



PENNEWS@ HK

Monthly Newsletter of University of Pennsylvania Club of Hong Kong
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May 2006

President Amy Gutmann visits Hong Kong

President Gutman had a memorable visit in Hong Kong during March.

She met with the Penn alums at the Hong Kong Club at a dinner held in her honor on March 18. The theme of her speech was "from excellence to eminence". One of the ways of achieving the goal was to recruit and support excellent international students who would not be able to go to Penn without financial assistance.

President Gutman also spoke at the Asia Society and met with parents of students and long time supporters of Penn.

Fundraising Dinner on March 18 2006

A total of \$610,510 was raised from the dinner, the raffle and the Auction.

Many thanks to all who worked hard to put the event together, get the donated prizes, and thanks to all the teenagers who sold raffle tickets. Special thanks go to those who donated so generously.

Second Scholarship established by the University of Pennsylvania Club of Hong Kong

The Penn Scholar Foundation met after the dinner and decided to pay up the first scholarship pledge and start the second scholarship so that a new Hong Kong student, who needs financial assistance, may enter Penn in Fall, 2006.

The Foundation also decided to write a letter in the Fall to the local schools who teach in English informing them of the dates the two scholarships would be available so that they may inform their students of the availability.

The Foundation would like to welcome its new Vice President, Christophe Lee; many thanks to Joseph Ferrigno who served as Vice President for the past two years.

Admissions to Penn Fall 2006

Despite the fact that this was the most competitive year for admissions to Penn, 20 students from Hong Kong were admitted. There was an increase from 99-131 applications from Hong Kong for the Fall of 2006. Many thanks to the alums who helped interview the applicants.

Penn News

President Gutmann has announced that Penn is expanding its effort to alleviate the financial burden on low- and middle-income students and to continue attracting top students with diverse economic backgrounds.

This coincides with a \$6.3 million increase in the University's undergraduate financial aid budget for the coming academic year, with the funds targeted to middle- and low-income families, reaffirming Penn's commitment to need-blind admissions and meeting the full need of all students.

"By providing financial aid packages without loans to students whose parents earn \$50,000 or less, we can ease their financial concerns, not only throughout their education but also after graduation, enabling them more freedom to choose the most satisfying careers," Gutmann said.

250th Commencement with Jodie Foster as Commencement Speaker

University of Pennsylvania's 250th Commencement was held on Monday, May 15, 2006. Commencement speaker was Jodie Foster, actress, producer and director.

This year's honorary degree recipients include Jodie Foster, who had graduated with honors from Yale University in 1985 with a B.A. in Literature.

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. -- African American Literature scholar and cultural critic; chair of African and African American Studies at Harvard University; Shirley Ann Jackson -- the 18th president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY, and Hartford, CT, the oldest technological research university in the U.S. and has held senior leadership positions in government, industry, research, and academe; Lawrence Klein -- emeritus professor of economics at Penn, known for the creation of economic models and the analysis of economic fluctuations and policies; Nobel Laureate in Economics, 1980; Judith Klinman -- groundbreaking biochemical researcher, UC Berkeley; and Stephen Wynn 'C63 -- Gaming industry pioneer; chairman and CEO, Wynn Resorts, creator of Mirage, Bellagio and Treasure Island in Las Vegas.



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