

Almanac

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Sandy Schwartz: First Leon Hess Endowed Professor in Internal Medicine

Photograph by Stuart Watson



Dr. Sankey Williams, Mrs. Sue Schwartz, Dr. Sandy Schwartz, President Amy Gutmann, Mrs. Norma Hess, widow of the late Leon Hess, and Senator Connie Williams, at a reception last month honoring Dr. Schwartz as the inaugural holder of the Hess Endowed Professorship in Internal Medicine.

Dr. J. Sanford "Sandy" Schwartz, professor of medicine, health care management and economics, M '74, has been named the inaugural Leon Hess Endowed Professor in Internal Medicine.

"Sandy has repeatedly made seminal health services and policy research contributions, particularly to the assessment of the value of diagnostic and therapeutic technologies in medical practice," said Dr. Andrew I. Schafer, M '73, chairman of the department of medicine. "But perhaps just as important has been the extraordinary impact and influence he has had on innumerable trainees."

Dr. Schwartz's commitment to his trainees is legendary, according to chief of the Division of General Internal Medicine, Dr. Sankey V. Williams, Sol Katz Professor of General Internal Medicine. "One of my colleagues remarked the other day: 'Many research fellows have navigated their way to Sandy's home in the Philadelphia suburbs in the dark of night. I am certain that dozens of Sandy's students can identify his children by name, and can comment on the quality of his wife's home cooking.'"

In addition to leading the division where the Hess Professorship will reside, Dr. Williams had an active hand in the creation of the new chair. With his wife, State Senator Constance H. Williams, WG '80, Dr. Williams arranged for a gift from the Hess Foundation that established the Hess professorship in honor of Senator Williams's father, the late Leon Hess. Mr. Hess was founder of the Hess Corporation, one of the most successful integrated oil companies in the U.S. He was also the owner of the New York Jets football team.

"Endowing a professorship at a school devoted to saving lives is a fitting tribute to Leon Hess who cherished life and family so deeply," said President Amy Gutmann at an event honoring Dr. Schwartz as the inaugural chair holder.

"Sandy Schwartz's academic investigations have been characterized by innovation and determination—qualities that I believe Leon Hess valued during his lifetime," added Dean Arthur H. Rubenstein. "The generosity that Connie and Sankey have shown in creating this new professorship grows out of a shared respect for Connie's father, and is informed by Sankey's understanding of the possibilities in internal medicine at Penn."

Dr. Schwartz began his career at Penn shortly after graduating from the School of Medicine in 1974; since 1993, he has been a full professor there and since 1989 has held a dual academic appointment at Wharton. From 1989-1998, he served as executive director of the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics. He is also faculty master of Fisher Hassenfeld College House.

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\$2 Million from Keck Foundation for Research on Parkinson's

Penn has received a \$2 million grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation of Los Angeles for a pioneering study on the genomics of Parkinson's disease. The Keck Foundation's program supports basic biomedical research and the development of pioneering new technologies.

The grant will permit the development of technology to study the basic cell biology of Parkinson's disease. This project involves a diverse team of researchers from Penn's Genomics Institute: molecular biologist Dr. James Eberwine; computational scientist Dr. Junhyong Kim; imaging experts Dr. Philip Haydon and Dr. Jai-Yoon Sul; robotics expert Dr. Vijay Kumar; and biological modeling expert Dr. David Meaney.

"The scientific scope of such an interdisciplinary effort has traditionally been difficult to fund through standard NIH mechanisms," noted Dr. Eberwine, the project's principal investigator. "The foresight of the Keck Foundation in facilitating this and such efforts at other universities will undoubtedly contribute to the development of scientific innovation and therefore the improvement of the human condition."

Dr. Eberwine and colleagues will develop new approaches that target the multi-genic nature of Parkinson's disease. Parkinson's is a debilitating, progressive neurodegenerative disorder of the central nervous system in which dopamine-producing nerve cells die in those areas of the brain that coordinate voluntary movement and aspects of cognition. The Keck grant will fund the cataloguing of the changes in gene expression that underlie the development of Par-

kinson's in individual live neurons and will utilize a newly developed technology for assessing genomic changes in live cells. The goal is to use this information to create neurons that reliably produce dopamine, under natural gene regulation within the cell. Eventually, such cells may prove to be useful in cellular therapeutics.

Current treatments for Parkinson's using transplanted cells are limited by the traditional one-gene-at-a-time approach to manipulating dopamine production. The new integrated approach, developed by the team, will identify the complex genetic nature of the disease and will be used in efforts to correct the multifaceted gene expression anomalies that underlie Parkinson's pathology.

More generally, most human diseases and syndromes manifest themselves through the dysregulation of multiple genes. The approaches being developed as part of this Keck grant will permit multiple genes to be manipulated in a predictable, naturally controlled manner. "These studies will provide the first truly functional genomics approach to understanding human disease and eventually, it is hoped, may provide novel therapeutic intervention strategies," said Dr. Eberwine.

The W.M. Keck Foundation, established in 1954 by William Myron Keck, founder of The Superior Oil Company, is one of the nation's largest philanthropic organizations with assets of more than \$1 billion. In recent years, the Foundation has focused on five broad areas: Science and Engineering Research; Undergraduate Science and Engineering; Medical Research; Liberal Arts; and Southern California.

SENATE From the Senate Office

The following agenda is published in accordance with Faculty Senate Rules. Any member of the standing faculty can attend SEC meetings and observe. Questions may be directed to Sue White, executive assistant to the Senate Office, either by telephone at (215) 898-6943, or by e-mail at senate@pobox.upenn.edu.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Agenda

Wednesday, February 21, 2007,
Room 205, College Hall, 2:30–5 p.m.

1. Update on the University (30 minutes)
Presentation by Provost Ronald Daniels
2. Approval of the Minutes of January 24, 2007 (2 minutes)
3. Chair's Report (10 minutes)
4. Past-Chair's Report on Academic Planning and Budget & Capital Council (3 minutes)
5. Penn's Research Enterprise: Pathways to Discovery (45 minutes)
Presentation by Steven Fluharty, Vice Provost for Research
6. New Business

Deaths

Nancy Hart, Student Registration

Nancy Hart, systems analyst for the Office of Student Registration and Financial Services, died on January 23, at the age of 56.

After graduation from Key West High School in Florida in 1968, Ms. Hart relocated to Philadelphia to attend Pierce Junior College and upon completion she earned a B.A. in Commerce and Engineering from Drexel University.

Beginning in 1988, Ms. Hart worked as a programmer/analyst in Penn's Office of Institutional Research. In 1998, she joined the University Registrar's Office as a programmer/analyst and she was later promoted to assistant registrar responsible for Course and Classroom Scheduling. In 2003, Ms. Hart became a systems analyst for the Office of Student Registration and Financial Services, dedicated to support of the Student Registration System (SRS), Advisor InTouch, and student information in the Data Warehouse.

Ms. Hart is survived by her father, Richard Hart, Sr.; two sons, Robert Kenneth and Kevin Darnell; their father, Henry Robert Witherspoon; her siblings, Willie Mae Lasswell, Patsy West, Richard Jr., and Albert Nathaniel; three grandchildren, Santasha Glynnis, Heaven Leigh and Erica; one aunt, Hattie Glover White; six nieces, Michelle, Kimberly, Felicia, Natasha, Makeba and Keasha; three nephews, Derrick, Darryl and Marshall and a host of cousins, friends and colleagues.

To Report A Death

Almanac appreciates being informed of the deaths of current and former faculty and staff members, students and other members of the University community.

However, notices of alumni deaths should be directed to the Alumni Records Office at Room 545, Franklin Building, (215) 898-8136 or send via e-mail record@ben.dev.upenn.edu.

No Issue During Spring Break

There is no issue of *Almanac* scheduled for March 6. During Spring Break staff are on duty to assist contributors planning for the issues immediately following the break. Weekly publication will resume on March 13. The deadline is the Tuesday before the date of the issue.

Breaking news, if any, and the weekly crime reports will be posted to "*Almanac* Between Issues."

Dr. MacDiarmid, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry



Alan MacDiarmid

an enthusiastic friend and wonderful colleague who was modest and gracious even as he won the honor of all honors, the Nobel Prize," said President Amy Gutmann.

Dr. MacDiarmid was the recipient of the 2000 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, along with former Penn professor and director of LRSM Dr. Alan J. Heeger, now at the University of California at Santa Barbara, and Dr. Hideki Shirakawa of the University of Tsukuba in Japan. They were honored for their 1977 discovery that plastics, or polymers, can be made to conduct electricity much like metals. This finding turned on its head the conventional wisdom that polymers could not conduct electricity, and unleashed new research among physicists, chemists and materials scientists worldwide. This technology is now applied in cell phones.

Born in Masterton, New Zealand, Dr. MacDiarmid studied at the University of New Zealand earning his B.Sc in 1948 and his M.Sc. in 1950. He won a Fulbright Fellowship to the University of Wisconsin where he earned his Ph.D. in 1953. He received another Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge in 1955.

Dr. MacDiarmid joined Penn's department of chemistry in 1955. He was appointed assistant professor in 1956, associate professor in 1961 and professor in 1964. In 2002 he joined the faculty of the University of Texas at Dallas and in 2004 the Jilin University in China. He was also involved in the establishment of the Jilin MacDiarmid Institute of organic nanomaterials in China and the MacDiarmid Institute of Materials Science and Nanotechnology at Vic-

Trustees' Winter Full Board Meetings: February 22-23

The Winter Meetings of the Trustees will be held February 22-23, 2007, at the Inn at Penn.

Thursday, February 22

10:15-11:45 a.m.,
Academic Policy/Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity Joint Meeting;
Facilities & Campus Planning Committee
2:15-3:45 p.m.,
Student Life Committee;
Neighborhood Initiatives Committee
4-5:30 p.m.,
Budget & Finance Committee;
External Affairs Committee

Friday, February 23

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.,
Trustees' Stated Meeting
These meetings are open to observers under the "Sunshine Law." Members of the University may register their interest in attending, with the Office of the Secretary, (215) 898-7005.

toria University of Wellington, New Zealand.

"The School of Arts and Sciences had the great fortune of counting Alan MacDiarmid as a faculty member for over half a century. We will remember him not only as a path-breaking scientist but also as a cherished colleague, teacher, and mentor," said SAS Dean Rebecca Bushnell.

Dr. MacDiarmid received numerous honors and awards. He was the recipient of the Chemical Pioneer Award from the American Institute of Chemists (1984), the "Top 100" Innovation Award from *Science Digest* (1985), the University of Pennsylvania's Medal for Distinguished Achievement (2001), and many awards from the American Chemical Society. In 2003 he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of London, the world's oldest scientific academy founded in 1660. At Penn, the Alan MacDiarmid Endowed Term Chair in Chemistry was named in his honor. He published over 600 research papers and held over two dozen patents. He had many memberships in professional societies including the National Academy of Science.

Dr. MacDiarmid is survived by his wife, Gayl Gentile; three daughters, Heather McConnell, Dawn Hazelett, and Gail Williams; a son, Duncan; nine grandchildren; a sister, Alice Palmer; and two brothers, Roderick and Colin.

A University Memorial Service will be held on Friday, March 2, at 3 p.m. at Irvine Auditorium, Spruce at 34th Street, with reception to follow.

Contributions in memory of Dr. MacDiarmid to support graduate chemistry education at the University of Pennsylvania and Victoria University of Wellington may be sent to Elizabeth Caimi, Suite 300, 3440 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19104.

To see a video of his October 10, 2000, Nobel Prize Press Conference, visit www.upenn.edu/almanac/v47/NobelVideo/PressConf.html

Two More URF Recipients

In addition to the numerous recipients listed in last week's issue, there are two additional recipients of the University Research Foundation Awards and Conference Support.

For the URF Award: Brenda B. Casper, SAS, Biology; *Using T-RFLP Analysis to Identify Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi in Plant Roots*.

For Conference Support: C. Brian Rose, SAS, Classical Studies; Proposal Title: *The Archaeology of Phrygian Gordion (Turkey)*.

The Division of Human Resources has compiled some answers to questions that have been asked so far on the Supplemental LTD Plan. Personalized materials on this plan were recently mailed to eligible faculty and staff. Questions on the plan can be addressed to Income & Benefit Solutions, 1-877-321-4427 or upenn@incomebenefit.com.

Supplemental Long-Term Disability (LTD) Plan Questions and Answers

Plan Features

Q1: What is the supplemental LTD plan?

A: The supplemental LTD plan is an individual disability insurance policy that you may purchase to supplement the benefits provided by the University group LTD plan.

Q2: How do I qualify for benefits under the supplemental LTD plan?

A: This policy pays a benefit if you cannot work in your own occupation due to an injury or sickness and you suffer a loss of at least 20% of your pre-disability income.

Q3: When are benefits paid?

A: If you qualify for benefits, they will begin after 180 days of disability and are payable to age 65 for disabilities that begin before age 62, with a graded benefit period for disabilities incurred at age 62 or older.

Q4: Are the payments under this plan offset by Social Security and similar benefits?

A: No, unlike the University group LTD plan, there are no offsets to your benefit for anything other than earned income.

Q5: Are the benefits under the plan taxable?

A: No, unlike the University group LTD plan, benefits under this plan are tax-free because you pay the premiums with after-tax dollars.

Q6: Am I covered for pre-existing medical conditions?

A: There is no limitation or exclusion in coverage due to pre-existing medical conditions provided you apply during the initial enrollment period ending on February 28, 2007.

Q7: Are benefits limited for disabilities due to a mental disorder or substance abuse?

A: Benefits for disabilities due to mental disorders or substance abuse are paid for the full benefit period (See Questions 15, 16 and 17). There is no separate limitation for these types of disabilities.

Q8: What benefit limitations and exclusions are included in the supplemental LTD plan?

A: Payments are limited to 12 months for each period of disability if you are residing outside of the U.S. or Canada. No benefits are paid if you are able to work but choose not to do so. No benefits are paid if you are confined to a penal or correctional institution. Disabilities caused by war, intentionally self-inflicted injuries, committing or attempting to commit a felony, participation in a riot or disorder, engaging in an illegal occupation or loss of professional license are not covered.

Q9: Does the policy pay a survivor's benefit?

A: Yes. If you die while benefits are payable, the policy will pay a lump sum survivor's benefit equal to three times the maximum monthly benefit. The survivor's benefit will be reduced by any overpayment of your claim.

Q10: What salary was used in computing the amount of coverage I am eligible to purchase?

A: The salary used in the computation of your eligible benefit under this program is your gross base salary as of December 21, 2006. Your gross base salary is before taxes and doesn't include any bonuses or other variable pay. In addition, the salary used in the calculation does not include any raises that were effective after December 21.

Q11: How was the benefit amount I am eligible for calculated?

A: Your benefit amount was calculated as 75% of your monthly gross base salary from the University less the amount of your University group LTD monthly benefit. If you are a CPUP faculty member your benefit amount was calculated as 15% of your monthly gross base salary from the University. The amount you qualify for may be reduced by the monthly benefit amount of any individual disability insurance policies you already own.

Q12: What benefits are paid if I am disabled?

A: Benefit payments are based on your proportionate loss of income, with the full benefit amount paid if your income loss due to disability is greater than 80%.

Q13: May I elect an amount of coverage that is less than the amount for which I am qualified?

A: No, if you elect to participate in this program, you must purchase the amount that is provided in your enrollment materials.

Q14: Does my coverage automatically increase each year with my salary increase?

A: The application includes a separate Annual Benefit Increase Agreement. By signing this agreement, you are electing to have Standard automatically increase the coverage when they are notified by the University of your annual salary increases. The annual salary increase must be large enough to result in an addition of at least \$200 of monthly benefit in order for an increase to be issued in a given year. If your salary increase in one year is not large enough to qualify for an additional \$200, the increase will be carried over to the following year and combined with that year's increase to determine if an increase of at least \$200 is available. If you sign this agreement and decide later that you do not want the additional coverage you may opt out by submitting a policy change request in writing to Standard.

Q15: I read that coverage continues until age 65. Why is age 65 used?

A: Disability insurance is intended to replace earned income, and 65 is a common age when earned income stops due to retirement. The insurance industry uses this age in order to keep plans affordable for all policyholders.

Q16: Can coverage be extended past age 65?

A: Participants who have reached the age of 65 and are still working may continue their coverage if they certify that they are working full-time (minimum of 30 hours per week) and continue to pay the premiums.

Q17: If I elect to continue my policy past age 65, how long will the policy be in force?

A: Coverage may be continued for as long as you are working at least 30 hours per week and pay the premiums when due. There is no maximum age at which coverage ends.

Q18: If someone denies tobacco usage on the application form and later submits a claim for disability related to smoking, will the claim be denied?

A: Standard will not automatically deny the claim in this instance. They will, however, go back and determine if the participant did use tobacco at the time of application, and if so calculate the amount of premiums that should have been paid using the tobacco user rates. Standard will then reduce the

benefits paid by the difference between the amount of premiums that should have been paid and the amount of premiums that were actually paid. There is a 25% premium surcharge for tobacco users.

Q19: If I apply for coverage in February, when is the policy effective? If I become disabled before the effective date, am I covered?

A: If your application is postmarked on or before February 28, 2007 your policy is effective on June 1, 2007. If you suffer a disability prior to this date, you will not qualify for benefits under the plan.

Q20: Can I keep this supplemental LTD policy if I leave the University?

A: You will own this policy and can take it with you even if you leave the University. You will need to contact Standard and arrange for the premium bills to be sent directly to you since premiums will no longer be paid through a payroll deduction.

Q21: If I enroll in this program, am I covered for disability during the "gap" period when my short-term disability period ends and my group long-term disability coverage begins?

A: This coverage is not intended to cover the gap between short-term and long-term disability benefits. It is a supplemental LTD plan subject to the same 6-month waiting period as the University group LTD plan.

Q22: If I am approved or denied benefits under the University's group LTD plan, does that mean that I will be approved or denied benefits under this plan?

A: No, a decision one way or the other under the University's group LTD plan does not affect the decision under this plan. The two plans have different policies and different providers (Aetna and Standard). It is likely, however, that the two companies will reach the same decision on claims.

Q23: How can I find out more about the University group LTD benefit?

A: The University group LTD summary plan description can be found at www.hr.upenn.edu/benefits/spd_healthwelfare.pdf.

Premiums

Q24: Who pays for the supplemental LTD plan? How are premiums paid?

A: If you choose to participate in the plan, you will pay the premiums through a payroll deduction. If you are paid monthly the premiums will be deducted once a month, and if you are paid weekly a weekly deduction will be made.

Q25: When will payroll deductions start?

A: Payroll deductions will begin in May.

Q26: If I am out of work and my premiums are no longer deducted from my pay, can I continue the policy?

A: If your premiums are no longer deducted from your pay, you must contact Standard and request direct billing in order to keep your policy in force.

Q27: Will I have to pay premiums if I am disabled?

A: If you are continuously disabled for at least 90 days and benefits are payable under your policy, Standard will waive premiums due and refund any premium paid after the date your disability began.

Q28: Will my premiums ever change?

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Supplemental Long-Term Disability Plan: Questions and Answers (continued from page 3)

A: Your premiums are guaranteed not to change at any time before you reach age 65. Your premiums may change each year after age 65 based upon Standard's rate structure in place at that time.

Q29: How do the premiums for the supplemental LTD policy compare to what I might pay for supplemental coverage if I bought it on my own?

A: The premiums for the supplemental LTD policy include a 25% discount.

Program Eligibility

Q30: Who is eligible for the supplemental LTD plan?

A: Full-time faculty and staff who are eligible for the group LTD plan, earn at least \$15,000 per year and have been actively at work at the University or for another employer for the past six months are eligible for the plan. Employees who would otherwise qualify for the plan but have missed more than 10 days of work in the past six months due to a medical condition will be eligible for the plan once they have been actively at work for six consecutive months.

Q31: Do I have to prove that I am in good health in order to qualify for supplemental LTD coverage?

A: As long as you have been actively at work for the past six months, you qualify for the supplemental LTD coverage. You do not have to answer any other questions regarding your health.

Q32: I am currently on a Leave of Absence (LOA) from the University. Am I eligible to participate in this program?

A: Employees on LOA who meet the requirements for eligibility (full-time employees earning at least \$15,000 per year) are eligible for the program as long as they sign the application while in the U.S. The application has a "Signed at" space next to the signature that must show a U.S. city and state.

Employees who are on LOA outside of the country during the enrollment period are eligible upon their return to the country. It will be their responsibility to follow up if they want coverage.

They will have 30 days upon their return to apply in order to be eligible for guaranteed issue.

Note: employees who are on a medical LOA are not currently eligible because they are not able to meet the requirement of not missing work due to a medical condition.

Enrollment

Q33: What is the deadline for enrolling in this program?

A: You must enroll by *February 28, 2007* in order to be eligible for the program on a guaranteed issue basis. This is a one-time offer and you will not have any other opportunities to enroll with guaranteed acceptance.

Q34: Where are my enrollment materials being sent?

A: Enrollment materials were mailed to your home address.

Q35: How do I apply for coverage?

A: You need to complete the shaded items on the application and Automatic Benefit Increase Agreement that are included in the enrollment materials and return them in the enclosed pre-addressed envelope. Applications should be mailed to Income & Benefit Solutions, LLC, 4 Milk Street, Portland, ME 04101.

Q36: Whom do I contact if I have additional questions?

A: Contact the enrollment services firm, Income & Benefit Solutions, at 1-877-321-4427 or upenn@incomebenefit.com if you have additional questions.

University Research Foundation Guidelines: March 15

Statement of Purpose and Guidelines

The University Research Foundation (URF) is an intramural resource to support research for faculty for a variety of purposes, including:

- Helping junior faculty undertake pilot projects that will enable them to successfully apply for extramural sources of funding, and aid in establishing their careers as independent investigators.
- Helping established faculty perform exploratory research, particularly on novel or pioneering ideas, to determine their feasibility and develop preliminary data to support extramural applications.
- Providing support in disciplines where extramural support is difficult to obtain and where significant research can be facilitated with internal funding.
- Providing limited institutional matching funds that are awarded contingent upon a successful external peer-reviewed application that requires an institutional match.
- Providing, under compelling circumstances, established investigators with funds to support a well-justified gap in extramural support or a documented unanticipated short-term need.
- Supporting conferences of up to \$3,000. Conference Support Guidelines are on page 5.

Scope

Disciplines. The URF supports research in all disciplines, including international research. For purposes of review, applications are assigned to four broad disciplinary areas: Biomedical Sciences, Humanities, Natural Sciences and Engineering, and Social Science and Management. See www.upenn.edu/research/ReviewPanels.htm.

Term. Grants are given for a single year only. Applications for a renewal of a previously funded project may be submitted but usually receive low priority. Funds must be spent within 12 months of the beginning of the grant, and may not be "banked" for future use. Unexpended funds must be returned to the Foundation. If well justified in writing, carryover of unexpended funds may be possible with approval by the Vice Provost for Research. Request for carryover of unexpended funds should be made in writing two (2) months prior to the expiration of an award.

Budget. Applications up to \$50,000 will be entertained.

Eligibility. Eligibility is limited to University faculty, in any track, at any professorial level. Instructors and Research Associates may apply but need to establish (by letter from the Department chair) that the applicant will receive an appointment as an Assistant Professor by the time of the award.

Conference Support. Scholarly conferences of a research nature will be considered for funding at the level of up to \$3,000 per conference.

(See *Conference Support Guidelines* on page 5).

The Application

Applications that fail to meet the guidelines will not be reviewed.

Dates. Applications are accepted twice each year, for October 31 and March 15 deadlines. If the date falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline is the next working day. Every effort will be made to process applications

and notify applicants of the outcome within 10 weeks after the deadlines.

The application. Clarity and brevity will enhance the likelihood of success. Please number all pages at the bottom right hand corner. Use one-inch margins and a 12-point font. Applications should be limited to 10 pages and must include in this order:

1. A completed (with all signatures) *Research Foundation Proposal Cover Sheet*. Available to be downloaded from the website for the URF, www.upenn.edu/research/FoundationGuidelines.htm. The application should be classified under one of the five Statement of Purpose categories.

2. An abstract of no more than 200 words, written for the educated non-specialist.

3. A description of no more than five single-spaced pages of the research proposed. Proposals must provide background, hypothesis or purpose of the research, significance of the research, methods used, work to be undertaken, and outlook for future extension of the research and its potential for external funding (see *Review Process*).

Note: An application formatted for another sponsoring agency or failing to conform to these guidelines will not be reviewed.

4. A budget form supplied as a link must be used justifying each item requested. Allowable items include research costs associated with supplies, salaries of non-faculty personnel and travel expenses essential to the project. Equipment costs of up to 100% of the proposed budget may be eligible for funding but such requests must be justified in the application as essential to the research. In addition, if all or most of the budget is to be used for equipment, the applicant must document that other resources are available to conduct the proposed research. Specific research objectives should be identified and described. The review will focus not on the equipment being requested but on the scientific program to which it will be applied. Equipment requests for multiple user items will enhance the likelihood of success. Faculty salaries, including summer salaries or release time, are not funded. Because it may not be possible to fund meritorious proposals fully, the budget must prioritize items in the order of their importance to the project (not simply list all items requiring support for which support is requested) in the comment section of the budget form.

5. Research support, including other current funding with a list of titles, amounts, sources, and grant periods, expired funding for the prior three years, and pending applications, as well as faculty research funds and funds associated with professorial Chairs. Applicants with "start up packages" must provide detailed dated budgets. Prior grants from the University Research Foundation must be itemized, with dates, title, and amount of funding, plus a statement about whether external funding was received as a result of the URF grant. Other research support for co-investigators should be similarly identified in detail.

6. Regulatory issues. If research involves human subjects, animals, bio-hazards, or other regulatory issues, the application should identify those concerns and provide documentation that they will be addressed. *Please note that IRB approval may be required for human subject research in all disciplines, including the sociobehavioral sciences and humanities. If*

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IRB, IACUC or Environmental Safety review and approval is required, it may be obtained after the application has been approved, but before funds are provided or research has been initiated. For advice please consult the Office of Regulatory Affairs. See www.upenn.edu/regulatoryaffairs.

7. A single page biographical sketch for the principle investigator and all co-investigators. The biographical sketches do not count against the page limit.

8. Assistant Professors in all tracks (including tenure, clinician educator, and research track) are required to include a letter from their Department Chair indicating their career plans within the department, future commitment of independent space and of department or School resources including all department funding (start-up packages, etc.). In addition, the letter should establish that the applicant will be working as an independent investigator or scholar. Such additional documentation can be provided as an appendix and will not be included within the page count.

9. Conflict of interest. The applicant should explicitly make a statement about whether or not the application involves any potential conflict of interest, and any such conflicts should be described. For instance, if the research could forward the interests of a company in which the applicant has a financial interest, this should be disclosed. Conflict of interest documentation (if required) can be provided as an appendix to the body of the application and will not be included in the page count. See www.upenn.edu/research/rrcr/conflict.htm.

Submission

Submission. An original of the completed proposal with the original signatures of the PI, Chair and Dean should be submitted to the Office of the Vice Provost for Research, 118 College Hall/6303 on or before 5 p.m. on the deadline date. In addition, please send a PDF version:

- 1) PDF file name must be the last name of the principal investigator.
- 2) Full proposal should be one PDF document to include the signed cover sheet, budget sheet and all attachments in the same order as the submitted original proposal.
- 3) E-mail to: vpr@pobox.upenn.edu.
- 4) Must be received on or before 5 p.m. of the deadline date.

Review Process

Applications are reviewed by one of four faculty committees, Biomedical Sciences, Humanities, Natural Science and Engineering, and Social Science and Management. See www.upenn.edu/research/ReviewPanels.htm. Funding is spread equitably across the major disciplines. Each application is reviewed for a variety of attributes, including:

- scholarly merit, creativity and innovation
- feasibility
- significance of the research
- time-limited opportunities that require immediate funding
- prospects for future extramural funding
- matching support from other sources
- availability of alternate funding sources
- career development of researchers at early stages of career
- evidence that junior applicants will be working as independent investigators
- advancement of school or institutional objectives, such as interdisciplinary research

Certain frequently found weaknesses should be avoided, such as

- “re-inventing the wheel” due to ignorance of prior published work, often in cognate fields

- a fishing expedition without a focused hypothesis
- repeated requests for research projects that are eligible for but have failed to garner external peer reviewed support

Critiques of applications will not be provided for unsuccessful applications. Please do not contact the faculty who volunteer their time as peer reviewers, since this would place an excessive burden on them.

If awarded:

- Regulatory approvals must be obtained before funds are transferred to the department.
- The home department must have a 26-digit budget code.
- A brief (1 to 2 pages) report should be submitted to the Office of the Vice Provost for Research within one year of the date of the award. This report should include publications, other funding, patents or discoveries, which resulted because of this award.

University Research Foundation Conference Support Guidelines: March 15

Scope

The conference support program is designed for scholarly meetings that will be convened on the Penn campus, thereby providing enrichment opportunities to interested faculty, students, and staff, most frequently in the format of a 1-2 day colloquium. The intent is to support meetings that are designed to enhance existing research and scholarly programs, particularly in disciplines where external funding is difficult to obtain. *High priority will be given to inter- or cross-disciplinary conferences that include faculty from more than one school.*

The Application

Funding will be limited to no more than \$3,000 per event, and should be dedicated to reimbursing the speakers for travel and accommodations, but not for meals and entertainment. It is expected that funding from the University Research Foundation will supplement funding from other sources and will not be the sole source of funding for the meeting. Applications must be brief, usually no more than three (3) pages, and should include:

- A completed Conference Proposal Cover Sheet, with all signatures, which includes name and contact information for the applicant, who must be an appointed faculty member (tenure, research, or clinician-educator track) and the appropriate review committee must be indicated. See www.upenn.edu/research/ReviewPanels.htm.
- A description of the purpose of the meeting
- A proposed program agenda (appendix)
- A proposed list of presenters (appendix)
- The number of Penn students and faculty expected to attend
- An explanation of the benefit to Penn students and faculty
- An explanation of the benefit to scholarly or research programs at Penn
- Relationship of the meeting to department, institute or center programs

- The names of faculty who are organizing the meeting
- Identity and contact information for the business administrator responsible for administration of the funds
- A budget, itemizing the types of proposed expenditures (appendix)
- Evidence of matching funding from institutional or external sources
- Evidence of institutional support in the form of no cost facilities and AV support

Submission

1. **Submission.** An original of the complete proposal with the signed cover sheet should be submitted to the Office of the Vice Provost for Research, 118 College Hall/6303 on or before 5 p.m. of the deadline date. In addition, please send a PDF version:

- 1) PDF file name must be the last name of the principal investigator.
- 2) Full proposal should be one PDF document to include the signed cover sheet, budget sheet and all attachments in the same order as the hard copy.
- 3) E-mail to: vpr@pobox.upenn.edu.
- 4) Must be received on or before 5 p.m. the deadline date.

Review Process

Applications for the Conference Support Program are processed in the same cycles, and will be reviewed by the same committees that review URF research applications. Please identify which Review Committee will review your conference proposal (Biomedical Sciences, Humanities, Natural Sciences and Engineering and Social Science and Management). See www.upenn.edu/research/ReviewPanels.htm.

Questions should be directed to:

Irene Soroka, (215) 898-7236, vpr@pobox.upenn.edu
Vice Provost for Research, 118 College Hall/6303.

Institute on Aging Pilot Research Grants: April 16

The Institute on Aging (IOA) at the University of Pennsylvania will fund eight multidisciplinary pilot projects on biomedical, epidemiological, behavioral or health services research in basic science, clinical or psychosocial areas in aging.

Four will be funded by the School of Medicine and four are funded through a generous matching grant from The Bingham Trust. IOA Pilots may be led by a member of the University of Pennsylvania full-time faculty from any of its 12 schools.

Each pilot will be funded at a level of up to \$50,000/year for personnel and supply costs, but not equipment or instruments. It is encouraged that the budgets equal \$50,000 exactly. These one-year, non-renewable grants support multidisciplinary pilot projects in aging-related research. The purpose is to assist faculty in obtaining preliminary data to serve as the basis of a grant application to the NIH or other public or private agencies concerned with aging. For fiscal year 2008, it is anticipated that one pilot will focus on a collaborative project between the School of Medicine and the School of Veterinary Medicine in animal models of aging.

A committee of IOA Internal Advisory Board members will review all proposals. Funding depends on scientific merit and the likelihood that the pilots will lead to independent funding to continue the research. Principal Investigators must be full-time faculty of the University of Pennsylvania,

and collaboration with other departments is strongly encouraged. Priority will be given to:

- Faculty in the early stages of their career who seek to enter the aging research arena
- Senior faculty who intend to shift their research emphasis towards aging

Application Process

Applications should utilize the basic NIH PHS 398 format, with one exception: a title page should be substituted for the NIH face page. Applications should be limited to 5 pages (exclusive of title page, budget, biosketches, letters of collaboration and literature cited). Animal and/or IRB protocols may be pending. Consult the IOA website at www.med.upenn.edu/aging/2008pilotresearchgrantannouncement.shtml for suggested organization of your proposal. If you experience any problems in doing so or have questions, please call (215) 898-2445.

Deadline is *April 16, 2007*. Submit one hardcopy original to: Kathryn Jedrzewski, Institute on Aging, University of Pennsylvania, 3615 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19104-2676 and an electronic PDF file via e-mail to jedrznk@mail.med.upenn.edu.

Pilot awardees *must* provide an interim research progress report (Financial and Narrative) in spring 2008, as well as a full financial and narrative report at the end of the pilot year and present their pilot data to the IOA.

Exploring Human-Animal Intersections: Converging Lines of Evidence in Comparative Models of Aging

Thursday, March 8 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Institute on Aging, Penn School of Medicine and the Penn School of Veterinary Medicine will present a full-day symposium to discuss areas where current aging research using animal models at the School of Medicine and the School of Veterinary Medicine intersects, where future research may continue through joint investigative efforts, and what the implications are for the study of aging and aging-related diseases for humans and animals as a result. The symposium will be held at the Billhardt Auditorium, in the Hill Pavilion, 380 South University Avenue.

Birds do it; bees do it. *Drosophila*, elephants, monkeys, dogs and cats do it. Despite some industries' best efforts, even humans do it. We all age. The impact of aging and aging-related diseases is felt by humans and animals, from the degenerative pain of osteoarthritis to the issues accompanying obesity, cardiovascular health, and increased longevity. Since all species experience the aging process, what can we learn from each other? What can researchers learn that can be applied to uncover the mechanisms of the aging process in other species and subsequently develop possible treatments for aging-related diseases?

To support an inter-school dialogue, individual faculty from the School of Medicine and the School of Veterinary Medicine will present their animal models research in certain key areas, with a corresponding colleague offering introductions and moderating topic discussion. A \$5,000 seed grant is available for those who register and attend the symposium and prepare a winning proposal for a collaborative project in animal models. Additionally, a \$50,000 IOA Pilot Research Grant will be available to a joint project (School of Medicine-School of Veterinary Medicine) in animal models. For more on the IOA Pilot Research Grants, visit www.med.upenn.edu/aging.

The keynote speaker is Dr. Steven Austad, professor in the department of cellular and structural biology at the Sam and Ann Barshop Institute for Longevity and Aging Studies at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. His biography is available at www.barshop.uthtscsa.edu/AustadS.html; an interview with him on his work in comparative biology can be found at www.uthtscsa.edu/mission/article.asp?id=298.

Summer Research Support for Junior Faculty: March 5

The Trustees' Council of Penn Women offers three \$5,000 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. Those who have previously applied and did not receive an award are encouraged to apply again. (Faculty who have already won an award are eligible 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 describe 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 Center for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality, 411 Logan Hall, 249 S. 36th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6304. Deadline: Monday, March 5, 2007.

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 2007, 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.

—Luz N. Marin, *The Alice Paul Center for Research on Women, Gender and Sexuality*

More Back Issues Now on Web

Pre-web *Almanac* issues in a searchable PDF format are now available from the academic years 1990-1991, 1991-1992, 1992-1993, 1993-1994 and 1994-1995 at www.upenn.edu/almanac/issues/archive.html.

These are in addition to the collection of back issues—from 1995-1996 to the present—that have been on *Almanac's* website.

One Step Ahead

Security & Privacy
Made Simple

Another tip in a series provided by the Offices of Information Systems & Computing and Audit, Compliance & Privacy.

New Back-IT-UP Service for Secure Backups

Even though backing up the data on your computer gets less attention these days than issues like identity theft, it's still a critical security procedure. ISC now has available a new for-fee service called Back-IT-UP, for backing up desktops, laptops, and servers. This easy-to-use service lets you define exactly what you want to back up and determine a convenient schedule for running your backups. All data are compressed and encrypted before being sent to the Back-IT-UP repository, which maintains copies of the backups both locally at Penn and at a remote, high-availability site off campus.

For more information about Back-IT-UP, please contact Nicole Werner, nwerner@isc.upenn.edu.

For additional tips, see the One Step Ahead link on the Information Security website: www.upenn.edu/computing/security/.

Subscribe to Express Almanac

Sign up to receive e-mail notification when we post breaking news between issues. Send an e-mail to listserv@lists.upenn.edu with "subscribe e-almanac <your full-name>" in the body of the message. —Ed.

Update

February AT PENN

SPECIAL EVENT

20 *Black History Dramatic Presentations*; interactive program where people in attendance can arrive as their favorite Black History legend, share some facts, give a speech, or affirmation in association with their icon of interest; noon-2 p.m.; The ARCH (AARC).

TALKS

15 *Luchino Visconti's La Terra Trema As a Palimpsest*; Stefano Giannini, University of Calgary; 4 p.m.; rm. 543, Williams Hall (Center for Italian Studies).

19 *The Tyrant is Dying; No Dancing Please: Searching for a Christian Ethic of Hope in the Midst of Evil*; Carlos Eire, Yale University; 5 p.m.; rm. 17, Logan Hall (Religious Studies).

20 *HIV-Host Interactions Studied Using Massively Parallel Methods*; Rick Bushman, microbiology; 3 p.m.; Reunion Hall, Morgan Bldg. (Penn Genomics Institute).

Recent Developments in Nonlinear Homogenization and Applications; Pedro Ponte Castañeda, mechanical engineering and applied mechanics; 4:30 p.m.; Wu & Chen Auditorium, Levine Hall (SEAS).

Pen and Press: Practices of Writing and Publishing in Colonial America

David Hall, Harvard Divinity School; 5:30 p.m.; Rosenwald Gallery, Van Pelt-Dietrich Library (Van Pelt-Dietrich Library).

20 *Not in Print, Yet Published: The Significance of Scribal Publication*.

22 *Social Authorship: Collaborations and the Making of Printed Books*.

26 *Authorizing Dissent: Can the Private Be Made Public?*

OIP 2006 Photo Contest

The Office of International Programs hosted the 2006 International Education Week photo exhibition, featuring photographs taken by Penn students who studied abroad, and by international students studying at Penn. The images in the exhibition chronicle students' experiences across six continents and provide a glimpse into the diverse environments in which they studied, offering insight into the people, places and moments that inspired them. The winning photographs are available in the online gallery at www.oip.upenn.edu/service/photo.



The first place winning photograph from the Study Abroad category, *Ghanaian Beach Boys* (above), was taken by SAS senior Laura T. Nanni while studying abroad in Ghana. The photograph—taken on the western coast of Ghana—depicts two young boys from the village who helped Ms. Nanni cross a river in their canoe.

Deadlines: The deadline for the weekly Update is every Monday, for the following Tuesday's issue. The deadline for the March AT PENN calendar is *Tuesday, February 13*. For information see www.upenn.edu/almanac/calendar/caldead-real.html.

CLASSIFIEDS—PERSONAL

FOR RENT

OCNJ BEACHBLOCK (Gardens): 20% Penn discount, 2.5 bedrooms, 2 baths, sleeps six, all conveniences, parking, garage, laundry, A/C, premium cable, Steve (610) 565-1312.

CLASSIFIEDS—UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH

Women over 70 years needed for appetite study. The University of Pennsylvania Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism seeks both healthy women and women with unexplained weight loss for hormone study. Eligible volunteers will receive free medical exams, blood test results and bone density. Participants will be compensated. Please contact Andrew at (215) 573-3429 for more information.

Penn's Depression Research Unit is conducting research into **alternative, herbal treatments of anxiety**. Symptoms of anxiety may include: nervousness, tension, difficulty relaxing, excessive worrying and sleep problems. Those who qualify will receive an initial evaluation and may take part in a research study with Chamomile for up to 8 weeks. For more information call the DRU at (215) 662-3462.

Penn's Depression Research Unit is conducting research into **non-hormonal, herbal treatments for peri and post menopausal anxiety symptoms**. Symptoms of menopause may include: nervousness, tension, sleep difficulty, concentration problems, mood changes and hot flashes. Those who qualify will receive an initial evaluation and may take part in a research study with Black Cohosh for up to 3 months. For more information call the DRU at (215) 662-3462.

Almanac is not responsible for contents of classified ad material.

Submissions for classified ads are due every Thursday for the following Tuesday's issue.

For information call (215) 898-5274 or visit www.upenn.edu/almanac/faqs.html#ad.

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 29-February 4, 2007**. Also reported were 11 Crimes Against Property (including 9 thefts, 1 auto theft and 1 burglary). Full reports are available at: www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v53/n22/creport.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 **January 29-February 4, 2007**. The University Police actively patrol 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.

01/30/07	10:29 AM	3819 Chestnut St	Complainant assaulted by known offender
01/30/07	6:00 PM	4000 Pine St	Complainants robbed by 2 offenders
02/01/07	2:13 AM	4200 Walnut St	Intoxicated driver operating vehicle/Arrest
02/03/07	1:47 AM	3900 Sansom St	Male cited for disorderly conduct
02/03/07	6:40 PM	40th & Walnut St	Police officer assaulted/Arrest
02/03/07	7:54 PM	101 39th St	Complainant robbed by unknown males

18th District Report

12 incidents with 3 arrests (including 9 robberies and 3 aggravated assaults) were reported between **January 29-February 4, 2007** by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th St. & Market St. to Woodland Ave.

01/29/07	8:25 PM	4901 Baltimore Ave	Robbery/Arrest
01/30/07	5:55 PM	4100 Pine St	Robbery
01/30/07	11:24 PM	4600 Pine St	Robbery/Arrest
01/31/07	12:45 PM	4339 Pine St	Aggravated Assault/Arrest
01/31/07	4:00 PM	4800 Walnut St	Aggravated Assault
01/31/07	8:05 PM	5100 Locust St	Robbery
01/31/07	10:25 PM	4600 Springfield Ave	Robbery
02/01/07	2:00 AM	901 49th St	Robbery
02/02/07	8:28 AM	5044 Market St	Robbery
02/03/07	7:45 AM	400 48th St	Robbery
02/04/07	7:54 PM	101 39th St	Robbery
02/04/07	11:47 PM	5112 Cedar Ave	Aggravated Assault



Almanac

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3600 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106
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E-Mail: almanac@pobox.upenn.edu
URL: www.upenn.edu/almanac

The University of Pennsylvania's journal of record, opinion and news is published Tuesdays during the academic year, and as needed during summer and holiday breaks. Its electronic editions on the Internet (accessible through the PennWeb) include HTML and Acrobat versions of the print edition, and interim information may be posted in electronic-only form. Guidelines for readers and contributors are available on request and online.

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The University of Pennsylvania values diversity and seeks talented students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds. The University of Pennsylvania does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, or status as a Vietnam Era Veteran or disabled veteran in the administration of educational policies, programs or activities; admissions policies; scholarship and loan awards; athletic, or other University administered programs or employment. Questions or complaints regarding this policy should be directed to Jeanne Arnold, Executive Director, Office of Affirmative Action, 3600 Chestnut Street, 2nd floor, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106 or (215) 898-6993 (voice) or (215) 898-7803 (TDD).

President Gutmann's Endorsement of Environmental Sustainability Strategy, Reduction of Greenhouse Gases

American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment

Pledging to significantly reduce emissions that contribute to global warming, President Amy Gutmann announced her signing of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (*at right*).

Penn will develop a comprehensive plan to achieve climate neutrality by reducing campus greenhouse gas emissions and offsetting unavoidable greenhouse gas emissions elsewhere.

"This is a defining issue of the 21st century, and I am proud to sign on and promote higher education as a leader in addressing global climate change through research, education and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions," President Gutmann said. "At Penn, we must recognize the impact of a research institution of our size and acknowledge that our management of utilities, our construction transit services and our recycling extends beyond our campus and has global consequences."

With President Gutmann's signature, Penn is committing to development of a comprehensive sustainability plan by 2009. This includes completing a comprehensive inventory of all its greenhouse gas emissions; purchasing at least 15 percent of its electricity from renewable sources; adopting an energy efficient appliance purchasing program; committing to a policy that new construction be built to the U.S. Green Building Council LEED Silver standards, or equivalent; and providing access to public transit for faculty, students and staff. Also, Penn will link climate neutrality and sustainability as part of its curriculum and student life activities, while also reporting on progress being made.

In 2003, Penn became the largest nongovernmental purchaser of wind power in the nation and today purchases 30 percent of its energy from wind energy. The University funded its historic wind power purchases through aggressive energy conservation, reducing peak electric demand by 18 percent. Penn's commitment to purchasing wind energy made possible the construction of a new 12-turbine, 2.0-megawatt Pennsylvania wind farm.

"Penn has always been a leader in its commitment to applying academic and administrative resources to meet challenges in environmental sustainability," said Anthony Cortese, president of Second Nature, a research institute dedicated to education and environmental sustainability and co-creator of the Presidents Climate Commitment. "We are thrilled to welcome President Gutmann as the first of her Ivy League peers to join this effort."

The Presidents Climate Commitment is being coordinated and supported by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, Second Nature and ecoAmerica, working closely with the Leadership Circle of presidents and chancellors.



The Bear Creek Wind Farm, (above) located near the Pennsylvania Turnpike, just south of Wilkes Barre, PA, was made possible by leading wind energy customers such as the University of Pennsylvania who agreed to long-term purchases. The farm will feature a total of 12 wind turbines, each providing 2 megawatts of generation capacity. The turbines—the largest in use in the U.S.—stand almost 400 feet tall from the base to the tip of the rotor. Developed by Community Energy, Inc., this emission-free electricity project is a clean power resource.

Additional information about the Presidents Climate Commitment is available at www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org.

We, the undersigned presidents and chancellors of colleges and universities, are deeply concerned about the unprecedented scale and speed of global warming and its potential for large-scale, adverse health, social, economic and ecological effects. We recognize the scientific consensus that global warming is real and is largely being caused by humans. We further recognize the need to reduce the global emission of greenhouse gases by 80% by mid-century at the latest, in order to avert the worst impacts of global warming and to reestablish the more stable climatic conditions that have made human progress over the last 10,000 years possible.

While we understand that there might be short-term challenges associated with this effort, we believe that there will be great short-, medium-, and long-term economic, health, social and environmental benefits, including achieving energy independence for the U.S. as quickly as possible.

We believe colleges and universities must exercise leadership in their communities and throughout society by modeling ways to minimize global warming emissions, and by providing the knowledge and the educated graduates to achieve climate neutrality. Campuses that address the climate challenge by reducing global warming emissions and by integrating sustainability into their curriculum will better serve their students and meet their social mandate to help create a thriving, ethical and civil society. These colleges and universities will be providing students with the knowledge and skills needed to address the critical, systemic challenges faced by the world in this new century and enable them to benefit from the economic opportunities that will arise as a result of solutions they develop.

We further believe that colleges and universities that exert leadership in addressing climate change will stabilize and reduce their long-term energy costs, attract excellent students and faculty, attract new sources of funding, and increase the support of alumni and local communities. Accordingly, we commit our institutions to taking the following steps in pursuit of climate neutrality:

1. Initiate the development of a comprehensive plan to achieve climate neutrality as soon as possible.
 - a. Within two months of signing this document, create institutional structures to guide the development and implementation of the plan.
 - b. Within one year of signing this document, complete a comprehensive inventory of all greenhouse gas emissions (including emissions from electricity, heating, commuting, and air travel) and update the inventory every other year thereafter.
 - c. Within two years of signing this document, develop an institutional action plan for becoming climate neutral, which will include:
 - i. A target date for achieving climate neutrality as soon as possible.
 - ii. Interim targets for goals and actions that will lead to climate neutrality.
 - iii. Actions to make climate neutrality and sustainability a part of the curriculum and other educational experience for all students.
 - iv. Actions to expand research or other efforts necessary to achieve climate neutrality.
 - v. Mechanisms for tracking progress on goals and actions.
2. Initiate two or more of the following tangible actions to reduce greenhouse gases while the more comprehensive plan is being developed.
 - a. Establish a policy that all new campus construction will be built to at least the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Silver standard or equivalent.
 - b. Adopt an energy-efficient appliance purchasing policy requiring purchase of ENERGY STAR certified products in all areas for which such ratings exist.
 - c. Establish a policy of offsetting all greenhouse gas emissions generated by air travel paid for by our institution.
 - d. Encourage use of and provide access to public transportation for all faculty, staff, students and visitors at our institution.
 - e. Within one year of signing this document, begin purchasing or producing at least 15% of our institution's electricity consumption from renewable sources.
3. Make the action plan, inventory, and periodic progress reports publicly available by providing them to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) for posting and dissemination.

In recognition of the need to build support for this effort among college and university administrations across America, we will encourage other presidents to join this effort and become signatories to this commitment.

* * *

President Amy Gutmann along with the presidents and chancellors from more than 60 other institutions have signed thus far.