

# THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE

NOV/DEC 21

## Amy Gutmann's Legacy



*The Power of Penn* Raises \$5.4 Billion  
Live Theater Is Back (Exclamation Point Coming Soon?)  
David Bradley C'72 on *The Chaneyville Incident* at 40



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**By David Bradley**

#### COVER

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# THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE

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# Staying Power

**As** I write this, shortly before the *Gazette* goes to press, it is almost exactly 17 years since Penn President Amy Gutmann—at her inauguration on October 15, 2004—first announced the Penn Compact.

Gutmann attributes the compact's staying power to the fact that its goals of inclusion, innovation, and impact speak to something fundamental in the nature of the University and the Penn community. "The highest compliment that I have gotten is that 'the Penn Compact isn't yours, it's ours,'" she says. "It has exceeded my highest expectations because it became so quickly 'our Penn Compact.'"

We reported in the last issue on President Gutmann's nomination as US ambassador to Germany, but how and when her Senate confirmation will play out remains uncertain. After emphasizing in a September interview that Gutmann remains "100 percent committed to the University" and is "doing the job with the same intensity and energy" as she always has, board of trustees chair Scott L. Bok added, "Because we know how Washington works, this is not going to be an overnight

process, so we do have some more time with Amy at the helm and that's terrific."

Still, this issue seemed an appropriate time for a look back, if not yet a sendoff. The University has recently completed a highly successful fundraising effort, *The Power of Penn: Advancing Knowledge for Good*, which at \$5.4 billion blew past its initial goal by \$1.3 billion ["Gazetteer," this issue]. That was a record-setting total, as was the \$4.3 billion raised in the previous *Making History* campaign, completed in 2012. Universities don't get to advance their priorities without resources, and Gutmann has raised in the neighborhood of \$10 billion as president so far.

The latest campaign—and everything else—was of course profoundly affected by the coronavirus pandemic that struck in early 2020. Gutmann led the lockdown of the campus in March of that year, the shift to remote learning and teaching for students and faculty and to remote work for University staff, and the gradual resumption of normal(ish) operations as time went on. With vaccine mandates, indoor masking, and extensive testing protocols, Penn has so far managed to keep cases low, avoiding

the outbreaks that have affected some other schools.

Our retrospective package includes "Compact Fulfilled," highlighting some of the singular achievements and challenges of Gutmann's tenure, and "Rational Exuberance," an interview with the president, in which, among other things, she reflects on reopening the campus and greeting her final class of first-year students in September, what she'll miss most about the University, and what the experience of leading Penn has meant to her.

**This issue seemed an appropriate time for a look back, if not yet a sendoff.**

Also in this issue, frequent contributor JoAnn Greco—who has been making something of a specialty writing articles for us that assess the effects of the coronavirus on different aspects of society (cities, the nursing profession, healthcare delivery via telemedicine)—takes a look at the tentative return of live theater after its pandemic-induced, year-and-a-half intermission.

For "Curtain Up!" JoAnn interviewed a cross-section of alumni involved in theater production—on and off Broadway in New York, as

well as in Philadelphia and elsewhere. They described the scary, surreal moment when everything stopped and the frustrating uncertainty of planning for reopenings that failed to take place. They also talked about lessons learned through trying to create *some* kind of theater under the circumstances and making it through to resumption of live performances this fall, with COVID still very much a concern. To sum up, as JoAnn writes at one point: "Trepidation is there, but so is optimism."

Also returning—to our pages—is the writer David Bradley C'72, who reviewed books for the *Gazette* in the 1980s and contributed a couple of award-winning essays in the mid-1990s. Bradley is best known, of course, for his novels *South Street* and especially *The Chaneyville Incident*, which came out in 1981, winning the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction the following year. The publisher is issuing a 40th anniversary edition of the novel, including a new foreword written by Bradley, reprinted here under the title "Things Look Different in Lamplight."

A final note: We're introducing a new category of essay into our rotation in "Views," focusing on enthusiasms of various kinds and called "Rabbit Hole." First up: Kombucha!





# New approach is old hat, “Big Greek” not from Turkey, and more.

## We Welcome Letters

Please email us at [gazette@ben.dev.upenn.edu](mailto:gazette@ben.dev.upenn.edu). Letters should refer to material published in the magazine and may be edited for clarity, civility, and length.

### Sounds Familiar

I was more than a bit surprised by the article “(Re)Introduction to US History” [Sep/Oct 2021]. I used basically the same approach to teaching a high school American history course in the 1960s at Yeshiva University High School for Boys in Manhattan. A supplemental text used was the two-volume *Great Issues in American History*, edited by Columbia University professor Richard Hofstadter and first published in the late 1950s. That work’s whole purpose was to get the students to *think* about the issues involved.

*Ya’akov (aka Jerrold) Aronson Ed’61, Rehovot, Israel*

### The Only Constant Is Change

Two pearls of wisdom may apply to this thoughtful article: (1) “Every generation thinks it discovered sex”; and (2) the Russian proverb that “you can never predict history.” To (1) I may add “... and apparently everything else.”

“(Re)Introduction to US History” does present a worthy next step in the evolution of the philosophy of teaching history. But after 75 years of observing the means and methods of teaching, I would suggest substituting “Re+Re+Re+Re” or perhaps “Re 4.0” in the article title.

With Penn graduate degrees and careers in both engineering and anthropology (archaeology), I have come to realize that another “Re” is always on deck, building on the ones coming before. I did my geotechnical studies pre-



**“I would suggest substituting ‘Re+Re+Re+Re’ or perhaps ‘Re 4.0’ in the article title.”**

plate tectonics (circa 1969) in the earth forces era; talk about “Re”! The only constant is change.

*William Stead CE’69 GCE’70 G’81, Chambersburg, PA*

### Dorizas Born in Asia Minor

Thank you sharing the story about Michail “Mike” Dorizas [“Old Penn,” Sep/Oct 2021]! However, you certainly didn’t honor “The ‘Big Greek,’” a *professor of*

*geography*, by saying he was “born in 1890 in Turkey” and a “native of Turkey,” a country which didn’t even exist when he was born. Greeks from Asia Minor (what you can call modern-day Turkey) were annihilated under the Ottoman Empire with the burning of Smyrna in 1922 and the systematic expulsion and genocide of millions of Greeks, Armenians, and Assyrians, which started in 1914. Greeks born before 1923 would never say, “I was born in Turkey,” and in fact if referring to my own ancestors born there, I always say they were born in Asia Minor, as other Hellenes would say also. The Big Greek was fortunate that he got out and to the US and Penn before the atrocities perpetuated against the Christian minorities in Asia Minor.

*Clio Alexiades Nicolakis W’88, Woodbridge, CT*

### A Remarkable Man

I took “Mike” Dorizas’s Geography 3 class as a sophomore and, as I recall, it was offered in the Wharton School. As an American of Greek ancestry, I was a Greek speaker having been reared in a Greek immigrant family and having attended “Greek School,” which was offered by our local church three times a week after public school, for 11 years. So I was going to have some fun with “Big Mike” and when it was quiz time, I wrote my answers in Greek. I got my paper back with two grades. One was an “A” for the correct information. The other was an “F” for poor Greek grammar. After the class, I asked what my mistakes were.

Big Mike offered to tutor me in Greek, or asked me, in the future, to refrain from answering in Greek. He said it was too painful! So much for practicing my Greek on Dr. Dorizas. What a great class it was!

I was a senior when I attended a memorial service on campus for Dr. Dorizas when he passed away in 1957. I might add that the service was well attended by many members of President Eisenhower's State and Defense Departments because Dr. Dorizas was involved with those departments during World War II. A remarkable man!

*Theodore J. Scotes C'58, McKinney, TX*

### Finding a Way

I got a kick out of the letter entitled "Just Go Out and Do It" by Sandra Kotin ["Letters," Sep/Oct 2021].

Like her, I graduated in 1962 with a degree in chemistry (although mine was only a bachelor's degree). Like her, I became a patent attorney. And like her, I originally wanted to be an archaeologist but was told that I should not consider such a career unless I would have an independent income, which was not going to happen. But I was able to satisfy this need by becoming a member of the University Museum volunteers (aka the Mummy Dusters), where I spent many delightful evenings.

*Joel Ackerman C'62, Jerusalem*

### Honor Katalin Kariko

Penn should rename one of its science buildings in honor of Dr. Katalin Kariko, who pioneered the mRNA research behind the COVID vaccine, despite decades of gender-related lack of support and recognition ["The Vaccine Trenches," May/Jun 2021]. She dealt with crap equipment, lack of funding, and men who would not give her respect. How much sooner would we have had the vaccine if she had been given proper support? How different would the world have been if we had had a vaccine from Day One of the pandemic? It would highlight Penn's involvement in this groundbreaking scientist's research to publicly

acknowledge her on campus by naming one of the buildings after her, and inspire other young women to follow in her footsteps. At least give her a freakin' plaque in front of the med school. Anyone agree with me?

*Linda P. Falcao C'82 W'82 L'85, Durham, NC*

### Why?

So now it is clear. In 2016, the American people elected Donald J. Trump W'68 president of the United States of America. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. The very first Penn graduate to obtain that honor. Cause for celebration? Absolutely not! He was denigrated, disclaimed, slandered, and hated. Why? We asked! Over four years he did many worthwhile and positive things for our country, surely, a son of which to be proud! Still not a word of praise. Why? We asked again and again. We should have realized. ... The price of an ambassadorship ["Gazetteer," Sep/Oct 2021]! For shame!

*Georgeann Whitehill Hitzel Nu'56,  
Glen Gardner, NJ*

*The President's Office plays no role in choosing content for the Gazette.—Ed.*

### Should Have Consulted Webster

As usual, I greatly enjoyed the Sep/Oct 2021 issue, especially the articles about Kevin Stefanski ["The Cleveland Comeback"] and Kevin Warren ["Alumni Profiles"], both of whom have ties to my hometown Minnesota Vikings team. I also enjoyed the "Threading Lightly" piece on Allbirds ["Alumni Profiles"].

But I was surprised to see a reference to Dartmouth University. Where exactly is this institution located? I thought the whole Dartmouth College/Dartmouth University issue was settled by Daniel Webster before the Supreme Court way back in 1819. "It is, Sir, as I have said, a small college. And yet, there are those who love it!"

*Darrick Hills WG'88 (Dartmouth '83),  
Minneapolis*



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# Standing Wide Open

The paradoxical power of vulnerability.

By Linda Willing

Several years ago, I spent the month of August working outside of Atlanta. I brought my bicycle with me, hoping to ride after work a few days a week. I was thrilled when I heard there was a rails-to-trails route not far away that would perfectly meet my needs.

But when I told people about my intentions, they warned me. The parking lot was in a bad area, they said. Watch yourself. Don't linger after dark. Don't leave anything valuable in your car.

I heeded their warnings. I was careful always to stow everything in the trunk

and doublecheck my car door locks. But one day I was in a hurry. It had been a frustrating day at work. I was late arriving at the parking lot for my late-afternoon ride. A minor mechanical problem with my bicycle further delayed my departure. I rushed away from my car, trying to get in some kind of ride before dark.

The ride refreshed me, and by the time I cruised back into the parking lot nearly two hours later, I had let go of all the tension and anxiety I had carried with me when I arrived.

That's when the cold horror descended on me. As I pedaled up to my car, I saw that one of the back doors was open. My car had been broken into, and as I got closer, a second nauseating wave consumed me. In my impatience to get on the trail, I had neglected to go through the drill of hiding everything away, and had left my purse, my computer, my jewelry from the day, my important papers—everything—in plain sight.

Feeling sick and angry at myself, I hurried to assess the damage. I was so filled with anticipatory regret that I could hardly register the first thing I saw when I peered into the car. It was my computer case, lying on the backseat exactly where I had left it. The surge of relief I felt was tempered by disbelief, and I frantically dove into the front seat. There I discovered my purse, my jewelry, my papers, and everything else I had left behind in the car—untouched and exactly where I had left them.

That's when it finally dawned on me: I had left the car door open in my haste to get onto the trail. It was an incredibly careless and stupid thing to do—leaving a car door standing open in a public parking lot. But the fact was, nothing happened as a result. No one opportunistically took anything from me, but instead just left my car sitting there, completely vulnerable, until I returned. The battery still even retained enough of a charge to ignite the engine.

I recently revisited this experience while reading *Humankind: A Hopeful History*, by Rutger Bregman. The book's basic premise is that people in general are a lot better at their core than we give them credit for. Bregman offers interesting reconsiderations of some of the classic stories that inform modern views of human nature, from *Lord of the Flies* to Philip Zimbardo's infamous Stanford prison experiment.

Bregman's research is compelling, if sometimes selective. Still, I think he's onto something, and his conclusions echo other testaments to cooperation



and solidarity among strangers, such as Rebecca Solnit's *A Paradise Built in Hell*, which explores communities of mutual support that develop with remarkable frequency and depth in the wake of disasters. We hear such stories all the time: the nurse who flew from Alaska to help earthquake survivors in Haiti; the person who donated a kidney to a neighbor; the volunteer flotilla that arrived to rescue people after Hurricane Katrina.

I'm not really an optimist at heart, but these stories resonate for me. I've experienced the compassion of strangers in my travels and my work as a firefighter. As an undergraduate at Penn in the 1970s, I spent many days walking the streets of the city by myself. It was as valuable a part of my education as any class I took. I explored churches and galleries, I had conversations with random people in parks, I lingered over coffee in tiny cafes on less-traveled side streets. In four years, I never had a bad experience.

When I tell people the story about leaving my car open in the parking lot that day, they tend to react in the same way. "Well, of course no one would mess with your car, with the door standing wide open like that," they say. "Nobody would approach a car under those conditions. They would assume it was a trap." They're probably right. But this response also recognizes that there may be some power in allowing ourselves to be vulnerable. If standing wide open can protect us, why don't we do it more often?

Bregman offers this advice: "Be courageous. Be true to your nature and offer your trust. Do good in broad daylight and don't be ashamed of your generosity. You may be dismissed as gullible and naïve at first. But remember, what's naïve today may be common sense tomorrow."

My own experience in the world leads me to a somewhat different but possibly complementary conclusion: don't be stupid, but don't be afraid either.

On Christmas Day during my junior year at Penn, I took the train into the city, intending to meet up with friends the

next morning for a winter break trip to Florida. A friend told me I could stay overnight at her empty house at 43rd and Pine Streets. Thirtieth Street Station was festive and busy with people returning from holiday gatherings. I got on the trolley but decided to get off at 37th Street, thinking I could pick up a can of soup for dinner from the mini-mart nearby.

When I got off at that stop, there was no remaining holiday cheer, just a sense of foreboding. The station was deserted and as I emerged from underground, the bad feeling intensified. The campus on Christmas night was a ghost town: dark, abandoned, and threatening.

Now I was faced with walking the eight blocks to my destination for the night. I was dressed like a target—a bright green winter jacket, a pink wool hat, and a flowered canvas suitcase banging against my leg. I was nervous, but I figured I would just keep my head down, keep moving,

and everything would be fine.

I had barely made it across 38th Street when someone emerged from the shadows—a large man who came right up next to me and asked if I had change for a dollar. I'll admit it, I was scared. I dug into my pocket and pulled out a handful of coins. "Here," I told him, trying to move away, "Take it."

He lingered next to me. "I don't feel right just taking your money," he said. "Isn't there something I can do for you?"

I looked around. It was dark. I was alone and if this man wished me harm, he could do me harm wherever he wanted. "Yes," I said. "If you want, you can walk with me to 43rd and Pine."

And he did.

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Linda Willing C'76 is a former urban firefighter, National Park Service backcountry ranger, and the author of *On the Line: Women Firefighters Tell Their Stories*.



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# Infinite Kombucha

The whole universe in a sip.

By Duff McDonald

**E**ver tried kombucha? If you have, I'm happy for you. If you haven't, I must insist that you do so immediately. For your own sake. Because kombucha offers access to the notion of infinite possibility. It allows you to reach into the infinitude of now, to grasp the heart of existence. I know that sounds a little crazy, but I assure you that it's not.

Before I get into why, I should explain, for the uninitiated, just what kombucha is. It's a fermented, effervescent, and slightly

sweetened black or green tea. A lot of people drink it for the reputed "probiotic" health benefits. I drink it for the taste.

Kombucha at retail is kind of pricey, so I started making it at home in the winter of 2019. It's easy. First, you make a sweet tea. Then you add a symbiotic culture of bacteria and yeast, or SCOBY, which ferments the sugar, creating kombucha's characteristic taste. At some point, depending on your preferences, you bottle and add flavor—pretty much any flavor

you want. It's definitely an acquired taste, but also an addictive one.

At first, I had a three-gallon ceramic vat. Then I thought I should upgrade and bought a five-gallon one to replace it. Then I realized that we needed all eight gallons. And then I bought another five-gallon vat. In April 2021, I bought myself a kegerator for my birthday, so that we could have kombucha on tap, all the time.

Did I go overboard? I don't think so. Or rather, I *did* go overboard, but in the very best of ways: When it comes to hobbies, going overboard is the way into the heart, the essence, of a thing. There's a reason surfers get up at 4:00 in the morning to catch some waves before work. My wife's gardening "hobby," which she took up around the same time, is now so consuming that you might as well call her a farmer. In other words, I went deep.

Our kombucha is lighter and more subtle than commercial versions. It's crisper and doesn't overwhelm you with a flavor assault each time you take a sip. The house flavors of choice: Elderberry, Lavender-Mint, and Mulberry-Grapefruit, my daughter's favorite. I like Mint, both for the taste and what I imagine to be a reflection of my sophistication. What do we like about it? For a long time, I told people that it was because of the unending variety of flavors. But I recently realized that I was just slightly missing the point. It took a taste test to show me how.

One day, I poured some of our Blood Orange flavor for my wife without telling her what it was, and asked her to guess. She went through all the flavors we had on hand without getting it right. That startled me. Blood Orange is a very distinct flavor. When you knew you were drinking it, it was clear as day. How could she miss it—how could it not be *obvious* to her—even without a label to guide her expectations?

And then it hit me: The beauty of kombucha isn't the possible flavors you can make. The beauty of kombucha is pos-

sibility itself. It is a platform upon which any flavor can be placed. It is the vessel for anything and everything. All you need to do is add the essence of some flavor to your platform, and the brain will accept it—provided that you tell the brain what to accept. Living things can be or do whatever they want, and that extends to kombucha itself. It is what we want it to be.

Kombucha is a living drink, and anything that is alive contains the universe, or infinite possibility. Shifting perspective, you could say that when I talk about kombucha, I am also talking about life itself. Our subjective experience of reality is profoundly flexible; we can taste almost any *flavor* of experience whose potential presence we are open to. Anything is possible; it's just up to you to make a choice.

You know those optical illusions where you trick your brain into seeing something that isn't there? The same goes with kombucha. Don't want to drink an entire glass of blackberry juice, because of the sugar? Well, drink a glass of blackberry kombucha. Your brain thinks it's blackberry, at least in terms of taste. And your body thinks it's kombucha, which has almost no sugar. You get the flavor of juice and the health benefits of life itself. We use a tablespoon or so of flavoring in each of our half-gallon bottles. I have decided to see if we can use even less than that, to find out just how little flavoring we can use before the brain says, "Hey! What's going on here?" At some point, we are going to be using wavelengths of flavor. You know, when we build our laboratory.

**In her book** *Reader, Come Home*, the literacy scholar Maryanne Wolf notes a fascinating research finding about how we read: Our eyes dart back and forth, reading a few words ahead of our conscious brain and then circling back. If the word that's two or three words ahead of where you're reading is something like "stick," your brain surfaces all the possible meanings of that word that you

are aware of, and then quickly collapses down onto the correct one as soon as it realizes which it is.

Is it a stick, like a branch?  
Is it "stick to something," like glue?  
Is it "stick to a plan"?

The point is that the brain needs to know stuff in order to consider stuff. In *A History of Reading*, Alberto Manguel makes a similarly fascinating observation: Books are infinite. Meaning what, exactly? Your reading of a book is different than my reading of a book is different from someone else's reading of a book, because each of us brings a unique set of experiences and expectations to the text. You can conceive of each of those different encounters—a new one for every person who reads it—as points spread out on a horizontal plane. But the idea works vertically, too, in the different readings that each of us might experience when we engage with the same book at different points in our lives. Books vary along both axes. Books are infinite.

No discussion of books and infinitude is complete without contemplating Jorge Luis Borges's story *The Library of Babel*. It runs a mere seven pages, and it's still one of the greatest things ever written. In it, he postulates a library of unimaginable size: In an indefinite series of hexagonal rooms, four of six walls in each room contain five bookshelves apiece; there are 32 books per shelf, 410 pages per book, 40 lines per page, some 80 letters per line. The library—which Borges calls "the universe"—is large enough to contain all possible arrangements of an alphabet of 25 symbols in those books. How many books is that? I was curious enough about it to buy a book called *The Unimaginable Mathematics of Borges' Library of Babel*. According to the author, a library meeting Borges' specifications would contain 25<sup>1,312,000</sup> books—a quantity he argues would not fit in the known universe.

That's a neat image, but I would submit that it's wrong. Because the calculations that physicists have made of the known universe are wrong. Everything fits in the universe. More to the point, everything fits in *now*. Because it is *always* now. It is never yesterday or tomorrow. Now is eternal. It's when *everything* happens. In short, it contains infinite possibility, like kombucha.

Borges doesn't even bother including the number in his story. Why? Because quantification is a poor means by which to attain a true understanding of anything. As Umberto Eco later pointed out, the actual number is irrelevant to both the story and the reader. He was right. What is relevant is the content that Borges suggests those books might contain. In short: everything. The point of the Library of Babel is not to figure out how many books the universe might contain; it's that somewhere in there is the story of your own salvation, and that you get to write it yourself. The best use of your time is not to count reality. The best use of it is to create reality.

Uncertainty—that is, possibility—is our friend, not our foe. But it's difficult to embrace uncertainty all the time. Life can get scary, so we try to eliminate uncertainty in the places where we don't want it. But the key is to then seek it out in the places where we do. That's what hobbies are for. They give us a chance to reside in the deep now, and let uncertainty come at you with all it's got. That's why we play music. That's why we ski, surf, dance, grow gardens, and more. It's why we make kombucha.

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# Disrupting the Paygrade

A work-from-home future could upend traditional notions about white-collar wages. Employers and employees alike should beware.

By Peter Cappelli

Until the pandemic, Facebook was paying employees a bonus to live close to its headquarters. Now, it is largely leaving the choice up to employees, with the caveat that they receive approval for remote work. That's a big change. In noting what this means for the future, CEO Mark Zuckerberg cited "access to a wider talent pool."

"Right now, we're constraining ourselves to a small number of cities," he explained. "It hasn't been *too* bad of a constraint, but certainly there's an advantage to opening up more widely."

Some companies see permanent work-from-home arrangements as a way to attract better applicants. Yet it is hard not to believe that expanding

the supply, other things equal, also leads to lower wages.

Does the virtual approach mean that we still have to stop at our national borders when it comes to employing workers? If we want to hire a worker from a foreign country, they need visas that allow them to work here, and those are limited. If they work for us remotely, however, that is no longer the case. Foreign citizens living and working abroad do not need a visa or work permit to be hired by a US company. Furthermore, income earned by a non-US citizen living and working abroad is not taxable in the US. A US company with a permanent work-from-home program could hire employees in any country.

Being able to hire people who would otherwise not want to relocate sounds great for employers—unless their competitors follow suit. In that case, their workforce also has opportunities that are unbound by location. Just as there are more possible candidates for job openings, employees also have many options to find work without having to relocate. If companies think employees are job hoppers now, wait until workers could change employers without relocating.

What we know about retention matters as well: The single most important factor holding people in organizations is social relationships. The more we and our colleagues are remote workers, the less we see of each other, and the less of that hold we have. Employees won't be staying because they like the location or because of office perks if there is no office. Social relationships weaken when we don't see people. Other than the work we do and money, little else holds us in place.

If your organization goes all remote and competitors do not, then this approach might work. The reverse would certainly be bad, to be the only employer hiring locally when your employees could be recruited from everywhere. If everyone moved in that direction, things could be radically different in ways that are hard to imagine: a fluid workforce constantly churning through with non-



stop hiring to backfill non-stop turnover.

It is also possible that employee interest in working from home may drive employers in that direction, especially in labor markets that are well organized and where employees have good information on what competing employers are offering. We can already see some evidence for this. One example is the hiring of associates into law firms, which happens at scale, all at once, in the spring of each year. Graduates from the same schools interview at many of the same firms, and they all share information. In Philadelphia, law firms report that the 2021 graduates are asking potential employers what work-from-home policies will be. It is apparently a good job market for graduates, and the firms say that they feel some competitive pressure to offer generous policies to compete for the best candidates.

The most likely benefit for employers is that permanent work-from-home arrangements may help firms retain employees who really want to keep working from home. If companies think their competitors are going in that direction anyway, it could make sense to get ahead of the market and get some of those benefits before everyone else does the same thing. But all that assumes that remote work is actually better for job and organizational performance, or at least not worse.

One of the stranger and more contentious issues in the work-from-home debate is whether it should change the criteria we use to set pay. Specifically, will your ZIP code shape how much you are paid? The argument is that firms should pay based on the cost of living where employees live, and if workers move to a cheaper place, a company should pay them less. Facebook and Twitter announced this policy early on in the pandemic. Stripe offered to give employees a \$20,000 bonus if they would move to a cheaper location and then take a 10 percent wage cut.

Here's why none of this really makes sense in the current moment: Silicon Valley programmers and IT people are highly skilled and fit the unique needs of the

companies where they are working right now. If your company did not pay them their current wage, someone else would. You are paying that wage because the market dictates it, not because the Bay Area is an expensive place to live. Bankers in New York get paid a lot because of the work they are doing, not because New York City is more expensive than, say Charlotte, North Carolina, where banking jobs are very different. In fact, one of the reasons why New York City and Silicon Valley are expensive is because people there get paid a lot of money and can bid up the price of housing.

Unlike the cost-of-living adjustments that companies used to pay when assigning managers to different locations, the companies that are thinking about paying employees based on where they live are not requiring any of those employees to live where they do. Suppose, for example, that you have a headquarters in Silicon Valley, where real estate is very expensive, and one of your employees decides to move to the Central Valley of California, where housing is much cheaper, and commute. Would you cut their pay? Should they be paid less than someone who pays a lot for a tiny house in Los Gatos but has no commute? It's their choice. If the CEOs of these companies decided to work from their ranch in Wyoming, I am certain there would be no effort to cut their pay.

It is also something of a myth to suggest that employees in expensive locations would love the opportunity to live someplace cheaper. I have yet to hear one Wharton MBA student wax eloquently about the incredible value represented by four-bedroom ranchers in Iowa versus tiny condos in New York City. There may be people with families who really feel they need space that they cannot afford and are willing to move away from their work to do it, but this is surely not everyone. Interestingly, the companies pushing employees to move are not themselves talking about moving their operations and their leaders to cheaper locations.

They just want their employees to do it.

There is one possibility as to why some employers are trying to pay employees less if they move, and it has nothing to do with the cost of living. It is the ability to extract a price from employees who would be willing to pay to live elsewhere. Rather than say that there is a 10 percent tax on working remote, a firm says that pay will be lowered to the cost-of-living where an employee works, which doesn't sound so manipulative. They are taking advantage of evidence that many employees appear willing to pay a price to work from home, so presumably some would pay a bigger price to work from home permanently.

There is another conversation going on about the future of pay sparked by working from home that may be more explicit outside the US but is sub rosa here. It is about the inappropriateness of jobs being structured around a time clock, with one conversation driven by employees and the other by employers. Like two parallel lines, they never intersect even though they are talking about the same thing.

An Adecco international survey of 8,000 office workers and their bosses in 2020 reported both employees and executives saying that we should move away from work being based on certain hours sitting at your desk and more based on what the business actually needs.

The problem, though, is that those two groups appear to have completely different ideas as to what that would mean. White-collar workers in the US, who do not have any overtime restrictions on hours, already know that business needs can go up and up and up, pushing well past the 9-to-5 schedule, especially if the work can be done outside the office.

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Peter Cappelli is the George W. Taylor Professor and director of the Center for Human Resources at the Wharton School. He is the author of *The Future of the Office: Work from Home, Remote Work, and the Hard Choices We All Face* (Wharton School Press). Reprinted by permission of Wharton School Press.



## Powering Through

The pandemic required a new playbook for reaching out to donors and engaging alumni in the *Power of Penn*; the results were game changing.

**T**he September 30th event celebrating the conclusion of *The Power of Penn: Advancing Knowledge for Good* did not come off as expected—certainly not the way it was envisioned at the time the fundraising campaign launched more than three years ago [“Gazetteer,” May/June 2018] and perhaps not even as planned in the heady days last spring and early summer when it seemed the coronavirus was in steady retreat.

But the show that *did* go on—a briskly paced hybrid affair with nearly 300 masked and vaccinated volunteers and staff spread out over the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts’ Zellerbach Theatre and several hundred more participating via livestream—was emblematic of an effort that had plenty of experience in shifting tactics on the fly to overcome the special challenges posed by the pandemic.

Announced with a goal of \$4.1 billion, the campaign ended on June 30 having raised more than \$5.4 billion—\$5,408,980,446, to be exact, and the largest total in Penn history. That money will fund several University-wide priorities, listed as expanding student opportunities, revolutionizing health, advancing knowledge across disciplines, incubating innovation and entrepreneurship, driving energy solutions, and creating spaces to drive solutions. Engaging the Penn community was also a major goal, along with increasing

annual giving and gift planning. And each of Penn’s 12 schools and six centers also had its own wish list of critical needs. (For more, see the *Impact Summary* mailed with this issue or available at [yourimpact.upenn.edu](http://yourimpact.upenn.edu).)

Among the highlights:

- Nearly \$900 million was raised for undergraduate and graduate financial aid, and 830 new undergraduate scholarships were established. The campaign also put a strong focus on the Penn First Plus program, designed to provide further support for students who are the first in their family to attend college or come from lower income households.

- A dozen new Penn Integrates Knowledge professorships—in which the holders have appointments in multiple Penn schools, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration—were funded. In all, 186 new faculty and staff positions were endowed.

- Penn Medicine raised \$1.68 billion, including \$1 billion for biomedical research, of which more than \$200 million will go to Penn’s ImmunoRevolution aimed at using the immune system to fight disease.

- Facilities projects range from the Pavilion, a 17-story hospital providing the most advanced healthcare; to New College House West at 40th Street; to new spaces for research on energy solutions, data science, and student entrepreneurship; to the Penn Museum’s Building Transformation program of renovations and modernization.

**As with the arrival of the Great Recession** soon after the 2007 launch of the University’s previous fundraising effort, *Making History*, “the pandemic was yet another thing we could not have expected, but it really did demonstrate how well the community at Penn responds in a crisis,” says Penn President Amy Gutmann (who started the September 30th event in a Penn sweatshirt and jeans to accept a baton handoff in a relay race that progressed across campus—on video—and into the theater before returning later in the program wearing more formal attire).

**“What I felt was great unity of mission, of purpose, and of generosity.”**

“What I felt was great unity of mission, of purpose, and of generosity,” Gutmann adds. Beyond the financial goals, campaigns are “about fostering a heightened sense of community and finding real meaning in one’s connection to Penn. We’re so fortunate to have a community that believes deeply in Penn’s ability to change the world. Their generosity even during a global pandemic signals just how important Penn is in the lives of our alumni and our broader community.”

The new funding for student financial aid “has en-

abled us to better support all of our students, and especially first-generation and low-income students,” Gutmann says. “As a first-generation college student myself, I really know how challenging it can be to navigate the college experience without a map.” Those students who are at Penn now and in the future can find help in the Penn First Plus center in College Hall, she says, which is also the home of the SNF Paine Program, focused on “educating the whole person, civic service as well as wellness, and learning dialogue across divides,” and the Office of Social Equity and Community, headed by University Chaplain and vice president Charles L. “Chaz” Howard C’00. “Those are game changers” in the continuing story of making Penn ever more inclusive, Gutmann says.

“The other big game changer is the transformation of our beautiful campus to one that’s got even more to offer everyone,” she adds, highlighting Penn Medicine’s new Pavilion, the biggest capital project in Penn history “and the most lifesaving.” She also points to New College House West, which accepted its first residents in September. Together with Lauder College House, which opened in 2016, it has allowed Penn to provide housing on campus for all first- and second-year students, a requirement instituted this year.

What Gutmann calls the “middle pillar of the Penn Compact,” *innovation*, also received a strong infusion of



support, with a “huge increase” in investments in energy sustainability and technology transfer initiatives spearheaded by the Penn Center for Innovation.

That’s accompanied by new spaces like the recently completed Tangen Hall (“the innovation center for students”), the Vagelos Laboratory for Energy Science and Technology, now in progress, and a new data science building, for which ground was broken in October (during which its name—Amy Gutmann Hall—was announced).

## “Penn is at the center of a skyrocketing innovation ecosystem in Philadelphia.”

Besides the buildings themselves, “recruitment of faculty for these initiatives were all advanced through the campaign,” she notes.

“Penn is at the center of a skyrocketing innovation ecosystem in Philadelphia. We have long wanted to do that, and now you can see it. And it’s been literally life-saving,” she says, citing Drew Weissman and Katalin Kariko’s work on mRNA [“The Vaccine Trenches,” May/Jun 2021] and Carl June’s on CAR-T Cells to treat cancers [“The T-Cell

Warriors,” Mar/Apr 2015]. “And there’s going to be much more to come.”

Gutmann singles out alumni engagement as the thing she is most proud of in the campaign. “Our volunteers just stepped up in an incredible way,” she says. “They played an absolutely essential role in the *Power of Penn*. And their service touched every area of the University.” There were over 6,500 volunteers involved in the campaign, Gutmann notes. In terms of overall participation, “it was actually hundreds of thousands. I mean, it’s just amazing.

“During the pandemic, of course, we had to master new ways to connect with our alumni. And our alumni just responded, and in full force,” with participation in the thousands for some events she was involved with, she says. Overall, virtual programming attracted three times the number of attendees as in-person events and was especially effective at bringing in new people, with first-time attendees increasing “six-fold,” she notes.

“Everybody yearns to come back to the campus when they can. But a lot of people can’t. And what the pandemic and this campaign proved to us is that, when you make engagement a priority, Penn people respond.”

**“Passion overcomes challenges,”** says Robert M. Levy WG’74, chair of the campaign and an emeritus trustee, who announced the official total from the stage of

Zellerbach, standing alongside campaign vice chair Lee Spelman Doty W’76.

Levy calls coming to the end of the effort an exciting and “somewhat bittersweet” experience. “It’s been a great success, which I think speaks volumes about the strength of the team at Penn and our volunteer group. We have never let up,” he says.

“We had an incredible group of priorities that we knew would resonate with our supporters, we had wonderful University leadership—starting with Dr. Gutmann but extending to all the leaders at the University, great leadership also including the chair of the board David Cohen [L’81 Hon’21, whose term ended June 30] and our trustees, the strong development and alumni relations group headed by [senior vice president] John Zeller that was ready to go, and an incredible group of volunteers.” With that list of positives in place, the campaign was in a position to “take whatever the world would throw at us,” he says.

The campaign’s \$5.4 billion total was contributed by nearly 390,000 donors, which included 41,000 alumni making their first gift to Penn. “All gifts matter,” Levy emphasizes. While there were more than 900 gifts of \$1 million or more, the vast majority were for \$25,000 or less. A successful campaign is one that builds “on the momentum of a connection with the University. Getting a broad group of people participating is a great out-

come,” says Levy. “Frankly, this is one of the sources of great pride for me, and should be for all of us.”

Doty praises Penn’s development and alumni relations staff for “pivoting on a dime to doing everything remotely. They just maintained that momentum. It was a different form of outreach”—with Zoom calls replacing volunteer committee dinners, in-person meetings, and other events—“but, if anything, we were actually able to get more participation,” she says.

“It’s been quite a journey, and despite COVID—which I think could have upset the applecart—we just sailed right through and did way better than our expectations,” Doty adds. “I’m not all that surprised, however. I’ve always had high confidence that the *Power of Penn* would do well, and I would say that’s largely because of Amy Gutmann’s leadership.”

**Penn Alumni President** Ann Nolan Reese CW’74 echoes that sentiment. “We’re Penn; this is what we do,” she says. “We just found a way to make the pandemic work for us in the campaign instead of being daunted by it.”

And alumni outreach, she insists, is a big reason. “No one is going to persuade me that the financial success of the campaign was not linked to this increased excitement and engagement,” Reese says.

There were 185,000 unique alumni involved in the *Power of Penn*, and 125,000 unique event attendees, she says. “That’s 40 percent of living

degreed alumni who attended at least one event during the campaign.”

The number of regional club events grew by more than 20 percent, to 900 annually, and some 250 club leaders were trained using virtual tools. “Many of those regional clubs are engaging international attendees, who are not going to be able to come regularly to campus” at any time, Reese says. And virtual gatherings also made it possible for US alumni to attend far-flung events at regional clubs in Singapore or India, for example. “When we’re just thinking about live events we can’t think about the sharing in that way,” she says. Overall, alumni from more than 50 countries participated in online events, she adds.

“We are committed to doing this post-pandemic because it’s been just so successful at meeting all of our goals. It’s engagement and it’s also lifelong learning,” Reese says. “The richness of it is not just gathering together. We are also able to bring the best of our faculty, the best of our alums to broader audiences when we use technology.”

The growth in participation in virtual events compared to live ones, particularly for first-time attendees, shows their value, she adds. “This is what I say when I speak to alums, ‘If you want to put your toe in the water, it’s not a big commitment. You’re sitting at home, sign on and get to see the people, get to see the programming,

and then you’ll come in person the next time,” she says.

Having an independent focus on alumni engagement in the midst of a fundraising campaign takes a “signal” from senior leadership that “this means something to us,” Reese adds. “It’s hard for people to separate money and engagement, so the messaging has to come from the top.”

**Current board of trustees** chair Scott L. Bok C’81 W’81 L’84 calls the “extraordinary outcome” of the campaign, despite all the disruptions and restrictions of COVID, “a tribute to the loyalty and the enthusiasm that our alumni have for the University.”

“There’s no one magical gift or magical group that makes it all happen,” he adds. “It’s an enormous effort, and the development team is deep and very experienced. They deserve a tremendous amount of credit—led of course by President Gutmann. There’s just no one who has more enthusiasm for Penn, there’s no one who’s done more for Penn.”

Bok calls Gutmann “the consummate fundraiser, because she first of all has a really granular grasp on all the different aspects of what’s happening at Penn,” he says. “She tells that story to donors at all levels, and I think it gets everybody excited about joining with her in that journey of making Penn an even greater place.”

Gutmann’s impact on the University is “really I think almost impossible to over-

## STUDENT HONORS

### A Trio of Churchill Scholars

**Three Penn alumni** have been awarded Churchill Scholarships for a year of graduate research study at Churchill College at the University of Cambridge in England for the 2021–22 academic year.



Adam Konkol C’21 G’21 (top) and Abigail Timmel C’20 G’20 (middle) were selected for the honor in August, while Srinivas Mandyam C’20 G’20 (bottom) was awarded it last year but had deferred his studies abroad until now.

The Churchill Scholarship is considered one of the most prestigious and competitive international fellowships available to American students planning to study science, mathematics, and engineering abroad. There are only 16 students selected annually, and Penn is the only university that had two named this past year. It is believed that this also marks the only time a single university has had three Churchill scholars at Cambridge at once.

At Cambridge, Konkol is pursuing a master’s degree in applied mathematics and theoretical physics, and Timmel and Mandyam are studying physics.

According to Penn’s Center for Undergraduate Research and Fellowships, which aids students in their scholarship applications and will mark 20 years on campus this spring, Penn has had 12 Churchill Scholars since the program’s inception in 1963—including five in the last five years. The scholarship, which was established at the request of Winston Churchill to fulfill his vision of a scientific exchange between the US and the UK, covers tuition and travel expenses, provides a stipend, and offers a chance at a research grant.

state,” he says. But Penn’s transition to a no-loan policy for financial aid looms especially large in his mind. “That makes such an extraordinary difference to students from lower-income and middle-income families,” he says. “To have come up with that concept, to have been willing to make that commitment, and then to go on and find the funding to make it work, I think is certainly one of her greatest legacies.”

“Dr. Gutmann’s impact will sustain way past her departure from Penn,” Doty agrees.

“She has been remarkable. She came to the Penn campus with a bold and powerful vision, the Penn Compact, almost 18 years ago and she executed that vision, in my opinion, flawlessly. I’ve never seen anybody with more energy, more enthusiasm, more creative ideas—they never stopped.

“On every single metric, Penn has just gotten stronger,” Doty adds. “Penn was great in my opinion when Amy started, but now it’s phenomenal—and I think it will just keep getting better and better and better.”—JP

# Collaboration and Change

Freshmen and transfer students were welcomed to Penn—in person!—and urged to “think like a diplomat.”

**M**embers of the Class of 2025 weren't the only ones staring down new beginnings as they gathered outside of College Hall on the evening of August 30 to officially kick off the University's 282nd year.

Two of the speakers at the Convocation ceremony—vice provost and dean of admissions Whitney Soule and interim provost Beth Winkelstein EAS'93—are new to Penn and their role, respectively. And Penn President Amy Gutmann acknowledged, to cheers from the audience of freshmen and transfer students, that she is ready to make a big jump of her own after being nominated to serve as the next US ambassador to Germany [*“Gazetteer,”* Sep/Oct 2021].

“As I share my thoughts with you today, I vividly remember what it felt like to be a first-year college student, as anxious as I was excited,” Gutmann said. “And now I am both excited and anxious about my future and the future of my family.”

Her advice to Penn's new students, then, mirrored what she says she's been trying to take in herself. And it boiled down to following the example set by Benjamin Franklin—not only Penn's founder, whose statue stood among the crowd outside College Hall, but America's first am-



bassador, who forged a key alliance with France during the Revolutionary War. “In France, Ben became a pop culture phenomenon,” Gutmann said. “If Instagram had existed, he would've been the CEO of going viral. He charmed the royal court with his signature spectacles, simple clothes, and homemade gifts. He dazzled philosophers and merchants alike with his intellect and wit.”

The key to Franklin's success, Gutmann noted, was that he found strength in differences—something she hopes the members of the Class of 2025 will keep in mind as she urged them to “think like a diplomat.”

“Successful diplomats are both collaborative and inde-

pendent-minded leaders,” Gutmann said. “To succeed, you will work with and lean on others. But never forget this: what each of you brings here is uniquely yours. Share it bravely and be curious about the unique differences of others. Those differences and your own unique perspective make our community increasingly innovative, and ever more inclusive. At Penn, thinking creatively and being curious about others, that's what leads to breakthroughs.”

One breakthrough Gutmann cited was the “lifesaving one” from Drew Weissman and Katalin Kariko, who, after crossing paths at a copy machine, pioneered the messenger RNA technology used in the Pfizer and Moderna vac-

cines against COVID-19 [*“The Vaccine Trenches,”* May/June 2021]. The Penn president also touted Annea Moore C'19, a Rhodes Scholar who helped the University implement the Penn First Plus program for first-generation, low-income students.

“Among the many life-changing lessons to be learned from the examples of Drew and Kati and Ben and Annea are these: Always be open to that chance meeting on Locust Walk, in your College House, or with a faculty member,” Gutmann said. “Though you may be strangers, though you are independently working toward different goals, your collaboration could one day change the world.”

For many freshmen, simply navigating a changing world and getting to Penn was especially daunting this year. “More than any class before you,” Gutmann said, “you had to become expert navigators. You were given no road map for this pandemic.”

Yet destinations can still be reached without a road map, Winkelstein argued in her remarks. “Sometimes, external events—yes, even a pandemic—will set you off in some new direction,” said Winkelstein, who was appointed deputy provost in 2020 and has been serving as the University's interim provost while Wendell Pritchett Gr'97 takes a medical leave of absence [*“Gazetteer,”* Jul/Aug 2021]. “But just as often, change comes from within. You'll find joy or inspiration in some field or interest that's new to you.”



Winkelstein told students “not to stress” about change, recounting how she was “sure she was going to be a doctor” when she arrived as a Penn freshman before a summer in a research lab after her sophomore year led to her becoming a bioengineer. “Taking chances—altering course—inevitably brings setbacks,” she said. “But it may also bring big rewards.”

As is a Convocation custom, the admissions dean welcomed a new Penn class, which this year is made up of 2,400 students, hailing from 88 countries, with one out of seven identifying as a first-generation college student (and 59 percent of the US citizens in the class identifying as students of color and 54 percent total as female). But Soule, who arrived at Penn just a couple of months before the freshmen, “didn’t read your applications because, like you, I’m new,” she said.

“I had to imagine what my life would be like if I came to Philadelphia to join this community,” continued Soule, who replaced Eric Furda C’87 as head of Penn’s admissions department. “And now we are all starting together.”

And if anyone in the crowd was feeling jittery about their first semester at Penn, Soule attempted to ease their nerves, commend them on their fortitude, and motivate them for their next few years. “If we wanted everything to stay the same, we would have stayed where we are,” she said. “We pushed through remote everything, through COVID, through loss, through restriction—and we can’t stop pushing.” —DZ

## Compelling Argument

The case for mandatory vaccinations is “settled law.”



**“Y**ou have now a solid 25 to 30 percent of this country who are saying ‘No thanks’ to the vaccine: ‘We’re OK with continuing to be fertile ground for this virus to reproduce itself, to create variants which may become progressively more resistant to vaccine-induced immunity,’” said renowned virologist and immunologist Paul Offit. “So what are you going to do about it? I think that’s where the rubber is going to meet the road over the next six months or so.”

Offit—who directs the Vaccine Education Center at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and is the Maurice R. Hilleman Chair of Vaccinology at the Perelman School of Medicine—was speaking

in a panel discussion sponsored by Perry World House at the end of August, days before President Biden announced a series of executive actions mandating vaccines against COVID-19.

Later in the “COVID-19 and the New Normal?” panel, a recording of which is available at Perry World House’s YouTube page, Offit sketched the historical legal case for vaccine mandates—and recalled one instance of *compulsory* vaccinations in the US, right here in Philadelphia. Here’s an edited excerpt of those remarks:

**This is, I would argue, settled law.** The *Jacobson v. Massachusetts* case in 1905 was the case of a Lutheran minister, Henning Jacobson,

who was living in Cambridge, Massachusetts, during a smallpox epidemic. The Cambridge Board of Health said that he had to either get a vaccine or pay a fine, because that’s what a *mandate* is. A mandate is when you’re asked to get a vaccine or pay some sort of societal price, whether it’s an actual fine, or you don’t get to work at the hospital, or go to the school, or whatever. That’s a mandatory vaccine.

*Jacobson v. Massachusetts* went all the way to the state Supreme Court, then the US Supreme Court, which supported the Cambridge Board of Public Health’s capacity to mandate the vaccine. Seventeen years later, in *Zucht v. King*, there was a girl who wanted to go to a high school that insisted on her getting a smallpox vaccine [that she didn’t want to get]. There wasn’t a smallpox epidemic at the time, but that case just again reaffirmed the earlier ruling.

The only instance [in American history] of compulsory vaccination took place in Philadelphia in 1911. In the city of Philadelphia, over a few months in 1911 there were 1,400 cases of measles and nine deaths. To put that in perspective, a couple years before, there had been 1,500 cases of measles in the *country*, and fewer than five deaths. But that’s how bad it was. It centered on two fundamentalist churches in the city—Faith Tabernacle and First Century Gospel. They were

faith-healing churches, so they didn't believe in vaccination. What happened was we got to the point where 500 of the cases and six of the deaths were in that community, and 900 of the cases and three of the deaths were in the surrounding community—because the virus doesn't recognize your religious beliefs. So the city was in a panic. People canceled trips to the city. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania gave hundreds of thousands of dollars to vaccinate people as young as six months old because we were so overwhelmed by this. Eventually the state Supreme Court held that there could be compulsory vaccination, meaning that those children could be vaccinated against their parents' will.

So the pastor of one of the churches went to the ACLU—a group that's perfectly willing to represent unpopular causes, like neo-Nazis marching down the street in Skokie, Illinois. The pastor contended that those parents had the legal right to refrain from vaccinating their children. And that was in fact correct; a religious exemption to vaccination had been on the books for 10 years. Everybody assumed the ACLU would represent them, but it *didn't*. The ACLU said that while it is your liberty to martyr yourself to your religion, you are not at liberty to martyr your child for your religion. And so eventually we had compulsory vaccination—and the epidemic stopped. —JP

## Performing Arts

## Showtime

The Annenberg Center is back—with a full performance slate, a new name, and a half-century to celebrate.



**W**hen audiences stream back into the Annenberg Center for the first time since March 2020, they'll spot a number of upgrades and changes—including a brand-new name out front.

In concert with its 50th anniversary, the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts launched a new brand identity: Penn Live Arts. The building still goes by its original name, but the production side goes by the new handle. "We're a real hybrid organization—we serve both the University and the public," says Christopher Gruits, the executive and artistic director of Penn Live Arts. "We wanted a brand that better reflected our connection to Penn

**PENN  
LIVE  
ARTS**

and how we serve students, but also our connection to audiences beyond the Annenberg Center's four walls."

For the last 20 months, its audiences have *only* been outside those four walls. COVID-19 forced the center to close abruptly and rework all of its planned events for the 2020–

Funk and soul jazz saxophonist Maceo Parker will perform at the newly named Penn Live Arts in February.

21 season. It wound up copresenting several off-campus, outdoor performances with Philly's the Crossing choir and managing 20 live events—five of them world premieres—performed inside the center and streamed live online.

With its branding makeover unfolding at the same time, "Live" felt crucial to the new Penn Live Arts name. "In a period that was so challenging to have live performance, we realized how important and special it really was," Gruits says. "Live" also reinforces the center's "50-year history of presenting really groundbreaking work in live performance," he adds.

That history began in 1965, when Penn asked the Annenberg School for Communication's then-dean, George Gerbner, to help establish and lead a much-desired center for the performing arts on campus. After two years of planning and four of construction—with a \$5.7 million price tag—the Annenberg Center held its first performance in April 1971.

"It was really the first performing arts *center* in Philadelphia—meaning it had multiple spaces for performance and its focus was multidisciplinary," Gruits says. Its earliest offerings included a stage comedy starring Judd Hirsch (pre-*Taxi* fame) and plays directed by Harold Prince C'48 Hon'71, who was fresh off a Tony win for *Company* on Broadway and whose "very innovative theater here ... became a big part of our early history," Gruits says.

By the mid-1970s, Glenn Close and Shirley Knight were

sharing the center's stage in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and Christopher Walken appeared in Tennessee Williams's *Sweet Bird of Youth*. In 1984, the center introduced Philly to playwright August Wilson, staging *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* before it moved to Broadway.

Jazz, world, and contemporary music became mainstays, with Philly debuts from Philip Glass, Steve Reich, and other rising stars. The center also dove into dance, launching its Dance Celebration series and hosting Martha Graham Dance Company, Twyla Tharp, the Paul Taylor Dance Company and, over the last several decades, "really every big name in modern dance," Gruits says.

"The Annenberg Center has a really long history of focusing on new work and experimental programs that you can't really see otherwise in the city," he adds. "We hear so often from our audiences that they love coming here because they know they can trust us for the best in dance, music, theater, and film."

Today the center houses rehearsal rooms, theater arts classes, a new Arts Lounge space, and offices, in addition to its three theaters: the Harold L. Zellerbach Theatre, with roughly 900 seats; the Harold Prince black box theater, with roughly 200; and the 115-seat Bruce Montgomery Theatre.

"If you look at where the center's located, it's kind of a central hub on campus," Gruits says, "and it's also a crossroads for a lot of the arts at Penn." Pop inside on a given day, and you may find any number of people on its stag-

es: student theater and singing groups, panelists at academic conferences, Patti Smith rocking out, or Malcolm Gladwell unspooling his latest theories. That's on top of the center's professional programming slate, which this year features 26 events.

The 2021-22 season kicked off this fall with an online film series and an outdoor performance at Morris Arboretum.

But the center soon plans to welcome audiences back inside Zellerbach with performances from Grammy-winning jazz singer Cécile McLorin Salvant and mandolinist and vocalist Chris Thile in December and funk and soul jazz saxophonist Maceo Parker in February.

Though this year marks the official 50th anniversary season, Gruits is holding off on most of the festivities until next fall, in hopes that the health crisis will be more stable by then. "I suppose you could say we're in a two-year celebration of our 50th," he says, "but really the 22-23 season is when you'll see some really big programs and residencies that reflect back on the anniversary of the center."

Moving forward, he also plans to focus on "using the campus as our canvas" while continuing to think outside the center's walls. "We're really considering performance spaces that are unpredictable or surprising," he adds. "And at the same time, we're making a deeper commitment to work that will engage both Penn and Philadelphia in the big questions that these artists are asking." —Molly Petrilla C'06

## CAMPUS

### Plans for New Buildings and Centers

**Honoring Penn's eighth president**, who will be departing after 17 years at the helm ["Compact Fulfilled," this issue], Penn Engineering held a groundbreaking ceremony in October for a new data science building that will be named Amy Gutmann Hall.

University trustee and Penn Engineering advisor Harlan M. Stone C'80, who made a \$25 million commitment in 2019 to support construction of the building, chose to name it after Gutmann, whose "vision and leadership has created so much opportunity for so many," Stone said in a statement. He added, "May the new discoveries and innovation achieved within these halls echo for all to hear of Amy's courageous leadership."

Saying she is "eternally grateful for this tremendous honor," Gutmann noted the 116,000-square-foot, six-floor building, which will be located on the northeast corner of 34th and Chestnut Streets, will be a "leading-edge facility [that] will have such a monumental impact on the future of data science at Penn."

Construction for the facility, which will be the first mass timber building in Philadelphia and will focus on sustainable design, is slated to begin in spring 2022 and finish in 2024.

Penn Engineering also recently announced plans to establish the Center for Precision Engineering for Health, thanks to a \$100 million commitment from the University.

The center will conduct interdisciplinary, fundamental, and translational research in the synthesis of novel biomolecules and new polymers to develop innovative approaches to design complex, three-dimensional structures from these new materials to sense, understand, and direct biological function.

"Penn is already well established as an international leader in innovative healthcare and engineering," Gutmann said, "and this new center will generate even more progress to benefit people worldwide."

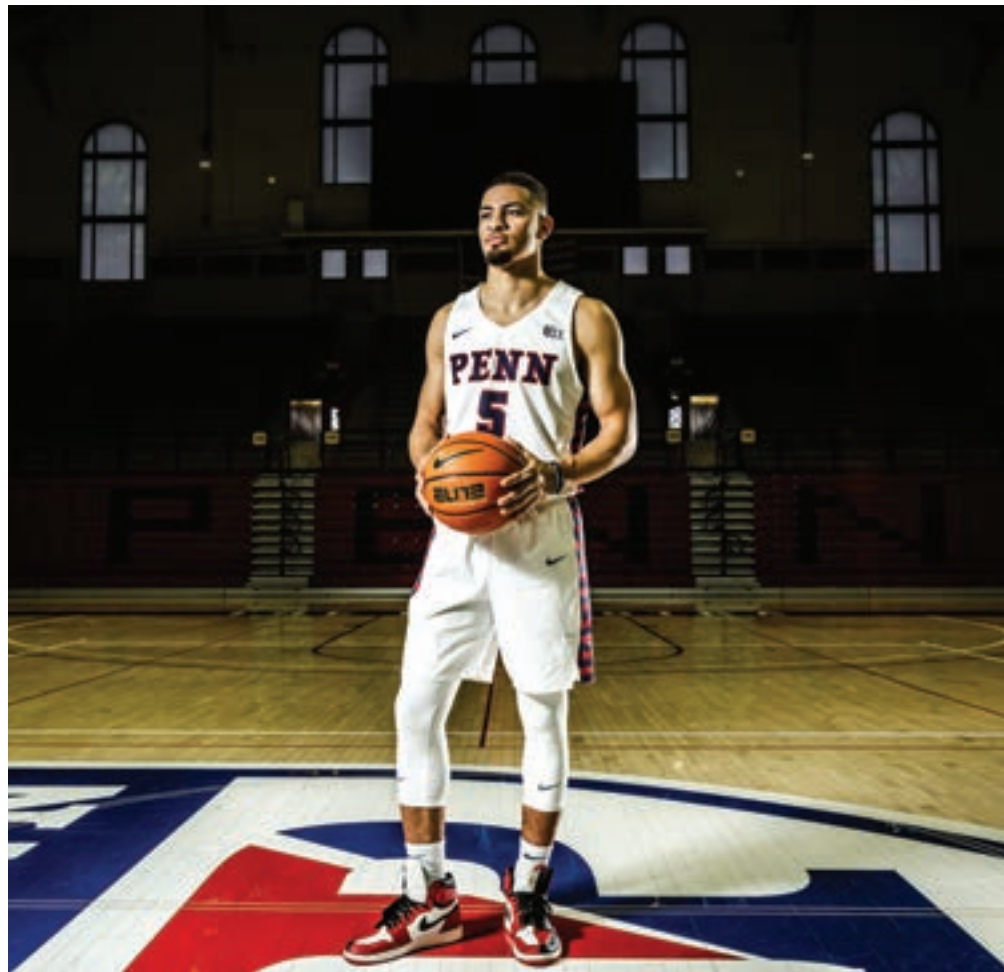
Meanwhile, just around the corner from where Amy Gutmann Hall will rise, Gutmann announced that the University has begun the planning process to build a new student performing arts center at 33rd Street and Woodland Walk, adjacent to Lauder and Hill College Houses. The proposed \$31 million, 36,000-square-foot center "would serve along with the Platt House, Irvine Auditorium, Houston Hall, Iron Gate Theatre, as well as additional spaces at the ARCH, to create a consortium of spaces for undergraduate students who are making important, imaginative, and innovative strides in theater, dance, instrumental and vocal music, comedy, and spoken word," Gutmann said.

The proposal for the center, which would be entirely student-centered, grew from a 2019 study for the University's Vice Provost for University Life that concluded additional performance and rehearsal space was needed to meet current and future demand.



## Out of the Shadows

Nearly five years after his last competitive basketball game, Jelani Williams is ready to light up the Palestra.



Jelani Williams has been keeping track of the number—a swelling number that, by the time the Penn men’s basketball team opens its 2021–22 season on November 10 at Florida State, will be 1,788.

That’s the number of days since Williams last played a competitive basketball game, due to three devastating knee injuries that, combined with the pandemic-induced cancellation of the 2020–21 sea-

son, sidelined him for nearly five years.

“I wanted to be come in and be able to contribute for four years and leave an impact on the program,” says Williams, who had been a prized recruit coming out of Sidwell Friends School in Washington, DC, in 2016. “But life doesn’t always go as planned.”

The 6-foot-5 point guard can still leave an impact on the program—but this is his last chance. A one-semester

withdrawal during one of his injury rehabilitations has put him on pace to graduate from the University this coming May, a year after the classmates he came in with. He’ll then still have plenty of college basketball eligibility remaining and hopes to use one or two years of it as a graduate transfer at another school.

But for now, Williams is focused on the Quakers—a team he has yet to play a game for but will neverthe-

Though his career has thus far been derailed by injuries, Jelani Williams will captain the Penn men’s basketball team this season.

less lead as a captain, along with junior Lucas Monroe, for his final season. “I think everyone’s rooting for him,” Penn head coach Steve Donahue says. “He’s been our leader through the pandemic and someone I think we’re going to lean on this year.”

Other players, Donahue admits, might have checked out or hung up the sneakers for good rather than try to come back from three separate anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) tears. “I would have understood,” the coach says. “Once, twice, *three times*? How much more can a guy take?” Williams admits that there was a fleeting thought that, after the third one, maybe college basketball shouldn’t be in his plans anymore. “But I’m too competitive to really give it up,” he says. “I feel like I came here for a reason. I wasn’t willing to accept that as the end of it.”

Williams has taken lessons from each of his injuries. After he tore his ACL the first time, the day after Christmas in 2016 during a practice his senior year of high school, his recovery “focused on rebuilding my left leg and I kind of didn’t pay much attention to making sure both legs were strong.” When he tore his other ACL, the summer after his freshman year while vacationing in Martha’s Vineyard, he regretted the imbalanced approach. After getting his right knee surgically repaired in August of 2018, he thinks he “came back too fast” and suffered the same injury just after his sophomore year in 2019 while working out on campus at Rockwell Gym.

The first time it happened, Williams was mostly confused—because it didn't feel that serious. "That's the thing about ACL injuries. If you've never felt it before, you think you're fine." The second time sparked something more like disbelief. "I was like, *There's no way I did it again.*" The third time? That was the most crushing one of all. When he called his parents to tell them what happened, his dad was in so much shock he had to call him back. Waiting with him in the doctor's office the next day, Donahue gave him a big hug and the pair sat in silence for a spell before Williams proposed taking a semester off to focus on his rehab back home in DC and make sure not to cut any corners.

"Most people don't believe it at first," Williams says. "They're like, *What do you mean, you had three?* Then that's followed up with: *I can't believe you're still playing.*"

"I kind of like that," he adds. "It makes me feel like I got through something most people couldn't get through."

Williams returned to Penn and got healthy just in time for COVID-19 to throw a wrench into his comeback plans, as the Ivy League was the only Division I conference to cancel winter sports last year. But as he waited to return to the Pal-estra court, he dove headfirst into Black Lives Matter protests during the summer of 2020 (see "Seizing the Moment" on our website) and has since worked with the athletics department to fight for social justice and racial equity.

During the longer-than-usu-

al wait to return, Williams says the team has developed deep bonds, calling it "the closest group I've been a part of—which is crazy because we've had probably the least amount of time in person together." Yet from a basketball standpoint, the Quakers are a difficult team to gauge. The last time they played a game, in March 2020, a senior-laden squad led by all-time leading scorer AJ Brodeur was hoping to make a championship run before the pandemic wiped out the postseason tournaments for the Ivy League and then NCAA. Two of the top five scorers from that team, Jordan Dingle and Max Martz, withdrew from Penn to preserve a season of eligibility, so both are listed as sophomores and hoping to build off impressive freshman campaigns. But other than that duo—and Monroe, who was a regular contributor two years ago—the Quakers will look very different from the last time they stepped on the Pal-estra floor.

"We may look inexperienced, but we're not young," insists Donahue, who will not only rely on the 23-year-old Williams but also senior forward Michael Wang, who showed a ton of potential as a freshman before an injury scuttled his 2019–20 season, and junior guard Jonah Charles, who has yet to suit up because of an injury. The head coach also expects sophomore guard Clark Slajchert to immediately step into the rotation. "We're older, we're bigger, we're stronger, and I think we're deeper and better

## SPORTS

### Steve Dolan Named Penn Relays Director



**The University didn't look far** to find a new head of Penn Relays.

Replacing David Johnson, who announced his retirement last year, Steve Dolan was named the Frank Dolson Director of Penn Relays in October. Dolan

is already the steward of Penn's track programs, as the James P. Tuppeny/Betty J. Costanza Director of Track & Field and Cross Country—a role which he will continue along with his new duties running the nation's oldest and largest annual track meet.

"By continuing his role with Penn track & field, there will be greater alignment between the varsity programs and the Relays, benefiting both programs immensely," Penn athletic director Al-anna Shanahan C'96 GEd'99 GrEd'15 said in a statement.

This alignment, the statement continued, will allow Penn Athletics to better synchronize their strategic goals and resources. A larger track & field coaching staff, as well as an associate director of Penn Relays, will assist Dolan with meet management.

"Having attended the Penn Relays over the last three decades as both a coach and a parent, I am keenly aware of the profound positive impact this event has on so many people," said Dolan, who's been coaching the Quakers since 2012, helping the program grow into more of a presence on the national stage, which has included relay championships at the Penn Relays. —DZ

than we've been," Donahue adds. Williams, who admits that he lacks the quickness and explosiveness he had before the injuries but has improved his game in other ways, agrees. "We have a lot of veteran guys who will be able to pick up where we left off," the point guard says.

Donahue will be throwing the team right into the fire with a nonleague schedule that includes trips to Florida State and Arkansas as well as to the Myrtle Beach Invitational in South Carolina—all in November. "I think we have arguably the most competitive nonleague schedule in the country," Donahue says. "I want to give these guys a great year. They're chomping at the bit."

Following their November gauntlet, Penn will then pack all four Big 5 games into an 11-day span, beginning with Villanova at the Palestra on December 1. The Ivy League schedule, whose format changed to include fewer of the conference's signature back-to-back games on Friday and Saturday, will begin for the Quakers with a Sunday home contest against Brown on January 2.

"This is the cathedral," Williams says. "We're ready to come back in here, put the jersey on, have the band, the fight song, everything going—and put on a show for the fans that have waited."

Waiting for something, he's come to learn, might just make it even sweeter. —DZ





# Compact Fulfilled

As Amy Gutmann enters the final months of her presidency—fresh off her second record-setting fundraising campaign and having steered the University through an unprecedented pandemic—we offer a look at some of the ways Penn has grown and changed as a result of her leadership and the vision she expressed 17 years ago in the Penn Compact.

By the *Gazette* Editors

Photo courtesy Penn Communications

**W**hen the news came back in July that President Joe Biden Hon'13 had nominated her to be the next US Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, Amy Gutmann issued a statement in which she promised to “continue to avidly work as Penn President” until she was confirmed by the Senate or completed her term in office on June 30, 2022.

She was certainly as good as her word—especially the *avidly* part—while welcoming students during move-in and student orientation, from Lauder College House to the east to New College House West, and presiding over the first in-person Convocation since 2019 [“Gazetteer,” this issue].

“I just have this great joy of being on campus with others. It was very lonely during COVID,” Gutmann said in a late September interview with *Gazette* editor John Prendergast (see page 29). “And I do feel this kind of pang every time I think about not being here. But right now I’m just enjoying the pleasure of being at Penn with the whole community, with all of our people.”

As the semester got under way, Gutmann’s calendar also included a celebration of the *Power of Penn* fundraising campaign, which raised more than \$5.4 billion for University priorities from student aid to sustainable energy; speaking at *Momentum 2021: The Power of Penn Women*, a two-day virtual conference that took place over the first weekend in October; and leading the groundbreaking for a new data science building (where it was announced that the building would be named Amy Gutmann Hall). In recent weeks she also announced plans for a new student performing arts center and a \$100 million commitment to establish a new Center for Precision Engineering for Health, so she’s definitely continued to keep busy.

“She doesn’t take a day off,” says Robert M. Levy WG’74, the emeritus trustee who chaired the *Power of Penn* campaign. “And when you consider the strength of our University, you know, someone at

some point could say, ‘I just want to be a caretaker; everything’s fine,’ but [with her], it’s unrelenting.”

As this issue went to press, confirmation hearings had yet to be scheduled. But whether Gutmann leaves College Hall by way of Congressional action or the calendar, her impact on the University has been vast and will continue to be felt long after her departure—as will the guiding principles she first described at her inauguration as Penn president in October 2004.

Succeeding Judith Rodin CW’66 Hon’04, who had called her strategic vision the *Agenda for Excellence*, the former Princeton provost promised to use her time in office to move Penn from *excellence to eminence* through a “Penn Compact” built around increasing access to a Penn education, integrating knowledge across disciplines, and engaging with society’s needs from the local to the global level. Recast as the Penn Compact 2020 (and then 2022) as Gutmann’s term as president was extended, the watchwords shifted to *inclusion, innovation, and impact*, but the goals remained the same.

Along the way, Gutmann has raised about \$10 billion for the University and overseen a quintupling of Penn’s endowment, from \$4 billion to \$20.5 billion; made Penn both more selective in admissions (acceptance rates have hit the single digits) and much more diverse, with one in seven students in the incoming class the first in their family to reach college and a majority identifying as people of color; and fostered a spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship through initiatives like the Pennovation Center startup incubator and high-profile student prizes like the \$100,000 President’s Engagement and Innovation Awards. Two of the most significant recent advances in medicine—Carl June’s work on CAR T-cells, the first FDA-approved gene therapy for cancer; and Drew Weissman and Katalin Kariko’s research breakthrough that led to the mRNA vaccines against SARS-CoV-2—have happened at Penn on her watch.

There have been challenges along the way. Under Gutmann’s leadership, Penn has weathered the Great Recession and what seems likely to be the worst of the COVID-19 virus. In 2016, to support undocumented students she declared Penn’s campus to be a “sanctuary,” a controversial move to some. After a series of student suicides over several years raised the alarm on campus mental health, she launched the University’s Campaign for Wellness, leading to an expansion of counseling staff and services and the appointment of the Ivy League’s first chief wellness officer.

Throughout her administration, Penn has continued and expanded outreach efforts pioneered by Rodin in West Philadelphia, and while the University has resisted calls to make payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs), in 2020 Gutmann committed \$100 million over 10 years to the School District of Philadelphia to address environmental hazards in school buildings.

But the key accomplishments of Gutmann’s administration revolve around the basic core of higher education: finding and admitting class after class of diverse, talented students; attracting and retaining distinguished faculty; and providing the best facilities to advance learning, research, and benefits to society.

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## A New Generation of Students

“**What is the difference** between a scrap metal dealer and the president of the University of Pennsylvania?” Gutmann asked during a virtual acceptance speech for an Inclusive Leader Award she won from GlobalMindED last December. “The answer: a single generation.”

Gutmann, whose father was a scrap metal dealer who fled Nazi Germany to build a better life in the United States, where his only daughter would become Penn’s eighth president, continued: “My story can and should be possible for countless other students from all backgrounds. Our work must endure.”

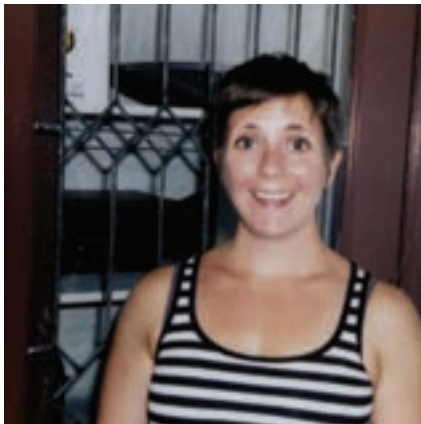
Gutmann greets students (prepandemic) in the dining hall at Hill House. In speeches, she has highlighted first-generation students like Anea Moore C'19 (left) and Jamie-Lee Josselyn C'05.

The first in her family to graduate from college, Gutmann has spoken passionately about her parents at many Penn events, most recently at this year's Convocation ceremony, when she told freshmen and transfer students how her father died suddenly when she was a rising high school senior and how "financial aid made it possible for me to go to college."



That clearly has informed much of her work over the last 17 years. Since Gutmann became Penn's president in 2004, the University has awarded more than \$2.6 billion in undergraduate aid to more than 24,000 students, according to figures from Penn's Student Registration & Financial Services office. And the University's grant-based financial aid program, which began in 2008, has opened doors for a new cohort of first-generation, low-income (FGLI) students to attend Penn, with the University meeting 100 percent of demonstrated financial need with grants and work-study funding.

"Our nation's young scholars should not be deterred from pursuing their dreams for fear of being a financial burden to their families," Gutmann said when the initiative was first announced more than a decade ago ["The Great Aid Race," Mar|Apr 2008]. Two years before that, when the University replaced loans with grants for students from families with annual incomes lower than \$50,000, Gutmann said that Penn was the "first major research university to fund the majority of its financial aid from its operating budget to eliminate loans for low- and middle-income students."



**Since 2004, the University has awarded more than \$2.6 billion in undergraduate aid to more than 24,000 students.**

Since its implementation, the all-grant policy, based on need, has become the largest in the country, providing students and their families with more than \$1.4 billion in undergraduate financial aid, per the president's office, which also states that the cost today of a Penn education for aided students has decreased by 22 percent from its 2005 cost. The undergraduate financial aid budget for the 2021-22 academic year is \$259 million (nearly three times higher than when Gutmann took office) and about 45 percent of Penn's undergraduate students receive grant-based financial aid packages, with an average award of more than \$56,000 in funding (slightly more than the cost of tuition).

Of this year's freshman class, one out of seven identified as first-generation and nearly 60 percent of US citizens in the class identified as a student of color. During Convocation, Gutmann called it "the most diverse, talented, and resilient class ever."

When Gutmann was appointed president, by contrast, only 1 in 20 Penn students identified as the first in their family to go to college. So in her inaugural address, Gutmann announced that the first principle of her Penn Compact vision would be increasing access to a Penn education. "In a democracy and at great universities, diversity and excellence go together," she said at the time.



Barbara Mellers (left), Dorothy Roberts, and Christopher Murray are among Penn's 26 PIK professors.

"Keeping them together requires access based on talent, not income or race."

Declaring that Penn must "build on its commitment to need-blind admission and need-based financial aid," Gutmann then spoke of several first-generation students already at the University when she arrived—including a Sudanese refugee, a Palestinian woman, an All-American wrestler, and the "daughter of an auto mechanic ... [whose] experience here as a writer has transformed her life." That student, Jamie-Lee Josselyn C'05, is currently an associate director of recruitment and instructor for Penn's creative writing program. "Our ongoing commitment to students like these," Gutmann said, "must remain our sacred trust."

Seventeen years after her inaugural address, Gutmann once again shared a story of a student who was the first in her family to go to college thanks to Penn's financial aid program—Anea Moore C'19, a Rhodes Scholar who "helped us implement a new initiative to empower our first-generation and low-income students," Gutmann said during Convocation in August. "From that grew our Penn First Plus program." Today the Penn First Plus program—located in a recently opened office inside College Hall—serves to support and empower currently enrolled first-generation students, working with partners across campus to make things like computers, study abroad programs, internships, and mentoring opportunities more affordable and accessible. Penn First was initially founded in 2015 as a way for first-generation students to find and connect with each other ["First Generation Students Unite," Jan/Feb 2015].

Formal speeches haven't been the only occasions for Gutmann to tout the impacts of a more diverse, inclusive, and close-knit community. From declaring Penn a sanctuary campus to protect undocumented immigrant students from deportation, to hosting a mental health summit with student leaders at her house, to cheering on the Quakers at the



Palestra, Gutmann has been a ubiquitous presence at campus events.

For Gutmann, more than doubling the number of students from first-generation, low-income, and middle-income families during her tenure—and then helping to enrich their lives while at Penn—has always been a deeply personal mission. In a video recorded in 2014, Gutmann said that her own experience at Radcliffe College at Harvard "forever changed" her life and was only made possible through scholarships and a family doctor who told her to think big when applying to college.

"As Penn's president my greatest passion is getting the word out to students," she said. "There are many excellent places like Penn out there with resources to help you succeed. It pays to aim high. ... Work hard. Let nothing deter you. And plan to be first. You will find that this is where you truly belong." —DZ



## Faculty Matters

**At her inauguration,** Gutmann also lamented that US colleges and universities remained "too divided into disciplinary enclaves" to effectively address many complex societal challenges. "The time is ripe," she said, "for Penn to achieve a truly successful partnership between the arts and sciences and the professions."

Interdisciplinary collaboration has been a hallmark of Gutmann's tenure. Her headline initiative focused on the top of the academic depth chart via the creation of 26 Penn Integrates Knowledge (PIK) professorships, for scholars holding joint appointments in two or more of the University's 12 schools. These teachers and researchers straddle a variety of academic borders. Barbara Mellers, who became the I. George Heyman University Professor in 2011, has appointments in the School of Arts and Sciences' psychology department as well as Wharton's marketing department, where she teaches a course about ways to predict consumer preferences and shape global marketing strategies. Richard Perry University Professor Christopher Murray, who holds 26 patents for inventions at the nanoscale, is shared by SAS's chemistry department and the School of Engineering and Applied Science's materials science department. Dorothy Roberts, the George A. Weiss University Professor, splits time between SAS's sociology department and the Law School, where she teaches cours-

es ranging from civil rights to family law.

PIK professorships are more expensive than traditional appointments—partly due to the scientific research infrastructure needed to support many of them. To underwrite the first six, Richard Perry W’77 and Lyn and David Silfen C’66 donated \$5 million per position, nearly twice the cost of a conventional professorship in the School of Arts and Sciences. But they have proven to be a powerful recruitment tool. The lion’s share of PIK professors were lured to Penn from competitors ranging from Stanford University to IBM.

Presidential Professorships have provided another way to invigorate Penn’s faculty. These five-year term chairs come with research grants and University salary support to the sponsoring schools, which can nominate both senior and junior faculty for the positions. Aiming to reward “outstanding faculty at all ranks who contribute diversity through their backgrounds, research, mentorship, clinical commitments and/or teaching,” Gutmann has named a total of 39 Presidential Professors to 10 of Penn’s schools since the program began in 2011. When each five-year term expires, or a holder of one of these chairs leaves the University, its funding returns to the central pool to be reallocated. So far, recipients have included 11 women and 23 under-represented minorities, and 10 have come from the Perelman School of Medicine.

Faculty diversity has been a priority predating Gutmann’s tenure, but during the last 17 years the University has produced at least nine official reports about Penn’s progress toward gender and minority inclusion among the teaching ranks. First, though, some broad trends worth mentioning: Between 2004 and 2020, the standing faculty has grown from 2,440 to 2,827. Meanwhile the associated faculty—which includes the research track, academic clinician track, and practice professors—has grown from

*continued on page 32*

## Rational Exuberance



**It’s** the term Penn President Amy Gutmann uses to describe the emotional temperature this fall among students, faculty, and staff returning to a mostly normal campus environment, but “rational exuberance” also fits as an expression of the way she has led the University throughout her energetic, ambitious—and yes, transformational—presidency. A day before bounding on stage in a Penn sweatshirt and jeans to celebrate the conclusion of the \$5.4 billion Power of Penn fundraising campaign [“Gazetteer,” this issue], she talked with Gazette editor John Prendergast about welcoming students to a new academic year for the last time, some of the signature achievements of her administration, and what Penn has meant to her. Their conversation has been edited.

**To start, I’d like to ask you to talk a little about how it has felt to reopen the campus and welcome the students back to in-person classes this semester. How much is that tempered by continuing concerns about COVID? And how does it feel, in addition, this being the last time you’ll greet a new Penn class as president?**

Well, it’s felt fantastic, amazing, incredible. Every possible feeling of joy. The students and faculty and everybody who’s back—what I call it is rational exuberance: Everybody is expressing some form of, ‘We’re never going to take for granted the simple and profound pleasures of our lives at Penn.’ Being in the classroom, being on Locust Walk, being on Franklin Field, singing together, the orchestra playing together, the band, it’s just—it is rational exuberance.

And it feels like a miracle, but it actually wasn’t a miracle that enabled us to reunite. It’s not only our planning and united community actions on vaccination and testing. It is actually thanks in large part to messenger RNA technology, the modifications made by Drew Weissman and Kati Kariko that were foundational to the Moderna and Pfizer COVID vaccines. So the rational exuberance is backed by breakthrough discoveries and a Penn team that’s second to none.

So what does it feel to me? I just have this great joy of being on campus with others. It was very lonely during COVID. I do feel this kind of pang every time I think about not being here. But right now I'm just enjoying the pleasure of being at Penn with the whole community, with all of our people.

**Looking at your tenure more broadly, you introduced the Penn Compact at your inauguration in 2004, and it's been a through line over the course of your tenure. Can you talk about how you developed those guiding principles—and why the Compact has provided the right framework for shaping Penn during this period?**

When I did a listening tour of Penn, before I was even officially president, what Penn aspired to just matched the values that I've had my whole life. So, inclusion, innovation, and impact—positive impact on people's lives—that's where I grounded our strategic vision, and it was very much Penn's sweet spot. And it is Penn's sweet spot. I'm sitting here in College Hall looking out at the larger-than-life statue of Ben Franklin. And of course, if your founder is Ben Franklin, inclusion, innovation, and impact should be your guiding lights. And those values are very core, in my mind and in my life, to who we are as Americans at our best.

My father fled Nazi Germany when he was 23 years old. He passed away really suddenly when I was in high school, and we had very little money, and neither of my parents had a college degree. But it was with a combination of my parents' love and inspiration, hard work, and generous financial aid that I was able to become the first in my family to graduate from college. And Penn stands for that American story, multiplied over and over again.

**This leads right into my next question. Among the accomplishments of your administration, how important would you say that managing to establish Penn's all-grant financial aid program has been?**

Our all-grant financial aid program has been a game changer, and a life changer, and a key priority for the University. That made it possible for the most talented, hard-working students to afford a Penn education. And we're talking about middle-income as well as low-income students who otherwise could not possibly have afforded Penn, or who would have graduated with just so much debt. We're now [at a point where] 80 percent of our students graduate debt-free.

It changes students' lives like it changed my life. It changes their families' outlook and hope for the future. It transforms communities because our students go out and make huge changes inspired by their Penn education and by the generosity which turns out to be the right thing for us to do.

One of the statistics that I'm most proud of is that in 2004 one in 20 Penn students was the first in their family to attend college, and today that number is one in seven. The number of low-income students has also skyrocketed.

I imagine a day when the only limiting factor to what anyone can contribute to society, to science, to art, to culture—to every area of human endeavor—is the stretch of their own aspirations and their commitment to hard work. And that's how you fuel revolutionary healthcare. That's how you spark innovation. That's how we're going to address climate change. And we're going to create stronger communities. It's by access, affordable access to the greatest education. And I believe Penn is one of the providers of the greatest education. And its value is absolutely dependent on making a Penn education affordable.

**The PIK professorships have been the most high-profile example, but overall what has the impact on faculty been from increasing endowment resources for that purpose? How has Penn's faculty changed over the years?**

We've created hundreds of newly endowed faculty and staff positions. And the Penn Integrates Knowledge Professors are a fantastic example of the evolution of our faculty over the years. They embody so many of the qualities that make Penn and Penn faculty great. Which starts with bringing brilliant minds together and creating space for collaboration.

Two other initiatives of which I am equally proud are the Presidential Professorships and the President's Distinguished Professorships. And they all have the same goal, which is to bring to Penn and support faculty members at all stages of their career, of the most diverse backgrounds, who collaborate across disciplines, across fields, to come up with the most creative solutions to really interesting, fascinating, and difficult issues facing us.

When you look at our faculty appointments across the board, you see similar qualities. Obviously, the thirst for knowledge, the ability to see things differently, and here, I would say, is the Penn distinctive advantage: the yen for collaboration. And put simply, you cannot attract these types of leaders without investing the resources to propel their aspirations beyond the horizons of current knowledge. But you also can't attract these kinds of leaders without a collaborative culture.

**Under your leadership, Penn has seen an enormous number and range of construction and renovation projects, from Penn Park to the east to New College House West. How have you approached the sort of "master builder" part of the president's role, and what projects have given you the most satisfaction?**



Well, one thing that gives me tremendous pride and satisfaction—and we did this together; I did this with a phenomenal team—is creating our campus plan, Penn Connects. We thought it was a plan for 30 years, and we did it in 15. We created new and renovated space to the tune of over eight million square feet in 15 years. We completed so many amazing transformational projects that it's really impossible to single one out.

If I had to choose, though, the projects that stand out to me are those that both bolster our academic enterprise and our participation in the life of the city around us and connect us to the community. So one of the first was Penn Park, to transform an ugly parking lot into Penn Park, the reversal of the Joni Mitchell song: we took a parking lot and made a bit of paradise. And we made sure it was not just an exercise in beautification. It was a once-in-a-century opportunity to build new connections throughout our campus and form the seamless tie between the Penn campus, a green tie between the Penn campus and both University City and Center City.

The second project is the Pavilion, which is the hospital of the future. It's the largest capital project in Penn's history. And it wasn't just a cornerstone of the Penn Medicine campaign. It is truly a cornerstone for the future of healthcare. It dramatically expands our ability to provide the next generation of patient care.

Another two things that I really have to call out are New College House West and Lauder College House, which, a trustee said to me, "May be the single biggest, most important transformation of student life on Penn's campus in modern history." Because half of our students now live on campus. That actually frees up more single-family homes in West Philadelphia for the rest of our community. And it creates a great sense of belonging that translates into great alumni spirit as well.

And then all of the amazing academic buildings. I care a lot about the architecture and the beauty of Penn's campus, and I take a great interest in the design of every building. I know enough to know I could not do the architecture. But I'm somebody architects like to work with because I really appreciate, and I have an eye for what contributes and will make a building for the ages, not just for our time, and really contribute to the sense of Penn as this welcoming, vibrant community of knowledge, of learning, and of service.

**"The people here at Penn are part of my family. So that's what I'm going to miss most."**

**Penn is a very big and complicated place, and you've led it now for longer than anybody else in history. What do you think is essential to being a successful leader here?**

I think the secret ingredient to Penn's success is we've taken this big prestigious place and leveraged its resources to move the entire University forward in very deliberate, strategic, and unified and unifying ways. The result is that our positive impact is more consequential and dynamic than it's ever been.

And the key is our people. To be very specific, I'm very proud of the fact that I've recruited more than 40 of the best leaders in higher education: three provosts, no fewer than 20 deans, and 19 senior-level administrators. And I also have

taken a great interest in recruiting and retaining phenomenal faculty and staff.

And everybody takes the Penn Compact to heart. The highest compliment that I have gotten is that "the Penn Compact isn't yours, it's ours." It has exceeded my highest expectations because it became so quickly "our Penn Compact." And that's the greatest pleasure of being Penn's president. It's that what I can do by myself is multiplied immeasurably by the amazing people who take the vision, the mission, and the day-to-day work of the Penn Compact as theirs and ours together.

And it's made absolutely stronger by the best alumni of any university in the

world. We have the most spirited, diverse, and accomplished alumni that I know of. And it's certainly helped organize and elevate some of the most important work going on at any campus in the world.

**What will you miss the most after leaving College Hall? Is there something you won't miss?**

The people here at Penn are part of my family. So that's what I'm going to miss most. We've been together for, you know, so long. We've achieved so much together. We've endured tough times together. We've celebrated just countless wonderful things together. So I'll miss the people most of all. And of course for the Penn family there's no such thing as goodbye, so it's only, "See you again very soon." I am going to practice what I preach. When I leave Penn, I will also be back.

I'll also miss—there are so many things I'll miss. I'll miss cheering on our student athletes in the Palestra, on Franklin Field or Penn Park—I'll miss clapping and yelling my head off, to be more precise. I'll miss catching amazing student performances, including the Mask and Wig shows and Bloomers, which make a lot of fun of me. I will miss

being there when students move into their College Houses. I'll really miss welcoming them at Convocation. And I'll miss four years later when they process to Franklin Field to celebrate Commencement. I love Commencement. I love Hey Day. And I'll miss it again when they come back for Alumni Weekend.

So those are the special beginnings and culminations and reunions. There's something very, very special about the rhythms of Penn life and the celebrations that I will miss a lot. But I can still, you know, virtually sing some of those Penn songs together, and I look forward to coming back.

I racked my brain about "Is there something you won't miss?" And I can say with absolute certainty that I can't think of a single thing about this place that I won't miss.

### **How do you think you've changed Penn, and how has Penn changed you?**

I don't believe I've changed what makes Penn fundamentally Penn. I set out, actually, to make Penn the best that it can be, rather than to change what is fundamentally Penn. I think I've helped Penn rise to its fullest, most profound potential—as of 2021. And I think for now the enduring impact will be how much more Penn can still do. I think the greatest impact one can make, and the most transformational we can be, is to create an enduring legacy that enables Penn to do more and more in the future. So I think that the unsurpassed Penn team that I've had the honor of leading has positioned our University to go further and even faster in the years to come.

And in much the same way, leading and being part of the Penn community [has] made me more fully who I am and who I set out to be as president in 2004. And that's something I'll take with me very proudly into the next chapter of my work. I think the best institutions transform the people who serve them in the best possible way. And I think Penn has done that for me. That will be Penn's enduring mark on me, to enable me to be a better leader and, I daresay, a better person than I was when I came.

## **Interdisciplinary collaboration has been a hallmark of Gutmann's tenure.**

2,059 to 2,221. The picture is slightly hazier when it comes to the adjunct instructors and lecturers who make up Penn's "academic support staff." American universities have come under criticism in recent years for the degree to which many of them rely on this non-tenured, part-time, and low-cost workforce. The *Gazette* was unable to obtain complete figures corresponding to the evolution of Penn's

academic support staff during Gutmann's tenure, but a 2019 University report stated that these ranks grew modestly from 2,347 to 2,461 between 2011 and 2018.

When Gutmann took office in 2004, women accounted for roughly 27 percent of Penn's faculty, according to data collected by the Faculty Senate in 2003. In 2020, 36.6 percent of the faculty were women. Those gains registered across the academic hierarchy. Women now account for some 48 percent of Penn's assistant professors and more than half of its academic support staff. They also represent four of the University's 12 deans, and seven out of eight vice provosts (as well as interim provost Beth Winkelstein EAS'93, a bioengineering and neurosurgery professor who assumed that post earlier this year

["Gazetteer," Sep/Oct 2020]). A 2019 analysis found no significant difference in base salaries paid to men and women faculty.

There have been subtle changes to the way Penn reports ethnic and racial data over the past 17 years, but in broad terms, the faculty has become moderately more diverse. In 2003, 14.4 percent of the standing faculty self-identified as belonging to a racial or ethnic minority. Of those, 9.4 percent identified as Asian/Pacific Islander, 3.1 percent were Black, and 1.8 percent were Hispanic/Latino. In 2020, minorities accounted for 26 percent of the standing faculty, including 16.7 percent who identified as Asian/Pacific Islander, 4.1 percent who said they were Hispanic/Latinx, and 4 percent who identified as African American/Black.

Penn's research faculty have seen their budgets grow significantly over the span of Gutmann's presidency. Collectively, the University's research budget doubled between 2004 and 2020, from \$549 million to \$1.1 billion. (Those figures are not adjusted for inflation, which amounted to roughly 40 percent over that span.) That was mirrored by the faculty's success in garnering external grants; sponsored research awards grew from \$678 million to \$1.26 billion. Writ large, Penn's financial footprint has expanded significantly over the last 17 years, from a total operating budget of \$3.7 billion in 2004 to \$10.9 billion last year, according to annual financial reports. (The University of Pennsylvania Health System has accounted for an expanding proportion of operating expenses: just over half in 2004, versus 68 percent in 2020.)

Finally, Gutmann's tenure has also been marked by programmatic growth in the instructional realm. A variety of initiatives have sought to promote cross-disciplinary collaboration and learning. Emeritus trustee Roy Vagelos C'50 Hon'99 and his wife, Diana, for instance, helped establish two joint-degree programs: Life Sciences & Management, housed in the School of Arts and Sciences and Wharton, in 2005; and the Vagelos Integrated Program in

Penn Park, created on the site of a former USPS parking lot, transformed campus open space.

Energy Research (VIPER), offered by SAS and the School of Engineering and Applied Science, in 2011. In 2007, longtime history professor Walter Licht spearheaded the creation of the Civic Scholars Program, blending scholarship and local civic engagement. Not every new program has had staying power. The Center for Spirituality and the Mind (2006) failed to outlive its founding faculty member's departure, for instance, and the Wharton Public Policy Initiative (2012) wound down several years ago. But perhaps that attests to the experimental spirit in which such enterprises are conceived. After all, even Benjamin Franklin's inventions didn't always stand the test of time—otherwise the FM dial would not be quite so lacking in the sound of glass harmonicas. —TP



## Penn Connects

**Amy Gutmann took up her post** in College Hall on the heels of a builder. Judith Rodin's 10-year tenure featured so much construction that the *Gazette* playfully accused Penn's seventh president of harboring a "nostalgia for the sound of jackhammers." Rodin oversaw \$1 billion worth of new projects and renovations: academic additions like Levine and Huntsman Halls; research space like the Vagelos Laboratories; campus amenities like the Pottruck Health and Fitness Center and the Perelman Quadrangle; and a string of commercial developments running along Walnut Street from the mixed-use Left Bank complex at 31st Street, to the Inn at Penn and the Penn Bookstore, to the supermarket and movie theater at 40th Street ["The Rodin Years," May/Jun 2004].

Penn's eighth president turned out to like the sound of jackhammers even more.

During Gutmann's 17 years in office, the University carried out more than \$5 billion in building. According to figures provided by Penn Facilities and Real Estate Services, that included more than one million gross square feet of new University educational and research space, plus some 3.3 million

gross square feet in new Penn Medicine facilities. Beyond that, two new residential buildings—Lauder College House and New College House West—added 800 beds of campus housing. Meanwhile renovations improved several more million square feet of academic, research, and residential space.

Those totals do not include several projects that were completed during the first few years of Gutmann's tenure after having begun during the Rodin years—notably the Carolyn Lynch Laboratory and Skirkanich Hall. Gutmann's legacy lies in the Penn Connects master plan, a three-phase campus development framework that got underway in 2006 ["New Campus Dawning," Sep/Oct 2006]. This was conceptually organized around four "bridges of connectivity": physical corridors like the Walnut Street "living/learning bridge" and a "health sciences/cultural bridge" at the nexus of the medical campus and Penn Museum on South Street; and metaphorical corridors like a "sports/recreation bridge" encompassing new fields and open spaces in Penn Park and Shoemaker Green, and a "research bridge" consisting of an expanded medical campus.

**During Gutmann's 17 years in office, the University carried out more than \$5 billion in building.**

Given the interdisciplinary and cross-departmental bent of Gutmann's presidency, the Smilow Center for Translational Research is perhaps emblematic of the campus development she oversaw. Completed in 2013, the 10-floor building brought University-based basic scientists together with physicians to collaborate on biomedical and patient-oriented research. Designed by the globally renowned Rafael Viñoly Architects, the Smilow Center is huge (over half a million square feet), physically integrated with two other new Penn Medicine buildings (the 2008 Perel-



The Singh Center (top) and Levin Building mix distinctive architecture with topflight teaching and research capabilities.



ed the Law School's footprint in 2011. In 2016, the Perry World House became a home-away-from-home for a rotating cast of annual scholarly fellows and a regular symposium site for global policymakers.

Two new residential halls cemented the University's commitment to the College House system, while doubling down on the urbanization of campus. The Lauder College House, which welcomed its first crop of undergraduates in 2016, completed the transformation of Hill Field from a grassy expanse given to impromptu Ultimate Frisbee games into a highly programmed city block where Hill College House (thoroughly renovated around the same time) no longer stood as the only dorm. New College House West, which opened this fall, ef-

man Center for Advanced Medicine and the 2010 Roberts Proton Therapy Center), and was part of the explosive growth of Penn's hospital complex. That particular building spree will culminate with the \$1.5 billion Penn Medicine Pavilion, whose anticipated November opening will add 504 private patient rooms and 47 operating rooms in a 17-story complex that will expand Penn's patient-care footprint by 1.5 million square feet.

While the medical complex has been a site of constantly swinging cranes, Penn's research and academic capacities also grew with new buildings that rose in other parts of campus. In 2013 the Singh Center for Nanotechnology, whose eye-catching glass-cube cantilever became instantly unmissable on Walnut Street, concealed its biggest architectural trick in its innards, where a three-foot-deep layer of concrete sits directly on bedrock in a room structurally isolated from the city's bustling grid, to permit the use of an aberration-controlled electron microscope of exquisite sensitivity. The 2016 Stephen A. Levin Building, clad in a perforated screen suggestive of neural synapses, brought the undergraduate psychology and biology departments under the same roof,



along with the Biological Basis of Behavior Program and the Roy and Diana Vagelos Program in Life Sciences & Management, a dual-degree track administered by Wharton and the College.

The Annenberg Public Policy Center, which opened in 2009, provided a permanent home for an academic program initiated a decade before. Golkin Hall expand-

ected a similar transformation, as the last big swath of open space on the Superblock made way for 450 new beds of on-campus housing—which became mandatory for sophomores as well as freshmen starting this academic year.

The Gutmann era featured what was effectively a large-scale reorganization of open space on campus. Students who

may once have taken to Hill Field or the Superblock for outdoor recreation just needed to travel a little farther to access the most transformative campus landscaping project in a generation or more: Penn Park. Starting with a barren eyesore of a parking lot controlled by the US Postal Service until the University bought it in 2004, landscape architect Michael Van Valkenburgh created a series of massive berms whose slopes frame two full-length athletic turfs, the 12-court Hamlin Tennis Center, and a 470-seat softball diamond that is the envy of the Ivy League. Three pedestrian bridges offer students and Philadelphians access to the semi-public park, where 500 trees and a grassy patchwork



of unprogrammed spaces sit atop a cistern that collects roughly 2 million gallons of stormwater runoff per year.

Two additional aspects of the Gutmann-era Penn Connects master plan also merit attention. The first came in the form of Penn's real estate partnerships, which influenced campus from the edges. Building on a strategy that flowered during the Rodin era, the University inked long-term ground leases (up to 90 years) with developers who shouldered the construction costs on Penn-controlled parcels. In this



way, residential complexes including the HUB (2006), Domus (2007), the Radian (2008), and EVO at Cira Centre South (2014) added approximately 2,000 beds to the local rental market for student housing. In a similar fashion, the 49-story FMC Tower, developed by Brandywine Realty Trust astride the Walnut Street Bridge, added a hotel, restaurant, and office space—some leased by Penn—to what had been a somewhat lifeless roadway between the campus and Center City.

Creative financing also marked the second less-heralded aspect of campus improvement during Gutmann's tenure. In 2012, the University sold \$300 million worth of 100-year bonds to Wall Street investors at what was then a record-low interest rate for century-term debt. And because that debt was taxable, Penn could dodge the restrictions that adhere to tax-exempt financing—while using the money for purposes that typically fail to excite donors. To wit: deferred maintenance. So far, it has underwritten energy-efficient heating, cooling, and lighting via upgrades to a variety of buildings across campus. That may not catch the eye like the Singh Center's cantilever, but no educational institution can last long without reliable sources of light.—TP



# CurtainUp!

After an 18-month hiatus, live theater has returned to the American stage. Alumni active in producing shows on Broadway and elsewhere reflect on the pandemic's onset, its impact on them and their industry, and what the future holds.

By JoAnn Greco

**B**etsy Dollinger C'90, an independent theater producer and entertainment marketer, vividly remembers the second week of March 2020. "I had *Mrs. Doubtfire* in previews, I had *Diana: The Musical* in previews," she says. "I was in theaters every night that week so I was staying in the city. There were dinners, there were parties. We were not hugging, but we were gathering."

Lori Fineman C'92 was busy too. She was finishing up a 12-year stint as executive director of off-Broadway's Transport Group Theatre Company so she could devote more time to her own fledgling production company. As the week kicked off, she started getting calls from actors who lived on Long Island and in New Jersey, who were uneasy about making the commute to appear in Transport's revival of *The Unsinkable Molly Brown*. That Tuesday, she attended an event celebrating women in the industry. "The theater was packed with hundreds of people, but there were hand sanitizer stations in the lobby and we were bowing to each other, joking about 'how do we greet?'" she says. "Everyone was talking

about how the Scott Rudin productions [including *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *The Book of Mormon*, and *West Side Story*] were selling off tickets for \$50. Other shows were already cutting back on performances. We were like, 'We're doing fine, we're going to keep doing the show.'"

Two days later, on March 12, Dollinger was still going strong, wearing her marketing hat and helping out with that evening's opening of the much-anticipated *Six*, a contemporary retelling about the six wives of Henry VIII. "Our interns were packing the gift bags when the lead producer left for this big meeting. We were all sitting there thinking, 'They're going to wait till Monday to tell us to close, all these people have traveled from London, they'll let us open.' We were very naive. That afternoon, I think it was about 4:30, we got word that Broadway was shutting down. Tonight."

A few blocks away, Todd Haimés C'78 and the Roundabout Theatre were also anticipating show time. The next day, they expected to begin previews of another London musical transplant, a revival of *Caroline, or Change*. Haimés, the

company's artistic director and CEO, wasn't completely surprised when he heard the news. "It all came about very precipitously, though," he says. "And certainly no one imagined that it would go on for 18 months. The magnitude of what was happening had not yet sunk in."

Things had been coming to a head throughout the week. That Wednesday, the National Basketball Association temporarily halted its season, becoming the first major organization to suspend operations. Early on Thursday afternoon, then-New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced a statewide ban on gatherings of more than 500 people and New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio declared a state of emergency. A steady stream of New York cultural institutions—the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the New York Philharmonic—began instituting temporary shutdowns. The city's known COVID-19 cases still totaled under 100, and fewer than 1,500 had been reported across the country, but many experts and officials were cognizant of how quickly the numbers had jumped, first in China, and then in Italy, since the year had started.





Now all 41 theaters, which together comprise “Broadway,” were closing—for a month. Deflated, Dollinger headed back to the suburbs that rainy Friday the 13th. Her body ached and she felt lethargic. “It turns out I had COVID that week.”

Break a leg, indeed.

As Broadway babies headed home and the fabled Great White Way went dark, “ghost” lights everywhere were turned on: single, bare bulbs that illuminate theater stages while their doors are locked. One of our culture’s primary symbols of perseverance and resilience—*the show must go on!*—had succumbed to a pandemic that would eventually kill millions and cripple the world’s economy. For the industry, it would mean staff layoffs and result in thousands of unemployed artists. But it would also encourage new bouts of creativity, introduce new forms of mounting and distributing shows, and, concurrent with the racial reckoning of the Summer of 2020, welcome new faces to participate in a more equitable, diverse, and unquestionably changed profession.

Broadway had skipped performances before, of course. Usually, the shutdowns were brief and due to labor strikes; although the most recent—when stagehands walked out in 2007—had lasted almost three weeks. The terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, paused things for just two days. Even during the pandemic of 1918, which killed nearly 700,000 Americans (which the number of COVID-19 deaths exceeded earlier this fall), the 45 or so legitimate venues then in operation stayed open.

This time, the curtain would not rise so quickly.

## Intermission Begins

Harold Wolpert C’88, then executive director of the not-for-profit off-Broadway company Signature Theatre, was very worried about how long it would take. He remembers constantly being on the phone. “You talk to enough people,” he reasoned, “you get a collective knowledge. Some companies had doctors on their board, so I’d talk

to those colleagues and ask *what are you hearing?* We were continually making contingency plans: if we opened now, if we opened three months from now ... trying to game out the future.”

He wondered about whether the company would make it through to the other side and what the impact would be on artists who were already living job to job and couldn’t make money in the meantime by, say, waiting tables—and also about how the shutdown would affect audiences. “There were questions—not only about ‘Would they come back?’ but about the disconnection,” he continues. “Would something be lost, would our audience grow, or decrease—or just shift? What does the audience look like after, fingers crossed, things settle down a bit and there’s a regular season of live plays?”

They don’t call it show “business” for nothing. According to the Broadway League, the national trade industry representing Broadway producers, presenters, and theater owners, in the 2018–2019 season nearly 15 million people attended a Broadway production—a record. The theaters grossed \$1.8 billion, accounted for almost 100,000 jobs, and contributed \$14.7 billion to the economy of New York City. That’s not counting touring productions, the other 700-plus companies that constitute off- and off-off-Broadway, or the other 2,000 to 3,000 professional theater groups nationwide. They too shut down that Friday, or shortly thereafter.

The economic fallout was immediate. Several shows—including Disney’s staging of its blockbuster movie *Frozen*, a revival of *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, and musicalizations of the cult classic films *Beetlejuice* and *Mean Girls* became immediate casualties, announcing that they would not return once things settled down. (Earlier this year a highly anticipated new production of *West Side Story* also nixed its reopening.) The Roundabout, which is comprised of five venues (some Broadway, some off-Broadway), laid off 80 people while implementing pay cuts for those who remained. It kept up everyone’s

health insurance, though, says Haimes, and eventually invited everyone back. “The board of directors and our major donors in general have been unbelievably supportive,” he adds. “They knew what we were facing almost without us having to ask. They stepped up right away.” At the much smaller InterAct Theatre in Philadelphia, cofounder and producing artistic director Seth Rozin C’86 held on to his full-time staff of four. “Our finances have been a roller coaster,” he says. “We went from a big deficit to a big surplus—we received some funding but didn’t have as many expenses—but we may face another deficit.” Many theaters received financial help from Small Business Administration-backed rescue plans like the Paycheck Protection Program and the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant program. Some, like InterAct, later earned supplemental income by renting out their facilities.

An emotional reset soon followed, as downtime allowed more room for contemplation about career, business, life. “It was the first time since 1983 that I hadn’t worked every night and all weekend,” Haimes says. “I have to admit it was nice, not getting emails till 11 p.m. every night. ... It was kind of a respite for awhile.”

Susan Bernfield C’86, producing artistic director at the off-Broadway company New Georges, found herself achieving her New Year’s resolution, albeit in the most unexpected of ways. “In 2019, I saw 79 plays all over town. And it’s at night and it’s hard and it’s exhausting,” she says. “I love my job but for 2020 my intention was: *I have to see fewer plays!*” Forced to stop running around, her first instinct was to “relax—I wasn’t pushing myself into the whole ‘we’re starting in April, no June, no September’ thing.”

An art form that is all about intimacy and immediacy, about packing big crowds into tiny seats, theater’s reopening was continually delayed as the pandemic stretched on. While restaurants managed with a fraction of their tables, they were allowed to add seating by expanding out onto the sidewalk and street. For Broad-





way productions, which cost millions of dollars to mount and then operate on slender margins, reduced occupancy just wasn't financially feasible.

Eventually, though, as the new reality set in, the players began getting restless. It was time once again to get to work.

## Summer Stock

"By later that summer artists, being artists, began to emerge," recalls Bernfield. "There was a lot of reinvention and everyone was trying to figure out what to do next. Some people were starting to get better at multimedia and using the online tools, while others were doing these street theater or these socially-distanced in-person shows outdoors. It was just bliss."

Theaters and other arts organizations tried a variety of ways to stay in touch with their audiences—they dug into archives to share previously recorded productions, they presented conversations with artists and writers, they filmed new stage performances before empty auditoriums, and some livestreamed productions and even made movies, with their bubbled crews breaking out of their theatrical boxes.

Like everyone else, theaters also experimented with delivering readings through conferencing apps such as Zoom, but many soon found that much was lost in translation. "If Zoom productions aren't edited well, watching little people in little squares can be like watching paint dry," Haimes says.

At Signature, "we decided not to go the readings route," says Wolpert. "Our playwrights just weren't enthusiastic about doing Zoom plays. So we did something called SigSpace Summits, where the writ-

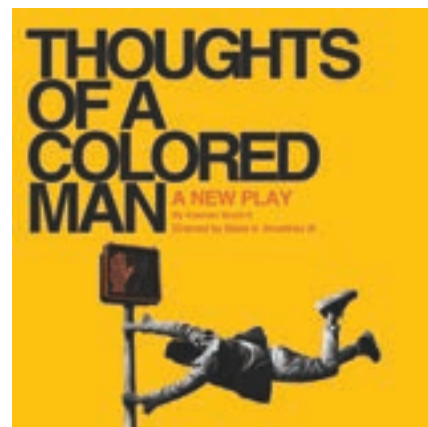


ers talked with leaders outside of their field. Like Lynn Nottage chatted with a meditation guru and Anna Deavere Smith interviewed the president of a local hospital to talk about public health."

Rozin too steered away from Zoom presentations. "They're so much work for the actor," he says. "They're so micro, there's no audience, they're vulnerable to tech failures." InterAct instead developed a series of live "screenside chats" between Rozin and actors, designers, and others affiliated with the company. It considered showcasing archival work but, says Rozin, "they were recorded only as documentation, not to be publicly viewed, plus we didn't want to keep kicking the same plays down the road. We wanted to honor our commitment to our audience for the season, so we decided to go ahead and produce our final two shows, *Niceties* and *Steal Her Bones*, for streaming." While the company learned skills in transferring a live performance to film, the goal, says Rozin, was "always more about having our audience experience great examples of our work."

Bernfield's thoughts turned to the writers and performers with whom New Georges had built relationships. "This was such an identity crisis for the artists," she says. "We wanted to foster that feeling of still being who you are. We organized online meetups, we set up micro grants, and very early we commissioned new

From blockbuster musicals based on already beloved properties to brand new works that grapple with race and social issues, live theater is on its way back.



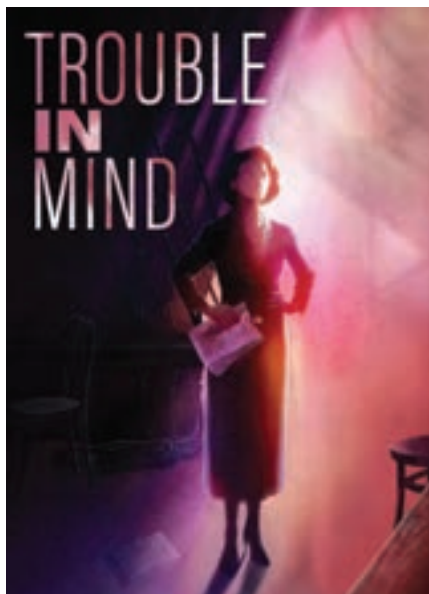
work for a new project, Tiny Plays in the Era of No Plays, where every week we emailed a one-page play to our audience."

Out in Colorado, far removed from the pandemic pandemonium on the East Coast, Jed Bernstein C'77, producing director for Theatre Aspen, decided that going ahead with the company's usual summer season made sense, especially since it's presented in an open-air venue. "But it would be different, consisting of cabaret performances and revues rather than traditional book musicals, because they lent themselves to smaller, distanced ensembles," he says. "We were one of the few companies in the country to put our chips on live entertainment." After a successful summer season, the Midwest and West succumbed to a COVID-19 surge, though, and, says Bernstein, "it really hit home for us then that life would continue to be disrupted for quite some time."

## Waiting in the Wings

Across the nation during the summer of 2020, rallies and protests for social justice and racial equity shook things up in other ways. Theaters were quick to respond. "We've always paid attention to these issues," says Rozin, "but this year I think the plays we've chosen all have a new urgency and meaning." They include *The Chinese Lady*, about the first Chinese woman to set foot in America; *This Bitter Earth*, about an interracial gay couple; *72 Miles to Go*, a recent play about the Mexican border crisis; and a new work from Rozin





himself, *Settlements*, which examines the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through the meta-lens of a local theater production. InterAct also fine-tuned and expanded its equity, diversity, and inclusion initiatives.

Roundabout took advantage of the producing lull to do the same, “more fully exploring an effort we had begun three years ago,” says Haimes. “We’ve now introduced a formal plan that will change the complexion of the people on our stages, on our board, and in our audiences. I don’t think we will ever do a show with an all-white cast again. It will always reflect the diversity of our city.” The company’s first two Broadway offerings, *Caroline, or Change*, set in Civil Rights-era Louisiana, and *Trouble in Mind*, an examination of racism in the theater that was written in 1955, will obviously include Black cast members.

The moment was also right for a brand new play, *Thoughts of A Colored Man*, to reach Broadway, a relative rarity in a world of musical revivals, movie adaptations, and jukebox revues. Fineman was involved as a coproducer. The show represents her first foray into Broadway and is also the Broadway debut for its writer, Keenan Scott II, and its director Steve H. Broadnax III. Its small cast—seven actors portray a disparate group of Black men whose lives intersect one day in Brooklyn—and modest set helped make it more appealing during a risky time. “Less cost, fewer variables, very con-

tained,” Fineman says. “It had been produced twice in 2019, in Syracuse and Baltimore, but the lead producers and investors felt this was a play that needed to be put before a wider audience. There was a sense of ‘Let’s rally behind this. Let’s make sure it gets to Broadway.’”

In November 2020, when the production team announced the show’s upcoming Broadway opening, “things really started percolating,” says Fineman. “There were ideas about the vaccine, and the election was settled.” She remembers attending the virtual conference of the National Alliance of Musical Theatre that month. “Normally, there’d be 45-minute performances from each show in the festival, but in this case they did a 15-minute film for each one. Everything came across beautifully,” she says. “Attendance for the conference was incredible, and there were networking opportunities with webinars and chat rooms. It felt like I was finally able to break out of the boundaries of my isolation and to connect with theater makers in all parts of the country and to see that our industry was still relevant.”

Emerging from hibernation as the pandemic dragged on, others found themselves busier than ever, too. While Zoom might not be the best way to present shows, it proved the perfect platform for meeting colleagues and talent when travel was out of the question. “I have a whole new Rolodex of artists and writers,” says

Mark Kaufman C’89, executive vice president for Warner Bros. Theatre Venues, the company behind *Beetlejuice: The Musical*. “I must have had over 100 Zoom meetings,” Kaufman—who oversees a huge catalog of titles from Warner Bros., New Line, Castle Rock, Turner, Hanna-Barbera, RKO, HBO, and Looney Tunes—also points out that he “got more requests for theater rights in six months than in the last six years,” he says. “I think the creative juices just really started flowing.”

With theatergoers deprived of performances and everyone else starved for content, even film and live theater forged what once would have seemed an unholy alliance. Filmed stage versions of still-running, still-touring Tony-winners were suddenly everywhere, with *Hamilton* streaming on Disney+ and on movie screens, Spike Lee’s capture of David Byrne’s *American Utopia* on HBO, and *Come from Away* on Netflix. *Diana: The Musical*, shot on stage in September 2020 with a small crew and no audience, began streaming last month on Netflix—six weeks before its Broadway opening. “Normally, there’s a fear of cannibalization when it comes to airing a current show on the small screen,” says Dollinger, one of the coproducers of *Diana*. “But I think this will be great for the show. The whole group of people who have become such devoted fans of [the multi-season Netflix streamer] *The Crown* will want to see this and, hopefully, will want to come in real life, too.”

Back-of-the-house, things were also hopping. “We’ve been doing construction all along in our American Airlines Theatre,” says Haimes. “We took advantage of being closed to tackle some things we had been planning.” The Theatre has undergone more than \$5 million in renovations, including replacing the roof and installing a new HVAC system. Meanwhile over at another Roundabout theater, Studio 54, a burst water heater caused \$2 million in damage that had to be repaired. “When buildings are not occupied, bad things happen,” says Haimes. “It was a total mess.”

In Philadelphia, InterAct used the shutdown to address acoustic transfer issues—apartment dwellers above the theater had occasionally complained of hearing amplified music or theatrical sound effects (like explosions)—as well as to make some COVID-mandated adaptations. “We put in a new filtration system, changed the bathrooms so they were less touch-oriented, and installed a brand new HVAC system in our basement rehearsal room,” says Rozin, adding that the renovations cost the small company more than \$50,000.

Soon enough, with theaters COVID-proofed as much as possible, actors fresh and ready for action, and ghost lights once again dimmed, theatergoers would be flipping down their velvet seats, opening their programs, and fishing out their cough drops. The curtain was about to rise.

## Let's Put On A Show (Again)

In late May of this year, the Broadway League declared that its theaters would really, truly open in September. A few months later, the organization released a set of measures to ensure as smooth sailing as possible. Masks would be required for audience members and they, as well as performers, crews, and staff, had to be vaccinated. Other theaters in other cities—such as a consortium of 30 or so Philly-area theaters—announced similar measures as they prepared for fall and winter openings.

Actors’ Equity Association, the union representing stage performers and managers, further required that productions entering into Equity contracts hire a dedicated COVID-19 safety manager. “The more you get into COVID prep, the more it’s like peeling an onion,” offers Haimes. “For the audience, we’re all set with the regulations and the new HVAC, but for the artists, if someone gets COVID, they have to be quarantined. We have to test the cast three times a week. We’ve had to increase the number of understudies—who have to rehearse in a separate space—by about a third.

“It’s been really complicated, expensive, and difficult,” he says.

Still, as Kaufman puts it, the overwhelming feeling has been, “if it makes it all happen, then it’s worth it.” And when a few productions got frisky and moved up their openings to the summer, audiences were ready. Dollinger was right there with them. “The first show to re-open was *Springsteen on Broadway*, and I went in July,” she says. “I had seen it already [the show originally ran from October 2017 through December 2018] but this time, it was even more exhilarating. Everyone needed to be vaccinated, but there were no masks. Then Delta hit in August, so it was like one step forward, two steps back. The good news was that we didn’t re-open, shut down, re-open as London did—but now we needed masks. *Pass Over* was the second show to open, and when I saw it there was an energy that I don’t remember ever seeing before.”

But Broadway cannot live on New Yorkers alone. During its record 2018-2019 season, two thirds of audience members came from outside of the metropolitan area. That’s a problem as tourism faces a challenging recovery: it plummeted by 67 percent, from 66.6 million visitors in 2019 to 22.3 million visitors in 2020, according to the Office of the New York State Comptroller. To drive ticket sales, the industry has unveiled an ad campaign, *This is Broadway*, featuring clips from dozens of shows and narration by

Oprah Winfrey, and some companies are promoting steep discounts. In mid-September, Roundabout, for instance, offered Orchestra seats for its first two Broadway productions for as low as \$148.

Elsewhere, trepidation is there, but so is optimism. Prepping for a post-Labor Day “subscription push,” Rozin says, “the big question is the audiences, and we just don’t know. We’re not expecting lots and lots of people to try us out right now — what we want is our audience that loves us to come and be comfortable.” Along with vaccination and mask requirements, he says, occupancy will be capped at 60 percent. Since all four scheduled plays are one-acts, “there are no intermissions, no concessions, no reason to take your mask off or cluster in the lobby,” Rozin adds.

“Theater has a great emotional value that transcends its pure entertainment value and that has been proven over and over again,” observes Bernstein. “It was true after the Civil War, it was true after the Great Depression, it was true after World War II. Americans turn toward theater because they want to be together, they want relief from sadness or fear, and I’m hoping that it will be a way out now.”

Fresh from the announcement that Warners Bros. would bring back its Tony-nominated *Beetlejuice: The Musical* in 2022 after all, Kaufman too is feeling good. “We have to believe that the vaccine and mask mandates work,” he says. “We’re learning from London and the shows here that opened before us. We’re trying to isolate right away if someone gets sick, trying to avoid an industry-wide shutdown. We’re getting smarter and everyone is sharing information.

“There’s no doubt that this has been a very unique time,” Kaufman continues. “We will study it and learn from it for years—the lessons are yet to come. In a strange way, it opened many doors and allowed us to branch in all kinds of ways. I’ve always tried to look at it in a positive way because there were certainly plenty of negatives.”

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JoAnn Greco writes frequently for the *Gazette*.

**David Bradley C'72's  
*The Chaneyville Incident*  
was published in 1981.**

The following year it won the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction and has been compared to Toni Morrison's *Song of Solomon* and Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*. The novel is narrated by John Washington—who shares several biographical details with Bradley, the subject of some author/character confusions at his readings over the years. Both are “black Americans” in Bradley's preferred formulation, of roughly the same age (at time of publication), who grew up in the same area, and are college teachers in Philadelphia, though Washington is a history professor while Bradley was a literature professor. Very basically, the novel describes how John Washington returns to his birthplace in Western Pennsylvania to aid a dying friend and mentor and embarks on a research project/quest to comprehend the life and death of his father, Moses Washington, and then to retrace *his* investigation of the “incident” that gives the book its title.

Though the novel's story stretches across multiple generations, it is set very specifically over a week in March 1979—chapter headings set out the chronology according to a system devised by the narrator, “as a string of numbers, year, month (in two digits), date (in two digits) and time of day (in a twenty-four-hour military-style expression).”

To mark the 40th anniversary of *The Chaneyville Incident* in 2021, the publisher, Harper Collins, has issued a new edition, featuring a foreword written by David Bradley—reprinted here with his permission.

—Ed.

# “Things Look Different in Lamplight”

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the publication of *The Chaneyville Incident*, David Bradley (aka “The Author Of”) reflects on his acclaimed novel's genesis and composition—and how the passage of time has made a historical fiction out of a work set in the present looking at the past.

By David Bradley

Dear Reader,

Thank you for taking up a book published 40 years ago. In fact, the first words were written 50 years ago, by a woman who was researching the history of black Americans in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. A waggish local once described the County's location as “two hundred miles west of the fleshpots of Philadelphia, a hundred east of Pittsburgh's smog... and thirty from the nearest Democrat.” He failed to mention that its southern border is the Mason-Dixon Line. Near that Line, the researcher heard a legend and found corroborating physical evidence. She wrote up her discovery in a paragraph which she shared with her son.





This son, then an undergraduate at the University of Pennsylvania, was a wannabe, with an Individualized Major in Creative Writing. He turned his mother's paragraph into a story he titled "The Graves" and submitted to his Fiction Workshop.

As is the custom in such workshops, he said nothing during the discussion, even when his Literary Realism was taken for Alternate History—when one student did not believe there were *really* all these black people out there between Philly and Pittsburgh, when another insisted the slaves would have been free once they crossed the Mason-Dixon Line or even when another interpreted references to the Underground Railroad as allusions to Count Basie's "Take the 'A' Train" and hummed a few bars. Custom did permit him to respond after the discussion. But this was not his first workshop; he just went to Smokey Joe's, got drunk. When he submitted his creative thesis, he did not include "The Graves."

After graduation he drafted a comic novel, acquired an agent, signed a contract, and so did become a Writer. He also did time in graduate school and held a real job. But he never forgot "The Graves." Eventually he expanded it into a novel. But its radix remained the paragraph written by his mother:

On the Lester Imes farm below Chaneyville one can still find the markers for twelve or thirteen graves of runaway slaves. Mr. Imes relates that when the slaves realized their pursuers were closing in on them, they begged to be killed rather than go back to the Southland and more servitude. Someone obliged.

To all this I can attest because I was the Writer.

Once a novel is published its writer is re-designated "The Author Of." According to some literary critics this means he, she, or they is dead. To less donnish readers it may suggest interpretive authority. As I see it, publication of a novel transfers all rights to interpret its meaning—indeed, to decide if it has any—to anyone who reads it carefully. I hope this means you, dear Reader. It does not mean me. The Author Of never read *The Chaneyville Incident*.

I did, however, read *from* it, as in "A Public Reading by the Author Of ..." I always began with "The Wire" which I thought an evocative opening. I often read "The Poker Game" as it was a self-contained origin story. At universities, I read "Three Modes of Public Transportation" so survivors of Composition 1 would know I'd felt their pain. Once, under the auspices of a venerable black sorority, I read ... never mind. I learned my lesson.

That being: an Author Of who gives audible voice and physical presence to a first-person narrator should gird his, her, or their loins. During post-presentation Question-and-Answer sessions audience members sometimes declared, on occasion intemperately, that they were offended by attitudes or opinions expressed during the reading and demanded I apologize.

Most were mollified by the disclaimer that the narrative "I" was not me In Real Life. Some were only satisfied if I cited artistic precedents, like *Moby-Dick*, *Huckleberry Finn*, and *All the King's Men*. Some remained dissatisfied unless I added *Invisible Man*. Once, I added *Black Beauty* and was threatened by an equestrian. But I'd planned to get out of Dodge before sundown anyway.

At first I was offended when identified with the narrator, who was, after all, an historian. Then I realized I was invited to read most often—and for the highest fees—during Black History Month. This was only fair; Black History Month was originally "Negro History and Literature Week," observed in April under the auspices of a venerable Negro fraternity. But in 1926 one brother, empowered by his Harvard PhD in history, rebranded the celebration "Negro History Week," rescheduled it for February and promoted it tirelessly. This "Father of Negro History" died in 1950. Negro History Week lived on until 1976, when the President of the United States sent a Message urging his fellow citizens to "review with admiration the impressive contributions of black Americans to our national life and culture" and "join me in tribute to Black History Month."

Many black Americans applauded. The Writer (as I was then) applauded the use of "black American" but noted the President's alpha and omega were "In the Bicentennial year of our Independence" and "the ideals envisioned by our Founding Fathers." Also that, previously, these impressive contributions had been reviewed for less than a year *in toto*, mostly by other black Americans.

The Writer was in New York then, living on the Lower East Side, working in publishing and enjoying transient celebrity as the Author Of that comic novel, published the previous fall. The President's Message prompted him to revisit "The Graves."

He'd last done so in London, at the Institute for United States Studies, while trying to write a scholarly thesis. As his undergraduate transcript indicated he had taken no history courses, he'd been assigned a tutor who disdained disciplines and instead considered American culture from the perspective of paradigms. The Writer was familiar with the term as applied to science—he *had* taken Physics for Poets. But applying it to culture seemed inane.

His Tutor explained impatiently that all disciplines were defined by subject, methodology, and "accepted" theories—paradigms. The subject of science was recurring events. Its methodology required objective observation and that any theories, no matter how charming, be confirmed or else discarded.

The subject of history was singular events which could only be observed through the agency of relics—usually written documents, preserved in archives or by printing. But as the very act of writing made observation subjective, historical methodology tended to privilege the viewpoints of the literate, the ar-

ticulate, the published, and the financially endowed. Theories were accepted for their charm, and though often questioned, were not easily disproved. They sometimes went out of fashion, but historical paradigms prospered like treason.

The Tutor offered an example: the “Dunning School,” named for the Columbia University professor who argued Southern Reconstruction was “undone” by the enfranchisement of intellectually inferior Negroes. This notion attracted white Southern students who, once credentialed by Columbia PhDs, went forth to evangelize in lectures, monographs, and textbooks.

The Writer recalled how the chapter on Reconstruction in his sixth-grade history book had made him feel like a motherless child ... and why he’d never taken a history course in college. He had, however, taken literature courses, and reasoned that, if scientific paradigms were expressed in equations, historical paradigms would be expressed in textual memes—quotes, titles, slogans ... language he could comprehend. He set off to stalk paradigms as if they were Big Game.

On his way to the British Museum he passed a bust of John F. Kennedy and was reminded of the 1960 campaign slogan, “A New Frontier.” In the Reading Room he found the origin in 1893, in “The Significance of the Frontier in American History” which presented American development as a consequence of “the advance of American settlement westward.”

Further research revealed that, in 1958, Kennedy produced a pamphlet, *A Nation of Immigrants*. The Writer backtracked that meme through *The Uprooted: The Epic Story of the Great Migrations That Made the American People*, which won the Pulitzer in history in 1952, to a 1908 drama, *The Melting Pot*, in which a Russian Jewish immigrant predicts “human freight” arriving in New York Harbor would “unite to build the Republic of Man.” The Writer ran that meme to ground in *Letters from an American Farmer*, published 1782, where a Frenchman masquerading as a frontiersman proclaimed America the place where “individuals of all nations are melted into a new race of men.”

The Writer realized he’d not needed melting; he’d been immersed in American culture from natural birth, especially through TV. At five, he’d been so absorbed by Disney’s “King of the Wild Frontier” that his mother nicknamed him “Crockett” and his father bought him a coonskin cap. Inspired, he began to outline a thesis: “Paradigms in Prime Time—American Identity in Mid-Century Popular Culture.”

He’d introduce the thesis with the novel, *The Virginian: A Horseman of the Plains*, published in 1902, the basis of four films and, in the New Frontier era, a television series. But even

before it was “brought to you in Living Color on NBC” its eponymous hero—whiskey-drinking, poker-playing, two-fisted, gun-toting but peaceable, unless you got him riled—appeared in black-and-white archetype from *Tombstone Territory* to *Cheyenne*. Though rough enough to titillate a schoolmarm, if widowed, he could be a supportive single parent, like *The Rifleman* or “Pa” Cartwright on *Bonanza*, who raised a whole herd of Virginian-type sons.

Immigration-themed TV shows came less readily to the Writer’s mind, although he did remember *Mama*. Also, *I Love Lucy*, *Green Acres*, and the episode of *The Real McCoys* where the Mexican who slept in the barn applied for citizenship. But he could still anchor the argument in a novel: *The Jungle*, published in 1906 and also filmed, though only twice. It was usually associated with socialism and the stockyards, but the characters were immigrants, herded into cattle-car conditions

“back of the yards” and exploited politically and financially. One reviewer called it “the *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* of wage slavery ...” Suddenly the Writer realized: in the purview of these paradigms, black Americans were not ready for Prime Time.

The Author Of *Letters from an American Farmer* said: “the American, this new man ... is either an European, or the descendant of an European ...”

The Author Of *The Uprooted* said: “I thought to write a history of the immigrants in America. Then I discovered that the immigrants *were* American history.”

The Author Of *A Nation of Immigrants* said: “every American who ever lived, with

the exception of one group, was either an immigrant himself or a descendant of immigrants.” That exception was the Cherokee.

The Author Of “The Significance of the Frontier in American History” said: “In Pennsylvania the town of Bedford indicates the line of settlement” but also said: “the slavery question is an incident.”

Beneath the hive-like dome of the British Museum Reading Room, the Writer realized he’d made an awfully naive mistake. He’d thought “The Graves” told a story even bankers’ daughters could read and weep over, but every mother’s son in that workshop had prepared for the Ivy League by learning paradigms. They had not prepped to weep.

Then, in London, he’d torn up his outline. Now, in New York, he heard those paradigms amplified in patriotic rhetoric and thanked God for his cultural advantages. He too had prepared for college, but he’d also been trained up at Mt. Pisgah AME Zion church. He’d known black people were out there between Philly and Pittsburgh because that denomination, like other American institutions, followed the advance of American

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settlement westward, and also because AME Zion ministers made it their mission to aid escaping slaves. “The Graves” hadn’t failed; *he’d* failed to consider his audience. Caught up in delighting, he’d neglected to instruct.

This was weighing on his mind on the Fourth of July, when he went with co-workers down to the Harbor to watch the Grand Parade of Sailing Ships. *The New York Times* assured it would “fittingly recall the spirit and the values that gave birth to a nation,” but to make sure they’d imbibed some spirits of their own. In the loom of the Statue of Liberty, somebody raised a song.

They all knew it; it was in the repertoire of every high school chorus. Some swelled the melody, others added harmony. Passers-by joined the sing-along.

The Writer did not sing along. He knew the lyrics. Hell, he knew the whole damn poem. But he also knew that, in original design, the Statue held aloft a broken chain to symbolize the abolition of slavery. But she’d been sold to pay for her own pedestal, pimped out for the immigration head tax, forced to welcome wretched European refuse while hiding her chain beneath her robes.

As his companions oohed and aahed at Tall Ships gliding toward the Hudson, the Writer thought of other ships, laden with human freight, tacking toward the East River and the market on Wall Street. He knew now that the story of the runaways could not be fairly told in anything less than a novel, but he wondered, how could he sing a song of slaves to this nation of cowboys and immigrants?

He got some ideas in September, in the form of ... well, reviewers weren’t sure. One spoke for many when describing it as “a mixture of fact, fiction and myth.” Its author called it “faction” and “a birthday offering to my country.” The Writer thought it was more like a Mother’s Day bouquet delivered to a nunnery. But by October it was on the non-fiction Best-Seller List and *The New York Times* attested that *Roots: The Saga of an American Family* was “not the novel that it appears to be, but actual history.”

It was still on the List when Black History Month arrived, with a million copies available in bookstores, drugstores, supermarkets liquor stores, on busses, subways, and street corners. By then ABC had aired an eight-part mini-series; reportedly, 130 million Americans watched at least one episode and 80 million tuned in for the finale.

The Writer was not among them. He was too busy mixing fact, fiction, and maybe myth to watch TV. He’d quit his day job and was living on tuna fish and adjunct teaching at a state-related university in Philadelphia. His agent suggested he put together a proposal; a publisher might offer a decent advance. *Roots*, she said, had made a difference.

## How could he sing a song of slaves to this nation of cowboys and immigrants?

He knew the mini-series had made *some* difference. One of his second-generation immigrant Eastside neighbors had told him her heart broke, seeing black huddled masses yearning to breathe free in a slave ship’s hold. Some actors familiar as Western heroes had been cast as Southern villains, and his bartender told him it felt weird watching Pa Cartwright at an auction bidding on people instead of cattle, when meanwhile, back at the ranch, the Rifleman was raping that girl who sang along with Mitch. A New York cabbie was quoted saying, “I’m against the nigger, but after watching ‘Roots’ I can understand why he got that way”—which, *pace* the epithet, the Writer considered one small step for mankind.

But he wasn’t sure who was reading the book. And though

he knew it would be a boffo handle at a publisher’s sales conference, he wasn’t writing “the next *Roots*.” His story did not end with documents discovered in the Library of Congress. His characters were all Constitutionally qualified to be President. His structure was like *The Divine Comedy* in the boonies.

But one night, while taking the A train downtown to a Greenwich Village tavern, he saw a black woman in a white uniform, seated across the aisle from a

white man in a white shirt, blue suit, red tie. Both were reading *Roots*. The Writer took this as a sign, went home and back to work.

In March, for the first time in a long time, the Writer went to the Lester Imes farm below Chaneyville to visit the graves.

The very first time had been in late summer—Western Pennsylvania’s fairest season. He’d finished college but escaped involuntary enlistment and was no longer contemplating his own flight to Canada. He’d been accompanied by a woman of a different race. He’d thought he was in love.

This time he came alone.

March is Western Pennsylvania’s cruelest month. Spring is a chimera; weather changes at the whim of distant ocean currents, groundhogs, and shadows. This day was sunlit, but frigid. That morning he’d spoken to his agent. She’d heard from the publishers who’d looked at his two-chapters-and-an-outline. All agreed with him: he was not writing the next *Roots*. Now he stood near the graves and remembered a day like this, when he was 9 or 10 and lost in the woods.

He hadn’t been afraid; Western Pennsylvania has no lions, tigers, or mamba snakes and the b’ars are small. What he had been was confused. He was raised in the woods, so he knew every tree, only now the trees seemed alien. He’d gotten angry at the trees and at himself for not knowing which way to go. He remembered, now, how anger became fury, how he’d punched his palm, again, again, and again.

One February, near the end of the 20th Century, I read from *The Chaneyville Incident* at a university where the History Month, the novel, and the Author Of were advertised as “African American.” It was their celebration, but applying that term to my novel was inappropriate, and as I identified as black American I had been hyphenated without consent. But the money was good, and given my now bald pate and my gray beard, at least I wouldn’t be conflated with the novel’s narrator.

I began, as always, with “The Wire,” but in response to current events, I followed with “The Fire Sermon” and used “Key-stone Klan Lynching” as a finale. The reading seemed to go over well and the Q&A was merry until a woman—tall, dark, comely; probably a graduate student—questioned my use of “black” instead of “African American.” Her tone suggested battle cry.

I explained that the novel concluded in 1979. While Dr. Ramona Edelin may have used “African American” in scholarly writing in the 1980s, she did not inform Jesse Jackson until 1988. The narrator could hardly have been aware.

“But, now you are aware,” the graduate student responded. “Don’t you think you should go back and correct your language?”

The room grew quiet. But this was not my first reading. I turned to the end of chapter 197903062300 and let the narrator answer:

Things look different in lamplight. That is a small fact, the kind of datum that escapes the notice of the average historian. He notes the sweeping changes in the American way of life that began when Thomas Alva Edison managed to make first bamboo, then tungsten, glow; probably describing the whole thing in terms of economics, or perhaps, if he is slightly above average, in terms of religion. But he misses the obvious—and therefore the significant—simply because he has never himself had to try and puzzle out the meaning of a text by the light of burning kerosene. And so he talks of longer man-hours or perhaps even an increased rate of information dissemination through reading, or perhaps even the effect of electric light on a religious matrix that had always revered fire and the sun. But he would forget the simple fact that things look different under lamplight. Edges are softer. The beginnings and ending of things seem to merge. Lines of print or handwriting on a sheet of paper are not stark black on white, but brown on gold. And the light flickers, so that anything seen is seen not only dimly, but elusively; inconstantly. And it is possible—for almost anything is possible, and the difference between logical cause and effect and magic is only a matter of which premises are chosen—that thoughts are different, too, in the soft light of a lamp. Not better, or nobler; just different.

In conclusion I would like to thank the following for their inspirations: T. S. Kuhn, E. N. W. Mottram, Henry Ossawa Tanner, Randy Newman, Michael Cimino, Daniel J. Boorstin, Hal Holbrook, and Francis Poulenc. I would also like to beg your pardon, dear Reader, for emergent obsolescences.

“The Wire” may no longer be evocative as it refers to an endangered technology some predict will be extinct by 2025. Dealer’s Choice may now be neither draw nor stud but Texas Hold ‘Em. The connotations of moonshine have been preempted by other substances, though some do begin with “M.” And, of course, the chapters are dated.

Providentially, the dates explain why the characters refuse to text, Tweet, or use Instagram. But even before Al Gore invented the internet, they had a purpose: to embed the characters in the convulsions of the world in which they lived, moved, and had their being. That being was fictional. That world was not.

In 1958, on July 11, at 2:00 AM, a Virginia sheriff dragged Judith and Richard Loving from their bed and arrested them, not for unlawful carnal knowledge but for unlawful holy matrimony. The narrator and his lover would have been children at that time. But in 1967, when the Supreme Court declared “the freedom to marry, or not marry, a person of another race resides with the individual” they would have been old enough to marry, although not to vote.

Given their eventual occupations they would have been college students. Changes in law and custom would have made social contact between them more likely than it would have been in 1958, as in 1967 diversity of both gender and race were emergent initiatives in higher education. But the new “New Morality” (not to be confused with the old New Morality) and improvements in contraception would have made marriage nonurgent.

Still, as they matriculated, an old question, common in 1958, was raised anew by *Loving* and posed in print in both *Time* and *Ebony*: “Would you want your daughter to marry one?” A “liberal” response, even if accompanied by an invitation to dinner, would have prompted a whispered follow-up: “But ... what about the children?” In classrooms, even at liberal colleges, the answer was given in paradigms like “the tragic mulatto” and “the marginal man.”

A decade later, the narrator and his lover, in their thirties and joined together by the power vested in the Writer, faced those paradigms. Together they visited the graves. Perhaps that journey gifted them with the audacity of hope. But that is beyond the scope of the plot.

When published, *The Chaneyville Incident* presented the past viewed from the present. Republished, it presents the past viewed from the past. That there are differences between the two is certain, but just what those differences are is not for the Author Of to say.

David Bradley  
202104042129



## Calendar

### Annenberg Center

[Pennlivearts.org](http://Pennlivearts.org)

**Dec. 9, 10, 11** Dorrance Dance

**Dec. 12** Cecile McLorin Salvant

**Dec. 16** Chris Thile

**Feb. 11** Maceo Parker

### Arthur Ross Gallery

[arthurrossgallery.org](http://arthurrossgallery.org)

open Tues.–Sun.

Roberto Lugo: God Complex

**Through Dec. 19**

### Above: Dorrance Dance

Photo by Matthew Murphy  
courtesy Penn Live Arts

### ICA

[icaphila.org](http://icaphila.org)

Ulysses Jenkins:

Without Your Interpretation

Outside In: Na Kim

**Both through Dec. 30**

### Kelly Writers House

[writing.upenn.edu/wh/](http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/)

**Nov. 6** Zachary Sergi C'10  
and Jennifer Yu C'16:

Writing for Young Adults

**Nov. 16** Dance and the Poetics  
of Diaspora

### Penn Libraries

[library.upenn.edu](http://library.upenn.edu)

**Nov. 10** Across Cultures and Time:  
Music performance by Ania Vu

**Nov. 17-19** Loss: Schoenberg  
Symposium on Manuscript Studies  
in the Digital Age (online)

**Dec. 2-3** The Ethics of Collecting  
in the 21st Century (online)

### Penn Museum

[penn.museum/collections](http://penn.museum/collections)

Galleries open; advance  
booking recommended

The Stories We Wear

**Through June 2022**

### World Café Live

[worldcafelive.com](http://worldcafelive.com)

**Nov. 3** Nada Surf

**Nov. 4** Marc Broussard

**Nov. 5** Chuck Prophet & The Mission  
Express

**Nov. 10** Nate Smith + KINFOLK

**Nov. 11** Amy Helm

**Nov. 12** Pokey LaFarge

**Nov. 17** Monophonics

**Nov. 26** The Amish Outlaws

**Nov. 27** Ben Vaughn Quintet

**Dec. 1** Over The Rhine

**Dec. 3** Carbon Leaf

**Dec. 7** Hiss Golden Messenger

**Dec. 8** We Banjo 3

**Dec. 9** William Elliott Whitmore

**Dec. 15** David Shaw

**Dec. 30** Slambovian Circus of Dreams



# Both Sides Now

Ceramicist Roberto Lugo turns the Arthur Ross Gallery into a vessel for more than one sort of Philadelphia icon.



Stepping into a room and discovering a crimson tide of graffiti slathered over the walls is certainly a novel experience for a visitor to the Arthur Ross Gallery. The scrawled words and images aren't especially confrontational—the rounded cursive tags and chubby cartoonish images of teapots and SEPTA trains are playful and accessible. But in a way, they're the most in-your-face aspect of “God Complex: Different Philadelphia” (through December 19), a guest-curated exhibition by locally based potter Roberto Lugo, who has juxtaposed traditional paintings and decorative arts pieces with his own boldly colored vessels depicting Black cultural figures. With no curatorial labels or wall texts, beyond an introductory statement, the artist allows the pieces to speak for themselves.

“As someone who didn't have access to art growing up, and discovering that passion later in life, I would find myself walking into museums where none of the art reflected people who look like me,” that statement begins. “Those settings carried a message that the only cultures and histories worth preserving are those from one type of population.” In the first gallery, Lugo sets up a subtle rebuke. Oils of Benjamin Franklin and George Washington—men whom Lugo says he grew up regarding as icons (hence the exhibition's title) not oppressors—hang from walls painted in a genteel blue based on the interiors of Independence Hall. Their only identifiers are what's been embedded in their gilded frames: a Thomas Sully here, a Rembrandt Peale there.

According to Lynn Marsden-Atlass, director of the gallery as well as curator for the 8,000-piece Penn Art Collection, she and Lynn Smith Dolby, the collection's manager, were looking for “an internationally recognized artist who was avant-garde and working from a social justice perspective who might offer a new approach to the collection. This was in 2019, before last summer's racial reckoning.” As sketchily conveyed in a pull-out comic

page drawn by Griff Jurchak that's part of the exhibition brochure, Lugo's "origin story" fit the bill. Born in the Philadelphia neighborhood of Kensington, he took to the streets as a teenaged graffiti artist and worked in the area's factories into his early 20s before he enrolled in college, began picking up degrees, and launched a career as a ceramicist. Now 40, he's garnered gallery representation and art world acclaim (including a Pew Fellowship and the prestigious Rome Prize) and is currently an assistant professor at Tyler School of the Arts.

By the time this exhibition secured funding from the Sachs Program for Arts Innovation, COVID-19 had arrived. So Lugo set to work perusing the collection via a loaned laptop. "He naturally gravitated to the historic portraits—we have about 1,500—because his work has often focused on individuals who have been marginalized," observes Marsden-Atlass. In the end, he selected 18 pieces, including a pair of photos by Larry Fink; engravings of Abraham Lincoln and William Penn; and two 19th-century vases, one a milky blue porcelain affair by French modeler Victor Etienne Simyan for the English ceramics maker Minton, the other a glazed terra-cotta creation from an unknown Turkish artist.

The vases serve as reference points for the Lugo pottery pieces on display in the red gallery. The first of these works to appear, *Bridges*, is placed on a graffiti-covered pedestal between the Old World gallery and Lugo's gallery. Its navy blue glazing, classical urn form, and portrait of Benjamin Franklin nod to the value and relevance of the past. Walk around to its rear side—and into the room that Lugo referred to as "my Philadelphia" in a recent virtual talk—and there's a different portrait, one of Lugo's father. "The Franklin portrait is part of the American visual lexicon," Smith Dolby says, "but the portrait of his father—whom he remembers biking over the Benjamin Franklin Bridge to go to work—gives equal weight to the artist's roots."



Lugo's three rougher-hewn "street pots" are also set on pedestals—salvaged from a demolished local Black church—and they too feature double portraits. The unexplained couplings present President Barack Obama with rapper Slick Rick; Harlem Renaissance writer Zora Neale Hurston with painter Alma Thomas; and rock guitarist Jimi Hendrix with activist Harriet Tubman. More textural and brilliantly hued, these pieces take their cues from the colors and patterns of African textiles and Japanese Imari pottery. The assemblage is rounded out by five stoneware teapots that depict Philadelphians: opera singer Marian Anderson Hon'58; attorney Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Ed1918 G1919 Gr1921 L'27 Hon'74, the first woman to receive a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School and first African American woman to practice law in Pennsylvania; physician Rebecca Cole, the second African American woman to become a doctor in the United States; Crystal Bird Fauset, the first female Black state legislator elected in the United States; and Caroline LeCount, the first Black woman in the Philadelphia area to pass the city's teacher exam.

Cole is also the subject of one of the two Lugo paintings on view in the gallery's entryway. Completed with Molly Hutter, one of his students, the painting frames Cole's shoulders and head within a crescent-shaped remnant of a gilded oval set against a backdrop of graffiti and floral motifs, another melding of the old and new. The second painting, *Angry Mob of Peaceful Protestors: Roberto Lugo*, a self-portrait from 2019, has a glossy feel about it, almost as if it too were porcelain. With this acrylic and resin canvas, Lugo is putting himself squarely in the company of the other rebels—such as Rosa Parks, Angela Davis, and Colin Kaepernick—that he has depicted in this series. Its inclusion underscores the exhibition's wide-ranging view of the ways citizens can expand the boundaries of cultural belonging, as demonstrated by his chosen icons throughout the gallery. You can do it by taking a bullhorn, a seat, or a knee—but also by pursuing an education, running for office, thunderously riffing on the "Star-Spangled Banner," or by sitting quietly at the potter's wheel.

—JoAnn Greco





# The Seeker

In *Roadrunner*, Morgan Neville probes the many sides of Anthony Bourdain.

**“It** is considered useful and enlightening and therapeutic to think about death for a few minutes a day.”

So begins *Roadrunner*, Morgan Neville C’89’s documentary about Anthony Bourdain, released in July. Voiced by the celebrated chef-turned-author and travel-show star, whose 2018 suicide hangs over the film, the assertion doubles as a sort of ventriloquism signaling Neville’s intent. Stitching video from Bourdain’s exhaustively documented midlife into a patchwork of postmortem ruminations by grieving friends, *Roadrunner* offers a stirring meditation on travel, fame, obsession, the search for meaning, and the fleeting nature of fulfillment when it is chased too hard.

To a filmmaker who specializes in profiling famous artists and performers—most recently PBS icon Fred Rogers (*Won’t You Be My Neighbor?*) and Orson Welles (*They’ll Love Me When I’m Dead*)—Bourdain’s exploits presented an extreme case

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*Roadrunner: A Film About Anthony Bourdain*  
Directed by Morgan Neville C’89  
Focus Features, 118 minutes, 2021

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**“It was like he died and was reborn.”**

study in the transformative power of the public glare. Bourdain spent 16 years eating his way around the world in front of a camera crew. *Roadrunner* makes a feast of the footage left on the cutting room floor. What aired on the shows, *Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown* director Tom Vitale tells Neville, were “the least interesting parts of the trip.”

Mining older material from an unreleased documentary shot by Dmitri Kasterine, Neville takes viewers back even further, revealing Bourdain as an unheralded 43-year-old chef suddenly reincarnated by celebrity thanks to his 2000

memoir *Kitchen Confidential*, a breakout bestseller that grew out of an unsolicited submission to the *New Yorker* the year before. One minute Bourdain is phoning in a vegetable order from the sidewalk behind his restaurant kitchen; the next he is half-stunned by an invitation from Oprah Winfrey. “My life gets more and more ridiculous,” he says. “When my 15 minutes of fame are up, I will be comfortable with that, if not relieved. I think relieved, at this point.”

Relief, of course, quickly vanished from the menu. He staggered at the start. One of *Roadrunner*’s revelations, courtesy of Bourdain’s first producers, is how uncomfortable and awkward he was before he morphed into one of the most complexly riveting presences on TV—an “unmuscled James Bond” who could engage with anyone, in producer Lydia Tenaglia’s apt description. But once he rounded that corner, there was no turning back. “It was like he died and was reborn,” Bourdain’s brother Chris tells Neville. “This was a new person with a new life.”

The casualties included Bourdain’s marriage of 20 years, and then a second marriage, which lasted nine and produced a daughter. Few relationships can survive one party hitting the road for 250 days a year. And while Bourdain lived one fantasy—a made-for-TV thrill ride where dinner might be feral pigeon or a beating cobra’s heart, but there always seemed to be a cold beer or a grand cru vintage close at hand—he pined for a different one, romanticizing the domestic bliss marked by dad aprons and backyard barbecues. Yet there was nothing like being in one setting to make him yearn for another.

Neville’s autopsy ranges widely—and is too engaged with Bourdain’s soulful complications to get bogged down in maudlin sentimentality—but *Roadrunner* provokes the most thought as an exploration of fantasy’s perils. Bourdain lionized adventurers who legitimized even “antisocial” escapades by writing about them. “I wanted to go to faraway exotic places with palm trees where teenagers in army



uniforms carried machine guns,” we hear Bourdain say. (Neville used an AI voice generator to convert Bourdain’s writing into speech in three instances, only one of which is obvious. Whether that fundamentally violates a boundary not crossed by commonly accepted forms of artifice in documentary filmmaking, like quotation splicing, or third-party voiceover of written correspondence, is a worthwhile debate—but its impact on the shape and substance of *Roadrunner* seems slight.) Yet the chef had never really travelled, reflects Tenaglia, who produced his first TV series: “I think he was excited to go on this journey to see if the reality actually matched the imagination.”

But a traveler’s fantasies shape what he sees, and how he sees himself. Neville intercuts his documentary with scenes from swashbuckling pirate flicks, Werner Herzog’s *Aguirre, The Wrath of God*, and, most liberally, *Apocalypse Now* to suggest a certain trajectory to Bourdain’s mental peregrinations. Lying on a therapist’s couch (because even that was filmed), Bourdain also confesses to “momentary fantasies of harming others or myself.” The man with 2 million Instagram followers sensed that he was looking at life through an “ever narrowing lens”—one that channeled virtually everything, even the lonely hotel rooms he filmed and posted from his phone, for public consumption. “It is written that I should be loyal to the nightmare of my choice,” he muses in an archival voiceover. “I think I now understand what that means.”

Bourdain’s survivors delve into the fluctuating distance that separated his persona from his personality—and the shrinking space between his public life and any possibility of a private one. “He often talked about how in an ideal world, he wouldn’t be in the show,” says Vitale. “It would be his point of view, like a camera moving through space without having to see him, at all.”

Yet it was Bourdain’s point of view—open, unflinching, and at times almost excruciatingly humane—that made him

## EXHIBITION

## The Painted Word



Since the fall of 2017, the Gazette’s “Views” section has opened with a full-page illustration by Martha Rich GFA’11, who injects her bright figurative paintings with phrases drawn from the essays in each issue. Now her work is on view, at a more sprawling scale, in the Annenberg Center’s Feintuch Family Lobby. *Martha Rich: It goes by fast*, presented by the Sachs Program for Arts Innovation and Penn Live Arts, will enliven the giant brick wall of the Arts Lounge through December 17.

as vulnerable as he was captivating. A turning point came in 2006, when war broke out in Beirut during the filming of a *No Reservations* episode, filling the crew and the star with deep ambiguity about the nature of their work. “I’d begun to believe that the dinner table was the great leveler,” Bourdain ultimately reflected in a voiceover for the show. “Now, I’m not so sure. Maybe the world’s not like that at all. Maybe in the real world, the one without cameras and happy food and travel shows, everybody, the good and the bad together, are all crushed under the same terrible wheel. I hope, I really hope, I’m wrong about that.”

Neville reveals that Bourdain initially opposed “exploiting” his Beirut experience for 42 minutes of TV entertainment, but the Travel Channel felt otherwise. The episode won an Emmy.

Existential angst never stopped haunting Bourdain. That’s what made him such a compelling interpreter of the places he passed through. In the view of his friends and colleagues, it also made him prey to

serial obsessions in which he sought re-spite—from the drug addictions of his early adulthood, to jiu-jitsu, to the #MeToo proselytizing spurred by an ill-starred romantic involvement with Asia Argento, the Italian actress and filmmaker who was an early accuser of Harvey Weinstein for sexual assault, and who is cast here as a catalyst of Bourdain’s demise. (He hung himself shortly after discovering paparazzi snapshots of her in the arms of another man. Neville opted not to interview Argento for his film.)

While Neville gives plenty of space to that tragic final chapter, *Roadrunner* functions best as an exploration of what distinguished Bourdain from so many other culinary celebrities: his insistence on searching for meaning at the core of every experience—and his refusal to be fully satisfied with, or absolutely sure about, what he found.

“It was almost never about food,” fellow chef David Chang reflects. “It was about Tony learning how to be a better person.”

It’s hard work for the best of us. —TP

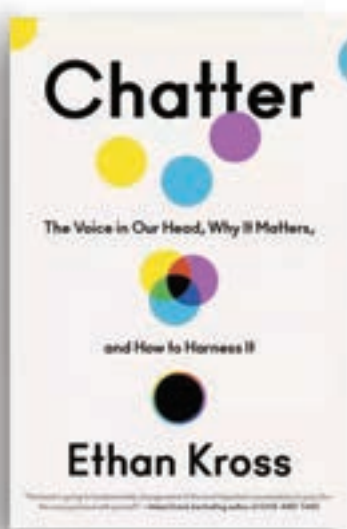
# Mind Over Chatter

How to make the most out of the voices in your head.

**W**ere you to receive a handwritten note filled with “violent drawings” and “hateful slurs,” you might, quite naturally, freak out. But after the police had reassured you that public figures receive empty threats all the time, and this one, like most others, would likely blow over, you might start to feel better. And if, as time went on, nothing did happen, perhaps you’d eventually relax.

But what if, instead, your frantic thoughts started spiraling out of control. *Should I get a gun? Should we move? How quickly can I find a new job?* What if you stayed up late peering out the window, a baseball bat nearby, contemplating whether to do a Google search for a “bodyguard who specializes in protecting professors”? Well, then it might be time to give yourself a good talking to. In *Chatter: The Voice in Our Head, Why It Matters, and How to Harness It* (Crown, 2021), experimental psychologist and neuroscientist Ethan Kross C’01 describes his experience with this very situation a decade ago. He never did find out who sent him the letter, or why, and he never heard from its sender again. Still, its power to panic and provoke him brought home all that he had learned, and taught, about the ability of the mind to manipulate our emotions.

In the book, Kross delves into what our inner (or default) voice typically concerns itself with—observation, planning, rumination, daydreaming—as it churns in the background while we go about our daily lives. Then he looks at how things can go awry when “chatter” takes over. Finally, he offers a series of techniques based on experimental research, including his own.



*Chatter: The Voice in Our Head, Why it Matters, and How to Harness it*  
By Ethan Kross C’01  
Crown, 2021, \$28

As a toddler growing up in Brooklyn, Kross learned the value of introspection from his “Zen” father. At Penn, he was drawn to psychology. But he quickly learned that “going inside,” as his dad called it, “could be helpful for some people sometimes but not for others at other times,” he says. “There wasn’t a lot of understanding about why this was, and I decided I wanted to figure it out.” He went on to pursue a doctorate in psychology at Columbia and now teaches at the University of Michigan, where he founded and runs the Emotion & Self Control Lab.

*Chatter* is his first book. “Its goal,” he says, “is to put people in a position where they have more control over their inner voice.”

He likens that voice to a Swiss Army knife, which can tackle a wide variety of tasks. It can silently compile a mental list

of the items we need from the grocery store or help us rehearse for a job interview. Sometimes it makes its presence felt more forcefully, like a coach or a critic.

It matters, then, which voice we’re hearing—or if we’re hearing any voice at all. Take the story of Jill Bolte Taylor, which Kross shares in the book. A fellow scientist who suffered a stroke, she later remembered her thoughts as suddenly “inconsistent, fragmented, and interrupted by intermittent silence.” She struggled with the question of whether she was still herself without “those little voices inside her head,” but also felt strangely liberated. “The growing void in my traumatized brain was entirely seductive,” she said. “I welcomed the reprieve that the silence brought from the constant chatter.” What we learn from her case, Kross contends, is that the small doses of anxiety or sadness chatter can bring are part of what makes us human. “The challenge isn’t to avoid negative states altogether,” he writes. “It’s to not let them consume you.”

Kross draws many examples from sports figures. In one passage, he compares the astounding meltdown of St. Louis Cardinals pitcher Rick Ankiel with the seemingly unthinking ease of gymnast Simone Biles’ history-making routines. In his Major League Baseball play-off debut in 2000, Ankiel threw five wild pitches and walked four batters in a single inning before being removed from the game. The highly touted pitcher continued to struggle with his control, causing him to switch positions to the outfield and later writing in his memoir about having “the yips” when he pitched. Biles, on the other hand, became the first woman to achieve a competitive triple-double flip, in part thanks to her brain’s ability to guide her automatically through the steps—though, she too, went on to suffer a similar fate as Ankiel at this summer’s Olympics, removing herself from part of the competition because of a mental block gymnasts know as “the twisties.”



As Kross points out elsewhere, social media can turn the public spotlight on virtually anyone. Not only does this cause us to worry endlessly about self-presentation, but it can also lead to a monsoon of oversharing, vaulting us into a feedback loop of empathy and venting that ultimately does more harm than good. “Social media allows us to connect with others in the immediate aftermath of a negative emotional response, before time provides us with the opportunity to rethink how we’re feeling or what we’re planning to do,” he writes.

**“Ethan, what are you doing? This is crazy!” Kross recalls thinking, poised over the keyboard at 3 a.m., ready to Google bodyguard services.**

Instead of dwelling and revisiting, Kross encourages readers to try distancing. If we picture ourselves five years from now, or even zoom out just a bit and look at the larger context, there’s a good chance that the doubts and insecurities that plague us will seem less significant. Self-talk—to the point of literally addressing yourself by your own name to snap out of the mind’s relentless echo chamber—is another tactic. “Ethan, what are you doing? This is crazy!” Kross recalls thinking as his fingers poised over the keyboard at 3 a.m., ready to Google *bodyguard services* because of that nasty letter. Suddenly he was able to calm himself and assess his predicament more logically. Referring to himself as “you” helped still more.

“You have a state-of-the-art alarm system,” he thought. “Nothing else disconcerting has happened since you first received the letter. Ethan, go to bed.” Imagining that you are advising a friend is another chatter-busting strategy.

Other sections explore the chatter-fighting powers of temporarily moving into a different, awe-inspiring physical environment (natural or cultural); normalizing your situation (reminding yourself that the grief, or setback, or struggle that you’re experiencing isn’t unique to you); and leaning on mind games, such as a comforting ritual, that can bring a sense of order and control (think of a baseball player who might admit to wearing the same shirt under his uniform during every game to keep a hitting streak alive). Of course, like Kross himself, we can familiarize ourselves with these tricks and still succumb to chatter anyway. This is known as Solomon’s Paradox, after the biblical king known for dishing out good advice but not necessarily following it. Still, Kross believes that learning to understand and master the mind is a valuable practice that needs to be nurtured from an early age. To that end, he’s collaborating with University of Michigan psychology and neurology professor John Jonides Gr’75; University of Virginia psychology professor Daniel Willingham; and Angela Duckworth Gr’06, the Rosa Lee and Egbert Chang Professor of psychology and founder and CEO of Character Lab [“Character’s Content,” May/June 2012], to develop a middle school curriculum on the science of self-control.

Nearly 500 kids participated in a pilot program in 2017, learning about techniques such as journaling, distanced self-talk, and reframing. Many later said that they turned to these tools to a significant extent in their daily lives, Kross reports. “Reflecting on our lives is not inherently a good or bad thing,” he says. “It’s a human capacity that can help or harm us, depending on how we use and master it.”

—JoAnn Greco

## Briefly Noted

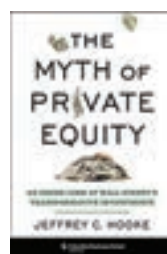


### **CALILA: The Later Novels of Carmen Martín Gaité**

by Joan Lipman Brown Gr’76

(Bucknell University Press, 2021, \$34.95.) Exploring the last six novels by Spain’s most honored contemporary woman writer,

Brown, a professor and chair of Spanish at the University of Delaware—and a dear friend of the author, whom she calls Calila—opens a window into Martín Gaité’s inner life by incorporating their letters and conversations over the course of 25 years.



### **THE MYTH OF PRIVATE EQUITY: An Inside Look at Wall Street’s Transformative Investments**

by Jeff Hooke W’76 WG’77

(Columbia Business School Publishing, 2021, \$35.) Hooke, a former private equity executive and investment banker

turned finance professor, examines the negative effects of private equity and the ways in which it has avoided scrutiny in this exposé from an insider’s viewpoint.



### **NERMINA’S CHANCE**

by Dina Greenberg CGS’00

GGs’04 (Atmosphere Press, 2021, \$22.99.)

After her family is murdered and her body ravaged by Serbian soldiers, Nermina Beganović’s only chance of survival is to

flee her Bosnian homeland amid the wars of the 1990s, in this novel that reimagines the essence of family and plumbs the depths of a mother’s connection to her daughter.



### **WHAT WE MEAN BY THE AMERICAN DREAM: Stories We Tell About Meritocracy**

by Doron Taussig Gr’17

(Cornell University Press, 2021, \$26.95.) Did you earn it? Do you deserve it? Interviewing people from

various walks of life—dairy farmers, police officers, teachers, computer technicians, home-makers, even drug dealers—Taussig explores the way Americans think about meritocracy.

Visit [thepenngazette.com](http://thepenngazette.com) for more *Briefly Noted*.





## Princess Power

This Disney exec is helping to modernize and upgrade classic films.

The ending of Disney's animated movie *Aladdin*, released in 1992, is familiar to many families. The Sultan of Agrabah finally comes to his senses and decrees that his daughter, Princess Jasmine, should be able to marry whomever she wants. (In her case, Aladdin.) "From this day forth, the princess shall marry whomever she deems worthy," he declares, waving his hands in a show of power and enthusiasm.

Fast forward to the spring of 2019 when Disney released a remake of its classic, this time with human actors. The ending changed in a subtle but important way. "You shall be the next sultan," said Jasmine's dad, handing her the almighty ring. "As sultan, you may change the law." The message: a woman doesn't have to wait for a man to change her life; she can rise to power and make changes herself.

Tweaking the plot of a beloved Disney movie is a big deal, and one of the key people involved in making the decision was Allison Erlikhman C'09. As a vice president of production at Walt Disney Studios, her job is to oversee all parts of the development of a movie from screening submissions, supervising script development, recruiting writers and directors, and working on the shooting. As she puts it: "You are the spoke of the wheel for the organization."

During her six-plus years at Disney, she has helped modernize the company by bringing in female and minority talent to be writers, produc-

ers, and directors. For example, she tapped Lena Khan, a Muslim woman, to direct *Flora & Ulysses*, and Wanuri Kahiu, a Kenyan film producer and director, to oversee *Once on This Island*.

She's also tried to ensure that movie scripts and plots are empowering to female and minority children. She's currently working on a version of the *Pirates of the Caribbean* where the fierce and brave pirates are women. There's also the upcoming live-action remake of *The Little Mermaid* in which Ariel—a white character with long, red hair in the animated original—will be played by Halle Bailey, a Black actress. And she was part of the team that transformed Princess Jasmine into a sultan—"one of the things I am most proud of," she says.

These changes are important, explains Andrea Lee Press, a professor of media studies and sociology at the University of Virginia who writes about feminism in the media. "Disney films are the most popular films that young people watch in our culture, and they watch them over and over and over again," she says. "The role models kids see in these movies form their beliefs as much as anything else."

When she was growing up in Los Angeles, Erlikhman's parents enrolled her in acting classes after school and on weekends. "I realized I didn't want to be an actor," she says, "but I liked everything else that went along with it." At Harvard-Westlake School, she directed and pro-

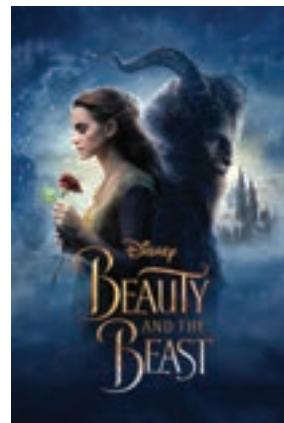
duced plays like *South Pacific* and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.

At Penn, where she was a psychology major, she spent most of her evenings at the Platt Student Performing Arts House, working on productions. Sometimes she was the director, a role that included casting the performance, approving costumes, and staging scenes. Other times she was the producer, which involved managing the budget and making sure the team worked together. She estimates she pulled off about 20 shows at Penn. "Before every one, we flyered on Locust Walk," she says. "It was like a rite of passage, trying to convince other students to see your show. We never played to an empty house though."

During college, she also got her start working on movies, first interning with famed producer Marc Platt C'79 and then at the production company Sidney Kimmel Entertainment. Her task was to read scripts, summarize them, and provide feedback, a process she likens to writing a book report. After college she moved back to Los Angeles, where she landed a gig at Columbia Pictures before moving to Disney.

At any given moment, Erlikhman says, she's working on 20 to 25 movies that are in various stages of development. "We like to juggle a lot to make sure we have plenty in the pipeline," she notes. "Sometimes the script doesn't get to where you need it to be or a movie doesn't get made for another reason." The launch of

**"Disney now has this even greater opportunity to reach people."**



Disney+ in November 2019 has only increased demand for content—which for Erlikhman, means more opportunities to bring in female voices and diversify what's being streamed into viewers' homes. "Disney now has this even greater opportunity to reach people," she says. "We make mass media. What is in our movies reaches everyone. We have the opportunity to expose people to things they might not be familiar with. If we do our jobs right, we can impact the world."



Updating—but not overhauling—Disney classics can be a tricky balancing act. A movie like *Aladdin* is now seen as offensive by some for its depictions of Arab culture, while the female protagonists from the original *Snow White* in 1937 to *The Little Mermaid* in 1989 often lack agency or make sacrifices for men. “From a feminist perspective, *Little Mermaid* was a really terrifying story of a woman giving up her voice,” says Press. But these movies, even with their flaws, are so beloved that children of all ages still watch them today and find magic in them. “We can’t throw them out altogether,” Press adds. “They are ubiquitous. That would be impossible.”

For now, Disney’s plan seems to be to keep the overall plots the same but make small but powerful changes. In the live-action version of *Beauty and the Beast*, for example, instead of crying when she is locked in the castle, Belle actively tries to escape. In the live-action *Mulan* remake, the main character never cuts off her hair, only putting it up in a bun when she pretends to be a man. When she discovers her strength, she lets her long hair flow, embracing who she really is.

“Remakes present a whole different set of challenges than making a new movie,” Erlikhman says. “We want to make sure we are delivering movies that feel like the movies audiences love, but we want them to feel modern and of the time they come out.”

—Alyson Krueger C’07



## A Tangled Webb

How a former Penn soccer player helped prep a NASA telescope for its long-awaited launch.

**M**ike McElwain C’01 was a few months into testing the \$9.6 billion James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) in 2016 when a tacky substance suddenly appeared on one of its precisely polished mirrors, threatening to significantly reduce light passing through the telescope. McElwain and his colleagues feverishly tried to decipher what it was, where it came from, and how to remove it without mucking up the whole instrument. Amidst mounting costs and delays,

the last thing they needed was for some mystery schmutz to threaten humanity’s most ambitious telescope.

“It was definitely a crisis,” says McElwain, a senior research astrophysicist at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. “People were pretty panicked, including myself. We had a huge amount of pressure.”

It took several weeks to discover the culprit. During a test run conducted at the cryogenic temperatures the telescope would encounter in

space, a bit of adhesive had frozen into tiny crystals that spread across the mirror and subsequently warmed into a sticky film. Working carefully to solve the crisis, scientists used solvents and a specially designed fine bristle fan brush to systemically remove the contaminant without accidentally spreading it.

After a quarter-century of technical hurdles and an international effort involving 24 countries and three space agencies, the James Webb Space Telescope is finally slated for a December launch to an orbit one million miles away. There the four-story, 14,000-pound telescope will spend several years peering back in time, capturing and analyzing infrared light emitted 13.7 billion years ago to gather information about the composition of the early uni-



verse and how the first stars and planets formed. It will also investigate the atmospheres of exoplanets in other solar systems to find those with Earthlike conditions.

"We're hoping to learn where we come from, our place in space, and how exoplanets form and evolve," McElwain says. "The JWST is really going to transform all aspects of space science, from observations in our own solar system to the very beginning of the universe.

"About the time I was at Penn, they started discovering planets around sun-like stars, which is partly what got me onto this path," he adds. "Now over 4,000 have been confirmed. Ultimately, we hope to find Earthlike planets among those, study their atmospheres, and look for signs of life. I'm actively involved in developing technologies that would enable those observations in future missions."

Once the telescope magnifies those ancient traces of infrared light, four onboard instruments will interpret their wavelengths and beam the digitized information back to Earth. As the JWST observatory project scientist and a technical lead, McElwain helped build the telescope, integrate it with the spacecraft, and test them in simulated launch and space conditions. The telescope comprises a 21-foot diameter mirror of 18 gold hexagon reflectors, and five silver sunshields that block enough solar radiation to cool the telescope to -388°F. It all folds to fit into a 16-foot-diameter rocket with inches to

**"We're hoping to learn where we come from, our place in space, and how exoplanets form and evolve."**

spare, to then unfurl during the first half of its monthlong journey to orbit. "We're going to be holding our breath for those 14 days," he says.

Growing up in York, Pennsylvania, McElwain leaned more towards sports than science, initially envisioning a coaching career. But while playing on the soccer team at Penn, he enjoyed a freshman honors physics class taught by the late Fay Ajzenberg-Selove, who guided him to a summer job with an on-campus research project in high energy physics. The next year, his athletics academic advisor suggested an astronomy class. "I really started seeing the connection between astronomy and my physics major," McElwain says. "Furthermore, there were all these things we didn't know about the universe. Dark matter, dark energy, and exoplanets were just being discovered."

McElwain later joined a campus research group studying brown dwarves, a type of low-mass star. (His research gained notice, and the *Daily*

*Pennsylvanian* published a profile on him during his junior season, when he was the Quakers' leading scorer, titled "Soccer is not rocket science for McElwain.")

After Penn, McElwain headed to UCLA for graduate school, which had him working on infrared cameras for the W. M. Keck Observatory in Hawaii, followed in 2007 by a postdoctoral stint at Princeton University developing high-contrast imaging systems for Japan's Subaru Telescope, also in Hawaii.

"I love the team effort of building instruments," McElwain says. "I thrive in that environment. I think that goes back to my soccer-playing days."

McElwain joined NASA in 2011 to work on infrared measuring instruments and technologies for future observational missions, including JWST's successor, the Roman Space Telescope, tentatively scheduled to launch in 2026 or 2027. He joined the JWST team in 2014.

"He's a combination of brilliant and patient," says John Mather, a JWST senior project scientist and 2006 Nobel Prize in Physics winner for measuring radiation from the Big Bang. "He knows what he's doing, is well organized, and takes care of things that might escape others."

Cullen Blake, a Princeton colleague who's now an associate professor of astronomy at Penn, continued working with McElwain on a related NASA-funded device to measure exoplanet mass now used at Kitt Peak National

Park Observatory in Arizona. "He's methodical and careful and does things right the first time," says Blake. "He's got a combination of technical and scientific skills and is also just very personable. It doesn't surprise me that he's risen to this level."

When the JWST reaches orbit, McElwain will help lead the checkout of the telescope systems, including a calibration of its instruments to account for errant light and small temperature changes that could distort data. Once the instrument is operational, he'll continue refining the technology while studying circumstellar discs (debris surrounding new stars) and exoplanets.

NASA's gain is due in part to McElwain's wife, Crystal Simpson, an investment banker who agreed to commute to New York from their Maryland home. "I considered a Princeton research faculty position so we could be closer, but she strongly encouraged me to take the NASA dream job even though that meant being apart during the week," he says.

It's this sense of personal and professional teamwork that's enabled his career to unfold "absolutely beyond my dreams," he says. "I don't think I could have imagined or plotted a path to be where I am now. Before Penn, I didn't know any professional scientists or have any contacts. Penn gave me the opportunity. If I didn't have those mentors, there's no way I'd be here."

—Susan Karlin C'85

# A Spiral of Injustice

An anti-death penalty lawyer and author exposes some of the ills of capital punishment.

Convinced that the government was conspiring to read his mind, Andre Thomas ripped out his left eye and ate it while locked up in a Texas prison cell in 2008. This happened about four years after he gouged out his *right* eye, following his arrest for the brutal killings of his estranged wife and two children.

Yet despite exhibiting an extreme form of psychosis and experiencing hallucinations since the age of 10, Thomas's insanity plea was rejected after the first eyeball incident, and to this day "Texas continues to pursue Andre's execution," author and anti-death penalty crusader Marc Bookman C'78 writes in his 2021 book, *A Descending Spiral: Exposing the Death Penalty in 12 Essays* (The New Press). "No state authority figure has expressed hesitation about ending the life of a man who intentionally blinded himself, nor has there been any move by the district attorney to reconsider Andre's mental state at the time of the killings."

Sitting outside of Houston Hall on a drizzly September afternoon, Bookman becomes even more animated talking about Thomas, whose patterns of schizophrenia, he argues in his book's second

chapter, "How Crazy Is Too Crazy to Be Executed?," were profound and longstanding. But even though the Supreme Court ruled in 2002 that intellectually disabled people are exempt from capital punishment, the courts have not shielded those with severe mental illness from the death penalty.

**"I think it's important for the public to expand their understanding of injustice."**

"It's remarkable, isn't it? It gives you a sense of just how driven the government, the state, can be to execute someone," says Bookman, a former public defender who now runs the Atlantic Center for Capital Representation, a nonprofit death penalty resource center serving Pennsylvania and Delaware. "To execute a guy that mentally ill is beyond the pale."

An even "more insidious aspect" of Thomas's trial, Bookman writes elsewhere, is the fact that three jurors had not-



ed on their jury questionnaires that they opposed interracial marriage and yet still landed on the jury, where they rejected the insanity defense and voted to give Thomas the death penalty rather than life in prison. (Thomas is Black, and his wife that he killed was white.)

Other essays explore a negligent prosecutor, a racist and anti-Semitic judge, and a

drunk defense attorney who failed to reveal his client, Robert Wayne Holsey, was an "extremely low-functioning man who had been raised in poverty and terrorized physically and mentally by a vicious, violent, and psychotic mother," Bookman writes. Holsey was executed in Georgia in 2014 after the Supreme Court denied another attorney's appeals about Holsey's

intellectual disability and alcoholic trial lawyer who later landed in prison himself.

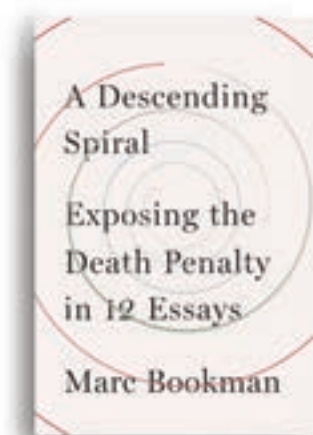
"I think it's important for the public to expand their understanding of injustice," Bookman says. "It's not just an innocent person who's in prison. When a Jewish defendant is presided over by an anti-Semitic judge, or when prosecutors are hiding evidence, or when attorneys are drunk or not paying attention, that's a real injustice. And when you're talking about the death penalty, it's an injustice that can't be tolerated."

Bookman says he felt "uniquely qualified" to write these essays, some of which he had already published in various online outlets before updating them for the book. At Penn, he waffled between becoming a writer or a lawyer, ultimately deciding on the latter because he figured he could still write. After attending law school at the University of North Carolina (during which he took a three-day train trip to Utah to watch the Penn men's basketball team play in the 1979 Final Four), he considered becoming a prosecutor, "because prosecutors have all the power, and if you want to do social justice, it's nice to have power." But he was persuaded by his mentors to become a public defender, "which was obviously the right choice at the time."

Starting in 1983 as a Philadelphia public defender, Bookman quickly got a sense of how the system grinds through poor people. "It's

your job," he says, "to stop the grinder as best you can. It's not about systematic change; it's stopping injustice in your small corner of the world." Calling every day a "constant fight," he derived motivation from the Samuel Beckett quote: *"I can't go on; I'll go on."*

Bookman spent 27 years at the Defenders Association of Philadelphia, the last 17 in the homicide unit, before co-founding the Atlantic Center for Capital Representation, a hands-on litigation organiza-



tion based in Center City Philadelphia that provides free assistance to lawyers on capital cases. The nonprofit's goal, Bookman says, is to "reduce death sentences to such an extent the policy doesn't make sense anymore." Its slogan, which Bookman says came to him in his sleep, is: "Trying to put ourselves out of business since 2010."

Bookman is cautiously optimistic that day might come. His book ends on a hopeful note—executions and death sentences in the US have

dropped more than 75 percent from their highs of two decades ago. "And there is no evidence to suggest these trends will reverse themselves," he writes.

But there are still battles to be fought, even in his home state of Pennsylvania, which hasn't had an involuntary execution (on someone who gave up their appeals) in almost 60 years and is currently governed by an executive moratorium on the death penalty. (Two other states have imposed similar moratoria and 23 states have eliminated the death penalty entirely.) One of the most "outrageous" essays in his book tells the story of Terry Williams, whose execution the former Philadelphia district attorney tried to secure even though Williams, at 18, was convicted of murdering two older men who had sexually abused him as a minor. Larry Krasner, Philadelphia's current district attorney—who Bookman believes is "doing very good work" after being elected as a criminal justice reformer vowing never to seek the death penalty—has since moved Williams from death row to the general prison population.

"I think slowly but surely we're persuading the population this is not popular anymore," Bookman says. "And it's up to the population to persuade their elected officials that they don't want this." What's changed the most since support for the death penalty peaked in the mid-1990s—public opinion polls have showed its popu-

larity declining ever since—is "a really important recognition of systemic racism," Bookman adds. "And as reform prosecutors like Larry Krasner get elected, over the course of time we're going to see real change, decarceration, and much more social justice. And getting rid of the death penalty is fundamental to that movement."

While his book and his work focus primarily on people who have been wrongfully accused or wronged in other ways during their trials, the book's title and epigraph illuminate his moral stance on the death penalty even for those who committed the most heinous crimes in open-and-shut cases. He quotes Martin Luther King Jr.—"The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the thing it seeks to destroy"—and later, speaking passionately about being "on the right side of history," uses *The Lion King* as an analogy. Near the end of the Disney film, which he once used as a lesson for his children when they were growing up, the protagonist Simba has the chance to kill his father's killer, Scar, who asks Simba if he intends to do just that. "No, Scar, I'm not like you," Simba responds, banishing him from the kingdom rather than executing him.

"Simba's words are the right words," Bookman says. "Somewhere between the age of 6 and adulthood, we lose sight of the fact that it's not right to act like my clients acted on their worst day." —DZ



“Now that I’m retired, I find that I’m not missing corporate life at all and am relishing having more time to enjoy golfing, Zumba, and experimenting with new recipes.”

—Linda Walker CW’75

## 1948

**Marian Puro Froehlich FA’48** has been listed as a noteworthy sculptor by *Marquis Who’s Who* and has received its Women’s Lifetime Achievement Award. Some career highlights include winning first prize for sculpture from the New England Silvermine Guild, and first prize at a juried show at Western Carolina University. She writes, “My resume includes many New York shows.”

## 1953

**Richard A. Easterlin Gr’53** has written a new book, *An Economist’s Lessons on Happiness: Farewell Dismal Science!* From the book’s description: “[Easterlin] draws on a half-century of his own research and that conducted by fellow economists and psychologists to answer in plain language questions like: Can happiness be measured? Will more money make me happier? What about finding a partner? Getting married? Having a baby? ... Some of the answers are surprising (no, more money won’t do the trick; neither will economic growth; babies are a mixed blessing!), but they are all based on reason and well-vetted evidence from the fields of economics and psychology.”

## 1955

**H. John Henry W’55** shares that his latest writing—including editorials, poetry, and

plays—and his musical compositions can be found on his website, [portwhitmantimes.com](http://portwhitmantimes.com).

## 1958

**Alvino E. Fantini C’58** writes, “Hi to all my fellow alumni from UPenn. Although retired now from the SIT Graduate Institute in Brattleboro, Vermont, (and its division, the Experiment in International Living) I continue working as volunteer director of their institutional archives. During the past year, I also completed research that explored the nature of intercultural communicative competence and its development during intercultural exchange programs, and I assessed the impact of these experiences on the lives of both students and hosts. The results were published in the work, *Intercultural Communicative Competence in Educational Exchange: A Multinational Perspective* (Routledge, 2019). If you come to Vermont, please come and visit the SIT campus and the archives.”

**Paul L. Veeder II Ar’58 GA’59** writes, “I retired from formal practice a number of years ago. My career covered many interesting and varied projects, including 18 years with I. M. Pei & Partners, where I became interested in historic preservation and managed to take courses in this topic at Columbia University. This background landed me the position of project manager for the rehabilitation of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Other noteworthy projects for the firm were the National Airlines Terminal at JFK Airport and the Choate Rosemary Hall

## We Want to Hear from You

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Please include your school and year, along with your address and a daytime telephone number. We include email addresses only when requested or obviously implied.

**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.

Arts Center in Wallingford, Connecticut. After leaving the Pei organization, I worked for a number of large architectural and planning firms in New York but was called back to the firm once again by Mr. Pei’s sons. They had established their own practice, Pei Partnership, and there I became involved in the renovation of a historic landmarked residence in Greenwich Village and a laboratory at MIT in Boston. Nearing the end of my formal career I joined Goldstone & Hinz Architects, worked on the Seaciffs and Aquatheater exhibits at the New York Aquarium in Coney Island, and was put in charge of the design and construction of the Snow Leopard exhibit in New York City’s Central Park Zoo. My wife, Hadley, and I have lived in Rowayton, Connecticut, for 48 years and are involved with the Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum in Norwalk, where I serve on the board of trustees and am a member of the Curatorial and Building committees.

**Richard Saul Wurman Ar’58 GA’59**, an architect and graphic designer, exhibited a selection of more than 40 watercolors and 20 bronze sculptures at the Coral Gables Museum in Florida, August 6 through November 8. From the museum’s website: “Throughout his life, Richard Saul Wurman has challenged traditional forms of presenting and understanding facts. He has lectured extensively, and published nearly a hundred books on different subjects, with a focus on ‘information architecture’ (a term that he coined). He created an array of conferences where great minds from the most varied backgrounds converged, including the popular TED, from 1984 to 2002, and spinoff TEDMED Conferences from 1995 to 2010. ... [His] latest milestone is the Wurman Center for Understanding Understanding at RIT, Rochester Institute of Technology in New

York State, which is currently in development.” His book *Understanding Understanding* was reviewed in our Mar/Apr 2018 issue.

## 1962

**James E. Jones GFA’62**, a painter, print-maker, and retired professor of fine arts at Morgan State University, continues to be productive into his 80s. He writes, “I wanted you to know that even during the pandemic, after more than 60 years, I continue to make art. During the past several years, my partner Elva E. Tillman and I have produced several books, the latest being *Marches—Essays on My Participation in Major Marches for Civil Rights and Social Change From 1962–2015* (Senojé Consortium, 2019). We have moved to the Charlestown retirement village in Catonsville, Maryland. Here I have created a series of watercolors, which are being framed to show in the spring of 2022.” James has frequently exhibited and has been included in collections throughout the United States, Europe, Africa, and Guam.

## 1964

**Michael H. Levin C’64** and his partner **Nora Jean Bieler Levin CW’65** have coauthored a new book, *A Border Town in Poland: A 20th Century Memoir by Hirsch Bieler as told to Nora Jean and Michael H. Levin*. From the book’s description: “Hirsch Bieler’s memoir, dictated four decades ago, recounts a nimble émigré’s 30-year odyssey navigating life in the Polish–Prussian border town Grajewo, the Great War’s Eastern Front, Weimar Germany, the Third Reich, and British Palestine to eventual sanctuary in the U.S. His vivid experiences as teenage smuggler, fur trader, and petroleum entrepreneur, told in his own voice, are enriched by historical context, contemporaneous color images, and voices of friends and family writing from locations around the globe. They resonantly capture the people, places and tumultuous times when luck, timing and proper documents meant life or death. ‘Afterwords’ carries the story past the Holocaust and World War II, emphasizing how Hirsch’s formative experiences also shaped his century—and reflect themes common to emigrants today.”

**Helen Niemtzow Pratt GAR’64** has written a memoir, *Dinner with Eleanor*, described by publisher Post Hill Press as “a moving, generation-spanning saga which tracks Helen’s immigrant family history, as well as her own impressive life.” Helen met **Roger Pratt GAR’64**—son of famed political activist Trude Lash—at Penn’s Graduate School for Architecture and later married him. Through this connection, she shared an intimate meal with Trude’s close friend Eleanor Roosevelt.

## 1965

**Nora Jean Bieler Levin CW’65** see **Michael H. Levin C’64**.

## 1967

**Dr. Stuart Tobin C’67** has authored a second book, *The Bookworm and the Serpent*. He writes, “It chronicles the true, incendiary, and polarizing eight-year anguished struggle to establish a public library in my home of Madison County, Kentucky, in the 1980s. The angry, passionate opposition characterized the bookworm symbol as a snake and serpent to be crushed and destroyed for tempting the people of the community with a library providing access of information from the forbidden tree of knowledge.”

## 1969

**Lanny Moldauer C’69** writes, “I enlisted 100 fellow coaches from the Center for Creative Leadership, a national leader in executive coaching, to provide pro bono coaching for registered nurses on the frontlines of the COVID-19 crisis across America. I expected in March of 2020 that coaches would have more time on their hands, while nurses would become the most significant professionals helping manage the COVID crisis while confronting unparalleled workloads, stress, and personal threat. The pro bono provision of such services was largely directed at nurses in mid- to upper-level leadership positions that both best employed the executive coaching skills otherwise honed at companies such as Verizon, Fiat Chrysler, Raytheon, etc., and also extended the program’s

### Celebrate Your Reunion, May 13–16, 2022!

Penn Alumni is planning a combined reunion for those who missed theirs in 2020 and 2021, along with those celebrating reunions in 2022 (classes ending in 0, 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7). Visit [www.alumni.upenn.edu/alumniweekend](http://www.alumni.upenn.edu/alumniweekend) for more information.

effect to the largest number of nurses possible. The program I run is the single largest and most successful effort of its kind nationwide. **Bill Lipton W’69**, retired vice chairman of Ernst and Young, was of enormous help in providing some initial connections with nursing organizations. Kate Judge, former assistant dean of Penn’s number one-ranked School of Nursing, now executive director of the American Nurses Association’s Foundation, the ANA’s philanthropic arm, was similarly of great help.”

## 1970

**Charles “Ted” Gilmore W’70** writes, “I’ve put together a new book, *Franklin Field Saturdays: Celebrating 65 Years of Penn Football in the Ivy League (1956–2021)*. The book is a compilation of snapshots, narrative and pictorial—i.e., a scrapbook—of 65 memorable Ivy League football games played at Franklin Field since the conference began round-robin play in 1956. It is meant to celebrate the 65th anniversary of Penn football in the Ivy League. It also pays homage to the glory and majesty of the grand old stadium at 33rd and Spruce Streets in Philadelphia. The book is published by Shorehouse Books and has been described as ‘a real treat for followers of Penn Football.’ It can be purchased on Amazon.”

## 1971

**Dayton Duncan C’71** has written the script of Ken Burns’s upcoming film biography of Benjamin Franklin, to be broadcast nationally on PBS in April 2022. Dayton writes, “Franklin was even more fascinating to me, 50 years after my graduation, than he was when I was at Penn and only occasionally paused to contemplate his statue in the center of campus. He was a world-class scientist and inventor, a civic leader always looking for ways to improve the lives of everyday people, an incredibly witty and profound writer, a reluctant revolutionary who nonetheless became an indispensable founder of a new nation, our first (and possibly greatest) diplomat, and so much more. At the same time, he seems to have a lot to say that reverberates

even today—whether it's about inoculations, the value of an efficient postal system, the foibles of human nature, or the inherent fragility of our country's experiment in democracy.”

**Ethelea Reisner Katzenell CW'71** writes, “I took a B.A. in Middle East studies as preparation for my move to Israel. I've been living in the biblical oasis, capital of the Negev Desert, Be'er-Sheva, since 1972. I worked 45 years as a librarian at the Ben-Gurion University and retired in 2017 to do Hebrew/English translated and academic editing in English from home. I created a huge English website all about Be'er-Sheva, entitled 'My Be'er-Sheva' (beer-shevabiblicalaoasismetropolis.com)—all are welcome! My four adult children, four grandsons, and one granddaughter were all born here, where Abraham the Patriarch chose, like me, to reside and welcome his guests, as I'd welcome you (once COVID-19 is behind us all). I enjoy swimming daily, dancing, singing, and performing with Cantacapella classical choir ([www.facebook.com/Cantacapella-Choir](http://www.facebook.com/Cantacapella-Choir)), and I'm a member of the English poets' society 'Voices Israel.'” Ethelea shares this poem, titled “My oasis in Be'er-Sheva”: “To awaken to the lovely sound / Of birds in early song, / To the touch of sunlight, / Warm on my cheek, / To rise in tranquility / And gladly face the day. / The cool morning breeze / Blowing the past behind me. / My home, private garden, / Sanctuary, safe-haven, Eden.”

## 1972

**Richard Bank L'72** has written a new book, *The Tree of Sorrow: Growing Up in the Shadow of the Holocaust*. This is the third book in his Holocaust trilogy, which also includes *Feig* and *I am Terezin*. He writes, “This memoir concludes with my first week at Penn Law as the '60s came to an end. I live in the suburbs of Philadelphia and intend to officially retire from the practice of law next summer, marking 50 years, but I am still writing and at work on my next book.” Richard is the author of nine books, has written one play, and has published over 100 articles, essays, short stories, and book reviews. He is a past president of the Philadelphia Writers' Conference and has taught writing courses at Penn, Temple University, and other venues.

## 1973

**Mark D. Dibner C'73** writes, “My years at Penn led to a wonderful career. Following my Penn BA and other degrees including a PhD in neuropharmacology and an MBA in technology management, I had the opportunity to help start the biotechnology industry in the United States and worldwide. That led to adjunct professorships in technology management at Wharton and at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, plus authoring 13 books on biotechnology and starting two companies on strategic planning in the biotech and life sciences industries. But life evolves. ... In 2003, my 13-year-old son Ned and I built a computer out of used parts ... and it actually worked. He said, ‘Dad, that was fun, but there are a lot of kids in my middle

school who cannot afford a home computer. Let's build some more and give the PCs to them.’ We filled our basement with computer parts and built 42 computers so that every honor roll student in his school would have a home computer. That was 18 years ago. We started Kramden Institute in our basement as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and it grew tremendously. I have volunteered to grow the company as board chairman, and we have 12 employees now and have had more than 4,000 volunteers; our ‘geeks’ work with us. Within the last two months, we have surpassed 42,500 computers awarded since 2003 and have just bought a 15,000-square-foot headquarters in Durham, North Carolina. See [www.kramden.org](http://www.kramden.org) for details. But in my opinion, my career started in my years at Penn. P.S. Kramden is ‘Ned/Mark’ spelled backwards.”

## Events

### METRO NEW JERSEY

Events are finally back in person! Please join us on November 18 at 7 p.m. for “Making the Most of Your Summer.” There will be some great tips for both high school and college students. Also this month, we will have our Penn Cares event at the community foodbank in Hillside, taking place November 20 at 8 a.m. December will bring a fabulous holiday baking workshop that you won't want to miss. Visit [www.pennclubmetronj.com](http://www.pennclubmetronj.com) to learn the latest on our activities, on our club, and to register for events. For more information, please contact club President Janet Pisansky C'91 at [jpisansky@burkepotenza.com](mailto:jpisansky@burkepotenza.com).

### PENNNYC

Join PennNYC and the Smithsonian Museum of Asian Art on December 1 at 6:30 p.m. for an exclusive virtual tour exploring Buddhist art. The creation of art is a universal human endeavor, but what connects artwork across cultures and what sets them apart? Investigate artworks from across Asia, exploring commonalities and differences in cultures, aesthetics, and ideas. Spots are limited, so please visit [penn.nyc](http://penn.nyc) to register for this event ASAP!

### UTAH

The Penn Club of Utah is proud to cohost the 10th Annual Penn/Wharton Sundance Schmooze, a gathering of entertainment industry professionals and friends of film, at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah. This complimentary event on January 22, from 4 to 6 p.m., features a panel discussion with noted alumni in the industry, moderated by Penn Cinema Studies Professor Peter Decherney, and accompanied by a catered cocktail party. Sponsored by the Penn Film and Media Pioneers, the event is cohosted by Penntertainment, the Penn/Wharton Club of Los Angeles, the Penn Club of Westchester and Rockland Counties, PennNYC, and the Wharton Media and Entertainment Network (a WCNY subgroup). For a recap of our 2020 event, visit [bit.ly/PennSundance](http://bit.ly/PennSundance). For updates on the 2022 Penn/Wharton Sundance Schmooze, follow the Penn Club of Utah website ([bit.ly/PennUtah](http://bit.ly/PennUtah)) and the Penntertainment Facebook page ([facebook.com/Penntertainment](https://facebook.com/Penntertainment)), or email PennNYC board member Jesse Tendler EAS'03 W'03 ([jesse@penn.nyc](mailto:jesse@penn.nyc)).

### VIRTUAL

In light of ongoing global health concerns, visit [www.alumni.upenn.edu/clubs](http://www.alumni.upenn.edu/clubs) to find the latest information on Regional Club events in your area. And be sure to check out [www.alumni.upenn.edu/govirtual](http://www.alumni.upenn.edu/govirtual) for an abundance of virtual events and digital resources available for alumni.



**Christine Bebel Garst CW'73** of Olympia, Washington, writes, "Among the many things for which I am grateful to Penn, one that has shaped my 'extracurricular' life for all these years has been active involvement in electoral politics. I met my husband **Sam Garst C'73** campaigning for anti-war candidates after the student strike in the spring of 1970, and we never stopped. I have served in just about every role in my local Democratic party, stuffed innumerable envelopes, made phone calls until hoarse, and knocked on many doors. Sam ran for legislative office three times (and lost each time); I helped recruit and organize volunteers. After Sam passed away in 2013, I continued on, despite huge disappointments and even personal attacks. Nowadays, I split my time between Washington (a blue state) and Arizona (reddish-purple). I am looking forward to sharing war stories at our 50th Reunion, May 13-14, 2023. More than a dozen of us already met via Zoom in June to get started, and there's lots more opportunity for input. Be in touch at [reunion@ben.dev.upenn.edu](mailto:reunion@ben.dev.upenn.edu). Serve on a committee, send us ideas, plan to attend—it will be fun!"

## 1974

**Richard Donze C'74** writes, "I continue to work as a physician executive at Chester County Hospital in West Chester, Pennsylvania, part of the Penn Health System since 2013. For the last 30-plus years, I have also been writing medical poetry that has appeared in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, the *Journal of Medical Humanities* and three anthologies of physician poetry (English major thing, old habits die hard). I am now happy to announce that I have recently collected a number of my medical and nonmedical poems into a book, titled *The Natural Order of Things*, which is scheduled for publication this November from Finishing Line Press. And even though I trembled to submit this 'paper' to someone in the English department for the first time since senior year, happily Kelly Writers House faculty director and English professor Al Filreis reviewed the manuscript and wrote a cover blurb. Aspiring to the need for thematic unity I learned about

in Bennett Hall, I curated/selected the pieces (both medical and nonmedical, some of the latter previously published) to relate with varying degrees of fit to an overarching motif about birth and death and cycles, mostly in the nature we know with intimations about order in a larger universe. Babies being born and older people dying conform to this natural order, the former of course usually welcomed and joyful and the latter often unwelcomed and sorrowful, even if expected. But there are some deaths we would characterize as premature and, perhaps, unnatural or outside the flow of that order, although a personified Nature might think otherwise—if they occurred, they were natural. One of the opening poems ('local strawberries') is a carpe diem-ish intentional homage/imitation of another perennially celebrated Penn alum, **W. C. Williams M1906 Hon'52**, and the closer ('my umbilicus') a literal navel contemplation riff on something a macrobiotic teacher once said about how the body has to die so the spirit can be born. A physician-poet friend told me that after decades of publishing individual poems, it was about time I collected my work; I asked him, 'What was the rush?' I hope you get a chance to check it out."

## 1975

**Linda Walker CW'75** writes, "Upon my retirement from Citi, it was great that Citi paid tribute to my being the 'Name That's Synonymous with Citi Cards,' stating in an internal article, 'When it comes to making a name for herself, Linda Walker has set the bar pretty high. Her name is ubiquitous in its appearance on Citi branded cards featured on TV, in digital marketing, in print, and as part of marketing mailers for the last three decades.' You can see examples of my name on sample credit cards on Citi's website, [citi.com/credit-cards](http://citi.com/credit-cards). Now that I'm retired, I find that I'm not missing corporate life at all and am relishing having more time to enjoy golfing, Zumba, and experimenting with new recipes. I'm so looking forward to being able to see more of grandson McIntyre (Mac) in Oregon and granddaughter Phoenix in Atlanta. I'm also excited about relocating from New Jersey to Florida (with husband Steve and rescue cats Ricky and Lucy) in late 2021."

### Celebrate Your Reunion, May 13–16, 2022!

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**Elliott Weiss C'75 W'75 WG'76 G'78 Gr'80** has retired as the Oliver Wight Professor of Business Administration at the Darden School of the University of Virginia. He writes, "After 40-plus years of teaching and writing, I am looking forward to spending more time with my family and grandchildren and traveling in the post-COVID world."

## 1976

**Michael P. Malloy L'76** writes, "In early May, Wolters Kluwer published the third of five 2021 supplements for my three-volume treatise *Banking Law and Regulation*. In 422 pages, the supplement provides new and updated legislative, regulatory, and case law developments in financial services regulation. Among other things, it includes discussion of further mitigation of rules in response to the pandemic crisis and the consolidation of national bank and federal savings association regulations by the Comptroller of the Currency, who regulates both types of institutions."

**Robert E. Stillman G'76 Gr'79**, an English professor at the University of Tennessee, has written a new book, *Christian Identity, Piety, and Politics in Early Modern England*. From the book's description: "Robert E. Stillman explores the identity of 'Christians without names,' as well as their agency as cultural actors in order to recover their consequence for early modern religious, political, and poetic history."

**Donna L. Torrisi G'Nu'76** writes, "In 1992 I started a community health center serving low-income communities in Philadelphia, which grew to five sites, serving 25,000 people and providing a full gamut of primary care, behavioral health services, dental care, and a myriad of other wellness programs for our patients. Though I retired as executive director in 2019, the Family Practice & Counseling Network is still thriving. During my stay as executive director for 29 years, as a nurse practitioner, I always maintained a small clinical practice. I noticed that many of my female patients had tattoos that told a story of trauma and for them supported healing and redemption. About six years ago, I pledged to do a story

about these brave and inspiring women. In October, She Writes Press/Spark Publishing published my book, *Tattoo Monologues: Indelible Marks on the Body and Soul*. It is a large, hardcover book consisting of stories and black-and-white photographs of 29 women whom I interviewed, including several trauma experts, and it includes a clinical piece written by a professor of social work for each story. The extensive forward is written by an internationally known psychiatrist for her work in the area of trauma, Dr. Sandra Bloom."

## 1977

**Joyce White G'77 Gr'86** has been named a Friend of Thai Science 2020 by Thailand's Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research, and Innovation. Joyce is an adjunct professor of anthropology at Penn, founder and executive director of the Institute for Southeast Asian Archaeology, and a consulting scholar at the Penn Museum. She writes, "The award recognizes my decades of research into the archaeology of Thailand, especially on the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Ban Chiang. With collaborators, I've been publishing a monograph suite on the ancient metallurgy of Ban Chiang and other Thai prehistoric sites, via Penn Press, with three volumes out and a fourth expected in the fall. Recently I coauthored 'The Metal Age of Thailand and Ricardo's Law of Comparative Advantage' in the journal *Archaeological Research in Asia*. I also have been conducting archaeological research in Laos since 2001, the Middle Mekong Archaeological Project, and am so far the first and only American archaeologist to establish a field research program in that country. I'm also the happy owner of a 125-year-old house in University City, on a lovely tree-lined block with a close community of neighbors."

## 1978

**Vincent T. Lombardo C'78** was the recipient of a Cleveland Italian American Heritage Month Award in the category of "Public Servant, State of Ohio." Vincent, a retired attorney, received the award at an event in October, which the city recognizes as Italian American

Heritage Month. The award was presented by the Cleveland Italian American Heritage Committee in partnership with the Cleveland Mayor's Office and Cleveland City Council.

## 1979

**Anthony B. Haller GL'79**, a partner at Blank Rome LLP, has been appointed to serve as a public trustee of the American Inns of Court Foundation. American Inns of Court are groups of law professionals who gather to improve the skills, professionalism, and ethics of the bench and bar. At Blank Rome, Anthony concentrates his practice on all aspects of labor and employment law.

**Joyce E. Zonana G'79 Gr'85**, a professor emerita at the City University of New York, is currently teaching an online course, titled An Introduction to Arab Jewish Literature, through 92U, the online learning program from the 92nd Street Y. The course runs from November 4 through December 2. More information can be found at [bit.ly/3tJ7J96](http://bit.ly/3tJ7J96).

## 1980

**Dr. Colin F. Burrows V'80**, a professor emeritus and former chair of the department of small animal clinical sciences at the University of Florida's College of Veterinary Medicine, has been awarded an honorary doctorate by his alma mater, the Royal Veterinary College at the University of London. The award is in recognition of his contributions to global veterinary medicine. Colin is a past president of the World Small Animal Veterinary Association, founder and former CEO of the North American Veterinary Community, and an honorary life member of several international veterinary associations.

## 1981

**Susan Smith Grant G'Nu'81** of Pensacola, Florida, writes, "I am a retired nurse of many hats. I have worked in medical/surgical, neonatal ICU, rehabilitation, perinatal (where I have my master's degree), hospital administration, newborn nursery, nursing home, and school nursing. I served in the US Air Force

## ALUMNI IN BUSINESS

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Reserve for 27 years (as a flight nurse for 20 and in nursing administration for seven), retiring as a colonel in 2006. I have a daughter who is a social worker in medical research. I retired in 2010, became a full-time RVer, traveling north to south, east to west in this beautiful country and enjoying every minute of it."

**Michael Kelley C'81**'s book *The Lost Theory* was published on September 21. His former English professor at Penn, Vicki Mahaffey, who now teaches English and gender and women's studies at the University of Illinois, wrote the following review: "This wildly imaginative novel set amid the mountains of Nepal culminates in a burst of sublime illumination that reveals how poetic, scientific, and spiritual truths converge. The reader is both elevated and grounded as the characters learn the joy of living in a perpetual present. The story is told with delightful candor, humor, and deep feeling. An inspirational experience." More information about Michael's book can be found at [michaelkelleyauthor.com](http://michaelkelleyauthor.com).

**John McGonagle G'81** writes, "I've now retired from the competitive intelligence

profession and as managing partner of the Helicon Group, and I'd like to announce that my first one-act play, *Mirrors*, is one of four category finalists in the Shawnee [Pennsylvania] Original Playwrights Short Play Festival. The festival received over 200 submissions for its three separate categories. *Mirrors* is a reflection (sorry) on the observation that the intelligence profession is a wilderness of mirrors. I showed the first draft to my wife of 50 years, Carolyn Vella, who told me it was terrible. So, I rewrote it. Funny, the same thing happened with my first book where she (correctly) marked the draft first chapters of that as 'BS.' Again, she was right."

## 1983

**Barratt H. Jaruzelski W'83** has been elected vice chairman of the Morris Museum's board of trustees. Barratt writes, "The Morris Museum is New Jersey's second-largest museum and the only Smithsonian Affiliate Museum in the state.

The museum's mission is the exploration of art, sound, and motion through multiple artistic media along with the performing arts."

**Randy Malamud C'83**, Regents' Professor of English at Georgia State University, has published his 11th book, *Strange Bright Blooms: A History of Cut Flowers* (Reaktion and University of Chicago Press, 2021), which he describes as "a picaresque ramble through the world of flowers, encompassing paintings, murals, fashion, public art, glass flowers, pressed flowers, flowery church hats, weaponized flowers, deconstructed flowers, racist and homophobic flowers, flower power, and much more."

## 1986

**Peter Kulik EE'86** has been honored with the naming of a new award from the ATM Industry Association (ATMIA), the Peter Kulik Innovation Award. CEO of ATMIA Mike Lee says, "Next Gen ATMs are really the brainchild of Peter Kulik and the growing integration of ATMs into the mobile-digital world is now becoming an unstoppable movement. The new award pays tribute not just to Peter as a thought leader, but to all future winners of the award who will continue to push forward the boundaries of innovation." Peter chaired ATMIA's Next Gen ATM Architecture committee, which developed the original industry RFI (Request for Information) and vision for a Next Gen ATM and oversaw the creation of its first blueprint.

## 1987

**Clint Arthur W'87** published his 20th book, *Wisdom of the Men* ([www.is.gd/wisdomofthemen](http://www.is.gd/wisdomofthemen)). Clint writes, "It includes real-life stories of success lessons from Penn's late sociology professor **E. Digby Baltzell W'39 Hon'89**, executive education professor Charles Dwyer, the late Wharton Entrepreneurship lecturer Myles Bass, my fraternity brothers in the Castle, and 45 'unicorns of popular culture,' including **Dr. Mehmet Oz M'86 WG'86** (aka "Dr. Oz"), Mike Tyson, Mick Jagger, Andy Warhol, Halston, George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, **Donald Trump W'68**, Jimmy Carter, and Joe Biden Hon'13.

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My wife Ali and I now enjoy spending our time between homes in Los Angeles, New York, and our villas in Acapulco's famous Las Brisas."

**Michael Raposa Gr'87**, professor of religion and American studies at Lehigh University, has written a new book, *Theosemiotic: Religion, Reading, and the Gift of Meaning*. From the book's description: "Michael Raposa uses Charles Peirce's semiotic theory to rethink certain issues in contemporary philosophical theology and the philosophy of religion. ... Drawing on Peirce's ideas, Raposa develops a semiotic conception of persons/selves emphasizing the role that acts of attention play in shaping human inferences and perception. His central Peircean presuppositions are that all human experience takes the form of semiosis and that the universe is 'perfused' with signs. Religious meaning emerges out of a process of continually reading and re-reading certain signs."

## 1988

**Maura McCaffery C'88** has been promoted to vice president and general counsel of EBI Consulting, a company that provides environmental risk and compliance management services. In this role, she oversees all aspects of EBI's legal functions and serves as a member of EBI's leadership team. She is based out of the firm's Burlington, Massachusetts, headquarters.


## 1990

**Galit Chinitz-Rich C'90** see **David S. Rich C'91**.

## 1991

**David S. Rich C'91** writes, "I recently wrote and published my first book, *Executives and Professionals in New York: Your Rights at Work* (Jacobs & Whitehall 2020). I authored this book to fill a gaping need for a written guide that's aimed at explaining to white-collar professionals their constantly evolving rights and responsibilities in the workplace. The book can be ordered online at Amazon." David, an employ-


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ment and business litigation attorney, is the founder of the Law Offices of David S. Rich LLC in New York and in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey. David, his wife **Galit Chinitz-Rich C'90**, and their four children (ages 17, 15, 13, and 13) live in northern New Jersey.

## 1992

**Jonathan Blum C'92** has been appointed principal deputy administrator and chief operating officer at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) by President Joe Biden Hon '13. CMS is an operating division within the US Department of Health and Human Services. Jonathan writes, "My wife Wendy and I live in the Washington, DC, area. I look forward to connecting with other Penn alumni serving in the Biden-Harris Administration."

**Jerrilyn McGregory Gr'92**, an English professor at Florida State University, has written a new book, *One Grand Noise: Boxing Day in the Anglicized Caribbean World*. From the book's description: "Based on ethnographic study undertaken by McGregory, *One Grand Noise* explores Boxing Day as part of a creolization process from slavery into the twenty-first century. ... [She] negotiates the ways in which Boxing Day has expanded from small communal traditions into a common history of colonialism that keeps alive a collective spirit of resistance."

## 1993

**Jeffrey Harlan C'93** writes, "In November, I was elected to the Costa Mesa City Council. I also earned the distinction of being the first councilmember to represent the city's Eastside (District 6). This was a tremendous team effort during unusual circumstances—campaigning during a pandemic certainly had its challenges—and I am especially grateful for the encouragement and support of my family and friends, AEPi brethren, and Penn classmates."

**Derek M. Stikeleather C'93** has been named chair of the Appellate Practice Group at the law firm Goodell DeVries.

**David Wyshner WG'93** has been appointed chief financial officer at Kyndryl, an independent managed infrastructure ser-

vices business spinoff of IBM. Prior to this appointment, he was CFO of XPO Logistics and CFO of Wyndham Hotels and Resorts.

## 1994

**Dr. Adam Scioli C'94** has been appointed medical director and head of psychiatry at Caron Treatment Centers in Wernersville, Pennsylvania. Adam writes, "It's an exciting time at Caron as we continue to evolve the medical treatment of substance use disorder as a brain disease integrated with our amazing team of specialists in behavioral, spiritual, and psychological health. I encourage anyone interested in addiction and behavioral health to check out the website at [www.caron.org](http://www.caron.org)."

## 1995

**David Mays EAS'95** has created a video to summarize the literature linking diverse teams with better outcomes, with support from the US National Science Foundation. He writes, "The bottom line is that diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) is a win-win." There is a full 18-minute version of the video ([youtu.be/McbJDqIhxSE](https://youtu.be/McbJDqIhxSE)) and a shorter three-minute trailer ([youtu.be/T3ME84vQCVg](https://youtu.be/T3ME84vQCVg)), both of which are on the YouTube channel [bit.ly/learningmodules](https://bit.ly/learningmodules). David is a professor of civil engineering at the University of Colorado Denver and welcomes feedback via [david.mays@ucdenver.edu](mailto:david.mays@ucdenver.edu).

**Cathie Henry Rosado W'95** is a corporate controller working in central Pennsylvania and has recently published *Choosing Plan A: A Mother's Adventure with Adoption, Acceptance After Miscarriage, and Acknowledging the Miracle of Children*, available on Amazon.

## 1996

**Dan Gingiss C'96** has written a new book, *The Experience Maker: How to Create Remarkable Experiences That Your Customers Can't Wait to Share*. From the book's description: "Instead of spending more money on marketing trying to acquire new customers, what if you focused on providing your existing customers a remarkable experience? Do so and

they will become your best marketers." More information is available at [dangingiss.com](http://dangingiss.com).

## 1997

**Shannon Bisbee Johnson C'97** writes, "I am proud to announce the launch of MeridaSKIN, the clean-clinical skincare line I spent several years developing to solve my own problem with rosacea. I didn't imagine the road to market would weave through home-schooled kids and disrupted supply chains, but I'm glad I kept at it even when the spark was hard to find. I live in Salem, Massachusetts, with my husband and two kids and still love to work as much as I can as a nurse practitioner in urgent care. I have strong clinical and cosmetic formulating skills, but lots to learn about business and marketing, so I'm grateful to anyone who takes time to check out [meridaskin.com](http://meridaskin.com) and sends along advice! You can find me in the MyPenn directory and I'd love to hear from friends old and new."

**Heather D. Wathington GEd'97** has been appointed CEO of iMentor, a national mentoring organization. She was most recently head of Girard College. In a press release, Heather stated, "I've dedicated my career to working on behalf of young people, particularly young people of color and first-generation college students. As an educator and researcher, I seek interventions that work for all types of students and that have tangible outcomes. And that is what I see in iMentor and why I am so excited to join this team."

## 1999

**Jacqueline Berkell Friedland C'99 L'00** has written a new novel, *He Gets That from Me*. From the book's description: "With the number of states legalizing surrogacy on the rise, the delicate process is becoming an option for more and more families trying to conceive. But what happens when 10 years later, you discover your child might not be who you thought they were?" The book follows protagonist Maggie Fisher, who answers an ad offering thousands of dollars to be a surrogate mother and is then called back to the fertility clinic when her DNA test is in question.

## 2000

**Dr. Jillian Lucas Baker C'00 CGS'01** writes, "In September, I celebrated 16 years of marriage to my husband. Our twins, Gavin and Jemma, are 10, and our youngest, Amari, just turned four. I am starting a new professional role as the new research director of the Center for Parent and Teen Communication at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). In addition, I am the cohost of *A Tribe Called Fertility*, a maternal health and fertility podcast for women of color. Our mission is to provide support and possible solutions to decrease birth disparities for Black babies and maternal mortality outcomes for Black women. The journey of our show was featured in the July 17 issue of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* (bit.ly/3lia2fc). Please feel free to check out our website, [atribecalledfertility.com](http://atribecalledfertility.com)."

**Dara Lovitz C'00**, an attorney, professor, and cofounder of the Peace Advocacy Network, has written a fourth book, *Gag Reflections: Conquering a Fear of Vomit Through Exposure Therapy*, cowritten with her therapist, Dr. David Yusko. From the book's description: "Part-memoir, part clinical history, Dara Lovitz's brutally honest account of her life as an emetophobe traces her journey from debilitating phobia to life in recovery." She was profiled in our Mar/April 2011 issue about her work as an animal advocate and her first book, *Muzzling A Movement: The Effects of Anti-Terrorism Law, Money, and Politics on Animal Activism*.

**Ruth Jones Nichols SW'00** has been named chief movement officer at Feeding America, a hunger-relief organization. She has more than 25 years of leadership experience in the nonprofit sector and most recently served as president and CEO of the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore, a member of the Feeding America network. She will be based in the organization's Washington, DC, office.

**Jason R. Vollbracht C'00 EAS'00** has joined the international law firm Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP as a partner in its tax practice, based in Silicon Valley.

## 2003

**Stephanie M. Langin-Hooper C'03** writes,

"I am writing to share the belated but joyful news that on July 25, 2018, my husband Dave and I welcomed our second son, Jeremiah 'Remy' Charles Stanton. He is now a charming three-year-old who loves dinosaurs, bike rides, and playing with his big brother Myer (age five). My recent professional accomplishments include the publication of my book, *Figurines in Hellenistic Babylonia: Miniaturization and Cultural Hybridity* (Cambridge University Press, 2020), and my promotion to associate professor with tenure in the art history department at Southern Methodist University, where I was also named as the 2021–2022 Meadows School of the Arts Distinguished Teaching Professor."

**Tamara Weiss Levine C'03** has been promoted to partner at Keith Family Law, a law firm located in Westfield, New Jersey. She represents clients in all aspects of divorce and family law. Tamara resides in New Jersey with her husband and two daughters and welcomes alumni contact at [tamara682@gmail.com](mailto:tamara682@gmail.com).

**Brian Michael C'03** writes, "I just released my second book, *The Philadelphia Eagles—a photo history book telling the story of football in the city with sources from players, owners, and fans*. It includes some never-before-published photos, material from Penn's University Archives, and a foreword by Ray Didinger. It is available at my store in Philadelphia's Center City, Shibe Vintage Sports ([bit.ly/3mU0Nok](http://bit.ly/3mU0Nok))."

## 2005

**Lesley Horton Campbell C'05** has been elected to the New York City Bar Association's board of directors. In addition, the real estate trade publication *GlobeSt* named her a 2021 Retail Influencer. The publication's annual list honors "professionals who are making an impact on the business through their decisions and contributions." Lesley was also recently named to the National Black Lawyers Top 100 list. She serves as general counsel and senior vice president of talent engagement and office relations at the International Council of Shopping Centers.

**Matt Kedziora GGS'05** is the lead terrestrial biologist for the US Navy at Naval Base Guam. He writes, "As a civil servant I am proud to be responsible for the planning

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and conservation for a variety of flora and fauna in the western Pacific, supporting the mission of the US Navy."

**Beth Pollack Perkel C'05** has published her first book, *Light at the Beginning of the Tunnel: Wiring Our Children for Happiness*. She writes, "The book lays out how families can work on building happiness into their daily lives from the standpoints of mind, action, and environment. The concepts are taught through the prism of Jewish wisdom and sources. I wrote for the *Daily Pennsylvanian* during all of my years at Penn and went on to continue my writing career after I graduated." Beth's work has appeared in over a dozen national and international publications as well as bestselling story and essay anthologies.

## 2006

**Margaret H. Greenberg CGS'06** has published her second book, *The Business of Race: How to Create and Sustain an Antiracist Workplace and Why It's Actually Good for Business* (McGraw-Hill, August 2021). She writes, "Penn's University chaplain and vice president of social equity and community **Rev. Charles 'Chaz' Lattimore Howard C'00**, who read an advance copy of the book, had this to say: 'Symbols are important. The curated statements and actions employed by businesses around the world in response to the mass movements demanding social change have indeed been powerful. And yet, symbols are most effective when they reflect sincere policy and cultural changes in institutions. *The Business of Race* will help companies and their leaders do just that. If you are serious about doing more than just posting the right phrases on social media or making a few new hires, and if you truly want your workplace to be not just diverse, but a space of equity, inclusion, and justice—then this is the book for you.' I am white and my coauthor, Gina Greenlee, is Black. We met in the workplace more than two decades ago and have remained friends ever since. The murder of George Floyd on May 25, 2020, sparked a phone call between us, which led to coauthoring a series of articles for LinkedIn, called 'The Workplace is the Perfect Place

to Discuss the Undiscussables.' *The Business of Race* is an outgrowth of that work."

**Sujeet Indap WG'06**, a financial journalist at the *Financial Times*, has cowritten a new book, *The Caesars Palace Coup: How a Billionaire Brawl Over the Famous Casino Exposed the Power and Greed of Wall Street*, with Max Frumes. From the book's description: "The 2015 bankruptcy brawl for the storied casino giant, Caesars Entertainment, pitted brilliant and ruthless private equity legends against the world's most relentless hedge fund wizards."

## 2007

**Veyom Bahl C'07** has been awarded a Loeb Fellowship at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Prior to the Loeb Fellowship, he was a managing director at the Robin Hood Foundation, New York City's largest poverty fighting organization.

## 2008

**Meredith Levine Finn C'08** and **Steven Finn W'08 GEng'10 WG'16** write, "We are proud to announce the birth of our daughter, Hadley Breeze Finn, born June 1. Hadley has been busy playing with her new friends and family, including **Caren Levine W'81**, **Brian Finn W'82**, **Matthew Levine C'07**, **Lindsay Janowitz Levine C'07 L'10**, **Arden Resnick C'10**, **Marissa Finn Hersch C'12**, **Aileen Meshover Levine Nu'80 GNu'86**, **Lisa Finn WG'85**, **Jason Levine C'05 L'09**, **Evan Levine L'16 WG'16**, and **Brett Levine W'13**. Currently living nearby in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, Hadley and her three big siblings (Harper, six; Hudson, five; and Harris, three) love visiting Penn's campus."

## 2009

**Mariana Carlos-Ondrusek C'09** writes, "**Derek Ondrusek EAS'10 W'10** and I are delighted to announce the birth of our daughter, Isabella Valentina, on August 6 in Watertown, New York. She joins big sister Sofia, who has been taking her new job very seriously. We are looking forward to visiting Penn as a family of four in the not-so-distant future."

## 2010

**Harry S. Cherken Jr. LPS'10**, senior counsel at Faegre Drinker, has been appointed honorary consul of Armenia for the Greater Philadelphia area. According to the press release, in this role Harry will "facilitate economic, education and cultural exchanges between Armenia and Philadelphia; will endeavor to protect the interests of Armenian citizens while in Philadelphia; will support the Armenian diaspora community and organizations at large; and, will act as a liaison for official government and business delegations."

**Derek Ondrusek EAS'10 W'10** see **Mariana Carlos-Ondrusek C'09**.

**Justen H. Roth C'10** and **Alexandra E. Roth C'10** write, "We welcomed our second child, Max Bennett, to our family on September 4. Max was born at Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, New Jersey."

## 2011

**Rachel Baye C'11** reported an award-winning story for WYPR, the Maryland NPR station where she works. Her story, "Maryland Foster Children Stay in Hospitals Because They Have Nowhere Else to Go," won a 2021 National Edward R. Murrow Award from the Radio Television Digital News Association (RTDNA) in the category of "Large Market Radio Station: Hard News." Earlier this year, WYPR was honored with a RTDNA 2021 Regional Edward R. Murrow Award, in the category of "Hard News" for the same story. Rachel's reporting revealed the added trauma of Maryland's hard-to-place foster children who are languishing in hospitals, because there is nowhere to place them. The story originally aired on NPR's *Weekend Edition* in February 2020 and can be heard at [bit.ly/3zMpK8Y](https://bit.ly/3zMpK8Y). At Penn, Rachel was the executive editor of the *Daily Pennsylvanian* in 2010.

## 2017

**Sophie Beren C'17 SPP'17**, who was included in our feature on student mental health ["Wellness Warriors," Jan/Feb 2021], was featured on a billboard in New York's Times Square for her new Gen Z talk show at the Conversationalist called *POVz*. She writes,

"I host *POVz* each week on a trending, controversial topic impacting Gen Z. What makes our show different from any other show is that we break open echo chambers and have these conversations from multiple points of view. Topics from past episodes include: Do you support Black Lives Matter? Is America great? Should we cancel cancel culture? Through *POVz*, Gen Z is able to come together and unify despite their differences, beliefs, and opinions." The billboard can be viewed on Sophie's Instagram page, @sophieberen, and more information about the show can be found at [www.theconversationalist.com](http://www.theconversationalist.com).

**Levi Levenfiche C'17**, **Marisa Poster C'19**, and **Teddie Levenfiche C'19** have cofounded a matcha (powdered green tea) company called PerfectTed. Levi writes, "We started with a Kickstarter campaign ([bit.ly/3kRylAI](https://bit.ly/3kRylAI)) that was funded in less than 24 hours and have since built up a platform that provides wholesale matcha to the UK's leading restaurants, cafes, and hotels, as well as our product to retail consumers in leading UK supermarkets. Our next milestone is the launch of our carbonated matcha energy drinks, which are entirely plant-based and use real fruit! We are super excited about the journey we have been on and what is to come. Moreover, we are grateful for the preparation that Penn provided us with."

## 2018

**Octavia Daoxing Sun LPS'18**, corporate social responsibility analyst at Bank of the West, has joined the corporate leadership council of CHC: Creating Healthier Communities. The group, including top executives and practitioners from more than 25 global organizations, will work closely with CHC to advance corporate social responsibility (CSR), environmental, social and governance (ESG), and diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), and support emerging leaders.

## 2019

**Teddie Levenfiche C'19** see **Levi Levenfiche C'17**.

**Marisa Poster C'19** see **Levi Levenfiche C'17**.



# Penn Alumni Regional Clubs

*Extending Penn's Reach Across the World*



## Penn Club of Los Angeles

**ALUMNI CLUB AWARD OF MERIT** | The Penn Club of Los Angeles is honored to be the 2021 Alumni Club Award of Merit recipient. The club was selected for their impressive Board and dedicated leadership, their diverse event programming, and their innovation and creativity on social media and in email communications. In FY21, the club hosted numerous successful virtual events, including several featuring notable alumni. Some highlights include: a timely and topical discussion on the social justice movement around Black Lives Matter and racial inequity in America with Rolling Stone senior writer Jamil Smith, C'97; a book reading and Q&A with novelist Allison Winn Scotch, C'95, on her latest novel "Cleo McDougal Regrets Nothing"; and a conversation with Snap, Inc. senior advisor to the CEO Jared Grusd, C'97.



## Penn Club of the UK

**PENNOVATION AWARD** | The first ever Pennovation Award goes to the Penn Club of the UK. The Penn Club of the UK was selected for their innovative Art and Photography Challenge in honor of Ben Franklin's birthday. In collaboration with the Wharton Club of the UK, the Club invited alumni and families to share their work in five thematic categories: Nature, Community/Reunion, Humor, Holidays, and Art by Children. Entries were judged by Stephen Robert Morse, C'07, Managing Director of Lone Wolf Studios, and the winners were announced on Ben's Birthday. The effort proved to be extremely successful as the clubs received an astounding 77 submissions. They have continued to build on the success of this initiative by posting winning entries on their website and including an "Artwork of the Month" in each of their newsletters.



Experience the impact of Penn in *your* community.

See our listing of Penn alumni clubs and get involved: [www.alumni.upenn.edu/clubs](http://www.alumni.upenn.edu/clubs)

Over 120 Penn Alumni Regional Clubs around the world serve to bring the spirit of the University to their regions. Wherever you are, you're never far from another Penn alumnus or a Penn Club. In connecting the Penn community across the globe, clubs offer opportunities for fun and socializing, networking, learning, and collaborative initiatives that impact the people and communities where they live.

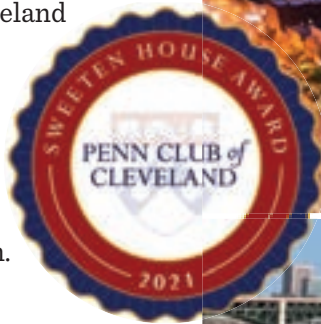
## Penn Club of Shanghai

**CIVIC HOUSE AWARD** | Congratulations to the Penn Club of Shanghai, recipient of the Civic House Award 2021. The Penn Club of Shanghai was selected for their commitment to prioritizing community service opportunities for alumni. Their impactful FY21 initiatives included collecting medical supplies for Wuhan and Penn Hospitals impacted by Covid-19, a quarterly Ivy Charity Run spotlighting health and wellness in which the proceeds are donated to a local charity, and their ongoing fundraisers for underprivileged schools, including an event in partnership with the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra and Museums which raised over \$30,000 USD was donated to set up a computer lab. The Penn Club of Shanghai sets the standard for civic engagement for all alumni clubs!



## Penn & Wharton Club of Cleveland

**SWEETEN AWARD** | The Penn & Wharton Club of Cleveland is the winner of the inaugural Sweeten Award for Engagement. The club seeks to engage the local alumni community through a range of social, cultural, and educational opportunities. In April 2021, Cleveland Browns Coach Kevin Stefanski, C'04 spoke about the NFL team and his time at Penn. We also enjoyed a virtual beer-tasting with a local brewer who had custom six-packs delivered to homes, and we learned about new initiatives at Cleveland State University from its president, Harlan Sands, W'84. Going forward, the club's board is planning a mix of in-person and online events designed to appeal to a broad spectrum of alumni in Northeast Ohio.





## 1942

**Dr. Joseph H. Groveman C'42 V'43**, New York, vice president of a clothing manufacturer; March 12, at 100. He served in the US Army Veterinary Corps during World War II.

## 1943

**Trudi S. Battershall FA'43 GFA'44**, Gettysburg, PA, an artist and arts educator; Dec. 10, 2019. She worked with ceramics, printmaking, and calligraphy.

## 1944

**Evelyn Buckley Lotz CW'44**, Warminster, PA, a homemaker who previously worked for Blue Cross; Aug. 15. At Penn, she was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority and the choral society.

## 1946

**Dr. Paul D. Griesmer W'46 GM'56**, Jensen Beach, FL, a retired obstetrician-gynecologist; July 3. He served in the US Navy during World War II. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and the swimming team.

## 1947

**C. Richard Friedrich W'47**, South Hadley, MA, a retired executive at a roofing and sheet metal contractor; April 22. At Penn, he was a member of Psi Upsilon fraternity.

**Frank J. Hoenemeyer Jr. WG'47**, North Chatham, MA, a retired financial and real estate investment executive; Aug. 25, at 101. He served in the US Army Air Corps. His children include Frank J. Hoenemeyer III WG'77, Marylyn T. Hoenemeyer WG'80, and David C. Hoenemeyer C'86.

**Helen "Lois" Smith Johnston HUP'47**, Swarthmore, PA, a former nurse working in obstetrics and radioisotope medicine; July 12.

**Janice Korman Marx CW'47 GEd'68**, Philadelphia, co-owner of a stationery and office supply business with her husband; July 14. Earlier, she was a guidance counselor at Philadelphia High School for Girls. At Penn, she was a member of Delta Phi Epsilon sorority. One son is Richard Marx Jr. C'79.

**Celia Ebert McQuale CW'47**, Charlottesville, VA, a retired social worker for New

York State; Aug. 9. At Penn, she was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. One son is Christopher A. McQuale EAS'86.

**Viola Howard Nichols DH'47**, Yellow Springs, OH, a retired dental hygienist; July 31, at 102. She served in the US Navy as a dental technician during World War II.

**Carlton W. Orchinik G'47**, Drexel Hill, PA, retired chief psychologist at the Municipal Court of Philadelphia, where he worked with at-risk adolescents; Aug. 7, at 100. He served in the US Navy as a communications officer during World War II.

**Margaret Ransburg Piper Ed'47**, Mequon, WI, a former kindergarten and piano teacher; May 5.

## 1948

**Margaret Seraphin Carnall Ed'48**, Rochester, NY, a retired fifth and sixth grade teacher; July 22. At Penn, she was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority, the *Daily Pennsylvanian*, WXPN, and Penn Players.

**Marshall L. Main W'48**, Fairview, TX, a retired securities analyst and stockbroker; May 21. He served in the US Army during World War II. At Penn, he was a member of the ROTC and the Glee Club.

**Eugenia Birdsall Stuart CW'48**, Dallas, Oct. 1. At Penn, she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

## 1949

**Camillus Kenihan Eisele CW'49**, Churchville, PA, a retired microbiologist; July 8.

**Alda Emerich Kerschner HUP'49**, Murrysville, PA, a retired elementary school nurse; July 24. From 1949 to 1953, she was head nurse of maternity at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

**Franklin H. Renninger Ed'49 GEd'50**, Lower Frederick Township, PA, retired owner of a supermarket; June 14. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity and the baseball team.

**Phoebe Friday Wald CW'49**, Carlsborg, WA, July 14.

## 1950

**James H. Gilford C'50**, Frederick, MD, retired chief of the environmental effects

## 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.

branch of what was then called the EPA Office of Toxic Substances; Aug. 19. At Penn, he was a member of Kappa Alpha Society fraternity.

**Richard A. Miller ChE'50**, Waynesboro, VA, a high school chemistry and physics teacher; April 29.

**Charles A. Szybist C'50**, Williamsport, PA, a retired attorney specializing in bankruptcy law; Feb. 3. He served in the US Air Force.

**Ellen Van Pelt Wells CW'50**, Philadelphia, a retired editor of the *Chestnut Hill Local*; Aug. 14. One son is William F. Newbold C'73.

## 1951

**Edward S. Alexander W'51**, Silver Spring, MD, a CPA; July 11. At Penn, he was a member of Pi Lambda Phi fraternity.

**Charles T. Baker Jr. GEE'51**, Croton-on-Hudson, NY, a retired electrical engineer at IBM; March 15, at 99. He served in the US Army as an electrical engineer during World War II.

**Marilyn Climensson Eubank Nu'51**, Charlottesville, VA, a retired educator who taught nursing; July 1.

**Gloria Ford Gilmer G'51**, Milwaukee, a mathematics professor at a number of colleges, including University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where she was the first African American lecturer in the math department; Aug. 25. She was a pioneer in the field of ethnomathematics.

**Donald R. Inglis W'51**, Poland, OH, a retired accountant; July 13. He served in the US Army Counterintelligence Corps. At Penn, he was a member of Psi Upsilon fraternity.

**Hyman Lovitz W'51**, Warminster, PA, an attorney; Dec. 28, 2019. One son is Michael L. Lovitz C'86.

**Clifford D. Mansley Sr. W'51**, Lake Oswego, OR, cofounder of Heirloom Artists Calligraphers with his wife; May 25. He also participated, volunteered, and worked professionally with the Cascade Pacific Council (Boy Scouts of America) for more than 80 years. He served in the US Navy.



**Louis Savrin L'51**, New York, a retired attorney; Dec. 25, 2019. He served in the US Army during World War II. At Penn, he was an associate editor of the *Law Review*.

**Hon. Alan J. White W'51**, Alpharetta, GA, a retired administrative law judge for the Social Security Administration in Atlanta; June 20. He served in the US Navy.

## 1952

**Virginia Bullard Byers Nu'52 GED'60**, Jamesville, NY, a professor emerita of nursing at SUNY Upstate Medical University; Aug. 6.

**Harry Citron SW'52**, Baltimore, a former elder care consultant; May 5.

**Ellen Williams Ervin CW'52 G'57**, Kennett Square, PA, a retired computer systems analyst for the New York Department of Transportation; June 12. She also worked as a professor of Turkish at New York University.

**Samuel Giberga ChE'52**, New Orleans, retired president of a synthetic fibers company headquartered in San José, Costa Rica; Aug. 6. At Penn, he was a member of Kappa Alpha Society fraternity.

**Joseph E. Greene Jr. W'52 L'57**, Malvern, PA, a retired attorney specializing in estate law; Aug. 26. He served in the US Army JAG Corps during the Korean War. At Penn, he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity and the ROTC.

**Alfred B. Light GED'52**, South Burlington, VT, retired president of Clinton Community College (NY); July 5. He served in the US Army during World War II.

**Nancy Frank Offner Ed'52**, Hatboro, PA, June 25, 2020. At Penn, she was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

**Albert P. Riloff W'52**, Hingham, MA, a former salesman at Milprint Packaging; Jan. 27.

**Dr. Ernest B. Spangler Jr. M'52**, Colfax, NC, a retired radiologist and educator; November 11, 2020. His wife is Jean Martin Spangler HUP'49 Nu'52.

**Doris Falkenstein Steerman Ed'52**, Philadelphia, a retired reading specialist in the Philadelphia School District; July 22, 2020. At Penn, she was a member of Delta Phi Epsilon sorority and WXPn.

**Kenneth Syken L'52**, Sarasota, FL, a retired attorney; May 25. He served in the US Army in the Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps.

## 1953

**Rev. Robert V. Hotchkiss C'53 G'73**, Harrisburg, PA, a Presbyterian pastor; Aug. 21. He served as chaplain in the US Army Reserve for nearly 20 years.

**Donn P. Slonim W'53 L'56**, Anderson, IN, a retired lawyer; July 14.

## 1954

**Norman J. Scheer W'54**, West Orange, NJ, an advertising executive; June 16. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Kappa Nu fraternity and the golf team. One daughter is Lisa B. Scheer C'82.

**Stephen L. Stamm ME'54**, Merion Station, PA, a retired aerospace program manager for General Electric; June 30. He later taught physics at the Agnes Irwin School, an all-girls college preparatory school in Bryn Mawr, PA. Born in Berlin, he and his family escaped Germany during the onset of the Holocaust and settled in Philadelphia.

## 1955

**J. Kennedy "Ken" W. Barclay CE'55 GCE'69**, Bryn Mawr, PA, retired CEO of the Warfield Company, an international specialty coatings and resins company; July 3. He served in the US Navy. At Penn, he was a member of Delta Psi fraternity. His wife is Marguerite Smiles Barclay CW'58, and one daughter is Margaret E. Barclay GAR'85.

**Barbara Smith DiPietro CW'55**, Metuchen, NJ, a retired middle school science teacher; March 30, 2020.

**Dr. Elliott J. Gordon C'55 D'57**, Manchester Center, VT, a retired pediatric dentist; June 10. He also taught dentistry at Fairleigh Dickinson University. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity.

**Saul M. Luria Gr'55**, Boynton Beach, FL, July 1.

**Rosemary T. Rath Nu'55 GNu'63**, Whitehall, PA, retired director of information and referral at the Lehigh County Mental Health Program; July 19.

**Dr. Francis O. Webb D'55**, Bellevue, WA, a retired dentist; July 2. He served in the US Navy during World War II.

## 1956

**Lester V. Baum W'56**, Dallas, a retired real estate attorney; July 3, 2020. At Penn, he was a member of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity, Friars Senior Society, and Mask & Wig.

**Clement F. Wasleski Jr. Ar'56**, Margate City, NJ, an architect; July 20. He served in the US Air Force.

## 1957

**Isaac Clothier IV L'57**, Bryn Mawr, PA, a retired attorney; Aug. 16.

**Barbara Janson Cohen CW'57**, Broomall, PA, a retired professor at Delaware County Community College; July 7. She also played the flute in the Delaware County Symphony for over 40 years. Her husband is Dr. Matthew J. Cohen C'54 D'57, her son is Saul C. Janson C'84, and two siblings are Susan Janson Rohrbach CW'61 G'64 and Dr. Michael Janson C'66.

**Melvyn Freeman W'57 L'63**, Stockton, NJ, an attorney; May 10, 2020. He served in the US Navy.

**Samuel Grey WG'57**, Port Huron, MI, a retired administrator for St. Clair County, Michigan; Aug. 9. He served in the US Navy during World War II.

**Rev. Laura Allen Holland CW'57**, Winter Haven, FL, a retired instructor of nursing and a Presbyterian pastor; July 17. She served in the US Army Nurse Corps during the Korean War.

**Helen Jaruszewski Liedtka HUP'57**, Palm Beach Gardens, FL, a retired nurse; July 10.

**Dr. Peter T. Pugliese M'57**, Jefferson Township, PA, a retired skin physiologist; Jan. 15. He held 13 patents and founded a skincare company called Circadia. He served in the US Marine Corps during World War II and in the US Army during the Korean War.

**John T. Slater C'57**, Larchmont, NY, Aug. 5. At Penn, he was a member of Zeta Psi fraternity.

**Lester W. Trees Jr. W'57**, Columbia, SC, July 31. He had a longtime career in sales. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity, the ROTC, and the heavyweight rowing team.

## 1958

**William S. Beck W'58**, Ardmore, PA, a computer programmer who worked at RCA, GE, and Honeywell; July 7. He served in the US Navy. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and the ROTC.

**Irene Gurdin HUP'58**, Hartsdale, NY, a former nurse; Aug. 13.

**Hagop Kitabjian GAR'58**, Broomall, PA, an architect and Armenian community activist; July 7.

**Dr. John M. Roberts GM'58**, Lafayette Hill, PA, a retired president of the medical staff and chair of surgery at Chestnut Hill Hospital; July 31. He served in the US Navy.

**Mehdi Shayegani G'58 Gr'61**, Naples, FL, a retired microbiologist at the New York State Department of Health and professor at SUNY Albany; Aug. 21. After retirement, he continued to volunteer his research skills until age 88, including daily lab bench work during the Anthrax crisis. The bacteria *Neisseria shayegani* is named after him.

**Samuel E. Shull ChE'58 GCh'64**, Midland, MI, a chemical engineer; July 2.

**Robert Y. Twitmyer W'58 G'95**, Devon, PA, a retired industrial sales executive; July 20. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of Delta Psi fraternity and the junior varsity football team. His son is Robert Tucker Twitmyer C'90 WG'96.

## 1959

**Philip Cherry L'59**, Bethesda, MD, a retired attorney who worked in the CIA; May 27. He served in the US Navy.

## 1960

**George A. Ball WG'60**, Leland, MI, an entrepreneur; Nov. 1, 2020. He also owned a used bookstore with his wife. He served in the US Air Force.

**Gilbert W. Fairholm WG'60**, Midlothian, VA, an emeritus associate professor at Virginia Commonwealth University and adjunct professor at the University of Richmond; June 9. He served in the US Air Force during the Korean War.

**David W. Funt C'60 ASC'61**, Southampton, NY, Dec. 17, 2020. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Sigma Delta fraternity.

**John T. Jerbasi ME'60**, Glenmoore, PA, a former banker who later worked in commercial real estate property management for IMS Health; July 15. He served in the US Marine Corps. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity, Sphinx Senior Society, and the soccer and track teams.

**Allen McCart G'60**, Ventura, CA, a retired high school teacher; June 8. He served in the US Army.

**Dr. Raymond J. Parisi M'60**, Cary, NC, a retired physician; June 3. He served in the US Army as a physician during the Vietnam War.

**Dr. William R. Silverman D'60**, West Orange, NJ, a retired dentist; July 4. He served in the US Army.

## 1961

**Ruth Leibowitz Frank Ed'61**, Jenkintown, PA, a college advisor; Aug. 29. At Penn, she was a member of Alpha Epsilon Phi sorority. Her husband is Dr. Paul E. Frank C'53 GM'58, and two daughters are Susan Frank Boland C'86 and Ellen Frank Cohen C'88.

**John A. Luchsinger C'61**, Chestertown, MD, a retired attorney; July 16. At Penn, he was a member of the swimming team.

**Robert A. Mitchell GAR'61**, Anchorage, AK, a retired historic preservation architect; March 4. He served in the US Navy and the US Navy Reserves. One son is Jason Mitchell GEd'05.

**Francis J. Sobyak WG'61**, Radnor, PA, retired director of corporate purchasing at Air Products and Chemicals; Aug. 20.

## 1962

**Alan C. Campbell W'62**, Washington, DC, a retired lawyer; Aug. 16. At Penn, he was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, Friars Senior Society, and the football team. His wife is Elizabeth Campbell DH'62, and one daughter is Ellen Campbell Kaminski C'86.

**Michael D. Hardy G'62**, Philadelphia, a history teacher at the Community College of Philadelphia; July 19. He was also a longtime community activist in West Philadelphia, known for his greening efforts in the neighborhood. He served in the US Navy.

**John A. Herdeg L'62**, Mendenhall, PA, a trust and estate attorney who cofounded

Christiana Bank and Trust, now owned by WSFS; June 27.

**Stephen W. Houghton W'62**, Santiago, Chile, a retired investment banker who specialized in the oil and gas industry; Aug. 1. At Penn, he was a member of the sprint football and heavyweight rowing teams.

**Dr. James E. Kennedy D'62**, Avon, CT, dean emeritus at the University of Connecticut's School of Dental Medicine and a retired professor of periodontology; July 7. He served in the US Army as a dental officer. He received Penn Dental's Alumni Award of Merit in 1987.

**Sarah Harwood Norris CGS'62**, Philadelphia, June 10.

**Dr. Robert L. Simpson GM'62**, Inhambane, Mozambique, a retired doctor and surgeon who formerly directed a rural hospital and nursing school in Mozambique; June 26. He served in the US Army during World War II.

## 1963

**Dr. Edwin N. A. Adom C'63**, Glenside, PA, a retired psychiatrist; July 26. He was the first blind psychiatrist to practice in Pennsylvania. At Penn, he was a member of the soccer team.

**Carlo F. Capozzolo WEv'63**, Ocean City, NJ, May 4.

**Col. Edward I. Hickey Jr. WG'63**, Co-tuit, MA, a retired director of defense logistics at Brown & Root, an engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) company; June 13. Prior to his work at Brown & Root, he had a 30-year career in the US Army, including two tours in Vietnam, and he was also a player and coach for the old Washington Chiefs semi-pro ice hockey team.

**William D. Jones Jr. G'63**, Macon, GA, a retired banker; July 3.

**Joseph E. Pitt Jr. GEd'63**, Chadds Ford, PA, a retired high school physics teacher; July 7. He served in the US Air Force during the Korean War.

**George M. Shriver III WG'63**, Reisterstown, MD, a former financial analyst for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; July 24. He served in the US Marine Corps. His wife is Suzanne Morris Shriver CW'60.

**Idaherma S. Williams GFA'63**, Princeton, NJ, an artist known for her woodblock prints, watercolors, and oil paintings; Aug. 18. She launched the Idaherma Museum of Art Foundation to discover and promote artists worldwide.

## 1964

**Edward H. Carr WG'64**, Phoenixville, PA, a former director at Unisys Corporation; May 2.

**Meredith Frye Conlan DH'64**, Plymouth Meeting, PA, an artisan who owned a crafts business called MerLyn; Aug. 3.

**Joseph F. Neely WG'64**, Winston Salem, NC, retired CEO of Gold Toe Brands; May 12. Previously, he was a longtime executive at Sara Lee Personal Products, which included brands such as L'eggs, Hanes, Bali, Champion, Isotoner, and Coach Leatherwear. He served in the US Air Force Reserve.

**William Regnery II C'64**, Boca Grande FL, July 2.

## 1965

**Barbara B. Bloom G'65**, Philadelphia, founder of the Mt. Airy Learning Tree, a community education nonprofit; Dec. 7, 2020.

**Thomas H. W. Jones C'65**, Longboat Key, FL, professor emeritus of educational leadership at the University of Connecticut; July 9. At Penn, he was a member of Theta Xi fraternity.

**Harry R. Marshall Jr. L'65**, Chevy Chase, MD, a retired senior legal advisor for the US Department of Justice Criminal Division; June 22. He served as principal deputy assistant secretary of state during the Reagan administration.

**Ronald A. Wagenheim W'65**, Ocean City, NJ, an attorney; July 9.

## 1966

**Karen Grossman Brand CW'66**, Great Neck, NY, June 17. One brother is Robert E. Grossman W'75.

**John M. Dutton WG'66**, Piedmont, CA, Feb. 1.

**Dr. Arthur F. Fost GM'66**, North Caldwell, NJ, an allergist; Aug. 17. Early in his career, he was chief resident of pediatrics at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

**Lee M. Hymerling C'66 L'69**, Haddonfield, NJ, a family law attorney; July 30. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity and Friars Senior Society.

**Larry S. Levin W'66**, West Palm Beach, FL, cofounder and president of a healthcare service company, and an adjunct professor; Aug. 6. He served in the US Army Reserve.

**Philip H. Pfatteicher Gr'66**, Melrose, MA, an emeritus professor of English at East Stroudsburg University and a Lutheran pastor; June 22.

## 1967

**Barbara Weintraub Ciongoli CW'67 G'68**, Boynton Beach, FL, co-owner of an Italian restaurant with her husband; June 29. Earlier, she taught history at the University of Vermont while pursuing her PhD. At Penn, she was a member of Sigma Delta Tau sorority. One son is Adam G. Ciongoli C'90.

**Lila R. Gleitman Gr'67 Hon'08**, Gladwyne, PA, professor emerita of psychology and linguistics in Penn's School of Arts and Sciences; Aug. 8. She began her academic career as an assistant professor at Swarthmore College in 1968. In 1972, she became the William T. Carter Professor of Education at Penn. She subsequently served as professor of linguistics and as the Steven and Marcia Roth Professor of Psychology from 1973 until she retired in 2001. In 1991, she cofounded the Institute for Research in Cognitive Science at Penn with Penn Engineering's Aravind Joshi; she codirected the center until 2001. Under their leadership, it became a model for promoting interactions between psychology, linguistics, computer science, philosophy, neuroscience, and other branches of inquiry that contribute to the computational study of the mind (a role inherited by Penn's MindCORE today). In a career that spanned six decades, she explored questions pertaining to language in children and adults, such as how children acquire language, how language and thought are related, the nature of concepts, and the role of syntax in shaping the direction of word learning. Her theory with colleagues of syntactic bootstrapping enabled them to address many longstanding mysteries in the field, such as how blind children effortlessly acquire spoken language (including such

words as "look" and "see," and color terms), and how deaf isolates invent sign language without exposure to any language at all.

## 1968

**Vincent J. O'Neal WG'68**, Vallejo, CA, June 26. He owned a bakery and was also employed by the State of California and Erhard Seminar Training/Forum/Landmark, an organization associated with the outgrowth of the Human Potential Movement.

**Janice H. Reifsnnyder Nu'68**, Pequea, PA, a retired director of nursing at Wernersville State Hospital; Aug. 13.

**Dr. Elias Schwartz GM'68 CGS'04**, Philadelphia, a pediatric hematologist and former physician-in-chief of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP); July 17. In 1972, he was hired as a professor of pediatrics in Penn's School of Medicine. Seven years later, he also accepted a secondary position in the department of human genetics. He was named the Werner and Gertrude Henle, MD Professor of Pediatrics in 1992. In addition to his teaching duties, he served at CHOP as the chair of the hematology division. In 1991, he became the physician-in-chief at CHOP, treating patients from all over the world, especially including children suffering from sickle cell anemia, his area of expertise. He served as physician-in-chief until 1997, when he retired. He served in the US Air Force. His wife is Esta R. Schwartz G'69, his sons are Samuel H. Schwartz EE'85 WG'90 and Robert Harris Schwartz WG'93, and two grandchildren are Allison D. Schwartz EAS'18 GEng'19 and Matthew L. Schwartz C'25.

## 1969

**F. C. Philips Gr'69**, Nashville, TN, a professor emeritus at Vanderbilt University; July 8.

**Dr. Horst G. Seydel GM'69**, New Smyrna Beach, FL, a retired physician specializing in radiation oncology; April 12, 2020.

## 1970

**Polk Laffoon IV WG'70**, Harbor Springs, MI, retired vice president for corporate relations at Knight Ridder newspapers; Aug. 5.

**Stephen H. Short C'70**, Arlington, MA, a jazz musician who composed nearly 450 songs; May 5. At Penn, he was a member of



Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, the Choral Society, and the tennis team.

## 1971

**Anthony G. Delis W'71**, Canton, OH, a financial advisor; Aug. 11.

**Satyanshu K. Mukherjee Gr'71**, Canberra, Australia, a retired principal criminologist at the Australian Institute of Criminology; Aug. 28.

## 1972

**Paul O. Brundage C'72**, Avondale Estates, GA, a guidance counselor at the Citrus County (FL) School System; July 12. At Penn, he was a member of the swimming team. His wife is Madelynn S. Brundage CW'72.

## 1973

**Brian W. Malloy W'73**, Cheltenham, PA, a retired math teacher at Bodine High School for International Affairs; Aug. 2. At Penn, he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity and the football team.

**Bert E. Stromberg Jr. Gr'73**, Minneapolis, a longtime professor of parasitology in the department of veterinary and biomedical sciences at the University of Minnesota; Aug. 11. Early in his career, he was an assistant professor of parasitology at Penn's School of Veterinary Medicine.

**Linda Mahoney Watts CGS'73**, Tulsa, OK, a former executive director of Emergency Infant Services, a nonprofit that offers temporary assistance for children whose families are facing financial and personal challenges; Aug. 13. Her husband is Gary L. Watts GEd'71.

## 1974

**Dorothy L. Gardner SW'74**, Audubon, PA, a civil rights activist, educator, and social worker; June 14.

**Donald C. Landis G'74**, North Fort Myers, FL, July 28.

## 1975

**Dr. Joel S. Bennett GM'75**, Bryn Mawr, PA, a groundbreaking blood researcher and a former professor of hematology/oncology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP); June 21. After his residency at HUP, he

was hired as an assistant instructor in HUP's department of medicine. In 1971, he left Penn to work as a physician in the US Air Force, but he returned in 1975, this time as an associate in hematology/oncology. He rose through the ranks to become an associate professor clinician-educator (CE) in 1982 and a full professor in 1995. He also had a secondary appointment in the department of pharmacology. He was the first to recognize that fibrinogen bound to the platelet GPIIb-IIIa receptor, thereby defining the molecular mechanism by which platelets aggregate. This important finding paved the way for the development of drugs like abiximab and eptifibatide, which have been used to treat millions of patients with coronary artery disease. In 2010, he received the Beutler Prize, the highest honor of the American Society of Hematology, in celebration of this pioneering research. His children include Lisa C. Bennett C'94 and Andrew B. Bennett C'97.

**Marianne Conod G'75**, Long Valley, NJ, an environmental lawyer who later became a middle school teacher; June 22.

**David H. Daniels W'75**, Brandon, FL, a commercial banker who later joined his family's real estate business; June 27.

## 1976

**Constance L. Dollase WG'76**, Camp Hill, PA, a retired assistant research director for the Pennsylvania Joint State Government Commission; July 9. Later, she had a career in real estate. One son is Steven Dollase WG'04.

**Mary Ellen Northrop WG'76**, Wilmington, DE, a university librarian who later worked as a financial analyst at DuPont Company; June 29.

**Nancy O'Brien White Nu'76**, Wallingford, VT, a former nurse; Aug. 19. Her husband is J. Gordon White III C'75 GAR'78.

## 1977

**Mildred Ann Johnson Blake SW'77**, Wilmington, NC, a retired director of social work at New Hanover Memorial Hospital, the first African American to hold that position; Aug. 8.

**Joel P. Chack C'77**, Voorhees, NJ, May 11. His brothers are Dr. Benjamin S. Chack C'80 and Eliot H. Chack W'83.

**Karen A. Knudsen Gr'77**, Newtown Square, PA, a retired research scientist at Lan-kenau Institute for Medical Research; July 23.

**Harold R. Kurtz GrEd'77**, Holland, PA, former superintendent of schools in Pennsauken, NJ, and founder of Synergy Educational Consultants; Aug. 1.

**Frederick R. Rohn L'77**, New York, a lawyer and adjunct professor at Cardozo School of Law; Aug. 9.

## 1978

**Dr. V. Lynne Cochran D'78**, Oakdale, PA, a retired dentist; Aug. 16. Her husband is Dr. Donald E. Fetterolf C'75 M'79.

**Leonard N. Primiano C'78 G'82**, Wayne, PA, a professor of religious studies at Cabrini College; July 25.

## 1979

**Janice L. Cranmer GNu'79**, Decatur, GA, a retired professor of nursing at Immaculata University; July 13.

## 1980

**David H. Hough C'80**, San Antonio, a retired professor of physics and astronomy at Trinity University; July 14.

**Geoffrey C. Scott GEng'80 GEng'84 Gr'86**, Malvern, PA, a senior manager at AstraZeneca who also taught and lectured at a number of colleges; July 29.

## 1981

**Barry M. Enos WG'81**, Ipswich, MA, a founder of an engineering company that specialized in metal fabrication; June 18.

## 1982

**Hassan Ait-Kaci GEE'82 GrE'84**, Surrey, BC, Canada, a former senior technical staff member for IBM Corporation; April 23, 2020. His wife is Julieta B. Criollo EE'80 GEE'83, whose brother is Octavio Luis Criollo GEE'83.

**Daisy Jones Brown WEv'82 WEv'85**, Ruther Glen, VA, a retired supervisor at Verizon and an educator at several schools; July 11. At Penn, she was a member of Chi Alpha Phi sorority.

**Jeffrey C. Mitchell C'82**, Albuquerque, NM, director of the University of New Mexico's

Bureau of Business and Economic Research, which provides socioeconomic data and forecasting for the state; Aug. 7. One of his most prominent works was an economic examination of arts and culture in New Mexico, the first time the state's creative sector was analyzed as a fundamental economic driver. At Penn, he was a member of Delta Upsilon fraternity.

## 1983

**Celeste M. Santangelo L'83**, New York, June 10. Her husband is Stephen C. Koval L'84 WG'84.

## 1984

**David F. Epstein W'84**, Surfside, FL, a retired real estate investor; July 4.

**James F. Hearn WEv'84 WEv'88**, Glenside, PA, July 12.

## 1985

**Owen D. Davison GrEd'85**, Honey Brook, PA, a longtime elementary school teacher who later became a supervisor of student teaching at West Chester University; Oct. 19, 2020.

**Terrance K. Ganser W'85**, Darien, CT, June 29. He worked at a few financial firms and later cofounded several startups.

## 1987

**Nancy Samson Cohen C'87**, Weston, CT, Aug. 3. She worked in fundraising and development for Yale University. At Penn, she was a member of Penn Players. Her husband is Joshua W. Cohen C'90, and one daughter is Dana F. Cohen W'23.

**Cindy Swartley Mast GNu'87**, Willow Street, PA, a case manager for high-risk patients at Penn Medicine's Lancaster General Health; July 15.

## 1988

**Ruth Tennant "Bridgie" Daller GNu'88**, Collegeville, PA, a pediatric nurse practitioner in the oncology department at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; Aug. 4

**Andrea R. Halperin W'88**, Chappaqua, NY, March 11.

## 1989

**Robert A. "Bob" Schoenberg GrS'89**, Philadelphia, the founding and longtime di-

### 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
F	Fine Arts	GrE	doctorate, Electrical Engineering	SAMP	School of Allied Medical Professions
GA	master's, Arts and Sciences	GrEd	doctorate, Education	SPP	Social Policy and Practice (master's)
GAr	master's, Architecture	GrL	doctorate, Law	SW	Social Work (master's) (till 2005)
GCE	master's, Civil Engineering	GrN	doctorate, Nursing	V	Veterinary Medicine
GCh	master's, Chemical Engineering	GRP	master's, Regional Planning	W	Wharton (bachelor's)
GCP	master's, City Planning	GRS	doctorate, Social Work	WAM	Wharton Advanced Management
GD	Dental, post-degree	GrW	doctorate, Wharton	WEF	Wharton Extension Finance
GEEd	master's, Education	GV	Veterinary, post-degree	WEv	Wharton Evening School
		Hon	Honorary	WG	master's, Wharton
				WMP	Wharton Management Program

rector of Penn's LGBT Center; Aug. 2. He became a lecturer in Penn's School of Social Work in 1976. In 1982, a gay sophomore at Penn was brutally beaten on Locust Walk, and in response, the University hired Schoenberg to work part-time as a point person to deal with gay and lesbian concerns around campus (only the second such person in the country at the time). He worked through the Office of Student Activities, and later took the leadership of a new Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance, the precursor to Penn's LGBT Center. In 1992, he led Penn's HIV/AIDS Task Force, which called for destigmatizing AIDS education and recommended establishing a testing site on campus, a function that the Student Health Service now covers. He also lobbied for employee domestic partnership benefits at Penn, which were instated in 1994. In the late 1990s, he led a fundraising effort for the LGBT Center to have a physical home at Penn, raising \$2.5 million in the process. In 2002, the LGBT Center moved into its current space on 39th and Spruce Streets, and in 2017, when he retired as director of the LGBT Center, the building was renamed the Robert Schoenberg Carriage House in his honor. "He is the trailblazer," Erin Cross Gr'10, who succeeded him

as the LGBT Center director, told the *Gazette* for a feature on Schoenberg's retirement after 35 years at the helm ["At the Center of It All," Nov/Dec 2017]. "We would not be where we are without him and there's not enough gratitude in the world that people at Penn can give him."

## 1991

**Baylor B. Banks WG'91**, Atlanta, a career employment lawyer; July 2.

**Ajay P. Singhvi EAS'91 W'91**, Mumbai, July 2.

## 1992

**Yuan-Chin Ching G'92**, Durham, NC, April 27, 2020.

## 1993

**Wendy Jane Zach Martini SW'93**, Morgantown, PA, a former psychotherapist; Aug. 4.

**Francis B. Tripodi C'93**, Philadelphia, a partner at a law firm who specialized in employee benefits issues; April 16. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Chi Rho fraternity.

## 1994

**Arthur Kaiser GEd'94**, Kennett Square, PA, July 2.

## 1997

**Dr. Andrew Freese GM'97**, Chester Springs, PA, chief of neurosurgery and neurosurgical medical director at Brandywine Hospital; June 30. A noted neurosurgeon, he conducted the first gene-therapy surgery for a neurological disorder on a human being.

## 1999

**Joseph T. Vanore EAS'99 W'99**, West Chester, PA, a software architect at Moody's Analytics; March 28. One brother is Salvatore E. Vanore W'98.

## 2006

**Jack D. Muraskin G'06**, Philadelphia, July 14.

## 2010

**Monique Bell WG'10**, Chicago, a former senior consultant at Sand Cherry Associates, a marketing strategy and business operations consulting firm; June 7.

## 2018

**James P. Farrell C'18**, Manhasset, NY, an analyst at Mack Real Estate Group; July 24. At Penn, he was a captain of the lacrosse team.

## Faculty &amp; Staff

**Dr. Joel S. Bennett.** *See Class of 1975.*

**Dr. Arthur F. Fost.** *See Class of 1966.*

**Lila R. Gleitman.** *See Class of 1967.*

**Peter H. Knutson**, Edmonds, Washington, an associate professor emeritus of accounting at the Wharton School and a Sloan Fellow of the Wharton Financial Institutions Center; Aug. 21. He joined Wharton's faculty in 1965, focusing his teaching and research on financial accounting and reporting. As a beloved teacher, he received six teaching awards, including the Anvil Award for Excellence in Teaching from the Wharton Graduate Division in 1980. In addition, his course Problems in Financial Reporting received Excellence in Teaching awards from students in Wharton's MBA program for several years in the 1990s. He held visiting appointments at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and at the North European Management Institute in Oslo, Norway. He retired in 1996 but remained active

at Wharton, teaching an executive education course and participating in Wharton's executive video and remote TV-satellite learning program, and he even appeared in a Wharton Follies production, dancing the Time Warp as "The Man with No Neck."

**Chong-Sik Lee**, Berwyn, PA, a professor emeritus of political science in Penn's School of Arts and Sciences and a prominent scholar of East Asian politics; Aug. 17. In 1963, he came to Penn as an assistant professor of political science, a department that at the time was housed in the Wharton School. He was promoted to full professor in 1973 and taught in the College of General Studies at that time. He taught the first course on Korean studies at Penn, which eventually led to the formation of Penn's Korean studies program. Among many accolades, he received a Ford Foundation Faculty Research Fellowship and the Woodrow Wilson Foundation Award from the American Political Science Association. He retired in 1999. In 2020, at the age of 89, he published an autobiography in Korean that covered his life up to 1974 but "left out the rest of the stories for next time." During the Korean War, he and his family fled North Korea. He subsequently worked as a translator for the US Army, using his knowledge of Chinese,

Japanese, Korean, and English languages. One daughter is Sharon Y. Lee C'86.

**Cindy Swartley Mast.** *See Class of 1987.*

**Robert A. "Bob" Schoenberg.** *See Class of 1989.*

**Dr. Elias Schwartz.** *See Class of 1968.*

**Hugo Sonnenschein**, Chicago, former dean of Penn's School of Arts and Sciences (SAS) and later president of the University of Chicago; July 15. He became a visiting lecturer in economics at Penn's School of Arts and Sciences in 1983, after teaching at several other colleges. In 1988, he was named dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, the first dean of SAS to be recruited from outside the school, and he served in this position until 1991. In his three years as dean, he helped attract several prominent gifts to the school and led the SAS Capital Campaign, which greatly expanded the freshman seminar program and tripled the School's number of faculty advisors for undergraduate students. He returned to Princeton in 1991 as its provost. In 1993, he was recruited as president of the University of Chicago, a position he held until 2000. His wife is Elizabeth Gunn Sonnenschein Gr'88.

**Bert E. Stromberg Jr.** *See Class of 1973.*

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I certify that all information furnished above is true and complete. —John Prendergast, Editor



## CLASSIFIEDS

### Collectibles

**1979-80 FINAL FOUR MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM AUTOGRAPHED POSTER** Personally-obtained autographed "Soupery" Team schedule poster. Autographed by entire team including Price, Willis, White, Salters, Hall, McCaffery and Coach Weinbauer. Nicely framed under glass in great condition. Asking \$25,000 including shipping and insurance. Contact dbrotman@gmail.com or can find on eBay.

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**ARE YOU A SINGLE MAN (40-50)**

Florida-based, therapist entrepreneur seeks a family-oriented and open-minded partner (40-50)—US & Canada.

A foodie, her interests include cooking, sketching, Pilates/Yoga, Netflix, concerts, theater, culture and history.

She seeks a partner to have fun together, build a family and home together (where no pork or alcohol is served).

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### Personals

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**DYNAMIC MATCHMAKING** DC area based boutique matchmaking firm, catering to successful professionals, ages 50-75 who are seeking meaningful long-term relationships, offers opportunities to meet quality candidates. Leora Hoffman, JD, Penn Alum with 30+ years of matchmaking experience and success offers a range of services, including highly personalized executive search programs. Bio and photo in confidence to: leora@leorahoffman.com Love by Leora, LLC (301)537-5266

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**ARE YOU A SINGLE WOMAN (37-48)?**

DC-MD-VA based, Ivy-educated mgmt consultant seeks a partner who doesn't need a man to "complete" her (37-48)—US.

An optimistic lifelong-learner with a strong character who's physically active, these qualities are important to him in a partner.

Always up for new experiences, his interests include global travel, hiking, learning Indian classical music and experimenting with cooking.

**> I'M A MATCH**

Matchmaker Jasbina  
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877-289-7107, www.IntersectionsMatch.com



**ARE YOU A SINGLE MAN (34-40)?**

An Ivy educated physician, able to work remotely from anywhere (family in U.S., Canada, Australia) seeks a partner 34-40.

An explorer and health-conscious, her interests include travel, running, lifting weights, dance classes and meditation.

She seeks a partner with a vision of empathy, partnership, communication, emotional support, and building a family.

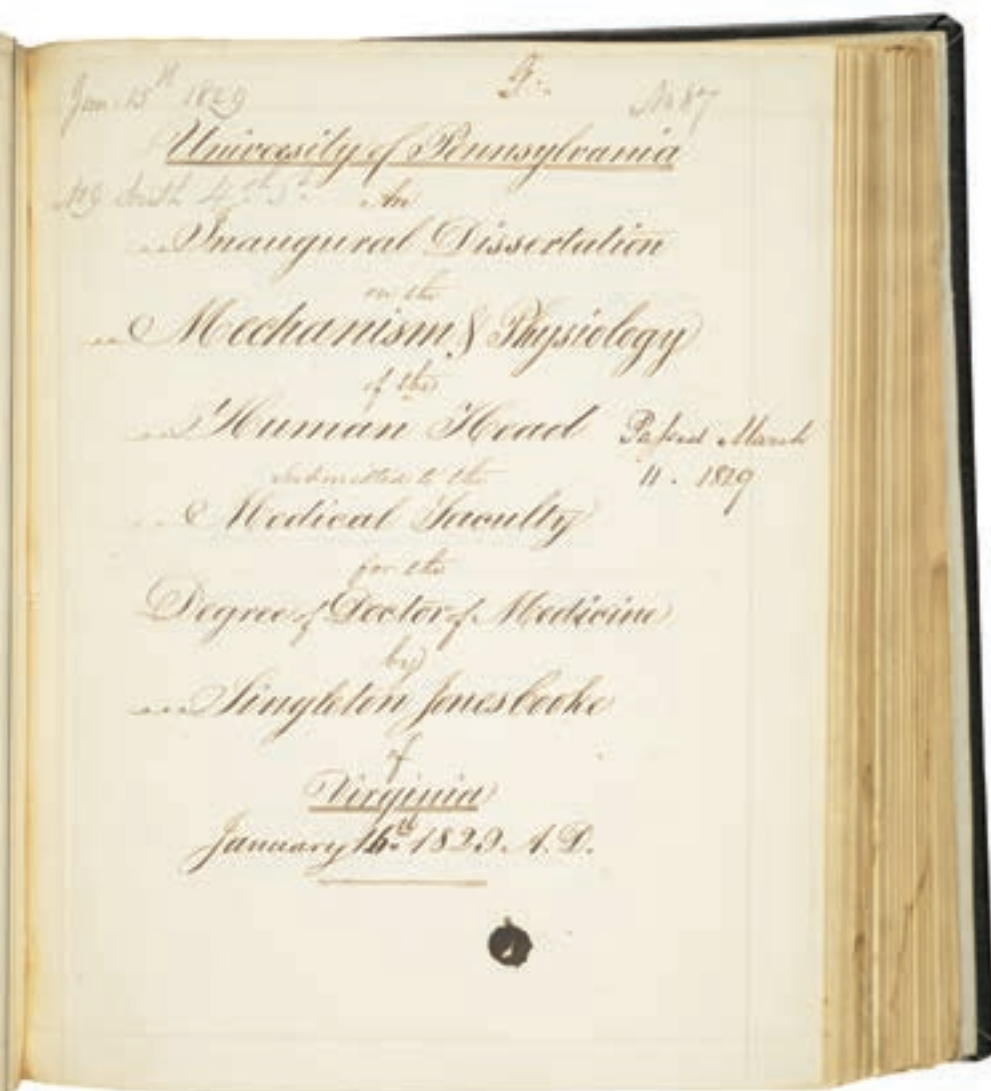
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"An Inaugural Dissertation on the Mechanism & Physiology of the Human Head," written by Singleton Jones Cooke M1829 on January 16, 1829.



Handwritten on cotton rag paper (some, in such beautiful script that it's speculated students hired scribes to write the final copies), more than 60,000 pages have been digitized in a project funded by the Council on Library and Information Resources. And at least 5,000 more dissertations, as well as hundreds of volumes of students' lecture notes, have not yet been digitized.

Penn has more medical dissertations from the 19th century than any other medical school in the country, according to Christopher D. E. Willoughby, visiting fellow with the Penn Medicine and the Afterlives of Slavery project, and author of a new book, *Masters of Health: Racial Science in US Medical Schools*. "With the sheer volume of the dissertations at Penn you can take the pulse of medical education," he told *Penn Today* in August. "You really get a sense of what they were teaching and how students were processing it."

Founded in 1765, Penn's School of Medicine was the nation's first, and about one century later the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania was established, in 1874, as the first teaching hospital in the country. Medical students were required to write dissertations to earn a degree until just after the Civil War.

Some other titles include "An Essay on the Morbid Appearances Observed After Death in the Yellow Fever," by Edward Lowber C1804 M1807 and "An Account of the Typhoid Fever; Which Prevailed at the Alms House in Philadelphia; During the Spring of 1824," by Thomas Lacey Smith M1825, as well as 47 essays on cholera, 18 on gastritis, and two on constipation.

"Their mundaneness is what makes them special," added Willoughby. "They provide interesting, and in some cases disturbing, anecdotes about everyday medical complaints, as well as what doctors thought."

The dissertations can be viewed for free through the Penn Libraries online catalogue at [bit.ly/3mqcH7u](https://bit.ly/3mqcH7u). —NP

## Taking the Pulse of Medical Education

**T**he first circumstance connected with the human head, which seems entitled to attention, is its elevated position," writes Singleton Jones Cooke M1829 in his January 16, 1829, dissertation for his doctoral degree in medicine from Penn. "This is the peculiar characteristic of the dignity of Man, and of his superior rank in the scale of creation."

In his January 8, 1829, "Essay on

Menstruation" Joseph M. Urquiola M1829 ponders, "What is the exact nature of the menstrual fluid?" A native of Trinidad de Cuba, Urquiola was the first Latin American graduate of Penn. "Some consider it a mere hemorrhage, others a perfect secretion."

These and more than 1,000 other Penn medical dissertations from the last 200 years can now be viewed online, the earliest dating back to 1807.





## Celebrating the Power of Planning

Throughout Penn's history, we've learned that today's commitments shape the future. The vision and generosity of alumni and friends has provided the University with a strong foundation supporting a path to extraordinary advancements.

Those who have looked ahead and set their sights on the future are recognized as members of the University's Charles Custis Harrison Society. During *The Power of Penn* Campaign, Harrison Society membership has grown to over 5,000. Each individual legacy contributes to Penn's continued ability to excel. Twelve amazing schools, six vibrant centers, and one dynamic campus are poised to confront the complex issues of today by transforming knowledge into action to create a brighter tomorrow.

### Discover the Meaning of Membership.

The Harrison Society recognizes all who have made a commitment through a bequest, trust, charitable gift annuity, retirement plan or life insurance designation, or other structured gift. If you've planned a gift that supports the University, let us know. We look forward to welcoming you.

### Contact us today!

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