

# The Daily Pennsylvanian

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# PENN, EVACU- ATED.

**PENN WILL EXTEND SPRING BREAK FOR ONE WEEK AND  
MOVE CLASSES ONLINE BEGINNING MARCH 23.**

**F**irst, it was Columbia and Princeton — then, Harvard, Yale, and Cornell. Last week, universities across the United States began to shut their doors one by one, shifting to online instruction, and in some cases, forcing students off campus in light of the coronavirus outbreak.

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*Photo by Alec Druggan*

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down spring sports

PUBLICATION WILL RESUME FALL 2020



EVACUATED  
>> FRONT PAGE

CONOR MURRAY &  
ASHLEY AHN  
*Senior Reporters*

Anxiety gripped the Penn community as emails from Provost Wendell Pritchett seemed to lack clear plans, producing more questions than answers. International students and first-generation, low-income students waited in fear of possibly losing their source of food and housing — asserting that “not everyone has a home to go to.” Quaker Days events for newly admitted students were canceled. Then the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania announced they were treating a coronavirus patient.

Penn then asked faculty to pre-

pare to shift their classes online and banned all University-related travel and large events — deferring an answer on whether in-person classes would resume.

Penn finally pulled the trigger on March 11. Pritchett and Penn President Amy Gutmann emailed the Penn community to announce that classes would be held online for the remainder of the spring semester, spring break would be extended by one week, and students must move off campus by March 15.

Gutmann and Pritchett would email the Penn community again the next day to extend the mandatory move-out date to March 17.

The administrators instructed students who are off campus for spring break not to return. Pritchett and Gutmann wrote that the Uni-

versity will work with students who are currently off campus to facilitate the return of their belongings. They added that the University will support students who receive financial aid during this transition.

Medical, Dental, Veterinary, and some Nursing students will continue their clinical rotations and will receive information with further instruction from their respective Deans, they wrote. Penn Dental Medicine, however, sent an email to all third and fourth year Dental students on March 13 that all student-delivered patient care will be suspended, effective March 16.

Pritchett announced on March 10 that all University-related international and domestic travel is banned until April 17, unless approved by the provost. All on-campus events

with more than 100 people scheduled through April 17 must be postponed or canceled.

Pritchett’s announcement followed the Pennsylvania Department of Health’s report that a Montgomery County, Pa. resident, who tested positive for coronavirus, is being treated at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. The patient, a Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia cardiologist, is in critical condition, health officials announced on March 9.

In an email sent to School of Arts and Sciences spring 2020 instructors on March 9, College Dean Steven Fluharty, College Dean Paul Sniegowski, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies Beth Wenger, and Vice Dean for Professional and Liberal Education Nora



CHASE SUTTON

Administrators urged teachers to “keep [online courses] simple” and conduct online courses in “the most straightforward way.”

Lewis urged teachers to “keep [online courses] simple” and to “use the Penn-recommended tools that

[they] are most comfortable with to accomplish [their] course needs in the most straightforward way.”

# Penn Nursing students concerned about loss of clinical hours

## All clinicals canceled until further notice

HANNAH GROSS  
*Staff Reporter*

While recent developments including moving classes online for the rest of the semester prompted strong student reaction, the announcement hit Nursing students especially hard due to the hands-on nature of their courses and clinical work.

Clinical rotations offer Nursing students first-hand experience interacting with patients in hospitals including Penn Medicine facilities. With all clinical rotations canceled until further notice, Penn Nursing students are concerned about how to compensate for the lost hours and whether they will be able to log enough hours to graduate on time.

Nursing seniors said they worry that canceling clinical rotations for any period of time could prevent them from reaching the state mandate to receive Nursing licensure in Pennsylvania and graduate in May. Sophomores and juniors raised concerns over how to balance two clinical rotations at once next

semester after School of Nursing Dean Antonia Villarruel wrote in an email to the Penn Nursing community on Thursday night that sophomores and juniors will have to make up clinical hours in fall 2020.

First-years enrolled in NURS 102 Situating the Practice of Nursing in which students gain observational experience will have their clinical observations replaced with an online alternative, according to an email sent from Villarruel to the Penn Nursing community.

President Amy Gutmann and Provost Wendell Pritchett previously announced in an email to the Penn community on March 11 that some Nursing students would continue their clinical rotations.

Nursing students received an email from Villarruel on Wednesday evening which read that the School of Nursing would focus on helping May 2020 and August 2020 graduates fulfill their necessary clinical hours.

Nursing senior Jessica Andrews said that nursing students must complete a certain number of clinical hours in order to graduate and take the NCLEX, an exam nursing school graduates must pass to re-



SERENA JANKOVIC

Clinical rotations offer Nursing students first-hand experience interacting with patients in hospitals including Penn Medicine facilities.

ceive Nursing licensure. Lacking clinical hours could impact their graduation date and career trajectory, she said.

Nursing senior Meredith Pinheiro said she is upset by the complications that have arisen from canceling senior clinical rotations for the time-being and likened the recent developments to a “bad dream.”

Pinheiro added that she is not confident Penn Nursing will be able to secure enough clinical spaces for seniors to catch up on their hours in time for graduation

in May.

Penn Medicine Nurse Practitioner and Penn Nursing lecturer Christine Reger wrote in an email to all Nursing seniors on Thursday night that while spring break was extended to March 23, Penn Nursing highly recommends students with clinical placements at Penn Medicine return a week earlier to log as many clinical hours as possible.

Andrews said she had planned to return one week early from spring break on March 16 to continue her clinical rotation at Hospital

of the University of Pennsylvania before Penn Nursing announced on March 13 that all clinical sites were canceled until further notice.

Pediatric Nursing assistant professor Sharon Irving wrote in an email to students enrolled in NURS 225 Pediatric Nursing, the clinical course juniors take in the second half of spring semester, on Friday morning that the clinical component of the class was canceled for the semester due to uncertainties on when clinical sites will reopen. Didactic and simulation components will be delivered through remote learning, she wrote.

Nursing junior Tess Doran, who is enrolled in NURS 225, said she would have liked to remain on campus after spring break and complete her clinical rotations despite fears of the coronavirus outbreak.

“I think that there are valuable things to learn from being in the healthcare system at this moment in time, so I would prefer being in a clinical setting just so that I can learn the most that I can and I can take this information and this experience moving forward as a nurse,” Doran said.

Doran added that she does

not feel comfortable making her schedule for fall 2020, because she does not know when her make-up clinical hours will be.

Nursing sophomore Hannah Pinheiro said the added clinical hours she will have to make up next semester will coincide with courses NURS 245 Nursing of Young and Middle Aged Adults and NURS 255 Nursing of Older Adults, which she described as the “hardest and most difficult” courses nursing students are required to take.

Both NURS 245 and NURS 255 each require 12 hours of clinical experience and two hours of simulated laboratory each week.

Students also expressed concern that online learning will not provide them with the same skills and education that hands-on simulation labs and clinical rotations would.

Nursing first-year Kelsey Greco said that for first year students, an online alternative to clinical observations will not allow her to learn as much as an in-person observation.

“I find it hard to believe that I’m going to receive the same education online, than if we had it in person,” Hannah Pinheiro said.

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# SHS alerts over 100 about potential coronavirus exposure

Emails were sent to students, faculty, and staff

MAX COHEN  
Senior Reporter

Student Health Service emailed over 100 Penn students, faculty, and staff on Thursday afternoon alerting them that they may have been exposed to an individual with coronavirus.

In an interview with The Daily Pennsylvanian, Penn’s Director of Campus Health Ashlee Halbritter said out of the over 100 cases of potential exposure Penn identified, none of the cases were high risk.

“On our campus we only had

low-risk level and medium-risk level,” Halbritter said. “There were no high-risk levels on our campus — everything that got sent out today was out of an abundance of caution and to make sure that we are being open and honest and transparent with people.”

Out of the over 100 cases, Halbritter said more than three-quarters were low-risk cases and the rest were medium-risk cases. A high-risk case is when someone who was exposed to another person with coronavirus reveals symptoms of coronavirus, Halbritter said.

Medium-risk cases include instances where someone could have

shared a meal with an individual with coronavirus or where someone studied with an individual with coronavirus in close quarters, Halbritter said. Low-risk cases could include individuals spending time in the same room with someone who has coronavirus for around 10 minutes, but never within six feet of the individual.

Halbritter declined to provide any specifics on the positive coronavirus diagnosis, and also declined to say whether it was an individual or more than one person with the disease.

The DP obtained copies of emails that Penn students received which said that although the stu-

dents may have been in contact with a person with coronavirus, they are considered low-risk cases and there is currently no need to be tested or to quarantine.

“We recently learned that you may have been in contact with a person diagnosed with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), a novel coronavirus,” the email read.

The email recommended that because “there is a chance you were exposed to COVID-19,” students affected should monitor their symptoms for the next two weeks, call SHS, stay home if they feel unwell, and attempt to use good hand hygiene to limit the spread of

germs and illnesses.

“In consultation with the local public health agencies, you are considered a very low risk exposure,” the email read. “You do not need to isolate, quarantine, or be tested at this time.”

Halbritter said the emails that were sent out were standard practice for a communicable disease situation.

“[The emails] are a very common public health form that is used to try to alert people that they may have been exposed to a condition, and to give them action items to let them know what you can do to continue to protect yourself,” Halbritter said.



SUKHMANI KAUR

# With clock ticking, professors scramble to shift classes online

Online classes will begin on March 23

AMJAD HAMZA  
Staff Reporter

Penn faculty are grappling with how to adapt their classes to an online format after the University announced all classes will move online for the rest of the spring semester to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

Professors have a little over a week left to prepare for online classes, which begin on March 23. Many professors expressed concern for possible technological and logistical difficulties and disappointment that students would lose the experience of being in a classroom setting.

Mechanical engineering and applied mechanics professor Thomas Cassel said the loss of a classroom dynamic is a concern for many professors. Religious Studies professor Justin McDaniel, who teaches the seven-hour “Existential Despair” course which meets once a week, agreed, adding that he was concerned about maintaining student participation in an online setting.

“There’s something that comes

with in-person discussion and when you’re all kind of reading intensely together,” McDaniel said. “It makes the course kind of magical.”

He said the “Existential Despair” course consists of four hours during which students read silently and three hours for discussion. The online class will only feature the three-hour discussion, McDaniel said.

“Pedagogically, it’s difficult. It’s not ideal, but there’s a lot of difficult things in the world and you have to struggle through them,” he said.

Professors also expressed concern for international students who could face large time differences to attend online classes if they are conducted in real-time as opposed to pre-recorded lectures. Cassel said it was possible he would hold classes in real-time while issuing waivers on a case-by-case basis for those unable to participate at that time.

“How we’re going to accomplish this in real-time with students in very different time zones is what we’re wrestling with right now,” Cassel said.

McDaniel said it was unlikely he would hold synchronous classes given the time differences.

“How can you expect a student

to wake up at 3 a.m. and then attend your classes? That’s not fair,” Turkish language lecturer Feride Hatiboglu said.

Professors said they are also currently finding alternative ways to conduct exams and labs.

Physics professor Kenneth Lande, who teaches PHYS 101, said he currently sees no solution for how to hold a final exam or replicate labs. He added, however, he may require students to watch videos to substitute for the lab component of the class.

“I think it’s our job to teach and the assessment is really secondary in my book,” he said.

Hatiboglu added that instead of a timed exam, her students will have a take-home exam in TURK 022.

Cassel said he is currently figuring out how to hold the final exam for his class, Engineering & Applied Sciences 545, online.

Professors said they are becoming familiar with online conference platforms such as Zoom and BlueJeans and some will test-run online classes next week with a select few students.

Both Lande and Hatiboglu said they have recruited students to at-

tend an online trial class next week to provide them with feedback on how to improve the class.

Cassel said the faculty members in the Engineering Entrepreneurship program, of which he is the director, will meet on March 16 and 17 to determine which online plat-

forms to use and will then do trial runs to see how the online classes will be conducted.

The Engineering Entrepreneurship program offers an undergraduate level minor and a graduate level certificate for students interested in technological innovation with a fo-

cus on engineering and science.

Lande, who has taught at Penn for 60 years, said he has been preparing for online classes since mid-February after realizing the novel coronavirus pandemic would be on par with or worse than the 1918 influenza pandemic and 2009 H1N1 pandemic.

Vice Provost for Education Beth Winkelstein emailed all teaching faculty on March 9 asking instructors to familiarize themselves with online-teaching tools in case Penn decides to cancel in-person classes.

“It’s a major change in the way we do things, but it may also be an opportunity to learn how to teach differently,” Lande said.

Lande said he will write equations on sheets of paper and show them to the camera. He added if the class uses Zoom, a video communications software, any student can stop him and ask questions. Lande said he has not used Zoom in an academic setting before but will do his best to recreate the classroom environment.

Hatiboglu said she has previously used phone calls and Zoom to encourage students to speak more Turkish. Hatiboglu said the Penn

"HOW CAN YOU EXPECT A STUDENT TO WAKE UP AT 3 A.M. AND THEN ATTEND YOUR CLASSES?"

- FERIDE HATIBOGLU



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LETTER FROM THE

editor



We decide our stories

In my junior year of high school, one of my most distinct memories was speaking to an older friend who had graduated. I was taking the same English class with the same teacher that she had taken years prior, and my friend was explaining to me the most lasting lesson she had learned from that class.

“Stories only come in a handful of iterations. Every story that exists today is just a retelling of previous stories with different details and characters,” she said. “All of your stories will have a beginning, end, and some kind of plot, but the way you give your story power is through the details and thoughtfulness unique to you.”

The concept my friend described was never taught to me in the class, which I always thought was illustrative of that lesson. Despite the differences in our experiences, her words have stayed with me through the years.

I’m sure the story that’s unfolding around us now is not the story many of us wanted or imagined. It may not be the story we thought we’d be telling at our reunions or recounting to our families. But as trite as it sounds, this story has a beginning, and it will have an ending. Whether we like that ending or not, we are the ones completely in control of the way we remember this story.

For some of us, it seems like the story is already coming to an end. There are some classmates, professors, and friends we might never see again, people we may never say goodbye to.

It’s tough for me to imagine what

Penn will be like without having closure with the seniors who have defined this place, and I can’t imagine how those seniors are feeling now. But while we grieve our missed farewells, I also hope we take this opportunity to reflect on the ways we’ve grown and to celebrate the memories we’ve made.

When I remember my best moments at Penn, the endings mean little to me. I don’t remember the bus ride back to campus after a hiking trip filled with muddy shoes and new friendships. I don’t remember walking home after the countless DP productions that carried into the wee hours of the night. I don’t remember leaving the kitchen table after my parents acknowledged my sexuality for the first time, years of denial later.

Maybe this lack of goodbyes can bring more into focus what has made our stories worth telling.

To my tireless staff at the DP: Thank you for everything – you all inspire me every day. I cannot wait to see everyone again in the fall.

To the seniors who came before me: Thank you for making Penn a place I can call home. It won’t be the same without you.

And to our readers: Thank you for your continued support and challenges. We’ve been through a lot together, and that won’t stop now.

Right now, this period may seem like a difficult, uncertain time. But looking back at the past three years, I know we have the power to decide how these moments will become meaningful.

—BENJAMIN ZHAO

Letter from the President

In response to the coronavirus outbreak, Penn has moved courses online for the remainder of the spring semester, asking students who remained at Penn during break to vacate on-campus housing by March 17.

This is an incredibly challenging time for everyone at Penn: First-generation, low-income and international students who are determining how to get home, faculty who have to figure out how to move courses online by the end of next week, and graduating seniors who saw the ends of their college experiences upended by a global pandemic.

This is a historic moment that we at The Daily Pennsylvanian are committed to covering thoroughly and intelligently. Whether we are working from our homes across the globe or our offices at 4015 Walnut St., we have a moral responsibility to keep the Penn community informed during these challenging times.

We have decided to run a final print edition of the DP

today, focused on how the coronavirus has changed life at Penn. After, we will pause print editions of the DP and 34th Street for the first time since World War II. We will, however, continue to produce content online every day and keep our readers informed as we learn more about the situation.

There are plenty of unanswered questions that our reporters will continue to seek answers to. Through these uncertain, stressful times, you can count on us to provide you fair, accurate news and listen to your voices through our Opinion section. Our thoughts at The Daily Pennsylvanian, 34th Street Magazine, and Under the Button are with the students, faculty, and staff who have to accommodate this rapidly changing international crisis.

The coronavirus outbreak and its global impact demands participation from journalists around the world, and we are honored to continue our history of delivering information to the public.

—ISABELLA SIMONETTI

ILLUSTRATION SERIES BY ISABEL LIANG

EDITORIAL | As coronavirus pushes classes online, let’s change Penn’s competitive culture

DAILY PENNSYLVANIAN EDITORIAL BOARD

While Penn’s response to the coronavirus outbreak lacked haste and clear details in execution, the time the administration took certainly shows an effort to make the most careful decisions. Amid other Ivy League institutions enacting many of the same precautions, and small to large scale shutdowns across the world, Penn’s decision should be taken seriously.

On March 11, alongside President Amy Gutmann and Provost Wendell Pritchett’s email to the Penn community stating that spring semester classes will be moved online, came the announcement of the coronavirus as a pandemic. For the sake of our fellow students, faculty, and global citizens, Penn students need to understand and adhere to precautions set for the sake of public safety while taking advantage of this unique time in history by rethinking the way they deal with schoolwork and taking care of themselves.

Many of Penn’s changes for the rest of the semester fall in line with what the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is pushing in order to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus – avoid close contact, stay home when possible, and keep public areas

sanitized. Moving to online courses for the semester allows for inherent social distancing, Penn buildings to be properly cleaned, and the cancellation of large-scale events – which have proven to allow rapid transmission of the virus. Students need to make sure that they are not only doing what is best for them, but acting selflessly by returning safety to their communities.

Penn students are notorious for being competitive and hard-working. Why not take this time to rethink the way we approach academics while the whole education system is being shifted globally to virtual, remote learning? While our education is being reconceptualized, let’s take advantage of the situation and read books, write essays, and collaborate with students in novel ways that don’t stunt creativity.

With more time being spent at home, students might be bored in the age of social distancing. Again, why not look at the glass half full in these extreme circumstances? Penn students are intellectuals. Take the time to read for fun, watch interesting movies, and sleep more.

The precautions set out by the University, the CDC, and the World Health Organization all play crucial roles in lowering the speed of CO-

VID-19 – but it starts with us Penn students taking precautions seriously for the elderly and immunocompromised in our community. And though it is a jarring and emotionally exhausting time to be living in, there are times in history where the world needs each of us to do our own part. This is one of those times. And it doesn’t have to be all negative. Students should respond to the moment we are in by reshaping the approach to academics and taking care of ourselves while limiting social interactions.



Penn must provide more information on its response to coronavirus

VIEWS WITH VARUN | PENN NEEDS TO BE MORE TRANSPARENT WITH ITS DECISIONS

Like many of my peers, I’m still in shock. The past couple days have honestly felt like a dream; it’s difficult to stomach the fact that by the end of the week, I have to move out of my apartment on campus, and finish the rest of the semester from home. Even as a sophomore who lives three hours away from the University, coronavirus has been stressful enough for me.

I can’t imagine how difficult this is for international students, FGLI students, and graduating seniors. This is why Penn’s administration must be more transparent with the decisions that they have been making over the past number of days, and will continue to make over the coming weeks.

While I am enraged by and personally disagree with Penn’s decision to evict students living on campus, I am an expert in neither infectious disease nor public health, so I will assume that the only way to ensure students’ safety is to prevent them from remaining on campus. Considering that Penn followed in the footsteps of peer institutions, including Harvard and other universities in Philadelphia, including Temple, it seems as though the decision, while incredibly disruptive, was somewhat warranted.

Instead of criticizing the policy itself, I take issue with its delivery and ambiguity: It generates more questions than it answers, which is unacceptable from an administration that is accountable for more than 26,000 students. The announcement made on Wednesday, March 11, updated by a slight extension

the following day, mandates students living on campus to vacate their dorms and apartments on March 17 while simultaneously forbidding students away from Philadelphia from returning.

Across the University, the sentiment is that Penn was not only late in communicating its message, but also incredibly unreasonable in creating the timeline. Students were clearly shocked and were left reeling, often far away from campus, where there is little they can do about it. The prohibition on returning to campus (which has been ignored by many) is only one of a number of concerns that have yet to be addressed by Penn’s administration.

To Penn’s credit, many concerns have already been addressed. Some professors and teaching assistants have been reaching out to students. Student Registration and Financial Services confirmed that students employed in work-study jobs are able to receive payment for their standard hours despite being away. Furthermore, Penn’s Residential Services has pledged to offer a partial refund for those on housing or dining plans.

However, there are a number of University resources whose delivery has become unclear. 13% of Penn’s student body utilizes services delivered by Counseling and Psychological Services, and while we have been told that CAPS will be open, we have not yet been informed as to how exactly students can

access those resources away from campus. Will clinicians be available via Skype? More importantly, will students on psychiatric medications be able to have them managed remotely? On the academic side, how will we register for next semester’s classes? How will we declare our majors?

I bring up these concerns not out of spite — I know that the University will give us all of this information in the coming weeks — but out of criticism. The lack of coordinated communication and the hundreds of unanswered questions show that the different facets of Penn’s administration are not on the same page with one another. It’s clear that many faculty found out about this decision with all of us. It seems as though entire departments, teaching faculty, residential advisors, and many others were simply told to “figure it out.”

There is a petition on Change.org demanding that President Amy Gutmann and Penn’s administration answer a number of questions regarding the rest of the semester, echoing many of the feelings I have outlined here. As students, we deserve to know what will happen with all of the services that we’ve taken for granted over the past semesters, whether that be therapy or access to Pottruck. While the University has been quite forthright and addressed many concerns in this time of emergency, a lot is yet to be answered, and the community is waiting.

This is an unprecedented situation, and as we figure out how to deal with it, Penn has to as well. I want to acknowledge the difficulty of this situation and I hope we can come back next fall having stayed safe and healthy.

**VARUN SARASWATHULA** is a College sophomore from Herndon, V.A. studying the Biological Basis of Behavior and Healthcare Management. His email is [vsaras@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:vsaras@sas.upenn.edu).



Penn service workers cannot be forgotten

THE OXFORD C’MON | PENN OWES ITS WORKERS JUST AS MUCH AS IT OWES ITS STUDENTS

A pandemic works as a highlighter, gliding its hands over the most vulnerable populations, lighting them up with fear and uncertainty.

In the wake of Penn’s decision to extend spring break for another week and subsequently move all classes online for the remainder of the semester, my fears land with the most vulnerable populations who feel the weight of this decision the hardest.

These are international students, exchange students, low-income students, students who don’t have healthy home environments to return to if they’re being forced off campus, and the service workers and small business employees around Penn who will now face uncertain pay with the closing of our school.

Though President Amy Gutmann admitted in the email she sent out on March 11 that many details are still being finalized, she did assert that “University staff will be available and do their best to assist departing students.” Students living on campus were asked to depart by March 17 and told that the school would work with the students to ensure storage or the return of their belongings.

This means immediate work for some employees on Penn’s campus who will help with the so-called “transition.” But what about after almost all of Penn’s students have left campus? What will happen to the service workers who rely on their wages to pay their rent and support their families?

Gutmann expressed that, “We will support those students living in the College Houses or University housing who are

absolutely unable to return home for personal reasons.” What about the service workers whose home is right here, provided by their work at this university? Has Amy Gutmann created a contingency plan for the absolute disruption of their lives?

My twin sister, a work-study student at UCLA’s Hillel, called me yesterday worried about being able to support herself with her work-study being temporarily stalled due to UCLA’s decision to remotely hold classes for two weeks following their spring break. She told me that a friend of hers, a janitor at UCLA, just recently quit his second job in order to work more hours for UCLA.

She said he will most likely end up losing his home if he can’t work those two weeks that UCLA closes its doors. Magnify this dire need for a steady income by an entire half a semester’s worth of work, and you can see how a contingency plan for a “novel virus” can’t be as simple as just getting everyone off-campus to clean and spend time in their childhood homes. The people who work at this institution and make the lives of its students easier every day deserve to be supported

just as much as we do.

All of Penn’s service workers and employees who can’t do their job virtually should be compensated. A killer virus is scary and no one wants to catch it. But homelessness is scary too. Not having the money to feed your kids is terrifying. Running out of overtime pay and not being able to afford the car payment or the electricity bill is frightening. Yet hopefully the last three conditions are avoidable.

Penn has over a \$14 billion endowment. If a killer pandemic isn’t the perfect time to use some of it, I don’t know when is.

**SOPHIA DUROSE** is a College junior from Orlando, Fla. studying English. Her email address is [sdurose@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:sdurose@sas.upenn.edu).





# International students struggle to leave Penn before Tuesday

Students worry about travel amid pandemic

JULIE COLEMAN  
Senior Reporter

As Penn’s campus empties out, students’ evacuation plans are far from simple – for many international students, leaving Penn means making long journeys across the globe and through crowded airports during a pandemic.

Following Penn’s decision to move all classes online beginning March 23, International Student and Scholar Services sent an email asking international students to return to their home countries, except those from nations designated level three risk by the Centers for Disease Control: China, Iran, Italy, and South Korea.

While some international students are able to remain in their off campus housing, many students living on-campus are scrambling to book flights home before travel restrictions are put into place. But for some, leaving campus is not a viable option.

If College first-year Ashwarya

Devason were to leave her residence in King’s Court to return to her home in Mauritius, she would face over 35 hours of travel. And if she has a temperature upon landing, a mandatory two-week quarantine in a government facility awaits her.

Though Devason is relieved Student Financial Services would cover the cost of traveling home, she said keeping up with schoolwork would be very difficult at home due to the eight-hour time difference and lack of dependable technology.

“I’m a highly-aided student, so I don’t necessarily have access to all that technology and facilities I would have on campus, for instance computers or software,” she said. “I would not necessarily have that back home. Also, I would probably not have a very reliable internet connection.”

Both international and domestic students can apply to stay on campus through an online portal by March 14, and the email said they should receive a decision within 24 hours of applying. President Amy Gutmann sent an email to all undergraduates with the link to the portal on March

12, a day after the school initially announced its transition to online courses and asked students to leave campus.

Devason said she applied to stay on campus March 12, and has yet to receive a response from the school. For now, she has not packed her things and waits in limbo, watching as her most of of her dorm building empties out.

“It’s stressful – I don’t even know what to say to my parents either, because they’re also waiting for the response from housing,” Devason said.

If approved to stay on campus, she still does not know if she will be allowed to stay at Kings Court English House and where she will be able to eat.

“They haven’t said anything about where they’re going to move us,” she said. “They said that if people choose to stay during the rest the semester, there were going to be limited dining options available, but we don’t know what that means. What is going to be open?”

Engineering and Wharton junior Maher Abdel Samad said he is

frustrated by the University’s vague instructions and lack of clarity when initially announcing its plan.

“You can’t just put out an email and just wait 24 hours for it to simmer. You have to be able to handle that initial rush because you’re a university,” he said. “A university is not just a place you go and learn, it’s a community, it’s a place where people live.”

Though he lives off campus, and therefore does not have to return to his home country of Lebanon, which has already been hit hard by the coronavirus outbreak, he is frustrated for his peers, many of whom began to panic about losing their student visas and flooded ISSS with calls after the first email was sent.

College junior Rebecca Jiang did not originally plan to leave campus and return to her home country of Australia, but now feels risking the journey and taking online classes despite a substantial time difference is her best option.

Jiang, who lives in Harrison College House, said she considered renting from friends living off-campus for the duration of the semester, but



ISABEL LIANG

worried about the added cost of extra rent, as well as having access to resources if local shops in Philadelphia began running out of necessities.

She is now scrambling to pack up her apartment and prepare for over 30 hours of travel, as well as a 21-hour layover in Hawaii.

“There’s a lot of concerns with how the [United States] is handling the virus itself, and there’s just a lot of concerns among my family members about whether Philadelphia is safe,” Jiang said.

Wharton first-year Katherine Yuan counts herself as one of the luckier international students, as

she does not have to deal with a large time difference when returning home to Canada.

However, Yuan is still struggling to pack up her room in the Quad, find a place to store things she cannot take with her, and deal with the emotional challenge of leaving most of her friends indefinitely.

“I just live so far away from everybody,” she said. “I didn’t get to say goodbye to my friends and I just have to leave, and I’m not allowed to go back on campus to see anybody again until the fall. So that sucks, but obviously I understand why. It’s just is a terrible situation.”

# Wharton introduces class on coronavirus and crisis management

The half-credit course will be offered online

BENJAMIN MOSS-HORWITZ  
Contributing Reporter

As the coronavirus pandemic dominates the global conversation and threatens the economy, the Wharton School has organized an online course about the disease’s effects on business.

Wharton management professor Mauro Guillén is launching an online half-credit course on the global business implications of the coronavirus outbreak — which he said is the first university course to focus on the pandemic. The course, titled “Epidemics, Natural Disasters, and Geopolitics: Managing Global Business and Financial Uncertainty,” will run for six weeks

starting March 25 and will be taught by fourteen different lecturers.

Lecturers will include National Bureau of Economic Research Fellow Kent Smetters, Department Chair of Medical Ethics and Health Policy Ezekiel Emmanuel, and Wharton Dean Geoffrey Garrett, among others, CNBC reported.

“We decided to start this class because we wanted to make available to our students Wharton faculty expertise that is highly relevant to the coronavirus crisis,” Garrett wrote in an email to The Daily Pennsylvanian.

Although the course is listed under Wharton, Garrett wrote that Penn students across every undergraduate and graduate school are able to enroll, and there is no cap on enrollment.

Each week, the course will ex-



AVA CRUZ

amine the coronavirus outbreak from a new angle, Guillén said. Course topics will include the effect of the coronavirus on the global marketplace and geopolitics, as well as how leaders negotiate risk and

handle emotional distress in times of crisis, Guillén said.

“The crisis is at its core about public health, but it has dramatic implications for markets, budgets, governments, and societies all around the world,” Garrett wrote.

On Thursday, the stock market saw its biggest drop to the Dow Jones industrial average since 1987, following the United States’ ban on entry from most European countries. The New York Times reported that investors have been disappointed with the lack of action taken by the U.S. government to bolster the economy.

The large blows to the stock

market and the shutdown of commerce worldwide have prompted economists to warn that the economy is likely headed toward a global recession.

Guillén said he hopes students will gain an understanding of how companies can plan for recovery and the necessity of leaders to offer actionable steps to move forward.

“The goal is to help [students] cope and also to prepare,” Guillén said.

Guillén told CNBC that Garrett proposed the idea for the course similar to the one he led on the 2008 economic recession. Guillén taught “The Economic and Financial Crisis: Causes, Consequences, and Policy Options” in 2009, analyzing the global economic impacts of the recession.

The new course will meet virtually each Wednesday for three hours, Guillén said, but the lectures will be recorded online for students in various time zones. Assignments will be posted on Canvas, while lectures will be given over BlueJeans, a virtual classroom program that incorporates class participation through messages.

Wharton administrators launched a website to gauge interest and for students to pre-register, Guillén

said. The website is now down and faculty are working to create a formal registration process. Guillén said students can pre-register in the meantime by emailing him.

Wharton first-year Andrew Yu said he is excited about the course and is planning to register as soon as it is available. He said he expects that there will be more global crises like the coronavirus in his lifetime and wants to be prepared.

“We don’t want to have another case like the coronavirus where the United States had no idea what to do about it,” Yu said.

First-year nursing Ph.D. student Nina Juntereal said she doesn’t think the course will help students cope more than other available resources from organizations like the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“It’s an interesting idea, but I don’t understand what value it will bring to the table,” Juntereal said.

Juntereal said students are overwhelmed enough by their current courses as they rapidly move off campus, with little certainty of when they will return.

“I am so pleased that my colleagues were ready and willing to support Mauro Guillén in putting this class together, literally overnight,” Garrett wrote.

# Penn urges students not to return for their belongings

Students on campus to move out by March 17

HANNAH GROSS  
Staff Reporter

On-campus residents who left Penn for spring break are being urged not to return to school to retrieve their belongings, and students who remained on campus must move out of their dorms by March 17 at 8 p.m.

Penn Residential Services sent an email to on-campus residents on Thursday morning outlining new housing policies to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Residential Services, Division of Public Safety, and the College Houses will secure the belongings of students living in the College Houses, Sansom Place, and University-recognized Greek houses who left campus for spring break. The University will contact students when they deem it is safe for students to retrieve their belongings, according to the email.

Residential Services wrote that there are no options to retrieve important items including laptops, course materials, and personal effects. If a student believes they have an emergency situation, they can email living@upenn.edu to attempt to retrieve their item.

Despite the University’s mandate that students not return to Penn to collect their belongings, students headed to campus on Thursday and Friday anyway to move out of their dorms.

Harrison College House — which was prepared with move-

out carts in the lobby — did not have any preventative measures prohibiting students from returning to campus to retrieve their belongings. Several students were able to return to campus on Thursday and move out of Harrison despite not having stayed at Penn for spring break, without being questioned by security guards at all.

College sophomore Catherine Lewis, who returned to campus from Virginia to move out of Harrison on Thursday, said no one questioned her when she entered the building with two suitcases to move out.

“Even though [the University] might say not to return to campus to get your stuff, they’re not being aggressive about it,” Lewis said.

Wharton sophomore Danielle Schweitzer returned to campus on Thursday to gather her belongings, despite not staying on campus during spring break. Schweitzer said it was easy to get back into Harrison College House to move out, although she did not see any Residential Services staff members or available carts when she arrived.

She said moving out was “pretty easy,” but added that some of her friends are worried they won’t be let in to collect their belongings.

Penn announced on Wednesday that spring break will be extended one week, followed by online classes beginning March 23 for the rest of the spring semester in an attempt to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

For students who are still on



SUKHMANI KAUR

campus, Residential Services staff will assist with move out by providing carts, assisting with check out, and answering questions.

Students who are unable to travel home for personal reasons or because they live in an area that is affected by travel restrictions may fill out an application to remain on campus. The application must be completed by 12 p.m. on March 13. Students will receive a response within 24 hours, the email read.

Once approved to remain on campus, students will be provided with additional information regarding how the College Houses will operate going forward. Security will remain in place and dining facilities will remain open on a more limited basis, according to Residential Services.

Residential Services wrote that the University will issue a partial refund or credit for future housing or dining plans for students living on campus and students on a meal plan. An application process will be announced later in the semester, Residential Services wrote.

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# International students, Penn has not left you behind

GUEST COLUMN BY MAHER ABDEL SAMAD



ISABEL LIANG

On Wednesday, I received the same email as all other students: Penn is suspending in-person classes, students are expected to go home. However, like many other students, I was touched differently by the news.

My first reaction was not to look for tickets to extend my spring break another week, nor was it being upset about my Hey Day being canceled; it was utter panic. Was I going to lose my student

visa? Was I going to be forced to return to Lebanon, a country seriously struggling to contain the virus? Will I be able to apply for my summer internship visa extension? I had no idea.

In the midst of this unprecedented time at Penn and in the world, students feel left behind by their governments and Penn's newly announced policy. The school's decision to not only extend spring break until March 23 but also force students out by

March 17 can be criticized by students and supported by the administration alike. Many student petitions, op-eds, and memes have also provided commentary on this shocking decision.

But the problem isn't whether the policy is justified — the problem is what it caused among students.

These policies constitute an inconvenience to some but can threaten the livelihoods of others. The University took longer than

most of its Ivy League peers to craft a response to the virus, yet still managed to push students into a similar state of chaos and disarray. The most vulnerable students are the ones left with the least information: Students that can't afford to move off campus, students who don't have the means to go back home, students from countries where their health would be in greater jeopardy than if they stayed here in Philadelphia, and others.

If you felt panic rather than inconvenience after getting the University's sparse response to the virus or identify with one of the above categories, as I did, I have good news for you.

While horrible at disseminating this information, Penn did not leave its students behind. After speaking with many administrators, including Dr. Altamirano, director of International Student and Scholar Services, I now realize that Penn had a longer period of silence to coordinate its response. From what I've seen, Penn is rolling out a targeted approach that would simultaneously limit the spread of the virus while keeping the most vulnerable of us safe.

There are dozens of measures that aim to help students, but most of them are only accessible to those who ask. For example, while many students are scurrying to find sublets, Penn is offer-

ing accommodation to students who really need it, whether they be first-generation low-income, international, or else in need.

If you identify as FGLI, I encourage you to email pennfirstplus@upenn.edu "outlining [your] need to return and/or remain on campus."

If you are an international student, email your assigned ISSS advisor (available on the IPenn system) or call ISSS at (215) 898-4661. Penn is advertising its <https://coronavirus.upenn.edu/> page, but I also recommend reaching out to specific advisors for your personal situations. This rings especially true if you have extenuating circumstances preventing you from returning home (e.g. toxic family environment) but don't necessarily identify as FGLI or international.

This is a very important time for our Penn community to come together and help each other. If you are a student in distress, I assure you, Penn has not left you behind. You are not alone. We may react to crises differently, but the best reaction right now is to reach out: To your family, to your peers, but also to Penn's many resources.

**MAHER ABDEL SAMAD** is an Engineering and Wharton junior in The Jerome Fisher Program in Management & Technology. His email is msamad@seas.upenn.edu.

## Our campus community is at the breaking point — it's up to us to keep it together.

THE ANGRY PHILADELPHIAN | The social Ivy rides onward

This was not supposed to happen.

I thought I was on a roll for the last part of my first year as a Quaker. Then, like many of us, I was hit in the face and heart with the containment curtain that coronavirus is dragging around the world.

As I took a much-needed walk on Wednesday to process everything, I realized that I am just one of 10,000. 2,500 first-years will miss Spring Fling. 2,500 juniors won't celebrate Heyday (a tradition going back over

100 years). And, of course, 2,500 seniors will not be on campus for the final 60-odd days before commencement (the status of which remains uncertain). No part of the Penn community escapes this disruption.

Penn students have faced times when we have had to remain strong. But the cancellation of all on-campus life is certainly the most impactful, with no parallel in modern University history. In the face of this forced disconnection, it is up to the

Penn community to help each other stand tall and live up to our reputation as the social Ivy.

Our life at Penn is a collection of social circles. We each find our own, from the small circle of our housemates, to clubs, to the Penn community as a whole. We each have a sense of pride and ownership in our circles; they cocoon us, helping us to stand when we are on shaky ground and taking us in when we are bruised. As we face a new reality of life online, these bubbles

have to stay as strong as ever.

Already we have seen the Penn community react. Students and professors are volunteering to store things for and help house students in need. They have created a resource guide for each other and done countless other unseen things to help make sure no one has to face this crisis alone.

Our swift reactions make me proud to be a part of such a resilient and strong community.

In spite of the many questions left unanswered by Penn administration and by the different levels of government, we are showing that we, a bunch of young adults, can handle a crisis, too.

We are, however, only a few days into a modified semester that will stretch to May. We've sprinted to bring in new information, but what comes next requires us to hold together for a longer.

The diversity of our student body means that each person has different needs and vulnerabilities that must be supported. We will no longer run into people on Locust or bump into someone in line at Williams Hall. No incidental contact means that our different individual reactions to the end of in-person social life may go unsupported. Counseling and Psychological Services will remain open (albeit remotely), but the voice of a friend can be more powerful.

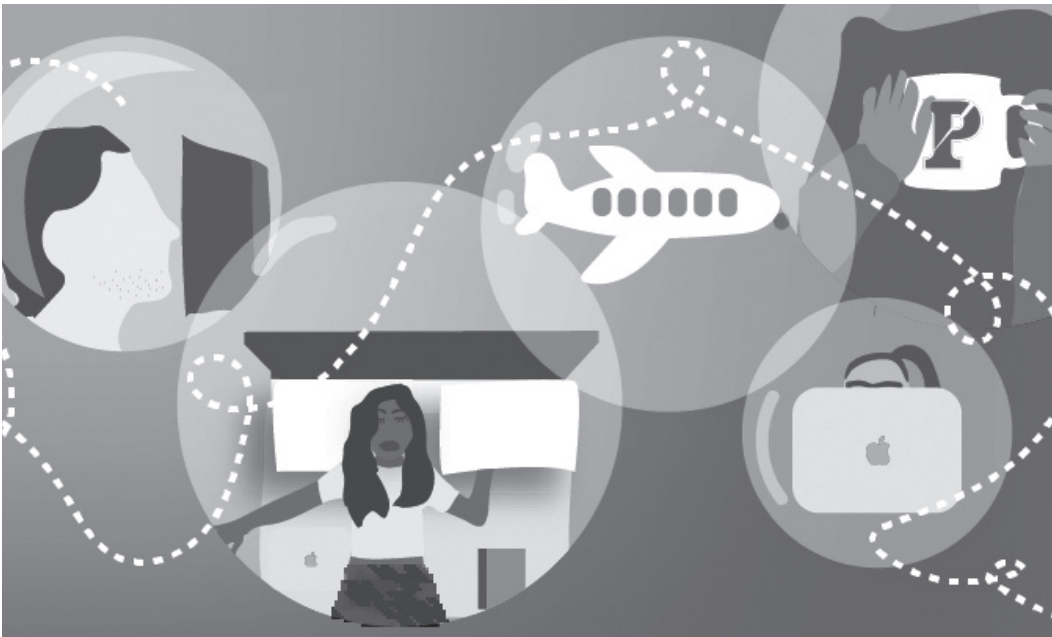
This is a great challenge, but we

are the social Ivy. If there is any university that can face this challenge, it's us. We do not know what the next few months will look like, but we can inform it. Text people you haven't talked to in a while or bring alive the dead group chat from last year. Do anything that tells someone else that you are here and in a similar place.

When we arrived at Penn, we were promised to be challenged, made uncertain and unsure. Our new reality does just that. In the same way that we work through tough problem sets or a bad writer's block together, we must help each other now. We have to reach out to ensure that we can stand tall for the rest of the academic year. Our campus, no matter how far apart, must stick together. That, more than anything, is in our hands.



**ALFREDO PRATICÒ** is a first year in the College from Philadelphia. His email is praticò@sas.upenn.edu.



GEORGIA RAY

## OPINION ART

That moment you close your eyes for two seconds and all of the sudden, Penn is kicking people off campus, making all classes virtual, canceling sports events, and Hey Day/Graduation may no longer be happening



**SARAH KHAN** is a College Junior from Lynn Haven, Florida

## LETTERS

Have your own opinion? Send your letter to the editor or guest column to [letters@thedp.com](mailto:letters@thedp.com).

Editorials represent the majority view of members of The Daily Pennsylvanian, Inc. Editorial Board, which meets regularly to discuss issues relevant to Penn's campus. Participants in these meetings are not involved in the reporting of articles on related topics.



# 'It's hypocritical': Players and coaches react to Ivy Madness cancellation

**HOOPS** | Careers are over for Penn basketball seniors

**JACKSON JOFFE**  
*Senior Sports Associate*

Senior forward AJ Brodeur sat in front of his locker late this morning. He tied his shoes, put on his basketball shorts, and prepared for coach Steve Donahue to start Penn men's basketball's film session. Just over two weeks ago, Brodeur wasn't even sure he'd still be playing this late into the season. Three straight Ivy losses — including a poor-shooting loss at Dartmouth — pushed the Quakers to fifth in the Ivy League.

But Brodeur has never been a quitter — not when Penn started 0-6 in conference play his freshman season, and not when the Red and Blue were down big against Kansas in the 2018 NCAA Tournament his sophomore year. Riding three straight performances of 20 or more points from Brodeur, the Quakers reversed their fate this season, his final campaign for the team, capping off a three-game winning streak with a lopsided 20-point victory over Columbia last weekend.

That Senior Night win saw Brodeur become not only the team's all-time leader in points scored but also the first Penn player to record a triple-double in school history. The final victory also allowed Penn to sneak into the Ivy League Tournament

as the No. 4 seed, extending the Quakers' season.

On Tuesday, Brodeur's mind was on top-seeded Yale — a team Penn had already beaten once earlier in the season. Donahue sat down in his usual spot, ready to talk to his team.

"And then he started to talk, and his tone, I thought someone had died; something was clearly wrong," Brodeur said.

Donahue didn't know how else to say it: "The Ivy Tournament is canceled."

Brodeur was shaken to the core by what his coach said. He couldn't believe what he had just heard.

"I got chills," Brodeur said. "I'm still speechless."

With the increasing precautions being taken to combat the rise of coronavirus across the world, the players knew that there was a possibility that the men's and women's tournaments would be played without spectators. Canceling the tournament altogether, though? No one saw it coming.

"Never in a million years would I have thought this would happen. We were all just stunned after he broke the news," Brodeur said. "I think the locker room was just quiet for the next 45 minutes. No one knew what to do, no one wanted to leave."

Donahue, too, didn't expect this decision to come down from top brass. For him, the decision was not only implausible; it was hypocritical.

"I didn't see it coming. To

pull this from our kids, it's the most horrific thing I've dealt with as a coach," Donahue told The Philadelphia Inquirer. "To have to tell kids their seasons and their careers are over, while lacrosse teams are going off to play games and wrestlers are going to nationals. ... If you're letting Yale go to the NCAA Tournament — if they'd said across the board, we're shutting down all sports, you'd understand."

Women's basketball coach Mike McLaughlin was similarly shocked — and frustrated — at the League's decision to cancel the Tournament.

"We knew canceling the tournament was an option, but we really didn't consider it a real possibility. Coaches had minimal contact with the League while this decision was being made, and I had no say in the final decision," McLaughlin said. "It's hypocritical of the Ivy League to do this. There are other teams [in the League] traveling who are midseason who are being treated differently. Hockey is still going on up at Cornell with Princeton involved."

Senior guard Phoebe Sterba, gearing up for what she expected to be her final game or two in a Penn uniform, also voiced frustration in the League's decision, criticizing its abruptness.

"From the six-mile run at the start of August to get into shape, we've been fighting for a chance to compete in the NCAA Tournament," senior guard Sterba said. "To end the entire season



SON NGUYEN

Senior guard Phoebe Sterba is just one player who will never take the court for Penn Women's Basketball again. She and her fellow seniors had their seasons cut short with the cancelation of Ivy Madness.

in a sentence? It isn't justifiable."

Though the women's basketball team will most likely be competing in the WNIT after securing a win last weekend, the men's season is over.

"So many ups and downs this season," Brodeur said. "Full circle from the Alabama game; everybody in the room — from the coaches to the managers — believed we were playing as good as if not better than any other team in the Ivy League."

Saturday night's win over Co-

lumbia was the final time Donahue's first recruiting class would be together. On Tuesday, it was a bittersweet moment in the locker room. The coaches started to describe how much the seniors had meant to this program — a storied basketball school that made its first NCAA Tournament appearance in 11 years and won a Big 5 title — while the harsh reality that this team is done playing sunk in.

"Hearing the pain in the coaches' voice," Brodeur said. "It hurt all of us to hear them.

These are great role models, and to hear them, it humanized them. They're feeling the same way we are right now."

Both the men's and women's teams may never come to terms with how the season ended. But perhaps they won't have to.

"This whole thing, it doesn't feel right. But I am extremely grateful for a fantastic career here at Penn," Brodeur said. "Growing with this team, making it to the NCAA Tournament, facing adversity, those things I won't forget."

# Jamaica bars school teams from traveling to Penn Relays in April

**TRACK** | Jamaican schools have competed since 1964

**WILL DiGRANDE**  
*Senior Sports Editor*

The 2020 Penn Relays were just dealt a significant blow on Tuesday, as the Jamaican government has implemented a travel ban on its schools from attending the annual track and field competition, as reported by the Jamaica Observer.

"I have confirmed that in terms of the Penn Relays, the Ministry of Education through Cabinet instructions, has advised schools not to participate in the Penn Relays this year," said Dr. Christopher Tufton, Jamaica's Minister of Health and Wellness, at a Tuesday press conference.

"Schools by now should have been advised that the Government is taking a position to not participate in the Penn Relays this year because that travel and the location could involve levels of risks that we would like to discourage and we are



CHASE SUTTON

Calabar High School, based in Kingston, Jamaica, is just one of the many schools that will not be allowed to travel to the Penn Relays this April. For the first time since 1964, the island nation will not send its student-athletes to the annual track and field competition.

putting an advisory out against that travel."

The Relays, which includes

races for athletes of all ages, has included Jamaican school teams since 1964, and the is-

land nation's athletes compete on the highest level at the event. Penn Relays Director Dave

Johnson expressed his condolences for the Jamaican schools in a statement given

to The Daily Pennsylvanian on Wednesday.

"We recognize the position of the Jamaican Ministry and sympathize fully with the plight of the many people affected. At this point, the Relays staff and volunteers are in full operational mode, as we fully hope to conduct the meet six weeks from now," he wrote.

"We recognize the coronavirus and the varied responses to it represent a very fluid situation, and we are monitoring all aspects of this as much as possible. In the meantime, we will continue to post updates to the Penn Relays website."

Even more devastating to the usually-electric environment is the potential lack of fans. Thousands of track and field supporters make the trip to Franklin Field from the Caribbean and beyond, and travel bans in place mean many of them will likely not journey to campus.

The 2020 Penn Relays are still scheduled to take place April 23-25 at Franklin Field and other venues around campus.

# Despite its end, my lacrosse career was my Penn identity

All year long, professors, friends, and family asked me how the team looked this year. Beaming, I told them that this was the best team we've ever had, and how I genuinely knew that there was something special about this group of girls. I glowed about the freshmen, and how they brought unrivaled energy and passion to the game. Then, with a smile on my face, I would speak about my own class of seniors, each of whom I love like sisters. My three captains took it upon themselves to become the best leaders they could be, and I would full-heartedly share how impressed I was by their passion, effort, and Philadelphia grit. This was our year.

And then the year was no more. Gone. Senior Day, playing Princeton, the Ivy Season, the Tournament, and NCAAAs were erased with the words:

"The Ivy League has canceled all spring sports' seasons."

After we found out the news, we sat in the stands watching the men play, in disbelief that no one had told them yet. Why would you end their practice though, if you could give your seniors another hour of playing the game that they've put their blood, sweat, and tears into

for 14 years?

Lacrosse has given me the best moments of my life as well as the worst. The absolute joy I felt when I committed to Penn made that day one of the happiest of my life because I was gifted the ability to play high-level lacrosse for the next four years. The worst moments have always come from that opportunity to play lacrosse being taken. The day that I was told that I would never get onto the game-day field. The practices when I'd wait to be put into a drill, but practice would end and I wouldn't get to play with the team. So I'd hit the wall for hours until the skin on my hand blistered, hoping that the next day would be better.

I'm out of next days now.

On our last day, before we knew it was our last day, practice was dismissed and we were told we could go in and relax or shoot. My friend asked me if I wanted to go inside, and I asked her why would we go inside and do nothing when we could stay out and play lacrosse? I threw feeds to one of my freshmen, who has the next three years to bring more to this program.

Chelsea Kibler was about to break the draw record. Erin Barry would have taken the goals re-

cord, and Gabby Rosenzweig was just shy of the assist record after already taking the points mark. Mikaila Cheeseman, recovering from an injury, soon would have been healthy enough to finally get to play in her senior season. I hope that they are given that opportunity with another season of eligibility.

I'm a senior. I ride the bench like it's my job. Why? The minutes playing the game I love, with the people I love, makes it worth it. This year was the year that was going to make it all worth it because I was going to be part of something special. I spent years developing my role on the team and adding value in any way I could. Finally, I knew exactly what my job was and how I was going to contribute to our success this season.

I had planned to write this article at the end of May, Ivy Championship and Tournament in hand. I already had paragraphs written out about my journey through the sport. It was going to be our year. We spent hours and hours over the fall discussing what it takes to win championships. How we would overcome adversity during the season. How special this year's team was.

If you had told me four years ago



SON NGUYEN

that I would never step on a game day field at Penn, I would have turned my car around and driven up to Ithaca, N.Y. I wanted to go to a good school, but I wanted to go to a good school and play the sport I love. With almost four years under my belt, I would tell you that coming here was the best mistake I ever made.

I'm grateful for every moment that this program has given me. I'm grateful for the opportunity that my coaches gave me when they let me come to play for Penn. Penn

women's lacrosse gave me my best friends who are the most amazing people I've ever known. I'm so proud of everything we accomplished over this year and over the past three and a half. We had time taken from us, but we still have the future to make different memories.

**TEIA ROSS** is a College senior from Summit, N.J., a Sports Reporter for The Daily Pennsylvanian, and a member of Penn women's lacrosse. She can be reached at dpsports@thedp.com.

**IVY MADNESS**  
**>> BACKPAGE**

als have convinced us that this is the most prudent decision."

On Wednesday, the Ivy League then canceled all spring sports.

"Following a number of league-wide discussions throughout the last several weeks, we have decided to exercise caution in the interest of student-athletes, fans and the general community," Harris wrote in the statement.

The Ivy League Tournament was scheduled to take place for a fourth straight year this weekend. Before the tournament began, regular season men's and women's champions received the automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament, which occurred this season before the March Madness cancellation.

The Ivy League was the first NCAA conference to announce the cancellation of a conference basketball tournament. Other conferences either finished their tournaments early in the week or canceled them on Thursday.





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# Ivy League Spring Sports CANCELED

by Michael Landau

Illustration by Isabel Liang

The Ivy League announced in a statement on Wednesday afternoon that it would be canceling all spring sporting events for the

remainder of the semester due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The decision was made unanimously by the Ivy League presi-

dents and affects both practices and competitions.

The statement came just minutes before Penn's announcement that it

would be moving classes online for the remainder of the semester.

"Several Ivy League institutions have announced that students will

not return to campus after spring break, and classes will be held virtually during the semester," the statement read. "Given this situation, it is not feasible for practice and competition to continue."

The announcement does not directly affect winter sports, as the decision regarding whether teams

and individuals qualifying for post-season play in those sports will be made by individual schools.

The statement came one day after the eight presidents decided to cancel the Ivy League Men's and Women's Basketball Tournaments, which were scheduled to take place at Harvard from March 13-15.

## Spring athletes, coaches shocked and devastated by season cancellations

Baseball had to cut its trip to Florida short

**WILL DiGRANDE**  
Senior Sports Editor

Shock and disbelief swept through Penn's student-athletes, coaches, and training staff this week as the Ivy League announced its cancellation of the spring sports season due to coronavirus.

Operations for all spring teams were forced to stop as soon as possible wherever the teams were at the time of the announcement, which could not have come as a worse time for some of them.

Penn baseball was warming up for its Wednesday afternoon matchup with Florida Atlantic in Boca Raton, Fla. when the news broke.

"I was actually throwing batting practice, so as I walked off the field one of my assistant coaches pulled me aside, and I had a feeling once I saw his face that something was wrong," coach John Yurkow said.

Just moments before the opening pitch, the game — along with rest of the season — was called off.

Greg Mays, a communications assistant for Penn Athletics, was traveling with the team and present when Yurkow told his players.

"When he told them, it was pretty ugly. You saw every range of emotion; all of the

seniors were just totally defeated," he said. "Nobody was really sure whether or not we were gonna play a game ... and eventually they called it [off]."

The team has since returned to Philadelphia and most players have traveled back to their hometowns, but much uncertainty still remains about summer leagues and other professional opportunities.

Penn women's lacrosse was minutes from leaving campus on a bus when coach Karin Corbett was informed of the cancellation.

"We had to quickly gather our team together because the press release was coming out in eight minutes," Corbett said. "I wanted them to hear it from me, and when they saw my face I think they knew, and my seniors just burst out crying."

For the spring athletes, just getting going into their sports, this means all the months of offseason training will have been for nothing. As for seniors, they may never compete for the Red and Blue ever again.

"This is a very special team, all three of my captains are on the doorstep of breaking records, and that was really hard," Corbett said.

The careers of those three players — attacker Gabby Rosenzweig, midfielder Erin Barry, and defender Chelsea Kibler — as successful as they have been, are over for good barring any action from the NCAA.



CHASE SUTTON

Penn men's lacrosse is just one of the many teams that has seen its season cut short after just a few weeks of play.

Penn men's lacrosse coach Mike Murphy heard about the decision during Wednesday's team practice.

"We went through the rest of practice, then I brought the seniors aside and told them what was going on," Murphy said. "So I said, 'We can go lift, we can go home, or we can stay here and play more lacrosse.' And they decided they wanted to stay and play lacrosse."

Adding to the frustration is the fact that all three of these teams and others from Penn had the chance to do very well this season. The Quakers were picked as the preseason favorites to win the Ivy League in baseball, and women's lacrosse got off to a 4-1 start with some marquee wins.

Men's lacrosse, despite starting 2-3 against nationally

ranked competition, was seeking to defend its Ivy title with a star-studded lineup.

"What we do obviously isn't life and death, but it was pretty emotional and tragic," Murphy said. "Even though it's hard to digest, it affects us more than it does a lot of other college students. To lose our purpose and the ability to pursue our mission is very hard to deal with."

But as the shock of the cancellation wears off and reality sets in, one possible solution is an extra year of eligibility for the seniors if the NCAA and Ivy League grant it.

"It hasn't really sunk in yet that our season's over," said. "Hopefully those kids will still have an opportunity if they want to play, but it's really a terrible thing how it was taken away from them."

## Ivy Madness canceled three days before start

**HOOPS** | All the Division I tournaments are canceled

**MICHAEL LANDAU**  
Senior Sports Editor

The Ivy League Men's and Women's Basketball Tournaments scheduled for March 13 to 15 have been canceled, the League office announced on Tuesday.

The decision was made in the wake of the coronavirus outbreak and occurred after Harvard, the host of the tournament, announced it was moving classes online after its spring break.

Instead of sending the tournament winners to the NCAA Tournament, the Ivy League gave the regular season champions, Yale for the men and Princeton for the women, automatic bids to March Madness.

The NCAA Tournament was then canceled on Thursday.

Penn men's and women's basketball, which were seeded fourth and second, respectively, in the tournaments, were denied an opportunity to come out with an Ivy Tournament title.

According to an Ivy League statement, the decision was made by the presidents of the eight member schools.

"We understand and share the disappointment with student-athletes, coaches and fans who will not be able to participate in these tournaments," Ivy League Executive Director Robin Harris wrote in the statement. "Regrettably, the information and recommendations presented to us from public health authorities and medical profession-

SEE IVY MADNESS PAGE 8



CHASE SUTTON

The Ivy League was the first Division I conference to announce the cancellation of both its men's and women's basketball tournaments.