Constituency Update

1. Penn inTouch Grade Notification Starting This Semester

The Penn inTouch Grade Notification will be implemented for the first time this semester. When a new grade is posted to a student’s transcript on Penn inTouch, the student will receive an e-mail notification informing students that a new final grade has been posted. This was made possible only by the immense support and quick work of Student Financial and Registration Services and Information Systems and Computing.

2. UA Funds SPEC Sound at $3585

SPEC Sound provides equipment to events that benefit charitable organizations for free. As no other funding source will fund charity events for students and student groups, this budget and SPEC Sound’s services are crucial in allowing these events to take place.

3. UA Funds PennApps Labs

PennApps Labs allows undergraduate developers to create and maintain web applications that improve student life at Penn. The UA is contributing $2,250 to PAL’s pilot program, which will fund a developer working an average of 15 hours a week over the course of 10 weeks to develop a study space database for Penn students. One of the well-received applications discussed was to create a site that aggregated all study spaces at Penn.

4. DREAM Act Resolution

The UA has expressed it support of several aspects pertaining to the DREAM Act.

1. Supports the breakdown of educational barriers to achieve the goals outlined above.
2. Commends President Amy Gutmann for her advocacy on behalf of current and future students who would be affected by the DREAM Act.
3. Recognizes and appreciates the breadth of political perspectives among the student body of the University of Pennsylvania.
4. Emphasizes the distinction between advocacy of specific legislation and advocacy in support of current and future student communities.
5. Recognizes that the undocumented population at Penn enriches the education experience for all by adding a diversity of life experience to the student body.
6. Signs and sends a letter of support to the Representatives and Senators of Pennsylvania, adding a student perspective on the issue to complement the letter already sent by President Amy Gutmann.
7. **Calls upon** the Representatives and Senators of Pennsylvania to support the values outlined in this letter.

8. **Strongly urges** President Amy Gutmann to continue advocacy efforts among our peer institutions.

5. **UA & SCUE Convenes First Math Undergraduate Advisory Board**

10 interested mathematics students discussed the vision and goals of the math UAB, membership, and the process of leadership selection. The application for one of the three co-chair positions will be sent out, due January 1, so that leadership will be selected for the start of the semester, and the board can begin doing work at the beginning of the year. Membership is open to all by application. Leadership is restricted to mathematics major and minors, and is selected by the outgoing leadership.

6. **UA Organizing Dining Hall Appreciation Day on December 10th, 2010**

In conjunction with non-UA members, this day will unite the campus in the spirit of fellowship and appreciation at 1920 Commons during this holiday season. Throughout the day, there will be a large decorated presentation poster board displayed in the main lobby of Commons. Dining hall visitors will be encouraged by a UA member to write a kind note expressing their gratitude for the staff and these notes will then be placed on the board. Several a capella groups will be performing at dinnertime.

7. **UA Contributes $3,750 to Bringing Jared Diamond to Speak**

The Philomathean Society’s Annual Oration in April 2011 will feature Jared Diamond, an ecologist, evolutionary biologist and professor of geography and physiology at UCLA. The UA joins dozens of other University entities and departments (the largest funder being the Provost’s Office) in this collaboration of this campus-wide event.

8. **Alternative Greek Funding Research**

Per our findings ([http://snipurl.com/december5](http://snipurl.com/december5)), the UA Student Life Committee has made the following recommendations. Overall, we were pleased with the progress on this project and strongly recommend the following for its continued success.

- That OFSA work to create a budget code for each of its umbrella organizations. While both PASS and SPEC can fund student groups without budget codes, it is extraordinarily simpler to fund groups with budget codes.
- That the IFC, Panhel, and the MGC distribute the funding information in this report to their member houses, encouraging them to create alternative programming using these currently underutilized resources.
- That the Greek organizations on campus improve their outreach to alumni by taking advantage of the resources and expertise OAR has to offer.
- That the Greek community continue to encourage academic enrichment inside and outside the community by forging and developing relationships with professors.
and hosting well-publicized events with them.

9. State of the School and “The Late Night” Opening

The annual Penn Student Government State of the School address and “The Late Night” kick-off event was well attended. All of the food was given out and the ThinkFast quizzo event was a hit.

10. Finalized Admissions Dean’s Advisory Board

The UA has worked with Admissions to create an advisory board to provide a forum for undergraduates in regards to the admissions process. The first meeting is this week!

11. UA Airport Shuttle Service

Every Thanksgiving and Winter breaks, the UA organizes shuttles for Penn undergraduates. This Thanksgiving, the UA transported 675 students. We are currently gearing up for Winter break shuttles.

12. UA Funds Penn Leads the Vote’s Election Day Efforts for $459.80 in Operations

13. UA Funds $295 for Exchange Student Orientation Ikea Bus Trip

ESO is an opportunity to welcome the approximately 60 new exchange students every semester. One important event is the previously successful Ikea Trip which is an indispensable service to exchange students who cannot easily get around the city. However, due to revised budget constraints, Penn Abroad did not have the resources to fund this trip.

14. UA Sponsors Flu Clinic

An estimated 750 people came to UA-sponsored flu clinic in Vance Hall on October 27th, organized by UA Student Life Committee Director Tyler Ernst.

Visit [www.pennua.org](http://www.pennua.org) for more detailed descriptions of all our projects and contacts for student leaders. Please reach out to [president@pennua.org](mailto:president@pennua.org) if you have an announcement relevant to undergraduates you would like to send to the student body.

Respectfully submitted,

**Matt Amalfitano**  
UA President ([president@pennua.org](mailto:president@pennua.org))

**Mark Pan**  
UA Vice President ([vp@pennua.org](mailto:vp@pennua.org))