



EVP Divisional News and Announcements

Spring 2018

Message from Craig

In my last newsletter message, I revealed to all of you that I have become a fan of yoga. While my yoga journey continues, I have another confession to share with you. I am currently serving as a mentor to a Penn sophomore who is a member of the Penn baseball team. Last month, I met his family as Penn beat Princeton 10 to 1 (Yeah! Go Quakers!) and my star mentee closed out the final two innings. While I was speaking with his aunt, she shared that her company was a "learning organization". She repeated it a few times. I wondered how can a pharmaceutical company refer to itself as a learning organization? And, it dawned on me. All good organizations are learning organizations. So it prompted me to start thinking - what am I doing to promote Penn's learning resources to the Penn staff? We all can benefit from continued reinvestment in ourselves. As luck would have it, I bumped into Tom Sontag (HR/Learning and Education) on the elevator on Monday am and asked him to share with me a short description of our services that I could share with you, which is below:

Now is the best time to plan your professional development for the coming fiscal year. The Division of Human Resources offers in-person and web-based resources to support your ongoing professional development and career growth. For more information, visit the HR Learning & Education website: www.hr.upenn.edu/PennHR/learn-grow.

In addition, ISC also has formed a partnership with Lynda.com, an online training library that provides access to tutorials covering a wide selection of topics. Course offerings include software products widely used on campus such as the Microsoft Office suite, Google Analytics, and Drupal, as well as topics to enhance key business skills such as project management, marketing, and collaboration.

And, I am sure this is only the tip of the iceberg in terms of the offerings you can tap into. But I am hopefully starting you on your way. My challenge to you is to think about where you need to strengthen your skills and commit to tap into these resources to help you grow. Not sure where to start? Ask your supervisor for feedback as part of your performance review this Spring.

I will be checking back with you in December on your progress! And, this reinvestment in training applies to me too! Send me your story at evp@upenn.edu. Thank you for all

you are doing to further our operations, the University and our mission.

Best,

Craig

PS. Did you see the good, I mean, GREAT news?? For the first time in as long as anyone can remember, medical rates for the 2018-2019 plan year will remain the same. You read that right. **NO INCREASE IN MEDICAL RATES.** If you see Jack Heuer, Sue Sproat or any member of HR, please acknowledge their good work. Although in truth, as they would acknowledge, the credit goes to the Penn community for helping to keep our medical costs down through, in part, participating in the *Be in the Know* wellness campaign. Great work, Team HR!!

Craig's Tip of the Season

Take advantage of the **Penn Parking Website!** As we head into another busy Spring of special events such as Penn Relays, Alumni Weekend and Commencement, Penn Transportation and Parking Services website is a useful resource for planning your commute to Penn. Be sure to check the site for important news and announcements, and view our live map for parking and transportation options during high-traffic times such as The Penn Relays and Commencement.

Craig's List

(not to be confused with Craigslist)

It's the Season of Open Enrollment & Wellness. Stop by the benefits fair between April 23 to May 4 to make any needed adjustments to your health care benefits for the 2018-2019 plan year.

Penn shopping and dining has a new look in 2018 with the **Shop Penn** website! Check in **here** for information about new restaurants and store openings, such as the recently opened Bernie's Restaurant & Bar, United by Blue expansion, Franklin's Table Food Hall, Just Salad, and more. Follow Shop Penn on social media for the latest information and deals on campus for shopping, dining, playing, staying, and exploring.

And Penn Dining Services is getting spruced up as **Houston Hall Market Renovations** begin in May. This major renovation of Houston Market enhances the kitchen, serving, and seating areas of the market and introduces a variety of new dining concepts. Construction of the space is scheduled to be completed August 19,

2018.

The FY 17 Penn Sustainability Annual Report is completed and illustrates Penn's progress towards reducing its carbon footprint and enhancing its overall sustainability practices such as recycling, waste minimization, energy reduction and green buildings. Learn more about Penn's sustainability efforts, and join the effort to meet our CAP 2.0 goals at sustainability.upenn.edu.

The Division of Public Safety, in conjunction with the Trustees' Council of Penn Women, offers FREE self-defense training to all affiliates. Visit the Special Services page <https://www.publicsafety.upenn.edu/safety-initiatives/rad-self-defense-courses/> to learn more, or call 215-898-4481.

Powered by knowledgeable, customer-oriented specialists, the Penn Employee Solution Center launched in late January to an early-adopter group of school and centers. The Solution Center is part of the service delivery component of the [Human Capital Management \(HCM\) Transformation Initiative](#), designed to improve our people-centered services and provide consistent, up-to-date responses to frequently asked questions.

"Take Your Professor/Mentor to Lunch" is a hit. The University Club has seen a 62% increase in participation this spring semester over last fall. Penn Dining and University Club support this important University Initiative around wellness as faculty-student interaction over lunch helps forge closer ties between our faculty and our students which supports and fosters their overall wellness and academic progress.

The Models of Excellence 2018 Ceremony on April 4 recognized 97 outstanding staff members who have made remarkable contributions to the University's standing as a global leader in education, research, and public service, including several representatives from the EVP Division. Check out the presentation in this slide show: <https://www.hr.upenn.edu/PennHR/penn-community/awards-and-appreciation/models-of-excellence>



On Friday, February 2nd the pre Super Bowl excitement was palpable in the lobby of the Franklin Building at an Eagles pep rally!

