

New Website

We cling to traditions in Gregory, but sometimes change is good. This summer we unveiled a redesigned website, in part because it was a time for a facelift, and in part because our crotchety server was long overdue for retirement. The new site is considerably more streamlined and user-friendly, and showcases photos, putting our smiling residents front and center (OK, actually on the left and right sidebar), as they should be. Of course, we've added an Alumni Society page as well.

As always, the site is the best place to find out what's going on at Gregory—events, news, staff, guest suite rentals, etc. So if you're planning a visit to Philly, visit gregory.house.upenn.edu first!



Fall Semester at Gregory

As always, the first months of semester are an exceedingly busy time in the House, and none more so than this year. Starting with the official welcome to the freshmen issued on the beach by Dean Donovan and Faculty Master Shaw, we've had one event after another. In addition to standbys like the House barbecue, karaoke night, Philly tours, trips to movies, theatres, operas and IKEA, and the kickoff for weekly standbys like study breaks, brunches and BYOMs, new traditions-in-the-making included a move-in Games night spearheaded by Events Managers Jenny Birnkrant and Eric Logan; a jam-packed Toga Party prep session arranged by new GAs Maribel Kissack (a master of Toga design, apparently), Jenn Crewalk, Cat Gillespie, Matt Handelman and RA Teri Kirby; a drive-in style movie night on the beach; a dance party in the Class of 1925 basement DJ'd by RA Gus Centeno, and Teri's white-water rafting trip. Events on the near horizon include Sex Camp and Sex Quizzo (if you don't know, don't ask) and the House's first ever Video Game tournament.



Chinese House

Longtime Gregory GA and Physics grad student Bartek Czech has presided over Casa Hispanica for the past several years, but this Fall he switched gears with a trial project: Chinese House. Bartek, who has travelled extensively in China, has been eager to broaden MLP's horizons, and feels he can tap into the number of Gregory residents who have been taking classes in Chinese. There isn't an academic credit component or website page this year, but there is, to hear him tell it, a lot of fun: "We sing karaoke (brush up on your F4 and Faye Wong), watch Chinese telenovelas, occasionally watch a serious Chinese film, and most of all—give students plenty of opportunity to practice their spoken Mandarin. Second year CSL learners all the way to native speakers—all are welcome." The trial has been quite successful thus far, and we plan to continue in 08-09.



'07 Graduates and Senior Award

Congratulations one last time to our Spring 07 graduates: Desanj Aberdeen, Chidiogo Akunyili, Jovaun Boyd, Marta Carnicero, Erin Carnish, Richard Chapple III, Jean-Benoit Daumerie, Christine Fitzpatrick, Gail Gamab, Meghan Johnson, Mandeep Kalra, Jennifer Lee, Iris Leung, Mia Maamari, Zohra Omar, Rania Riad, Simon Sassenberg, George C. Scott, Sophie Uy and Hao Yin; also Graduate Associates Allison Glasmann, Alex Ifill and Tara Krueger.

At a ceremony on the night of April 30th, we announced that Erin Carnish was the 07-08 recipient of the Joanne Lucid Award for contributions to House community. Erin was our Events Manager for most of her Penn career, and her mature and welcoming presence inspired many residents to return to the House over the years. Erin joins past recipients Erin Douglas, Michael Wong and Vicky Sakr, and her name appears on the plaque in the Van Pelt lobby. We've already had the pleasure of seeing Erin back in the house a few times since graduation, as she's in med school at nearby Jefferson.



Bob's Legacy

As all Gregory alumni know, Professor Lucid made an enormous impact on this place. Not only did he leave us a philosophy and a host of traditions, but also the artwork that many of us remember from open houses in his apartment. A number of his favorite pieces have been mounted in the Piano Lounge and the Guest Suite, two locales very dear to Bob and Joanne.



Introducing our new Faculty Master,

Gwendolyn Dubois Shaw

Gregory's second faculty master, Gwendolyn Dubois Shaw, is an associate professor in the Department of History of Art (check out her bio on our website!) and an incredible asset to our community. So far this semester Professor Shaw has mingled with Gregorians by delivering our first Dinner with Gregory talk, hosting a reception for Visual Studies majors in her apartment, and presiding over a special dinner and tour at the Institute of Contemporary Art.