The Associations of Senior and Emeritus Faculty of the Perelman School of Medicine (ASEF-PSOM) and the University of Pennsylvania (PASEF)

2023 Newly Retired & Emeritus Faculty Program and Reception

Thursday, May 18, 2023
4:00 PM

Jordan Medical Education Center Atrium
5th floor, Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine
3400 Civic Center Boulevard
The Penn Association of Senior and Emeritus Faculty informs and advocates on matters of concern to senior and retired faculty through dialogue with the University administration and communication with its members and the larger community.

PASEF, the organization of and for senior (age 55+) and retired faculty from all schools of the University, sponsors activities supporting and encouraging senior and retired faculty members to continue as active, contributing participants in the intellectual and social life of the University and to maintain and extend connections with their colleagues in the University and beyond. PASEF organizes lectures, discussions, social functions and excursions providing fellowship and interaction among members and familiarizes them, especially those planning retirement, with issues relating to retired life and benefits. PASEF also promotes opportunities for members to render service to the University and its surrounding community.
2022–2023 Faculty Honorees

Richard Assoian, PhD
Pharmacology
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Assoian served at Penn as Director of the Program in Translational Biomechanics, a research collaboration for scientists interested in translational mechanobiology and served as Co-Director of the Center for Engineering Mechanobiology. His particular research focus in later years was on how changes in the stiffness of the extracellular matrix (ECM) affect adhesion receptor signaling, the actin cytoskeleton, intracellular forces, and fate decisions in arterial aging and disease.

Donald H. Berry, PhD
Chemistry
School of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Berry’s research has focused on synthesis, structure and mechanisms in inorganic and organometallic systems, with an emphasis on molecules posing significant questions of structure and bonding, exhibiting catalytic activity, and novel polymers with useful properties. An innovative and dedicated teacher, he was recognized with an Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching and was an early proponent of active learning methods at Penn.

John T. Boyle, MD
Pediatrics
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Boyle served at CHOP as a pediatric gastroenterologist with special expertise in pediatric complex gastrointestinal motility disorders and served as the head of the Gastrointestinal Motility suite in the Lustgarten Center for Gastrointestinal Motility of the Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition at CHOP. His academic career has afforded him opportunities to teach and mentor medical students, postgraduate fellows, and junior faculty.
Brenda B. Casper, PhD
Biology
School of Arts and Sciences
As an ecologist, Dr. Casper studied plant breeding systems, root-root competition, plant interactions with soil microbes, and plant community responses to climate change. Her lab's research was primarily experimental, set in arid systems, tropical dry forest, local forests and grasslands, and Mongolian steppe. She chaired two departments: Biology and Earth and Environmental Science. She is a Fellow of the Ecological Society of America.

Anna Rose Childress, PhD
Psychiatry
Perelman School of Medicine
Across more than 4 decades at Penn, Dr. Childress' research has focused on improving clinical outcomes in addiction by targeting cue-triggered drug motivation (“GO!”) as a primary contributor to relapse. She pioneered the use of brain imaging tools to characterize the “GO!” states (and their regulators), to identify patients at high relapse risk, and to screen candidate medications for their anti-relapse promise. (BS Virginia Tech; MA; PhD, Bryn Mawr College; Post-Doc, Penn Psychiatry).

Peter K. Davies, PhD
Materials Science and Engineering
School of Engineering and Applied Science
Throughout Dr. Davies’ career he developed new materials for wireless communications devices and sustainable sources of energy. He taught courses on the chemistry, structure, and stability of materials; his educational contributions were recognized through the Christian and Mary Lindback Award (1998), the S. Reid Warren Award in SEAS (2005, 2008, 2023), and the Class of 1942 Term Chair (2014).

Vincent F. Deeney, MD
Orthopedic Surgery
Perelman School of Medicine
Dr. Deeney was recruited to the University of Pennsylvania in July 2017 specializing in spine deformity, neuromuscular conditions (including spina bifida and cerebral palsy) and pediatric trauma. He is a past President and Program Chair of the Society of Military Orthopedic Surgeons. Dr. Deeney attended Jefferson Medical College while on Active Duty in the Air Force and spent 20 years in the Air Force; retiring as a Colonel in 1990.

Robert DeRubeis, PhD
Psychology
School of Arts and Sciences
Robert DeRubeis is internationally known for his work identifying the underlying causal mechanisms of psychotherapy. Through methodological sophistication, he established the efficacy of psychological treatments for depression and clarified what works for whom and why. Dr. DeRubeis was chair of the Psychology Department from 2001 and became Associate Dean of the Social Sciences in the School of Arts and Sciences in 2005.

Lawrence Dougherty, PhD
Radiology
Perelman School of Medicine
Dr. Dougherty made a significant impact on cardiovascular MR, and his 3D angiography and cardiac tissue tagging methods are standard components of clinical cardiovascular studies. He invented the SPAMM method for studying cardiac function, which is one of the most successful patents Penn has licensed. One of his collaborations led to the development of a peripheral lymphangiography protocol, making Penn one of the few sites in the country capable of performing these studies.

Kenneth J. Drobatz, DVM, MS
Professor of Critical Care
School of Veterinary Medicine
For twenty years Kenneth Drobatz has been a specialist in emergency medicine at Penn Vet, and since 2006 chief of the section of critical care. He has collaborated on numerous clinical research projects primarily involving small animal emergency conditions. The author of numerous research papers, his best-known work may be the popular book Feline Emergency and Critical Care Medicine.

Arthur Dunham, PhD
Biology
School of Arts and Sciences
In Arthur Dunham’s work on complex ecological systems, he argued that hypothesis testing and “strong inference” may be inappropriate where multiple causal processes operate simultaneously. And he was one of the first to warn of climate change. “Humans need to recognize that the greatest threats aren’t medical, but ecological problems,” he said to the Daily Pennsylvanian in 1991. “Environmental threats ... are far more serious than any medical threats”.
Ricardo Eiraldi, PhD
Pediatrics
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Eiraldi is Professor of Clinical Psychology in Pediatrics and Psychiatry and Program Director of the Behavioral Health in Urban Schools Program at CHOP. He received his BA in Psychology from Temple University and his PhD in Clinical Psychology from Hahnemann University. His research focuses on the development and testing of mental health training strategies for school personnel in under-resourced urban and rural schools and the assessment and treatment of ADHD in children and adolescents.

Michal A. Elovitz, MD
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Elovitz served at Penn as the Hilarie L. Morgan and Mitchell L. Morgan President’s Distinguished Professor in Women’s Health and as Vice Chair of Translational Research for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. As the Founding Director of the Maternal and Child Health Research Center, she was internationally recognized for pioneering research on preterm birth and for mentoring physician-scientists in women’s health.

Michael D. Feldman, MD, PhD
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Feldman joined the Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Department at Penn in 1998. He focused clinically on head and neck, and breast pathology. His research centered on pathology informatics and tissue banking. During his tenure at Penn, he served as Vice Chair, Clinical Service, Administrative Director, Clinical Microbiology, and Director, Pathology Informatics for the Department of Pathology and as Director of the Abramson Center Core Tissue Bank.

John C. Flamma, MD
Emergency Medicine
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. John C. Flamma received his bachelor degree from Villanova University and his medical degree in 1988 from St. George’s University School of Medicine. In 2011, Dr. Flamma became chief of Penn Presbyterian Emergency Department. He was a direct supervisory influence in the reconstruction and building of the new emergency department in the Pavilion for Advanced Care at Penn Presbyterian and continues as renovations bring the existing department up to date.

Henry A. Glick, PhD
Medicine
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Glick received an MA and PhD in Public Policy Analysis from Penn before joining the faculty in the Department of Medicine. As a Senior Fellow and Director at the Center for Health Incentives, Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics, Dr. Glick specialized in economic evaluations conducted as part of clinical trials. Lead author of the book, Economic Evaluation in Clinical Trials published by Oxford University Press, Dr. Glick has published over 130 peer-reviewed articles.

Avery Goldstein, PhD
Political Science
School of Arts and Sciences

Prof. Goldstein’s research and teaching have focused on international relations, China’s foreign policy, and the strategic implications of nuclear weapons. His academic work has given him opportunities to participate in exchanges with scholars, political officials, and military officers in Asia and the US. In recognition of his contributions as a teacher at Penn, he received the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching (2008).

Raymond J. Gorte, PhD
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
School of Engineering and Applied Science

Ray joined Penn in the Chemical Engineering Department in 1981 and developed an active research program in heterogeneous catalysis and ceramic fuel cells. He received a number of awards for his work, culminating in election to the National Academy of Engineering in 2018. He guided 48 PhD and 28 postdoctoral students in their research and served as department chairman from 1995 to 2001.

Elliot V. Hersh DMD, MS, PhD
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery / Pharmacology
School of Dental Medicine

Since arriving at Penn (1988), Dr. Hersh has won the Dental School’s Excellence in the Teaching of Basic Science Award 21 different times, a University Lindback Award (1993), and a Distinguished Scientist Award by the IADR (2007). His clinical research has focused on non-addicting pain relievers and he remains passionate in reducing the numbers of opioid prescriptions in all specialties.
Samuel T. Kuna, MD
Medicine
Perelman School of Medicine

Specializing in sleep medicine, Dr. Kuna served as the founding chief of the Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Division at the Corporal Michael J. Crescenz VA Medical Center. Dr. Kuna received the 2003 Mark Wolcott Award for Excellence in Clinical Care Delivery, a national award given yearly by the Veterans Health Administration to a physician who has made outstanding contributions to clinical care.

Daniel Licht, MD
Neurology
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Licht’s research in infants with congenital heart defects led to an understanding that fetal circulation is altered by the heart malformations, and that the altered fetal physiology leads to major differences in fetal brain development. Dr. Licht has also led innovation in the clinical applications of novel optical devices. His research with applied optics has led to changes in the timing of infant heart surgery across the globe. Dr. Licht was awarded the Luigi Mastroianni Clinical Innovator Award at Penn, as well as the Master Clinician at CHOP.

Robert Lustig, MD
Radiation Oncology
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Lustig joined the faculty of the Department of Radiation Oncology, Perelman School of Medicine in 1998 and subsequently was appointed as Clinical Professor of Radiation Oncology. He has specialized in the treatment of adult and pediatric patients with brain tumors. He has participated in multiple clinical trials investigating new methods of treating these patients. He was appointed Chief of Clinical Operations in 2008.

Gary A. Molander, PhD
Chemistry
School of Arts and Sciences

Gary Molander was the Hirschmann-Makineni Chair of Chemistry. As Chair of the Department of Chemistry (2009-2018), he provided the impetus for the Vagelos Institute for Energy Science and Technology. His research interests are in the development of new synthetic methods for organic synthesis used primarily by the pharmaceutical industry. A statistical assessment of career research impact reveals that his program is among the top 35 of all living organic chemists.

Itzhak Nissim, PhD
Pediatrics
Perelman School of Medicine

As a biochemist, a member of the Penn Institute of Diabetes, Obesity, and Metabolism, and scientific director of the Metabolomics Core Facility at CHOP, Dr. Nissim pioneered the application of stable isotopes, mass spectrometry, and nuclear magnetic resonance to study metabolism. A special emphasis was on development of pharmacotherapeutic intervention to mitigate metabolic derangement. His research interests included cancer metabolism, neurochemical aberrations, obesity, fatty liver disease, diabetes and pathogenic mitochondrial integrity and function.

Anna Pastuszko, MD
Biochemistry and Biophysics
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Pastuszko received the highest scientific degree in Poland, the Doctor of Habilitation of Medical Science in Neurochemistry at the Medical Academy in Warsaw. She is recognized for many contributions to understanding the mechanisms of neuronal injury by hypoxic/ischemic episodes and treatments by which the injury can be attenuated. She also studied the clinically important problem of neurological dysfunction often observed following cardiopulmonary bypass surgery, particularly in pediatric cases.

Adrian Raine, DPhil, DUniv
Criminology
School of Arts and Sciences

Adrian Raine is the Richard Perry University Professor of Criminology, Psychiatry, and Psychology. His research focuses on the etiology and prevention of antisocial behavior. He has published over 500 articles, book chapters, and books and given over 493 invited presentations in 32 countries. Awards include an honorary degree from the University of York (UK) and the Lifetime Contributions Award in Psychopathy from the Society for the Scientific Study of Psychopathy.

J. Russell Ramsay, PhD, ABPP
Psychiatry
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Russell Ramsay is co-founder and clinical director of Penn’s Adult ADHD Treatment and Research Program. Dr. Ramsay was at the forefront of the modification of cognitive-behavior therapy (CBT) for adult ADHD, now considered an evidence-supported psychosocial treatment for adult ADHD. He’s widely published, including five books on adult ADHD (working on #6), and he is in the CHADD Hall of Fame.
Daniel K. Richter, PhD
History
School of Arts and Sciences

Dan Richter is the Roy F. and Jeannette P. Nichols Professor of American History. *The Ordeal of the Longhouse* won the 1993 Frederick Jackson Turner Award and the 1993 Ray Allen Billington Prize, Organization of American Historians, and was selected a 1994 Choice Outstanding Academic Book. *Facing East from Indian Country* won the 2001–2002 Louis Gottschalk Prize in Eighteenth-Century History and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.

Michael B. Robinson, PhD
Pediatrics
Systems Pharmacology and Translational Therapeutics
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Robinson’s group studied glutamate transport and astrocyte biology. He directed an NINDS-funded postdoctoral training program from 2005 to 2022 and co-directed/directed the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center from 1998 to 2022. He is the recipient of Dean’s Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Education, the Faculty Mentor Award from the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, and the Award for Excellence in Research Mentoring from the CHOP Research Institute.

David B. Roth, MD, PhD
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Perelman School of Medicine

After serving as Chair of the Department of Pathology at New York University School of Medicine, Dr. Roth joined the Penn faculty in 2011 to become the Simon Flexner Professor and Chair of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. As Chair, he set up the Penn Center for Personalized Diagnostics and more recently, the Penn Center for Precision Medicine. His many research interests included DNA repair and mechanisms of programmed gene rearrangement during lymphocyte differentiation.

Aileen B. Rothbard, ScD
Social Policy and Practice
Psychiatry, Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Rothbard’s research examines the impact of policy changes, program implementation and technological innovations on system utilization, cost efficiency and outcome effectiveness for persons with serious mental illness and co-occurring disorders. Dr. Rothbard has conducted studies of the seriously mentally ill population that involve evaluating new treatment programs, monitoring the effects of reimbursement and management approaches on access and quality of care, adherence to medications and outcomes of new housing approaches.

Dieter M. Schifferli, Matura, DVM, Dr Med Vet, PhD
Microbiology
School of Veterinary Medicine

Dieter Schifferli’s research sought to understand how bacterial pathogens initiate their infectious process and, in particular, how bacterial ligands bind to specific host receptors and mediate bacterial colonization, host cell signaling, and/or optimal toxin delivery. The goal was to help in designing new prophylactic and therapeutic approaches against bacterial pathogens. Recently his lab became interested in the use of next generation sequencing methods to screen for the distribution of virulence factors and virulence factor alleles in large collections of Salmonella isolates.

Christian J. Stoeckert Jr., PhD
Genetics
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Stoeckert has spent most of his career working on databases and methods supporting the mining of complex datasets. These have covered gene expression and genomics, orthologous proteins, eukaryotic pathogens and vectors, and clinical epidemiology. This work led to involvement and leadership in the development of data standards and biomedical ontologies.

Corinne Raphel Sweeney, DVM, Diplomate ACVIM
School of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Sweeney’s 44-year career at Penn encompassed equine internal medicine clinical practice and research and roles such as Hospital Director, Associate Dean of New Bolton Center, and Penn Vet Ombuds. Her most treasured role was student teaching and advocacy. She has been the recipient of many teaching awards including the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching.
Raymond W. Sweeney, VMD, Diplomate ACVIM
School of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Sweeney came to Penn as a veterinary student in 1978, and never left. After earning his VMD he continued at Penn Vet, specializing in Large Animal Internal Medicine, conducting research, and teaching. He received numerous teaching awards including the Lindback Award, and the North American Outstanding Veterinary Educator Award. He was honored with the Mark Whittier and Lila Griswold Allam endowed chair in 2017.

Alan J. Wein, MD, PhD, (Hon), FACS
Surgery
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Wein has spent 37 years as Chief of Division of Urology, one of the nation's leading centers for excellence in urology and urologic surgery. He's received lifetime achievement awards from many professional organizations in his specialty and was presented with the Perelman School's Distinguished Graduate Award, the School's highest alumni honor. Upon his retirement, the Founders Professorship in Urology is to be renamed in his honor.

Robert L. Wilensky, MD, FACC
Medicine
Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Wilensky’s research interest was vascular injury and repair and the development of novel devices with clinical approaches to improve treatment of unstable coronary artery disease. These studies led in part to the development of drug-eluting stents. He was the recipient of the Outstanding Teaching Award in Cardiac Catheterization Interventions and an author of over 170 peer reviewed papers.