

SAS PARTNERSHIPS

Advancing Our Mission



From left: Rogers Smith, Liliane Weissberg, Sam Preston (dean when Browne made his commitment), Robert Rescorla, President Amy Gutmann, Chris Browne, Jeremy Sabloff, Dean Rebecca Bushnell, Warren Ewens

Keeping Distinguished Company

Christopher Browne, C'69, Penn Trustee and chair of the SAS Overseers, says that “academic distinction should be defined by excellence in research, outstanding teaching and a strong commitment to making Penn a forum for open dialogue.” That’s why he funded five Christopher H. Browne Distinguished Professorships in the School of Arts and Sciences, one for each of the School’s divisions — humanities, social sciences, natural sciences — and two for areas deemed important by the dean. Psychology professor **Robert Rescorla, Gr'66**, was appointed to the first Browne chair in 2000. The distinguished professorship served as a recruitment tool to attract political science professor **Rogers Smith** from Yale. Other Browne chair holders are **Warren Ewens**, professor of biology, and **Liliane Weissberg**, professor of Germanic languages and literature. The fifth Browne chair was given to anthropology professor **Jeremy Sabloff, C'64**, when he stepped down after 11 years as director of Penn’s Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology and returned to the classroom.

PARTNERS Conservation Partners

For some, a generous man is one who would give you the shirt off his back. For **Daniel Janzen**, a world-renowned tropical ecologist who holds the DiMaura Chair in Biology, a generous man would give you the shoes off his feet.

That’s what **Paul DiMaura, C'65**, did a few years back while visiting Janzen and his biologist wife, **Winnie Hallwachs**, at the Area de Conservación Guanacaste, a government-owned conservation area in northwestern Costa Rica where Janzen is technical advisor. “When Paul and [his wife] Karen arrived at our house, a tin-roofed shack, they looked around, and impulse-donated,” explains Janzen. “Both of them took off their shoes and asked us if we could use them — new Nike sneakers. My reply? ‘Most decidedly.’”

DiMaura’s generosity extends well beyond footwear. He has been supporting Janzen’s Costa Rican rainforest-preservation efforts since 1995, when the two met and discovered a shared interest in conservation biology. A decade later, after creating an endowed term chair, DiMaura expanded his support to

endow the DiMaura Chair. This, he says, will “advance the understanding of the world’s species and ecosystems” and provide a permanent source of funding for Janzen, whom he calls an “energetic and intelligent individual who has dedicated his life to something very important.” DiMaura, equally committed to supporting the next generation of ecologists, has established an endowed scholarship and a research internship for undergraduates interested in conservation biology.

Although DiMaura is a real estate entrepreneur, his 40 years of visits to the Florida Everglades piqued his concern for the environment. “I was shocked to see how pesticides and the activities of large agricultural industries ... had destroyed this area,” he explains. According to Janzen, this awareness is what distinguishes DiMaura as a visionary supporter. “Paul actually understands what we are trying to do here. He can see well beyond the bottom line ... and measures the world’s fitness by more than dollars.”

—BROOKE ERIN DUFFY

Paul and Karen DiMaura





Ron Moelis

Win-Win

When College dean **Dennis DeTurck** spoke at an SAS Board of Overseers meeting last year, his remarks caught the attention of **Ron Moelis, C'78, W'78.**

A principal of L&M Equity Participants, Ltd.

in New York City, Moelis is a long-time supporter of endowed scholarships in the School. "It's something that makes me feel good about giving to Penn," he says, "but I was looking for opportunities where I could integrate the academic mission with what I perceived as charitable giving for those in need." DeTurck's presentation on Access Science, a program of Penn's Center for Community Partnerships, described just what he envisioned. "It was an opportunity to take giving to a new level," says Moelis, who pledged \$500,000 to create the Moelis Access Science Endowed Fund.

Notes DeTurck, who directs Access Science, "The program provides a terrific opportunity for our students to enhance their own understanding of science, even as they work to improve math and science education in West Philadelphia Schools. We are thrilled that Ron's gift will help make our efforts a permanent part of the undergraduate experience." Typically, students enrolled in the program's academically based service learning courses learn the subject matter of their classes by teaching some version of it to grade- and high-schoolers. "It's not just the inner-city kids who are going to benefit by this," Moelis observes. "The Penn students will see a part of life they do not get to see growing up. If done right, it could make a difference in lives on both sides."

At Your Discretion

The renovation of Fisher-Bennett Hall. The launch of the College Summer Research Institute. The increase in research support for newly hired faculty in the sciences. These are among the most ambitious projects the School has undertaken in recent years, and none of them would have been possible without funding from the SAS discretionary endowment.

A uniquely flexible resource, this fund includes gifts from alumni, parents and friends who entrust the School to allocate their support in a way that will have the greatest impact on Arts and Sciences' students and scholars. "The dean's discretionary fund allows the School to seize opportunities for advancement, whether in the case of hiring a new faculty star or launching a new academic program," notes **Dean Rebecca Bushnell.** "We are deeply grateful for this kind of support."

This year, the School has seen an unprecedented increase in its discretionary endowment, following a series of leadership gifts from **Judith Zarin and Gerald Rosenfeld, Par'09, Laurence B. Simon, C'68, G'74,** and an anonymous Penn-parent couple. According to Simon, who for more than 10 years provided discretionary support to the College before making a \$1 million unrestricted commitment to SAS in February, "A Penn education to the future leaders of our society is the most important gift that I can give." He explains, "The School, under the inspired leadership of Rebecca Bushnell, has a unique opportunity to influence and educate the best of our children. They are the ones that will make the difference in the future, and I am proud to support SAS in this important endeavor."

Make your gift to the School of Arts & Sciences

CHECK

Send your check, payable to the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, to Laura Weber, 3440 Market Street, Suite 300, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

CREDIT CARD

Make a gift online at <http://www.sas.upenn.edu/home/views/alumni.html>.

APPRECIATED SECURITIES

Contact Laura Weber at 215-898-5262 or lweber@sas.upenn.edu.

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Gifts can be made using assets like real estate, art or collectibles. Some can even pay you income for life or be designated to benefit SAS when you pass on. For information, contact Penn's Office of Gift Planning at 800-223-8236 or planned_giving@ben.dev.upenn.edu.

MATCHING GIFTS

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