy of Pennsylvania Impressionism. Additionally, members will receive a 50% discount off Penn Press books, are invited to events to meet authors and publishing professionals.

Information: (215) 898-6263 or ejack@pobox.upenn.edu.

... Readings: Members of Friends of the Kelly Writers House help sustain the Writers House seminars, readings and webcasts. Friends will be acknowledged in the Writers House electronic Annual which is available at all times on their web site and in print annually. Membership fees: $40, $100, $250, $500, and William Carlos Williams Circle $1,000 or more. Information: (215) 573-WRIT, ask for Kerry Sherin, director, or www.english.upenn.edu/writ/support.

Penn Presents will stage numerous shows including music, dance and theatre from now through May. To subscribe or for information: (215) 898-3900 or www.pennpresents.org.

... Music: WXPN 88.5 FM, Penn’s member-supported radio station offers several membership choices for those who enjoy discovering emerging artists and re-discovering some old favorites. For $60, the music-lover gets an XPN card for discounts at numerous companies, and a Fall Music Sampler or CD of the week. For $75, the recipient gets the card and a choice of Kids’ Corner CD, Live at the World Cafe Vol. #12 or World Cafe 10th Anniversary T-Shirt. Information: www.xpn.org.

... Flora: Members of the Morris Arboretum, Pennsylvania’s official arboretum, receive free admission, free bonus plant, orientation tour and reception, 10% course discounts, the quarterly newsletter, plant sale benefits, access to the Reciprocal Admissions Program, gift shop discounts, and invitations to events and lectures. Membership fees are: Regular $30, Beech $85, Chestnut $125, Holly $230, Oak $500, and Laurel $1,000. Membership form is available. Information: (215) 898-4741.

... Food: Houston Market cashier station. Gift certificates for Pottruck Health and Fitness Center memberships, Personal Training, Group Exercise, Climbing Wall Parties, Golf Center rentals, the Penn Running Store, and Jammin’ Juice. A variety of options are available. Information on Gift Certificates is available by calling (215) 898-6100 or visit www.upenn.edu/recreation.

The Department of Recreation offers gift certificates for Pottruck Health and Fitness Center memberships, Personal Training, Group Exercise, Climbing Wall Parties, Golf Center rentals, the Penn Running Store, and Jammin’ Juice. A variety of options are available. Information on Gift Certificates is available by calling (215) 898-6100 or visit www.upenn.edu/recreation.

The Men’s Basketball Club offers various gift levels from $25 to $1,000 with benefits that increase with the level. Benefits include invitation to Club receptions, Hoopnings, media guide, Club memento, and preferred seating assignments. Information: (215) 898-4717.

... World Culture: International House members receive $1 discount on all film screenings at International House, $1 discount on Philadelphia Film Festival tickets and e-mail announcements for advance screenings of major motion pictures program guide and Mosaic by mail. Individual Member $40, Household Member $60, Sustaining Member $100, Contributing Member $250, World Member $500, International Member $1,000. Call (215) 895-6531.

Sports and Fitness: The Class of 1923 Ice Rink offers a discount book of 10 admission passes to the ice public skating session for $40 with a PENNcard or $50 for the public. Why not stuff a stocking with skating lessons? Six weeks of group lessons, beginning week of January 6, are available for ages 6 through adult in a variety of skill levels. The registration deadline is December 28. Cost $90. Information: (215) 898-1923.

 Levy Tennis Pavilion memberships are $15 students and spouses, $25 faculty, staff and spouses, $50 alumni, $75 public, $35 senior citizens, guest fee $6; valid through August 2003. Information: (215) 898-4741.

The Faculty Club offers extensive membership benefits, including free admission to The London Monster, special voting rights for The Faculty Club elections, free Garden Party, special ticket prices for relations, golf, and tennis. Information: (215) 895-6531.

The Class of 1972 Houston Market members receive $1 discount on all film screenings at International House, $1 discount on Philadelphia Film Festival tickets and e-mail announcements for advance screenings of major motion pictures program guide and Mosaic by mail. Individual Member $40, Household Member $60, Sustaining Member $100, Contributing Member $250, World Member $500, International Member $1,000. Call (215) 895-6531.