

# THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE

SEP | OCT  
2024



# 10 Years of President's Prizes

**Advocate and Artist  
Harvey Finkle SW'61**

**Faculty Authors  
Offer Advice**

***Parsing In Principle  
and Practice***



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By Dave Zeitlin

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By Trey Popp

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By JoAnn Greco

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# Making Good

## “Something Really Big—and Good—in the World”

That was the headline for the story we ran following the announcement of the first round of winners of the President’s Engagement Prize [“Gazetteer,” May/June 2015]. I remember interviewing then-Penn president Amy Gutmann Hon’22, who had established the prize the year before, as she described sharing the news with the winners (“Never have I had five calls in a row that were so joyful”) and how she couldn’t “wait to bring them back to speak to other students and tell us what worked, and what didn’t work, and what kind of satisfaction they’ve gotten” from the experience.

In this issue’s cover story, “The Unexpected Entrepreneurs,” associate editor Dave Zeitlin C’03 sets out to answer those questions, from the perspective of a decade’s worth of prizewinners. Since supplemented by categories for innovation and sustainability, the President’s Prizes offer \$100,000 in program support, plus a \$50,000 stipend for each team member. That level of funding has been transformative in jumpstarting projects that otherwise might have taken years to get off the ground, but also has presented challenges for winners in managing time and resources and sustaining progress beyond the prize year.

Dave spoke with winners going back to that first round up through this year’s awardees—and whose projects range widely, from using improv to enhance kids’ presentation skills to a technology that measures the ripeness of fruit to reduce food waste—about what the prize has meant to them. He also highlights an initiative aimed at securing ongoing financial and mentoring support from alumni for prizewinners and their ideas, as well as facilitating the sharing of feedback and advice among prizewinners themselves.

**Dave spoke with winners going back to that first round up through this year’s awardees.**

One of the first issues of the *Gazette* published after I became editor featured a cover photograph by Harvey Finkle SW’61, accompanying a story on homelessness. “The Instrument Is Yourself,” with text by senior editor Trey Popp, offers a varied sampling of Finkle’s decades of photojournalism and portraiture, in which activism and artistry are richly intertwined. (The photographer’s archives are housed in Penn Libraries’ Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts.)

The immediate occasion for the story is an ongoing retrospective project between Finkle—who had to put his camera aside in 2020 because of macular degeneration—and local publisher Tursulowe Press. So far, that has yielded volumes featuring mothers, immigrant communities in Philadelphia, and readers in various settings. But Trey also traces Finkle’s biography and his career as a social worker and involvement in anti-poverty and disability rights activities, and how that has combined with his photographic work.

Also in this issue, frequent contributor JoAnn Greco discusses three recent faculty books, nominally addressed to business audiences, that offer useful advice for anyone in “Life Hacks.” Penn GSE’s Kandi Wiens GrEd’16 mixes a personal account of growing up poor and overachieving and succumbing to work-related stress with broad lessons on how to overcome it in *Burnout Immunity*. In *Magic Words*, Wharton’s Jonah Berger draws on language models to provide tips on “what to say to get your way,” while sociologist and globalization expert Mauro Guillén analyzes the coming “postgenerational” society in *The Perennials*.

## THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE

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**TRADITION:** Join the Class of 2028 and the **Morris Arboretum & Gardens** for the annual class tree planting, a cherished tradition that grows with each new generation. Raise a toast to dear old Penn at **Quaker Fest**, then head to Franklin Field to cheer on the Quakers as they take on the Harvard Crimson. Sing along to your favorite student or alumni band at the 11<sup>th</sup> annual **Blutt Band Slam**.



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# Heating the Iron

Forging an even better future for Penn, together.

By Interim President J. Larry Jameson

In summer 1782, a letter from Benjamin Franklin made its way across the ocean to a friend in London. Franklin asked after his friend's health. He shared a sigh of relief over peace between their two countries after years of war. He also, as he so often did, put a fresh spin on a well-worn saying.

"We now find that it is not only right to strike while the Iron is hot," Franklin wrote, "but that it is very practicable to heat it by continual Striking."

To paraphrase our founder: act on opportunity and also create opportunity by acting. This holds true especially in tough and turbulent times.

This was my message to the Class of 2024 in May, when we gathered to enjoy a spectacular Commencement ceremony.

The weather could not have been finer. Thousands of exuberant families and friends filled Franklin Field. The Class of 2024 received all the celebration, pomp, and circumstance that their hard work and achievements deserved. Together with an outstanding Alumni Weekend that drew nearly 10,000 people back to campus, it was an uplifting bookend to one of the harder academic years Penn has known.

Strike while the iron is hot. Heat the iron by striking it. I tailored my message to the graduates, a tribute to their unique experiences, qualities, and potential to do good in the world. However, I believe it is a message that everyone who loves Penn should also hear and take to heart. As we uphold our missions, Penn is moving forward to meet the great challenges of our time—to act on opportunities and create them by acting.

We are implementing the strategic framework for Penn's future, *In Principle*

and *Practice*, with some exciting early progress ["Gazetteer," this issue]. Penn Engineering launched the Ivy League's first undergraduate degree program in AI, followed soon after by an online graduate degree program in AI, another Ivy first. Wharton also announced the new Wharton AI & Analytics Initiative.

**Penn is moving forward to meet the great challenges of our time—to act on opportunities and create them by acting.**

Penn's pioneering investment in an enormous solar farm more than five times the size of our campus is now paying dividends: enough energy to power 70 percent of our academic campus and health system in the Philadelphia area. This leap forward brings us even closer to our goal of being carbon neutral by 2042.

We have also announced two new leadership roles to coordinate and energize Penn's efforts in support of our highest priorities: the Vice Provost for the Arts and the Vice Provost for Climate Science, Policy, and Action.

This is just a sampling of the work and planning underway throughout campus as well as a taste of things to come.

In the year ahead, we remain steadfast in our commitment to combat antisemitism, counter hatred, and build community. I hope you had an opportunity to read the final reports of the Univer-

sity Task Force on Antisemitism and the Presidential Commission on Countering Hate and Building Community. Some of the recommendations in the reports are reflected in work already underway. Other elements lie ahead of us and will benefit from further input. Dr. Beth Winkelstein, Deputy Provost and Eduardo D. Glandt President's Distinguished Professor, is leading the implementation efforts associated with these reports. She brings with her extensive institutional knowledge, expert understanding of the issues, and a proven track record of delivering action on key University initiatives. While Dr. Winkelstein will guide these efforts, we also recognize that it requires the energy and investment of the entire Penn family.

We aim to build responsive and lasting solutions informed by leading teaching and scholarship within and beyond Penn. We will continue this critical work with urgency and clarity of purpose.

Opportunity can be seized. Especially in challenging times, it can also be created. Penn and Penn people excel at both. Here's just one great summertime example.

As I write this, 13 Penn students and alumni have joined athletes from around the world in Paris for the 2024 Summer Olympics. Competing in events ranging from rowing to discus, these Quakers reached the pinnacle of their sports even as they undertook one of the world's finest, most rigorous educational experiences. They now test themselves on a global stage, overcoming adversity and striving for the gold.

As I cheer on our astounding student-athletes and alumni, I have similar aspirations for our University. Penn has what it takes to turn adversity into opportunity—especially opportunities to lead on great challenges and create and apply knowledge for the good of all people.

In the spirit of our founder, Penn will not only strike while the iron is hot. We will heat that iron and forge an even better future, together.

# On immigration and antisemitism.

## Case Made, But What's Next?

I like what Zeke Hernandez ["The Newcomer Dividend," Jul|Aug 2024] has to say about the positives arising from immigration; from a lifetime of personal and international work experience, I agree wholeheartedly with his well-reasoned arguments. Well done. Given that this article is (1) presented on the cover as a "Business Case for Immigration" and (2) is from the MBA school, I looked for a discussion of how Hernandez would make his vision actionable and who and what the people and institutions are that would make changes actually happen. I know what a challenge that would be from years as a CEO proposing actions to public commissions and private boards of directors. I could imagine a board's reaction if I were to recommend a plan with the benefits 50 years hence based on the children of the children of today's immigrants. As Hernandez says, "the future is unpredictable." This is a tough one.

An action plan to change immigration policy would be quite the challenge for an MBA class. Great idea: Now how do we make it happen? For a board recommendation, you have the "whereas and whereas" in great shape; now we need the "therefore and therefore." I still like the article ... as far as it goes.

*William G. Stead C'69 GCE'70 G'81,  
Chambersburg, PA*

## Two Myths Blown Open

The article "The Newcomer Dividend" blows open two myths about valuable foreign talent: that they can get legal permanent residency and US citizenship



**"An action plan to change immigration policy would be quite the challenge for an MBA class. Great idea: now how do we make it happen?"**

through employment, and that our country is attracting the best and the brightest. As an immigration lawyer for over 20 years, I represent engineers, physicians, multinational executives, and business owners. My specialty is asylum; if they could become citizens through employment, they would. Asylum cases regularly take over a decade from application to interview. During that time, asylum applicants can work in the US but are prohibited from international travel. Meaning, these foreigners may never see their parents again.

The US government offers *some* foreigners Temporary Protected Status (TPS),

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which provides a work permit and international travel permit. This is possible for *some* citizens of Venezuela and Syria. Neither those granted asylum nor TPS can sponsor parents, spouses, or children for a green card. The golden American ticket comes at the price of abandonment.

*Elizabeth R. Blandon L'97, Miami*

## Far More Depth

Loved the article on immigration; far more depth that the issue usually gets, which often consists of simple minded, unbelievable one-liners: "immigrants cost us millions," or "immigrants bring in millions!" Thanks.

*Bill Mosteller C'71, Fairfax, VA*

## "Elephant in the Room" Ignored

I read with interest Trey Popp's article "The Newcomer Dividend" about Wharton Professor Zeke Hernandez's views concerning immigration. While his view of the contribution that past immigrants have made to the society and commerce of our nation is indisputable—and quite frankly forms the backbone of the term "melting pot"—I fear that his view also omits not only negative aspects of unfettered immigration, but also is a mischaracterization of native-born Americans' view of immigration. "Natives" are not xenophobic concerning immigration. On the contrary, this country was built upon immigrants from its very conception—but what native-born Americans don't like about immigration—the very thing that is not mentioned at all anywhere—is *illegal* immigration. And that basically is the source for this article's expansive immigration requirement.

The article skirts the fundamental “elephant in the room” of the violation of our national sovereignty in order to justify an onslaught of illegal immigration. While the article admonishes against a policy of allowing “the brightest and most skilled” into the country; and points out the need to reassess our “immigration policy” along the lines of that infamous quote in the movie *Caddyshack*—that America “needs ditch diggers, too”—it is woefully vague on how to achieve that, other than the currently contentious “just walk on through” system.

While the article extols the virtue of an “open door” policy, it fails to mention any negatives, such as the loss of any drug interdiction, or criminal/terrorist vetting that comes with an open border. Nor does it address in its case for immigration the fact that much of the taxed and non-taxed income of illegal immigrants is remanded to extended families back in their homelands, depriving the US economy of any of that monetary benefit while further indenturing these individuals into our welfare support systems until the entrepreneurial spirit of which he speaks, kicks in.

Past “immigration surges” in America’s history were made primarily by individuals who embraced the concept of the new American culture, with its safety and opportunity for prosperity. Our current surge seems to be essentially one for only safety and prosperity—time will tell how effective the “melting pot” will be in this instance.

*Keith Encapera C’69, Aiken, SC*

### **An Important Distinction**

Please specify if you mean legal or illegal, as there is a huge difference. Hopefully you understand the difference and so does Professor Hernandez.

My father immigrated legally from Germany to escape Hitler, and in a way, everyone here immigrated at some point.

So of course, legal immigration is good for business. Without legal immigrants, we would not even have a country.

So is Hernandez referring to legal or illegal or both? Who knows, as I don’t think that was stated in the article or on the cover, and there is an important distinction, as you know.

*Bryn Kaufman WEv’93, Kailua, HI*

### **Key Issue Unmentioned**

Zeke Hernandez makes an economic argument for immigration in “The Newcomer Dividend” without ever once mentioning the key issue of immigration: legal versus illegal. The two are anything but the same. Legal immigrants go through a vetting process whose purpose is to protect American citizens from criminals, hostiles, and terrorists. Illegal immigrants go through no such process, and this fact represents a major security threat to the entire country. *Of course* legal, vetted immigrants are an economic benefit to the country, but that’s not what Americans are concerned about, is it? We’re concerned about drug and human trafficking, as well as terrorists and proxies for hostile nations entering our country without notice.

And yet, Hernandez never managed to address these issues in the article, perhaps because it would detract from the “newcomer dividend.”

*David A. Bailey WG’91, Bear, DE*

*Keith Encapera, Bryn Kaufman, and David A. Bailey raise fine points about the difference between legal and illegal immigration, but I am puzzled by their assertions that my article neglects to mention the issue. I would refer them to page 31 and 32—or, better yet, the second half of Zeke Hernandez’s book, especially “Chapter 10: But What About Illegal Immigrants?”—TP*

### **Consider Impacts of Population Growth**

Being a Wharton professor, it is understandable that Zeke Hernandez measures immigration primarily from a business lens. And as he posits in his new book, and I agree, immigrants have and continue to economically, culturally, and culinarily enrich the United States.

What he touches on, but does not fully address, is overall population growth in the United States and its consequences. Currently the total US population exceeds 340 million citizens and is growing by over 1.6 million people a year. Approximately 75 percent of that growth comes from legal immigration, and births make up roughly 25 percent. Unauthorized or illegal immigration the past four years ranges from a few hundred thousand to one million annually in addition to the above growth.

This population growth continues to affect our quality of life. In some ways positively, as Hernandez points out, primarily with business, and in others negatively.

The more people that are added to a state, a region, or a country, the more crowded it becomes, the higher cost of housing and provisioning of education, healthcare, and social services. Population growth also tends to lower wage pressure, which negatively impacts those who already live on the margins.

Additionally, unsustainable growth has driven up costs of other goods, created greater regulations to manage the consumption of limited resources, and increased pollution from this growth. There is less biodiversity, with fewer forests and wild habitat, thousands upon thousands of newly extinct species, less fresh water, dried up lakes and rivers, more toxins in our depleted ecosystems, more endocrine disruptors in our blood, more greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere, more acidic oceans, collapsed fisheries, and many, many more symptoms of our human impact crisis.

Our country has far exceeded its carrying capacity. Every additional person, whether by birth or immigration, further degrades and pollutes our already weakened and fragile environment, exacerbates wages, housing affordability, erodes our overall quality of life, and ultimately increases our national security risks as we seek to satisfy the critical minerals, metals, energy, and biomass our society



increasingly depends upon to function.  
*George (Terry) Spahr C'88 G'95, Hanover, NH*

*The writer is the executive producer of the documentary 8 Billion Angels ["Profiles," Jan/Feb 2020].—Ed.*

### A Lot of Work to Do

I am glad that the University is finally addressing the alarming rise in anti-Israel and antisemitic incidents that have plagued our University in the past year and before, as described in the articles "Encampment on College Green"; "New Rules for Events and Demonstrations, Pending Open Expression Review"; and "Guidance and Goals," on the findings of the University Task Force on Antisemitism and the Presidential Commission on Countering Hate and Building Community ["Gazetteer," Jul/Aug 2024]. But I keep asking myself: If the encampment was against University policy, and Interim President Jameson called this out in his response and gave the protestors a deadline to remove it, then why did nothing happen? If you are breaking the law, steps should be taken, and you should be punished. I was appalled that the University let more than two weeks go by before the encampment was removed.

When I was at Penn, I was active in and ate at Hillel, had Orthodox roommates, supported pro-Israel groups, and at no time did any of us feel threatened for being Jewish and/or supporting Israel. Even when Louis Farrakhan came to speak there was no threat to the Jewish community. Today's Penn is quite different—the Jewish population is less than half of what it was 20 years ago, and the Hillel was vandalized. It is because of this and the University's woefully inadequate response to the alarming rise in antisemitic and anti-Israel attacks on students, staff, parents, and alumni who are Jewish and/or supporters of Israel that I am withholding any praise for the findings of the new Open Expression rules that the panel has presented. As the saying goes, "actions speak louder than words."

Penn has a lot of work to do to make Jewish and pro-Israel students, staff, and alumni feel welcome. For the sake of the entire Penn community, let's hope our University is able to reverse its ways.

*Judy Lobel C'88, White Plains, NY*

### Uproot the Weed of Hatred

Two articles—one honoring the composer of "The Red and Blue" and the other, "Guidance and Goals," on how to combat antisemitism ["Gazetteer," Jul/Aug 2024]—bring to mind a couple of things.

First, antisemitism was a strong force at Penn when I was there. The lyrics "Lift up your hearts and voices for the Royal Red and Blue" were replaced with ghastly antisemitic and anti-Black lyrics—which I heard once, at a rushing party for an unnamed fraternity I did not join—and they made me nauseated then and still do. I wish I could forget them.


Second, establishing a multidisciplinary center for the study of hate is a great idea. I hope that such a center would include a childhood education section. Children, before they learn by experience what hate is, need to know how it sneaks up on them and takes away the joy in their lives. It is not that hate is taught (apologies to Rodgers and Hammerstein) but that hate is a natural phenomenon that grows like a weed without needing cultivation. It develops such strong roots that it cannot be permanently destroyed. Once hate is established in a child, that child has learned how exciting and stimulating hate is. If that weed is not killed when it first appears, it flowers and spreads its seed everywhere. When hate takes over a life, that life is lost to decency and to creativity.

Thank you for your excellent magazine.

*Frank Mitchell C'65, Seattle*

### Alvin's Avenger?

By winning four individual gold medals at the 1900 Summer Olympics in Paris, Alvin Kraenzlein D1900 became America's first Olympic superhero. If, as noted in "Alvin and the Gold Medals"

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["Old Penn," Jul/Aug 2024], Myer Prinstein really did punch Alvin in the face, it would be in keeping with his character. While at Syracuse University, Myer was known for coming into the city and picking fights. My grandfather and namesake put an end to this.

I would like to think that at least one of Grandfather's hits was payback for Alvin.

*David B. Zwirn C'64 L'67, New Paltz, NY*



# My Summer of Nothing

So many things I could have done. ▶

By Lila Dubois



**In** the seeping cool twilight of summer, I meet my sister for television.

I slump on the couch beside her, sister arm to sister arm, legs stretched heavy on the coffee table, fudgsicles in hand. I've brought my book and am half reading, half watching, until eventually the book has fallen and I'm glued to our nightly slough of reality reruns and cheap Netflix originals.

Rosey falls asleep quickly, her breath warm and regular, face flushed like a baby mid-nap. She works at a soccer camp, wrangling kids into shin guards, slathering them with sunscreen, and consoling sore losers. She ends her days tired but satisfied, and with a farmer's tan of increasing severity. And in the maternal way of older sisters, I am glad now too to see her resting.

I remain awake, though. Laugh track washing over me like a chill, it is in these small, dark hours that I wish I'd done more with my day.

My friends from college are doing impressive things this summer. My roommate works at a bank in Brazil, wearing pencil skirts and pantsuits, calculating with a level of math I'll probably never reach. Others are interning abroad, spending nights dressed in bright corals and reds with tight black eyeliner, real young adults who stay out dancing into the sticky warm of tropical dawns, waking the next morning to work on good, impressive things. They travel with NGOs, PA on film sets, watch births and plastic surgeries. They are learning and helping, moving toward the brilliant futures they've all worked for and deserve.

So in the solace of my nights, alone but for a sleeping sister and the television flash, I feel my inadequacy most acutely.

Mine has been a summer of nothing.

Beyond lying on the couch, Joni Mitchell in my headphones, writing stories here and there, and picking up a few shifts at the café where I've worked since high school, I feel no urge to do much other than read at the dog park, paralyzed in the whitewash afternoon blaze,

like a camera pointed directly at the sun and utterly overwhelmed in its yellow oblivion. Sometimes I sit at the kitchen counter picking at odds and ends of vegetables my mom cuts for dinner. I often pick people up from the airport, a job reserved for those who are largely unemployed, and have listened to "Cactus Tree" upwards of 50 times in a week. I tutor here and there for a few bucks but can't seem to produce anything worthwhile with my own name on it.

I rot all day and can't sleep at night; it's all left me rather sick of myself. Frustrated by my lack of motivation, a racing mind and inability to sleep. By the sameness of my high school job, by the technicolor visions my friends have for their futures, claiming admiration when, if I'm honest, what I really feel is envy.

I often visit my grandma. I eat through the ice cream freezer burn, listening vaguely to her repeat stories and answering questions I'd answered moments before. I pick up the Snapple bottles she leaves half-finished around the house, and I walk the dog. Sometimes I take a bath in her sublime porcelain basin of a bathtub, simmering until soft and tender in my uselessness, and afterwards come downstairs to eat more ice cream and watch *60 Minutes* or *Dateline* at max volume for a couple hours until my grandma falls asleep.

I write letters to friends on Hello Kitty stationery instead of just picking up the phone. I play Cranberries songs in the passenger seat while my sister drives us to a boba shop or El Pollo Loco after work.

At home, I lay on the lawn, tanning and Joni-Mitchell-ing out of my head all considerations of what I will do with my life, how I might quiet my mind enough to sleep, where I will someday purchase that prodigal pantsuit. It's me, "Coyote," and a high UV index against the world.

I am overfed by my mother who feels I don't eat enough at school. I pick my grandma up from her hair appointments, a cut and color each month to keep the blonde looking fresh. I've also,

## It's me, "Coyote," and a high UV index against the world.

for whatever reason, gotten into watercolors. I paint abstract shapes I defend as recognizable people and things and give them out to family and friends. At the ripe age of 21, it is both an honor and complete embarrassment that my mother has taped these up at her desk.

I've started running again, too. I go before my shifts, if I have shifts, when the sun hasn't yet breached the ozone in any truly obscene way and my dog and I are the only ones out. He is old and I am slow so we're a perfect match. Afterwards, I take a cold shower and leave my hair wet to drip down the length of my back the rest of the morning. It feels wonderful.

I realize my sister is up when a fudgsicle hits me across the cheek. She returns to my side, the warm rushing back to the arm she'd left bare. I can't help but think how good it is to have a sister, to never have to ask for another fudgsicle. I tune back into the Khloes and Kyles, the divine simplicity of the screen, the sugary chocolate melt, and my kind, sunburnt sister who knows me so well.

I pull out my phone. I want to quickly write down the specifics of the moment, so as not to forget them the next time I am lost in my yellow oblivion.

So I'm writing down Kardashian and Rosey, the glorious coolness of summer nights and fudgsicles, and suddenly, I am overwhelmed. Because none of it was nothing. All of it, actually, has been a lot.

It's all swirling before me now. My summer. The small things suddenly adding up to something bigger. The filaments of sun on the lawn and stop lights on the way to the airport. The glow of the TV and the singing steam of the espresso machine against my face. I'd even gone to see my grandpa in Colorado. My whole family had been there



and we'd played cards (only those games made up of all luck and no skill, the exciting ones) and my other grandma made iced tea. Safe behind the porch screen, we'd eaten tomatoes from the garden and watched afternoon storms growl and grimace across the plains.

Back home, I'd gotten coffee for people, I'd edited high schoolers' summer school essays, I'd eaten lunch with coworkers who made beautiful music and jewelry after hours. I'd taken hikes with my dogs through hills of tall, dead grass, shimmering in the stark light of morning. I'd eaten beans and corn with my mom and listened to my grandma. I'd watched from behind a pint of ice cream as she lost her memories and her mind, but none of her hair.

How could all of this be nothing?

I would return to school with little to show for my résumé, but maybe mine has not been a summer of nothing. Mine has been one of frozen treats, Joni, mastering iced lattes and trying to remember orders without writing them down (I never do). It's been one of sweating alone in the dog park, of giggling with coworkers, sisters, and grandmas who still bleach their hair. Of a mother with no shortage of opinions, Brazil nuts ("for the selenium"), or pride in her daughters. Of wonderful, mediocre watercolors and wonderful, slow runs. Of nights spent with a sleepy sister, a surrogate for what I cannot yet do myself.

On this alone—a sister who knows me, who brings me fudgsicles and sleeps enough for us both—I could have considered myself lucky. On this alone, I could consider my summer warm and rich and good. Coupled with a nap on a dog park bench, a few well-made cappuccinos, and maybe even a dinner date with my grandma, it is more than enough.

I finish my fudgsicle and rest my head on my sister, smiling slightly. I can tell she is too. She asks if I want another, but I say no. I am full.

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Lila Dubois is a College senior.

# My First Deal

Big fish, small fish.

By Nick Lyons



**I**t's hard not to feel the excitement of a great deal. Futures change, people become wealthy beyond dreams, others lose their jobs, big fish swallow their smaller brethren, the world shifts a little, great corporations merge, and much may be lost while others gain great new powers. Books like *Barbarians at the Gate*, that crackling chronicle of the RJR Nabisco deal, make memorable business thrillers.

My friend Marshall did deals. They animated his life. At lunch or on a fishing trip, sparing none of the most intimate details, he taught me everything.

None of his schemes carried less than the promise of millions.

He was a tall man, with gray-white hair always brushed back without a part, thin, his head long, a weathered face and honest eyes. His hands were large and his handshake was so disarmingly warm and reassuring that you might agree to invest in any deal he proposed, which many did. I knew him for 30 years and he shared stories about dozens of his deals.

I was a quarter-century younger, but we had become close pals on our many long drives upstate to fish. He talked vividly for most of each trip about deals

past and present, deals that seemed to have no beginning or conclusion. Marshall always calculated the expected results in lifetime payments of so many dollars per week.

I loved his tales and secretly dreamed of playing in that game. He told me that at 19 he had brought a large herd of prime cattle in from Mexico, the sale of which would make him a teenage millionaire. But the herd was met just beyond the border by some guys from the Department of Agriculture, who merely said, “hoof and mouth,” found a ravine, set up machine guns, and buried his dreams.

He told me that he had backed a young inventor who’d developed unbreakable glass. He was on the verge of two gargantuan deals: selling grass-making machines to the Saudis, cement to Nigeria. He mentioned a gold mine in Arizona, new paper that could not be torn, plastic pellets that still wanted a destiny but could not possibly fail. The mine in Arizona could wait; he had just put together a syndicate to leach abandoned gold mines in Ghana. He took the pellets out of a vest pocket one day on a river and showed me a handful. “You can see the potential, can’t you?” I looked carefully but my dull mind could not see how such pellets could possibly earn him \$600 a week for the rest of his life.

Each time we drove upcountry he talked about an old deal that was coming closer to completion, or two new ones that had risen to the surface or drifted away, like one of the pellets I once dropped accidentally into the water, which glided slowly downstream, finally out of sight. Did I realize how much gold was just lying in heaps in those Ghana mines, left by the primitive methods of mining used 50 or 100 years earlier? I had no equipment with which to calibrate an answer. Did I know how easily the new chemicals, new technology, and machines could leach or extract gold from slag? Just the first of the four mines he would control would yield, very specifically, \$650 a week, minimum. He liked the words “very specifically.”

## Did I realize how much gold was just lying in heaps in those Ghana mines?

Several of the deals sounded so promising that, even when I could least afford it, I craved a piece of one of them. The cement to Nigeria deal sounded best. The cement was already at sea. It would pay seven times my investment less than three years out, before the first of my four kids went to college.

Then, without looking for it, I was suddenly offered a great deal of my own. A wealthy friend asked if I could find someone to buy his remarkable property in Montana. I had been there, seen it. He owned three miles of a superb river that ran through 9,000 isolated acres filled with deer, bald eagles, antelope, and huge wild brown trout. He stressed that if I found a buyer he would pay a hefty commission.

I knew half a dozen folks who might be interested and could afford it, but there was a problem: I had never sold a property or done any deal. I thought about this, and I thought of my four kids headed for college soon, and I thought about the fact that Marshall was the only deal-maker I knew. So I asked him if he’d take it over; we would split the hefty fee down the middle. He agreed and I was finally in league with the great deal-maker.

I called Marshall several times soon thereafter but he had made no progress. Then, to my great delight, a few months later I found a wealthy family that loved the property. There was little enough left for Marshall to do. I had supplied the seller and a buyer and the next thing I knew my new partner and I were at a festive celebratory lunch at the “21” Club with the buyer and his wife. Marshall gave me a thumbs-up when I whispered to him about the commission. My first deal! I smiled the whole time.

After a silent four months I called Marshall, asking about my share.

He’d had disappointments. Nigeria had suffered a coup and all the cement had been dumped into the bay. He had hired a pitch man to push his unbreakable glass on *The Jack Paar Show*, Paar dropped the glass on the floor, and before his millions of watchers it shattered. The Saudis tested his grass-making machine and it made no grass. There had been real hope for the sale of a valuable property in Florida that had progressed to a promise of a signing date but the son, a crucial part owner, had disappeared. A searcher found him on an ashram in New Mexico but the father screamed when he saw his son in robes and his son refused to sign. To make it all worse, Ferguson, one of his partners, had stolen most of the company’s few assets and disappeared.

Marshall was done. He had closed his office and had no cash to pay me my share. Instead, he offered me any piece of his office furniture, in storage. Even all of it, if I wished. I took a desk.

A few months later Marshall went West to work his abandoned mine. He had been diagnosed with stomach cancer but his enthusiasm never flagged, even when the disease spread to his brain. He’d raised the money to open the mine and in his last months visited the site every day. He’d been told to prepare for the end. But he was positive that the old mine, which had produced not 23 ounces of gold, would yet yield, very specifically, a thousand a week.

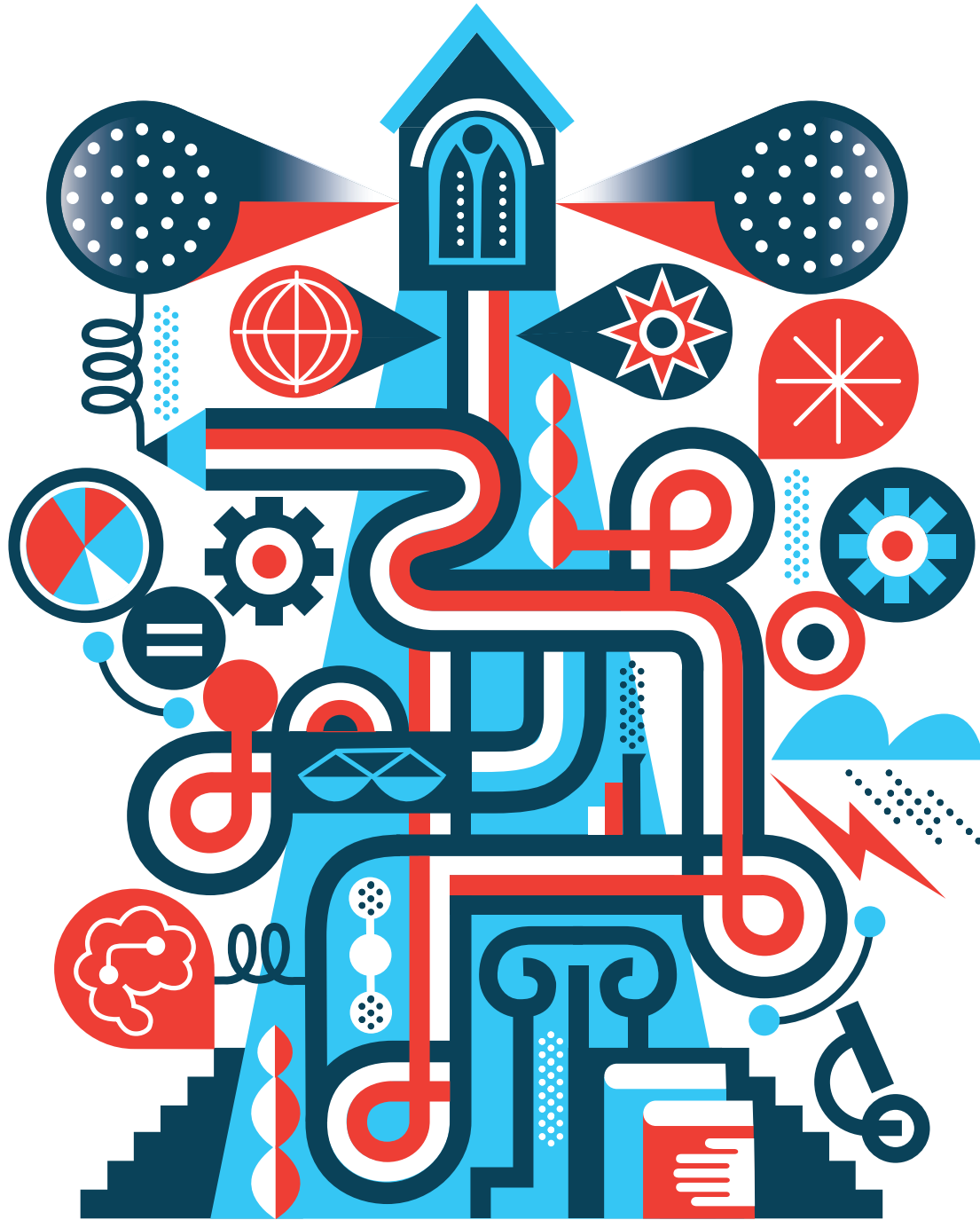
The day he died, he whispered to his wife that he was absolutely sure the mine held great veins of gold.

“I know it’s there,” he said. “Just dig a little bit farther.”

I write every day at Marshall’s large desk. It’s solid and nifty, with four drawers, a filing compartment, and a side extension for my computer. It has been the site of a thousand adventures with words, bringing me much satisfaction and joy for three decades—the happy fruit of my first, best, and only deal.

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Nick Lyons W’53 is a longtime *Gazette* contributor.



## (Re)introducing *In Principle and Practice*

Penn’s new strategic plan focuses on magnifying the University’s strengths and extending its impact in the future—while also sending a message that “we’re in control of our destiny” in a turbulent time. ▶



**Y**ou could be excused for not being aware of the University's latest strategic framework, *In Principle and Practice: Penn's Focus on Tomorrow*. Successor to the long-running *Penn Compact*, which guided the administration of President Amy Gutmann Hon'22 during her 18-year tenure, *In Principle and Practice* was first introduced in November 2023 in the midst of the controversies then raging on campus, soon followed by the resignation of former Penn president Liz Magill in December.

The product of a collaborative and inclusive effort launched by Magill at the start of her administration to collect advice and information on the University's future direction from all sectors of the Penn community—through the Red & Blue Advisory Committee, chaired by then Annenberg School Dean and current Penn Provost John L. Jackson Jr.—the new plan was by design less identified with a single leader than was Gutmann's *Compact*, which she unveiled at her inauguration in 2004. And Penn Interim President J. Larry Jameson—who recently agreed to stay in College Hall through the 2025–26 academic year—has embraced it as Penn's path forward.

*"In Principle and Practice* announces and advances Penn's values and strengths. It channels our academic missions and the power of our world-class schools, centers, and Health System," Jameson

wrote recently in the *Gazette* ["From College Hall," May/June 2024]. "It also encompasses how we're combating hate and ensuring safety and wellbeing on our campus."

*In Principle and Practice* (in-principle-and-practice.upenn.edu) lays out four principles that represent "the essence of who we are," defining Penn as a university that is *anchored, interwoven, inventive, and engaged*. Those lead on to a list of five practices through which Penn will "act on our principles with passion and urgency":

- *Accelerate interdisciplinary pursuits* by seeking "exponential growth" in such efforts, already a distinctive part of Penn culture; finding new ways to strengthen and integrate arts and humanities as a core part of the University; and further enhancing Penn's role as an "epicenter for translating knowledge into actions and solutions."

- *Lead on the great challenges of our time*, including a focus on climate science and the human impacts of climate change; health issues from research to technology transfer, patient care, and public policy; data-driven research and teaching and work to ensure that technology is deployed in ways that are just and beneficial; and democracy, trust, and truth, which involves initiatives to promote values, seek truth, and uphold the role of higher education in society.

- *Grow opportunity and strengthen community* by supporting a diverse community of students, faculty, and

**Rather than "the brainchild of one individual," the framework "really is something that is emanating from the campus and from the community."**

staff; working to overcome hate in all its forms; and continuing efforts to expand opportunity and affordability.

- *Deepen connection with neighbors and the world* by pursuing "all that a collaborative urban institution and caring neighbor can do" and striving "to be a model global citizen."

- *Foster leadership and service* by cultivating service-minded leadership among students, faculty, and staff; seeking to advance instruction and learning and living initiatives to prepare future generations to think critically and lead effectively; and expanding existing and seeking out new means for convening, communicating, and collaborating across divisions and divides.

**"First and foremost, I think this was an incredibly collaborative process,"**

says Jackson, looking back on the work of the Red & Blue Advisory Committee. It brought together "the perspectives and opinions of a wide swath of the folks who care about this institution, in a way that allowed us to have a true and comprehensive sense of what people were thinking about both where Penn is now

and what we should be prioritizing in the future."

The committee collected anonymous surveys through an online portal that were later collated and mapped onto data from in-person sessions with students, faculty, and staff. The University's various schools, centers, and institutes did their own information gathering, which was added to the mix. "Any group on campus that wanted to meet with the committee, we met with them," Jackson says, and a particular effort was also made to include community input. Meetings involved one committee member serving as a kind of moderator, while another acted as scribe, recapping the major points made, so that people would know "that the committee really did understand what they were hearing."

Rather than push for any change in direction for the University, a common theme was an intensification of efforts in areas where Penn is already distinguished. That included the University's relationship with West Philadelphia and the rest of the city. "We kept hearing different articulations of this idea that Penn has to be thinking in a much more proactive and partner-based way with the local community," Jackson says. While that has been a longtime focus, "we can always do it better," he adds. Similarly, when it came to the subject of fostering interdisciplinary efforts, the emphasis was on "things we can and should do to make sure we're not just talking about it but

really rolling back the barriers to do it easily and well.”

A report detailing what the committee had learned then made its way to the president’s office, where it was shaped into a form that articulated the identified goals. The question, says Jackson, was “how do we take all of these really important contributions, this valuable input, and frame it in a way that gives people handles to hold on to them?” The concept of principles and practices combines “the sort of lofty ideal versions of how we hear people talking about Penn and its value today and then the very

**“We want alumni to feel like Penn intends to be here serving the community forever.”**

specific ways we can concretize that into actions.”

Rather than “the brainchild of one individual,” the framework “really is something that is emanating from the campus and from the community in ways that make it, as far as we’re concerned, a really good beacon for the kinds of things that should keep us focused in the future.”

While the committee’s work predated much of the controversy that marked campus last year, he adds, some concerns that were raised anticipated those issues. “We talked a lot about misinformation, about media literacy, about thinking through questions of civic engagement, what form it should take,” Jackson says. “[We] spent a lot of time really

trying to understand what it means to teach students how to talk across difference. And so all of those were issues that were important then and that remain important, with maybe a slightly different kind of urgency to them with all of the attention on higher ed right now.”

In addition to speaking to the current moment, the document goes beyond that in ways that “allow us to think not just about short-term gains and benefits, but what are the ways in which we can set the institution up to continue to be this incredibly important contributor to knowledge production and circulation for decades to come,” Jackson adds.

One example is artificial intelligence, which got an explosion of attention following the release of ChatGPT as the committee was doing its work [“Alien Minds, Immaculate Bullshit, Outstanding Questions,” May/June 2023]. There has been plenty of work going on at Penn on big data, large language models, and similar topics, Jackson says, but highlighting them in the plan helps focus on “how can we make the case to people not just about the sort of expertise we already have, but about the difference it can make when we lean into it even more substantially.”

In the case of the focus on climate, “clearly, we’re trying to think about climate science and policy in ways that are comprehensive and multidisciplinary,” Jackson says. “So that’s another space where we feel like part of what we’re trying to figure out is how to

build on the strengths of our traditional disciplines.”

The plan foresees an even more extensive and wide-ranging commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration in Penn’s future. “We can always make it easier to attract the kind of scholars who will not just be good at the stuff they were trained at but who help us to recalibrate and reimagine ways of organizing our approach to knowledge production,” Jackson says. “So we can create different opportunities to rethink what kinds of sparks might fly from putting seemingly far-flung corners of the campus into more consistent conversation around some of these questions.”

**Back when he was serving as the senior vice dean for strategic initiatives** at the Perelman School of Medicine and overseeing the school’s latest strategic plan, *Serving a Changing World*, David Asch GM’87 WG’89 was also made a member the Red & Blue Advisory Committee to “release some synergies if there were any,” he says. When Jameson moved to College Hall, Asch followed, with a new title of senior vice president for strategic initiatives and the rollout of *In Principle and Practice* added to his portfolio.

Asch sees the story of the University’s plan as a kind of mirror image of the Penn Medicine effort. Work on that plan started in July 2022, in the waning days of the COVID-19 pandemic. In that environment, one possible reaction to starting work on a new

strategic plan might have been “Really? Now?” Asch suggests. “Don’t we want to have a break?” Instead, though, “the response we all had was that what is exhausting is this sense of reacting. What’s energizing is actually taking the reins and plotting your own path forward.”

In contrast, the University’s planning process was initiated out of “a sense of energy with the new president.” But by the time it was announced in November, “no one was paying attention,” he says. In the wake of the University’s subsequent “abrupt” leadership transition, the decision could have been made “to put the strategic plan aside and focus on some other things. But Larry made a different decision, which I think was the right one, which was, *Let’s use this as our offense*,” Asch says. “The idea was, *Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead*. I think that is what’s energizing. And I think it sends a message that we’re in control of our destiny.”

One of the ways the University is now trying to raise awareness and “give *In Principle and Practice* the birthday party it didn’t get” originally has been to “do some bold things early on,” says Asch. He cites the creation of two new vice provost positions, one overseeing the arts and the other focusing on climate science, policy, and action—for which searches were under way as of July, possibly to be completed by the start of the academic year. Also in the works are plans to “move a lot more boldly into data and AI,” Asch says.

He also points to the June announcement of the launch of Penn Washington as the “physical and programmatic home of the University of Pennsylvania’s engagement in the nation’s capital.” Under the leadership of Vice Provost for Global Initiatives Ezekiel Emanuel, it will incorporate the existing Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy & Global Engagement with a new Penn Franklin Initiative involving courses, scholarships, and events on domestic policy issues, tying into the plan’s focus on democracy, trust, and truth.

That area “has a lot more meaning now,” says Asch. “Obviously, there are threats to democracy.” The 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia is coming up in 2026, and that may be an occasion for some programming around issues of democracy, but Penn has “a lot of activity there already,” he adds. “We have [SNF] Paideia [“Creating Civil Citizens,” May/June 2024]. We’ve got great historians of democracy. We have a really strong presence there.”

To generate more new ideas, the administration has set aside roughly \$3 million over three years to make grants for projects that would “advance the content of *In Principle and Practice*,” Asch adds. “It could be a new curricular program, it could be new civic engagement scholarship—anything—and can be originated by students, staff or faculty, or some combination, across schools. We’re leaving it really open.” Asch has been

working on the logistics and application process for the program, which likely will offer two levels of award for projects of up to \$50,000 and up to \$250,000, with funding spread between the central administration and the schools. Along with initiatives being pushed from the top, such as in climate and the arts, “there are a bunch of things that need to come from the grassroots,” says Asch. “The grant mechanism is a good catalyst for that.”

Asch believes that the final reports from the Task Force on Antisemitism and the Presidential Commission on Countering Hate and Building Community, released in May [“Gazetteer,” Jul/Aug 2024], complement each other and the overall strategic plan. “When you read the reports, they’re substantially, directionally in the same place,” he says. “There’s no conflict and, they overlap with *In Principle and Practice*.”

A lot of what alumni have heard about the University lately has been “about congressional inquiries, and encampments, and abrupt leadership changes—and those are really important, but they’re not the story,” Asch says. “I think we want alumni to feel like Penn intends to be here serving the community forever. And that we are constantly planning and aiming toward our future, and that the big directions don’t change—but you do tack a little bit. To use a ship analogy, we’re staffing the bridge. And we’re moving forward to serve the world.” —JP



## Detecting Media Bias

PIK professor Duncan Watts is out with an AI-enhanced tool to gauge the partisan lean and tone of some mainstream news outlets.

**W**hen Duncan Watts and his colleagues at Penn’s Computational Social Science Lab began work in January on a new tool that uses artificial intelligence to analyze news articles in the mainstream media, they aimed to release it before the presidential debate on June 27. “We built the whole thing from scratch in six months—which I’ve never experienced anything like in my academic career,” says Watts, the Stevens University Professor at the Annenberg School for Communication and the director of the Computational Social Science Lab (CSSLab). “It was a huge project, and a

lot of people worked relentlessly to get it up.”

Knowing the debate between Joe Biden Hon’13 and Donald Trump W’68 could be critical in the presidential race, Watts hoped the Media Bias Detector would be up and running to help Americans understand the partisan lean of the outlets they get their news from leading into November’s election. “We just didn’t anticipate that the first debate would be *such* a dramatic turning point in the race,” he says.

Now, amidst a rollercoaster of seemingly endless political news highlighted by Kamala Harris replacing Biden at the



top of the Democratic ticket, the website ([mediabiasdetector.seas.upenn.edu](http://mediabiasdetector.seas.upenn.edu)) can “classify media content in somewhat close to real time,” says Watts, which he notes is “very unusual” in the world of academia where it often takes months to analyze data. Watts and his team do it by scraping articles from 10 online newspapers four times a day and pushing them through “this classification engine that we built that uses GPT” and can identify an article’s category, topic and subtopic; its tone (from very negative to neutral to very positive); and its political lean (from Democratic to Neutral to Republican). “Two years ago I would have said this can’t be done” says Watts, but today’s “transformer-based language models are wildly better than the last generation.”

**“Everything that you learn about the world represents a choice that someone has made.”**

A team of human research assistants (Penn undergraduates) monitor a random sample of labels generated by GPT to ensure that the model’s accuracy remains high. Watts also credits a project manager, data scientist, and “a bunch of really enterprising PhD students and postdocs” for building and maintaining the website itself, and the data journalism company Polygraph—“experts in visualizing data”—for creating the color-coded

charts that help visitors make sense of editorial choices at the 10 featured outlets (including, for example, the percentage of articles each one devotes to politics—50 percent or more for all except the *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today*.)

“Among the motivations for going through this exercise is that I think very often when we form impressions of the media or some particular publication, we’re really doing it based on a very small and highly selected sample of articles,” Watts says. “If you read all of them, you might reach a very different conclusion.”

Initially, Watts thought the Media Bias Detector would score or rank outlets based on their bias, but then realized “you can’t really measure bias directly,” he says. “We can’t compare each outlet to the truth, but we can compare them to each other. We can’t say how much they should have written about some issue, but we can say how much they wrote about that issue relative to some other issue. You, the reader, can reach your own conclusions about whether you think that’s a reasonable thing or not.” Watts’ team considered changing the name to something like the “Media Observer” to amplify the point that “we just count things.” But they kept the name because the goal to detect bias remains the same, and the site maintains a blog to analyze the data.

Watts has drawn some of his own conclusions from the data, albeit none that surprising. Most of the articles

measured, including from the *New York Times* and Associated Press, have a negative tone. “People have known for a long time that the media has a negative bias, and that’s just really striking here,” Watts says. “But what’s even more striking is if you subset to politics, it gets very negative. So, you know, why does everybody think the country is in a bad way? Maybe it’s because that’s all the media talks about.” The charts also show the “enormous amount of attention paid to the horse race” between candidates, almost like it’s a sporting event, with far less reported about their stance on the issues. “It’s just breathless speculation and entertainment,” he says.

Watts has his own somewhat negative impressions of what the media chooses to report, recalling the “infuriating” decision by the *New York Times* to focus so much attention on the messy rollout of the Obamacare website in 2010 rather than “the tens of millions of people who were getting medical coverage that didn’t have it before, which to me was like the first, second, and third most important thing.” He also points to the buildup to the 2016 election when Hillary Clinton’s email controversy became the prevailing narrative of the campaign—which is one reason he would like to start gathering articles dating back to 2015 to measure media bias from a different time. He also hopes to add more news sources to

the current list of 10 (the Associated Press, *Breitbart News*, *CNN*, *Fox News*, the *Guardian*, *HuffPost*, the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and the *Washington Post*), as well as measuring more specific things like quotes that are used in articles.

While after the 2016 election “many other researchers immediately focused on social media, and in particular misinformation and fake news circulating on social media, our interests were drawn to the actual mainstream media,” Watts explains. “One reason for that is we have good evidence that it’s still what people overwhelmingly consume. The other reason is that you don’t need to lie to mislead people. ... You can factually put accurate sentences together in a way that generates a very misleading impression.”

Although he admits that many readers might already know that most publications are in the business of “trying to get clicks,” he hopes visitors to the Media Bias Detector will internalize the data and cast a critical eye on “these publishers that adopt this pose of being unbiased and objective and comprehensive.”

“Everything that you learn about the world represents a choice that someone has made,” Watts says. “A journalist or an editor or a publisher has made the choice to focus on something and not something else. And so what you’re reading and what you’re learning is their opinion about what you should know.” —DZ

## Doom or Boom?

A Penn Institute for Urban Research panel probes the work-from-home effects on American cities.



**W**orking from home, especially on a hybrid schedule, used to be the stuff of dreams and envy.

Now we all know at least a few people doing it—and maybe you’re one of them.

“What we’ve seen over the past four years is about a fourfold increase in the share of full, paid days working from home,” said Jose Maria Barrero, an assistant professor of finance at Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México who has been studying this trend. “We’re definitely in a new normal.”

But how is this shift impacting cities, where shops and restaurants rely on lunch-break and after-work spenders, public transit is fueled by

commuters, and large office buildings need workers to fill them? As work-from-home habits hit all these sectors, are cities destined to fall into “doom loops”?

Those questions were at the heart of a recent panel discussion led by Penn’s Institute for Urban Research (IUR) and the Volcker Alliance, a New York-based nonprofit that aims to empower the public sector workforce. Barrero was joined by other economists in laying out the unnerving urban impacts of remote work.

David Stanek, who coauthored the new paper “Doom Loop or Boom Loop: Work from Home and the Challenges Facing America’s Big

Cities” with Wharton professor and IUR codirector Susan Wachter and several others, called San Francisco “the poster child for a difficult post-pandemic recovery.”

The city’s office vacancy rate recently reached an all-time high of nearly 37 percent. Public transit use is less than half of what it was pre-pandemic. Property values are declining faster than the national average. San Francisco also had more people working from home than the other four major cities that the paper examined.

“So what should cities be doing?” Stanek asked. He suggested an economic restructuring in cities, focusing on industries that require in-person work. Improved public transit systems, better office spaces, cheaper housing, and a high quality of life are also essential for cities to put themselves into a “boom loop” rather than a self-reinforcing downward spiral. “I can’t say these are novel recommendations,” he added, “but these are very much needed.”

Stijn Van Nieuwerburgh, a real estate and finance professor at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Business, underscored one specific solution: converting “brown” offices into “green” apartments. He said that would address the excess of office space and lack of affordable housing in many cities—as well as the ongoing climate crisis. Despite financial, physical, and regulatory obstacles, he still sees possibility. “I’m a conversion optimist,” Nieuwerburgh said. “I’m of the be-

lief that we could deliver 10 percent of new houses in our urban environment from office conversions.”

“It’s not a panacea, it’s not a silver bullet,” he added, “but 10 percent is not nothing.”

Yet even as an optimist who hopes cities will innovate their way to “a business-friendly environment and a safe environment,” Nieuwerburgh admitted the possibility of a doom loop. He said that New York is currently facing its worst office-building crisis in decades, with some buildings selling for less than half of what they were considered to be worth before the pandemic. “There’s no doubt in my mind that the bottom 20, 30 percent of the office market in New York City is completely doomed,” he said. “Over time, that will have implications for the tax base.”

He noted that the office-building problems in San Francisco are even worse. And “it has infected the apartment market as well,” he said, “which hasn’t happened in New York City.”

So what, Wachter wondered, is necessary to create a boom loop in cities?

Stanek again pointed to improved housing supply and public transit. Kathryn Wylde, the president and CEO of the nonprofit Partnership for New York City, added public safety to the list—“that’s an area where we have work to do,” she said—along with affordability. She said it’s crucial to examine the specific factors making New York City unaffordable,

including high construction costs, high taxes, and high insurance costs.

Barrero said boom loops will also depend on giving workers a reason to come back to the office and the city. “Some firms [have done] as many as five pushes to return to the office, which gives you a sense of how difficult it is for certain organizations to bring their people back.”

Recently he has been including qualitative questions in his work-from-home surveys to see what might lure workers back to the office. He’s been finding that in-person collaboration, the opportunity to socialize, the quality of an office space, and an easy commute all help.

It’s a familiar challenge in New York. In a recent survey, Wylde’s nonprofit found that slightly more than half of workers are in the office on an average workday—below where things stood pre-pandemic. “In terms of what’s been found by employers to get people back to the office, they all say free food,” Wylde said. Workspace quality matters, too. “There’s been a flight from old, dingy office buildings to brand-new buildings, and employers have shown they’re willing to pay the price,” she added.

When asked how companies have been faring in their attempts to simply force people back to the office full time, Wylde was blunt. “Monumentally unsuccessful,” she said. “Incentives are helpful, but flexibility is the key to a happy workforce.”

—Molly Petrilla C’06



## Penn in Paris

A large Penn contingent didn’t bring home any medals but made a mark on the Olympic stage.

### An entourage of fellow swimmers and Penn head swimming coach

Mike Schnur awaited Matt Fallon on June 19 at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. The rising senior had just delivered a monumental swim at the US Olympic Trials.

Fallon’s time of 2:06.54 in the men’s 200-meter breaststroke hadn’t just earned him a trip to the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris. The SEAS and Wharton student had just broken an American record by posting the eighth-fastest time in history—a performance of a lifetime at the perfect moment.

“I know I’ve had it in me this entire time,” Fallon said then. “I just wanted to get out and do it on the biggest stage.”

Fallon, one of 13 athletes with Penn ties who qualified for the Olympics, didn’t have the same experience in Paris. But his Olympic swim marked a watershed summer ahead of

Fallon’s final college season—and highlighted one of the largest contingents of Penn students and alumni at the Olympics since 1900 in Paris, when the Quakers brought home 21 medals [“Old Penn,” Jul/Aug 2024]. No one, though, captured a medal this time around from Penn, which has had representation at every Olympics since 1900, with the exception of 2016.

At the pool inside Paris La Défense Arena, Fallon finished 11th in prelims and then 10th in the semifinals, missing out on the eight-swimmer 200-meter breaststroke final. His semifinal time of 2:09.96 was nowhere near his performance at trials, which would’ve been good for silver in Paris had he replicated it, beaten only by quadruple-gold French star Leon Marchand’s Olympic record of 2:05.85.

“I didn’t really feel good throughout that entire swim,”

Matt Fallon swims in the men’s 200-meter breaststroke semifinals during the fourth day of the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris. Nia Akins begins her women’s 800 semifinal race at Stade de France a few days later.

said Fallon, who last year became the first Penn swimmer to medal at the World Aquatics Championships [“Sports,” Sep/Oct 2023]. “I trained a lot in camp, but it’s just been kind of an off week for me. But I tried my best and I can’t really argue with that.”

Fallon wasn’t the only US swimmer to struggle in Paris—especially among the men, who didn’t win an individual gold medal until the ninth and final day of the program.

“Obviously the goal for this entire season was to make the Olympics and maybe make an Olympic final,” Fallon said. “I didn’t achieve that goal, but I did amazing at trials. I’m really happy with my swims there, and it was nice to just go out here and try to put my best foot forward.”

### Track & Field



Nia Akins Nu’20 GNu’20 also failed to make an Olympic final after lighting up the track at US Trials.

Akins, who won the 800 meters in Eugene, Oregon, in a personal record time of 1:57.36, was eliminated in the semifinals at Stade de France, finishing third in a heat that featured eventual gold medalist Keely Hodgkinson of Great Britain. With the top two advancing automatically, Akins’s 1:58.20 run was .42 seconds



shy of qualifying on time (for the two fastest runners who don't finish in the top two of their heats.)

Of the three Americans who made it to the Olympics in the women's 800, only Juliette Whittaker advanced to the final, where she finished seventh overall. But what the NCAA champion and rising junior at Stanford will remember most from her time in Paris is sharing it with her sister, Isabella Whittaker C'24.

Isabella Whittaker was brought to the Olympics as a member of Team USA's relay pool for the women's 4x400 after finishing sixth in the women's 400 at US Olympic Trials following her record-setting career with the Quakers ["Sports," Jul|Aug 2024]. She didn't get a chance to race in Paris but she did get to room with her sister, reliving their childhood days sharing a bedroom in Laurel, Maryland. They were the first pair of siblings to make the US Olympic Track & Field Team since 2000. "It's been so special," Juliette said after the 800 final. "Just rooming together—she did my hair before I came here—and we've been pretty much inseparable in the [Olympic] village."

Sam Mattis C'18, competing in his second Olympics, fell shy of his goal of returning to the Olympic final in men's discus. The 2015 NCAA discus champion had finished eighth at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, with a best throw of 63.88 meters ["Sports," Sep|Oct 2021]. This year Mattis placed 14th in prelims dur-

ing rainy conditions on August 5, his best throw of 62.66 meters falling 22 centimeters shy of the top 12. His first attempt was his only legal throw, as Mattis fouled on two efforts to better it.

"Part of the beauty of the Olympics comes from the inevitable clash of joy and heartbreak of putting four years of single-minded dedication and numbingly hard work on the line for one single moment, and this one is going to hurt for a while," Mattis wrote on Instagram. "I came into this Olympics in some of the best shape of my life, having some of the best training sessions of my life and ready to throw far. But it wasn't my day."

Representing Nigeria, Ashley Anumba C'21 finished 29th in the women's discus with a best throw of 58.83 meters. She had won gold in the event at the 2024 African Championships.

### **Breaking**

Sunny Choi W'11 has been one of the faces of American breaking, a sport that made its Olympic debut at the Place de la Concorde in the heart of Paris on August 9.

Competing as B-Girl Sunny, Choi entered seeded eighth and finished 12th overall. She was third in her round-robin group, which produced the bronze medalist and fourth-place finisher. Choi fell to Chinese B-Girl 671 (Liu Qingyi) in her first battle by a 2-0 (16-2 in total votes) margin, then to Dutch B-Girl India (18-year-old India Sardjoe) in an 18-0 sweep.

Choi rebounded to win her final battle, 2-0 (13-5) over

Portugal's B-Girl Vanessa (Vanessa Marina).

Ever a smiling presence on the stage, the 35-year-old Choi has been front and center for what may be the sport's only chance in the Olympic spotlight. That meant bringing her whole self to it, through a unique journey in corporate America and struggles with her confidence ["Profiles," Mar|Apr 2024].

"I was anxious for a really long time, but I am feeling a lot better now," Choi said at a pre-competition press conference. "I am really grateful to be able to do this. ... Breaking, because it's an expression of who you are, because it's a creative sport, it's more important that you really tap into who you are so that you can show up and be present and be the best you are. The whole point is for people to see your soul when you are dancing. To be able to do that, you have to be able to open up, and that is not easy to do."

### **Rowing**

Regina Salmons C'18 competed at her second Olympics in rowing, again in the American eight boat. In the fourth seat, Salmons helped the US finish fifth out of seven teams, after it had placed fourth in Tokyo. It's the second straight Games in which the American female rowing team failed to earn a medal.

Salmons had plenty of company at the rowing venue in Vaires-sur-Marne. Rising College senior Isak Zvegely of Slovenia finished 22nd overall in the men's single sculls. He won a repechage heat to

reach the quarterfinals, then found his way into the D final, where he finished fourth. He is a second-generation Olympian, his father Denis having won bronze for Slovenia in 1992.

Dara Alizadeh C'15 finished fifth in his heat of the men's single sculls and third in repechage, before finishing 28th overall. Alizadeh is a two-time Olympian, having been Bermuda's flagbearer at the Tokyo Games.

Samy Morton C'23 traveled to Paris as a reserve for Australia's women's rowing team.

### **Fencing**

Penn supplied two of Canada's fencers. Blake Broszus W'24 finished 30th in the men's foil at his second Olympics. He won his first bout, against the Virgin Islands' Kruz Schembri, before falling to top-seeded Italian Tommaso Marini.

Shaul Gordon C'16, also in his second Games, likewise made the round of 32 in the men's sabre via a bye before falling to seventh-seeded Luigi Samele of Italy. He finished 29th overall.

Broszus was on the Canadian foil team that finished seventh, winning its third of three bouts, against Egypt. Gordon's Canadian sabre squad finished eighth.

Incoming Penn freshman Malak Hamza finished 27th for Egypt in the women's foil, falling to No. 6 seed Anne Sauer of Germany, who would finish seventh. Hamza was the lead fencer for Egypt in the team event, where it finished eighth.

—Matthew De George

# The Unexpected Entrepreneurs

For 10 years, the President’s Engagement and Innovation Prizes have equipped a select few graduating Penn seniors with a large cash award and faculty mentorship for post-graduation projects designed to make a “positive, lasting difference in the world.” The prizes, unlike anything else in higher education, have catapulted new social entrepreneurs into the world—and created a “community of changemakers” who are leaning on each other (and other alumni) to take their organizations to the next level.

By Dave Zeitlin

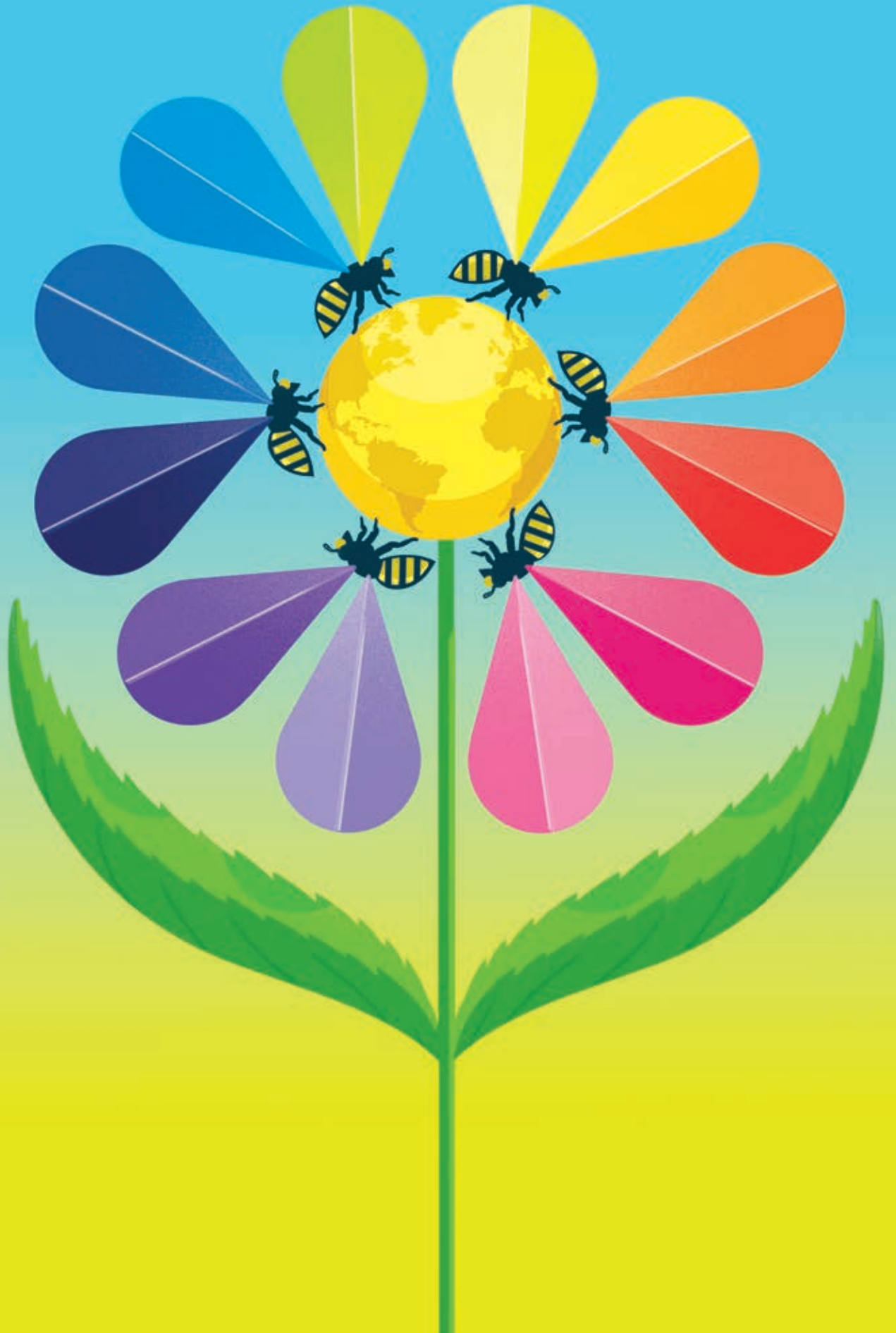
**R**owana Miller C’22 had received University emails about the President’s Engagement and Innovation Prizes beginning her first year at Penn, but she didn’t pay much attention to them. “I never thought it was something that I was really the intended audience for,” says Miller, a sociology major with minors in creative writing and urban education. “I assumed that it was mostly a prize for Wharton businesses and engineering inventors.”

Established 10 years ago by then-president Amy Gutmann Hon’22, the President’s Engagement Prize (PEP) awards

\$100,000 in funding each spring to graduating seniors (across all four of Penn’s undergraduate schools) who create projects designed to make a positive, lasting difference in the world, as well as a \$50,000 living stipend for each team member and mentorship from a University faculty member. The President’s Innovation Prize (PIP), announced a year later as the “commercial analogue” to PEP, offers the same award, plus office space at Penn’s Pennovation Works facility. Touted as the largest of their kind in higher education, the annual prizes have launched the careers of new social entre-

preneurs running organizations whose aims range from empowering students through unique educational programming to furnishing homes of poor people to reducing food waste with a product that predicts the shelf life of produce.

But Miller never considered herself an entrepreneur, at least not until the pandemic hit in 2020. Looking for an outlet the summer between her sophomore and junior years, that’s when she started a virtual creative writing camp for children in quarantine with little else to do. “And we got 150 signups on the first day we opened them,” says Miller, who used a grant from





the Kelly Writers House to develop and run the camp. Before long, she realized, it “went beyond needing something engaging to do during the pandemic,” she says. “The need was really about providing creative writing education to kids.”

That’s how Cosmic Writers was born. As she developed the organization alongside cofounder Manoj Simha W’22, she was encouraged to apply for the President’s Engagement Prize by Kelly Writers House faculty director Al Filreis. Recalling her initial perception of the award, “I said, ‘I don’t know, that doesn’t really seem like it’s for me,’” Miller recalls. “And Al said, ‘You have to apply. You’re going to start the organization anyway. This is what the prize is for.’”

So, as they built their organization during their senior years, Miller and Simha also prepared their PEP application, crafting a project proposal with a detailed budget and gathering letters of recommendation. When they advanced to the semifinals, they had an interview with a committee of Penn trustees, faculty, and administrators.

On “one of the first warm days of 2022,” Miller received a call from an unknown number. *Do you have a few minutes to talk to the president of the University?*

Um, yes.

Then-interim president Wendell Pritchett Gr’97 got on the phone to inform Miller that she and Simha were among 12 graduating seniors to win the prize that year. They met at College Green to celebrate. And, just like that, an “organization that we thought we’d have to spend many years bootstrapping while doing other jobs full-time, became a full-time job,” Miller says.

So what comes next? The \$200,000 (half for project implementation expenses, the other half for their living expenses) was a huge boost, as was mentorship from a faculty member—in their case, fittingly, Filreis. But as other prizewinners have discovered, particularly those who weren’t schooled at Wharton, learning how to run an organization can be a steep climb.



**“If I had not won the President’s Engagement Prize, I would have looked for teaching jobs and run the nonprofit on the side.”**

—ROWANA MILLER, COSMIC WRITERS

“If I had not won the President’s Engagement Prize, I would have looked for teaching jobs and run the nonprofit on the side, most likely,” Miller says. “It was a very different world than I expected to be in. I’m not going to lie; the first few months were really hard.” One early challenge of being an unexpected entrepreneur, she says, was not having the set structure of a 9-to-5 job. “I was on track to burn myself out really fast.” Another was harboring a “degree of imposter syndrome” being unaccustomed to the lingo bandied about by investors and start-up gurus. And then there was the difficulty of finding sustainable funding once the PEP cash dried up, while experimenting with the best and most cost-effective ways to provide children with the tools to write creatively. (After trying afterschool programming, one-on-one coaching, and virtual and in-person workshops, Cosmic Writers has pivoted to selling creative writing activity books, the first of which were published in June. On top of being less expensive per child, Miller says, the reason for making activity books the cornerstone of the organization is that “we think that they capture the absolute best part of what we do—which is the moment of sparking excitement about writ-

ing in a kid.”)

As she got her footing in the entrepreneurial world, Miller leaned heavily on her alma mater, “running around the Penn ecosystem, trying to figure out what resources were available.” She already knew the value of the Penn network from the application process, when she sought help from past winners Meera Menon W’20 and Philip Chen W’20 of the Unscripted Project, another educational nonprofit [“Arts,” Sep/Oct 2021]. And Penn Law’s Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic was “absolutely essential in filing the articles of incorporation and launching the business entity,” Miller says. But it became more challenging to seek out assistance from the Penn community once she was no longer on campus. “That’s when I started thinking that it was too bad that President’s Prize winners would have to go through the process of trial and error and digging around to try to find these resources year after year.”

At a Penn Alumni event in late 2022, Miller shared that sentiment with Ann Reese CW’74, a past Penn Alumni president and a Penn Trustee Emerita. “That informal conversation,” Miller says, “turned into a small alumni initiative to try to formalize the process” of getting resources to President’s Prize winners. In July of 2023, they ran a one-day virtual pilot program to help prizewinners network and learn from alumni eager to help young start-up founders. And this past May during Alumni Weekend, Miller, Reese, and a handful of other members of a newly formed committee held an in-person launch event at Houston Hall. It included educational programming for the 2024 President’s Prize winners (on topics such as social enterprise legal structures, strategic planning, and fundraising); a panel discussion moderated by Lee Spelman Doty W’76 (a committee member, original PEP donor, and former Penn Alumni president and Penn Trustee Emerita) in which past winners shared some of the hurdles they’ve faced and lessons they’ve learned;

and a 10-year showcase with presentations from selected winners about their organizations. Alumni in attendance were then encouraged to scan a QR code and fill out a form indicating what organization they'd like to support and the manner in which they'd like to do so—from mentorship and board service to investment, networking, and more.

Miller hopes the relationships formed will be long-lasting, at least five to 10 years. Having looked back on past winners whose organizations struggled, she realized that one through-line was not having “access to wealth and connections.”

“I am not a high-net-worth individual,” Miller says. “I don't have family members who are. I didn't go to college expecting to found a business. And I had not been going through college gathering a network; I was networking for the first time, pretty much, after I won the prize.”

This new alumni initiative, she hopes, will ensure that “regardless of people's backgrounds, they have a real safety net in the Penn community that will allow them to take their organizations from ideas to sustainable realities.”

## THE CONNECTORS

Unlike Miller, Katlyn Grasso W'15 knew she wanted to be an entrepreneur “since I came out of the womb.”

“I always joke that I handed the doctor my business card,” she says.

A decade ago, as a Wharton undergraduate, Grasso began working on GenHERation, a network that addresses the gender leadership gap by connecting young women with companies that might want to hire them [“Profiles,” Mar|Apr 2018]. During the summer before her senior year, she read an email from Gutmann announcing the formation of the prize. “It was almost written in the stars for me,” Grasso says. “I was working on this business already and thinking about how I was going to sustain it post-graduation.”

In a *Gazette* column announcing the President's Engagement Prize [“From College Hall,” Sep|Oct 2014], Gutmann

called it a “unique and unprecedented way of putting Penn knowledge into Penn practice” and “a start-up fund for full-time civic engagement, enabling exceptional Penn students to bring purpose and passion together to work for the betterment of humankind beginning just as soon as they graduate.”

“Nobody else that we know of offers prizes of this magnitude for student projects focused exclusively on local, national, and global engagement,” Gutmann wrote. “They are unique in scale, and yes, also maximally ambitious by design. Being a President's Engagement Prize winner will be a badge of the highest level of post-baccalaureate civic imagination and action. It is a big prize because we are committed to having Penn graduates do big things in the world.”



**“It was a tremendous opportunity—the most transformational part of kickstarting my entrepreneurial journey.”**

—KATLYN GRASSO, GENHERATION

The University also made clear from the start it would cast a wide net to uncover potential social entrepreneurs with an eye toward “global engagement.” The inaugural batch of winners included students from all four undergraduate schools: Grasso, Shadrack Frimpong C'15, Jodi Feinberg Nu'15, and Adrian Lievano EAS'15 and Matthew Lisle EAS'15. And Frimpong's Tarkwa Breman School and

Lievano's and Lisle's Everwaters addressed health and education in poor and rural regions of Africa. Winning the prize “changed everything,” Frimpong once told the *Gazette* [“Profiles,” Sep|Oct 2019]. “I always tell people the real money wasn't even the \$150,000. The real money was the Penn name and the Penn stamp.”

“I know Dr. Gutmann says there's nothing like this at any other university, and I don't believe that there is,” says Grasso, who got an extra nudge to apply by Lee Kramer, Wharton's former Undergraduate Director of Student Life, who offered to be her mentor. “The prize gave me the runway to say, *How can I turn this into a sustainable organization?* I didn't have to get a full-time job and try to work on this on the side. I was really able to put my dream into action right away. It was a tremendous opportunity—the most transformational part of kickstarting my entrepreneurial journey.”

Grasso is still in touch with her fellow inaugural prizewinners and has become something of an ambassador for the President's Prizes. She's organized dinners with former winners to talk to the newest ones about building sustainable organizations, fundraising, operational logistics, finding mentors, and more. And she regularly takes part in annual President's Prize information sessions at Penn's Center for Undergraduate Research & Fellowships (CURF), which aids undergraduates in the application process.

“I think the ultimate gift is to be able to pay it forward,” Grasso says. “My group of winners, we were the first ones, so we were figuring it out as we went. As an entrepreneur, as a founder, I'm always thinking about how if I could make somebody else's journey a little easier based on my experience, that's my duty.”

Among many others, Grasso has mentored Griffin Amdur W'18, who won the 2018 President's Engagement Prize along with classmates James McPhail C'18 W'18 and Andrew Witherspoon W'18 for the Chicago Furniture Bank, a nonprofit that collects gently used furniture and

distributes it to individuals and families facing poverty. Amdur recalls sitting in a Wharton class as a sophomore when Grasso, Lievano, and Lisle showed up to speak about the President's Engagement Prize and their then-fledgling organizations. "And I was like, *Wow, this is an amazing opportunity*," Amdur says. "They're doing so much good. And that's a huge amount of money."

Amdur—who, like Grasso, "always wanted to start something"—and his cofounders felt like they were in a good position to win the award after volunteering at the Philadelphia Furniture Bank and learning about the business model. For their prize application, they proposed bringing a similar model to Chicago, which didn't have a furniture bank and has "relatively cheap warehouse space compared to other markets," says Amdur, who grew up in Chicago.

After winning, they quickly sought more funding, using the PEP—and the article and video that the University made about them—as a conversation starter. Believing that they had a short time in which to "play the Penn card really hard," Amdur says, the new entrepreneurs emailed "every Penn alum with a fancy title." Most of the time, they didn't get a response. But those emails helped them get major donors and enough capital to become the largest furniture bank in the country.

As of 2023, per its website, the Chicago Furniture Bank has furnished over 13,000 homes for over 21,000 people and given away furniture weighing over 6,000 tons. With 65 employees and a fleet of 15 trucks, the nonprofit covers most of its operating budget through revenue from a separate nonprofit junk removal service (a model Amdur says other furniture banks are now adopting).

Amdur has been pleasantly surprised by the organization's rapid growth, noting that "our goal was to furnish 400 homes per year, when we were first starting." But he called it a "no-brainer" to solicit donations "because all this stuff is being



**Had it not been for the President's Engagement Prize, the Chicago Furniture Bank "absolutely would not have happened. And it's definitely made a big impact in Chicago."**

—GRIFFIN AMDUR,  
CHICAGO FURNITURE BANK

thrown away, and it's a great product; it just needs to go to people who don't have anything. We're simply the connectors."

After more than five years in charge, Amdur and Witherspoon recently stepped aside and brought in new leadership, though they continue to run the board of directors. (McPhail only worked there for the first year after graduating, but he too remains on the board.) Amdur also has been helping fellow prizewinning alumni, including a team that won the 2023 President's Innovation Prize for Sonura, a beanie that filters out harmful noises for infants in neonatal intensive care units. He connected with them during the 2023 virtual networking event put on by Rowana Miller, who recalls Amdur sharing "some of the most helpful advice I've heard from anyone" by offering specifics about combing through the Penn alumni database and sending off those cold emails. "I appreciated that they were honest that there's an element of luck in everything," Miller says. "There's a moment right after you win when you feel like you have it

made and you've gotten over the hump. And then the euphoria wears off, and you realize how much you have to learn and how much is out of your control."

"They're a really strong example of what happens when the President's Engagement Prize really, really works," Miller adds.

In turn, Amdur still credits those who aided him as he was getting his feet wet—including Seth Zweifler C'14, who worked closely with prizewinners in his role in Penn's Office of the President (before moving over to a job at Penn Law earlier this year), and Grasso, who introduced them to Lynn Jerath W'95, a Chicago-based Penn trustee who now serves on the Chicago Furniture Bank board. Had it not been for the President's Engagement Prize itself, the Chicago Furniture Bank "absolutely would not have happened," says Amdur, who had another post-graduation job lined up before getting the life-changing call from Gutmann in 2018. "And it's definitely made a big impact in Chicago."

## THE INVENTORS

It hasn't been smooth sailing for all of the prizewinners over the last decade. Some organizations haven't made it. Some have seen slow growth or pivoted. Founders have moved on to other jobs, or law school or medical school. Partnerships have fizzled.

During the panel at the Alumni Weekend event, Katherine Sizov C'19 used a colorful metaphor about the importance of having the right cofounder: someone who will "be there to hold your hair back when you're throwing up in the proverbial toilet."

Sizov won the fourth annual President's Innovation Prize in 2019 for Strela Biotechnology, which markets a biosensor that can predict the maturity of fresh fruit. She's had different cofounders since then but remains "very much a product of Penn and the community," with an office at Pennovation Works (in addition to one in Seattle) and backing from Brett Topche W'03 at Red & Blue Ventures, an early-stage venture capital fund that invests in companies from the



Penn ecosystem. And the company has shown steady growth, raising around \$16 million, partnering with stores like Target, and monitoring over two billion pieces of fruit to date.

During her Alumni Weekend presentation, Sizov shared that an apple in a grocery store can be more than a year old by the time it gets to you and that 40 percent of food ends up being wasted before it's consumed.



**“Going into this journey is tough and loney, and anything I can do to be helpful is important.”**

—KATHERINE SIZOV,  
STRELLA BIOTECHNOLOGY

Sizov first discovered that statistic—“a ridiculous number”—as a junior at Penn and “started skipping class to go to farms and retail distribution centers and warehouses to learn about how our food gets replaced,” she says. A molecular biology major, she began to research ways to optimize the produce supply chain and reduce the nearly \$1 trillion in lost profits from wasted food. Stella’s solution, Sizov notes, is a piece of hardware that retailers can use to monitor ethylene, a gas that fruits release as they grow sweeter. Stella started with apples and pears, moved on to bananas and avocados, and has its sights set on peaches, plums, nectarines, and tomatoes.

Winning the PIP five years ago, Sizov says, was an “important buffer to kind of

keep the lights on and keep going.” And so she always answers the call from professors to help aspiring Penn inventors get their PIP pitches “in tip-top shape” every year. “Going into this journey is tough and lonely,” she says, “and anything I can do to be helpful is important.”

One of those inventors who came after her is Julia Yan EAS’22 GEng’22, who teamed with Sarah Beth Gleeson EE’22 and Shoshana Weintraub EAS’22 to capture the inaugural President’s Sustainability Prize, a subcategory of the President’s Innovation Prize. They won for Baleena, a start-up pioneering a device that captures microfibers at their laundry point source, protecting oceans and waterways.

Like Sizov, Yan surprised the Alumni Weekend audience during her presentation, explaining that two-thirds of our clothes are made of synthetic plastic fibers and that a single load of laundry can release 700,000 plastic fibers into our waterways, “wreaking havoc on our planet.”

A pill-shaped filter designed to capture microfibers before they leave the washing machine, Baleena began as a senior engineering capstone project. Yan, Gleeson, and Weintraub were classmates in Penn’s materials science and engineering department and were “really bonded by this desire ... to solve this microplastics problem,” Yan says. “We interviewed the EPA, the water department, and realized where the gaps were that we could address.” The Penn Water Center has also been an important resource for them.

Yan had heard about the President’s Prizes when she entered the engineering entrepreneurship minor program and, while working on Baleena, heard about the new Sustainability Prize, which she felt was “uniquely perfect” for their project. Yan figured it was “sort of a moonshot,” but applied anyway. If nothing else, she figured the questions and feedback from the judging session could help the start-up grow as they worked it on the side between the full-time jobs they had lined up after graduation.



**“The prize really gave us the confidence to say, *We could try this. It doesn’t have to be 10, 20 years down the line. Why not try now?*”**

—JULIA YAN, BALEENA

They never took those jobs. The call from Wendell Pritchett changed everything. Yan turned down a consulting gig in Chicago, and she and her cofounders set up shop at Pennovation Works, where they installed a washing machine in a hybrid lab/office space. After a year, they moved to an office in University City and are now attempting to pivot the company to bring their technology to big washing machine manufacturers and outdoor apparel brands rather than just everyday homeowners and renters.

“We’re very grateful for the prize because we had no capacity to bootstrap our own start-up at the position that we were in when we graduated,” says Yan, who likens her partnership with Gleeson to a marriage, pointing out they’ve learned a lot about navigating “our personalities and the ways we deal with various things and the fires we need to put out.” (Yan is currently the CEO of Baleena and Gleeson serves as COO; Weintraub decided to pursue her PhD—“a completely amicable split.”)

“The prize really gave us the confidence to say, *We could try this. It doesn’t have to be 10, 20 years down the line. Why not try now?*”

## THE MULTITASKERS

When Christina Miranda C'21 was 12 years old, she nearly lost her life in a struggle with anorexia.

"I was able to recover," she says. "But I just felt like it could have been prevented. And I know that if I had a program like the Body Empowerment Project when I was in middle school, things would have turned out differently."

Years after her harrowing experience, Miranda launched the Body Empowerment Project with her friend and classmate Amanda Moreno C'21. The two had run a student club together focused on eating disorder awareness and also did research at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, where they would see kids coming into the pediatric ICU because of eating disorders.

The Body Empowerment Project is designed to decrease eating disorder risk in adolescents through educational workshops focused on body image and self-esteem. The organization offers programs in Philadelphia and San Francisco Bay Area public schools, as well as for college students across the country. It also hosts professional trainings for teachers, nurses, and faculty in the School District of Philadelphia. Rather than address eating disorders head on in its workshops, "we talk about body image, confidence, building self-esteem," Miranda says. "These are really basic skills that help all kids, especially as they navigate that challenging adolescence timeframe" that's so often influenced by what they see on social media.

After developing the initial pilot program and getting approval from the School District of Philadelphia to run it in two schools in the spring of their junior year (switching to Zoom when COVID-19 lockdowns began), they applied for the President's Engagement Prize. The pandemic affected the applications that year, Miranda believes, because "you had to convince the committee that whatever project you were going to do could still take place virtually if necessary,



**"Even several years later, I have not found a similar prize that exists. People are like, *They gave two college seniors that kind of money?* It's really wild."**

—CHRISTINA MIRANDA,  
BODY EMPOWERMENT PROJECT

with whatever safety precautions." They had proved that but ran into another challenge—finding a faculty mentor. "You'd be surprised how many people said no to us," says Miranda, who notes they hunted around Penn to find someone who could provide expertise in community engagement. Eventually, though, they found "the perfect person"—Caroline Watts, director of the Office of School and Community Engagement (OSCE) at Penn's Graduate School of Education. Currently on the Body Empowerment Project's board of directors, Watts helped propel the organization to a prize that's been transformational.

"Even several years later, I have not found a similar prize that exists," Miranda says. "People are like, *They gave two college seniors that kind of money?* It's really wild."

Cash in hand, Miranda and Moreno went full steam ahead on the Body Empowerment Project, trying to diversify their funding stream with other grants—one of their biggest challenges. Another challenge was self-inflicted yet proved to be a unique opportunity for growth. One year after graduating from Penn, both of the cofounders went to medical school,

Miranda to Stanford and Moreno to Harvard. Trying to run a nonprofit while completing clinical rotations was "definitely really busy," Moreno says, but "it was really my work with Body Empowerment Project that inspired that decision [to go to med school]. I thought if I could be an actual clinician, people in this space would trust me a lot more and I would be able to make a bigger impact. And I also thought it would help me expand the Body Empowerment Project, which it definitely did, because we're doing a lot of work with schools out here now in California, too."

One connection forged at Penn helped ease the cofounders' load; Clara Pritchett, Wendell Pritchett's daughter and a recent Brown graduate with experience in mental healthcare and education, has taken over as the Body Empowerment Project's executive director and will help guide the organization as it looks to expand into elementary schools.

They also sought inspiration from a pair of PEP winners from the previous year: Meera Menon and Philip Chen of the Unscripted Project. Since both organizations are rooted in education, Menon and Chen helped them navigate the Philadelphia school system and advised them on how to sustain their project and generate revenue. Menon and Chen also showed that a different kind of entrepreneurial path is possible, as both balance full-time jobs with their roles running the Unscripted Project.

"So I said, 'You know, if they can do that, maybe we can go to med school and keep this thing going,'" says Miranda, who plans to be a child psychiatrist. "They were inspiring in that way, even though our journeys have been pretty different."

Menon and Chen's journey has been different than most. Though they were both on the typical Wharton investment banking route as students, they were also involved in theater—an uncommon yet fruitful intersection. "Being on stage and playing other characters and improvising served us really well as we were inter-

viewing for our consulting and banking jobs,” Menon says. It also bolstered their friendship and got their entrepreneurial juices flowing. What if they could utilize the skills of theater to teach younger students “struggling to connect what they’re learning in the classroom to what happens outside the four walls of it”?



**“I think it’s an incredible opportunity. And it’s just been a huge catalyst for me personally.”**

—MEERA MENON, UNSCRIPTED PROJECT

As seniors, they piloted a program to bring improv training to a couple of Philadelphia public schools, hoping to empower students to “speak confidently, collaborate effectively, and persevere in the face of adversity,” in the words of their mission statement. They were forced to stop a couple of months later when the pandemic closed schools, but they continued with their PEP application, with theater arts lecturer Marcia Ferguson serving as their mentor.

Menon was in her childhood bedroom in California, the end of her senior year having been lost to COVID-19, when she got the call from Gutmann to inform her they had won. “I was really lagging in motivation,” Menon says. “I truly found so much purpose after that.”

Getting the Unscripted Project back up and running in the fall of 2020, with Philly schools virtual, was difficult. But “no one knew what they were going to do in education during the pandemic,”

Menon says. “And I so I think it actually gave us a really interesting opening.” The Unscripted Project managed to engage students online, and went non-virtual the following year, starting in about 10 classrooms and since having grown to about 25 classrooms, mostly in West Philly and Center City. They hope to expand beyond their 10-week core program and into the afterschool space, and they’re also hoping to launch in New York, where both work full-time (Menon as a management consultant, Chen as a venture capitalist).

How do they balance running a non-profit with demanding other jobs? Menon says she spends most of her evenings working on the Unscripted Project, plus all day Sunday. They rely on a team of eight teaching artists, a program director, and a grant writer, and can “operate in a pretty lean way” since they don’t pay themselves a salary, Menon notes.

Hearing from other past prizewinners in similar circumstances—be it balancing med school, law school, or full-time careers—is more proof that it can be done, and Menon has made it a point to return to campus and stay close to as many as she can. “I think it’s an incredible community,” she says. “And it just has been a huge catalyst for me personally.”

## THE DREAMERS

“This award is a lot more than financial support. It’s a lot more than office space. It’s about the backing of Penn.”

Yash Dhir EAS’24 is feeling the backing—and the love—as he says this, just after he and his classmate Rahul Nambiar EAS’24 attended the Alumni Weekend showcase event, where Dhir notes they were “quite overwhelmed” to see other prizewinners explain how they went through the same steps they’re about to undertake.

Dhir and Nambiar are among the newest members of the exclusive club, recently getting the call from Penn Interim President Larry Jameson that they had won the 2024 President’s Innovation Prize for Jochi, an online ed-tech management platform that aims to improve the educa-



**“This award is a lot more than financial support. It’s a lot more than office space. It’s about the backing of Penn.”**

—YASH DHIR, JOCHI

tional experience of students with ADHD, dyslexia, and other learning differences. They’re joined by the 10th and most recent crop of President’s Engagement Prize winners: Simran Rajpal C’24 and Gauthami Moorkanath C’24 for Educate to Empower, and Anooshey Ikhlas C’24, Brianna Aguilar C’24, and Catherine Hood C’24 for the Presby Addiction Care Program [“Gazetteer,” Jul|Aug 2024].

Dhir always had an entrepreneurial bent and was inspired to start Jochi because of his own struggle with learning differences in high school at the American School in London. (He grew up in Delhi, India, before moving to London; Nambiar is from Dubai.) “For me, it was different,” Nambiar says. “I didn’t have much experience and was kind of a traditional computer science engineering student. This was just something that was a lot more exciting compared to anything else.”

As they tried to develop an app for students with diverse learning needs to keep track of their school assignments and outside activities—and reached out to schools to license the software to better equip administrators to support those students—we “spent a year or two run-



ning around like a headless chicken,” says Dhir, who notes that he “spent pretty much every moment outside of class working on Jochi.” They hope that winning the PIP, along with a couple of other awards, and setting up shop at Pennovation Works, will be a gamechanger as they aim to reach 20,000 learners by next year.

There are still a lot of unknowns for the newly minted college graduates—but that’s what makes it exciting. “It’s just so much fun,” Dhir says. “It’s a privilege that we can say that this is our job after college.”

Like Dhir and Nambiar, Summer Kollie C’19 came a long way to get to Penn. And five years after winning the President’s Engagement Prize, she loves coming back to her alma mater to “connect with the people who are also a part of it.”

Along with Princess Aghayere C’19 and Oladunni Alomaja EAS’19, Kollie won the PEP in 2019 for Rebound Liberia, which uses basketball as a tool to bridge the literacy gap between men and women and for traumatized youth to cope with daily life in post-conflict Liberia.

Kollie experienced that trauma growing up during the Second Liberian Civil War. She recalls her father jumping on her to shield her, inside their own home, after a mortar shell fell next to their house. When she was six, her family emigrated to the US, joining the large Liberian community in Southwest Philly, where Kollie kept her head down, read a lot of books, and got accepted to “the Ivy in my backyard.”

“I just knew I wanted to do better for myself,” says Kollie, though she still felt connected to Liberia. Kollie’s roommates, Aghayere and Alomaja, were both born in Nigeria and also wanted to give back to West Africa. They zeroed in on basketball because Aghayere was a member of the Penn women’s basketball team, helping the Quakers to three Ivy League championships. “She came [to the US] when she was young as well, and basketball helped her to cope and learn different skills like confidence,” Kollie says. “So that was what we wanted to impart to the



**“I just sank to the floor.  
I was crying tears of joy.”**

—SUMMER KOLLIE, REBOUND LIBERIA

young women in Liberia as well.”

Kollie credits Shadrack Frimpong for being an unofficial mentor and Ocek Eke, director of Graduate Students Programming at Penn Engineering, for being their official one, helping them through the “daunting” PEP application process. Kollie was on a treadmill at Pottruck Gym when she got the call they had won. “I just sank to the floor,” she says. “I was crying tears of joy.”

Since then, Kollie says that Rebound Liberia has touched more than 800 kids through its programs focused on leadership development and employment skills, as well as an annual basketball tournament. She says they have plans to extend it to Nigeria and possibly rebrand the nonprofit to Rebound Africa.

Kollie lives in Philly and has another job as a workforce project manager at Temple University, so Rebound Liberia remains a pure labor of love—a dream forged from a traumatic childhood and uplifting immigration story.

For Ann Reese, hearing past prizewinners talk at the Alumni Weekend launch event (which she attended shortly before going to her 50th Reunion festivities), reinforced her motivation to support them with the new initiative connecting them to alumni mentors. “I’m inspired every time I talk to them,” Reese says.

“I really think they embody the ideals that we have as a university. And they’re great examples for students who follow them.”

Reese hopes that the alumni mentors, too, will get as much out of the program as the mentees. “There was a real desire for them wanting to be involved in a personal way, other than just fundraising or class-centered engagement with the University,” says Reese, who hopes past winners will help one another more than they have in the past. “I want to not only create an ecosystem for these prizewinners but keep the best and brightest of our alumni engaged with Penn.”

As she’s worked with Reese on developing the program, Rowana Miller has grown to appreciate the “incredibly special” camaraderie that exists between past prizewinners. At the heart of that is one of the original winners, Katlyn Grasso, who initially intimidated Miller before becoming “a really consistent source of advice and guidance.”

Sitting at the head of the President’s Prize table is a natural fit for Grasso, whose organization GenHERation has empowered more than 700,000 young women over the last 10 years, working with “more than 300 companies, sports teams, tech giants, government organizations, and more than 2,500 schools, all around the world.” On a smaller scale, helping empower her fellow Penn alum entrepreneurs and “being around like-minded people is just another great way to stay in touch with the Penn alumni community.”

“It’s a really important community of changemakers, of people who want to do big things in the world,” says Grasso, who hopes to assist even more applicants with “world-changing ideas” over the next 10 years. “I think college is the best time to start a business ... and I think for people who are naturally inclined to dream, this gives them that extra nudge to say, *Hey, I actually can do this in a safe and supportive environment of a university.*”

“This prize,” she adds, “gives them the license to dream.”

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# The Instrument Is Yourself

## Harvey Finkle and the photography of social justice.

By Trey Popp

**O**n Mother's Day 2021, a year after macular degeneration forced him to call an end to half a century of documentary photography and photojournalism, Harvey Finkle SW'61 made a rare Facebook post. Turning a critical eye on the ubiquitous exhortations to buy chocolates and flowers—as though those and a Hallmark card could possibly convey real appreciation for “the incredible effort it takes to mother”—he offered a different kind of tribute. Eighteen images, mostly black-and-white, depicted women nurturing young children. Finkle showed them playing together on beaches and nestled together in rest, but also seeking safe quarter as refugees, confronting challenges in wheelchairs, demonstrating for affordable housing, and marching against “the war on the poor.”

“They were so beautiful and so real,” recalls Jessie Burns. “And having been a mother, they spoke to me.”

Burns, who founded Tursulowe Press to publish “under-told stories” and “under-read classics,” had known Finkle since her earliest childhood. He'd been a close friend of her father, C. K. Williams C'59, who won the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 2000. They both lived in Philadelphia's Queen Village neighborhood. Finkle was forever walking the city's streets with his Leica, and over the decades became a constant presence at demonstrations for social justice causes. “Any time I went to a protest,” Burns remembers, “he was there with his camera, until he was 80-something.” Finkle worked with Project Home on behalf of unhoused Philadelphians, documented disability rights advocates affiliated with

the Independent Living Movement, bore witness to death penalty activism, shined a light on child poverty in America [“Urban Nomads: A Poor People's Movement,” February 1997], and took his last photographs in 2020 in connection with the clergy-driven New Sanctuary Movement for immigrant justice.

“He's so much more than just a photographer,” says Burns. “He has a master's in social work, and he's always cared about social justice. But not a lot of people are able to go to places where people are being triumphant in their struggle and capture it. And he does.”

So after taking in his Facebook post, she picked up the phone and proposed a book that quickly morphed into a series that's shaping up to be a career retrospective. In 2022 they released *Mothers*, followed by *Under One Sky*, which showcased 78 portraits of immigrant families and communities in Philadelphia. The next year they crafted a subtle response to the





Previous page: Mother and daughter, Ghana.  
Facing page: Mother and daughter, Philadelphia;  
American Disabled for Attendant Programs Today  
(ADAPT) rally at Department of Housing and Urban  
Development, Washington, DC.

book-banning fervor then sweeping through school districts and libraries: *Readers*, whose thoroughly nonpolitical depictions of men, women, and children engrossed by books and broadsheets in all manner of public spaces—from Jerusalem and Paris to Philly street corners and SEPTA stations—are at once a time capsule of life before smartphones and a testimony to the intimacy and universality of the act of reading. Next in line is a planned volume devoted to visual patterns in urban settings and architecture, and Finkle is keen to follow that up with an installment focusing on Deaf culture. (Both of his children are deaf.) Having taken pictures of Philadelphia’s iconic Mummers nearly every New Year’s Day since 1973, he’s also eager to collect his favorites into a themed book on that inimitable South Philly subculture. In the meantime, visitors to Penn Libraries can access the full sweep of his photographic career; Finkle donated his archives to the Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts in 2020.

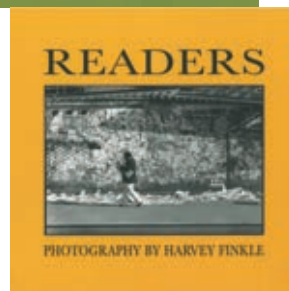
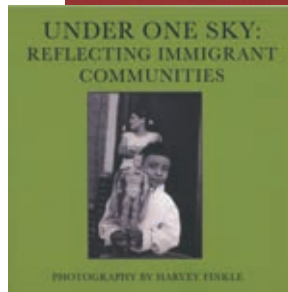
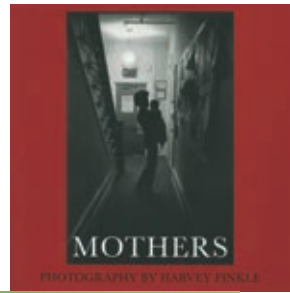
**H**arvey Finkle was born in 1934 and grew up in Northeast Philadelphia’s Oxford Circle section, where real estate developers began planting new houses on old farms just before World War II. The Finkle family lived on a block that ended in orchards. “There were plum trees, peaches, flower farms,” he recalls. “It was like living in the country while living in the city.” His dad owned and operated an auto graveyard, where Harvey worked on and off as a teenager while attending Central High School. After graduating he enrolled at Temple University, but discovered that the classroom was no match for the city’s jazz scene, where \$1 bought entry into the Blue Note at 15th Street and Ridge Avenue to hear the likes of Clifford Brown, Max Roach, Dizzy Gillespie, and Billie Holiday. He lasted three semesters at Temple before dropping out and enlisting in the Army.

In 1953 Finkle underwent basic training at Maryland’s Aberdeen Proving

**“Not a lot of people are able to go to places where people are being triumphant in their struggle and capture it. And he does.”**

Ground. Then he shipped out to France, where he served for 15 months. Though he felt rudderless upon his return, he reenrolled at Temple. His second try went better than his first. “I guess I could bear it,” he says. “But I still had no idea what I wanted to do.”

His first glimmer came after graduation, when he heard that the Philadelphia County Board of Assistance was hiring people with college diplomas to



help administer public welfare programs. He spent a year and a half helping “desperate people in need” obtain housing and other assistance. The experience moved him to pursue a master’s degree at Penn’s School of Social Work (the predecessor to today’s School of Social Policy & Practice). There, an academic field placement with the Pennsylvania Society to Protect Children from Cruelty—which led to further involvement after he completed his degree—proved deeply influential.

“You were going out to visit people who don’t want you to come into their home,” he reflects, “and saying, ‘Hey, we have a report that suggests you’re having a problem with your children.’ People knew that there was a possibility of losing their kids,” and they knew that a court proceeding could bust their families apart. “That was not our ambition,” Finkle says. “Our ambition was trying to help them remedy whatever the problem was, and then help them keep their kids.” Nevertheless, a knock on the door from his agency was the last thing a struggling parent wanted to hear.

His social work training taught him one thing above all others: “The instrument is yourself,” as Finkle puts it. “It’s understanding yourself in order to understand and identify with the person you’re going to be working with, and how you might help them.” He was drawn to that challenge, and invigorated by the exercise of empathy and patience it required. The delicate work of building rapport and trust would also become indispensable to his photography.

In the mid-1960s Finkle worked for an experimental preschool program that was a forerunner to Head Start, and then became a field representative responsible for setting up county-level programs under the Older Americans Act of 1965, part of Lyndon Johnson’s Great Society initiative to provide comprehensive services for senior citizens, ranging from housing and healthcare, to employment-related support, to civic and cultural









engagement. Then, in 1968, he became a parent—and bought a camera. Turning it first on his son, then a daughter who followed two years later, Finkle became a dutiful documentarian of family life.

The hobby swiftly invaded virtually every facet of his life—especially once he found equipment that clicked with his instinct for fading into the background. His first model, a Mamiya single-lens reflex, “didn’t really work right for me.” Then he bought a Leica, which was blissfully free of a noisily flapping mirror. That made all the difference. “It’s small, it’s black, it’s quiet,” Finkle explains. “I could focus it pretty quickly. It’s unobtrusive. I could walk into crowds of people and take pictures.”

In his off-hours he would wander through Philadelphia. “I liked to walk the streets and shoot in the streets.” Meanwhile he became involved with a grassroots association called the People’s Fund, which was founded in 1971 by a group of activists seeking to spur liberal social change by funding organizations like the National Lawyers Guild and Women United for Abortion Rights. Finkle likened it to the United Way—only for causes that the actual United Way was loathe to touch. (As cofounder Rick Baron has stated elsewhere, “When we started off, we were explicitly not tax-exempt because we wanted to be clear that the money was political.”)

The People’s Fund, which survives today as Bread & Roses, raised about \$12,000 its first year and made grants to 10 groups. “And I was the only one with a camera,” Finkle says. “So I began photographing what we did.”

It felt like a natural extension of his social work—forging connections, building trust, working with purpose—only with a captivating technical dimension. “I liked the idea of dealing with groups involved in social change, and political change, economic change,” he says. “I liked feeling like I was doing something worthwhile. And I liked taking the pictures. I liked coming back, developing



**“Making prints in the beginning was like magic, seeing an image come up in the developer.”**

the film. Making prints in the beginning was like magic, seeing an image come up in the developer.”

Taking early inspiration from the American photographer Harry Callahan (1912–1999), Finkle invested an increasing degree of artistry and sophistication into his work. In 1972 he transitioned to photography full time. He shot for labor unions, social agencies, nonprofits, hos-

Facing page: First day in their apartment for refugees from Nepal (Philadelphia, 2012); Immigrant factory worker (Philadelphia, 1992). Below: Young Ethiopians (Philadelphia, 2022); Boy from Burma in school auditorium (Philadelphia, 2017).

pital publications, the *Philadelphia Public School Network*, and the like—supplementing his mission-driven work with the occasional wedding.

Street photography remained a core part of his practice, and he became particularly adept at portraiture of immigrants. A 1977 project found him interviewing and photographing Holocaust survivors who’d settled in Philadelphia. Their diversity and perseverance impressed him. “There was the head of a union, a person who made artificial limbs, an opera singer,” he has reflected elsewhere. “They talked to me about resilience and overcoming their past to build positive, successful lives.” His 2001 volume *Still Home: The Jews of South Philadelphia* is a touchstone of that work, which continued with a grant to document communities of Hmong, Lao, Cambodian, and ethnic Chinese people from Vietnam who had resettled in South Philadelphia. Many of those images appear in Tursulowe Press’s *Under One Sky* retrospective. Although Finkle’s portfolio expanded to documentary travel photography beginning with a 1977 trip to Cuba, the city of Philadelphia remained his abiding subject—and above all, Philadelphians fighting for change.

Social change has never been easy to achieve, in Philadelphia or anywhere else. Resistance is strong and every victory is vulnerable to reversal. Documenting those struggles can be a dispiriting task. Yet Finkle looks back at his own modest part in them with satisfaction. “There are moments when you’re down, but I don’t think I stay there,” he says. “I felt I was productive, I guess—as one element in groups of people.”

Perhaps his greatest sense of accomplishment stems from his long involvement with the disability rights movement, which he began documenting in 1984. As an ally of the pioneering disability rights attorney Stephen F. Gold, Finkle became a fixture at protests and civil disobedience actions targeting non-





compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).

Frustrated by the poorly maintained and perennially malfunctioning wheelchair lifts on SEPTA buses, disabled activists would handcuff themselves to buses. Vexed by constantly out-of-service elevators at underground stations, protesters would straddle the platforms and subway cars with their wheelchairs at rush hour. Finkle would record the scenes. “They’d put themselves halfway on the train so it couldn’t move—and they did it at four o’clock in the afternoon,” he recalls. “Other people would say, ‘I can’t get home!’ And they’d say, ‘Now you know how we feel!’” Once, after a group of wheelchair-bound activists had been arrested and hauled into an elevator to be taken to the police precinct, the elevator broke down on their way to be booked and charged.

Yet they ultimately prevailed in their cause. Judges decreed the installation and maintenance of elevators at SEPTA stations. And Gold successfully sued the administration of Philadelphia Mayor Ed Rendell C’65 Hon’00 to force the installation of ADA-compliant curb cuts on city sidewalks, which Rendell had opposed as an unfunded mandate that would cost

**“There’s always a politics involved in something. But a lot of my work is not political.”**

hundreds of millions of dollars that the city didn’t have. “But they did it,” Finkle says.

He regards his involvement with the death penalty abolition movement in much the same way. “I’d take pictures in jail,” he says. “I went out and photographed individuals who had been exonerated. When I began it, a liberal friend of mine—a smart guy—said, ‘What are you doing that for? It’s never going to change.’” But 11 states have abolished capital punishment since the turn of the century, and Pennsylvania hasn’t executed a prisoner since 1999.

“So I see good things that have happened,” Finkle emphasizes. The same goes for an issue that hits especially close to home. “Take deafness,” he says. “Both of my kids are deaf. When you look at what the world was like before they went

to high school, and you see what it’s like now, it’s incredible. Jimmy Carter began to have speeches interpreted [in American Sign Language] on television. The NFL still screws up all the time—they don’t show the person signing the national anthem—but there’s been improvements in all kinds of places. Deaf people can require the presence of an interpreter for doctor appointments. So they have entitlements under the law—plus advances in technology. My son just sets up his cell phone and begins signing to the person on the other end of the line.”

Indeed, that’s the sentiment that gets to the heart of Finkle’s photography. It flows from the recognition that the political and the personal are forever bleeding into one another. Politics come to bear on everyone’s life, in one way or another. And at every point of contact is a human being striving to live with dignity.

“Most of the stuff I’ve done has been related to political issues—there’s always a politics involved in something,” Finkle muses. “But a lot of my work is not political,” he adds. His images ultimately depict men and women and children as individuals whose circumstances may be unfamiliar and discomfiting, but whose desires and hopes are deeply recognizable.





# LIFE HACKS

How to beat burnout, get your way,  
and become a “Perennial.”

By JoAnn Greco

**T**hree recent books by Penn faculty offer advice on forging a healthy relationship with work, choosing the right words to persuade and motivate, and thriving at all stages of life in a rapidly transforming world. Though targeted primarily to business audiences, they have as much to say to anyone struggling to manage ordinary stresses, communicate effectively with others, and chart a satisfying life path in a time when traditional guidelines and milestones are fading into irrelevance.

“Many people’s attitudes about what they expect from life are changing so rapidly that organizations, institutions, and governments just can’t keep up,”

says sociologist and globalization expert Mauro F. Guillén, vice dean for the Wharton Executive MBA program and author of *The Perennials: The Megatrends Creating a Postgenerational Society* (St. Martin’s Press). “The tried-and-true sequential path of play, study, work, retire is under question,” he continues. “Younger adults are more fluid about their identities in all kinds of ways, older ones are working into their 60s and 70s, and the idea of the nuclear family is in disarray, as children live with their parents well into adulthood while single-person households continue to increase around the world.” At its crux, Guillén’s book examines the ways in which generational barriers have held us back and

how we can battle prescribed ideas of what we *should* do as we try to find a place in society for our chosen identity.

That notion crops up at one point in *Magic Words: What to Say to Get Your Way* (Harper Business), as its author Jonah Berger, an associate professor of marketing at Wharton, encourages readers to reconsider the default of “should” in favor of the more expansive “could” when faced with a lifestyle decision or work problem to solve. But that’s just one of many ways that “readers can benefit by paying more attention to the words they use,” he says. Berger, whose research interest in mining the riches of AI-assisted natural language processing has led him to parse millions of writing samples







(from emails to song lyrics) to extract what works in selling, persuading, and influencing others, says “learning the science behind impactful language is a key way to activate identity and agency.”

The idea of regaining a sense of control is at the heart of *Burnout Immunity: How Emotional Intelligence Can Help You Build Resilience and Heal Your Relationship with Work* (Harper Business) by Kandi Wiens GrEd’16, a senior fellow at the Graduate School of Education who studies how people deal with extreme stress in their work lives. Prompted by her own recurring bouts of burnout and her quest to learn more about how others keep it at bay, the book leads readers toward gaining a better understanding of their relation to work. “Heightening your awareness of your triggers and protective responses—how you react when you feel stress—is an important strategy that I use almost every single day,” she says. “I ask myself, *what patterns am I noticing that are derailing me?* And then I reflect on what that behavior is doing to me, or to others, or to my productivity. Often it comes down to boundaries, which can feel a little uncomfortable. It’s still hard for me to say ‘no,’ but it gives me enormous relief.”

Crucially, each of these books also look at the importance of reaching out, of making connections, of combating the loneliness that sociologists say plagues so many of us. Guillén touches upon how lifestyle choices like choosing not to marry or to have children, and demographic trends like living longer, can lead to isolation, while Berger says that “understanding that language can be an amazing tool helps us live richer lives by offering ways to make deeper connections.”

Wiens ties avoiding the cynicism and feelings of inadequacy that are hallmarks of burnout to the importance of building a meaningful relationship to work. But that might not be the right emphasis for “someone who feels no special connection to their work and feels stuck there because, say, they need

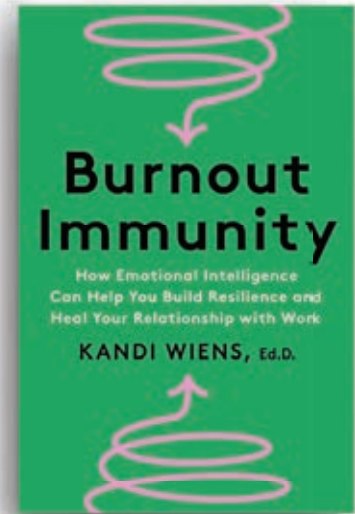
the paycheck,” she acknowledges. “In that situation, there are tricks to help you compartmentalize that stress, to isolate it so that when you’re out of work, you can concentrate on enjoying the people and activities that *are* meaningful to you.”

### HARD WORK

As she relates in *Burnout Immunity*, it took a long time for Wiens to come to terms with her own workaholic tendencies. A child of divorce who grew up on an Indian reservation with her mother, she experienced “abject poverty, little opportunity for education, and, on my mom’s side of the family, a long history of mental illness and alcoholism,” she writes. At age 12, though, her circumstances changed when the judicial system allowed her to decide where to live and she moved in with her father and stepmother. Overnight, discipline and a work ethic became part of her daily life, and she began flourishing academically. With this success came new problems, however: “an addiction to external validation and an overactive need to achieve.”

The first in her family to attend college, she—not always expertly—juggled work with her studies, sometimes holding down more than one job. Once she obtained her MBA, a career as a management consultant saw her routinely working 65-hour weeks. “Every Sunday evening I was filled with dread and anxiety,” she recalls in the book. “I’d calculate how much of my signing bonus I would have to repay if I quit.” The golden handcuffs of “more money than the skinny little girl on the rez could have dreamed of” couldn’t protect her from imposter syndrome or worrying that she was turning into a bad wife and neglectful mom to her two young kids.

Things came to a head when, during a routine physical, she was told that her blood pressure had soared so high she was considered in hypertensive crisis. On bedrest at home, she prepared to embark on a new phase—one that made



**“No one is immune to stress, but everyone can acquire burnout immunity.”**

time for exercise and mindfulness, for leaving work at work, and for taking real vacations. She started doing some serious learning about burnout.

Wiens’s first book is the fruit of what happened after she enrolled in the doctoral program at Penn GSE, completed her dissertation, and began designing studies that looked at the seemingly remarkable ability of those working in very stressful jobs—chief medical officers at large hospitals, leaders in big city police departments, etc.—to withstand burnout. Their secret sauce: *emotional intelligence*, defined by Daniel Goleman, the psychologist who popularized the term in a 1995 book, as a blend of learnable skills like self-awareness, self-regulation, self-motivation, empathy, and relationship-building. “Their experience clarified for me a key fact,” Wiens writes. “No one is immune to stress, but everyone can acquire burnout immunity.”

Through a mix of exercises, tips, case studies, and explorations of aspects of burnout, Wiens helps readers armor up against a plague that incidentally, she points out, is solely related to our work-

ing lives. “Many people use the word ‘burnout’ very colloquially,” she says. “They throw it around left and right because it’s a good way to express a lack of engagement or motivation. But those who started researching burnout in the early ’80s defined it as a psychological syndrome that people experience as a result of chronic stress at work. And while my definition goes beyond that to encompass other facets of a person’s life, it starts with work. When we experience a lot of stress at work, it limits our ability to deal with personal stressors.”

As Wiens discovered, self-awareness is key to beginning this process, and an early chapter is simply titled “Case Study: You,” in which the reader is led to a better understanding of how their temperament, personality, childhood traumas, and triggers influence their responses to stressors. A companion “Burnout Risk Assessment” asks the participant how strongly they agree or disagree with statements such as: *I view stressors as problems that can be solved* and *I feel like I am good at my job*. The exercise might prove eye-opening, she adds, because there are endless reasons we find to avoid confronting our burgeoning burnout, including being afraid that if we slow down, we’ll get passed over for opportunities or, most disconcertingly, simply not having enough time to think about anything other than work.

The book’s succeeding chapters explore key strategies for resisting and tackling burnout. Drawing on recent neuroscience research, Wiens suggests, for example, that the familiar knots and flutters we feel when we’re stressed can be transformed into confidence-builders if we reframe them as challenges instead of threats. “The next time your stress response gets triggered—your heart pounds, you sweat, you start to worry and doubt yourself ... acknowledge and accept it,” she writes. “[T]ell yourself you’ll prevail ... *I’m stressed right now, but this ain’t my first rodeo, and I’m going to kick some ass.*”



**“The easier it is to use new language processing tools to measure and document the things that hold us back as a society, the better we can address them.”**

Elsewhere, Wiens shares a personal story about a strategy she and her sister, Jodi, developed to downgrade their negativity spirals when faced with routine stressors like teenagers sulking and bosses barking. They came up with a stress taxonomy of “honkers, hassles, headaches, and hardships that,” she writes, “helps keep things in perspective.”

Wiens’s last chapter begins by noting that burnout isn’t just a “temporary setback or a rough spot in your career,” and continues with prescriptions for the road to recovery. It ends with a look at how she reconnected with and reimaged her own sense of self during a leadership class in which, “for two whole days, we did visioning exercises, leadership development lessons, small group discussions, and lots of deep self-reflection,” she writes.

Emerging with a tactical plan toward realizing her career and lifestyle goals,

Wiens got her doctorate, started teaching, took on big research projects, and got a coaching certificate. The plan helped her “pursue meaningful work ... without sacrificing my physical or mental health, or my time with family and friends,” she concludes. “And that, my friends, is how after years of work I finally acquired burnout immunity.”

## WORD PLAYS

Developing a strong sense of self is at the core of Jonah Berger’s *Magic Words*, too. The strategy shows up in his first chapter, where he outlines how mentally casting yourself as the lead actor in your own story gets results. “People can be described in various ways,” he writes. “Charlie likes baseball, Kristen is a liberal, and Mike eats a lot of chocolate. ... From demographics like age and gender, to opinions, traits and preferences, descriptions like these provide some sense of who someone is or what they’re like.

“There are many ways, however, to say the same thing. Someone who has left-leaning political beliefs, for example, could be described as being ‘liberal’ or as being ‘a liberal.’ Someone who likes dogs a lot could be described as ‘loving dogs’ or as being ‘a dog lover.’”

Berger contends that using a noun instead of a verb or adjective moves the actor into the company of a specific set of people. And such “category labels,” he continues, “often imply a degree of permanence or stability. ... Regardless of time or situation, this is the type of person they are. They will always be that way.” Good to know, but Berger is interested in the research that backs up these seemingly intuitive feelings, and how they can produce desired results.

In a study of four- and five-year-old kids, researchers got better results by asking kids to be “helpers” rather than to “help” tidy up a pile of blocks on the classroom floor. In another example with higher stakes, when researchers talked about the chance to be a “voter” in a get-out-the-vote effort, turnout increased by

more than 15 percent. These simple shifts turn “what was previously just an action into something more profound,” Berger observes. “An opportunity to claim a desired identity.” The same goes for discouraging negative behavior. Research finds that saying “Don’t be a cheater” rather than “Don’t cheat” more than halves the amount of cheating. Another one of Berger’s tips in the arena of harnessing language to foster identity and agency involve changing *can’t* into *don’t* and *should* into *could*.

Berger touts the “new science of language,” which he first employed in researching his debut book, *Contagious: Why Things Catch On*. “Technological advances in machine learning, computational linguistics, and natural language processing, combined with the digitization of everything from cover letters to conversations, have revolutionized our ability to analyze language,” he writes in *Magic Words*. More recently, “hundreds of new tools and approaches have emerged” for counting chosen terms, revealing a document’s main themes, and “extracting wisdom from words,” which have “transformed the social sciences, providing insight into all types of human behavior.”

As he reveals again and again in the new book, they’ve allowed researchers to become much more granular, parsing how a different word, or even an additional letter or two, can make a big difference. “By some estimates, we use around sixteen thousand words a day,” he writes. “Individual words often seem interchangeable. ... [T]hat’s wrong. Very wrong.”

For instance, in a chapter on conveying confidence, Berger reports on a study he and his colleagues designed that sought to determine whether using a different tense might influence persuasion. When they analyzed more than a million online reviews, they found that no matter the category, “present tense boosted impact. Saying music ‘is’ rather than ‘was’ great, a printer ‘does’ rather than ‘did’ a good job, or a restaurant ‘makes’ rather

than ‘made’ delicious tacos led people to find the opinions more helpful, useful, and persuasive.” The reason? Past tense suggests a subjective personal experience that happened one time, while present tense feels more general, enduring, and expansive.

In another look at confidence, Berger references former president Donald Trump W’68’s ability to make forceful declarations with conviction and certitude. “To convey confidence, ditch the hedges [like *probably* or *maybe*],” writes Berger. “And in their place, do what Donald Trump does. Use definites. Words like ‘definitely,’ ‘clearly,’ and ‘obviously’ remove any shred of doubt. Things are *unambiguous*, the evidence is *irrefutable*, and the answer is *undeniable*. *Everyone* knows it, it’s *guaranteed*, and it’s *precisely* what we need right now.”

Berger expands on these ideas in a segment devoted to emotional language. “Products or services can be described as more hedonic or more utilitarian,” he writes. “Music, flowers, and other hedonic things are consumed for the pleasure and enjoyment they provide. ... Glue, gasoline, toasters, and other utilitarian objects, in contrast, are consumed for more functional or practical reasons.” Correspondingly, researchers have found that more people chose a restaurant described as “amazing” and “enjoyable” than the one cited as “perfect” and “worthwhile.” But, Berger continues, “for razors, emotionality backfired. Emotional reviews were [rated as] *less* helpful, made people *less* willing to purchase.” That’s because, he continues, “while someone might say a blender is ‘amazing’ or ‘delightful’ ... such emotional language often ... violates people’s expectations ... [and] may even lower trust in what was said and the person who said it.”

Language may help us get our way, as Berger’s subtitle suggests, but he emphasizes that its impact goes beyond winning friends and influencing people. “Language is a window into many different aspects of our daily lives,” he says. “We can learn so much about people and

society from it. Take gender bias. Why does it persist? It’s one thing to say, ‘It feels like men and women are treated differently,’ and another to go through thousands of children’s books and tally the genders of the protagonists. Opinions are great, but people trust data, and the easier it is to use new language processing tools to measure and document the things that hold us back as a society, the better we can address them.”

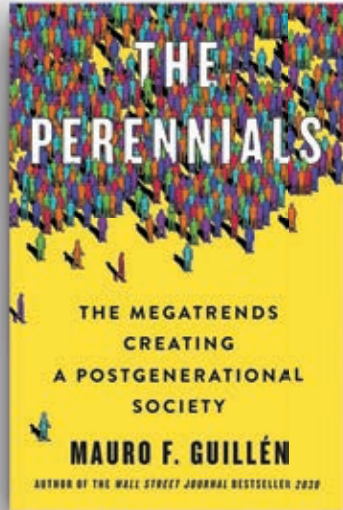
## LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES

Gender and other demographic boxes lie at the heart of *The Perennials*. For instance, Guillén, who is also the William H. Wurster Professor of Multinational Management, discusses how women’s careers can be penalized when they have children. “The Modern Family Index, published annually by Bright Horizons, shows that two-thirds of Americans believe mothers are more likely to be passed over for a new job than fathers,” he writes. Another study finds that “working mothers get a 4 percent *pay cut* for each child, whereas fathers enjoy an average 6 percent increase.” He quotes the study’s author, sociologist Michelle Budig: “Employers read fathers as more stable and committed to their work ... the opposite of how parenthood by women is interpreted.”

Guillén’s observations on working women are in the service of his overall examination of the societal changes—like gender identity and rises in both childlessness and single motherhood—contributing to the upsetting of the apple cart that he calls the “sequential model of life.” These and other demographic shifts have thrown out the playbook on how we live, learn, work, and consume.

“Let me call these massive transformations the *postgenerational revolution*,” Guillén writes in his introduction. “As a result, we will witness the proliferation of perennials.” The term that gives the book its title was actually coined by Gina Pell, a San Francisco-based content creator and marketer, acknowledges





**“We’ve become subject to the tyranny of age and life-stage to an extent that doesn’t unleash our fullest potential.”**

Guillén. “The publishers preferred the sound of it,” he says. “In any case, I am referring to people who behave in a way that is not age dependent. We’ve become subject to the tyranny of age and life-stage to an extent that doesn’t unleash our fullest potential.”

His book begins with a look at the historical traditions around the four stations of life—childhood, adolescence, working, and retiring—and the ramifications they have on how we do or don’t pass through them. The “reification of [these stations] is so deeply ingrained in our mind that we have come not only to take them for granted but also to castigate those who do not make progress from one stage to the next on a timely basis,” Guillén writes. “Those who do not shift from infancy to adolescence as a prelude to adulthood are called Peter Pans. An adolescent who never grows up to become an adult is a rebel. A worker who can’t afford to retire is a failure, spendthrift, or irresponsible.”

It’s no wonder that phrases like *rebel without a cause*, *parent trap*, and *midlife crisis* have become common currency, and that intergenerational conflicts have become a cliché no matter what decade we’re in. What’s new, Guillén points out, is that we now have more generations than ever before alive at the same time. That’s due not only to longer life spans but also to increased stratifications—whereas Baby Boomers span almost 20 years, or what we typically think of as a “generation,” Millennials, as commonly defined, were born within just 14 years of each other.

Later, Guillén questions generational stereotypes and constructs, suggesting that comparisons of attitudes and behaviors are more nuanced. “Age is merely the position of each individual in the life cycle,” he writes. *Period effects* involve events that change all generations equally, while *cohort effects* are events or trends that affect one generation differently from another.”

Today’s life-stage shakeups—like skipping college, postponing marriage, or exploring new careers later in life—combined with people who for a variety of reasons haven’t wanted, or been able, to hew to the accepted roadmap, compound the growing irrelevancy of generational boundaries, Guillén asserts. “There’s all this stuff on the web that tells us who ‘millennial women’ are, for example,” he says. “But how can a group be pigeonholed by their birth years? If a 42-year-old has no kids, a graduate degree, and a great job at a consulting firm, and a 28-year-old has two kids, no high school diploma, and works nights at Home Depot, how could these two women possibly approach life in the same way? To even think that is stupid.”

Guillén says he was prompted to ponder all of this while delivering a webinar to executives from prominent American zoos and aquariums about the ideas in his previous book, *2030: How Today’s Biggest Trends Will Collide and Reshape the Future of Everything* [“The Future Is

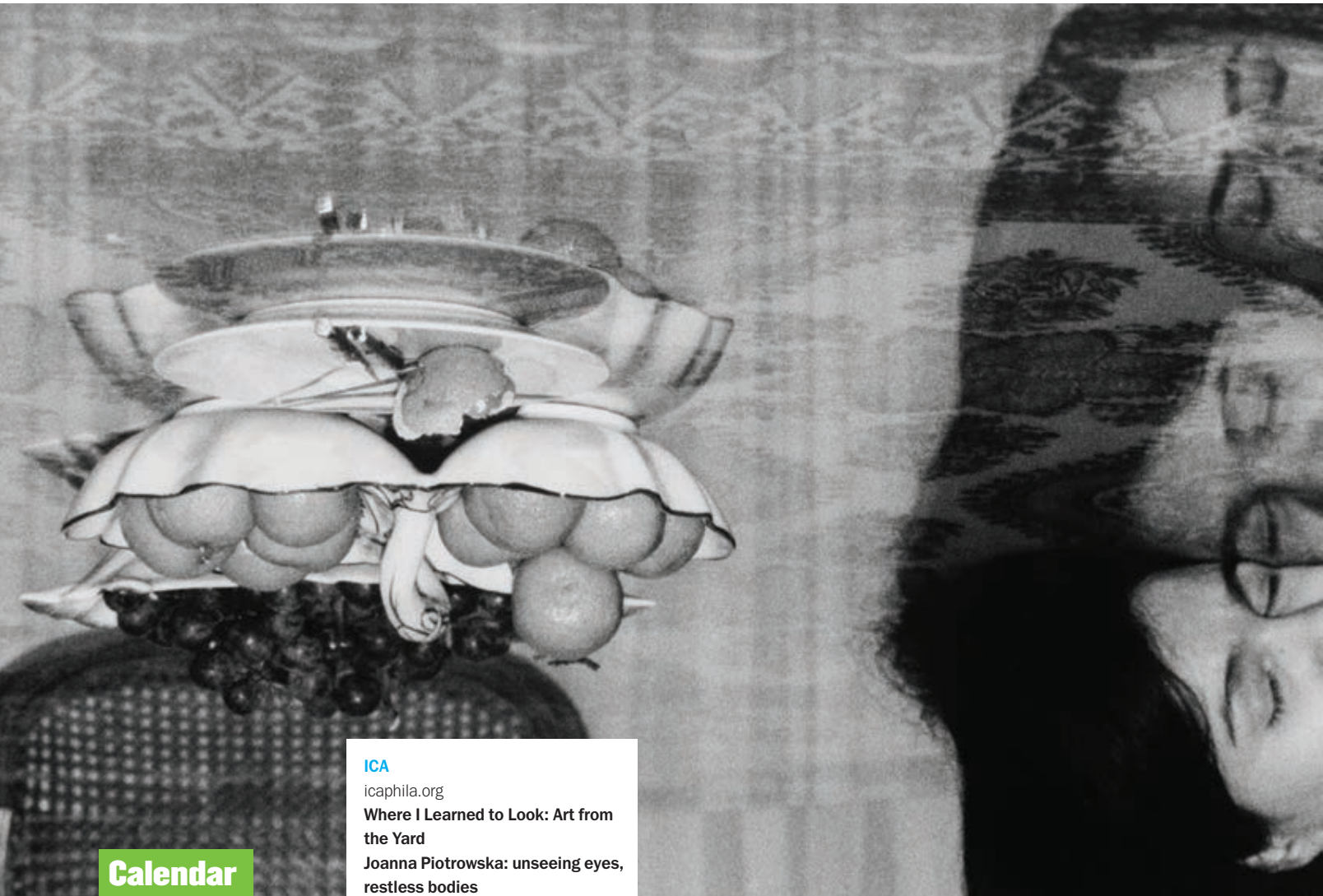
Coming—Fast,” Sep|Oct 2020], published during the height of the pandemic. As he spoke, he realized that these institutions were losing the vast swath of the public that’s not comprised of young children or their parents or grandparents. “How does a zoo attract teenagers, adults without children, and those whose children are no longer small?” he writes. “These organizations have begun to add special events or exhibits incorporating video games, virtual reality, and the metaverse to do just that. In this postgenerational world, not just zoos but all organizations need to use every tool at their disposal to capture the imagination of people at different stages in life—all at once.”

The pandemic forced all kinds of institutions to examine their old models, as the inequities inherent between races and genders were exposed, the possibilities and limitations of remote work were examined, online shopping and learning were pushed to the fore, and the very idea of who stayed home and what they did there went up in smoke. Guillén ends the book optimistically in noting the increased prevalence of multigenerational households and workplaces and a trend toward more people of all ages seeking continuing education in person and online (something he experiences in his work related to the MBA Program for Executives). “The postgenerational revolution is already in the making, with more and more people becoming true perennials,” he writes. “We just need to escape from old conceptions and ride the wave to change.”

And, as Wiens and Berger also remind us, it’s never too late to change. Committing to understanding our relationship to work, learning to tap into the power of the correct word, and inviting people of all ages and stages into our lives are a few of the ways, these authors assure us, that we can change ourselves, our relationships, and society for the better.

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JoAnn Greco is a frequent contributor to the *Gazette*.



## Calendar

## ICA

icaphila.org

**Where I Learned to Look: Art from the Yard**

**Joanna Piotrowska: unseeing eyes, restless bodies**

Both through Dec. 1

**Kelly Writers House**

writing.upenn.edu/wh/

**Sep. 5** Armen Davoudian & Fatemeh Shams

**Sep. 10** Mamie Morgan

**Sep. 16** YA Novelist Candice Iloh

**Sep. 17** *Small Ball* (The Musical)—a conversation about sports and musical theater

**Sep. 23** Alina Grabowski

**Sep. 25** Jim Rutenberg & Dick Polman

**Sep. 25** Poet Peter Gizzi

**Oct. 15** *On Dictée*—an appreciation

**Oct. 22** *Debut Authors in Horror, Romance, Historical Fiction & More*

**Morris Arboretum and Gardens**

morrisarboretum.org

open daily

**Garden Railway**

Through September 30

Penn Museum

penn.museum

**Ancient Food & Flavor**

**Looking to the Stars, Listening to the Earth: a Song Dynasty Tomb**

**World Café Live**

worldcafelive.com

**Sep. 4** American Aquarium

**Sep. 10** La Santa Cecilia

**Sep. 11** Paul Thorn Band

**Sep. 12** Veronica Swift

**Sep. 13** The White Buffalo + Shawn James

**Sep. 18** Yemen Blues

**Sep. 19** Sumbuck

**Sep. 20** My Brightest Diamond

**Sep. 24** Ibibio Sound Machine

**Oct. 1** The Moth StorySLAM: Strange Encounters

**Oct. 2** Jonatha Brooke

**Oct. 5** The Lone Bellow

**Oct. 9** Bilal

**Oct. 10** Kate Nash

**Oct. 11** KOKOROKO

**Oct. 15** Alex Warren

**Oct. 25** Will Hoge

**Oct. 26** Pokey LaFarge

**Above:** Joanna Piotrowska's *Untitled*, 2024, silver gelatin hand print, courtesy of the artist and Phillida Reid. From the ICA exhibition, *Joanna Piotrowska: unseeing eyes, restless bodies*.



# The Toothpick

Endless forms most beautiful and bizarre.



**The Art and History of the Toothpick:**  
A Catalog of the World's Largest Collection  
By Steven R. Potashnick GD'78  
HenschelHAUS, 336 pages, \$125

Top to bottom: grooming kit carved in homage to the 1835 appearance of Halley's comet; ivory toothpick inlaid with baleen, abalone shell, and mother-of-pearl; 24-piece tool bearing illustrations of a prison.

In 1992, Steven Potashnick GD'78 came home from a downtown Chicago auction house hauling a 19th-century dental cabinet made of solid oak. It was a beautiful piece. There was no denying its elegant craftsmanship—and his wife Jo Ann didn't try. She merely observed that her husband already owned one. And that antique dental cabinets take up quite a bit of room.

Steve had always been a collector—albeit a “somewhat scattered one,” by his own admission. Jo Ann, meanwhile, had “fully countenanced” his acquisitional urge. But spousal harmony is a delicate dance, and this latest purchase moved Jo Ann to steer her partner with a simple instruction: Why don't you collect something smaller? In fact, she had a rather specific limit in mind: “Nothing bigger than a bread box.”

Potashnick was soon lamenting this new limitation to a friend in the antiques trade, who responded by showing him two items that would send him down a decades-deep rabbit hole. They were toothpicks. One had been carved out of ivory and decorated by a whaler in the mid-1800s. The other, “which was more ornate,” had been fashioned from bone.

“I said, ‘What are those?’” Potashnick recalls. “And she said, ‘You're a dentist, aren't you? You should look these up.’”

He bought the pair, set about searching for more information, and found that almost nothing had been written about the subject. “The last book of significance concentrating on the toothpick” was a 1913 monograph by a German dentist named Hans Sachs—which Potashnick eventually had translated and republished in English.

Yet toothpicks themselves constituted a realm of astonishing variety and artistry. The earliest known toothpick, excavated from Ur by C. Leonard Woolley during the joint archeological dig between Penn and the British Museum [“Oldest Examples of Writing Uncovered in Babylonia,” Jan 1924], dates to approximately 3500 BCE. Since then, humans



## Arts

have fashioned tooth-picking instruments from quills, bone, bronze, tortoiseshell, silver, gold, and celluloid; decorated them with sculpted birds, boots, pistols, monks and mermaids; encrusted them with rubies and diamonds; combined them with ear spoons, tweezers, crochet hooks, pie crimpers, and mechanical pencils; and encased them in everything from mother-of-pearl to lion teeth.

Beginning with that fateful encounter in the early 1990s, Potashnick amassed a collection of about 750 toothpicks, which then doubled in size with his 2007 acquisition of another collection built by Peter Katz, an England-based aficionado who'd caught Potashnick's attention 10 years before by authoring a scholarly paper titled "The Toothpick and the Propelling Pencil." The combined collections form the basis for Potashnick's "COVID project," a 336-page, sumptuously illustrated compendium called *The Art and History of the Toothpick: A Catalog of the World's Largest Collection*.

The 2,800-image, full-color feast shows that the humble toothpick's diminutive size seems to have only magnified the ingenuity applied to its manufacture. Here's a miniature enameled silver sarcophagus concealing a retractable toothpick sprung loose by a "magic mechanism." There's a four-spoked bone contraption wrapped with tiny glass beads arranged by a Napoleonic prisoner of war into letters spelling out devotion to God. A section on Grooming Kits features a veritable Swiss Army Knife typology combining toothpick, ear spoon, comb, and other implements within a decorative homage to the 1835 appearance of Halley's Comet. A page devoted to "Victorian Risqué" features a celluloid toothpick in the form of a man whose hinged "genitalia" can be fully hidden by the torso or rotated out to its unseemly position."

Apart from the disposable wooden variety that began appearing in restaurants during the late 19th century (but do not figure in this collection), toothpicks have persistently been carved,



lathed, cast, polished, and embellished like objets d'art. "The museum pieces from the Renaissance are gorgeous," declares Potashnick, who draws several images from museums, including an early-16th-century portrait by the Italian painter Alessandro Oliverio depicting a wealthy patron wearing a fancy tooth-

Top to bottom: Bone and horn toothpick depicting a lady's leg; bone and bead toothpick credited to a French Napoleonic prisoner of war; bone toothpick with concave grip; enameled gold flintlock pistol containing a toothpick and mechanical pencil.

pick suspended from a gold neck chain. "I mean, they're toothpicks, but I almost think that's secondary to the artistic concepts that go along with them."

Through the Industrial Revolution, toothpicks often served as "a way of showing your wealth"—be it by wielding precision-made mechanical pencil combo versions or carved-horn trinkets that served notice of a visit to the Eiffel Tower. The age of advertising also left its mark. Metal toothpick cases sang the praises of whiskey, beer, and cigars. Advances in printing turned celluloid toothpicks into miniature billboards. "PICK YOUR TEETH," blared one exemplar. "Then pick your vocation by taking a course in CARLISLE COMMERCIAL COLLEGE, CARLISLE, PA."

Potashnick marvels over the endless forms toothpicks have taken. "If you can eat it, or if you can use it—like a bottle, a golf club, a carrot—then they probably also converted it into a toothpick." Then there were ingenious creations like Sheldon's Pocket Companion, an 1842 gadget that combined a toothpick, dip pen, pencil, and postage scale. "It's just so clever!"

He hopes his book will serve as a resource for antique dealers—and a wake-up call for the many who have met his toothpick-related inquiries with blank stares. Toothpicks, he says, reflect shifting cultural circumstances, artistic tastes, and trends in manufacturing. "They started as objects in the natural environment"—grass stalks, for instance, used to dislodge irritating bits of dietary fiber—"and they evolved into something that was art, craft, novelty, and innovation."

There's just one thing the longtime member of the American Dental Association does not recommend: using them.

"They can be dangerous. People poke themselves with them. Toothpicks can sometimes increase the spaces between teeth," Potashnick warns. "And the fact of the matter is that most of the toothpicks you see in the book were not used for hygiene purposes as we know it today. They weren't thinking about biofilms and microbial plaque."—TP

# In Kahn's Hand

Resurrecting the great architect's final notebook.

**T**his year marks the 50th anniversary of the death of architect Louis Kahn Ar1924 Hon'71. In commemoration, his oldest daughter, Sue Ann Kahn CW'61, has proffered a gift to architecture historians and enthusiasts with *Louis I. Kahn: The Last Notebook*.

It's actually a two-part offering. First, there's a facsimile of the original hard-cover Winsor and Newton notebook—right down to its ink-splotched dark red buckram cover and the perforations on its thin, translucent pages—in which Kahn wrote and sketched during a particularly fertile period of his practice. In addition, his daughter has edited and annotated an accompanying softcover volume that provides context and captions for her father's illustrations and jottings. Those begin with pencil studies for his Roosevelt Memorial from February/March 1973 ["Constructing a New Kahn," Mar|Apr 2013] and end on February 17, 1974 (exactly a month before he died) with a doodle of a starry burst of light that resembles a comic book's Pow! symbol. This companion piece also includes an editor's introduction, a lengthy appreciation from architecture critic Michael J. Lewis G'85 Gr'89, additional photos and presentation drawings, and a note from publisher Lars Müller that illuminates how complicated this labor of love was. Frequent *Gazette* contributor JoAnn Greco talked with Sue Ann Kahn in June about her father and his last notebook.

## Why did you think it was worth publishing this particular notebook?

I inherited this notebook, along with many others, in 1996 when my mother [Esther Kahn Ed'27 G'33] died. I always felt that this one was very special and I wanted to share it so readers could delight in it as I have. For the last 15



**Louis I. Kahn: The Last Notebook**  
Edited by Sue Ann Kahn. Text by Michael J. Lewis.  
Lars Müller Publishers, 192 pages, \$45

years, I've tried intermittently to publish it and everyone, including Lars, turned it down. About two years ago I was having lunch with Michael Lewis and he mentioned that 2024 would be the 50th anniversary of my father's death. I was absolutely stunned at the realization and started thinking that we should plan something. I thought again of the book. Lars happened to be in New York

City, where I live, and I mentioned the anniversary and invited him to come and see the book in person—and he said, *Let's do it!* But he made it clear that I would have to raise the money for what was going to be a very expensive process. Tying it into a commemoration helped give it impetus.

## What were some of the difficulties in replicating the book?

Lars made several trips to meet with a lithographer in Germany, because it was going to be very difficult to isolate the varied textures and colors presented by the use of charcoal and pencil and red ink in the book; you also have these shadows and bleed-through. Since I'm a professional musician, I've also been fortunate during the years to view many original scores. I once held a sketchbook of Beethoven's in my hand! That really gave me a feeling of his presence and his creative process, and that's the feeling I wanted readers to get from this book. So we wound up making more and more expensive decisions to make an exact replica.

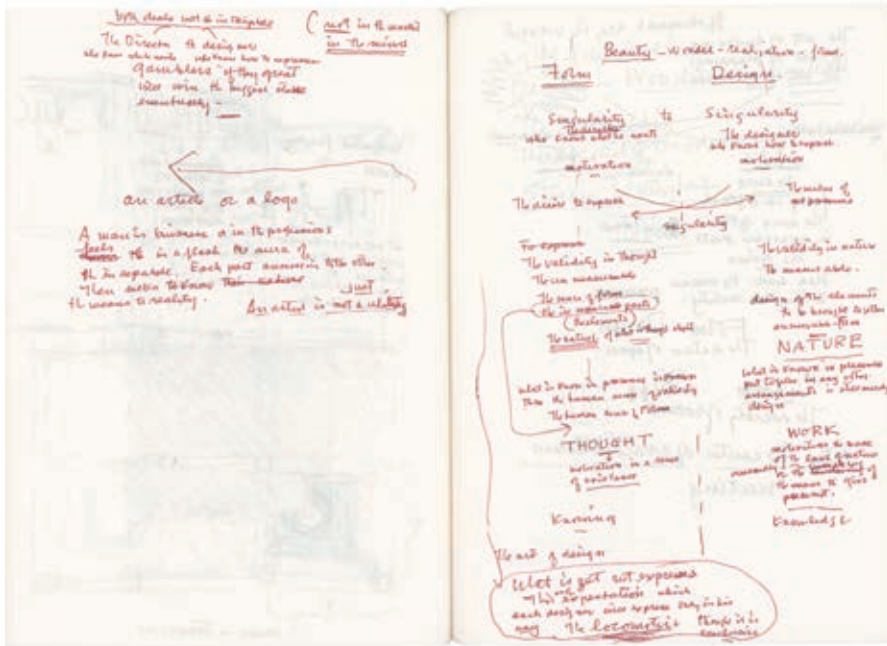
## Do you have memories of watching your dad sketch?

He was always drawing. He would go on a trip and would have a notebook or sheets of paper. The ideas were always flowing: when he wasn't drawing, he was talking, and sometimes doing both together. At various phases of his life, he thought he would be an artist or musician. He was offered scholarships for both but wound up studying architecture at Penn.

## How do the sketches elucidate the way Lou approached a project?

I think the flight of eight charcoal perspective drawings near the end of the book is a great example. He must have made them in the space of, I don't know, 20 minutes. It's just *boom boom boom*, these quick ideas of what the memorial at Roosevelt Island is going to feel like,





but still filled with detail. We're pretty sure they were made to be transferred to large scale for a presentation.

**Can you discuss your research? Did any new discoveries or stories emerge?**

I have every serious book written about my father, so I have my own archives. I did make a few trips to Philadelphia, though, and without Penn's Architectural Archives I don't think I could have produced research at this level. Michael and I went out to Penn to learn a bit more about the Tehran project [a new city center called Abbasabad], which was the last my father took on. We asked Bill [Whitaker, Architectural Archives collections manager] if we could look at the original drawings. Out comes a huge folder of yellow trace drawings and in it was a missing page from this notebook. That was quite amazing. It's a drawing of the site that basically looks like a profile of a human head. My father had torn it from the notebook to make a photocopy. I also reached out to Farshid Emami, an Iranian architect and assistant professor at Rice University, who put me in touch with Nader Ardalan, an architect who went to Iran with my father. Nader told

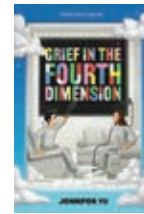
me that he was in Egypt, visiting the Valley of the Kings with his family—because my father had suggested he needed to see it in order to understand the Tehran project—when he got the news that my father died.

**The way that this notebook just abruptly ends is moving, since it can't help but remind us of Lou's sudden death. Your invitation to readers to fill in the remaining blank pages with their own thoughts or drawings is generous.**

I still believe in the immediacy and intimacy of the drawing process. People should take this book and go to Roosevelt Island and sketch, or go sit in a park and write a poem. Whatever you feel like doing—the book is not meant to be a precious or rare thing. There's 3,500 of them! I may be naive in thinking that people will use it this way, though. One of my architect friends said, *No way would I ever draw in this.* I said, *Why not? The paper is fantastic. Try it!*

Sue Ann Kahn will appear at the Weitzman School of Design on September 18 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss her new book and the work of Louis I. Kahn. For more information, visit design.upenn.edu.

**Briefly Noted**



**GRIEF IN THE FOURTH DIMENSION** by Jennifer Yu C'16 (Abrams Books, 2024, \$19.99.) In this young adult novel that tackles grief and the afterlife, high school classmates Caroline and

Kenny live completely separate lives on Earth, but in the afterlife, they are thrown together as roommates in a mysterious white room where they work together to contact their families through radio signals, psychic mediums, and electromagnetic interference.



**KIDNAPPED AT SEA: The Civil War Voyage of David Henry White** by Andrew Sillen Gr'81 (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2024, \$32.95.) Anthropologist Andrew Sillen

tells the true story of David Henry White, a free Black teenager kidnapped and enslaved on the high seas during the Civil War. In his captor's memoir, White has been falsely described as a contented slave who remained loyal to the Confederacy, but Sillen uses a forensic approach to set the record straight.



**AND ALWAYS ONE MORE TIME: A Memoir** by Margaret Mandell CW'72 G'74 (Atmosphere Press, 2024, \$16.99.) After Mandell's husband of 40 years, Herbert E. Mandell C'71,

dies of pulmonary fibrosis on her 65th birthday, she keeps their connection alive by writing daily letters to him. Years later, when a new man quietly steps into her life, she is forced to reconcile how much love one heart can hold.



**FOLLOWING SIMILAR PATHS: What American Jews and Muslims Can Learn from One Another** by Samuel C. Heilman Gr'73 and Mucahit Bilici (University of California Press, 2024,

\$29.95.) Two academics, one Jewish and one Muslim, come together to show how much their faiths have in common—particularly in America. Both Heilman and Bilici teach sociology in the City University of New York system. Visit [thepenngazette.com](http://thepenngazette.com) for more *Briefly Noted*.





## **Fashionable Journey**

How rediscovering a childhood passion led to a career pivot and a growing clothing brand. **►**

**“I love when someone comes into the store who feels discouraged, and they aren’t sure I am going to have something for them, and they aren’t really happy with their body,”** says Lesley Evers C’89, a fashion designer who runs her eponymous clothing brand.

After all, she knows she can change that. “I can help that person feel really good. That is what drives me: making clothing that makes women feel really pretty.”

Despite not starting her company until the age of 40, Evers has found success in the fashion world. In addition to a robust website (LesleyEvers.com), she has brick-and-mortar stores in Oakland, California, and Portland, Oregon, with two more on the way, including one on the East Coast. Her work, which is known for its brightly colored designs, has made appearances on *Good Morning America* and in the pages of *InStyle* magazine.

“I feel like I have had a journey to get here,” she says.

Evers has always had a passion for making fun, quirky clothes. She started sewing at the age of 11 and wore self-made designs through high school and college. “I remember I made this black trench coat with zebra lining, and I had different skirts that I made,” she says. “I would sew a lot in the summer when I wasn’t in school.”

She wanted to enter the world of fashion out of high school but her mom, keen for her to get a more general education, insisted she look at

Penn instead of a design school. “I went to Penn to visit, and it was beautiful,” she says, “so I wasn’t sad to go there.”

Although Penn didn’t offer classes in fashion, she found a fulfilling major in what was then called “Design of the Environment,” which included painting and drawing classes. With the help of a friend, Evers (who went by Leslie Morgan in college) also sold her own scrunchie designs to classmates.

After college, Evers moved to New York City, where she waited tables and sold paintings, first from her apartment and then in a gallery. She loved making art, but it was lonely. “I was really missing working with other people,” she says. “We didn’t even have social media back then to post your paintings. It was very isolating.”

When she was 29, she met her husband at her grandmother’s 90th birthday party. “Our grandfathers were best friends, but they had died. Our grandmothers had played bridge for 50 years,” she says. “I met him when I was little at Christmas parties, but I didn’t remember him.” She moved to Oakland, where her new husband lived, using it as an opportunity to start over. “I was like, *I don’t have to paint anymore*,” she says. “I could do whatever I want.”

Evers stumbled into the field of graphic recording, where she went to business meetings and synthesized the key points of what participants were saying with words and pictures. “It was like taking meeting notes on

**“That is what drives me: making clothing that makes women feel really pretty.”**

big pieces of mural paper,” she explains. For the next decade she traveled the world working for high-profile clients, including Microsoft, the US State Department, and the CIA. One of her favorite memories was taking notes for Hillary Clinton’s team when she ran for president against Barack Obama.

Yet, as she approached 40, she was exhausted from travel and hungry to follow her true passion: fashion. “An alarm went off, and I was like, *If I don’t do this now I never will*.” So she pulled out her sewing machine and started selling clothes out of her house. “I bought a lot of different printed fabric, and I cut each design into eight to 10 prints, and I had a trunk show, and all my friends came,” she says. “Then other friends would host trunk shows, and we did it that way.” She then set up booths at trade shows to get wholesale accounts, eventually selling to over 100 boutiques across the country.

But she grew weary of selling wholesale. “We were so tired of having to collect money from all these stores,” she says. “This one store had ordered so much in inventory and then went out of business, and we had already manufactured all the clothing for them.” So in 2013 she decided

to open a store “on a really cute street” on College Avenue in Oakland and sell directly to customers—which, she says, “changed everything for me.”

Another game changer was when a mentor started running ads for her on Facebook, which she says helped her business begin to turn a profit. She now has 30 employees, including six designers, each of whom has the personality and energy she wants for her brand. “I try to cultivate a space where people can be positive,” she says. “They are just really excited to make people happy with no judgment.”

While most of her business is now online, she is focusing on opening more brick-and-mortar stores. “A store can do a couple of million a year, so we really need to open more to double our business, which is our goal,” she says. “Also, the store has a very low return rate.” It’s also the way she grows her customer base. “People will come in and say, ‘I’ve seen your clothes online for so long and I wanted to come to the store before I bought something,’” she says. “There is a lot of hesitation to buy new brands.”

Plus, Evers loves meeting her customers in person and hearing their stories. “The other day this lady told me she was at a baseball game wearing one of my dresses, and someone yelled, ‘Lesley Evers!’ and she turned around and yelled it back, and they became friends,” she says. “They became friends because they have me in common.”

—Alyson Krueger C’07





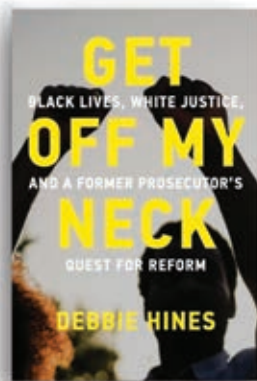
## Balancing the Scales

A former prosecutor's book outlines recommendations to reduce excessive criminal punishment of Black people.

**D**ebbie Hines CW'76 became a prosecutor in Baltimore to make a difference in the Black community—only to realize that prosecutors play a big role in criminalizing Black people.

Prosecutors at the state and local levels handle most criminal cases in the United States and have perpetuated a system that prioritizes plea bargaining, swift convictions, and excessive punishment of Black defendants, Hines claims. But prosecutors are also in the best position to reform the criminal justice system.

Earlier this year, Hines wrote *Get Off My Neck: Black Lives, White Justice, and a*



*Former Prosecutor's Quest for Reform*, which offers specific recommendations for criminal justice and racial justice reform, largely from within the system.

The title comes from Al Sharpton's eulogy for George

Floyd, a Black man whose murder by a white police officer sparked nationwide outrage and spurred Hines to write the book. But the recommendations she makes are based upon a lifetime of experiences.

For the first five years of her life, Hines lived in West Baltimore, not far from where weeks of protests and riots against police brutality would occur over the 2015 death of Freddie Gray, a Black man who died after sustaining a severe spinal cord injury while in police custody.

Hines, her parents Willie and Naomi, and older brother Emery moved to the Park Heights section of Baltimore, a neighborhood filled with working-class Black families, where Hines's parents lived for the next 40 years. Hines's childhood included "the talk" her parents gave her and her brother about how to behave around the police. "Black people pretty much know that if you're stopped by the police, try not to have any kneejerk actions," she says. "Try to let your hands be seen at all times. Try not to go to certain areas where there could be issues with the police in terms of driving." She also learned some of the history of police brutality. "Black people have known for years that police kill Black people, but it just didn't get reported and become as mainstream as it is now," adds Hines.

Hines and her brother were the first in their family to graduate from college. At Penn, Hines studied US history which "started me on a life-

long journey and yearning to know more about how history affects society, with a particular emphasis on Black Americans," she says. "My Penn studies helped me to think about change—that history does not need to be inevitable or repeat. Change is possible." Hines credits her advisor, former history professor and author Nell Irvin Painter, with dissuading her from pursuing a PhD and becoming a professor. "She actually told me what that entailed," says Hines. "I said to myself, *I do not want to spend my life publishing every year during the summer forever.*"

Hines instead earned a law degree from the George Washington University School of Law. A job as an assistant attorney general in the Maryland Attorney General's Office followed, and a few years later she joined the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office as a prosecutor.

In *Get Off My Neck*, Hines recommends a wide range of criminal and racial justice reforms to reduce the targeting and criminalization of Black people. These include establishing state oversight for prosecutors' offices, as well as "integrity units" to review convictions and throw out any obtained through misconduct or illegal actions. Hines also advocates for requiring prosecutors to get involved in the communities they serve, expanding restorative justice programs, and developing alliances to promote prosecutor reform and public safety.

Ending the prosecution of certain misdemeanors is on

## Alumni

her list, too. As a Baltimore City prosecutor, Hines worked on two or three felony cases per week but spent the bulk of her time on misdemeanors; on a given day, she handled up to 35 cases. Many misdemeanors “are just nuisance cases that clog the court” and should not be prosecuted, says Hines. These include trespassing, loitering, disorderly conduct, disturbance of the peace, driving on a suspended or expired license, driving a vehicle with expired tags, possession of marijuana, and prostitution. Civil fines should be imposed for traffic misdemeanors that do not cause harm or affect public safety.

After five years as a Baltimore prosecutor, Hines transitioned to private practice. She launched the Law Offices of Deborah K. Hines in 1998, focusing on criminal defense, family law, personal injury, and administrative law. That gave her new insight into the biases of the criminal justice system. “I saw the real up-front and personal effects on people that lasted long after their day in court ended,” she notes. Most of her Black clients face racial disparities regarding cash bail, probation, juvenile justice, sentencing, and increased or enhanced charges that she writes about in *Get Off My Neck*.

For example, “I see firsthand how a cash bail system keeps innocent people in jail before trial date and forces them to take a guilty plea to get on with their lives, even if innocent,” she says. “Almost all the Black clients I’ve represented who are placed on

probation receive supervised probation versus unsupervised probation that most white defendants receive.” Hines explains that supervised probation puts clients at risk of incarceration if they violate technical terms of their probation, such as missing an appointment, failing a drug test, failing to pay court fines or restitution, failing to complete anger management classes, and other technical violations that force them back to court. Clients who suffer from substance abuse and mental illness continue to get in trouble or receive more jail time because they violated a probation term due to their condition, she adds.

Hines appears frequently in the media to provide analysis of legal and political issues. She resided in Washington, DC, for 25 years, before returning to her hometown of Baltimore to live in a house she inherited from her brother.

Hines acknowledges in her book that changing “the footprint of the carceral prosecution system” will take “steady, relentless effort.” And for that, you need hope. Hines credits her mother for teaching her to always continue learning and never stop hoping. Her mother overcame many challenges, including being born with elephantiasis and leaving school in the ninth grade to work as a sharecropper with family in the Jim Crow-era South. “From everything I experienced in my life with my mother, I know that knowledge is key,” she says, “and that you always have to have hope.”

—Samantha Drake CGS’06

Bencie Woll CW’70



## Time of the Sign

How one woman carved out a career in linguistics for herself and others where there had been none.

**If not for the shorter duration (and lower tuition) of a master’s degree program in England** compared to the US, Bronx-born Bencie Woll CW’70 might well have missed out on becoming a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) in a ceremony at Windsor Castle last February—and the United Kingdom would have lost a pioneering scholar on the linguistics of British Sign Language and a longtime advocate for deaf education.

From childhood, Woll was fascinated by how language worked. She was borrowing library books on the history of English starting at age 10, and one summer tried to teach herself Latin from a textbook. By 13, she knew she

wanted to study linguistics, even though she was not quite sure what it was. At 16, having skipped a few grades along the way, she graduated from the Bronx High School of Science and headed to Penn, one of the few colleges in the US offering an undergraduate major in linguistics. She studied psycholinguistics, the history of the English language, syntax, and phonology with figures including George Cardona, Henry Hoenigswald, Henryk Hiz, Zellig Harris, William Labov, and Henry and Lila Gleitman.

After graduating from Penn, she discovered that she could earn a master’s degree in one year in England, as opposed to the customary two years for programs in the US. After completing her degree in the-



oretical linguistics at Essex University in 1971, in 1973 she took a position as a research assistant at the University of Bristol, where she researched child language development. At Bristol, where she would eventually rise to senior lecturer and director of the university's Access for Deaf Students Initiative, she began a 15-year collaboration with a psychologist named Jim Kyle, whose research interest lay with deaf teenagers.

"Fifty years ago deaf people in England were living in the 19th century," Woll says. "British Sign Language had no public presence. There were no interpreters next to politicians or captions on television. Deaf children attended residential schools and were publicly invisible. No one saw them. If deaf people knew sign language, they were self-conscious about signing. Children sat on their hands. They were punished for signing at school." One of her deaf colleagues, for instance, recalled being caught signing at a school assembly. "The headmistress announced that he looked like a monkey, waving his hands everywhere."

Deaf schools had existed in the UK since the mid-1700s and signing was prevalent until the late 19th century, when there was a strong movement toward oral-only communication. From then on, deaf children in England were only allowed to learn spoken English in the classroom, not sign language. Kyle had been involved in a study demonstrating that

deaf education in Britain was a failure. It showed that deaf 16-year-olds were reading at a nine-year-old level, on average. They were functionally illiterate, and their speech was unintelligible. However, sign language was helpful in learning to read, which spurred interest in using it as an educational tool.

With three years of government funding, Woll and Kyle did a large study, collecting recordings from deaf and hearing people. That helped them formally characterize the linguistics and sociolinguistics of British Sign Language and the nature of the British deaf community. Woll also received funding to research the history of British Sign Language and its application around England. She looked at sign language in education and at the teaching of sign language. They found that deaf people think differently from hearing people. For example, they are better than hearing people at remembering spatial information.

The field of sign language research was taking off, and Woll, who received her PhD in sign language linguistics from Bristol in 1992, was at the forefront. (Though they share a similar structure and grammar, British and American sign languages have different signs. Woll is fluent in British Sign Language.) Woll and Kyle organized the first workshop on British Sign Language in 1979, and cofounded the Centre for Deaf Studies at Bristol, Britain's first research center in the field, persuading the university to fund research

## "Fifty years ago deaf people in England were living in the 19th century."

and teaching programs and facilities to attract deaf students and researchers. At that time there were few deaf people who had graduated from university, but that began to change.

In 1985, Kyle and Woll published *Sign Language: The Study of Deaf People and Their Language*, which they described as an effort to "highlight the richness and value of deaf people's lives and language" rather than "prescribe methods for solving deaf people's 'problems.'" Their work was in tune with international academic trends promoting greater attention to other marginalized groups, as with women's studies and Black studies.

In 1995, Woll moved to City, University of London to become the school's first professor and chair of Sign Language and Deaf Studies, and in 2005 became professor of Sign Language and Deaf Studies at University College London (UCL), where she led the creation of the Deafness Cognition & Language Research Centre. She directed the center until 2016 and retired from UCL in 2019. She remains an honorary professor in the Division of Psychology and Language Sciences.

The MBE is awarded for contributions to British society and service to the country and covers all types of stand-

outs in their fields. Woll's award was for service to higher education and deaf people. At the ceremony on February 21, 2024, Woll told Prince William (filling in for King Charles) that she had met his mother on two occasions in association with Princess Diana's role of patron of the British Deaf Association, including one where Diana had given a short speech in British Sign Language, learned for the occasion. William said he remembered his mother studying sign language and that she had worked very hard on it.

A *festschrift* volume collecting chapters written by past students and collaborators on research related to Woll's work—*Understanding Deafness, Language and Cognition Development: Essays in Honor of Bencie Woll*—was published in 2020. At a COVID-delayed retirement event in her honor in November 2022, former postdoc and City, University of London professor Gary Morgan praised Woll as being "great at encouraging us to get out of our comfortable chairs and meet other people doing stuff like we're doing and enriching our research."

Woll is committed to building capacity for deaf researchers. She has helped some to develop careers working on clinical cognitive and brain issues, and others to become sign language linguists.

She's also driven to make things easier for others than it was for her starting out in the 1970s and '80s. In those days, you were mostly "on your own,"

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she says. “No mentoring was available—it didn’t exist.” There were very few women in leadership positions, and for a long time Woll herself didn’t look beyond research.

Beginning with her role as department chair at City, University of London in 1995, Woll has emphasized mentoring both hearing and deaf people, devoting hours daily giving advice and feedback on papers or research grant applications, as well as practical advice on professional advancement.

Though officially retired, Woll continues to pursue research as a co-investigator. Consulting for the British Department of Education, she has helped to develop the curriculum for a high school sign language qualification. Scheduled to begin in the fall of 2025, the curriculum will allow high school students to learn sign language instead of French, Spanish, or German.

A prize was recently established in her name by UCL colleagues for the best published research in British Sign Language. The Professor Benjie Woll Research Prize is awarded every two years, with priority given to early-career researchers and deaf researchers. Woll believes there isn’t enough recognition, which is important for early-career researchers. Decades after saving herself a year on her academic journey, this linguistics pioneer remains determined to open more doors for underrepresented groups and continue her work as an ally to deaf people.

—Jean M. Clemons CW’69 WG’82

## Harvey Greene C’75



Harvey Greene, center, runs off the field with Nick Saban, one of several notable head coaches that he’s worked with, at the end of a Miami Dolphins game in 2005.

## From Chemistry to Canton

A career in sports PR—filled with lessons from legendary coaches—culminated at the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

**When Harvey Greene C’75 was an undergraduate at Penn,** he majored in chemistry and envisioned a career as a researcher.

Sure, he loved sports, having grown up a vociferous fan in Queens, just a few miles from Shea Stadium, idolizing the likes of Joe Namath and Tom Seaver. And yes, he dabbled in play-by-play for WXPB, broadcasting football, basketball, hockey, and soccer. But Greene, the radio station’s sports director, felt his profes-

sional calling was being a chemist, and he had already been accepted into Rice University’s PhD program for organic chemistry. That was until one fateful day when his close friend and WXPB broadcast partner Larry Wahl W’75 showed him an article in the *Wall Street Journal* about two master’s programs in sports administration, at the University of Massachusetts and Ohio University, respectively.

“That day was the single most important day in my

life, other than meeting my wife,” Greene says.

Greene headed off to UMass following graduation—and his journey to the Pro Football Hall of Fame was officially launched. In a ceremony in June, Greene gained recognition in the Hall of Fame’s “Football Support” wing by winning an Award of Excellence for his longtime work as a public relations director for the Miami Dolphins.

Although Greene’s official title had become senior communications executive, he much prefers the moniker of public *relations*. “You have to earn the trust of players and coaches to be able to work with them and establish a healthy *relationship* between the team and the media so they cover the team fairly and accurately,” he says.

Over an illustrious 45-year career, Greene has led public relations departments for teams in three different pro sports leagues: the Dolphins of the NFL; the NBA’s Cleveland Cavaliers; and perhaps the most iconic franchise in sports, the New York Yankees of MLB. (Interestingly enough, his WXPB partner Wahl was Yankees owner George Steinbrenner’s fourth PR director; Greene was number nine.)

Working under the mercurial Steinbrenner, Greene notes he was “fired” five times. “Each time he fired me, he basically was just letting off steam. The first two times it happened, I really thought I was fired. After that, I knew better, ignored it, and just showed up to work the next day,” he chuckles.

Photo by Dave Cross/Miami Dolphins



“I got fired for strange reasons, including once for *not* accompanying Billy Martin and Mickey Mantle to a nightclub after a loss in Arlington.”

If there was a Hall of Fame for storytelling, Greene would be in it. His voice, still thick with a New York accent despite decades living in Florida, recalls events, relationships, and interactions with excitement, enthusiasm, and painstaking detail. In fact, the best way to tell the story of Greene’s ascension in the sports business is through the lessons he’s learned—starting at Penn.

During his senior year in 1975, Penn boasted a loaded men’s basketball team led by future NBA draft picks Ron Haigler C’79 GEd’99 and Bob Bigelow C’75. Toward the end of the regular season, the Quakers barely scraped by a mediocre Columbia team by three points. Greene criticized Penn head coach Chuck Daly on the air for not having his team ready to play, saying they should’ve won by 20. The comments got back to Daly, who vowed he’d never talk to Greene again—which the coach adhered to, putting Greene, the Quakers’ play-by-play man, in a tough spot.

Fast forward to 1993. While working for the Dolphins, Greene ran into Daly who by then had coached the Detroit Pistons to two NBA titles and the US “Dream Team” to an Olympic gold medal in 1992. Daly remembered him and his criticism. Greene broke the ice by saying, “I figured you knew how to beat the Lakers and win the Olympics. I just didn’t think you knew

how to beat Columbia.” Daly cracked up, and the two would go on to become friends.

The lesson: “Don’t criticize anyone if you don’t know what you’re talking about, and as a college senior I never would’ve thought about it that way,” Greene says. “I used that later in my career when a writer would criticize a player or coach—I’d say, ‘You should have talked to them directly about it first.’”

Of the myriad accomplishments Greene has achieved in his career, perhaps nothing is more impressive than surviving working for some of the toughest figures in sports: Steinbrenner, Yankee managers Lou Piniella and Billy Martin, and the Dolphins’ Don Shula, Nick Saban, Jimmy Johnson, and Bill Parcells.

“The people I worked with were so demanding there was no margin for error,” Greene says. “If you can practice these three precepts—be prepared, don’t make excuses, maintain your integrity—then you can build trust and respect of the people you work for and you can work in any sport or any profession.”

As the head coach of the only undefeated team in NFL history, the 1972 Miami Dolphins, Don Shula’s mantra was *the winning edge*. Greene quickly learned what that meant when he went to work for the Dolphins in 1989.

Greene—an avid runner who’s completed 13 marathons—was jogging around the practice field with Shula and cut inside the lines as he made a turn. “Shula bellowed, ‘Run the whole goddamn field,

WALTER O’MALLEY C1926



**Three letters written by Jackie Robinson. The 1954 press release announcing the signing of Sandy Koufax. Details of the planning and construction of Dodger Stadium.**

These are some of the documents that have been donated to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum to commemorate the life and career of Walter O’Malley C1926, the famed sports executive who owned the Brooklyn/Los Angeles Dodgers from 1944 until his death in 1979.

Announced by the Hall of Fame in June, the Walter O’Malley Archive features 70 boxes worth of documents and photographs assembled and curated by his children Peter O’Malley W’60 and Terry O’Malley Seidler.

Some other of the items include documentation on the Dodgers’ momentous move to Los Angeles; the genesis of Dodgertown in Vero Beach, Florida, the first fully integrated spring training facility in the American south; and materials related to the Dodgers’ goodwill tours of Japan in 1956 and 1966.

Peter O’Malley, himself a longtime owner and executive of the Dodgers who helped globalize the sport of baseball [“Profiles,” Jul/Aug 2015] said in a press release that his father’s files are “historic and offer great insight ... for scholars, researchers, and authors to access.”

Walter O’Malley, who had previously been inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2008, was also added to the Dodgers’ Ring of Honor in a ceremony at Dodger Stadium on August 10. —DZ

and he was serious,” recalls Greene. “And that’s how I learned what the winning edge meant—no shortcuts, do the work you have to do, and find the one little thing that nobody else is doing. I learned Shula’s philosophy of success running around the football field.”

If Greene learned from Shula that you can’t *do* too much, from Nick Saban he

learned you can *talk* too much. In 2005, not long before Saban left the Dolphins to begin his remarkably successful tenure at the University of Alabama, Greene was summoned into Saban’s office “to let me know he was upset after reading a negative article about a player that he thought I should have prevented,” Greene says. “I started to say

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I had nothing to do with the story, but he cut me off. He said, 'Your actions speak so loud I can't hear a word you're saying.' I realized he didn't want to hear any excuses; he just wanted to hear, *Coach, I'm sorry, I'll make sure that never happens again.*"

Greene was always a quick study but the lesson he learned about the importance of looking ahead and not back almost cost him his job. Jimmy Johnson came to the Dolphins as the first head football coach with both a college national championship and Super Bowl rings. In 1999, after the Dolphins had a huge win on *Monday Night Football*, Johnson was concerned about all the "attaboys" his team was getting from the media without much focus on the next game—which Miami would lose big.

"Jimmy was notorious for his temper and ripped the entire team after the game but saved his worst for me," Greene recalls. "It was the only time I really thought I was going to get fired."

Johnson told Greene that he didn't want to hear a word from the players unless it was about their upcoming opponent, so for the rest of the week, Greene and his staff monitored every word of every interview. The Dolphins prevailed against New England and Greene felt relief and redemption—though was playfully rebuffed by Johnson when he asked for the game ball as a reward for helping get the team back on track.

Greene gained a nickname, along with a lesson, from two-



**“That’s how I learned what the winning edge meant—no shortcuts, do the work you have to do, and find the one little thing that nobody else is doing.”**

time Super Bowl champion Bill Parcells, who joined the Dolphins in 2008 to run the team's football operations. Miami had a player who had just run into some legal issues so Parcells called in Greene to talk about how to handle that situation publicly. "There are going to be a lot of times, including now, when we have to deal with three-alarm fires," Greene recalls Parcells telling him. "Your job is to turn them into one-alarm fires, not five-alarm ones." Greene never forgot that advice, and Parcells nicknamed him his "fireman."

When Greene was honored by the Pro Football Hall of

Fame in Canton, Ohio, he realized how much he was shaped by those men who often made his life difficult. "Without the lessons I learned from them, there's no way I would've been as successful as I was in my field," he says. "In fact, after I won the award, I sent thank you notes to [Don's sons] Dave and Mike Shula, Jimmy Johnson, Nick Saban, and Bill Parcells for the lessons they taught me that served me well during my career. I also made it a point to thank [Dolphins Hall of Famers] Dan Marino, Zach Thomas, and Jason Taylor for their trust in me."

Taylor calls Greene "the one constant" during his 15-year playing career that he mostly spent with the Dolphins. "Harvey seemed to know how to handle every situation, whether it was after a big win, a league honor, or a major crisis," Taylor says. "When it comes to PR guys, Harvey was as good as it gets."

Greene's public relations work has taken him beyond

Super Bowls, World Cups, and the Olympics. Throughout his NFL career and following his retirement from the Dolphins in 2017, Greene has been a press lead for the Clintons and Bidens, in charge of the press logistics and the imagery that comes from their public events.

He's been to 18 foreign countries including meetings with heads of state like Angela Merkel and Benjamin Netanyahu, and global leadership events like NATO and G7 summits. Most recently, he accompanied President Joe Biden Hon'13 and Jill Biden to Normandy for the commemoration of the 80th anniversary of D-Day.

But Greene has always remained that rabid sports fan from Queens, still marveling that his career enabled him to meet his childhood idols like Namath and Seaver, who turned out to be "great guys." Perhaps the greatest lesson the public relations maven learned, after all, is that success is all about cultivating relationships.

—Andrea Kremer C'80

**Editor's Note:** Andrea Kremer C'80 and Harvey Greene C'75 are two of four Penn alums who have been recognized by the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Kremer is enshrined in the Hall's media section for winning the Pete Rozelle Radio-Television Award in 2018 for her broadcasting career. The other two are Philadelphia Eagles great Chuck Bednarik Ed'49 and former NFL Commissioner Bert Bell C1920, both of whom have their busts displayed in the main section of the Hall that honors former players, coaches, and executives.



“I developed an enthusiasm for the beer business while observing the passion Philadelphia had for Yuengling during my time at Penn.”

— Todd Simon C’02

## 1948

**Henry B. Kessler C’48** and his family joyously celebrated his 100th birthday on May 23, at Caffe Aldo Lamberti restaurant in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. His family writes, “Tapping his extraordinary mind and vivid memory, Henry treated the guests to delightful and engaging extemporaneous reflections on some of the more memorable events in his remarkable life. Those events included his undergraduate years at Penn, which led to his lifelong devotion to Quaker sports. Henry recounted how his college years were interrupted by his service as an Army medic in the European theater during World War II. Henry also reminisced about his more than 60 years of legal practice, his loving marriage to Rhoda Kessler (64 years and counting), and his enjoyment and gratitude for his children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. In attendance was a sizable contingent of Penn alumni including daughters **Dr. Eileen Kessler Lambroza EE’84** and **Jill Kessler Galowitz W’87**, grandchildren **Erin Lambroza W’16** and **Justin Lambroza W’20**, and sons-in-law **Dr. Arnon Lambroza GM’87** and **Stephen Galowitz C’86 W’86**. Represented by their photos were Henry’s sister of blessed memory, **Gertrude Kessler Urken C’48**, brother-in-law of blessed memory, **Dr. Jerome Urken C’47 D’52**, and the latest family member to become a Quaker, grandnephew **Grant Urken WG’26**. In a surprise visit, Dave Fleisher, mayor of Cherry Hill and friend of the

family, dropped by to present Henry with a proclamation, declaring May 23, 2024, ‘Henry B. Kessler Day’ in Cherry Hill. Pressed for the secret to such a long and productive life, Henry advised regular aerobic exercise, vitamin C, and enjoyment of family.”

## 1950

**Dr. Roy Vagelos C’50 Hon’99**, the former CEO of Merck and former Penn Trustee chair and longtime donor to the University, and Professor Zhao Kai of China are the recipients of the first Legacy Awards from the Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination. From the press release, “These awards recognize their groundbreaking partnership to facilitate a transfer of necessary technology from the United States to China for producing high quality vaccines to protect newborns and children from hepatitis B virus infection.”

## 1954

**Moshe Sonnheim C’54 SW’56** has published his 12th book, *The Helpers*. The book, per its description, “presents the stories of some of [Israel’s immigrant in-home caregivers] who are looking after old people in Israel—the helpers—along with the stories of the people they care for—the helped.” Moshe writes that it is “inspired by my Indian in-home caregiver who nursed me back to health after a near-fatal bout (which I won!) with COVID-19.”

## We Want to Hear from You

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**ALUMNI NOTE DEADLINES** 7/15 for the Sep/Oct issue; 9/15 for Nov/Dec; 11/15 for Jan/Feb; 1/15 for Mar/Apr; 3/15 for May/Jun; and 5/15 for Jul/Aug.

## Events

### WESTCHESTER AND ROCKLAND COUNTIES

Join fellow alumni for an immersive experience and inspirational discussion, titled “Alumni Journeys: Career Pivots Driven by Personal Passions,” on Thursday, September 19, from 6 to 8 p.m. We’ll learn from Jill Krutick W’84, Cynthia Ryan C’84, and Allison Luvera WG’22 about their decisions to pivot and align their passion with their work. Each has set up successful businesses in art, jewelry, and winemaking, respectively. The discussion, wine tasting, gallery tour, and art and jewelry raffle will take place at the Jill Krutick Fine Art Gallery in Mamaroneck, New York. Visit the Penn Club of Westchester and Rockland Counties’ website at [www.pennclubwestrock.org](http://www.pennclubwestrock.org) to sign up. Tickets are \$15 for members and \$20 for nonmembers.

## 1959

**Robert Ciccarelli W’59** writes, “Wow, it’s hard to believe that 65 years have gone by. Not only since I graduated from Penn but the same number of years I’ve been with my wife, Maxine. Living in Florida now and still miss my Pagano’s hangout. Blessings to my Penn friends.”

## 1960

**Dr. Daniel B. Green D’60** writes, “I am 88 years old and an emeritus professor of endodontics at Tufts University. I have self-published *Been There, Done That*, available on Amazon. The book includes 52 stories designed to ‘make you laugh, cry, and even kvell.’ A second book is now in progress.”

## 1962

**Howard Berkowitz W'62** see **Judy Roth Berkowitz CW'64**.

## 1964

**Judy Roth Berkowitz CW'64** was recently honored by the New York Historical Society as the recipient of its Distinguished Service Award. Judy has been a member of the Society's Board of Trustees since 2005. The Award was presented on June 11 at its annual Women in Public Life Spring Luncheon. At the same event, **Drew Gilpin Faust G'71 Gr'75 Hon'08** received the Society's Women in Public Life Award. Drew, a former president of Harvard University, received her graduate degrees in American civilization from Penn, later served on its faculty, and was the first director of the Penn Women's Center. Over the years Judy has held significant leadership positions in the University, including serving as a member of the Board of Trustees and its Executive Committee, founding member and chair of the Trustees Council of Penn Women, chair of the Board of Directors of the Graduate School of Education (GSE), chair of the 125th Celebration of Women at Penn (2001), and a member of the James Brister Society Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the University of Pennsylvania Health System. She and her husband, **Howard Berkowitz W'62**, endowed GSE's Judy and Howard Berkowitz Chair in Education. Judy was the recipient of the Alumni Award of Merit in 2002.

## 1966

**David J. Weiss C'66** writes, "In 1963, I was a student in a General Honors course in psychology. It was my first exposure to the field. I loved the course, so much so that I changed my intended major from mathematics. The course instructor was David Williams, who had studied with B. F. Skinner, of Box fame, as an undergraduate. The class was working on operant conditioning, which for us meant training a thirsty animal to press a bar for water. One Friday afternoon, while I was begging my lab rat to press already, Williams ran

into the classroom shouting, "The president has been shot!" No response. We were convinced this was a manipulation, and were determined not to be fooled. It wasn't until he brought in a radio that the report of an unbelievable tragedy was accepted as true. Nowadays, alas, reports of shootings are so common that I have lost my skepticism. I never interacted with David Williams after that introductory class but was pleased to learn that he remained at Penn for his entire career. He attempted to unite the learning theory that had been his initial focus with personality theory. Midway, he trained as a clinical therapist. An emeritus professor, he died in 2018."

## 1967

**David Eisenberg C'67 WG'69** continues as president and CEO of Anresco Laboratories and Micro-Tracers. He writes, "On June 7, the US Food and Drug Association published in the *Federal Register* its approval of a Food Additive Petition in relation to SECURtracers for use in animal feed but for eventual use for 'on dose' coding of pills, tablets, and capsules for humans as authentic to allow detection of counterfeits 'on the spot' with simple test apparatus. In time, this technology may save lives. Microtracers were formulated in more than 200 million tonnes of feed including in animal drugs in 2023."

**Eric R. White GED'67 GrEd'75**, director emeritus of the Division of Undergraduate Studies and associate dean emeritus of advising at Penn State University has published a new article, "Keeping the Academic in Advising: Where Academic Advising Belongs in the Collegiate Structure," in the June 2024 issue of the *NACADA Review: Academic Advising Praxis & Perspectives*.

## 1969

**Joseph H. Cooper W'69 L'72** reports that the Brooklyn International Short Awards named as a semifinalist his screenplay *To Go, or Not to Go*, which tells of "a reluctant Yeshiva student's turn to enlistment in the Fall of 1941." Cooper's *In Heaven, As It Is on Earth?*, which he describes as "an under-fire

in-trench dialogue set in Ardennes Forest of December 1944," was named a semifinalist in the Rotterdam Independent Film Festival, the Paris International Short Festival, the Brussels World Film Festival, and the London International Filmmakers Festival.

**Jeffrey David Jubelirer W'69** shares, "I have 18 books published on spiritual recovery, available on Google and Amazon." Some recent titles include *Coming Back to Life* (2024), *I Live Not to Burn* (2022), and *Rising Determined to Live* (2020). He also published *How We Said Prayers and Believe God Almighty Heard Us: Faith and Graces* in 2024, with coauthor SherAnne Shea Jubelirer.

## 1970

**Richard Templeton C'70** retired this year after 45 years as a psychiatrist when he sold his practice in Annapolis, Maryland. He writes that he has "lots of ongoing projects" including his websites knowinganother.com, which encourages people to get to know each other by wearing nametags, and badmalebehavior.com, which aims to raise awareness about toxic masculinity. Richard also enjoys "sailing a Nonsuch 26 Ultra and visiting three grandchildren in Pittsburgh" and plans to "spend three weeks in Scotland yearly. Both my Penn graduate children are good."

## 1971

**Drew Gilpin Faust G'71 Gr'75 Hon'08** see **Judy Roth Berkowitz CW'64**.

**Karl Schonborn Gr'71** is a criminologist and author of the newly released true-crime book, *Privileged Killers*. Karl explains, "[The book] shows how four men ... manipulated the criminal justice system to merely get slaps on the wrist." Karl shares that he knew these men in his private life, including **Ira Einhorn C'61**, known as the "Unicorn Killer." He reflects on the impact these killers— one of whom, he says, came after his family—had on him and his career as a criminology professor. Elie Honig, former federal and state prosecutor and CNN legal analyst says, "The book goes beyond the 'how' of these savvy criminals and delves deeply and insightfully into the 'why?'"



## 1972

**Dr. Steven Barrer C'72 GM'82** has retired after 52 years in medicine. He writes, "After finishing as a neurosurgery resident at Penn and CHOP in 1982, I stayed on staff at Penn for four years. In 1986, I joined the medical staff of Abington Memorial Hospital and stayed there until retirement on June 30 of this year. Along the way, I served as senior surgeon and chief of the Division of Neurosurgery, founded and directed the Abington Neurosciences Institute, later the Farber Institute, and served a term on the hospital board as president of the medical staff. My colleagues and I trained neurosurgery residents and taught medical students from Jefferson, Temple, the Medical College of Pennsylvania/Hahnemann, and the Pennsylvania College of Osteopathic Medicine. I am looking forward to pursuing my other interests—travel, beekeeping, golf, going to the movies my screenwriter son Andrew has penned, and most of all, spending more time with Pam, my wife of 45 years."

**Margaret Mandell CW'72 G'74** is the author of a new memoir, *And Always One More Time*. *Kirkus Reviews* calls it "a moving, insightful, and beautifully crafted story about losing one great love and finding another." Margaret's late husband, who died in 2016, is **Dr. Herbert E. Mandell C'71** ["Obituaries," May/June 2016]. Find more information about her and her book at [margaretsmandell.com](http://margaretsmandell.com).

**Marlene Prost CW'72** has published *Lilith and Other Love Stories*, a collection of short stories. More information can be found on her website, [marleneprost.com](http://marleneprost.com).

## 1973

**Samuel C. Heilman Gr'73** has coauthored a new book with Mucahit Bilici, *Following Similar Paths: What American Jews and Muslims Can Learn from One Another*. Samuel is a professor emeritus of sociology at Queens College and the CUNY Graduate Center, and his coauthor is an associate professor of sociology at John Jay College and the CUNY Graduate Center, as well as academic director at Zahra Institute in Chicago. From the press release: "Two academ-

ics, one Jewish and one Muslim, come together to show how much their faiths have in common—particularly in America."

**Dr. Mike I. Kotlikoff C'73 V'81** has been named interim president of Cornell University. He is a professor of molecular physiology and previously served as Cornell's provost. He will serve in this new position until 2026.

## 1974

**Leo Levinson W'74** has been named president of the Center City Residents' Association (CCRA). One of the largest registered community organizations in Philadelphia, CCRA represents the area from Broad Street to the Schuylkill River and from JFK Boulevard to South Street, and its key functions include zoning, government relations, public safety, sanitation, and green initiatives. Prior to being elected president, he was an active board member for several years. He is also CEO and founder of the public relations firm GroupLevinson.

## 1975

**Brad Borkan C'75 Gr'79** has published two new books. He writes, "The first, *Dynamic Alignment*, is a self-help book co-written with ultra-marathoner Holly Worton. The second, *It Takes Two or Three—The Superpower of Small Teams: From Hollywood to the Moon and Everything in Between*, was launched at the Royal Geographical Society in London. Cowritten with historian David Hirzel, it explores history's most successful small teams including women's rights campaigners, the Wright Brothers, Hillary and Tenzing climbing Everest, Gilbert and Sullivan, and many others."

**Jack Evans W'75** shares that he and **Terry Lynam C'75** got together for dinner in Bethany Beach, Delaware. Jack writes, "Looking forward to our upcoming 50th Reunion!"

## 1976

**Stephanie Urchick C'76** has been named president of Rotary International. She is the second woman in the membership

service organization's 119-year history to hold this position. Rotary connects volunteers through its Rotary clubs to lead community-driven projects that promote peace and environmental sustainability.

## 1977

**Marshal S. Granor C'77** of Granor & Granor, PC in Horsham, Pennsylvania, received the Pennsylvania Bar Association's President's Award for his work in leading the conceptualization, drafting, and passage of Act 54 of 2023, which, he explains, "creates a mechanism to nullify and to repudiate racial and religious discriminatory restrictions in Pennsylvania land records."

**Nancy E. Riley C'77**, a social sciences professor at Bowdoin College, is the author of *Chinatown, Honolulu: Place, Race, and Empire*. According to the press materials, "This book offers a critical account of the history of Chinese in Hawai'i from the mid-nineteenth century to the present in this context of U.S. empire, settler colonialism, and racialization."

## 1979

**James Shenwick W'79** has been recognized as a Top Lawyer by Martindale-Avvo for 2024. James runs his own law firm in New York, where he focuses on bankruptcy, workout, asset protection planning, and representing borrowers of defaulted SBA EIDL loans.

## 1980

**Andrea Kremer C'80** was inducted into the National Sports Media Hall of Fame on July 1 at the Grandover Resort in Greensboro, North Carolina. "Currently the chief correspondent for the NFL Network, Kremer has made her mark on several platforms," her induction blurb reads. "Recognized by the Pro Football Hall of Fame with the Pete Rozelle Radio-Television Award in 2018, Kremer just finished a 17-year award-winning run at HBO's *Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel*. ... She was the first woman to become a full-time NFL game analyst, working alongside Hannah Storm on Amazon Prime Video's *Thursday Night Football*

package. After beginning her career as NFL Films' first female producer, Kremer became ESPN's first female correspondent (1989–2006), before moving to NBC Sports (2006–2012), where she worked on *Sunday Night Football* and the Olympics. Kremer has won eight Emmy Awards, multiple Gracies, and a Peabody Award.

## 1984

**Paul Wellener ME'84** retired from Deloitte after 35 years on June 1. He most recently was the vice chair of US industrials and the managing partner of the Cleveland market for the firm. He also stepped down from the National Association of Manufacturers and the Deloitte Foundation boards. After Deloitte, Paul says that he will remain involved in various nonprofit boards, including United Way of Greater Cleveland, University Circle, and the Peninsula Foundation. Paul also plans to leverage his three decades of consulting experience by mentoring organizational leaders in the for-profit, private equity, and nonprofit communities.

## 1985

**Urban Carmel W'85** writes, "Penn continues to dominate in Marin County, California. On June 9, **Christine Lundy C'92 V'96** won her third Dipsea Race, the oldest trail race in America with a course that winds its way around Mt. Tamalpais from Mill Valley to Stinson Beach. Chris is just the sixth runner in the race's 113-year history to win three times. She has also placed second three times and third once. She has been the fastest female runner a record nine times." Later, Chris's accomplishment was recognized at a City Council meeting by Urban, mayor of Mill Valley, who has also run the Dipsea 22 times.

## 1986

**Jonathan Parks GAR'86**, an architect with SOLSTICE Planning and Architecture, based in Sarasota, Florida, was recently recognized by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) when his design for Rosemary Square received an Honor Award for Regional and Urban Design dur-

ing the National 2024 AIA Design Awards. From the press release, "Rosemary Square transformed an abandoned community garden into the living room for the neighborhood, finally bringing arts to Boulevard of the Arts" in Sarasota. This project "has reenergized the community through a mixed-use development that includes retail, restaurants, performing arts studios, and housing for artists."

## 1987

**Patty Laibstain C'87** writes, "I have been working as a speech-language pathologist for the past 28 years at Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore. I have served as the associate director of speech language services for school programs over the last 18 of these years. I've loved this work in special education and am looking forward to a career reinvention this fall as I change my role to a clinical recruiter at Kennedy Krieger. I think fondly of my Penn days and look forward to my annual cheesesteak pilgrimage to Philly! #RIPAbners"

**Bruce Wardinski WG'87**, CEO of Playa Hotels and Resorts, was recently honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the CHRIS HOLA Industry Conference. The Caribbean Hotel & Resort Investment Summit (CHRIS) and Hotel Opportunities Latin America (HOLA) are hotel investment conferences that connect executives, investors, lenders, and developers interested in the Caribbean and Latin America. Bruce was honored for his role in "focusing on exceptional guest experiences, sustainability, and launching a diverse portfolio of all-inclusive resorts in Mexico, Jamaica, and the Dominican Republic" since founding the company in 2006.

## 1988

**Bruce John Riddell GLA'88**, a landscape architect, author, and artist, has released his second book, *Seal Rock: A Novel from the Waters of Maine*. This is his first foray into the science fiction genre and includes many illustrations of mermaids that he painted over the years. Bruce writes, "The basic storyline centers around a young boy

named Skye who comes to stay with his great uncle at Seal Rock, in a decrepit sea captain's cottage on the coast of Maine. As strange happenings unravel around him, Skye soon realizes that he is in a deadly fight with an unknown enemy. Who or what is he fighting?"

## 1989

**Christina Chan GEng'89 Gr'90**, a professor of chemical engineering at Michigan State University, has been elected a 2023 fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. As a researcher, Christina investigates disease mechanisms, and she was selected as a fellow in engineering "for elucidating the multifaceted mechanisms by which elevated levels of free fatty acids mediate abnormalities in cellular function through biophysical interactions, signaling and metabolism," according to MSU's website.

## 1992

**Christine Lundy C'92 V'96** see **Urban Carmel W'85**.

## 1993

**Brock Silvers G'93 WG'93** is the author of a new book, available on Kindle, *Seeking Immortals: A Modern Daoist Travelogue*. From the book's description: "*Seeking Immortals* recounts extensive travels throughout Daoism's holiest sites in an attempt to understand the nature of Immortality. ... These colorful travel vignettes introduce an endless stream of characters from all walks of life—seekers, recluses, and believers—and provide deep insight into the realities of modern Daoism."

## 1994

**Asheesh Advani W'94** is the coauthor of a new book with Marshall Goldsmith, *Modern Achievement: A New Approach to Timeless Lessons for Aspiring Leaders*. Asheesh is president and CEO of Junior Achievement Worldwide, a global nonprofit that aims to prepare youth for the workforce. From the press materials, the book "offers thirty actionable lessons for

personal and career advancement, from successful leaders across the globe.”

## 1995

**Sue Hoaglund G'95** has retired from teaching music and German full time. Her career began at the Clara Schumann Institut in Dusseldorf, Germany, where she taught violin and viola, and coached chamber music and the youth orchestra. She returned to the US and taught strings for a decade at St. Paul's School in New Hampshire. Sue moved to the Philadelphia area in 1994. After completing a second master's degree at Penn, she became the head of the music department at the Shipley School in Bryn Mawr and founded the school's strings program. Sue ended her career at a charter school in Rhode Island. She has recently published poetry in *Rhode Island Bards* and is working on her first anthology of poetry in collaboration with a local Rhode Island artist. Sue shares that her retirement plans include “part-time teaching, travel, and writing,” and that she “really enjoys” her work as a Penn Alumni Ambassador.

**Kathryn A. McFadden CGS'95 GFA'97** writes, “My essay on the painter Suzanne Valadon titled ‘The Valadon Effect’ is included in a new text, *The Aestheticization of History and the Butterfly Effect*, edited by Nancy Wellington Bookhart and published by Vernon Press as part of their Visual Arts Series.”

## 1997

**Dr. Navjot Singh Bedi GM'97** has joined Caron Treatment Centers as a staff addiction psychiatrist and will lead the nonprofit's new Aviation Assessment Program, based out of Atlanta. According to the press release, the program “is for aviation professionals referred by the Federal Aviation Administration for assessment of a potentially aero-medical disqualifying condition to evaluate for treatment and endorse return to work recommendations.”

## 2002

**Gabrielle Levin C'02 L'06** has joined Mayer Brown's New York office as a partner,

where she will co-lead the law firm's Employment Litigation and Counseling practice.

**Todd Simon C'02** writes, “I recently founded and launched a high-end, low-calorie beer brand that gives back, Hero95 Crisp Low Calorie Lager. I developed an enthusiasm for the beer business while observing the passion Philadelphia had for Yuengling during my time at Penn. After learning more about the industry while working at Boston Beer Company, I decided to develop my own brand. Hero95 is currently available in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, with more states to come.” More information is available at [drinkhero95.com](http://drinkhero95.com).

## 2003

**Chris Gaus C'03**, assistant manager of animal care at the National Aviary in Pittsburgh, has been elected vice coordinator of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' (AZA) African Penguin Survival Plan, working with 51 AZA-accredited facilities in the nation and a few in Canada. He was recently profiled in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* for his conservation career, which spans more than 20 years. The article, titled “National Aviary Experts Know How to Keep Endangered African Penguins Happy,” can be read at [tinyurl.com/chrisgaus](http://tinyurl.com/chrisgaus).

**Torry Reynolds C'03** has been named associate vice president of student services for the North Carolina Community College System. Previously, she was associate vice president of student success services at Forsyth Technical Community College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

## 2004

**Richard Carreño GEd'04**, an art critic and former lecturer of American literature and English composition at several universities, is the author of a new book about the life and death of Penn Museum archaeologist George H. McFadden III. According to the press materials, *The Inventive Life of George H. McFadden: Archaeologist, Poet, Scholar, Spy* “explores how a scion of one of the twentieth century's richest and most prominent American families, uniquely lived his life, while it

## Alumni in Business

A guide for Gazette readers seeking to reach the business services of Penn graduates.

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also questions how he might have died.” In 1953, McFadden “died suddenly in a sailing mishap off the coast of Cyprus. Twelve days later, his body washed up on the Mediterranean shore after a journey of one hundred kilometers. When his remains were discovered, there were abrasion marks around McFadden’s wrists, and questions about both his life and death have lingered.”

## 2006

**Brenda Harkavy C’06**, a civil litigator at the firm Raynes & Lawn, has been featured in the 2024 *Super Lawyers* publications for Pennsylvania and Delaware. The article, titled “Holding Enablers Accountable,” details her work pursuing justice for victims of abuse and can be read at [tinyurl.com/harkavy](http://tinyurl.com/harkavy).

## 2007

**Antoniette Costa C’07**, a singer-songwriter, has released a new album, *Pitupatter*. Inspired by her experience with a brain tumor, the album celebrates her emotional and physical recovery. More information can be found at [lnk.to/Pitupatter](http://lnk.to/Pitupatter).

## 2008

**Ron Belldegrin C’08** has been named to the board of directors for Team Pennsylvania Foundation, a nonprofit created to bridge the gap between government and the private sector. Ron is CEO and co-founder of ByHeart, a manufacturer of infant formula.

**Zachary D. Kuperman C’08** married Stephanie Fleischman on June 15 at the Rainbow Room at Rockefeller Center in New York. In attendance were **Spencer Philips C’08**, **Andrew Loh C’08**, **Dolph Mullen C’08**, **Doron Meizlik C’08**, **Julia Steele Nu’09 GNu’14**, **Andrew Goldsmith C’08**, **Max Shapiro C’08 W’08**, **Mila Adamova G’13 WG’13**, **Dr. Brett Shorestein V’15**, **Stephen Goldstein W’07**, and **Nikki Pepperman Nu’12**.

## 2010

**Zac Byer C’10 L’14** and his wife, Elizabeth Douglas, welcomed their son, Colin Byer,

in May. Though they make their home in Los Angeles, Zac and Lizzie have already promised Colin a trip to Reading Terminal Market once he is eating solid foods. Zac is director of litigation for Activision Blizzard.

## 2011

**Matthew G. Frias C’11**, an attorney at LashGoldberg LLP’s Fort Lauderdale, Florida, office, has been promoted to senior counsel. At LashGoldberg, Matt specializes in healthcare litigation and primarily provider-side managed care litigation.

**Lewis H. Lee SPP’11**, an associate professor at the University of Alabama School of Social Work, recently published an article titled “Exploring the Association Between Park Size and Crime” in the *International Journal of Environmental Health Research*. In this article, Lewis and his colleagues examine the extent to which an environmental factor, such as park size, can help mitigate crime risks in the state of Alabama. The article is available at [tinyurl.com/parksize](http://tinyurl.com/parksize).

## 2013

**Paul Wolff C’13 G’14 Gr’22** and Christiaan van Dijk were married in Urk, the Netherlands, on June 7, and held a ceremony in the Hooglandse Kerk in Leiden, the Netherlands, on June 8. Guests included **Samantha Sharon Ashok C’17** and **Ana María Gómez López C’03 G’04**. Paul is a postdoctoral researcher in anthropology at the University of Amsterdam. Christiaan is a chaplain at the Leiden University Medical Center. The couple lives with their two dogs in Leiden, the Netherlands.

## 2015

**James (Jung Ho) An C’15 W’15**, an independent hip hop artist and educator, has recently released a new album, *I Have No Friends and I Must Party*. He shares, “As an artist, I often focus on topics that matter to me and society, delving into societal themes including racism, structural violence (for example, violence towards children), power dynamics, as well as daily conversations. As an expression of my bicultural identity, I

rap in both Korean and English.” James studied arts in education at Harvard, researching “how minority youths can dismantle racism and oppression through hip hop, lyric-writing, and rapping,” and he founded the first conference on hip hop education at Harvard. “In Korea, I recently ran hip hop workshops for youths with developmental and cognitive disabilities ... [and] I’ve also presented at Goethe University Frankfurt last year on my research paper on Korean hip hop, written with professors. ... I’m very passionate about the arts, education, and academia.” More information can be found on James’s Instagram page @JamesAnOfficial.

**Alex Friedman C’15** is one of eight emerging TV writers selected as a fellow for the 2024 Moonshot Pilot Accelerator. The fellows, each of whom has written a complete script for the first (pilot) episode of an original TV series, will be participating in a three-week program by nonprofit Moonshot Initiative, before pitching their TV shows to Netflix, HBO, Starz, Amazon Studios/Prime Video, and other studios and production companies. The working name of Alex’s pilot episode is “‘Til Death.”

## 2016

**Mikah Sellers WAM’16 GrEd’24**, graduated from the Penn Chief Learning Officer program in May, earning his doctor of education degree in organizational leadership and learning. Mikah’s dissertation examined the efficacy of executive education programs for developing emotional intelligence in executive leaders.

## 2020

**Evan Curtis Charles Hall GFA’20** is an interdisciplinary artist and founding director of House Museum, which uses conceptual art methods to revitalize historic landmarks. Recently, Evan coordinated and created site-specific artworks for the John Rowland Mansion—an 1850s Greek-Revival Style, National Historic Landmark in East Los Angeles. More information can be found at [www.house.museum](http://www.house.museum).

## 1941

**Dr. Joseph Schein M'41**, New York, a retired psychiatrist; May 24, at 109. One granddaughter is Dr. Yvette L. Schein Gr'21 M'22.

## 1942

**Zecil Kopieka Gravitz CW'42**, Canton, MA, June 3, at 102. She worked in a free dental clinic for children in Jerusalem. She served in the women's branch of the US Naval Reserve (known as WAVES) during World War II.

**Laura Chamberlin Padget HUP'42**, Willow Street, PA, retired head nurse at a nursing home; May 16, at 102.

## 1946

**Grace Ryan Reeves HUP'46**, Warminster, PA, a retired nurse; Jan. 9.

**Dorothy Stewart Wawrose HUP'46**, Huntingdon, PA, former head nurse on the pediatric surgical ward of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania; May 24, at 99. One daughter is Dr. Dorothy J. Wawrose C'90 M'94.

## 1947

**Sarah Jean Hancock Hutchinson HUP'47**, Hightstown, NJ, a retired nurse; April 15.

## 1948

**Alfred J. Buescher W'48**, Cleveland, OH, chairman and retired founder and CEO of Interstate-McBee, a supply chain provider in the automotive industry; April 13. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, the rowing team, and the ROTC.

**Edward Feldman W'48**, Voorhees, NJ, former owner of Allied Beverage Group; May 10. At Penn, he was a member of Tau Epsilon Phi fraternity. One son is Richard J. Feldman C'75.

**Marian Puro Froehlich FA'48**, Rye, NY, an artist; May 17.

**Cyrus Klingsberg C'48**, State College, PA, a retired geologist for the US Department of Energy; May 7, at 99. He served in the US Army during World War II.

**Dr. Craig Rowan V'48**, Boise, ID, a retired veterinarian; May 17, at 100.

## 1949

**Theodore Brandow Ar'49**, Camp Hill, PA, an artist and architect; Jan. 28, 2023. He served in the US Navy during World War II.

**C. Russell de Burlo Jr. WG'49**, Belmont, MA, retired treasurer and vice president of business administration at Tufts University; Feb. 24, at 99. He served in the US Navy during World War II.

**Sonia Carter Greenbaum CW'49**, Great Neck, NY, June 15, 2022. At Penn, she was a member of Penn Players.

**Nancy Boerner Langstaff Ed'49**, Bushkill Township, PA, a retired fourth-grade teacher; May 22. At Penn, she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

**Elaine MacAuley Weise HUP'49**, Charleston, WV, a retired nurse; May 14. Earlier in her career, she was head nurse in women's medicine and a nursing instructor at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Her husband is Dr. Charles C. Weise M'55.

## 1950

**Dr. Albert H. Fink C'50 M'54**, Media, PA, a radiologist; April 27.

**Herman Lewis "Lew" Gentsch Jr. CCC'50**, Lansing, NY, retired owner of a plant nursery; April 6. He served in the US Air Force and the Pennsylvania National Guard. At Penn, he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

**David E. Oberlin G'50**, Jackson Township, OH, a retired high school English and Latin teacher; May 13.

**Arden Bennett Poole CW'50**, San Francisco, a former audiologist and longtime docent at the Detroit Institute of Arts; April 18. At Penn, she was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

**Spencer G. "Pete" Pope Jr. W'50**, Pottsville, PA, a retired banker and owner of a car sales company; April 15. He served in the US Army Air Corps. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

## 1951

**Isadore Goldhirsh C'51**, Palm Desert, CA, a retired computer engineer and mathematician for a defense contractor; June 11, at 99. He served in the US Army.

## Notifications

Please send notifications of deaths of alumni directly to: Alumni Records, University of Pennsylvania, Suite 300, 2929 Walnut Street, Phila., PA 19104

**EMAIL** record@ben.dev.upenn.edu

Newspaper obits are appreciated.

**Dr. Jerry H. Herman C'51**, Rydal, PA, a retired obstetrician-gynecologist; May 25. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Mu.

**Frank P. Meadows Jr. WG'51**, Rocky Mount, NC, a tax attorney and accountant; May 14.

**Ronald R. Mullins W'51**, Orwell, VT, March 21. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity and the Sphinx Senior Society.

**Elizabeth Chapman Reinhardt DH'51**, March 18.

**Raymond W. Sweeney II ME'51**, Malvern, PA, retired chairman of Maris Corporation; April 9. He served in the US Navy during the Korean War. At Penn, he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity. His son is Dr. Raymond W. Sweeney III V'82.

## 1952

**Donald N. Horenstein W'52**, Shelburne, VT, vice president of Fourth Write Press; March 31. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Delta Epsilon fraternity and the track team.

**Winifred Harbert Keane FA'52**, Wallingford, CT, a musician, composer, and music teacher; April 1. At Penn, she was a member of Chi Omega sorority and Penn Players.

**Gerald D. Kenjorski W'52**, Tunkhannock, PA, a retired teacher; April 15. At Penn, he was a member of WXPEN.

**Arnold H. Kramer W'52**, Delray Beach, FL, founder and president of Atomic Discount Tires, and former professor of entrepreneurship at Wharton; June 6. His children include Sherri Kramer Saget C'78 L'81, Lori Kramer Cinnamon W'81 WG'86, and William I. Kramer C'85 W'85 L'88. One grandson is Benjamin L. Kramer C'17.

**Dr. William B. Linenberg C'52 GD'61**, Haddonfield, NJ, an oral surgeon; May 3. He served in the US Army Dental Corps and the US Army Reserve.

**William J. Lubic L'52**, Red Bank, NJ, a retired real estate attorney; July 18, 2023. He served in the US Navy during World War II. His wife is Ruth Lubic HUP'55 Hon'85.

**Lois Shaffer Reed NuEd'52**, Lancaster, PA, a retired industrial nurse at Bethlehem Steel; May 22.

**Clara K. "Jerry" Reid HUP'52**, Mechanicsburg, PA, a retired nurse; March 29.

**Dr. Richard C. Rushmore D'52**, Waverly Township, PA, a retired dentist; April 7, at 99. He served in the US Army during World War II, and later in the US Army Reserve. His daughter is Anne Rushmore Gershey DH'72, who is married to Dr. John N. Gershey D'76.

**Constance Temple HUP'52**, Deltona, FL, Nov. 4, 2022.

**Ann Dietrich Wetzel Ed'52**, Lantana, FL, a former squash standout player and retired squash and tennis coach at Penn; May 15. She became the first head coach when Penn started its varsity women's squash program in 1974, remaining there until retiring in 1992. She also coached tennis at Penn from 1975 to 1978. In 1995, she was inducted to the College Squash Association Hall of Fame and awarded the State of Pennsylvania's Humanitarian Award for her work in prison ministry, Amnesty International, and coaching. In 1998, she was inducted into the Penn Athletics Hall of Fame; and in 2003, she was inducted into the US Squash Hall of Fame. In 2019, Penn honored her with the Ann Wetzel Squash Pavilion inside the Penn Squash Center. As a student at Penn, she was a member of the tennis and squash teams, where she was a key part of the 1951 undefeated women's squash team and won a national squash championship as a junior.

**Sarisa Himmelstein Zoghlin Ed'52**, Rochester, NY, a former medical office manager and substitute teacher; April 1. At Penn, she was a member of Phi Sigma Sigma sorority.

## 1958

**Naomi Gahuse Bristol GEd'53**, Schenectady, NY, a children's librarian; June 11.

**Dr. Walter M. Byck C'53 M'57**, Santa Rosa, CA, a retired radiologist and found-

er of a winery; June 16. His son is Peter M. Byck WG'90.

**William Congreve III W'53 L'59**, Stoddard, NH, an attorney; May 2. He served in the US Air Force.

**Thomas M. Devlin CCC'53**, Newtown Square, PA, professor emeritus of biochemistry at Drexel University College of Medicine; March 20.

**Dr. John D. "Ian" Gorry C'53**, Watertown, MA, an emergency medicine physician; May 7. He served in the US Army. One daughter is Katherine Gorry-Hines C'90.

**Stephen Robert LaCheen C'53**, Philadelphia, an attorney; May 3. At Penn, he was a member of Tau Delta Phi fraternity.

**David H. Roland L'53**, Oley, PA, a retired lawyer; April 26. He served in the US Navy.

**Alan M. Ruben C'53 G'56 L'56**, Bratenahl, OH, a professor emeritus of law at Cleveland State University; Feb. 21. In 1972, he was captain of the US Olympic Fencing Team. At Penn, he was a member of Penn Players, the Debate Council, and the fencing team. His wife is Hon. Betty Willis Ruben WG'57, who died April 28 (see Class of 1957).

**Rogers W. Vaughn C'53**, West Chester, PA, a retired marketing executive at Dupont; March 30. He served in the US Army. As a student at Penn, he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. He was also a former officer for his class.

## 1954

**Dr. Samuel R. "Nick" Barol M'54**, Albuquerque, retired director of a medical clinic; May 7.

**Peter Binder C'54**, Philadelphia, an opera singer and a singing teacher in Germany; April 1, 2020.

**Stanley M. Friedman Ar'54 GAR'58**, Lansdale, PA, a retired architect, former Colorado city planner, and lecturer at the University of Colorado; June 14. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Tau Delta Phi fraternity.

**Dr. Paul G. Mosch C'54 D'56**, Gibsonia, PA, a retired dentist; Feb. 22. He served in the US Navy. His wife is Dorothy McMurray Mosch HUP'55 Nu'55, who died July 15 (see Class of 1955).

**Eugene Schwartz W'54**, Stamford, CT, a former accountant and college-level accounting instructor; June 7. At Penn, he was a member of Tau Epsilon Phi fraternity and the *Daily Pennsylvanian*.

**Robert W. Stevenson Sr. Ch'54**, Glen Mills, PA, a retired science professor at Cheyney University of Pennsylvania; May 7. He served in the US Navy during the Korean War.

**Ira N. Stone W'54**, Rancho Mirage, CA, former president of Stone International Paper; March 30. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity.

**Joyce E. Loser Swope HUP'54**, Redmond, WA, Jan. 28, 2023. She worked at the Washington State Health Department in health administration and IT support.

**H. Seymour Tinkleman W'54**, Cheltenham, PA, April 16, 2022. His wife is Muriel Metlitz Tinkleman Ed'53.

**Dr. William F. "Ted" Young M'54 GM'58**, Raleigh, NC, a retired pediatrician; June 15. He served in the US Air Force.

**Russell W. Youngblood W'54**, Shalimar, FL, a retired mental health counselor; May 19. He served in the US Air Force as a fighter pilot for more than two decades. At Penn, he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, the Glee Club, and the soccer team.

**Paul N. Zierk W'54**, Blue Hill, ME, a retired manager at AT&T; May 22. He served in the US Air Force. At Penn, he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.

## 1955

**Joan Colozzi Canuso CW'55**, Holland, PA, May 27. Her husband is F. Anthony "Tony" Canuso CE'55.

**Robert M. Cypres PT'55**, Elkins Park, PA, a retired director of physical therapy at a hospital; May 18. He served in the US Army.

**Dr. Richard G. Eaton M'55 GM'59**, New Rochelle, NY, a hand surgeon who was the former hand surgeon for the New York Mets; June 16. He served in the US Army.

**John Forster Jr. Ar'55**, Woodbury, NJ, a retired architect; June 1.

**Stanley P. Goldstein W'55**, Providence, RI, retired CEO of CVS; May 21. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity.



**Jewell Kirchner Gregory CW'55**, Glenview, IL, a bereavement counselor, social justice advocate, and expert on French history; April 26.

**Robert C. Loper Jr. WEv'55**, Bensalem, PA, a retired accountant; March 26. He served in the US Navy during World War II.

**Lester M. Medvene C'55**, Los Angeles, a serial entrepreneur whose ventures included founding the oldest raceway in New Jersey, the ATCO Dragway; June 15. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Beta Sigma Rho fraternity.

**Dorothy McMurray Mosch HUP'55 Nu'55**, Gibsonia, PA, July 15. At Penn, she was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority. Her husband is Dr. Paul G. Mosch C'54 D'56, who died Feb. 22 (see Class of 1954).

**Kenneth A. Ruby W'55**, Los Angeles, a real estate developer; May 19. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Sigma Delta fraternity.

**Elinor Fisher Shoop CW'55 G'58**, Mount Laurel, NJ, a chemist; April 5, 2024. She also worked as a translator of chemical journals from German to English. At Penn, she was a member of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority.

## 1956

**David M. Amster W'56**, Phoenix, an accountant; May 4. At Penn, he was a member of Tau Epsilon Phi fraternity and the baseball team.

**Bruce E. Beckert W'56**, Bethesda, MD, April 8. He retired from ADP, a human resources management company. He served in the US Navy. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity, Friars Senior Society, and the cross country and rowing teams.

**Grenville H. "Gren" Foote W'56**, Gladwyne, PA, a retired data entry system salesman for Unisys; March 28. He served in the US Navy. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, Mask & Wig, Penn Glee Club, and the ROTC.

**Howard M. Girsh W'56 L'59**, New York, a retired attorney; July 18. His wife is Joann Bogutz Girsh Ed'58.

**Dr. Fritz P. Kohler M'56 GM'60**, Bryn Mawr, PA, a physician; May 27. He served in the US military. One daughter is Dr. Susan E. Kohler M'86 GM'89.

**Doris M. LeSturgeon GEd'56**, Greenville, DE, founding director and head of the Pilot School, for children with learning differences; Oct. 2 ["Alumni Profiles," Mar|Apr 2018].

**John J. Rademaker W'56**, Centerville, MA, a retired executive at a shoe company; March 19. At Penn, he was a member of Theta Xi fraternity.

**Milan Resanovich WG'56**, Longboat Key, FL, a retired executive at Merrill Lynch; March 29. He served in the US Air Force.

**Dr. Harold L. Rutenberg C'56**, Wyncnewood, PA, former chief of cardiology at Pennsylvania Hospital and associate clinical professor of medicine at Penn; May 14. From 1975 to 1981, he served as chief of cardiology at Pennsylvania Hospital. He also taught at Penn, Temple, and Jefferson University. In addition, he operated his own cardiology practice from 1981 until his retirement in 2021. His sister is Rosalyn Rutenberg Ominsky CW'61, who is married to Harris Ominsky W'53 L'56.

**Dr. C. Deem Schoenfeld M'56**, Middlebury, VT, a physician and radiologist; May 19. He served in the US Navy.

**Dr. Dennis R. Tryon D'56**, Scottsdale, AZ, a dentist; May 3.

## 1957

**Clark Alvord II WG'57**, North Chatham, MA, a retired salesman in the information technology industry; Oct. 9. He served in the US Marine Corps. His wife was Harriet Johansson Alvord CW'57, who died on Nov. 13.

**Harriet Johansson Alvord CW'57**, North Chatham, MA, a business owner and Swedish teacher; Nov. 13. Her husband was Clark Alvord II WG'57, who died on Oct. 9.

**Henry A. Cohen Ar'57**, Camp Hill, PA, an architect; May 28. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Epsilon Pi fraternity. One son is Bruce A. Cohen C'87.

**Dr. Herbert M. Dietz D'57 GD'60**, West Chester, PA, a retired orthodontist; April 12. His wife is Suzanne Linn Dietz DH'59, Ed'59, and his daughter is Kristin D. Anderson C'83.

**Burton Laman W'57**, Philadelphia, an accountant; March 31. He served in the US Army.

**Richard F. Malacrea PT'57**, Summit, NJ, retired director of athletic training and physical therapy at Princeton University; April 17. He was a member of the athletic staff during the 1980 Lake Placid Winter Olympics. He served in the US Army during the Cold War.

**Philip T. Murkett Jr. WG'57**, Montgomery, AL, a university-level educator who taught international marketing and management; April 29. He served in the US Army and the US Naval Reserve.

**Dr. David S. Nightingale GM'57**, Louisville, a retired surgeon; April 28.

**Hon. Betty Willis Ruben WG'57**, Bratenahl, OH, an administrative judge in the Cuyahoga County (OH) Juvenile Court; April 28. Earlier in her career, she worked for the Washington, DC, Department of Health and served on the staffs of Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson as the executive director of the Consumer Advisory Council in the President's Council of Economic Advisers. Her husband is Alan M. Ruben C'53 G'56 L'56, who died Feb. 21 (see Class of 1953).

**Dr. Howard A. Silver D'57**, Palm Beach Gardens, FL, a retired dentist; March 5.

**Roberta Kernis Sutker Ed'57**, Audubon, PA, a geriatric social worker and a leader at several Jewish philanthropic agencies; March 19.

**Lindsay C. Taliaferro Jr. C'57**, Hanahan, SC, a competitive horse rider; April 20. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. His wife is Christine Moranz Taliaferro PT'57.

**Wayne W. Thompson Jr. W'57**, Willow Grove, PA, a retired bank executive; Feb. 21. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of the Glee Club. One sister is J. Diane Thompson Heckler Nu'62.

**Sandra Shoultz White CW'57 G'58**, River Forest, IL, a retired accountant and former adjunct professor of accounting at Florida State University; March 25. At Penn, she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

## 1958

**Leonard Amsterdam W'58**, Lansdale, PA, a retired bank executive; March 22. He served in the US Army.

**Rev. Theodore W. Beiderwieden III C'58**, Traverse City, MI, a retired Lutheran pastor; April 9. Earlier in his career, he worked in Penn's Alumni Records office. At Penn, he was a member of the Choral Society.

**Walter B. Bull Jr. W'58**, Pinehurst, NC, a retired investment banker and political columnist; March 19. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and the rowing team.

**Alexander A. DeLucia W'58**, Happy Valley, OR, founder of an auto-parts locator service; May 16. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, Sphinx Senior Society, and the baseball and basketball teams.

**Dr. John M. Fosnocht D'58**, Silver Spring, MD, a retired dentist; April 4.

**Elliot K. Friedman C'58**, Watertown, MA, a retired planner for the Boston Redevelopment Authority; March 27. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity and the sprint football team. One son is Daniel R. Friedman C'00.

**Charles L. Hildreth WG'58**, Mystic, CT, a retired market research director for General Foods; March 19. He served in the US Army.

**Dr. Barron M. Hirsch D'58**, Irvine, CA, a professor of art, founding director of the art department at Saginaw Valley State University, and director of an art museum; April 5. Earlier in his career, he was a dentist. He served in the US Army.

**Joel P. Kay W'58**, Houston, an attorney and former assistant US attorney in the Southern District of Texas; May 16. He served in the US Army Judge Advocate General Corps. At Penn, he was a member of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity, the rowing team, and WXP. N.

**Francis J. Kushner PT'58**, Lewes, DE, a retired physical therapist; May 31. He served in the US Army during the Korean War.

**Richard C. Polinsky W'58**, Naples, FL, president of a wool products supplier; Oct. 31. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Epsilon Pi fraternity.

**Dr. Charles W. Rohrbeck M'58**, State College, PA, a retired obstetrician-gynecologist; March 26. He served in the US Army. One son is Dr. Steven C. Rohrbeck M'85.

**Dr. Elizabeth J. Schultz CW'58 V'62**, Ijamsville, MD, founder of a veterinary hospital; March 21. At Penn, she was a member of Kappa Delta sorority.

**Dr. John N. Simons M'58**, Brainerd, MN, a plastic and reconstructive surgeon; June 3.

**Sheldon Weisman EE'58 GEE'63**, Philadelphia, an operations analyst and teacher; Feb. 8. At Penn, he was a member of the Penn Band. His daughter is Penny Weisman, who is a marketing traffic coordinator in Penn's College of Liberal and Professional Studies.

## 1959

**Ward A. Cavanaugh WG'59**, Silver Spring, MD, retired chief financial officer for a greeting card company; May 22. He served in the US Army during the Korean War.

**George C. "Skip" Corson Jr. L'59**, Blue Bell, PA, an attorney; May 21.

**Dr. William H. Crawford Jr. V'59**, Mercer, PA, a retired veterinarian; June 6.

**Edith J. Gliem HUP'59 Nu'68**, Macungie, PA, a nurse, nursing instructor, and nursing home administrator; Dec. 26, 2022.

**Herman Zeus Goldberg C'59**, Litchfield, CT, a restaurateur; June 9.

**Eugene F. Irschick G'59**, Folsom, CA, a professor of south Asian history at UC Berkeley; Nov. 10.

**Joel S. Kane W'59**, Tiverton, RI, a retired accountant; May 24. He served in the US Air Force Reserve. At Penn, he was a member of Beta Sigma Rho fraternity.

**Robert C. Kearns C'59**, Hamilton Township, NJ, a retired high school teacher; April 3. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity and the basketball team.

**Albert W. Laisy L'59**, Cockeysville, MD, a retired attorney for CSX Corporation, a rail-based freight transportation supplier; March 23.

**John T. Murphy ME'59**, Coatesville, PA, founder of a wastewater equipment supplier; March 18. He served in the US Marine Corps. At Penn, he was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, the ROTC, and the swimming and lacrosse teams. His brother is Charles E. Murphy W'61.

**Joseph W. Packer Jr. WEv'59**, West Brandywine Township, a retired bank executive; March 25. He served in the US Army.

**Linda Christenson Pilaro W'59**, Charlottesville, VA, April 13.

**Mark P. Rosenfield W'59**, Pittsburgh, a retired investment banker and co-owner of a chocolate shop; April 14. At Penn, he was a member of the *Daily Pennsylvanian*.

**Gilbert T. Sommer WEv'59**, Ardmore, PA, a former marketer for memorial planning services at West Laurel Hill Cemetery; June 12. He served in the US Army during the Korean War.

**Clark D. Stull Jr. WG'59**, Newtown Square, PA, a retired commercial banker; May 17. He served in the US Navy.

**Dennis M. "Denny" Troy C'59**, Aiken, SC, a retired sales manager for Hallmark Cards; April 2. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity, Friars Senior Society, and the football team.

## 1960

**William C. Bertolet G'60**, Philadelphia, a retired antiques dealer; April 27.

**Joanne Hatch Galbraith Bruch G'60**, State College, PA, an author; June 5.

**Robert A. Busser C'60**, Ambler, PA, a retired architect; Feb. 18. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Chi Rho fraternity. One son is Jonathan C. Busser C'91, and one granddaughter is Grace A. Busser C'25.

**Davis S. Cangalosi W'60**, Staunton, VA, a retired captain in the US Navy; March 20. He served in the Vietnam War. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity, the *Daily Pennsylvanian*, and the ROTC.

**Howard P. Cantor W'60**, Manchester Township, NJ, a retired finance executive at an insurance agency; March 22. At Penn, he was a member of Kappa Nu fraternity and WXP. N.

**Dr. Francis A. Castano C'60 D'63 WG'73**, Centennial, WY, a pediatric dentist and orthodontist; March 24. Earlier in his career, he was a professor of pediatric dentistry at Penn. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity and the Glee Club. His wife is Carolyn Grant Castano CW'62, and his daughter is Suzanne Castano Foy C'88.

**Dr. Vincent L. Ferrara C'60**, Rydal, PA, a retired neurosurgeon; March 22. He served in the US Army Reserve. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

**Helen Borz Giberson CW'60**, Media, PA, a retired investment executive; April 12. At Penn, she was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

**Dr. Francis J. Gilroy GM'60**, Endicott, NY, a retired ophthalmologist; April 26. He served in the US Army Medical Corps.

**June Fridy Ginand Nu'60**, Haddam, CT, a retired nurse, and a business partner and medical assistant in her husband's veterinary practice; April 25.

**Jeannette J. Hudson DH'60**, Bryn Mawr, PA, a retired dental hygienist; June 7.

**Carol Hjerpe Joyce DH'60**, Winter Garden, FL, a former a dental hygienist and travel agent; May 1. Her sister is Lenore Hjerpe Albright DH'60.

**Laveen N. Kanal GrE'60**, Silver Spring, MD, a professor emeritus of computer science at the University of Maryland; May 3. One daughter is Shobhana L. Kanal C'84 G'84.

**Dr. Herbert E. Meyers GD'60**, Pittsburgh, a retired periodontist and professor of dental medicine at the University of Pittsburgh; March 21.

**J. Strickland Newsom Jr. WG'60**, Sandersville, GA, retired owner of a seed company; June 10. One daughter is Elizabeth W. Newsom C'87.

**Steven J. Seligman W'60**, Bradenton, FL, an accountant; May 16. He served in the US Army.

**Harvey A. Sweetbaum Gr'60**, Silver Spring, MD, a retired clinical psychologist; April 28. He also had a decades-long confidential assignment with the CIA where he pioneered the treatment of PTSD for returning agents. He served in the US military during the Korean War.

**James A. Trimble C'60**, Grafton, VA, a retired deputy post commander for the US Army; March 25. He served in the Korean War and the Vietnam War. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity and the rowing team.

## 1961

**Dr. Joseph R. Godzik V'61**, Scituate, MA, retired health agent for the Town of Cohas-

set (MA); May 11. He served in the US Army Veterinary Corps for 21 years, including during the Vietnam War.

**James N. "Jay" Hullett C'61**, Cambridge, MA, chairman and publisher at Hackett Publishing; June 2.

**David D. Irving C'61**, Lemon Grove, CA, April 11. At Penn, he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.

**Penelope P. Simkin PT'61**, Seattle, a childbirth educator and author often described as the "mother of the doula movement"; April 11. Her husband is Dr. Peter Simkin M'61.

**Dr. Joseph A. Totino GM'61**, Chester, PA, an ophthalmologist; June 15.

## 1962

**Dr. Donald B. Bershtein D'62**, Edison, NJ, a dentist; May 22. He served in the US Army Dental Corps. His sons are Bruce E. Bershtein C'85 and Martin G. Bershtein W'88.

**Ross E. Cowey G'62**, Bethesda, MD, retired director of the Office of Strategic Affairs in the US State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research; April 15. He served in the US Navy.

**James E. Day C'62**, Green Valley, AZ, a retired bank executive; May 13. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

**JoAnn Shafer Jamann-Riley Nu'62 GNu'65**, Santee, SC, a retired dean of nursing at Columbia University; June 4. Earlier in her career, she was a professor of nursing at Penn.

**Elizabeth L. Kelley SW'62**, Ann Arbor, MI, a medical social worker at the University of Michigan Health System; April 28.

**LaBerta Ehmann Laird FA'62**, Harleysville, PA, an art and music teacher; Aug. 30, 2023. At Penn, she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority and the Penguinettes, a synchronized swimming team. One brother is Frederick H. Ehmann Jr. C'66 L'70.

**Joseph J. Mankus ChE'62 WG'64**, Dagsboro, DE, retired sales manager for a chemical company; May 18. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and the football team. One brother is Anthony M. Mankus MTE'68.

**Dr. John J. McDevitt IV WG'62**, Kittery Point, ME, a gastroenterologist; March 13.

**Todd O. Morrow WG'62**, Pittsburgh, March 16.

**John T. "Jack" O'Connor WG'62**, Worcester, MA, a professor at Worcester Polytech Institute; June 14. He served in the US Air Force Reserve. At Penn, he was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

**Carol Meyer Rehrauer Nu'62**, Sunbury, PA, April 12.

**Ronald Sherman EE'62 GrE'65**, West Caldwell, NJ, a retired engineer at AT&T Bell Laboratories; April 25.

**William M. Sutton C'62**, Huntersville, NC, a retired bank executive; March 29. At Penn, he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity, and the golf, rowing, and rugby teams.

**Alan H. Tracy W'62**, Bend, OR, April 17. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**Harold L. "Spike" Yoh Jr. WG'62**, Key Largo, FL, chairman emeritus of Day & Zimmermann; June 21. His sons include Harold L. Yoh III WG'90 and William C. Yoh WG'01, and one granddaughter is Kristen K. Yoh Nu'16 GNu'21.

## 1963

**Michaele Klepak Gold DH'63**, West Barnstable, MA, former director of public relations at SUNY Stony Brook Medical School and owner of a coffee roastery; Nov. 20, 2022.

**Ann Pfatteicher Gregory GNu'63**, Newark, DE, retired executive director of the Bridgeton Symphony (now the Bay Atlantic Symphony) in New Jersey; March 30. Earlier in her career, she was an assistant professor of pediatric nursing at the University of Delaware.

**Robert P. Hedden WG'63**, Wellesley Island, NY, an artist and financial planner; April 5.

**Dr. Terrence R. Malloy M'63 GM'67**, Bryn Mawr, PA, retired chief of the urology section at Pennsylvania Hospital, and a professor of urology at Penn; May 8. He served in the US Army. One daughter is Courtney M. Malloy C'04.

**Robert A. Nagle Ed'63 GEd'69**, New Tripoli, PA, retired superintendent from Northwestern Lehigh School District; May



20. He served in the US Navy during the Korean War. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Delta Tau fraternity.

**Thomas E. Quay L'63**, Chester Springs, PA, retired general counsel for the Athena Institute for Women's Wellness; June 13. He served in the US Navy. His wife is Winifred B. Cutler Gr'79.

**Dr. Paul R. Reeb Jr. M'63**, Whitefish, MT, a retired physician; March 30. He served in the US Navy.

**Linda Townsend Rennard CW'63**, Douglassville, PA, a retired high school Spanish and English teacher; June 1. At Penn, she was a member of Kappa Delta sorority.

## 1964

**Sally G. Brenner GEd'64**, Pennington, NJ, a former middle school English and history teacher; May 2.

**Helve Viitel Clough DH'64**, North Chesterfield, VA, a dental hygienist; June 4.

**Dr. Henry M. Fortna V'64**, Ephrata, PA, a retired veterinarian; June 14. He served in the US Army.

**Ralph J. Haglund WG'64**, Rhinebeck, NY, a retired stockbroker; April 11. He served in the US Navy.

**Roslyn Grauman Hirsh CW'64**, Allentown, NJ, a former nursery school teacher, social worker, and owner of a greeting card company; June 14. At Penn, she was a member of Penn Players and Penn Singers.

**Michael J. Kearney WG'64**, Los Angeles, a bank executive; May 30. He served in the US Army. One son is Andrew V. Kearney C'00 EAS'00.

**Richard A. Mandell W'64**, New York, a stockbroker; September 16, 2022. At Penn, he was a member of Tau Epsilon Phi fraternity.

**George B. Mitchell GEE'64**, Bethesda, MD, retired director of infosec integration at the US National Security Agency; April 27. He served in the US Air Force.

**Jeffrey M. Novick W'64**, Syosset, NY, a former attorney; May 8. At Penn, he was a member of Tau Delta Phi fraternity. His daughter is Deborah Novick C'90.

**Kenneth R. Rosenzweig W'64**, Lake Worth, FL, a political activist and gemstone dealer; July 22, 2022.

**E. Ann Sheridan GNu'64**, West Springfield, MA, a longtime professor of nursing and dean emerita at the University of Massachusetts Amherst; March 26.

**Margaret "Peggy" Moore Walker CW'64**, Quincy, MA, a retired high school English teacher; March 23. At Penn, she was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority, and the basketball, field hockey, and tennis teams.

**Dr. John M. Uhl C'64 D'68**, Columbia, SC, a dentist for the South Carolina State Prison System and the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice; April 25. He served in the US Navy. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity, the *Daily Pennsylvanian*, and the rowing team.

## 1965

**Vance A. Bachman GEd'65**, Newtown, PA, a chemist and a high school and college teacher; March 20. He served in the US Navy during the Korean War.

**Paul J. Bankes Jr. L'65**, Philadelphia, a retired attorney; Feb. 8.

**Richard M. Bass C'65**, Waccabuc, NY, a retired insurance executive; June 4.

**Michael A. Budin EE'65**, Philadelphia, retired general counsel for the Pennsylvania State Employees' Retirement System; June 21. His wife is Beverly Rutman Budin CW'65.

**Dr. David J. Cantor D'65 GD'67**, Rockville, MD, an oral surgeon; June 27, 2023.

**Dean L. Conrad C'65 WG'67**, Bismarck, ND, a financial manager; March 24.

**Dr. John F. Ditunno Jr. GM'65**, Gladwyne, PA, a physician and professor of rehabilitation medicine at Thomas Jefferson University; March 18.

**Peter J. Giamalis GEE'65**, Friday Harbor, WA, a retired lawyer; Oct. 5. He served in the US Air Force.

**Glenn Golenberg WG'65**, Encino, CA, April 16. Two sons are Robert Nathan Golenberg W'87 and Jeffrey H. Golenberg C'91, and one brother is Avrum G. Golenberg WG'76.

**Jo Anne Kessler Hoberman DH'65**, Lock Haven, PA, a retired fourth- and fifth-grade teacher; June 4.

**Richard P. Jaffe C'65**, Philadelphia, an

attorney; March 31. At Penn, he was a member of the rowing team. His wife is Julia Erber Jaffe CW'65, and his children are Robert E. Jaffe C'96, Emily M. Jaffe C'99, and Kate B. Jaffe C'04. His sister is Barbara Jaffe Lorry CW'61 GEd'75, who is married to Wilfred F. Lorry L'61.

**James W. Jennings L'65**, Radnor, PA, a retired lawyer; March 5, 2023. He served in the US Marine Corps. His wife is Helen L. Jennings CW'66.

**John G. Landis ChE'65 GCh'67 Gr'70**, Breinigsville, PA, a retired chemical engineer and owner of a vineyard and winery; April 17.

**Susan Davidson Ravenscroft WG'65**, Bryn Mawr, PA, former head of the Philadelphia office of Christie's auction house and a real estate agent selling international luxury properties; March 19. She was chairman of the board of the Institute of Contemporary Art and served as a board member for nine years. Her son is Philip M. Ravenscroft C'98.

**James F. Repella GNu'65**, Savannah, GA, the retired founding dean of the College of Health Professions at Armstrong State College and president and CEO of the Southeast Georgia Cancer Alliance; April 12. He served in the US Army during the Korean War.

**Dr. Donald L. Sturtz M'65**, Lewes, DE, a retired surgeon for the US Navy; April 15.

**Frank L. Wright L'65**, Harrisburg, PA, a lawyer and former assistant district attorney of Dauphin County (PA); May 19, 2024. He served in the US Army Reserve.

## 1966

**Gertrude Stahl Epstein DH'66**, Canton, MA, a real estate agent and a former professor of dental health at Springfield Technical Community College; April 30. Her husband is Dr. Neil B. Epstein D'66.

**Alex J. McCloskey IV WG'66**, Austin, TX, vice president of labor relations at Lockheed Martin; March 27.

**Edward J. Muszynski WG'66**, Lake Forest, IL, a retired bank executive; March 18.

**Dr. Joseph A. F. Plate D'66**, Rochester, NY, a retired dentist; April 2024. He served in the US Army.

**Donald W. Russell C'66**, March 25. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and the soccer team.

**Glenna L. Ruth G'66**, Reading, PA, a retired nurse and former professor of pediatrics at Kettering College; June 12.

**Dr. Harvey M. Shapiro M'66 GM'72**, San Diego, former chair of the Department of Anesthesiology at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine; Dec. 17.

## 1967

**David A. Belasco L'67**, South Orange, NJ, a retired estate lawyer; March 27.

**Dr. Edwin L. Cohen D'67**, New Rochelle, NY, a dentist; May 14.

**Howard "Howdy" Freedlander C'67**, Annapolis, MD, retired deputy treasurer for the State of Maryland; June 26. Previously, he served in the Maryland National Guard for 22 years, eventually retiring as executive officer and director of public affairs and legislative liaison. As a student at Penn, he was a member of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity and the lacrosse team. As an alumnus, he was a longtime officer for the Class of 1967, including serving as its president. Last year, he published an essay in the *Gazette* about coming to terms with using a cane during Alumni Weekend ["Alumni Voices," Mar|Apr 2023]. One daughter is Elizabeth Stark Langbein C'02 and his brother is Barrett W. Freedlander C'62.

**Dr. Ernest J. Gentchos GM'67 GM'71**, Collingswood, NJ, a physician at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and a faculty member in Penn's Department of Orthopedics; March 27. He served in the US Army during the Vietnam War.

**Paul S. Lipschutz W'67**, Chester Springs, PA, April 3.

**William A. Macan IV L'67**, Warren, VT, an attorney; June 20.

**Dr. David C. Rilling GM'67**, Sellersville, PA, a surgeon; April 22. He served in the US Army during the Vietnam War. His wife is Karina Rilling HUP'66, and one son is Alexander V. Rilling C'99.

**Judith Klein Spiegel Nu'67**, Phoenix, a retired psychiatric nurse; June 11. Her hus-

band is Dr. Richard M. Spiegel C'66, and one son is Peter H. Spiegel C'92.

**Dr. Gerald P. Sternberg D'67**, Pennington, NJ, a retired dentist; March 24. He served in the US Army.

**James A. Thompson Jr. C'67**, Glastonbury, CT, an environmental lawyer; April 7. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and the soccer team.

## 1968

**Robert W. Gaiser C'68**, Catonsville, MD, April 30. He worked at the US National Security Administration. He served in the US military during the Vietnam War. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Chi Rho fraternity and WXPEN.

**Sir Mark C. Garthwaite 3rd Baronet W'68**, London, March 23. At Penn, he was a member of Mask & Wig.

**Jeffery C. Hayes C'68 L'71 GGS'03**, Haverford, PA, a retired lawyer; May 19. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity and the Debate Council. His wife is Dr. Julia Curtin Hayes, MD CW'69 M'73 GM'77.

**Herbert R. Otto Gr'68**, Plymouth, NH, an associate professor of philosophy at Plymouth State University; May 29. He served in the US Army.

**Dr. Eric T. Rippert D'68 GD'76**, Vero Beach, FL, a dentist and teacher of dentistry at the Dental College of Georgia; May 6. He served in the US Navy.

**Nathaniel P. Wardwell VI L'68**, Erie, CO, a retired staff attorney with the Laboratory Counsel's Office of Los Alamos National Laboratory; May 19. He served in the US Army in the Judge Advocate General Corps.

**Linda Seale Woodcock CW'68**, Longboat Key, FL, March 29. One sister is Patti Seale Taxe PT'77, who is married to Howard A. Taxe W'75.

## 1969

**Ronald J. Arnault WG'69**, Pasadena, CA, retired chief financial officer for the oil and gas company ARCO; March 5.

**Donald A. Bailey L'69**, Coconut Creek, FL, a former investment banker; Oct. 16. He was also a guest lecturer in entrepreneurship at Wharton.

**Dr. Edward M. Copeland III GM'69**, Gainesville, FL, a surgeon and former professor at the University of Florida College of Medicine; March 31. He served in the US Medical Corps during the Vietnam War.

**Florence "Kammy" Kahmar Franz GED'69**, Kennett Square, PA, a former middle and high school teacher; March 21.

**Dr. Cleon W. Goodwin Jr. M'69 GM'76**, Greeley, CO, former director of a medical center; May 20. He served in the US Army.

**Everett T. Keech WG'69**, Haverford, PA, former vice dean of the graduate program and adjunct professor of public policy and management in the Wharton School; May 24. In 1977, he became the vice dean and director of Wharton's MBA program. He mentored many students and colleagues as a lecturer and adjunct professor of business policy, federal budget policy, corporate governance, entrepreneurship, and innovation in both Wharton and in the LPS Organizational Dynamics program. In the US Navy, he flew fighter jets alongside John McCain as his wingman, and continued flying in the US Naval Reserve. Under the Ford administration, he was acting undersecretary of the US Air Force. His daughter is Allison Keech Sanka C'94.

**Catherine "Katie" Lovett Syrett CW'69**, Owls Head, ME, May 27. She worked at Peterborough Home Care.

## 1970

**W.A. Achenbaum G'70**, Houston, a professor emeritus of history and social work at the University of Houston who studied gerontology; April 29. He served in the US Army.

**Michael A. Cuscuna C'70**, Stamford, CT, a jazz historian, archivist, and producer; April 20. His record label, Mosaic Records, produced works by Thelonious Monk, John Coltrane, Miles Davis, and other influential jazz artists ["Alumni Profiles," Nov|Dec 2004]. At Penn, he was a member of WXPEN.

**Leslie G. Carlson Nu'70**, Rolette, ND, a massage therapist; Dec. 24, 2022. Earlier in her career, she was a home health nurse.

**Dr. James P. Diorio M'70**, Thompson, PA, a physician; Feb. 10.

**Peter A. Gisolfi GAR'70 GLA'73**, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY, an architect; June 15, 2023.

**Earl T. Stamm C'70**, Gwynedd, PA, a former attorney; May 18. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity.

**Elton E. Stuenkel CGS'70**, Pooler, GA, May 6, at 102. One son is Dr. Gregory W. Chapman C'71.

## 1971

**Gail Greenmeyer Armstrong Nu'71**, Blythewood, SC, a retired nurse; April 23.

**James S. Bryan L'71**, Los Angeles, a labor attorney; Aug. 26, 2023. At Penn, he was a member of the *Law Review*. One brother is Joseph Bryan III Gr'67.

**Martha Bayley Crosby WG'71**, Chicago, a retired brand manager for General Foods and Unilever; April 14.

**Richard J. Ketchum Gr'71**, Las Cruces, NM, a retired professor of philosophy at New Mexico State University; May 21.

**Kathleen M. Montague L'71**, Chevy Chase, MD, the first woman attorney in the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the US House of Representatives; March 24. Her husband is Peter M. Montague WG'70.

**Irwin L. Ross WEv'71**, Norristown, PA, a retired engineer in the radio and broadcast industry; April 10.

**Merle R. Stein ME'71**, Hoover, AL, a former operations executive at a steel distributor; March 5. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity and the football team.

**Michael T. Young WG'71**, Wakefield, RI, owner of a real estate firm; May 4. He served in the US Navy during the Vietnam War.

## 1972

**Dr. William F. Beegle C'72**, Allenhurst, NJ, a retired optometrist; May 5. At Penn, he was a member of Theta Xi fraternity.

**Ru-Ying Lee Gr'72**, Jenkintown, PA, a retired radar engineer at the US Naval Air Warfare Center; April 6. One daughter is Victoria Lee Cressman C'92.

**Donald C. McKenna WG'72**, Yulee, FL, Jan. 29.

**Carol J. McLaughlin CW'72 WG'76**, North Palm Beach, FL, a retired executive at Scott Paper Company; Sept. 21, 2022.

## 1973

**Vincent C. "Jeff" Webb Jr. WEv'73**, Wilton, CT, a real estate developer; May 12. He served in the US Army during the Vietnam War.

**Robert H. Wilson Jr. WEv'73 WEv'81**, Broomall, PA, May 3. He retired from the Defense Logistics Agency, a combat support agency in the US Department of Defense. He served in the US Navy during the Vietnam War.

## 1974

**Benny J. Bagnato W'74**, Sugar creek, PA, an accountant; April 22. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity.

**Dr. Francis J. Bonner Jr. GM'74**, Vero Beach, FL, a physician and developer of rehabilitation hospitals; April 29. Additionally, he served as chairman of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Graduate Hospital in Philadelphia, and as residency program director at Penn. His children include Kathleen Bonner Benjamin C'09 and Kirk Henderson Bonner GED'14, and his brothers include Dr. Dennis J. Bonner GEE'72 and Dr. James F. Bonner GM'82.

**Henry M. Mizioroko Gr'74**, River Falls, WI, a retired professor of biology and biochemistry at the University of Missouri, Kansas City; March 17.

**J. Douglas Price C'74**, Waynesboro, VA, a retired social worker; Feb. 29.

**Royce E. Walters Gr'74**, Indiana, PA, a professor emeritus of history at Indiana University of Pennsylvania; Sep. 30.

## 1975

**David T. Buente L'75**, Washington, DC, an attorney; May 1. His wife is Frances A. Dubrowski L'73.

**Jane Kummerer Butler GNU'75**, Woodbury, NJ, retired director of nursing and geriatric nurse practitioner at a retirement community; May 15.

**Royce J. Holland GME'75**, Dallas, retired CEO of the software company Masergy Communications; March 27.

**James D. Jeffries WEv'75**, Philadelphia, a retired senior financial program specialist for the US Department of the Treasury; March 21. He served in the US Air Force Reserve.

**James R. Landgraf WEv'75**, Philadelphia, a credit administrator for PECO; March 26. He served in the US Army.

**Gloria J. McNeal GNU'75 Gr'98**, Lancaster, CA, founding dean of the Drew University Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing and former dean of the School of Health and Human Services at National University; May 31. In 1995, she received the Outstanding Alumni Award from Penn Nursing.

**Antonio F. R. Moreira GCh'75 Gr'77**, Silver Spring, MD, former vice provost for academic affairs at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County; May 21.

**Foster S. Osborne Jr. WG'75**, Summit, NJ, May 1.

**Herman S. Parish III W'75**, Princeton, NJ, a retired account executive, copywriter, and creative director in the advertising industry; Feb. 10. He served in the US Navy. At Penn, he was a member of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity. His wife is Rosemary Cilenti Parish Nu'76.

**Hon. Gene Kreyche Pratter L'75**, Bryn Mawr, PA, US District Court judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, a longtime lawyer, and an adjunct professor at Penn; May 17. She taught legal ethics and trial advocacy at Penn's Carey Law School for more than 20 years, was chair of the law school's American Inn of Court, and served on the school's board of advisors in the 1990s. Her husband is Robert L. Pratter L'69, and one daughter is V. Paige Pratter L'03.

## 1976

**Barbara J. Bissell-Howell WG'76**, Hillsborough, CA, former director of a television broadcasting station; March 18. As a Penn alumna, she served as president of the Wharton Club of Northern California. One brother is Eugene V. N. Bissell WG'80.

**James H. Eberle W'76**, Summerfield, FL, May 13. He worked for IBM.

**Sr. Mary J. Petrarca OT'76**, Pittsburgh, a nun and cofounder of the Emmaus Community, which provides homes, services, and advocacy for people with intellectual disabilities; April 19.

**Lee A. Rosengard L'76**, Philadelphia, a lawyer; April 30. His wife is Andrea R. Kramer L'76, and one daughter is Joanna K. Rosengard C'05.



**Jean A. Shook Nu'76**, Skaneateles, NY, a psychiatric nurse; May 14. At Penn, she was captain of the gymnastics team. Her husband is Chris E. Johnson CE'83 G'88 Gr'89.

**Ilse M. Witty Gr'76**, Adrian, OR, a former teacher at a German school in Saudi Arabia; April 27.

## 1977

**Thomas M. Canning WEv'77**, Churchville, PA, a retired banker; March 28. He served in the US Army.

**John T. Hackl W'77**, Arcadia, CA, a retired IT consultant; March 29.

**Steven L. McGrath WG'77**, Langhorne, PA, a business consultant; April 3.

**Dr. Elizabeth A. O'Brien-Means V'77**, Williamsburg, MA, a retired veterinarian and teacher at Holyoke Community College; April 11.

**David N. Swank SW'77**, Haddon Township, NJ, a retired social worker; April 29. His wife is Yoshin I. Swank SW'78.

## 1978

**Hon. Mark A. Baber L'78**, Jersey City, NJ, a retired Superior Court judge in the state of New Jersey; March 30.

**Paul B. Jenison WG'78**, Redding, CT, a financial consultant; Dec. 10.

**Janet I. Wilcox ASC'78**, Los Angeles, a voice-over artist and producer; May 9.

## 1979

**Gail Sander Astrove C'79**, Potomac, MD, a fitness instructor; June 7. Her former husband is David M. Astrove C'79.

## 1980

**Madonna R. Archer-Powers W'80**, Staten Island, NY, a retired middle school math teacher; April 1. In the 1980s and '90s she played bass in several punk and hardcore bands, including Modern Clix, Whole Wide World, and Pinkie. At Penn, she was a member of the *Daily Pennsylvanian*.

**Rebecca Finley Cairns GNU'80**, Springfield, PA, a critical care nurse and research nursing professional; March 16.

**Graham M. Carter W'80**, North York, Ontario, Canada, founder of an insurance

firm; April 12. At Penn, he was a member of the ice hockey team.

**Jeremy D. Nicholson Gr'80**, Milan, Italy, a technical writer; March 5.

**Philip D. Stern C'80**, White Plains, NY, April 29. At Penn, he was a member of the choral society.

## 1981

**Erika Hitzgrath Gilson Gr'81**, Cherry Hill, NJ, a former senior lecturer of Turkish and Ottoman languages at Princeton University; March 26. Earlier in her career, she taught at Penn. One daughter is Danielle E. Gilson C'86.

**Walter F. Prusak WG'81 G'86**, Fernandina Beach, FL, April 19. One son is Richard W. Prusak EE'08.

## 1982

**Clark Addis WG'82**, Belle Mead, NJ, April 11.

**Dale M. Allison GNU'82 Gr'94**, Marion, MA, a retired nurse and professor of nursing at Hawaii Pacific University, where she also served as acting dean; April 2.

**Sally Jones Schurko WG'82**, Pittsburgh, a retired banker; April 12. At Penn, she was a member of the Wharton Follies.

**Mark A. Young C'82**, Natick, MA, a bank executive; March 23. At Penn, he was a member of Delta Psi fraternity and the rowing team. His father is Ronald A. Young W'56.

## 1983

**Karen J. Furth C'83**, Brooklyn, NY, a photographer; May 1.

**Ellen B. Perl WG'83**, Minneapolis, a marketing consultant; April 9.

**Stuart L. Sachs C'83**, New Haven, CT, a customer relationships manager in several industries; March 22. At Penn, he was a recipient of the Thouron Award. His brother is Dr. Gary S. Sachs C'77.

**Douglas A. Yorke Jr. WG'83**, Red Bank, NJ, founder of an acquisitions firm and director of the New Jersey Economic Development Board; April 11. At Penn, he was a member of the Wharton Follies.

## 1984

**Suzanne B. Biegel C'84 W'84**, London, a pioneer in gender-smart investing, which integrates gender analysis into investment processes for better financial and social outcomes; Sept. 20, 2023. Her brother is Bruce A. Biegel C'82.

**Dr. Thomas A. Clary Jr. D'84**, Auburn, NY, a dentist; Feb. 11.

**William H. Cunningham WG'84**, Boonton Township, NJ, a retired banker; March 21.

**Dr. Craig T. Johnston V'84**, Fairfax, VT, a retired veterinarian; Feb. 26.

## 1985

**Kristine Freyleue Collins L'85**, Riverside, RI, an attorney; April 1. At Penn, she was a member of the Law School Light Opera Company.

**Michael E. Gertzman C'85 W'85**, New York, an attorney; April 24. At Penn, he was a member of the *Daily Pennsylvanian* and the Debate Council. His sister is Dr. Sharon D. Gertzman C'87, and one son is Nathaniel B. Gertzman EAS'18 GEng'18.

**Theodore V. Kruckel III C'85**, Remsenberg, NY, a real estate agent and former founder of a publicity company for high profile clients and luxury brands; June 13. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity, the *Daily Pennsylvanian*, the swimming team, and Friars Senior Society.

**Jonathan B. Olsen C'85**, Fort Lauderdale, FL, a real estate agent; May 31. At Penn, he was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, the swimming team, and Friars Senior Society.

## 1986

**Dr. Elizabeth L. Culver D'86**, Merion Station, PA, April 18. Her husband is Jeffrey N. Hurwitz D'83 L'87.

**Catherine C. Smith WG'86**, Plymouth, MA, retired chief information officer for Otis; April 22.

## 1988

**Sallie S. Annett G'88**, Hockessin, DE, a social studies teacher; March 8.

**Dr. Bruce A. Bell W'88 V'15**, Bethlehem, PA, a veterinarian; April 2.

## 1989

**Thomasenia P. “Tommie” Duncan L’89**, Washington, DC, panel executive for the US Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation; April 23.

## 1990

**Dawn M. D’Orlando Nu’90 GNu’93**, Newtown, PA, a nurse who worked with the New Jersey Department of Children and Families; March 16. At Penn, she was a member of Alpha Phi sorority. Her husband is Brett R. Danko C’90.

**Dr. Rhonda M. Kavee D’90**, Whitestone, NY, a pediatric dentist and instructor of dentistry at Columbia University; Feb. 29.

**Thomas D. Kraemer C’90 GrW’04**, Los Angeles, a former investment banker; June 8. At Penn, he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity and a Franklin Scholar.

**Hon. Yvonne Mokgoro GL’90 Hon’09**, Braamfontein, South Africa, the first Black woman judge in South Africa’s Constitutional Court; May 9.

**Anthony W. “Tonio” Palmer G’90 WG’90**, Williamstown, MA, director of entrepreneurship at Williams College; April 28. Earlier in his career, he was director of language and cultural programs, marketing and recruiting at Penn’s Lauder Institute.

**John Patrick Tamisiea L’90**, Wilmette, IL, a lawyer; May 26. His wife is Holly M. Tamisiea C’87.

## 1993

**Bradley O. Jordan Gr’93**, Brooklyn, NY, a retired teacher in the New York Public School System and a novelist; June 4, 2022.

**Donna Crenshaw McDermott G’93**, Granite Falls, NC, April 26.

**Rev. Augustus C. Puleo Gr’93**, Norristown, PA, a Catholic priest and director of the English and Spanish Language Program at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary; April 3.

## 1995

**Jennifer Deussing Comerci SW’95**, Wynnewood, PA, a nurse; May 15.

**Joseph P. Olivieri C’95**, Franklinton, NC, a lawyer; April 24.

## 1997

**Steven J. Bisbee W’97**, Boalsburg, PA, owner of a real estate company and an adjunct instructor at the Smeal College of Business at Penn State; May 28. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of the ROTC.

**Robert Rae Jr. GEx’97**, West Chester, PA, an entrepreneur and founder of several companies; March 16.

## 1998

**Barbara Cartieri Timony G’98**, Aston, PA, a retired human resources trainer; June 8.

**Dr. Alexander M. Wohler CGS’98**, O’Fallon, MO, a cardiothoracic surgeon; April 17.

## 1999

**Parthenia Moore GEd’99 GrEd’06**, Elkins Park, PA, retired longtime principal of Philadelphia High School for Girls; June 18.

## 2000

**Sian Eugene Wang WG’00**, Los Angeles, former chief financial officer of FastSpring, a software-as-a-service company; March 10. His wife is Madeleine L. Wang WG’00.

## 2001

**Douglas A. Hammond C’01**, Mequon, WI, April 5. At Penn, he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity.

**Fan Teng WG’01**, Huangpu District, China, April 2024. Her husband is Wenhui Liang WG’02.

## 2004

**Gilles Guillon WG’04**, New York, an investment banker; May 12.

**Virginia M. “Ginny” Brawner Kricun CGS’04**, Audubon, PA, a corporate social responsibility expert and longtime civic activist; April 1.

## 2007

**Julia Bradburd CGS’07**, Gwynedd, PA, Dec. 8.

## 2009

**Tulane N. “Toni” Jackson GrEd’09**, Trenton, NJ, former director of an after-school

program for Franklin Township (NJ) Public Schools, a substitute teacher, and freelance writer; April 7.

## 2012

**Pamela Mason WEv’12 GL’25**, Philadelphia, April 12.

## 2014

**James J. Jagodzinski G’14 LPS’16**, Marlborough, CT, a retired systems engineer for Boeing; March 31. He served in the US Navy during the Cold War.

## Faculty & Staff

**Donald A. Bailey.** *See Class of 1969.*

**Rev. Theodore W. Beiderwieden III.** *See Class of 1958.*

**Dr. Francis J. Bonner Jr.** *See Class of 1974.*

**Dr. Francis A. Castano.** *See Class of 1960.*

**Joel O. Conarroe**, New York, a professor of English in Penn’s School of Arts & Sciences, the former department chair of English, Penn’s first ombudsman, and former dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences; April 28. He joined Penn’s faculty as an instructor in English in Penn’s Faculty of Arts & Sciences (now SAS) in 1964. In 1971, while he was serving as associate professor, President Martin Myerson Hon’70 named him Penn’s first ombudsman, a newly created role that he held for two years. In 1977, he was promoted to a full professor. He spent 1978 to 1983 on leave from Penn as executive director of the Modern Language Association. He returned to Penn in 1983 as dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences, a position he held for two years. He was also named the Thomas S. Gates Professor. As dean, he oversaw the founding of SAS and Wharton’s Lauder Institute and other advancements. He left Penn in 1985 to become the president of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. Among many accomplishments, he won Penn’s Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1968 and received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1977.

**David B. Espey**, Bala Cynwyd, PA, former assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and a former lecturer and administrator in the department of English; April 19. He

joined Penn's faculty in 1979 as assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and as an academic advisor in the School. In 1984, he became a coordinator in the department of English, and nine years later, he became director of the department. During his time at Penn, he also served as a lecturer in the English department and in the College of General Studies (the precursor of today's School of Liberal and Professional Studies) and directed the English department's freshman English program. In 2006, he earned a teaching award for his lectures in CGS. He retired from Penn in 2007. His children are Daniel J. Espey GGS'01 and Claire T. Espey C'05.

**Dr. Ernest J. Gentchos.** *See Class of 1967.*

**Erika Hitzgrath Gilson.** *See Class of 1981.*

**JoAnn Shafer Jamann-Riley.** *See Class of 1962.*

**Everett T. Keech.** *See Class of 1969.*

**Helen M. Korchak,** Haverford, PA, a former research professor of pediatrics in the Perelman School of Medicine; April 15. In 1986, she came to Penn's School of Medicine as a research associate professor of pediatrics, with a secondary appointment in the department of biochemistry and biophysics. She was promoted to a research professor in both departments in 1992, and held these positions until retiring from Penn in 2007.

**Arnold H. Kramer.** *See Class of 1952.*

**Dr. Terrence R. Malloy.** *See Class of 1963.*

**Anthony W. "Tonio" Palmer.** *See Class of 1990.*

**Richard P. Paul,** Fresno, CA, a professor emeritus of computer and information science in the School of Engineering and Applied Science; Feb. 12. He joined Penn in 1984 as a professor of computer and information science, with a secondary appointment in mechanical engineering and applied mechanics. A robotics pioneer, he worked at Penn on developing "Ivy League Robotics," intelligent machines that can sense, adjust to, and manipulate their environment. From 1988 to 1994, he also served as associate dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science. He retired in 1999 but continued to teach for three more years.

## School Abbreviations

Ar	Architecture	GEE	master's, Electrical Engineering	HUP	Nurse training (till 1978)
ASC	Annenberg	GEng	master's, Engineering and Applied Science	L	Law
C	College (bachelor's)	GEx	master's, Engineering Executive	LAr	Landscape Architecture
CCC	College Collateral Courses	GFA	master's, Fine Arts	LPS	Liberal and Professional Studies
CE	Civil Engineering	GGS	master's, College of General Studies	M	Medicine
CGS	College of General Studies (till 2008)	GL	master's, Law	ME	Mechanical Engineering
Ch	Chemistry	GLA	master's, Landscape Architecture	MT	Medical Technology
ChE	Chemical Engineering	GME	master's, Mechanical Engineering	MTE	Metallurgical Engineering
CW	College for Women (till 1975)	GM	Medicine, post-degree	Mu	Music
D	Dental Medicine	GMt	master's, Metallurgical Engineering	NEd	Certificate in Nursing
DH	Dental Hygiene	GNu	master's, Nursing	Nu	Nursing (bachelor's)
EAS	Engineering and Applied Science (bachelor's)	GPU	master's, Governmental Administration	OT	Occupational Therapy
Ed	Education	Gr	doctorate	PSW	Pennsylvania School of Social Work
EE	Electrical Engineering	GrC	doctorate, Civil Engineering	PT	Physical Therapy
FA	Fine Arts	GrE	doctorate, Electrical Engineering	SAMP	School of Allied Medical Professions
G	master's, Arts and Sciences	GrEd	doctorate, Education	SPP	Social Policy and Practice (master's)
GA	master's, Architecture	GrL	doctorate, Law	SW	Social Work (master's) (till 2005)
GAr	master's, Architecture	GrN	doctorate, Nursing	V	Veterinary Medicine
GCE	master's, Civil Engineering	GRP	master's, Regional Planning	W	Wharton (bachelor's)
GCh	master's, Chemical Engineering	GrS	doctorate, Social Work	WAM	Wharton Advanced Management
GCP	master's, City Planning	GrW	doctorate, Wharton	WEF	Wharton Extension Finance
GD	Dental, post-degree	GV	Veterinary, post-degree	WEv	Wharton Evening School
GEd	master's, Education	Hon	Honorary	WG	master's, Wharton
				WMP	Wharton Management Program

**Lee D. Peachey,** Gladwyne, PA, a professor emeritus of biology in the School of Arts & Sciences; May 29. In 1965, he came to Penn as an associate professor of biochemistry and biophysics. From 1970 to 1972, he served as the department's chair, then served as a professor until retiring from Penn in 2000. He researched the morphology of cells and tissues with the aim of understanding how structure relates to physiology and biochemistry of function. As a Fulbright Scholar and Guggenheim Fellow, he worked to develop new knowledge on the functioning of muscle cells. His children are Michael S. Peachey C'84, Sarah Peachey Keating C'85, and Anne Peachey Lorenz C'87 GL'93.

**Hon. Gene Kreyche Pratter.** *See Class of 1975.*

**Kathleen J. Propert,** Philadelphia, a former professor of biostatistics in the Perelman School of Medicine; Jan. 23. In 1996, after serving on the faculty of the Harvard School of Public Health, she accepted a position as a professor clinician-educator of biostatistics and epidemiology in Penn's School of Medicine. She rose through the ranks, becoming a senior scholar at the

Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, a member of the Institute for Translational Medicine and Therapeutics (and director of its biostatistics core), and the director of biostatistics in the integrative health sciences facility core of the Center for Excellence in Environmental Toxicology. She published her research widely and worked on a prestigious five-year NIH/NINDS grant to conduct preclinical trials to treat pediatric traumatic brain injury.

**Susan Davidson Ravenscroft.** *See Class of 1965.*

**Dr. Harold L. Rutenberg.** *See Class of 1956.*

**Kevin P. van Anglen,** Bedford, NH, a former assistant professor of English in the School of Arts and Sciences; Dec. 20. He served as an associate professor of English at Penn from 1983 to 1989. In 1991, he returned to Harvard, where he had received his PhD, to teach, and then took a faculty position at Boston College in 1998, which he held until retiring in 2015.

**Dorothy Stewart Wawrose.** *See Class of 1946.*

**Elaine MacAuley Weise.** *See Class of 1949.*

**Ann Dietrich Wetzel.** *See Class of 1952.*



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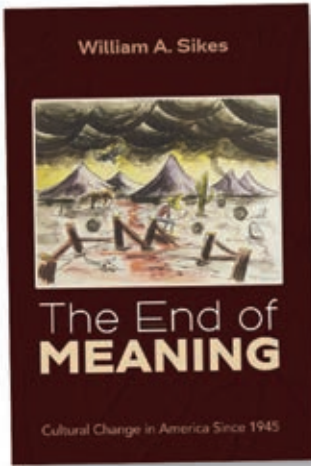
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understand the forces that have brought about their extraordinary decline (in our families and communities, universities and religious institutions, films and popular music, fine arts, labor and more) and realize the implications of this loss for our society and our humanity. In doing so the book provides a way of thinking about a vital subject—one which, despite its enormous importance, has never been examined in a broad and systematic way capable of generating real understanding, discussion and debate.

**William A. Sikes** studied at U.N.C.—Chapel Hill, Harvard (M.Div.), and the University of Chicago before receiving his doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Sikes is the author of *The Psychological Roots of Modernism: Picasso and Jung* (Routledge, 2015). *The End of Meaning* is available on Amazon or at [www.wipfandstock.com](http://www.wipfandstock.com).

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# From Treasured to Traitor

**At the First Continental Congress in September 1774**, Massachusetts delegate Samuel Adams suggested that Rev. Jacob Duché (1757–1860) offer the opening prayer at the group's meeting the next day. Duché, then a rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, had been a member of the first class of the College of Philadelphia (now the University of Pennsylvania). After graduating as valedictorian in 1757, he studied in England and was ordained by the Bishop of London. Duché also became a trustee of the College.

Although an Anglican minister whose denomination was led by King George III, Duché addressed the revolutionaries by first reading Psalm 35, then delivering an extemporaneous prayer:

*O Lord our Heavenly Father ... we beseech thee, on these our American States, who have fled to thee from the rod of the oppressor and thrown themselves on Thy gracious protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only on Thee, to Thee have they appealed for the righteousness of their cause; to Thee do they now look up for that countenance and support, which Thou alone canst give; take them, therefore, Heavenly Father, under Thy nurturing care; give them wisdom in Council and valor in the field ...*

In a letter to his wife Abigail, another Massachusetts delegate, John Adams, wrote, "I must confess I never heard a better Prayer or one, so well pronounced. ... with such fervour, such Ardor, such Earnestness and Pathos, and in Language so elegant and sublime—for America."

Adams added that Duché was "one of the most ingenious Men, and best Characters," and "a Zealous Friend of Liberty and his Country." Duché became chaplain of the Congress, and repeated that role for the Second Continental Congress, beginning in 1775 and leading into the Revolutionary War.

A native Philadelphian, Duché was born in 1737, and his experiences at the College of Philadelphia were critical in his development.

Duché "absolutely" enjoyed studying there and made lasting relationships with his classmates, said Kevin J. Dellape, author of *America's First Chaplain: The Life and Times of the Reverend Jacob Duché*.



"I think he had a strong belief about the mission of the college," Dellape said. "I think it lined up with some of the things that mattered to him, the type of young people they were trying to build there at the college, preparing people to think on those levels, spiritually and academically, which were important to him."

After being jailed for a day by the British during the occupation of Philadelphia, Duché wrote to George Washington, commander of the Continental Army, condemning the quest for American independence and asking him to make peace with the British. It was then that Duché's popularity with the colonists took a turn.

Washington rejected the suggestion and made the letter public, branding Duché a traitor. Duché fled to England, and his property was confiscated by Congress. Despite the charges, he returned to Philadelphia in 1792 (possibly suffering from dementia after a stroke). He died in 1798 and was buried at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Philadelphia. —Jon Caroulis



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