MEMORANDUM

To: Members of University Council

From: Amy Gutmann, President

Date: February 20, 2013

Subject: Status Report to the University Council

It has been only three short weeks since my last report to the University Council. Since that time, I was delighted to participate in the Law School’s gala celebration of the conclusion of “Bold Ambitions: The Campaign for Penn Law.” Dean Fitts and the Law School set a truly ambitious goal of $175 million for this six-year campaign. Not only did they surpass the goal with $180 million by June 2012, but by December they had raised the total to over $200 million. This record-breaking accomplishment means so much more than a big headline and a big party (though rightfully deserved). It means 17 new named professorships; double the resources for student financial aid; new interdisciplinary programs and curricula; record alumni engagement; and the spectacular new Golkin Hall on Sansom Street. I congratulate Dean Fitts and the Law School on these important successes.

I am also proud to report that three Penn students and two recent alumni have earned Thouron Awards. These incredibly talented young people will have the opportunity to pursue graduate studies in the UK tuition-free:

- Jacob Blumenfeld-Gantz, C’12, W’12, is applying to the University of Oxford for a masters of public policy.
- Elena Jaya Gooray, C’13, is applying to the University of Edinburgh for an MSc in cognition in science and technology.
- Cassi Joanna Henderson, ENG’13, is applying to King’s College for an MSc in engineering and business administration.
- Tarub Sayeed Mabud, C’13, W’13, is applying to the University of Cambridge for an MPhil in epidemiology.
- Allison Mishkin, C’11, ENG’11, is applying to the University of Oxford for an MSc in the social science of the Internet.

Penn’s Center for Undergraduate Research and Fellowships plays a pivotal role in helping our students secure these and other prestigious research opportunities. On behalf of the Penn community, I salute our Thouron scholars and CURF.

On an equally bright note, we were thrilled to announce Ronald O. Perelman’s generous gift to create the Perelman Center for Political Science and Economics, which will be located in the West Philadelphia Trust Building at 36th and Walnut Streets in the heart of our campus. Ron Perelman’s $25 million gift will empower Penn to gather these two critically important departments together in a new home. Our nation’s future leaders will require expertise in both fields to successfully navigate our complexly interconnected political and economic worlds, and our eminent faculty will be ideally situated to collaborate in creating the new knowledge needed to guide them.