

Year in Review

2023-2024
ANNUAL REPORT



PERRY
WORLD
HOUSE
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Table of Contents

01 Letters

- 01 Message from the Provost
- 02 Message from the Vice Provost for Global Initiatives
- 03 Message from the Interim Faculty Director
- 04 Message from the Executive Director

05 Supporters

06 Perry World House Year at a Glance

- 08 Summer 2023
- 10 September 2023
- 12 October 2023
- 14 November 2023
- 16 December 2023
- 18 January 2024
- 20 February 2024
- 24 March 2024
- 28 April 2024
- 32 May 2024
- 34 June 2024

36 People



Message from the Provost

Dear Friends,

This year more than ever, global events have been pivotal to our campus and our national conversations. We are proud and grateful that Perry World House offers a space for reflection, education, and discussion, even at a moment that feels so polarized and on issues that may seem intractable.

PWH connects us not only with global leaders and policymakers but also with one another, enabling us to conduct difficult conversations in more informed, civil, and substantive ways. It helped lead us this year as we considered the topics of highest interest to our community, above all the ongoing climate crisis, the worldwide challenges to human rights, and the conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East. At the same time, PWH taught us to think more comprehensively about global health, the global financial system, and the present and future political situations across Europe, Latin America, Peru, Taiwan, and Zimbabwe.

Penn students and faculty are deeply engaged in these global issues, and it has never been more important to understand their wider histories and interconnections. PWH plays an essential role in nurturing this engagement through all political seasons. As we prepare for PWH's tenth anniversary in 2026, it is renewing its focus on four areas that will define our future and intersect generatively with Penn's new strategic framework, In Principle and Practice: climate change, democracy, security, and human rights and global justice. We invite you to join us in this next generation of conversations, which will continue to shape our shared global perspectives in the years ahead.

Best,

John L. Jackson, Jr.

Provost



Message from the Vice Provost for Global Initiatives

Dear Friends,

It's no secret that this past academic year was a challenging one on college campuses — related in large part to global events. Penn was certainly no exception. In this difficult moment, I am proud to lead our work at Penn Global and am grateful for the impactful role that Perry World House (PWH) has continued to play in our community. It is the place where the Penn community can and does engage in tough, meaningful conversations about international events, threats, and opportunities. PWH is a unique space on campus, serving as Penn's hub for global activities that drive faculty and policy thinking on crucial challenges, infuses the University's intellectual life with external expertise, and shapes students' understanding of the world.

This past year, PWH convened expert discussions on some of the most salient policy questions we face. The PWH stage hosted representatives from 53 countries across six continents. Its visitors program included an impressive roster of global leaders, ranging from current and former heads of government and ambassadors to activists, journalists, and leaders of NGOs. These illustrious leaders and scholars shared their insights with Penn in lecture halls, in discussions with faculty, and in public talks. And PWH's student engagement initiatives brought Penn undergraduates and graduates into direct contact with the policy world, helping to prepare them for their professional lives once they leave the confines of Locust Walk.

As we look ahead, I know that PWH's work will only continue to grow in importance. The new substantive pillars focused on democracy, security, climate change, and human rights and global justice will all launch this Fall. These foci of study illustrate the stakes, the responsibilities, and the possibilities that we have as we help our community navigate a changing and complicated world.

With thanks for your support,

Ezekiel J. Emanuel, M.D., Ph.D.

**Vice Provost for Global Initiatives
University of Pennsylvania**



Message from the Interim Faculty Director

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am delighted to share with you the many programmatic and impact highlights of Perry World House's most recent academic year. Having been the first PWH faculty fellow — and this year having the honor of serving as the interim faculty director — I have had a unique view of the remarkable development of our institution since it first opened its doors, both physically and metaphorically, nearly a decade ago.

This year has been one of significant growth for PWH. We have welcomed new staff, developed new programs, and extended our thematic and policy outreach, engaging with key policy arenas including in Washington, the United Nations Climate Conference in Dubai, the United Nations General Assembly, and through our work with visitors from over fifty countries. This trajectory of growth and engagement will continue in the coming years as we strive to deepen our impact on global policy.

As we gear up for the coming year, we are excited to announce the expansion of our research and programs into four thematic pillars: democracy, security, climate change, and human rights. Each of these pillars highlights an area of existing expertise and connects PWH's work to the university's strategic plan [*In Principle and In Practice*](#). These pillars will guide our future endeavors, ensuring that Perry World House remains at the forefront of academic and policy discourse in the years to come.

We hope you enjoy looking back on our accomplishments with us and will continue to support us as our work moves forward. Your engagement and dedication are vital to our mission, and together we will continue to play a crucial role in the academic and policy communities.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Sincerely,

Michael Weisberg

Interim Faculty Director, Perry World House

Bess W. Heyman President's Distinguished Professor of Philosophy



Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Last Fall, only weeks after the horrific Hamas terrorist attacks on Israel, I came to Philadelphia to interview for the role of executive director at Perry World House, the University's hub for global policy work. In that fraught moment—and amid the host of other security, diplomatic, climate, and humanitarian challenges our world is facing—I was grateful and heartened to see the vital work that PWH was doing. And I knew I wanted to be a part of shaping its future.

Since arriving on campus in February, I have thought deeply about what comes next for PWH and am especially proud to have helped lead the process to redefine our substantive pillars of work: democracy, security, climate change, and human rights and global justice. We believe that these four areas represent the biggest threats to global stability—and present the greatest opportunities for our community to play constructive roles in helping make our planet more secure, more prosperous, more just, and healthier for generations to come.

As we enter into this next phase of Perry World House's work, we do so on the shoulders of our incredible affiliated faculty and staff, many of whom are new to PWH and all of whom have brought extraordinarily creative and thoughtful ideas to our mission of bridging the gap between the university and the policy world. After almost two decades working in the policymaking world, I believe deeply in the power that rigorous academic work can and should have in those processes, and I know that PWH will continue to lead in this space for many years to come.

During my short time here, I have already seen how critical our network of colleagues, friends, alumni, and supporters is to our continued success. I look forward to meeting those of you I haven't yet had a chance to meet and cannot wait to share our accomplishments with all of you.

Warmly,

Marie E. Harf

Executive Director, Perry World House

Supporters

Individual

Perry World House is made possible by the generous support of Richard C. Perry, W'77 and Lisa Perry. They continue to play a vital role in our work, whether by participating in events, mentoring students, or meeting with visitors.

Thanks to a catalyzing gift from Penn alumni Hemal N. Mirani, G'97, WG'97 and Paritosh V. Thakore, W'86, Perry World House has continued to expand programming around human rights and global justice. PWH is grateful to the Thakore family for recognizing the importance of human rights around the world and supporting PWH's efforts to bring these issues to the forefront of Penn's global affairs work. You can [read more](#) in this report about the Thakore Family Global Justice and Human Rights Visiting Fellows — Philip Alston and Kate Gilmore.

Thanks also to the generosity of Eric D. Schlager, C'86 and Beth Cherashore Schlager, C'86, the Eric and Beth Schlager Visiting Policy Fellow was held this year by Kishore Mahbubani, a veteran diplomat, expert on Asian regional dynamics, and a distinguished fellow at the Asia Research Institute, part of the National University of Singapore.

The Wolk family has again funded the Wolk Family Visiting Fellowship. Thanks to the generosity of Howard L. Wolk, C'86, W'86, the Howard and Candice Wolk Visiting Fellow this year was held by Jagan Chapagain, the chief executive officer and secretary general of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Institutional

PWH research benefits deeply from the long-term support of Carnegie Corporation of New York, a crucial partner for PWH. This year, the Carnegie Corporation approved PWH's fourth grant, enabling staff and scholars to complete projects on a range of issues, including workshops on vector-borne disease and Taiwan and the Indo-Pacific, a colloquium on the nuclear threats facing the world, and a war game simulation focused on the crisis in Ukraine.



**Give to Perry
World House**

Perry World House Year at a Glance

A Global Network

Staff



9

Permanent staff
hired and onboarded
during the 2023-24
academic year

13

Faculty Fellows

16

Faculty Affiliates

News Features



5

PWH-published
reports

5

PWH web-exclusive
video interviews
with faculty

3

PWH web-exclusive
backgrounders/
faculty Q&As

Global Reach



53

Countries represented on the PWH stage

30

Programs with partners at COP28 in Dubai

25

Public events in Philadelphia

4

Events in Washington, DC

3

Former heads of state visits

1

Sitting head of state visit

1

Cosponsored event in New York City

People



22

Visiting Fellows

6

Non-Resident Senior Advisors

569

Visiting Fellow engagements with students, faculty, staff, and other members of Penn's community

33

World House Student Fellows

22

Graduate Associates

6

Post-Doctoral Fellows

Summer 2023

2023–24 World House Student Fellows

Each year, Perry World House selects from a competitive pool of students representing all four Penn undergraduate schools to participate in the prestigious World House Student Fellow (WHSF) program. During the 2023–24 academic year, PWH was thrilled to welcome a cohort of thirty-three WHSFs—one of our largest groups to date! Through weekly seminars led by Melissa Lee, Klein Family presidential assistant professor of political science and director of the World House Student Fellows Program, and Amy Gadsden, associate vice provost for global initiatives and executive director of Penn China Initiatives, students engaged with visiting experts from all corners of the globe and who brought a wide range of policy expertise to the table, including on human rights, maternal health, nuclear proliferation, climate change, digital misinformation, and security.

Program highlights included trips to New York City and Washington, DC. During their offsite meetings, students were able to meet with HE Brian Wallace, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations (UN), the investment firm TPG Angelo Gordon (hosted by Penn alumnus and the firm's co-managing partner Josh Baumgarten), the *New York Times*, the Pentagon (hosted by PWH's soon-to-return faculty director Michael Horowitz), Penn Biden Center, and the Australian Embassy. They heard directly from policy experts on a range of pressing global issues and were also able to ask questions during these small group sessions. A smaller cohort of WHSFs also traveled to Geneva over spring break. In addition to touring the UN's Palais des Nations, students in Geneva visited organizations such as the World Trade Organization, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and the International Telecommunications Union.



The WHSF program has wonderfully supplemented my engagement with and awareness about various issues, whether it be sustainable urban planning in Thailand, maternal mortality and global health paradigms, or military strategy in the South China Sea. It has provoked me to think critically, allowed me to speak with renowned intellectuals, and inspired my interest in areas that I had not previously explored. I am beyond thankful for all the opportunities I've gotten to explore throughout this program and am excited for what is to come.

Ria Ellendula (C'25)



This year, the WHSFs successfully completed their year-long policy projects in a capstone format. Previous iterations of the project included a final research paper, but this year students were placed into teams and assigned to a client with whom they worked to provide analysis of a policy problem and solve a policy question. WHSFs shared their work with Penn faculty and policy experts at an April conference, using that feedback to refine their work and ultimately present a final deliverable to their government, nongovernmental, or intergovernmental client.

Top Left: (l-r) World House Student Fellows Timethius Terrell and Florence Onyuke at a weekly WHSF meeting.

Bottom Right: (l-r) Student Fellows Hannah Bases and Daniel Gurevitch at Perry World House.

2023–24 Graduate Associates

Perry World House was delighted to welcome participants to its 2023–24 Graduate Associates (GA) Program. This year’s highly selective and multi-disciplinary cohort consisted of 22 masters and PhD-level students from the College of Arts and Sciences, the Wharton School, Penn Engineering, Stuart Weitzman School of Design, School of Social Policy and Practice, Penn Carey Law School, and Perelman School of Medicine. GAs met monthly as a full group, led by Regina Abrami, the Chang Sun term professor and faculty director of the Global Program at the Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies, and Clay Risen, editor and reporter at the *New York Times*. This monthly seminar provides an opportunity for the cohort to get to know one another and to think about their work—and the world around them—in new ways, as well as how their research could have policy implications beyond their immediate areas of expertise.

Their wide range of professional and academic expertise proved invaluable throughout the semester, as the GAs collaborated on policy briefs, the topics of which ranged from culinary diplomacy to universal basic income to sustainable urban planning. These collaborations were driven by common interests in big topics such as international development, biotechnology, education policy, and even favorite Philly restaurants! Once a big topic was agreed upon, these groups focused on a more nuanced issue and, using their diverse backgrounds, developed a policy brief to present to other GAs and their leaders. GAs were also able to think more deeply about their own individual research and interests.

In the spring, PWH facilitated a day-long trip for the GAs to the Penn Biden Center in Washington, DC, to meet with policy experts. In keeping with the program’s interdisciplinary nature, meeting partners came from organizations such as the New Republic, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation, NVIDIA Corporation, and the U.S. Congress. Each session brought a fresh perspective about working in public policy, and the GAs were energized to see how their academic careers could inform a future career in policy.

July 1

Penn begins new fiscal and academic year

August 23

New student orientation begins

August 29

First day of classes



PWH Welcomes 2023-24 Cohort of Visiting Fellows, Scholars, and Non-Resident Senior Advisors

Perry World House's Visiting Fellows Program engages global academics and practitioners and brings them to campus for a series of meetings and discussions with students, faculty, staff, and other members of the Penn community. This year, the institution was honored to welcome an incredible cohort of experts from around the world to engage with Penn's faculty, staff, and students throughout the 2023-24 academic year. The institution hosted eighteen visiting fellows, four visiting scholars, and six non-resident senior advisors for a total of 28 visitors. The true strength of PWH's Visiting Fellows Program is that we tailor the experience to the unique work, background, and interests of the fellows. No two fellowships looked the same, allowing each of their strengths to fully shine for the year.

This year's fellows interacted with students through public events, guest lectures, presenting at WHSF meetings, casual coffee chats, and the occasional one-on-one meeting. Fellows provided insight into their particular areas of expertise, shared career experiences and advice, and helped students better understand current world issues. Throughout the year, fellows also acted as resources for various student projects. The event with the greatest level of fellow involvement was the WHSF conference, where our fellows served as panelists providing feedback on the students' policy projects.

Fellows met with faculty from all twelve Penn schools, where they collaborated on research ideas, gave and received feedback, and connected with each other's teams for further collaboration. Fellows will often reach out to the PWH Programs

team before their arrival on campus to share ideas for a project, and PWH is able to connect them with the resources at Penn that best fit their needs. PWH fellowships are mutually beneficial, giving fellows an academic home and access to Penn's rich research community. At the same time, the fellows enrich campus life and open collaborations in global policy processes, such as events at COP28 at the Thai pavilion featuring Penn experts and facilitated by PWH Visiting Fellow Kotchakorn Voraakhom.

In 2023, PWH expanded the Visiting Fellows Program to incorporate a select group of six senior non-resident advisors. Drawing from PWH's exceptional pool of visiting fellow "graduates," the advisors are appointed to a three-year term during which they are asked to assist PWH with network building, supporting access to policy processes, and advising on programmatic development as well as providing feedback on the policy impact of PWH's work.

The Visiting Fellows Program helps shape PWH's programming and research agenda. They provide insight to the PWH team and suggest ideas for future engagement with international processes. The Perry World House Visiting Fellows Program continues to be a dynamic force, enriching our academic community and extending its impact far beyond campus, fostering enduring global collaborations and advancing Penn's mission of global engagement and innovation.



[Learn more about PWH Non-Resident Senior Advisors](#)

September 1

Michael Weisberg named
PWH Interim Director

September 8

First World House Student
Fellow meeting of the year

September 9

PWH Visiting Fellow
Wolfgang Blau on campus

September 13

PWH Visiting Fellow
Sheela Patel on campus

1



2



September 18

PWH Non-Resident Senior
Advisor Koko Warner on campus

September 21

First Graduate Associates
meeting of the year

September 25-28

PWH hosts colloquium “A New
Age of Nuclearity? Great Powers
and Greater Consequences”

September 25-29

PWH Visiting Fellow
Tomohisa Takei on campus

September 26-27

PWH Visiting Fellow Amy Woolf
on campus



3

1. PWH Interim Director Michael Weisberg speaks at a PWH event.
2. The 2023-24 Graduate Associates with advisors Clay Risen, *New York Times* reporter and editor, and Regina Abrami, Chang Sun term professor and faculty director of the Global Program at the Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies.
3. Izumi Nakamitsu, undersecretary-general and high representative for disarmament affairs at the United Nations, speaks at PWH.

Understanding the Middle East and the Tragedy of October 7

October 7, 2023, started out like any other day. In Israel, hundreds of young people gathered for a day of music and fun during the Nova music festival, as Israelis across the country were enjoying a holiday weekend.

The horror began as masked Hamas militants launched multiple coordinated attacks, including descending on the music festival, killing hundreds of festivalgoers and taking hostages. Cities, including Tel Aviv, were bombarded with rockets fired by Hamas. Militants attacked Israeli kibbutzim communities close to Gaza from the air and land. As stories from survivors began to pour in, the world was horrified by the bloodiest and deadliest day for the Jewish people since the Holocaust. Thus began the newest phase in the tragic history of the Israeli and Palestinian conflict, one that has since seen an overwhelming Israeli response in Gaza that has led to many decrying the use of military force against civilians and the International Criminal Court seeking warrants against both Hamas and Israeli leadership.

In Philadelphia, students, faculty, and staff were stunned, saddened, and angry at what was happening on the ground in the Middle East and struggled to understand the implications. Perry World House became the go-to location on campus for unbiased, critical analysis and discussion about the crisis. PWH is proud to serve as a place at Penn for rigorous thought and conversation, even and especially on topics that evoke deep and often existential feelings in the community.

The first event on the topic was held just a week after October 7 and immediately following Penn's fall break. PWH Interim Director [Michael Weisberg](#) moderated a somber conversation with Associate Professor of Political Science [Guy Grossman](#),

Perry World House Professor of Practice of Law and Human Rights [Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein](#), and PWH Visiting Fellow and *Philadelphia Inquirer* Worldview Columnist [Trudy Rubin](#) to provide an overview of what had happened on October 7, what had led up to the attacks, and what might be expected to happen moving forward. Two weeks later, PWH hosted another event looking at the repercussions of October 7, but this time from a legal perspective. Weisberg again moderated the conversation, speaking with Penn's [Claire Finkelstein](#), the Algernon Biddle professor of law and professor of philosophy, and [David Enoch](#), professor of the philosophy of law at Oxford University and a former clerk on the Israeli Supreme Court. The conversation focused on what a possible Israeli military response would look like and what their legal and ethical responsibilities toward civilians would be in any military operation.

A third and, for AY24, final event at PWH was hosted in late January. Moderated by PWH's Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, two regional experts came together at Locust Walk to discuss how to have difficult conversations with others who may not share the same perspective. [Omar Dajani](#), a Palestinian-American professor of law at the University of the Pacific, and [Mira Sucharov](#), a Canadian-Jewish professor of political science at Carleton University, spoke about the differences in their backgrounds and perspectives on the region and the crisis, and how they have learned to communicate to have productive, informative conversations with each other, even when they do not agree. The lesson was an important one for all members of the Penn community and one that will continue to be important in the coming academic year. PWH will continue to be a resource for students, faculty, staff, and anyone else who wants to learn more about the history and nuances of regional dynamics.

October 9-11

PWH Non-Resident Senior Advisor
Melissa Flagg on campus

October 16

First in a series of PWH discussions aimed at helping the Penn community understand Hamas's attack on Israel and what the repercussions might be

October 16-20

PWH Visiting Fellow
Kotchakorn Voraakhom on campus



3

1. (l-r) Guy Grossman, professor of political science at Penn, Trudy Rubin, PWH visiting fellow and Worldview columnist at the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, Perry World House professor of the practice of law and human rights, speak to a full audience following the October 7 attacks in Israel.
2. Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein speaks at a Perry World House event.
3. Raj Shah, president of the Rockefeller Foundation and a Penn alumnus, signs copies of his book, *Big Bets: How Large-Scale Change Really Happens*, after a PWH event.

1



2



October 17

PWH hosts Rockefeller Foundation President and Penn Alum Raj Shah to discuss his book *Big Bets*

October 23

PWH Visiting Fellow
Michèle Griffin on campus

October 24-26

PWH Visiting Scholar Tobias Bunde on campus

Nuclear Policy Discussions Come to Philadelphia

Perry World House colloquia focus on big issues and include a series of panels and public events, with high-level speakers. This year, our fall colloquium began in September and continued later in November with a PWH visit from Rafael Mariano Grossi, the director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Grossi's public event focused on some of the biggest concerns facing the nuclear policy community, including Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the subsequent worries about nuclear safety in the region, as well as geopolitical hotspots such as North Korea and Iran — countries that the nuclear security community always keeps a close eye on. He fielded questions from Penn students, faculty, staff, and members of the broader PWH community on some of the issues keeping him up at night.

Grossi's visit capped the preceding colloquium — three days of in-depth discussion, covering everything from nuclear energy to weapons policy to the complex geopolitical issues. The colloquium brought

together academics and practitioners from more than ten countries to Locust Walk to share their expertise around the topic "A New Age of Nuclearity? Great Powers and Greater Consequences." Keynote speakers included Rachel Bronson of the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, Izumi Nakamitsu of the UN Office of Disarmament Affairs, Joan Rohlfing of the Nuclear Threat Initiative, and Elayne G. Whyte, who played a critical role in the negotiations that led to the creation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). These programs elevated Perry World House as an important hub for the study of nuclear issues by utilizing its ability to bring together new, emerging, and unique perspectives to policy conversations.



To read more about the policy issues discussed by colloquium contributors, visit [PWH's website](#)



November 6-10

PWH Visiting Scholar **Robin Michael Garcia** on campus

November 7

PWH hosts event with International Atomic Energy Agency Director-General **Rafael Mariano Grossi**



November 17

World House Student Fellows visit to New York City

November 20-21

PWH Visiting Fellow **Evan Mawarire** on campus

November 30

COP28 Begins in Dubai, UAE

1. World House Student Fellows visit the *New York Times* as part of their group trip to New York.
2. PWH Visiting Fellow and *New York Times* editor and reporter Clay Risen speaks with World House Student Fellows.
3. Visiting Fellow Evan Mawarire speaks with students at a PWH event.



December 2023

PWH Co-Leads Penn Delegation at COP28 in Dubai

As Penn students, faculty, and staff began to wind down the fall semester after Thanksgiving break, Perry World House-affiliated faculty and staff were just starting their work at the center of the largest United Nations Climate Conference ever held. Hosted by the UAE government in Dubai, the conference—known as COP28—drew more than 70,000 participants, making it the place to engage on climate issues on the global stage. To make its mark, PWH—in collaboration with the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy—expanded its footprint, working with other universities and institutional partners to orchestrate programming and engagements that substantively and logistically traversed the entirety of the conference.

This year, as in years past, PWH experts also played a key role at the negotiation table leading up to and throughout the conference. PWH Interim Director, Michael Weisberg, served as a member of the Palau delegation, helping delegates and their island counterparts develop and stake positions on loss and damage and climate finance, among other critical issues at the fore of climate policymaking. This work built on prior successes, for instance, when Professor Weisberg's support of Maldivian delegates helped shape a COP27 decision adopting a mosaic of solutions to finance climate action, especially through a dedicated Loss and Damage fund.

PWH also had a hand in orchestrating nearly 30 briefings, panel discussions, networking events, and private conversation. As a co-lead of Penn's delegation, PWH helped Penn to partner with other academic institutions to stand-up a Higher Education Pavilion, which became an institutional landing and launching pad at the COP. PWH also collaborated with its visiting fellow, Kotchakorn Voraakhom, to foster discourse and exchange at the Thai Country Pavilion. Programming at the Thai Pavilion culminated with Penn's Vice Provost for Global Initiatives Zeke Emmanuel, who took to the pavilion's stage to discuss "The Role of Higher Education in Tackling Climate Change."

PWH's policy-relevant programming reached countless country delegates looking to advance their knowledge of critical climate issues and the academic-policy partnerships needed to solve them. Its panel discussions featured top experts in their fields and took deep dives into an array of critical issues such as extreme heat; subnational climate policymaking; the energy transition; food waste, education, and many others. While some pavilion events featured high-level speakers, for instance, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Arctic and Global Resilience Iris Ferguson, others served as behind the scenes coordination meetings that informed the agendas of PWH's vast network of fellows and partners there to track, influence, and analyze COP proceedings.

Above Image: (l-r) Michael Weisberg, former PWH Lightning Scholar Stacy-ann Robinson, PWH Director of Programs Lauren Anderson, Ezekiel Emanuel, Eleni Myrivili, global chief heat officer for UN Habitat, and Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein at COP28 in Dubai, UAE.



Left: (l-r) Eleni Myrivili, global chief heat officer for UN Habitat, PWH Visiting Fellow Sheela Patel, and PWH Director of Programs Lauren Anderson attend COP28 in Dubai, UAE.

Right: Penn's Practice Professor of Political Science and Director of China Programs and Strategic Initiatives Scott Moore (right) leads a discussion about climate change and the military complex at COP28 in Dubai, UAE.

The Perry World House network also featured in the groundbreaking events that defined this year's climate conference. Attending a COP-Presidency event, Nonresident Senior Advisor Lolita Jackson represented Perry World House at the first-ever Local Action Climate Summit. This brought together more than 200 mayors from around the world to discuss subnational climate work, a conversation Lolita continued in January at a public event at PWH. And, with a first-ever day dedicated to the health-climate nexus, Perry World House assured speaking opportunities for Penn delegate Harleen Marwah, a Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) pediatrician, who briefed on children's vulnerability to climate impacts, especially extreme heat and how to incorporate climate into medical education.

Finally, PWH extended Penn's reach beyond the conference venue to area alums who attended a Penn panel and reception at the American School of Dubai. This event, which drew a mix of local youth and Penn alumni, featured remarks from Perry World House Director of Programs Lauren Anderson, Lolita Jackson, and PWH Faculty Fellow Genie Birch.

November 30–December 13
Penn delegation, led By Perry
World House and the
Kleinman Center for Energy Policy,
Attends COP28 in Dubai, UAE

December 4
 PWH Visiting Fellow
Tim Rieser on campus

December 12
J. Larry Jameson, MD, PhD is
 named interim president of the
 University of Pennsylvania



J. Larry Jameson, MD, PhD, interim president of the University of Pennsylvania.

PWH Talks Climate to DC's Diplomatic Community

As part of Perry World House's mission to connect Penn with the global policymaking community, events in DC geared toward the U.S. government, diplomatic community, think tanks, and multilateral organizations are necessary. To begin introducing PWH and its experts, Perry World House and the Embassy of Ecuador cosponsored an event at the embassy just before the start of the spring semester at Penn that focused on outcomes from COP28 and what might be expected in the future.

PWH experts featured on the panel were Genie Birch, who focused on the climate impacts at the local level, Ezekiel Emanuel, who discussed the health

impacts of climate change, and Michael Weisberg, who provided an overview of adaptation efforts and the advances made to the Loss and Damage Fund. The *New York Times'* Lisa Friedman moderated the conversation, which opened with remarks from then-Ecuadorian Ambassador to the United States Ivonne Baki.

The room was full of diplomats and other climate experts who were drawn to the event to hear from the range of perspectives offered by PWH experts who had been on the ground in Dubai, and it grew PWH's name recognition in a core area for a key audience.

PWH Opens the Semester with Another Climate Week

Throughout the first week of the spring semester, Perry World House hosted a mini "Climate Week" on Penn's campus, the goal of which was to gather affiliated experts to analyze outcomes from COP and capitalize on the momentum started in Dubai. The week, which engaged approximately 80 people from PWH's network on and off-campus, featured the participation of PWH Visiting Fellows Steven Hammer and Wolfgang Blau, and Nonresident Senior Advisors Koko Warner and Lolita Jackson. These experts led two private working sessions, each on finance and adaptation, to guide and help set PWH's work program for the year. They also participated in a public event, moderated by PWH's Michael Weisberg, that gave students and the wider Philadelphia community the chance to hear about what happened on the ground at COP28 and ask questions on the global impacts of the conference's outcomes.

In addition to these events, PWH also organized a briefing under the auspices of its Climate Action Research Group for Penn delegates to COP28. In this closed-door session, participants discussed important takeaways from Dubai, laid out their research agendas in the leadup to COP29, and began planning for next year. On the last day of Climate Week, PWH Faculty Fellow Jennifer Pinto Martin organized an extensive workshop investigating the impacts of climate change on mental health. It concluded with a panel of Penn health school deans, who each highlighted the importance of advancing climate action in their respective institutions.

1. Eugénie L. Birch, Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research, speaks about the role that cities can play in the climate crisis at a January 17 event at the Embassy of Ecuador in Washington, DC.
2. PWH Non-Resident Senior Advisor Koko Warner (right) leads a discussion about climate and migration.
3. Mira Sucharov, professor of political science at Carleton University, speaks at a January 29 PWH event, "Israel and Hamas at War: How to Discuss the Difficult History of the Middle East."
4. Omar Dajani, professor of law at the McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific, speaks at a January 29 PWH event, "Israel and Hamas at War: How to Discuss the Difficult History of the Middle East."

January 17
The Embassy of Ecuador hosted a panel of PWH experts to discuss the outcomes of COP28. The session was moderated by Lisa Friedman of the *New York Times*

January 18
PWH Non-Resident Senior Advisor **Robert M. Scher** on campus

January 22-26
PWH Climate Week

January 22-26
PWH Visiting Fellow **Wolfgang Blau** on campus



January 22-26
PWH Non-Resident Senior Advisor **Koko Warner** on campus

January 23
PWH Non-Resident Senior Advisor **Lolita Jackson** on campus

January 23-24
PWH Visiting Fellow **Stephen Hammer** on campus

January 29
Event: "Israel and Hamas at War: How to Discuss the Difficult History of the Middle East" event with **Omar Dajani** and **Mira Sucharov**



PWH Continues its Focus on Human Rights and Global Justice

Since Perry World House launched the Thakore Family Global Justice and Human Rights (GJHR) Program in 2022, human rights has been central to the work being done by our scholars, students, visiting fellows, and staff. In the 2023-2024 academic year, the program expanded its efforts to engage and educate the Penn community on the current challenges in the global human rights field.

In February 2024, the GJHR program hosted Philip Alston, former UN special rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights. During his week on campus, Professor Alston delivered a public event on “The State of Human Rights in 2024,” moderated by PWH Practice Professor of Law and Human Rights Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein. In April 2024, the program welcomed to campus Kate Gilmore, former UN deputy high commissioner for human rights. Ms. Gilmore delivered a public event on gender politics, moderated by Sarah Banet-Weiser, dean of the Annenberg School for Communication. The GJHR Program was also pleased to welcome Zimbabwean activist Evan Mawarire during not one but two visits to campus this academic year. Evan delivered an inspiring address to Penn students on “Finding the Courage to Make Change,” outlining the role courage played in his journey as an activist.

All three fellows provided guest lectures for a variety of Penn classes and met with student groups from across the university. So too did they meet with faculty in private one-one-one meetings and in larger briefings where ideas on topics as diverse as gender and reproductive rights, the criminalization of human rights advocacy, and the repercussions of fighting for these rights in some corners of the world were discussed.

The GJHR program has also been developing a tool that analyses trends in human rights leadership at a global scale. A team of undergraduate interns and PWH staff have met weekly with faculty lead Professor Al Hussein to discuss the technical design and political implications of the forthcoming tool, which is still in the early stages of development. The project’s progress was aided throughout this academic year by two workshops that brought a variety of computational, legal, and human rights experts—including the GJHR visiting fellows—to Perry World House to provide thoughts and feedback on the design and proposed uses for this tool.

A member of the Penn community asks a question during a PWH event.



February 5
Marie Harf starts as PWH
Executive Director



1

February 6-9
PWH Visiting Fellow
Philip Alston on campus



2

February 12
PWH and Penn's Philomathean
Society host former Polish
President **Lech Wałęsa**

February 16
World House Student Fellows
trip to Washington, DC



3

1. PWH Executive Director Marie Harf moderates a PWH event.
2. PWH Visiting Fellow Philip Alston speaks at an event on the state of human rights around the world. Professor Alston was on campus as part of PWH's Thakore Family Global Justice and Human Rights Program.
3. (l-r) Michael Weisberg, Penn undergraduate Michal Wyrębkowski (W'25), and former President of Poland Lech Wałęsa speak on the sidelines of a PWH event.



February 2024

Lech Wałęsa Talks Democracy, Security, and Geopolitics at PWH

In February, Perry World House was honored with a visit from Nobel Peace Prize winner and former President of Poland, Lech Wałęsa. Wałęsa became the first democratically-elected president in Poland's history, coming to power in the formerly Communist country just as the Iron Curtain fell around Europe. While few—if any—students at Penn are old enough to remember President Wałęsa's history-making time leading Poland, they turned out in droves to hear from the statesman when he visited Locust Walk to discuss history and the current state of democracy.

The event was a collaboration between PWH and the [Philomathean Society](#), Penn's oldest student organization. Michał Wyrębkowski, a member of the Society and a third-year student at the Wharton School, provided introductory remarks at the event. "For me personally, this event holds central significance as a member of the third generation of Poles fortunate enough to live in a country free from foreign oppression since the late 18th century," he told the packed house, before moving to the side to co-translate the event.

Penn Provost [John Jackson](#) spoke after Michał, formally welcoming President Wałęsa to Penn, before turning the event over to the president and [Trudy Rubin](#), Worldview columnist at the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and PWH visiting fellow, who moderated the event.

The conversation was wide-ranging and touched on his role in the labor movement and, later, bringing democracy to Poland; the current state of democracy in Europe and throughout the world; Russia's ongoing war in Ukraine; and what he thinks the future of democratic nations looks like and the role being played by non-democratic states such as China and Russia.

Following the public event, President Wałęsa took the time to meet with a group of Polish students and faculty at Penn before joining a private luncheon with Penn faculty and members of the Philomathean Society to continue the conversation.

Above Image: (l-r) Former President of Poland Lech Wałęsa answers questions from event moderator Trudy Rubin.

(l-r) Brian Foster and Robert E. Hamilton, both at the U.S. Army War College, facilitated Perry World House's Ukraine war game in February 2024.



February 19–23

PWH Visiting Fellow
Youssef Nassef on campus

February 21–22

PWH Visiting Fellow
Amy Woolf on campus

February 23

World House Student Fellows
Crisis Simulation at PWH

February 27

PWH Non-Resident Senior
Advisor Alexander Vershbow
on campus to participate in
Ukraine war game



(l-r) Ecaterina Locoman, senior lecturer of political science at the Lauder Institute at Penn, Peter Zwack, former PWH visiting fellow, and Maksym Skrypchenko, president of the Transatlantic Dialogue Center, participate in Perry World House's 2024 Ukraine war game.



(l-r) Melissa Flagg, PWH non-resident senior advisor, Tran Thi Mong Tuyen, a PhD scholar with the National Chengkung University, Julio Amador, president of the Foundation for the National Interest, and Sana Hashmi, fellow at the Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation, speak at PWH's workshop on the future of Taiwan's geopolitics.

March 2024

Focusing on Security and the Indo-Pacific

In March 2024, Perry World House turned its attention to the role of the Indo-Pacific in global affairs. PWH hosted a series of events focused on the geopolitical challenges facing the region and heard from experts on everything from China's role on the global stage, implications for the region following the January 2024 Taiwanese presidential election, and prospects for Taiwan-Philippines cooperation in the region.

PWH was proud to host renowned geopolitical thinker and former diplomat Kishore Mahbubani as the 2023-24 Schlager visiting fellow. Mahbubani was in high demand throughout his time in Philadelphia, meeting with Penn faculty, staff, and students to discuss the dynamism and importance of Southeast Asia. He spoke on campus at the event "China's Role in the World in the Year of Elections" in cooperation with Penn's Center for the Study of Contemporary China. Mahbubani also traveled to New York with Perry World House for a cosponsored event with the Asia Society Policy Institute; there he participated in a lively debate with Orville Schell, the Arthur Ross director of the Asia Society's Center on U.S.-China Relations. The topic of was "The United States, China, and the Future of the Global Order," and Mahbubani and Schell debated the rise of China, the role of Southeast Asia in the bilateral competition, and the prospects of a military conflict between Beijing and Washington.

Perry World House also convened a workshop on "Taiwan's Geopolitics After 2024: Election Implications for the Indo-Pacific and Beyond." Participants from fourteen countries met on Locust Walk to discuss their countries' perspectives on the future of

Taiwan. This conference purposefully deemphasized the roles of American speakers in order to make it a truly global conversation: speakers came to Penn from six continents to provide their views. The workshop addressed the future of Taiwan's unofficial and official political relationships, Taipei's bilateral and multilateral economic relationships, Taiwan's security situation and cross-Strait tensions, and Taiwanese perspectives on the future of Taiwan's foreign policy. Fei-fan Lin, now appointed deputy secretary-general of Taiwan's National Security Council, was one of the experts in the room, providing a Taiwanese perspective. [The resulting report and related thought pieces from panelists](#), available on PWH's website, have been well-received throughout Taiwan and the Indo-Pacific.

Finally, PWH Senior Program Manager Thomas J. Shattuck and 2023-24 Visiting Scholar Robin Michael U. Garcia launched their research report, *Responses Against China's Coercion in the Indo-Pacific: Developing a Toolkit from the Philippines and Taiwan*, at a private briefing at the Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement in Washington, DC. The report analyzes how Manila and Taipei have responded to China's military coercion, breaking them down across a spectrum of options. The report created a toolkit for countries facing similar dilemmas against larger, better resourced militaries. Shattuck and Garcia also brought the report to officials in Taipei and Manila through a series of public events and private meetings with government officials, legislators, and military personnel.



Read the report on [PWH's website](#)

March 1-9
World House Student Fellows
Global Policy Perspective trip to
Geneva, Switzerland

March 10-15
PWH Non-Resident Senior
Advisor Melissa Flagg
on campus

March 10-15
PWH Visiting Scholar Robin
Michael Garcia on campus

March 12
PWH hosts workshop on
“Taiwan’s Geopolitics After 2024”



March 12-15
PWH Visiting Fellow
Tomohisa Takei on campus

March 14
Co-authors Thomas Shattuck and
Robin Michael Garcia launch their
report, Responses Against China’s
Coercion in the Indo-Pacific, at the
Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy
and Global Engagement in
Washington, DC

March 14-20
PWH Visiting Fellow
Kotchakorn Voraakhom on campus

1. Aravind Krishnan, Lindsay Park, and Caroline Li during the WHSF Global Policy Perspective trip to Geneva, Switzerland.
2. World House Student Fellows during a Global Policy Perspective trip to Geneva, Switzerland.
3. PWH Visiting Scholar Robin Michael Garcia (center) speaks at a PWH-convened workshop on Taiwan’s geopolitical future.

March 2024



Engaging Students in Critical Conversations

Perry World House’s Critical Conversations event series has undergone an evolution throughout this year. What started as a public program for all Penn audiences in which experts debated a topic of “critical” importance to the global community has become a vehicle for constructive discussions and serious self-reflection on campus.

The fall semester brought about the final debate-style event. Discussing reform of the global financial “Bretton Woods” system, the expert speakers—Avinash Persaud of Gresham College in the United Kingdom and Renaud Seligman at the World Bank—presented their opposing viewpoints on a complicated, often misunderstood issue. The event was deftly moderated by the *Economist’s* Washington Bureau Chief Idrees Kahloon and featured welcoming remarks from Wharton School Dean Erika H. James.

As springtime bloomed in Philadelphia, Perry World House debuted a retooled series designed in response to global events as well as events on campus. The new format of this series features a panel of Penn-affiliated experts who can present information and their viewpoint to an audience of undergraduate students before breaking for smaller salon-style dinners featuring a speaker and group of students at each table to continue the discussion. The first session featured an all-star

panel of Penn faculty [Ezekiel Emanuel](#), [Sukaina Hirji](#), [Emily Wilson](#), and moderator [Michael Weisberg](#) on the topic of *what does it mean to leave a virtuous life?* The not-for-attribution format allowed students to speak more freely and also to connect with Penn professors as they thought through one of life’s big issues.

“Perry World House’s Critical Conversations series challenges students to confront difficult issues in a reflective way,” said Penn Vice Provost for Global Initiatives Ezekiel Emanuel. “Faculty present their own views, but students must engage in respectful discussions with their peers, hearing diverse perspectives and wrestling with what they ultimately believe. My hope is that these conversations become models for students, enlarging their understanding and critically examining their own deeply held beliefs.”

The Critical Conversations series will pick back up in the fall semester and it—in its new format—will be a staple of PWH programming.

Above Image: Penn Assistant Professor of Philosophy Sukaina Hirji (right) participates in a roundtable discussion with undergraduate students on what it means to live a virtuous life. This was the first in a new series of “Critical Conversations” that PWH will host for undergraduate students.



1



2

March 18

PWH hosts first Critical Conversations event of the semester for undergraduate students

March 18-22

PWH Visiting Fellow [Sheela Patel](#) on campus

March 18-26

PWH's Schlager Visiting Fellow [Kishore Mahbubani](#) on campus

March 20

PWH cosponsors "The United States, China, and the Future of the Global Order" Event at the Asia Society in New York City, Featuring PWH Visiting Fellow [Kishore Mahbubani](#)

March 22-23

PWH Visiting Fellow [Tim Rieser](#) on campus

March 25

PWH and Penn's Center for Africana Studies cosponsor event with Sierra Leone President [Julius Maada Bio](#)

March 25-29

PWH Visiting Fellow [Jagan Chapagain](#) on campus

March 31-April 3

PWH Visiting Scholar [Tobias Bunde](#) on campus

3



3. Sierra Leone President Julius Maada Bio speaks at an event cosponsored by PWH and Penn's Center for Africana Studies.

1. (l-r) Sukaina Hirji and Ezekiel Emanuel discuss what it means to live a virtuous life as part of PWH's Critical Conversations series.
2. (l-r) PWH's Schlager Visiting Fellow and veteran diplomat Kishore Mahbubani, Managing Director of the Asia Society Policy Institute Rorry Daniels, and Arthur Ross Director of the Asia Society's Center on U.S.-China Relations Orville Schell discuss the United States, China, and the future of the global order at an event at the Asia Society in New York.



April 2024

PWH Hosts an Array of World Leaders on Locust Walk

In 2024, more people have headed or will head to the polls than ever before. In the first half of this unprecedented democratic year, Perry World House hosted four current or former heads of state to discuss democracy, governance, and security in our world. President Julius Maada Bio of Sierra Leone, President Kgalema Motlanthe of South Africa, and President Francisco Sagasti of Peru (as well as President Wałęsa in February) visited campus to share messages about the importance of democracy and responsible governance during times of crisis with members of the Penn community. Presidents Bio and Motlanthe visited Perry World House in partnership with the University of Pennsylvania Center for Africana Studies as part of their Distinguished Lecture Series, sharing insights from African leaders, while President Sagasti spoke at PWH just ahead of his TEDxPenn talk.

Each president also had the opportunity to meet with Penn students, answering thoughtful questions and sharing advice on careers in politics. President Sagasti of Peru, himself a Penn alum (Wharton '72), reflected on how his campus experience and time in West Philadelphia helped shape his political career.



We are proud to host these important conversations on our campus.

Michael Weisberg
Interim Faculty Director, Perry World House



“Perry World House sits at the intersection of academia and policy making, offering a platform of intellectual exchange between world leaders and the University of Pennsylvania,” PWH Interim Director Michael Weisberg told Penn Today at the time. “We are proud to host these important conversations on our campus.”

As Perry World House continues to follow its mandate to connect Penn with the global policy community, presidential visits like these help to facilitate intellectual exchange between Perry World House-affiliated students and experts with accomplished world leaders and broaden Penn students’ perspectives on global issues. While each of these presidents’ administrations and countries face unique geopolitical challenges, they all shared a recognition of the importance of the democratic process.

Above Image: PWH Staff with former President of South Africa Kgalema Motlanthe and Gugu Mtshali.



You can hear directly from these global statesmen at recordings of their lectures visit [PWH’s website](#)

April 4

PWH and Penn's Center for
Africana Studies cosponsor event
with former President of South Africa
Kgalema Motlanthe

April 5

PWH hosts event with former
President of Peru (and Penn Alum)
Francisco Sagasti

April 8-14

PWH Visiting Fellow
Shipra Narang Suri on campus

April 10

PWH hosts workshop to discuss
climate change and the proliferation
of vector-borne diseases

April 10-12

PWH Visiting Scholar
Avinash Persaud on campus

April 11-12

PWH Visiting Fellow
Amy Woolf on campus

April 12

PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow
H.E. Ms. Thilmeeza Hussain
on campus

1. (l-r) Former President of Peru (and Penn alumnus) Francisco Sagasti speaks with Michael Weisberg at a PWH event.
2. (l-r) Michael Levy, professor of epidemiology, University of Pennsylvania, Valerie Paz Soldan, director of the Tulane Health Offices for Latin America, Peru, and Gallo Fraga from the Embassy of Ecuador.
3. (l-r) Juan Chaves-Gonzalez, program advisor of Anticipatory Action at the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and Luciana Borio, senior fellow for global health at the Council on Foreign Relations and venture partner at Arch.

1



2



3



(l-r) Michael Weisberg and Amy Pope, director-general of the International Organization for Migration at an event at the Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement in Washington, DC.



April 2024

Perry World House Engagement in Washington, DC

Perry World House continued moving the needle on engagement with the global policy and climate communities in April with back-to-back events at the Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement. These were held on the sidelines of the World Bank/International Monetary Fund's spring meetings, taking advantage of the world's leading minds on financial solutions descending en masse in Washington, DC.

The first event was a cosponsored roundtable discussion hosted in partnership with the UN's International Organization for Migration, the Office of the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement, and the United Nations Development Programme, and the focus of the not-for-attribution conversation was financial solutions to climate displacement. Amy Pope, the director-general of the International Organization for Migration, provided opening remarks to help frame the discussion around the table and facilitated the

early conversation with the group, while PWH Non-Resident Senior Advisor Koko Warner moderated the informative conversation. Also in attendance were PWH Interim Director Michael Weisberg and PWH Visiting Fellow and CEO of the New York Climate Exchange Stephen Hammer, who was continuing conversations started three months earlier during his time on Penn's campus. This event solidified and enriched PWH's existing expertise on climate change and showcased that expertise to key Washington figures focused on the climate fight.

Later that evening, PWH and the Penn Biden Center switched to a more relaxed mode with a cocktail reception for core PWH audience members, including members of the media, policymakers and former policymakers, members of the diplomatic community, and, of course, Penn alumni based in Washington. It was a memorable evening spent building and engaging PWH's network beyond Locust Walk, and an endeavor that will continue and grow in the coming years with the launch of Penn Washington.



PWH Executive Director Marie Harf welcomes a crowd to a PWH reception at the Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement.



A PWH-hosted reception at the Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement.

April 15-19

PWH Visting Fellow
Kate Gilmore on campus

April 16-18

PWH Visiting Fellow
Evan Mawawire on campus

April 17

PWH hosts IOM lunch on the
sidelines of the World Bank/IMF
Spring Meetings

April 17

PWH hosts reception to launch
Washington, DC-Focused work at the
Penn Biden Center

April 22-24

PWH Visiting Scholar
Frederik Rosén on campus



1



2

1. (l-r) Open Society Foundations President Mark Malloch Brown speaks with Ezekiel Emanuel and Michael Weisberg at a PWH reception in Washington, DC.
2. International Organization for Migration Director-General Amy Pope (center) speaks to a group about financial solutions to climate displacement.

May 2024

Congratulations to Penn's Class of 2024

As the academic year drew to a close, Perry World House celebrated graduating Penn students and, in particular, those students who have been most actively involved with the organization throughout not just this year, but their entire time at the University. Immediately following the World House Student Fellows' mid-April research conference—at which they presented their final findings from their policy projects—PWH hosted a banquet to celebrate their academic and research achievements. PWH also welcomed next year's WHSF cohort, as well as the Penn faculty who were integral in making the research conference a success. All twenty graduating seniors in attendance were presented with senior gifts and their graduation cords, and were invited to pass on advice to the future WHSFs at the banquet. Many graduates spoke about how the WHSF Program allowed them to broaden and deepen their educational experience, allowed them to explore fields outside of their area of study, and introduced them to classmates who they may not have otherwise met during their time at Penn—classmates who went on to become friends.

Similarly, the Graduate Associate Program invited the full cohort for one final dinner following the completion of their op-ed and policy presentation assignments. The GAs got to know each other well over the course of the academic year, and they were eager to celebrate their graduating members while simultaneously sharing words of

encouragement to those continuing their master's and doctoral programs. The evening ended with a reading of superlatives that had been submitted by each member of the group.

On May 20, the University community came together for Penn's 268th Commencement ceremony in honor of the Class of 2024. Students and families eagerly packed into Franklin Field for the academic year's send-off, where Siddhartha Mukherjee—a renowned physician and biologist—gave the commencement address. Perry World House's own WHSF, Jack Immanuel, was honored at the ceremony as the 2024 Spade Award Recipient. The Spade Award is a senior honor award derived from Ivy Day, and has been awarded since 1896.

Perry World House has actively involved students in its research and events since its inception almost ten years ago. Each May is bittersweet—saying good-bye to the students who have made up some of the most important parts of what Perry World House is, while also looking ahead to incoming students and welcoming the next cohorts.

Congratulations to the Penn Class of 2024, to all of the commencing World House Student Fellows and Graduate Associates, and to all students who have completed another academic year and will return in August. Perry World House looks forward to seeing what the coming year will bring.



1. (l-r) Jack Immanuel and Daniel Gurevitch at Penn's 268th Commencement ceremony.
2. (l-r) Michael Weisberg, Penn Provost John L. Jackson, Jr., and Marie Harf at Penn's 268th Commencement on May 20.
3. Penn Associate Vice Provost for Global Initiatives Amy Gadsden and graduate WHSF David Adam Kato.



1

May 9

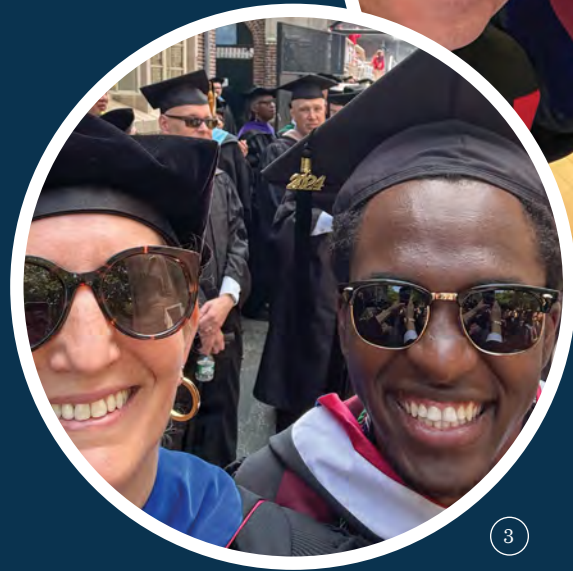
PWH Lightning Scholar
Michael Kenwick hosts
workshop on “Civil-Military
Relations in Social Context”

May 20

University of Pennsylvania’s
268th Commencement



2



3

Looking Ahead to AY25 at PWH

As PWH closed out its academic year, the future loomed large. Excitingly, PWH has undertaken a substantive overhaul of our programmatic and research priorities starting in AY25 to focus on two things: 1) emphasizing and building on the existing strengths of faculty, staff, and visitors to capitalize on our competitive advantages, and 2) prioritizing work on the biggest challenges and opportunities our world faces today. Each program will host a regular series of seminars to engage academics and work through new ideas, as well as larger conferences, workshops, and smaller public events. While much of the work and outputs won't look significantly different than they have under the Global Order and Global Shifts programs, the new pillars will more sharply define the work being done at and by Perry World House.

Democracy will be the newest pillar of work for Perry World House. Led by [Sarah Banet-Weiser](#), the Walter H. Annenberg dean and the Lauren Berlant professor of communication at Penn, and [Sarah Bush](#), Penn associate professor of political science, this program will provide in-depth research and programming centered around topics such as democratic backsliding, democratic resilience, the role of media (including social media) in democracy, disinformation, the interplay between religion and democracy, violence and organized crime, and the impacts of U.S. democracy promotion around the world. As 2024 is the year that will see the greatest number of people head to the polls globally—and in the lead up to the 250th birthday of the United States in 2026—it is a particularly timely theme that is only growing in importance, here at home and around the world.

Perry World House will continue its work on **Climate Change**, an area where we have had significant policy impacts over the past years. The climate pillar will be led by PWH Deputy Director [Michael Weisberg](#) and Penn's Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research [Eugénie Birch](#), and will continue to lead on Penn priorities such as the university's

delegation to the Conference of the Parties, or COP as it is more commonly known. PWH's climate work will focus on climate finance—one of the priority topics for COP29, the connection between climate and food, extreme heat, climate diplomacy, and the role that cities can play in the fight against climate change. In addition, Weisberg will continue his work advising small island nations around Loss and Damage and other climate-related issues.

PWH's work on **Security** will be co-led by returning Perry World House Director [Michael Horowitz](#), just back from a two-year service leave at the U.S. Department of Defense in August 2024. Security—or global order, as the program was previously known—has been one of the main thrusts of Perry World House's research and programs since its inception in 2016, and that will not change. The security theme will primarily focus on U.S. foreign policy, the geopolitics of the Indo-Pacific region, maritime security, the Middle East, collective defense, and emerging technology.

The **Human Rights and Global Justice** program—funded by a generous gift from the Thakore family—will also continue its vital work at PWH, and we are proud to focus on such an important issue that is at the forefront of so many global affairs issues. The program will continue to be led in part by Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, the Perry World House professor of practice of law and human rights, as well as [Jennifer Pinto-Martin](#), Penn's Viola MacInnes/independent professor of nursing and professor of epidemiology. Under Professors Ra'ad Al Hussein and Pinto-Martin, the program will sharpen its work to focus on discrete themes including gender issues, migration, labor, and LGBTQ+ rights globally.

Please continue to visit Perry World House's website to learn more about the revamped areas of work and to learn about the global experts who will be joining PWH as the [2024–25 visiting fellows](#).

1

1. (l-r) PWH's Michael Weisberg, Nuclear Threat Initiative President and COO Joan Rohlfing, Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists CEO Rachel Bronson, and SMI Vice President Bryan Bender following the keynote session of PWH's September colloquium on nuclear policy.
2. PWH Visiting Fellow and *New York Times* editor and reporter Clay Risen speaks at Perry World House.



2



Caption: (l-r) Thomas Shattuck, Penn's Klein Family Presidential Assistant Professor of Political Science Melissa Lee, Air Defense Artillery Officer in the US Army Col. Carina Kelley, Military Police Officer in the US Army Reserve Lt. Col. Qiana Harder, Human Resources Officer in the US Army Col. Seana M. Jardin, PWH Executive Director Marie Harf, and Assistant Professor at the US Army War College and Program Lead of the Eisenhower Series College Program Leon Perkowski at a PWH event on women in the military.

People

Leadership

Michael C. Horowitz

Director and Richard Perry Professor
(On Service Leave)



Michael Weisberg

Interim Director



Marie Harf

Executive Director



Staff



Lauren Anderson

Director of Programs



Gabby Szczepanek

Communications Manager



Tara Medeiros

Director of Communications and Strategic Outreach



Colleen Cronnelly

Programs Fellow



Spencer Northcutt

Director of Events and Building Operations



Thalie Adolphus

Visitor and Administrative Coordinator



Thomas J. Shattuck

Senior Program Manager



Eebbaa Elfneh

Global Justice and Human Rights Program Coordinator



David C. Dreilinger

Program Manager



John Macri

Student Programs Coordinator



Kenedi Cleveland Sprayberry

Events and Building Operations Manager



Alexandre Lacourtiade

Executive Assistant

2023–24 Faculty Council

The Perry World House faculty council meets monthly to discuss strategy and planning initiative. The faculty council members include:

Regina Abrami

Chung Sun Term Professor, Faculty Director of the Lauder Institute's Global Program, and Senior Lecturer in Political Science

Matt Hartley

Professor of Education, Board of Advisors Chair of Education, Deputy Dean of GSE, and Director of Penn AHEAD

Eugénie L. Birch

Lawrence C. Nussdorf Chair of Urban Research and Education, Chair of the Graduate Group in City and Regional Planning, and Co-Director of Penn IUR

Lynn Meskell

PIK Professor of Anthropology and Professor of Historic Preservation

Ezekiel Emanuel

Vice Provost for Global Initiatives

Jennifer Pinto-Martin

Viola MacInnes/Independence Professor of Nursing, Professor of Epidemiology, and University Ombudsperson

Amy Gadsden

Associate Vice Provost for Global Initiatives & Executive Director of Penn China Initiatives

Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein

Professor of the Practice of Law & Human Rights at Perry World House

Guy Grossman

Professor of Political Science

Beth Simmons

Andrea Mitchell University Professor in Law, Political Science and Business Ethics and Director of the Borders & Boundaries Project at Perry World House

Michael Hanchard

Gustave C. Kuemmerle Professor of Africana Studies

Michael Weisberg

Interim Director, Senior Faculty Fellow, Director of Post Graduate Programs at Perry World House, and Chair of the Philosophy Department

2023–24 PWH Faculty Fellows

Jere R. Behrman

W.R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Economics and Sociology

Eugénie L. Birch

Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research

William Burke-White

Professor of Law

Fiona Cunningham

Assistant Professor of Political Science

Melissa M. Lee

Klein Family Presidential Assistant Professor of Political Science

Michael E. Mann

Presidential Distinguished Professor

Lynn Meskell

PIK Professor of Anthropology and Professor of Historic Preservation; Curator, Penn Museum

Jennifer Pinto-Martin

MacInnes Professor of Nursing and Epidemiology

Aswin Punathambekar

Professor of Communication and Director, Center for Advanced Research in Global Communication

Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein

Perry World House Professor of Practice of Law and Human Rights

Simon Richter

Class of 1942 Endowed Term Professor

Beth Simmons

Andrea Mitchell University Professor of Law, Political Science and Business Ethics

Robert Vitalis

Professor of Political Science





PERRY
WORLD
HOUSE
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Perry World House

University of Pennsylvania
3803 Locust Walk
Philadelphia, PA 19104

global.upenn.edu/perryworldhouse