Penn drops mask mandate in most indoor settings

Community members will no longer be required to wear a mask in athletic facilities, libraries, residential halls, and dining halls.

JONAH MILLER
Senior Reporter

Penn will drop its indoor mask mandate for all non-classroom indoor spaces effective immediately, following the City of Philadelphia’s move to the “All Clear” COVID-19 precaution tier. Masks will be required in classrooms until March 28.

Indoor masking has been one of Penn’s central COVID-19 mitigation measures, but with Tuesday’s announcement, community members will no longer be required to wear a mask in athletic facilities, libraries, residential halls, and dining halls. University administrators wrote in a campuswide email.

“After an overview October meeting in 2021, hundreds of students, faculty, and staff packed into Irvine Auditorium at the University of Pennsylvania formally inaugurated its eighth president, Amy Gutmann. The weather canceled Gutmann’s planned procession down Locust Walk, but she did not dampen the community’s enthusiasm.

She was at ease pretty quickly,” 2005 College graduate Isaac Levine said of his first meeting with Gutmann. She has been there, I expected, much more accessible. She wanted to truly know what was important to students on campus.”

Inviting the first president of the Undergraduate Assembly, spoke at the inauguration. Nearly 2,000 people attended — from the College graduates and former Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell (D-Pa.) to then-Board of Trustees Chair James Riepe, who had led the presidential search committee — took the stage to welcome Gutmann before her speech.

Here, she introduced the Penn Compact, embedding her key aspiration for the University: increase access to higher education, promote interdisciplinary learning, and prioritize local and global engagement.

By hosting the Penn Compact, we will make the greatest possible difference in our University, our community, our city, our society, and our world,” said Gutmann, who now serves as the nation’s ninth University president. Gutmann said in the audience they greeted her with thunderous applause.

Exploring your time here, The Daily Pennsylvanian sat down to speak with 29 former and current leaders of the Penn community — and Gutmann herself — to chronicle the former president’s legacy through the lens of her original aspirations, which have since been rebranded as inclusion, impact, and excellence. These community members shared reflections of Gutmann as more than her title, describing her as friendly, inclusive, and focused on her mother’s German heritage.

“My message to the Penn community is what I love you,” Gutmann told the DP in early February, just before leaving for Berlin. “I love you, and I will miss you. Stay in touch, and please welcome me back.”

See GUTMANN, page 5

PHOTO BY MAX MESTER

AMY GUTMANN
A look back at her 18-year presidency

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“The DP spoke with 29 former and current leaders of Penn — and Gutmann herself — to chronicle her legacy.”

IMRAN SIDDIQUI, WILLIAM KUSTER
Senior Reporter, Staff Reporter

See MANDATE, page 3

PHOTO BY MAX MESTER

Lia Thomas to compete at NCAA Women’s Swimming and Diving Championships

Three Quakers will be competing this week for a chance at national titles.

MATTHEW FRANK AND ESTHER LIM
Sports Editors

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Concluding a tumultuous season of media attention and breaking records, transgender Penn women’s swimmer Lia Thomas is set to compete in the NCAA National Championships in Atlanta beginning today. Thomas will swim the 200-freestyle and 500-freestyle events — both of which she has won in — as well as the 100 freestyle, and she will be joined by Penn juniors Catherine Barkdorff and Anna Kalandadze.

On Feb. 10, the NCAA announced that it will not adopt NCAA Board of Directors’ recent guidance that NCAA student-athletes may change their gender and compete in a gender with which they identify. The move effectively reverts to a transgender exception that was put into place in 2010. The guidance was released in December in response to the Ivy League Championships. At the Ivy League Championships in late February, Thomas won all five of the events that she will be competing in at the NCAA Championships.

At the Ivy League Championships in late February, Thomas won all five of the events that she will be competing in at the NCAA Championships. This week, Barkdorff and Kalandadze will participate alongside Thomas in the 500 free, and they will also swim the 1,650-yard freestyle. Barkdorff won the 1,650 free at the Ivy League Championships, while Kala- dadze finished third behind Barkdorff. In the 500 free, Barkdorff and Kalandadze finished second and fourth behind Thomas, respectively.

At the NCAA Championships, Barkdorff and Kalandadze will compete in the 500 free on Friday, Thomas will swim in the 200 free on Friday and the 100 free on Saturday, while Barkdorff and Kalandadze will compete in the 1,650 free on Saturday.

See GUTMANN, page 5

PHOTO BY MAX MESTER
Carl Bildt spoke to attendees about the historical conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Bildt, who led the nation of Sweden in joining the European Union and reforming the Swedish economy, spoke to the audience about the historical conflict between Russia and Ukraine. The event was hosted by the Perry World House and included in Philadelphia. Hundreds of protests across the world have rallied in support of Ukraine, including in Philadelphia. Thousands of protesters gathered at City Hall on Feb. 25 to call on the United States to impose further sanctions against Russia and increase military assistance to Ukraine. Bildt added that he believes Putin is mistakenly focusing on the past history of Russia rather than its future. “Putin is deeply embedded in creating this 19th-century empire. He sees Russia losing things in areas that are central to this empire. And that is an obsession,” Bildt said.

Bildt also added that he anticipates private businesses leaving Russia will impact the economy, using IKEA as a case study. IKEA came to Russia decades ago, he said, indicating a shift in the nature of the country to become more westernized and move forward. IKEA is now temporarily pausing operations in Russia, which he said was a sign that Russia is now moving backward.

Bildt said that while he believes there will be “tragic weeks” ahead as the situation in Ukraine unfolds, he ended the event on a more hopeful note, sharing that he believes the future in the West may not be as bleak as it looks right now. “The future in the West doesn’t look that bad after all,” Bildt said.
Board of Trustees unanimously confirms Liz Magill as ninth president

Members of the Penn community gathered for a celebratory procession down Locust Walk

TORI SOUSA Senior Reporter

Penn’s Board of Trustees has unanimously confirmed the appointment of Liz Magill as the university’s 10th president. The longtime legal scholar and University of Virginia provost will begin her tenure during the Board of Trustees’ Standing Meeting at The Inn on Penn on March 16, making Penn’s youngest president and, once Magill officially begins, the university’s first female president.

“I am humbled and honored by the trustees’ confidence in me to lead Penn through the next chapter of our history and to guide future changes on campus,” Magill wrote in her acceptance speech last night. “I am grateful to be in a much better place than we were two years ago, and we look forward to celebrating together the joyful campus events than we were two years ago, and we look forward to celebrating together the joyful campus events.

The Board of Trustees meets in the annual welcoming meeting to review the nation’s most prominent institutions make Penn one of the most prominent universities in the country, the nation, and the world.”

The appointment of both Yale University and the New York School of Law currently serves as executive vice president and provost at UVA. Magill was previously the 15th dean of the Harvard Law School from 2012 to 2019, and she served for former United States Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg from 1996 to 1997.

PHOTO BY SUHANNAH KASS

Liz Magill being escorted by students and members of the Penn community down Locust Walk after her confirmation as Penn’s ninth president on March 4

Penn students consider Penn Medicine professor’s campaign platform in U.S. Senate race

Baumlin officially launched his campaign for Senate in April 2021

ENRIQUE ROCES

Baumlin told The Daily Pennsylvanian that his classmates and improve the conditions of small business owners.

“The key driver for [businesses] wanting to hire new workers is the cost of health care,” Baumlin said. “It’s too high, it’s too expensive, and it’s too hard to business growth.”

Other Penn affiliates running for the Senate spot include Pennsylvania State Senator and 100 Penn Law graduate Sen. Sharif Street, and Rep. Conor Lamb (D-M. Pennsylvania), a former at the University of Pennsylvania, that he hopes to address, if elected.

He added that a change in the health care system would drive jobs for working-class individu-

As the son of a nurse and a former medical resident, Baumlin often talked about the impacts of 100 Penn Law graduate Sen. Sharif Street, and Rep. Conor Lamb (D-M. Pennsylvania), a former

He designed a three-point plan that would make health care “universal, simple, and accessible” to shift the focus in the health care industry away from monetary incentives.

College junior Celina Korch, a former DP reporter who serves as communications coordinator for Baumlin’s campaign team, said that Baumlin’s Senate campaign promotes moral and practical solutions within its areas of focus.

“The bridge between health care and small business and economic development is very related in [Baumlin’s] mind,” Korch said. “These two areas of focus will become one unit.”

Baumlin said that he became engaged with health care “universal, simple, and accessible” to shift the focus in the health care industry away from monetary incentives.

Campus cases, farm-collecting engagements trends across Philadelphia County, which is now averaging 15 cases per day, with a test positivity rate of 0.17% as of March 14. Stable low case count and positivity keep the City of Philadelphia in “All Clear” status.

“All Clear” requires that at least three of the four following conditions must be met before masking can end: the citywide average of new cases per day is fewer than 100; hospitalizations are under 50, positivity rate has dropped below 2%, and cases have not risen by more than 50% in the past 10 days.

In a March 1 email, Penn administrators shared safety guidelines and wrote that community members who do not upload COVID-19 vaccine information by March 16 and are not yet booster-eligible will be required to undergo screening testing through Penn Cares twice each week. Students are required to upload their COVID-19 vaccine information to their Student Health Portal.

Masking will continue to be required in health care settings and on Penn Transit.

“It has been two years since our community first experienced the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,” University administrators wrote. “We have been through a lot, we have learned a lot, and now we are seeing better days im-

Penn community gathered for a celebratory procession down Locust Walk

The incomparable faculty, students, staff, lead the way for our community to even greater heights,” Magill said. “Their incomparable work is testament and to share it with the world,” Magill said. “The incomparable faculty, students, staff, lead the way for our community to even greater heights,” Magill said. “Their incomparable work is testament and to share it with the world,” Magill said.

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Opinion

Senior societies should become more inclusive and transparent

CLOOBECK’S CALL | Senior societies are meant to bring students together, yet cutting applicants and not disclosing the cost of dues and other fees is unacceptable.

STATEMENT

By Jaden Cloobeck

Senior societies are meant to bring students together, yet cutting applicants and not disclosing the cost of dues is unacceptable.

I remember my personal experience reaching out for application in senior societies. I was told that due to the pandemic, applications were no longer needed. When I asked my personal experience reaching out for application in asenior societies. I was told that due to the pandemic, applications were no longer needed. When I asked why this was the case, they simply said that the pandemic had caused this decision. When I asked about the cost of dues, they told me that I would have to contact the society's president to find out the cost.

This is unacceptable. Senior societies should be transparent about their costs to the student body. They should be transparent about their costs because it is the students' money that is being spent.

I think there should be transparency about dues at the outset. Students should be able to find out how much the dues for each society are before they apply. This would allow students to make informed decisions about which societies they want to join.

I also think that senior societies have a responsibility to be transparent in their recruitment efforts. Rejection ratios should be made public, and new members should be informed about the cost of dues.

Senior societies should be more inclusive and transparent. They should be transparent about their costs and make sure that all students are given an equal opportunity to join.
Gutmann’s tenure as Penn president has come to an end, but her impact is enduring.

The Penn Compact that Gutmann launched in 2004, and which was translated into action by her presidency, still guides the University’s priorities. Under Gutmann’s leadership, Penn transformed financial aid by introducing the Penn First Plus program, which guarantees a no-loan policy to all students who qualify. This initiative, along with others such as the creation of the College of Liberal and Integrated Sciences, has helped Penn become a leader in diversity and inclusion, with the percentage of students from underrepresented communities rising to 56% for the Class of 2025.

The University’s focus on innovation has also paid off, with Gutmann’s leadership in establishing the Pennovation Center and the Penn Medicine Innovation Fund. These centers have helped to translate research into practical applications, and have contributed to the University’s growth.

Innovation

The second principle of the Penn Compact is to innovate locally and globally. One of the ways Gutmann implemented this principle was through her focus on diversity and inclusion. She ensured that all 12 of Penn’s schools and the University as a whole were committed to diversity and inclusion, and this has been reflected in the growth of the FGLI student community, suggesting that the University’s efforts have not only been successful, but also sustainable.

Gutmann’s focus on innovation has also made its way beyond the University, with her emphasis on the importance of partnerships and collaborations. She recognized that Penn needed to do more globally, given the world’s interdependence, and in response, she began her presidency by launching the Penn Center for Innovation and the Penn Center for Public Engagement.

Impact

The third principle of the Penn Compact is to be a top quartile university. Gutmann’s leadership has helped Penn to achieve this goal, with the University consistently ranking in the top 10 of the U.S. News & World Report’s annual rankings.

In conclusion, Gutmann’s presidency has been characterized by a focus on diversity, inclusion, and innovation. Her leadership has helped to transform the University, and her legacy will be remembered for years to come. As she begins her next chapter, she can be proud of the progress that has been made under her leadership, and can look forward to what the future holds for Penn and its community.
Penn Athletics announces construction on $69.35 million track facility

The facility, originally announced in 2019, will finally break ground this fall.

The center was first announced in October of 2019 with a projected completion date of 2022, but the initiative was delayed due to changes in construction timelines.

The facility was first expected to span 62,000 square feet as of the fall of 2019, but the final facility will encompass 71,000 square gross feet. According to an official filing on Penn Facilities & Real Estate Services, the center will have “a basked track, long and high jump pits, a throwing area, and [an] indoor track- room.”

With all the impressive features of the facility, Shahanian is optimistic that the On-Center will help attract future recruiting prospects to Penn’s track and field program.

“Obviously, from [are] (unsurprising), prospective student-athletes are always enamored with shiny objects — this will be one incredibly shiny object, and it will be wonderful to see as we will offer our prospective student-athletes and, ideally, their eventual enrollees at Penn,” Shahanian said.

Additionally, Shahanian is enthusiastic that the facility will allow Penn to host more track meets at home during the indoor track and field season.

“It would be lovely to have to travel pretty much every weekend in order to be able to compete, so our races would be excelled to have four additional weekends competing in our backyard at our venue,” Shahanian said. “It allows us to host track championships during the indoor track season. We are actually moving outside of the indoor track championship rotation, so an indoor track will allow us the opportunity to host an Ivy League indoor track championship in the winter track season, so we’re excited for that as well.”

Outside of Penn track and field, Shahanian mentioned that the On Center will also host the Young Quakers Community Athletics program, Penn Athletics’ partnership with the Netter Center to work with middle school youth in the West Philadelphia community.

The facility will itself be bounded on the north by the Hollenback Center, on the south by the expressway near River Fields Drive, on the west by the Septa and Animal restrictions, and south by the Rhodes Field. The On Center will be the site of the building cause by way of land and Dean of Athletics, who are both Wharton and Penn track and field alumni. The complex on the team and graduated in 1976 and 1980, respec- tively, and are one of these primary donors of the project.

Penn track and field head coach Steve Delano wrote about his vision for the facility when it was first announced:

“We will tremendously enhance Penn’s track and field program by providing another venue for year-round training and meets.” Delano wrote in 2019. “That’s more, the On Center will serve as the year-round home for the cross county and track & field, as well as an indoor warm-up area for the Penn sailing club.”

Penn’s golf is back for the spring, and here is how you can keep up with the Quakers.

CAROLYN YOUNG Sports Associate

For two years, the Penn women’s golf team has been posting Instagram “Showy Highlights” for every day of the week. Penn’s “Field Fridays” feature a quick video of a player on the green. The week begins with “Motivation Monday,” complete with inspirational quotes.

After their break through the winter, Penn’s men and women’s golf — as well as the Insta- gram stories — will be back in full swing.

Penn’s women’s golf team returns for the spring season.

“A fan’s guide to Penn golf.”

Penn golf is back for the spring, and here is how you can keep up with the Quakers.

In NCAA collegiate golf, there are two paths for competition: team and individual play. Players are assigned to a particular format prior to the start of each tournament.

Typically, all teams play at least 10 holes per day over the space of two or more days. Each team consists of four or five players, with a few more assigned to individual matches. The winning team is determined by the total tournament score over all qualifying players.

Names to Watch

Penn men’s and women’s golf teams are stacked with talent ready to make their marks on the spring season. Here are a few names to watch for in the team’s competitions.

Carter Prince — Team

Carter Prince will wrap up his collegiate career at Penn, concluding where he left off from the fall. Since his freshman year, Prince’s game has improved during his time as a Quaker.

In the 2018-19 season, Prince had a 74.8 stroke average over 53 tournament rounds — he was in the lineup for every one of these tournaments that year. In the 2021-22 fall season, however, Prince was in the lineup for every tournament, scoring an average of 74 strokes over more than 50 tournament rounds.

Korean-American

“Korean-American” will likely be the moniker for the team in the upcoming season. In his first season at Penn in 2019, junior Susan Xiao posted phenomenal numbers in the fall tournaments prior to the COVID-19 shutdown. Over 15 tournament rounds, Xiao shot a 72.3 stroke average. Xiao even set the Penn women’s golf record for the lowest round with 56 at Delawares Lady Blue Hex Invitational.

After falling to a stroke average of 77.5 over four tournament rounds in the fall 2022-23 season, Xiao will look to bounce back this spring.

Langer — Team

Senior Jason Langer — the son of one of all-time professional golf great Bernhard Langer — has brought the Langer legacy to the Red and Blue. Over the three seasons prior to this, Langer has toggled between the A and B teams while also competing as an individual. In the fall 2021 season, Langer recorded a 75.6 stroke aver- age over two tournament rounds.

Looking Ahead

While the women’s team just returned to campus from a training trip in Myrtle Beach, the men’s team is already back in action.

The men’s team will next compete on Friday and Tuesday at the Bush Beach at the Beach tournament in North Myrtle Beach, S.C. The women’s team, on the other hand, will have to wait until April 2 for its first game action.

As the teams compete on greens across the East Coast, expect more updates to be put on the Ivy League tournaments in April.
Excluding Iwamori Williams, virtually all of Penn’s rotation will return this fall

**Frank** | Make no mistake: Penn men’s basketball will be back here in the Ivy Tournament soon — and probably not as a three seed next time.

**ANDREA MENDOZA**

In their last meet, the Quakers broke the Ivy League meet record. Additionally, there were numerous individual standouts throughout the season. Sophomore Agarwala tied the program record on vault and beam with a score of 9.950, and junior Marr tied a program record on the beam with a score of 9.900.

“Are they truly a unit? That support another one over the other? Absolutely. We’re very proud of them and this accomplishment and are looking forward to

**JUNIOR MCCALEB MARR celebrates with teammates after completing her beam routine during a meet against Cornell at the Palestra on Feb. 6.**

**PHOTO BY SUKHMANI KAUR**
In Photos: Penn Winter Sports

Senior guard Jelani Williams attempts a layup during Penn’s semifinal loss against Yale at the Ivy League Tournament on March 12.

The 2021-22 winter season was the first time in years that The Daily Pennsylvanian’s sports reporters could sit on the sidelines of the Palestra and travel to follow the Quakers on the road due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But sports photographers are just as much in the moment as those who watch from the stands. Capturing the actions of Penn athletes who train for hours to perfect those motions, these are a few of our top picks of this past winter sports season from our sports photographers.

Sophomore Sara Kenefick, part of the Ivy League and program record-breaking gymnastics team, competes on the beam during a meet against Yale at the Palestra on Jan. 30.

Senior Aly Abou El Einen of men’s squash dropped a three-game match against fellow Egypt native Marwan Tarek of Harvard at the CSA Team Championships.

Women’s fencing competed against Ohio State University on Jan. 23 to an 18-9 victory.

Sophomore Cole Urbas wrestles down opponent Sam Wustefeld for a win during the meet against Columbia at the Palestra on Jan. 23.

Senior Kennedy Suttle fights to gain possession of the ball against Brown during the game at the Pizzitola Sports Center on Jan. 2.

Sophomore Cole Urbas wrestles down opponent Sam Wustefeld for a win during the meet against Columbia at the Palestra on Jan. 23.

Junior Jason Schreiber swims in the 100-yard breaststroke against Yale and Dartmouth at Sheerr Pool on Jan. 8.

Junior Emerson Blutt parries his opponent’s attack during the home-hosted competition against Ohio State University on Jan. 23.