Dear Gregorians,

Look around outside when you have the time. It’s beautiful! Spring is truly here. I’ve captured the sure sights of spring around Gregory: students lounging and doing homework on the beach, flowers in full bloom, and clear blue skies.

In this issue, we feature the International Dinner, an interview with Gregory’s own Jason Merrin—one of the winners of the College House Film Festival, and Gregory PM: Karaoke. We also have another installment of the fun/random page.

Look out for the next Gregorian published by David within the next couple of weeks. Your publications managers have decided to alternate publishing the Gregorian in order to get issues out faster and more often.

Enjoy!

Cher

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**Are you part of Gregory’s social network?**

You can follow Gregory on Twitter: @GregoryUpenn
You can become a fan of Gregory on Facebook: Gregory College House 2010—2011.
Watch Gregory’s YouTube channel: GregoryCH1
Every year, Modern Languages Program hosts the International Dinner. Gregory’s cooks, experts and novices alike, join together to celebrate cultures by putting together an elaborate feast with dishes from around the world. This event is truly one of the highlights of the Spring semester. All the food was a sight to behold, and it was definitely delicious. Hopefully you didn’t miss out!

The International Dinner is an especially wonderful event, because it gives everybody a chance to socialize, fostering the sense of community that everybody loves so much about Gregory.

Thank you to everyone who prepared the delicious food and cleaned up after the International Dinner!
To encourage creativity and engagement in Penn’s film community, Penn’s college houses sponsor a student film festival each year. The prizes this year were $500 for 1st prize, $300 for 2nd prize, and $150 for third prize. The Audience Favorite award also wins a $50 reward. Gregory’s own Jason Merrin won 2nd prize and Audience Favorite in the film festival for his short film *Yin/Yang*. Congratulations!

If you guys do not know Jason Merrin, he is one of Gregory’s aspiring student directors. He’s a freshman Digital Media Design major and he’ll likely minor in cinema studies. He defines himself by his film making and comic book addiction. He is a self-proclaimed “huge nerd,” and he’s “immensely proud of it.” The film festival was not the first time that he has received recognition for his film making. In 12th grade, his History of Animation was a finalist in the Nickelodeon animation festival.

The star actor and actress of *Yin/Yang* are also freshman Gregorians: Kathryn Volarich and Michael Kraus. Congratulations on a great film!

*Watch the award-winning film at: Vimeo.com/jasonmerrin*
Meet The Makers of Yin/Yang:

Q: Jason, why did you get into making movies?

Jason: I was always into visual narratives, comic books. I've always loved entertainment. When I was really young, I started making flip books. I actually used to think I wanted to be an actor and then I realized that I would rather tell the stories.

Q: What movies have you made in the past?

Jason: I started animating in 9th grade for a talent show. My 9th grade project was the Hyperbolic Geometry Song. My three other big projects were probably End of the World (music video), Real World (Music video), and History of Animation.

Q: Kathryn, what was making this movie like?

Kathryn: Jason was really easy to work with. I don’t have any acting skills, and there was no real reason for Jason to pick me except that I was a female and his friend that was willing to help. It’s nice to work on something serious for a friend. He was a very helpful director.

Jason: She’s a valuable asset because she was willing to help. I can never find actors, and she did a great job.

Q: Michael, do you have any thoughts about making the movie?

Michael: He had a great idea, and he knew what he needed to bring that idea into fruition. It was great helping somebody with such a great idea. It was very rewarding, and I hope I can do it again. It was also very challenging to have a silent film.

Jason: My friends in high school got so fed up with my direction. They actually stole the camera from me and filmed a nose for about 3 minutes, so my film had a nose in it for no apparent reason. That was their rebellion for my obnoxious direction. They were really pleasant to work with and understanding.

Q: Jason, what are your favorite directors?

Jason: The directors I admire do really different films. I could go on forever. I really like Spike Jonze movies, because I loved Where the Wild Things Are. Apparently, I'm the only one who did. I also love Steven Spielberg. I love his policy that he's not afraid to do the really serious movie and the big entertainment film that's just pure entertainment. There's nothing wrong with making a movie for people to enjoy themselves.
The last Gregory Penn PM event of the year occurred on Friday 4-2-2010. It was a lot of fun with all the “wonderful” singing that even rendered our House Dean into the fetal position. Participants also enjoyed pizza and sodas.

Missed it or want to relive the glory? Check out videos on Gregory’s facebook/YouTube!
The Gregorian
Needs Your Input!

● Graduating seniors: what are your plans after graduation? Did you get a job? Are you attending graduate school? Let us know by checking your email for the survey link.

● Help David with his survey for the next issue: check your email or visit http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/535TYYY

● Email Davidyz@seas.upenn.edu with your top 10 of the 2000s list! Whatever your expertise, we would love to hear your input.

3 new members of Gregory

Since I like to make the last page of the Gregorian the “fun/random page,” I’d like to tell you about three new members of Gregory: little corn plants. Aren’t they cute?

They were adopted on 3-31-2010 from the biology labs. I took them back to Gregory because they would otherwise be thrown away.

Unfortunately two of them have bent due to the wind, but some chop sticks will prop them up, and they’ll be okay (I hope!) If you happen to walk by and they look a little thirsty, then please do your best to take care of them. Maybe next year we’ll have some small baby corn growing!

fun facts about PEEPS

● The first Peeps were squeezed one at a time out of a pastry tube and the eyes were painted on by hand. Now, machines create 3,500 Peeps' eyes per minute. Each Peep takes 6 minutes to make.

● Popular ways to eat Peeps: stale, microwaved, frozen, roasted, or served as toppings on pizza.

● Yellow Peeps are the most popular, followed by pink, lavender, blue, then white.

● If you had 8,000 Peeps bunnies, and you stood them in a straight vertical line, you could reach the top of the Sears Tower in Chicago.

● Peeps have a two year shelf life.

● "Peep jousting" is a game in which two Peeps are placed in a microwave with toothpicks stuck in them. As the Peeps expand, one stabs the other, and the owner of the winner gets to eat both.

● Peepsresearch.org is dedicated to researching the effects of various stimuli (heat, cold, smoking) on these delicious Marshmallows.