

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of University Council
From: Amy Gutmann, President
Date: March 28, 2018
Subject: Report to the University Council

Welcome back from Spring Break. As the Penn community moves into the second half of the semester, we celebrate exciting news across campus, ranging from important new senior leadership appointments to thrilling victories on the part of Penn's amazing student-athletes.

Last month, we announced with great pride that Penn's own John L. Jackson, Jr., will become the Annenberg School's new dean, effective January 1, 2019. John's achievements as a scholar, teacher and academic leader are numerous and inspiring. Our inaugural Penn Integrates Knowledge University Professor, he is already well known and universally respected at Penn. As a dean and in his own scholarly work, John has consistently harnessed the power of diverse, interdisciplinary teams – and driven mutually beneficial collaborations between the liberal arts and the professions – to better understand and address society's most timely and challenging questions. He has the experience, vision, and collaborative spirit to help ensure Annenberg's continued place among the world's preeminent research and teaching programs in communication.

Soon after, we announced with equal pride that the new dean of Penn's School of Veterinary Medicine will be Andrew Hoffman, effective August 1, 2018. Andy is an acclaimed researcher, clinician, teacher, and mentor who is now director of the Regenerative Medicine Laboratory and professor of large animal internal medicine at Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. Andy's career exemplifies the enormous potential of an integrated One Health approach to biomedicine: uniting clinicians and scientists from multiple professions and perspectives to increase knowledge and drive improvements in global public health, human and animal wellbeing, and environmental sustainability and resilience. He has a long and distinguished track record and an exciting vision for the role of veterinarians and veterinary schools in research universities and society.

In addition to these winning new Penn deans, University Athletics has enjoyed an incredible run in recent weeks. Our Men's Basketball team set the Palestra on fire late last month with a historic win over Harvard, earning Penn its first Ivy League title in over a decade. They went on to the NCAA tournament and did Penn proud in a hard-fought match against No. 1 seed Kansas. Just one night after a loss to Harvard, Penn Women's Basketball got its second wind, sweeping Dartmouth aside to secure a spot in the Ivy League Tournament. Though they eventually lost to Princeton in the Ivy League final, the women's team made a great showing against Albany in the Women's National Invitation Tournament. Both teams had hugely successful seasons.

Penn Men's Lacrosse pulled off a spectacular victory at the end of February as well. Trailing behind in the fourth quarter, they scored four goals in a row to upset the Number 1 team in the country, Duke. At the same time, our Women's Lacrosse team scored a thrilling last-minute goal over Johns Hopkins to take the win. Penn Women's Track Team won the Ivy League Indoor Heptagonal Championships for the first time since 1996 with 6 individual wins – the most in 30 years. And Penn junior Mark Andrew won both the 200 and 400 yard individual medley at the Ivy League Swimming and Diving Championships, setting program, meet, and pool records in both events.

These wonderful achievements exemplify not only the resilient spirit and skill of our student-athletes and the excellent coaching and mentorship of our staff. They exemplify that total team effort in the face of setbacks and longshots we seek to inspire and nurture in all our people and in everything we as a University strive to do: our interdisciplinary preeminence, innovation that defines the future, engagement for good, clinical care that changes and saves lives. It's the Penn quality that defines who we are.

PROVOST'S STATUS REPORT

University Council

March 2018

I am grateful to the members of the Penn community who have responded to the email of March 14 asking for input about procedures related to reporting sexual harassment on campus. We have begun reading these comments and will in some cases follow up for clarification or additional information. Moving forward, we will consider very seriously what we learn and how best to respond. I strongly encourage those of you who have experiences or perspectives on this issue to send them to provost-comments@upenn.edu by Friday, April 6 – and to encourage other to do so as well. As we wrote in our message, it is one of our highest priorities to create a campus free of sexual violence and sexual harassment in which all members of the Penn community can feel safe and supported.

More broadly, it is essential to our campus mission that we all work together to sustain the well-being of every other member of the Penn community. Last October, President Gutmann and I hosted a [Campus Conversation](#) that launched our ongoing [Wellness at Penn](#) initiative. On April 2, we invite the Penn community to a second Campus Conversation about wellness at Penn, which will be led by Penn students. The format, as at the first Campus Conversation, will allow all of us to sit at group tables, talking together about important issues of wellness on campus raised by the students in their panel conversation with Chaplain Chaz Howard. I hope that you will join me there, at 5 PM on Monday, April 2, in 200 College Hall.

We also want to encourage stronger connections across the Penn community this semester through the [Take Your Professor/Mentor/TA to Lunch](#) program, which we have expanded and streamlined to make it easier for students, faculty, and teaching assistants to use. We are gratified by the response to this initiative, which has already tripled participation in this valuable program. The initiative offers a range of options for free meals at a dining hall or the University Club, and professors/ TAs can also be reimbursed to host their current classes for meals at their homes. I encourage all of you to take advantage of this great opportunity to get to know each other outside the classroom. The close mentoring relationships between students and their professors and TAs are one of the most vital ways in which we can all learn more about each other and build essential ties that enrich our lives on campus and beyond.

I hope that everyone had an excellent break and is now enjoying a stimulating and rewarding second half of the semester.

Wendell Pritchett
Provost



Undergraduate Assembly

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Status Report – Undergraduate Assembly

March 28th, 2018

1. Undergraduate Assembly Annual Budget Allocation
 - a. The Undergraduate Assembly had its annual budget meetings on February 11th, February 18th, and February 25th in which it allocated about \$2.5 million to the other branches of student government as well as other entities. This budget allocation funds a significant amount of the undergraduate student organizations on campus. This budget allocation can be found on the Undergraduate Assembly website.
2. Airport Shuttles
 - a. In collaboration with Penn Transit, the Undergraduate Assembly provided shuttles to Philadelphia Airport for students traveling for spring break. In total, we were able to provide 453 students with this service.
3. Mental Health Survey
 - a. The Undergraduate Assembly, in consultation with CAPS and Penn Wellness, sent out a Mental Health and Resources Awareness and Utilization Survey in an attempt to gather information regarding the mental health resources that Penn students are using and to identify areas that require further support and improvement. The responses collected were anonymous and students were entered into a raffle.
4. Got Consent Campaign & AVEN program
 - a. As part of the process to become an Anti-Violence Engagement Network (AVEN) group, the UA Executive Board recently participated in a consent discussion with staff from the PVP office and will be featured in the Got Consent campaign. The UA body also participated in PAVE training. For the final steps of the AVEN program, the Executive Board will be drafting a bylaw amendment to include an anti-violence statement in our bylaws. The purpose of this statement is to stress the importance of creating a safe environment that doesn't encourage violence and to encourage other organizations and entities to do the same.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Shah, UA Vice President



**Status Report- Penn Professional Staff Assembly
March 21, 2018**

The theme year for the PPSA is Year of Growth

- Our event co-hosted with WPPSA and scheduled as part of the Teach-In was rescheduled due to the fourth nor'easter. Therefore, "Developing a Culture of Health," will be held on August 18, 2018 from 1pm-2:30pm (location TBD). The event will feature a panel with three speakers (two health researchers from the Penn community and one human resources professional to provide tips and resources). The speakers are:
 - Jasmine Blanks Jones, a PhD student in Education and African Studies at Penn and a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Research Scholar.
 - Terri Lipman, PhD, CRNP, FAAN, Miriam Stirl Endowed Term Professor of Nutrition, Professor of Nursing of Children, Assistant Dean for Community Engagement, Interim Program Director, Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Program, Penn Nursing.
 - Ashlee Halbritter, Director of Campus Health, Student Health Service.

This event will be appropriate for staff, students, and faculty and will include lunch and 10 "be in the know" points for faculty and staff.

- Our call for nominations was sent out to all PPSA members. Nominations for chair-elect, board members, and committee representatives are due April 22, 2018. Candidates will be presented during our open membership meeting on May 16, 2018. The speakers will be James Pawelski, PhD, from the Penn Positive Psychology Center and his wife (and co-author), Suzann Pileggi Pawelski, MAPP.
- Our spring semester "Chats with Jack" are ongoing and we are encouraging PPSA members to sign up for slots.
- Plans are underway for our June wellness event.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather J. Kelley – Thompson
Chair, PPSA

Kuan R. Evans
Past Chair, PPSA

Stephanie S. Yee
Chair Elect, PPSA



March 23, 2018

Weekly Paid Professional Staff Assembly (WPPSA)
<http://www.upenn.edu/wpsa/>
Status Report for March 2018

I. Recent Business:

- a. WPPSA has filled nearly all leadership and committee seats for the 2018-2019 year. Our chair for 2018-19 year will be current co-Chair Rhonda Kirlew. Marcus Wright will move into the brand new Past-Chair position. We are still looking for a Chair-Elect and a volunteer for Outreach/Marketing.
- b. Marcus recently met with Rebecca Stein from Penn's Online Learning Initiative to discuss how staff could better leverage the resources under this initiative. Among other items, tentative plans were made that would focus on providing a group of weekly-paid staff a structure to take a MOOC course as a cohort.
- c. An "Education Expenses Reimbursement" fund does not seem possible at this time. However, the imperative to address the increasing needs of support staff who take courses outside of Penn exists. We are hoping to continue a conversation with Human Resources about what WPPSA can do about this going forward.

II. Next Steps:

- a. Elect a Chair-Elect, with the understanding that this person will be the Chair in 2019-2020.
- b. Develop an Ad Hoc committee who will begin planning for the 2018-2019 Employee Resource Fair.
- c. Finalize an order of WPPSA paraphernalia for giveaways, the Employee Resource Fair, etc.

Humbly submitted,

Marcus T. Wright
Chair, WPPSA

Rhonda D. Kirlew
Co-Chair, WPPSA