

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of University Council
From: Amy Gutmann, President
Date: February 1, 2017
Subject: Report to the University Council

Provost Price and I were delighted to announce that Jay Gottfried will be the University of Pennsylvania's eighteenth Penn Integrates Knowledge University Professor, effective July 1, 2017. As the Arthur H. Rubenstein University Professor, he will hold appointments in the Perelman School of Medicine and in SAS. A pioneering neuroscientist working with the mysteries of our sense of smell, Jay will be a marvelous addition to Penn's world-class faculty. We look forward to welcoming him this summer.

We also announced that we will recommend that the Trustees reappoint Dr. Larry Jameson as Executive Vice President of the University for the Health System and Dean of the Perelman School of Medicine through June 30, 2023. I'm grateful for our Consultative Committee's hard work and for all the feedback we received from students, faculty, staff, and alumni. The Committee was enthusiastic and unanimous in its confidence in Dean Jameson's leadership, and I will wholeheartedly recommend the Trustees reappoint him so that he may continue to guide our renowned School of Medicine and Health System in saving and improving lives.

I also want to provide a brief update on the search for Provost Price's successor. My goal is to have a new Provost in place by Vince's departure on June 30. In accordance with the Faculty Handbook, I have assembled a Consultative Committee of faculty and students, chaired by Dean Jameson, to advise me on the search. I have instructed the Committee to carry out an exhaustive search and to assemble a diverse and extraordinarily talented pool for my consideration. Input from the Penn community is critical, and we have already hosted open meetings for staff and faculty, with future open meetings on the way. I encourage you to be in touch with the Committee members with suggestions and nominations.

Hats off to the ten Penn professors recently named Fellows of the prestigious American Association for the Advancement of Science, one of the highest honors for distinguished scientific contributions:

- Rajeev Alur, Zisman Family Professor in SEAS
- Peter F. Davies, professor of pathology and laboratory medicine in the Perelman School
- Ruben C. Gur, professor of psychology in the Perelman School
- Jon Martin Lindstrom, Trustee Professor of Neuroscience in the Perelman School
- Michael S. Marks, professor of physiology and pathology and laboratory medicine in the Perelman School
- Mary C. Mullins, professor of cell and developmental biology in the Perelman School
- Phillip Scott, professor of microbiology and immunology and Vice Dean for Research and Academic Resources in Penn Vet
- Amita Sehgal, John Herr Musser Professor in neuroscience in the Perelman School
- Donald A. Tomalia, adjunct chemistry professor in SAS
- Arjun Yodh, James M. Skinner Professor of Science in SAS

I applaud their scientifically and socially distinguished efforts. I also applaud College Senior Theodore Caputi, who has been selected to receive the highly competitive George J. Mitchell Scholarship for graduate studies in Ireland.

Finally, we announced that Penn's 2017 Commencement Speaker will be Senator Cory Booker, a national leader on issues such as criminal justice reform, support and resources for law enforcement, comprehensive immigration reform, and economic opportunity for all Americans. He will be joined by an eminent array of fellow honorary degree recipients: Chilean-American author and human rights advocate Isabel Allende; Professor Emerita of Cell and Developmental Biology Clara Franzini-Armstrong; *Fresh Air* host and executive producer Terry Gross; nursing research pioneer Dr. Ada Sue Hinshaw; educator and civil rights activist Robert Parris Moses; and poet, professor, and critic Paul Muldoon.

PROVOST'S STATUS REPORT

University Council

February 1, 2017

I join President Gutmann in welcoming back to Penn our newest Penn Integrates Knowledge Professor, Jay Gottfried. A world-renowned neuroscientist who studies the human sense of smell, he began his career with a three-year Neurology residency at Penn from 1998-2001, followed by highly distinguished work at University College London and Northwestern University. He will be jointly appointed in the Department of Neurology in the Perelman School of Medicine and the Department of Psychology in the School of Arts and Sciences and will be a great catalyst for our neuroscience initiatives across the University.

At this time of year, we also congratulate our annual cohort of Penn Fellows. This essential program helps build the academic leadership of the future, offering leadership development to a small group of Penn faculty members in mid-career, with opportunities to build alliances across Schools, meet with Penn's senior administrators and other academic leaders, and think strategically about universities and university governance. This year's eight Fellows represent seven Penn schools: Professors Ezekiel Dixon-Roman from the School of Social Policy and Practice; Daniel Gillion from SAS; Carolina Lopez from the School of Veterinary Medicine; Christopher Marcinkoski from PennDesign; Katherine Nathanson and Sandra Ryeom from PSOM; Maurice Schweitzer from Wharton; and Susan Yoon from GSE. They embody the kind of wide-ranging, interdisciplinary approaches that characterize our outstanding Penn faculty.

We also begin this semester with the opening – and with an Open House for the entire Penn community, on January 30 from 4:30-5:30 – of a significant new hub devoted to teaching and learning on the first floor of the Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center. It brings together in one space the Center for Teaching and Learning and the Online Learning Initiative, maximizing their ability to collaborate and to develop the resources that support and advance education at Penn. In particular, it will enable them to work more closely with the invaluable resources of the Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center – including the Weigle Information Commons and the Office of Teaching, Research, and Learning Services, both key drivers of innovative educational technologies across campus, including the highly successful launch and adoption of Canvas – and with the new Center for Learning Analytics, led by Prof. Ryan Baker of the Graduate School of Education, which will offer essential research about best practices in teaching and learning, both online and on campus. Working together as a truly interconnected hub of ideas and initiatives, these centers will help us sustain Penn's place at the leading edge of educational innovation.

I look forward to working together as the semester moves forward.

Vincent Price
Provost



gapsa

GRADUATE *and* PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSEMBLY
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

STATUS REPORT: JANUARY 23, 2016

I. GAPSAs Renewal Project

As GAPSAs celebrates its 10th anniversary of unified government, it is undertaking a project of system diagnosis and using an idealized design approach to recognize emergent ways to better serve the student community. Renewal hopes to establish more effective feedback mechanisms, and engage all graduate students and partners who comprise, and benefit from this self-governance social model.

II. G12 Spring Summit

The Presidents' Advisory Council (PAC) & Finance Advisory Board (FAB) representatives from all 12 graduate schools' student governments and GAPSAs's executive board met on 1/18/17 to discuss current issues, focus areas, best practices, and ideas for university-wide collaboration.

III. Universal Funding Application

GAPSAs has consolidated numerous funds into a [universal application](#) to promote ease of accessibility in its latest funding cycle (1/15/17-2/14/17).

IV. Election – Chair for Equity & Access

The Chair for Equity & Access will be elected at the meeting on 1/25/17

V. Consensus Statement on Science-Informed Leadership

GAPSAs unanimously endorsed a [statement](#) co-signed by several student governments across the country, advocating for the appointment of leaders that support and promote scientific integrity, to the country's highest offices.

VI. Working Group on External Advocacy

A new working group was formed at the GA meeting on 12/7/16 to encourage student engagement in the Philadelphia community, to advocate for graduate student interests at the national level, and to be active participants in public policy changes.

Respectfully submitted,

Gaurav Shukla

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Undergraduate Assembly

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Status Report – Undergraduate Assembly

February 1, 2017

I. UA Mid-Year Status Report

Last month, the UA created a mid-year progress update, which focuses on the status and summaries of the initiatives outlined in the platform of the current President and Vice President. The document provides an overview of what the UA has achieved thus far in regards to the platform items and what our priorities are for the current semester. The document has been shared with relevant administrators.

II. UA Winter Clothing Drive

Last month, the Social Justice committee of the UA coordinated a UA clothing drive. The drive ran from December 5 to December 12 with the donation areas being College Houses and other central spots on campus. At the conclusion of this week-long clothing drive on December 12th, the UA raised eight bags of clothing, which included jeans, t-shirts, hats, gloves, coats, and personal items. All the donations were delivered to Broad Street Ministry on January 11, 2017.

III. 2016-2017 Undergraduate Budget Allocation

In the upcoming weeks, the UA Budget Committee will be meeting with various PSG branches, MERT, and Penn Labs to start discussing their annual budget allocation for the 2017-2018 academic year. The budget allocation will be discussed and voted upon in February.

Respectfully submitted,
Sola Park, UA Vice President

PPSA – Penn Professional Staff Assembly

<http://www.upenn.edu/ppsa>
ppsa@pobox.upenn.edu



Status Report - Penn Professional Staff Assembly January 11, 2017

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

- Annual Clothing Drive. PPSA partnered with the Bethesda Project (benefiting homeless men) and Career Wardrobe (benefiting women with business attire). The drive ran for 17 days in December with 11 locations across campus and collected over 1500 pounds of clothing.
- PPSA continued this year's *Chats with Jack* holding the third session on November 15th. Jack Heuer, Vice President of Human Resources hosted the small group discussion with four staff members to foster open dialogue around issues of staff concern. The next session will be held on January 19, 2017.
- The January General Membership Meeting with David Hollenberg, University Architect will take place on January 25, 2017. The presentation will emphasize enhancements to campus and Pennovations in particular. Expected attendance is usually over 100 staff members.
- The February Meeting - *Embracing the Trans Community at Work* will take place on February 15, 2017. The seminar will focus on the LGBT community here at Penn. We hope to increase knowledge and awareness that will encourage staff and community members to come together to promote inclusivity and community good practices.
- The March Meeting - *Your Next Interview at Penn* will help staff prepare for their next career opportunity at Penn. Expected attendance is 70+. Details to follow.

Respectfully submitted,

Kuan R. Evans
Chair, PPSA

Lucia DiNapoli
Past Chair, PPSA

Heather J. Kelley – Thompson
Chair Elect, PPSA



January 11, 2017

Weekly Paid Professional Staff Assembly (WPPSA)

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

Status Report for January 2017

*The theme year for WPPSA is ***Motivating Morale@Work***

- WPPSA collection of items for the Ronald McDonald house in December was a huge success. We were able to collect about 8 boxes of clothing, food items, toys and gift cards for both the Chestnut Street and Front and Erie locations.
- WPPSA next General Membership Meeting will be held on January 17, 2017 in the Hill Pavilion
- WPPSA has confirmed 2 speaker presentations for February and March 2017—both will be held in the Hill Pavilion

*February 8 Ralph De Lucia--The Office of Affirmative Action & Equal Opportunity Programs—**Motivating Morale@Work**

*March 23rd—Holly Marrone—HR Learning & Education—**Career Advancement when dealing with morale issues**

Submitted by,

Joyce Jones
Co-Chair, WPPSA

Rosa Vargas
Past Chair, WPPSA