The School of Arts and Sciences is proud to welcome four additions to its landscape of advanced teaching and learning environments. A campus staple since the 1970s, the McNeil Center for Early American Studies (1) now has a permanent home that will help it further the knowledge of America’s complex roots. The renovation of nearby Fisher-Bennett Hall (4, 5, 6) brought up-to-date classrooms, acoustically perfect rehearsal spaces and state-of-the-art screening rooms to the campus landmark.

April saw the opening of the Weigle Information Commons (3) on the first floor of Van Pelt-Dietrich Library. It creates a space where technology can be integrated with support resources to help students make the most of their studies. A few weeks later the School welcomed Carolyn Lynch Laboratory (2) to the western edge of Kaskey Memorial Park, where it will transform the study of the life sciences at Penn.

—JOSEPH MCLAUGHLIN

For more information on these additions to campus, please see the Dean’s Column “More Than Bricks and Mortar” on page 7 and Last Look on page 31.
From Hill Field's expansive lawn to the greenery of Kaskey Memorial Park, new SAS spaces are blooming alongside the season’s rich floral tapestry.

1. The building on Hill Field supports the McNeil Center and captures the spirit of its intellectual focus on early American history.

2. Lynch Laboratory offers advanced facilities and the kind of interdisciplinary workspace essential for research in the life sciences.

3. The Weigle Information Commons allows students to work on all aspects of an assignment – from brainstorming to the finished product.

4. Penniman Library in Fisher-Bennett Hall was transformed into the Judith S. Rodin – Class of 1966 Undergraduate Study Center.

5. Faculty offices benefit from updated fixtures, enhanced lighting, soundproofing and beautiful views of campus.

6. The fourth floor of Fisher-Bennett Hall features new music practice and performance spaces, including the Gary and Karen Rose Recital Hall.