

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE
FOR UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
2017 - 2018**

Prepared by the Office of the University Secretary

This is the fortieth annual report of the Steering Committee of the University Council, prepared in accordance with Council Bylaws that the Steering Committee publish an annual report to the University community that reviews the previous year's Council deliberations and highlights "both significant discussions and the formal votes taken on matters of substance."

SEPTEMBER 6, 2017 MEETING

With the advice of Steering and consent of Council, President Gutmann appointed Dr. Therese Richmond as moderator and Lauren Steinfeld as parliamentarian for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Faculty Senate Chair Santosh Venkatesh advised that Steering had drawn on discussions at the April 2017 Steering and Council meetings to finalize four focus issues for 2017-2018, as follows:

- Athletics and Extracurricular Activities (December 6, 2017)
- Diversity and Inclusion (January 31, 2018)
- Penn Connects 3.0 (February 21, 2018)
- A discussion of the ways our faculty are using multidisciplinary approaches to tackle some of the world's most pressing challenges (March 28, 2018)

Council reviewed the 2017-2018 committee charges and Professor Venkatesh announced two Open Forum sessions, for the December 6th and February 21st meetings.

Provost Pritchett and David Fox, Director, NSO and Academic Initiatives, led discussion of the 2017-2018 Academic Theme Year: *The Year of Innovation*, highlighting upcoming events that will include intellectual and cultural opportunities for students, faculty, and staff. Professor Fox outlined how members of the University community could obtain grant funding for planning and executing events related to the theme year.

OCTOBER 25, 2017 MEETING

In accordance with the Bylaws, President Gutmann and Provost Price presented State of the University reports.

The Moderator introduced three Penn Integrates Knowledge professors to speak with Council about their research: Professors Beth Simmons, Andrea Mitchell University Professor; Herbert Hovenkamp, James G. Dinan University Professor; and Dorothy Roberts, George A. Weiss Professor.

Professor Simmons outlined the work of her current project to better understand the impulses to "connect" or to "separate," particularly in reference to borders. Using ARC-GIS software, geospatial data, and Google Maps, Professor Simmons explained how mapping the world's border

crossings brought better understanding of the variance of state presence at international borders, including those at United States borders.

Professor Hovencamp explained that his research has fallen predominantly into two distinct areas, anti-trust law and American legal history. He detailed an ongoing project tentatively titled “Racism and Public Law during the Progressive Era.” He spoke about the significant influences in play at the onset of the Progressive Era, particularly the institutional scientific racism that had been a prominent part of the curriculum of American universities from the 18th century until largely ending in the early 1920s with onset of the Progressive Era.

Professor Roberts spoke about her interest in exploring how biological and social scientists are working together to develop theories about the causes of social inequality. Professor Roberts established Penn’s Program on Race, Science, and Society with a collaborative working group that includes faculty from the Medical, Nursing, and Law schools, and from departments in the biological sciences, sociology, history, and sociology of science. Professor Roberts outlined a number of projects, including the development of a new undergraduate course entitled “Race, Science and Justice,” and an international symposium in spring 2018.

Provost Pritchett noted that this State of the University presentation was his first as provost. To continue the discussion on Penn innovation and research, he introduced Vice Provost for Research Dawn Bonnell.

Professor Bonnell noted that there are over 15 student clubs at Penn focused on entrepreneurship and several competitions and prizes to offer financial support and mentorship for winning ideas. She noted that the most prestigious of these is the annual President’s Engagement Prize and Innovation Prize. Highlighting particular areas of strength for Penn, Professor Bonnell spoke about cell and gene therapy, robotics, and Penn Health-Tech – a new center for health, devices, and technology which brings together professionals in medicine, engineering, business, and education to address health care needs.

Professor Bonnell highlighted examples of faculty and student engagement, including the student-led Weiss Tech House, the competition DevelopUPmed, and an educational design studio at the Graduate School of Education where 29 companies are working on the commercialization of educational tools. In addition, Wharton Entrepreneurship has awarded \$500,000 in funding annually to students, has 51 startups in its venture initiation program, and offers a variety of entrepreneurial courses. Professor Bonnell also outlined the progress of two companies that progressed through the Penn innovation ecosystem, BioBots and Exyn Technologies.

Third year Perelman School of Medicine/Ph.D. doctoral student Divyansh Agarwal spoke about his medical device company, Sanguis. A portable handheld device in development by Sanguis would allow cancer patients in chemotherapy to identify early on conditions that might delay treatment and cause serious health complications.

Fernando Rojo, a senior in the College studying math and economics, spoke of his strong interest in entrepreneurship since childhood. He recounted how as a freshman visiting Argentina he had met on the street an artisan hand crafting shoes. After returning to campus, he worked with support

from Penn resources to create a business plan and obtain funding to create PATOS, a global company now providing full-time employment to 15 across Latin America's poorest communities.

DECEMBER 6, 2017 MEETING

The first Focus Issue of the year was a discussion of athletics and extracurricular activities. Presenting on Penn Athletics were Dr. Grace Calhoun, Director of Athletics and Recreation; Dr. Brian Sennett, Chief of Sports Medicine at Penn Medicine, head team physician, and Vice Chair of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery; Angel Prinos, Deputy Athletic Director, and David Leach, Senior Associate Athletic Director for Recreation and Wellness.

Dr. Calhoun summarized strategic priorities for Athletics and how they relate to Penn's Compact 2020, including achieving competitive excellence in varsity sports and importantly, being recognized for offering educationally robust and innovative student athlete experiences.

According to Dr. Calhoun, 55% of undergraduate students used recreation facilities in the previous year. Graduate student usage has steadily increased since these students gained access in August, with 55% of the about 10,000 eligible students participating. In addition, there are nearly 6,000 competitive intramural opportunities and 1,500 competitive opportunities through the club teams.

Dr. Calhoun briefly described Penn's recreational facilities, many of which host open recreation times, including: Penn Park; Franklin Field; Pottruck Fitness Center, with about 150,000 square feet of programming space; Fox Fitness Center, and the three racquet sports centers. She indicated that Penn has 33 varsity team opportunities with about 1,000 student athletes participating, adding that Penn has had one of its most successful competitive years in recent history.

Dr. Sennett spoke about the ongoing collaborative efforts between Athletics and Penn Medicine to provide the best experience for Penn athletes through injury prevention and treating and healing injuries when they do occur. He spoke briefly about primary areas of focus in injury prevention and treatment, including Penn Sports Medicine, the Penn Human Performance Center to analyze athletic performance, and the Penn Center for the Female Athlete. In to strength and conditioning training, Dr. Sennett noted the value of the proprietary program, Sparta Science, to assist athletes in maximizing performance.

Turning to the topic of mental health and wellness, Dr. Sennett noted beneficial collaborative efforts with the Penn Center for Positive Psychology in development of resiliency training and education, Penn Medicine, and the Psychology Department as well.

Dr. Sennett spoke about concussions. Penn has taken a leadership role with education for both athletes and coaches on prevention and understanding the risks. Dr. Sennett noted Penn's leadership as part of the Ivy League Concussion Program. Similar efforts in the Big 10 are now combined with Ivy League research, with this program now based at Penn's Center for Clinical Epidemiology. \$30 million in grant funding through the NCAA and Department of Defense supports longitudinal athletic concussion research among 30 schools. Dr. Calhoun noted Ivy League rule changes, such as no live tackling during the fall season and moving up the kickoff line to lessen the chance of injury. Noting the effectiveness of these changes, she said that the average

of six concussions per year dropped to just one in the last two years combined. She added that she is optimistic that NCAA leagues will consider adopting these rule changes based on this data.

Council held its first Open Forum and discussed the following issues:

- Request to speak on the topic of providing health insurance coverage for in vitro fertilization for same-sex male couples.
- Request to speak on Roster Management and the issues of gender inequality in Penn Athletics.
- Request to discuss University policy on giving credits to college-level courses taken before enrollments.
- Request to speak on student representation in the Boards of Trustees.

JANUARY 31, 2018 MEETING

Joann Mitchell, Senior Vice President for Institutional Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer, opened discussion on diversity and inclusion on campus, Council's second Focus Issue, in terms of representation and toward a fuller integration in an environment where those from different backgrounds can come together and thrive.

Ms. Mitchell summarized progress in undergraduate and graduate student representation and faculty, including minorities, international, women, and underrepresented minorities. She indicated that while the University is pleased with progress overall, there is progress still to be made on staff diversity. Work continues with Human Resources and offices across Penn to address and respond to possible impediments to progress. The Provost noted that deans are now updating their diversity plans, and that he and President Gutmann have made this a top priority. Deans report regularly on progress, and he and Vice Provost for Faculty, Anita Allen, meet annually with deans to discuss data specific to schools.

On issues related to sexual harassment and sexual violence, Ms. Mitchell noted the ultimate goal of zero complaints and concerns, and added that issues typically arising on a campus relate to a hostile environment. Policies were updated in 2016, and the University continues to look carefully at these complex issues. She noted that Penn participated in the 2015 AAU sexual assault survey and will participate in its 2019 administration.

Turning to a discussion of resources for students with disabilities as part of Penn's comprehensive commitment to being a more inclusive community, Ms. Mitchell introduced Myrna Cohen, Executive Director, Weingarten Learning Resources Center. In the last academic year, 14% of Penn students interacted with Student Disability Services. Ms. Cohen noted that it is important to recognize that efforts do not work in isolation and that Student Disability Services works closely with partners at CAPS, Student Health Service, Dining Services and Housing, and with faculty.

Susan Shapiro, Director, Student Disabilities Services, spoke about the significant growth of the office over the past several years; there has been a 65% increase in students self-identifying over the past five years, and increases in accommodated exams with 4,390 in the last year. There have also been increases in housing and dining accommodation requests.

Amrou Ibrahim, Assistive Technology Specialist in Student Disability Services, indicated that he is responsible for making all course materials accessible to students with disabilities. Mr. Ibrahim is working with the Library so that students can receive documents and books in accessible formats. The Library has expanded its Scan and Deliver feature so that scanned materials can be run through a character recognition program for accessibility.

FEBRUARY 21, 2018 MEETING

The third Focus Issue of the year was *Penn Connects 3.0*. Vice President for Facilities and Real Estate Services Anne Papageorge introduced the discussion, summarizing a 20-year vision beginning with the original 2009 *Penn Connects* plan and *Penn Connects 2.0*, and incorporates sustainability as defined in Penn's Climate Action Plan. She spoke about recently completed projects, such as the renovation of Hill College House and the Larry Robbins House, home to the joint Wharton/Engineering Management and Technology program.

Ms. Papageorge outlined the multi-year program to upgrade numerous HVAC and lighting systems across campus nearing the end of their useful life, and to provide better energy efficiency. She noted significant real estate projects, such as the ground-lease development of the FMC Tower and projects with Brandywine Realty Trust, including EVO, with market-rate graduate student apartments.

She outlined how Penn came to acquire and develop Pennovation Works, with long-term capacity of 1.5 million square feet on the site. It is the home of the Pennovation Center, which now has 58,000 square feet of completed space. Ms. Papageorge noted upcoming projects, such as the \$15 million renovation of Houston Hall Market and an academic and research building for Wharton at 37th and Spruce Streets that will incorporate a new substation. Among other projects are the New College House West at 40th and Walnut Streets to open fall of 2021, Franklin's Table Food Hall to open in March 2018, and the new home for Political Science and Economics, the \$78 million Perelman Center for Political Science and Economics at 36th and Walnut Streets.

Ms. Papageorge also noted renovations at the University Museum, with construction to begin shortly, and several Penn Medicine projects, such as the Center for Healthcare Technology, a 10-story office building with childcare facilities, and the largest project underway, the new Pavilion, which includes emergency rooms, 47 operating rooms, and 500 beds in 1.5 million square feet.

Ms. Papageorge indicated that the University's STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System) report will soon be available on the Green Campus Partnership website. This report summarizes progress against Climate Plan 2.0 indicators of greenhouse gas submissions, LEED buildings, transportation initiatives, waste minimization, outreach and engagement, and academics.

In closing, she noted that Penn's investment of \$1.7 billion in buildings, renovation, and new construction, Penn Medicine of \$1 billion, and private investment of \$1.1 billion, to total \$3.8 billion over the last ten years.

Council held its second Open Forum and discussed the following issues:

- Request to speak on the role of fraternities/sororities in campus life.

- Request to speak improving policies around reporting sexual harassment and assault.
- Request that all student assignments have written instructions.
- Proposal for improving mental health services on Penn's campus.
- Request to speak on Quechua language program at Penn.
- Request to discuss Penn's Sexual Violence Policy and a personal experience of going through Penn's SVIO Process.
- Request to speak on the subject of future divestment options for the University with regard to its holdings in the fossil fuel industry.

MARCH 28, 2018 MEETING

The Provost noted that the “Budgets” portion of this report on plans for the next academic year would be delivered at the University Council meeting of April 18. He introduced University Museum Director Julian Siggers and Deputy Director and Chief Curator Stephen Tinney to present on “Building Transformation at the Penn Museum.”

Dr. Siggers noted that the museum collection contains about one million objects from projects worldwide over the last 130 years. He indicated that new Museum renovations will greatly facilitate community outreach to Philadelphia and beyond, and noted the Museum's K-12 school program reaching 60,000 students each year through virtual and personal visits in the classrooms and Museum visits.

Dr. Siggers introduced Dr. Stephen Tinney, who spoke about the Museum's Academic Engagement Department, created a few years ago, with significant investment in specialized classrooms for working with objects so that students and faculty can take advantage of this curricular opportunity. The Museum has two full-time collection study rooms for classes up to 60 students and the galleries are integrated into this work as well. Professional and faculty staff; experts in archaeological metallurgy, botany, and zoology; human skeletal analysis, and more support the undergraduate and the graduate community.

Dr. Siggers described the substantial building transformation now underway at the Museum, allowing re-imagining of the collections, and to include important upgrades such as improved wayfinding, HVAC, new restrooms, and complete renovation of the Harrison Auditorium. Over 44,000 square feet of space is being renovated, with the first phase to be completed in September 2019, and the first spaces, the Middle East Galleries, set to open in April.

In closing, Dr. Siggers noted that the Museum renovations are simultaneous with construction of Penn Medicine's Pavilion, allowing for a number of money-saving joint efforts. He briefly summarized Phase Two and Three, which, presuming successful fundraising efforts, will include 20,000 square feet of new Egyptian program space.

Vice Provost for Research Dawn Bonnell introduced the final focus issue of the year, which was a discussion of the way our faculty are using multidisciplinary approaches to tackle some of the world's most pressing challenges. Professor Bonnell's presentation focused on how Penn's centers and institutes, as well as faculty-driven activities, facilitate interdisciplinary work in multiple different mechanisms, including the Penn Integrates Knowledge (PIK) professors. She summarized

Penn's history in interdisciplinary work, beginning with the Laboratory for Research on the Structure of Matter (LRSM) in 1960. Established with federal support, it was the first academic institute for interdisciplinary materials research in the United States and led to a number of Nobel Prizes for researchers there. LRSM continues its work today as one of the most lauded outreach programs in the National Science Foundation portfolio.

Professor Bonnell introduced Dr. David Issadore, Assistant Professor of Bioengineering and Electrical & Systems Engineering. Dr. Issadore outlined his research to harness technology to miniaturize the diagnosis of disease. He works in collaboration with Penn Medicine and other schools on a number of challenges, including the early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer, tuberculosis, and HIV, as well as work on traumatic brain injury. He likened his work to "listening in" on the body's conversation, utilizing micro-electronics, micro-fluidics and nano materials, in order to develop ways to diagnose. In essence, millions of micro-devices can work in parallel to seek very rare biomarkers.

Dr. Emily Falk is an Associate Professor of Communication at the Annenberg School for Communication and Director of the Communication Neuroscience Lab, with secondary appointments in Psychology in the School of Arts and Sciences and Marketing at the Wharton School. The Lab's work involves studying changeable behaviors that are some of the leading causes of death, and the challenge of finding messages and interventions to motivate behavior change. Dr. Falk indicated that the technology of Functional MRI aids understanding in real time as subjects experience persuasive messages, with the hope of predicting receptivity to different kinds of interventions, and development of persuasive campaigns. Research includes efforts on sunscreen use, teenage risk-taking, increasing physical activity, alcohol use and binge drinking on campus, and likelihood to engage in civic engagement.

APRIL 18, 2018 MEETING

Vice President and University Secretary Leslie Kruhly provided a follow-up on the Open Forum and New Business items from the Council meeting of February 21, 2018. In completion of the Report on Plans for the Next Academic Year, Vice President for Budget and Management Analysis Trevor Lewis offered an analysis of the FY18 University Operating Budget, including statistics on undergraduate and graduate financial aid.

The Chairs of the five standing Council committees provided overviews of their final reports:

- Professor Joe Libonati, Chair of the Committee on Academic and Related Affairs
- Professor Monica Calkins, Chair of the Committee on Campus and Community Life
- Professor Ezekiel Dixon-Román, Chair of the Committee on Diversity and Equity
- Professor Masao Sako, Chair of the Committee on Facilities
- Professor Russell Localio, Chair of the Committee on Personnel Benefits

Dr. Gutmann thanked the committee chairs and members for their hard work in exploring the charges assigned to their committees and in making recommendations.

Faculty Senate Chair-Elect Professor Jennifer Pinto-Martin reported on the work of the University Council Committee on Committees, indicating that the Council committees operated well in 2017-2018 and suggesting adjustments to the process. Faculty Senate Chair Professor Santosh Venkatesh introduced potential Council Focus Issues for the 2018-2019 academic year as suggested by Steering, Council, and constituencies, and noted that other suggestions are welcome.

Dr. Gutmann acknowledged the contributions of outgoing participants of Council, thanking them and all University Council members for their participation.