

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of University Council
From: Amy Gutmann, President
Date: October 28, 2015
Subject: Report to the University Council

On October 12, the new Kleinman Center for Energy Policy celebrated its grand opening on the refurbished upper floors of Fisher Fine Arts Library. A PennDesign initiative established with a generous gift from Scott and Wendy Kleinman, this Center will be a catalyst for effective policy and creative solutions for some of our greatest energy challenges.

At the celebration, Penn faculty member and former Governor Ed Rendell presented the inaugural Carnot Prize for distinguished contributions to energy policy, scholarship, and practice to Pulitzer Prize-winning author and historian Dr. Daniel Yergin. Former Penn Engineering Dean Eduardo Glandt began the evening with a playful lecture on the prize's namesake and on the Second Law of Thermodynamics. I congratulate Kleinman Center Faculty Director Mark Alan Hughes and his team on the auspicious and successful start for this important new Penn Center.

I also want to commend the organizers of the fabulous campus community initiative called TableTalk. I recently had an opportunity to sit in on one of TableTalk's events—called CampusCouches—out on College Green, where I had a wonderful time talking with passing students about whatever was on their minds.

CampusCouches is one of four TableTalk campaigns, including LookUp, which provide students with accessible and fun opportunities to get to know one another, putting aside mobile devices and worries for a moment to meet new Penn people and engage in quality conversation. I am proud of this initiative and of the many other ways, both great and small, that Penn students are actively building community and camaraderie all around campus. Keep up the excellent work!

Finally, I want to encourage all interested seniors to consider applying for this year's President's Engagement Prize. This is a golden opportunity to earn your local, national, or global engagement project the resources and recognition it deserves and requires for success. Last year's winners have been empowering young girls nationwide; engineering sustainable water purification systems for those who lack them; improving comprehensive recovery for cardiac patients; and building quality education and health care resources for communities that currently do without.

I ask seniors to imagine all you can achieve through your engagement project idea. The President's Engagement Prizes are a one-of-a-kind start-up fund for full-time civic engagement. Prizes are awarded competitively, with winners receiving \$50,000 for one year of living expenses after graduation and up to \$100,000 in project expenses. All full-time undergraduates in the College, Wharton, Nursing, or Engineering who will graduate in May, August, or December of 2016 are eligible. Visit www.pennpep.upenn.edu to learn more.

PROVOST'S STATUS REPORT

University Council

October 28, 2015

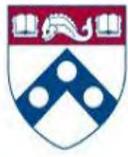
At the start of this year, I announced the formation of a new Provost's Arts Advisory Council. Under the leadership of Vice Provost Anita Allen, the Council will help chart the future of arts and culture at Penn, building on the success of the recent three-year Art and Culture Initiative co-sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the School of Arts and Sciences and led by Prof. Karen Beckman. The Council will help advance the vital connections between the arts and our campus-wide goals of integrating knowledge; developing new forms of active-, object-, and performance-based education; and furthering the Penn Compact 2020's mission of inclusion, innovation, and impact. Its work will include new initiatives and collaborations between arts centers and academic programs, including projects sponsored by the Provost's Interdisciplinary Arts Fund, and in this regard we welcome ideas from across the Penn community, which can be sent at any time to Vice Provost Allen at provost-fac@upenn.edu.

The Council begins its work at an auspicious moment for arts and culture at Penn, especially as our arts organizations have become important participants in integrating knowledge across campus. For example, the Penn Museum is bringing its rich collection of historic objects to bear on the Penn Humanities Forum's yearlong examination of the histories of sex, sexuality, and gender diversity. This exhibition, *Sex: A History in 30 Objects*, includes such rare and fascinating objects as a Micronesian love stick and a Native American pipe bag decorated with the Lakota "two spirit" or third gender. The Arthur Ross Gallery is currently collaborating with the School of Dental Medicine on an acclaimed show drawn from the collection of Napoleon III's American-born dentist, Thomas W. Evans. This exhibition of art and decorative objects illuminates the life of Second Empire France, while also helping to mark the centennial of the School's flagship Thomas W. Evans Building, built with a gift from Evans to establish a state-of-the-art Dental School that would be "second to none" in dental education.

The arts also offer a vibrant means of integrating knowledge across academic disciplines and global borders. At the Institute of Contemporary Art, an exhibition of the work of the dynamic multi-media contemporary artist Christopher Knowles crosses theater, sculpture, poetry, and painting to show us how profoundly our identities are shaped by the language and sounds that we hear in daily life. At the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, we can experience performances this year across the spectrum of genres and countries, from Latin, Afro-Cuban, and South African music; to theater from the Royal Shakespeare Company; to dance performances from the legendary Twyla Tharp and Dance Theatre of Harlem.

I invite all members of the Penn community to join me in making the most of these great arts and culture resources, helping us to bring the arts ever more closely into the heart of our lives on campus.

Vincent Price
Provost



Undergraduate Assembly

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Constituency Update

1. Discussion Regarding Resources For Low Income/First Generation Students

At our last meeting, the Undergraduate Assembly discussed proposals formulated in conjunction with Penn First that aim to expand resources for low income/first generation students. The Undergraduate Assembly is looking to partner with other student groups, administrators, faculty, and staff to implement programming to improve the student experience of low income/first generation individuals at Penn.

2. Undergraduate Assembly Cabinet Meeting With President Gutmann

The UA Cabinet attended a productive meeting with President Gutmann on October 7th where we shared updates regarding ongoing projects. In addition, we discussed the results of the AAU campus climate survey and the ways in which the UA intends to work with various campus stakeholders to combat sexual violence.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Meyer

UA President (president@pennua.org)

Ray Clark

UA Vice President (vp@pennua.org)



**Status Report- Penn Professional Staff Assembly
October 14, 2015**

*The theme year for the PPSA is **Impact@Work***

- As a direct result of the recent memo from the President on Sexual Assault and Sexual Misconduct at Penn, PPSA in collaboration with WPPA and the input of the EVP's Office and the Division of Human Resources will plan an event during this academic year focused on bringing awareness of this issue to staff and providing helpful tools in handling situations.
- Our first PPSA event of the year was held on September 30th, which highlighted an introduction to **PPSA Connection**, a web-based platform that enables greater networking by “matching” PPSA members to one another on a monthly basis and a live-networking session. Over 30 staff members participated in a live event and since more than 75 staff members have joined the online group.
- The Annual **Employee Resource Fair** (ERF) in collaboration with the Weekly Paid Staff Assembly was held on Thursday, October 8th in Houston Hall. In conjunction with the ERF, there was a volunteer fair in the adjoining room with seven local organizations that included Habit for Humanity who provided Penn staff with service opportunities. Several hundred monthly and weekly paid staff members came through the Fair. Document shredding and e-waste recovery services were provided free of charge for employees. 1,563 pounds of documents were shredded on site and e-waste included 25 hard drives, 10 laptops, 12 CPUs and 9 TVs. Next year's Fair will be held on Wednesday, October 5, 2016.
- PPSA will host a Mindfulness Event in November. A possible collaboration with Human Resources is being explored and subsequently, a date and location will be announced.
- Another great speaker has been confirmed for this year: Our May Elections Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 and we are happy to announce that Professor Marybeth Gasman, Director, Penn Center for Minority-Serving Institutions will be our keynote speaker.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucia DiNapoli
Chair, PPSA

Emma Grigore
Past Chair, PPSA

Kuan Evans
Chair Elect, PPSA