

## MEMORANDUM

**To: Members of University Council**

**From: Amy Gutmann, President**

**Date: February 18, 2015**

**Subject: Report to the University Council**

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Provost Price and I were delighted to announce that after a comprehensive and rigorous search, Penn Law Professor and Deputy Dean Ted Ruger will become Penn Law's new dean effective July 1, 2015.

Ted epitomizes Penn's commitment to innovative cross-disciplinary scholarship, infusing his teaching and research in constitutional law with new perspectives from the humanities and the social sciences. He is an incredible advocate for Penn Law's educational programs and for students, one of whom wrote to say she hoped "every student would have the opportunity to benefit from his sage guidance, calm presence, sense of humor, and vision for Penn and its students." Ted is also an inclusive leader who brings together students and faculty with a wide array of interests. As we celebrate Ted's appointment, we also gratefully acknowledge Presidential Professor Wendell Pritchett's superb service as Interim Dean of the Law School.

I also join the Provost in thanking the many people who have worked long and hard to make the new Penn Wharton China Center a reality. Our opening celebration next month and the 100 days of exciting programming to follow will showcase Penn's global reach and shine a light on opportunities for even greater engagement in China. We will conclude the first 100 days with a formal Dedication and Gala Celebration in September 2015. Stay tuned for additional information on our new Penn Wharton China Center in Beijing and these various events.

Congratulations to Penn's own Dr. Giang Nguyen, who will become the new Executive Director of the Student Health Service later this spring. An invaluable member of Penn Medicine and the Perelman School for several years, Dr. Nguyen brings to this new role his strengths as a world-class clinician and an effective community outreach organizer. With his leadership, Student Health Service and our entire Penn student community will be in very good hands.

In the past year, we led a comprehensive review of the University's protocols for responding to reports of sexual violence. Penn has an excellent structure in place for preventing and addressing sexual violence on campus, but, as a leader, we continually look for ways to improve. On January 26, we announced the appointment of Penn's first Sexual Violence Investigative Officer, Christopher Mallios. Mallios served for many years in the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office and brings strong expertise in the areas of family violence and sexual assaults. I know the Penn community will join me in warmly welcoming him to the University.

We recently announced that three Penn seniors have received Thouron Awards to pursue their graduate studies in the United Kingdom:

- Rocky Diegmiller is applying to the University of Cambridge for a master's degree in applied mathematics
- Vinicius Ferreira is applying to the University of Cambridge for a master's degree in physics

- Kristina Pelekoudas is applying to the University of Oxford for a master's degree in public policy

Congratulations to our 2015 Thouron Award winners!

Congratulations as well to the Women's Squash Team, which recently finished the season as the undefeated Ivy League Champion. This is our Women's Squash Team's third Ivy championship and a credit to the hard work of both Penn's talented student-athletes and our coaches. Well done!

Finally, we announced that this year's Commencement Speaker will be Ambassador Samantha Power, the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations and a member of President Obama's Cabinet. Ambassador Power is a Pulitzer Prize-winning author and an internationally renowned champion for universal human rights, global prosperity, and democracy. We are thrilled and honored that she will address this year's graduating class. Ambassador Power is joined by a distinguished group of honorary degree recipients, including Arthur Asbury, Lee Bollinger, Joan Myers Brown, Rita Moreno, Ellen Ochoa, and Cass Sunstein.

**PROVOST'S STATUS REPORT**  
University Council, February 2015

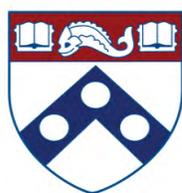
I am delighted to join President Gutmann in congratulating Prof. Ted Ruger on his appointment as Dean of the Law School, effective July 1. Prof. Ruger, who currently serves as the School's Deputy Dean, promises to be an inspiring and dynamic leader who will advance the School's distinctive approach to legal education for years to come. We also congratulate Dr. Giang Nguyen on his appointment as Executive Director of the Student Health Service, beginning April 1. Dr. Nguyen has been a family physician and member of the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health in the Perelman School of Medicine since 2003. He has been served since 2009 as Medical Director of Penn Family Care, a practice with more than 45,000 outpatient visits each year. In this position, he has advanced clinical care, led invaluable service projects for medical and public health students, and spearheaded community outreach initiatives such as immunizations for non-English-speaking and uninsured families. Selected from a comprehensive national search, he brings an inspiring vision of the importance of health to our students and a strong commitment to the value of diverse experiences in clinical care. I am sure that you will join me in welcoming him to SHS in the months ahead.

Next month, we will mark a landmark in Penn history, with the launch of the Penn Wharton China Center in Beijing. Located in the heart of Beijing's Central Business District, the Center is the first physical footprint in China since Penn's founding. It creates a home for Penn in this essential part of the world, providing a vibrant hub for the exchange of knowledge with China, as well as a central location for members of the Penn community who work, travel, or live in the region. It includes a state-of-the-art technological classroom that opens new opportunities to share expertise with colleagues in China and bring more speakers, research, and culture from China into Penn classrooms than ever before.

During spring break, I will lead a delegation from Penn to launch the Center, including Vice Provost for Global Initiatives Zeke Emanuel, the deans of eight Penn Schools, and dozens of distinguished faculty and staff members. Together, we will engage in high-level symposia considering such critical issues as the nature of educational innovation around the world, the interdependence of the Chinese and American economies, and the impact of health care reforms on global populations. Following the launch, there will be several months of further seminars, conferences, and public events in China featuring the innovative, interdisciplinary work being done in all twelve of our dynamic Schools. In September, President Gutmann will then visit the Center to host a formal dedication and celebration marking this historic partnership. We look forward to engaging all the Penn community in the Center's activities and encourage you to learn more about its work in the coming year.

I wish everyone a wonderful spring break and a productive start to the second half of the term.

Vincent Price  
Provost



# gapsa

GRADUATE *and* PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSEMBLY  
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

## Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA) Status Report

Below I have highlighted some important announcements from GAPSA:

1. **New Vice Chair for Social Activities Elected** - On the evening of Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> a special election was held for the position of Vice Chair for Social Activities. The General Assembly elected **Erica Shim** (Wharton) to fill the role for the remaining of the 2014-2015 term.
2. **2015-2016 GAPSA Executive Board Elections Schedule for March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm** – Further information for graduate and professional students interested in running for an Executive Board position will be found in our future Newsletters.
3. **GAPSA-Provost Award for Interdisciplinary Innovation: Now Accepting Applications** – This jointly funded fellowship is for the Summer of 2015. The deadline for applications is Feb 28, 2015 at 11:59pm. Applicants must be a full-time or part-time Penn graduate (professional or research) student continuing their studies in the semester following the fellowship. Detailed information can be found at <http://gapsa.upenn.edu/honorary-awards/>
4. **Spring Travel Grants** – GAPSA administers travel grants through the professional and research student councils to help eligible professional/graduate students defray the cost of traveling to conferences. For more information and to fill out an application please visit: <http://gapsa.upenn.edu/academic-funding/>

Respectfully submitted,  
Justine Sefcik, Chair of GAPSA  
[gapsa.chair@gmail.com](mailto:gapsa.chair@gmail.com)



# Undergraduate Assembly

## UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

### Constituency Update

#### 1. International Move-In Funding Resolution

On February 8, 2015, the UA passed a resolution that enacted the following clauses:

The Undergraduate Assembly:

1. Commends the current steps members of the university administration have made in assisting international students and the Assembly of International Students (AIS) thus far;
2. Calls upon the university administration to take the next steps in adding an additional day to International Student Orientation (ISO) beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, in order to help international students transition and deal with administrative burdens that come from moving to a new country so that they can then spend as much of New Student Orientation (NSO) integrating with domestic students and the university community;
3. Encourages the university to focus on and critically plan in-depth, resource heavy programming to International Student Orientation (ISO), allowing more socializing to occur during New Student Orientation (NSO);
4. Commits this school year's UA Budget Committee to provide financial support to an extended International Student Orientation (ISO) as recognition of the undergraduate student body's support for adding an extra day onto ISO, with the rest to be covered by the university administration.

#### 2. UA Annual Report

The UA is producing its first annual report since 2011. This report will include an overview of ~90 the projects the UA has been working on in 2014. The annual report can be found here:

[http://pennua.org/media/cms\\_page\\_media/50/UA%20Annual%20Report%202014\\_wInd3Rh.pdf](http://pennua.org/media/cms_page_media/50/UA%20Annual%20Report%202014_wInd3Rh.pdf)

#### 3. Penn Mobile App

Penn Labs and the UA are excited to announce the launch of PennMobile, the University of Pennsylvania's first official mobile app, now available on iOS and Android. Both groups have been working on to make this possible for over a year now, and we're excited to roll out version 1.0. You can download this app at <http://pennlabs.com/mobile> to get access to dining menus, Penn Transit routes, course search, and more.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Joyce Kim**

UA President ([president@pennua.org](mailto:president@pennua.org))

**Joshua L. Chilcote**

UA Vice-President([vp@pennua.org](mailto:vp@pennua.org))



**Status Report- Penn Professional Staff Assembly**

- The theme year for the PPSA is “**Year of Engagement.**” As part of this theme year, the PPSA plans to hold events which enable to staff to engage at various levels, including professional development, networking, and engagement with the University and the Philadelphia community. Events will include a skill share event, steps to success at Penn, and a discussion about diversity.
- Every January, PPSA hosts a senior leadership speaker event for staff. This year we were fortunate to have Executive Vice President Craig Carnaroli speak to staff (about 160 attendees) on January 30<sup>th</sup>. His presentation focused on change management at the University.
- In line with our theme year, we will be hosting our second diversity workshop on February 24, 2015 led by former GSE professor Ann Tiao. The workshop focuses on identity, unconscious biases and prejudices, and microaggressions. Registered participants will be asked to complete a confidential survey ahead of time and discuss the significance of the results during the workshop.

Respectfully submitted,

Emma Grigore  
Chair, PPSA

Utsav Schurmans  
Past Chair, PPSA

Lucia DiNapoli  
Chair Elect, PPSA



<http://www.upenn.edu/wpsa/>

Weekly Paid Professional Staff Assembly (WPPSA)  
Status Report for February 2015 to the University Council  
Date written: February 10, 2015

On Tuesday, February 10, 2015, WPPSA held their general membership meeting and distributed thank you cards to Adopt-a-Family donors.

On Friday, February 20, 2015, WPPSA will sponsor Learning & Education with Your Career at Penn: Getting in the Driver Seat of your Career. Members must rsvp their attendance by Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.

Submitted by,

Marcia Dotson  
WPPSA Chair

Rosa Vargas  
Chair -elect