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Penn Vet Adds Six to Its Board of Overseers



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Krista Buerger



Jay S. Fishman



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The Board of Overseers serves as the advisory body to the Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine and as a vital channel of communication with the University of Pennsylvania Board of Trustees on the activities of the School. Overseers also provide ready panels of professionals, experts and informed lay people who offer volunteer leadership and financial support to the areas they serve, as well as serving as ambassadors and spokespersons by linking the campus to the world.

“The contributed time and talent of the Overseers is a key component of the success of any school at Penn,” said Dean Joan C. Hendricks, The Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of Veterinary Medicine. “And it is a great delight to add these fresh, committed, impressive members to our Board. They are bringing new energy and renewed vision. And I believe I speak for all of us, including the long-serving Overseers, when I say it is tremendously enjoyable to share the wonders of Penn Vet with these new eyes and ears as they become acquainted with the breadth and excellence of our work.”

In the past year, Penn Vet has added six individuals to its Board of Overseers. Each of them will serve renewable, three-year terms. New members include:

Catherine George Adler of New York, NY. Ms. Adler was a vice president in investments for Cowen and Co., a member firm of the New York Stock Exchange. She has been a chairwoman of fundraisers for various organizations in Palm Beach, including the South Florida Science Museum, the YWCA Mary Rubloff Harmony House and the Children’s Home Society. She served on the Board of the Academy of the Palm Beaches and Ballet Florida, and was a member of the International Director’s Council for the Guggenheim Museum. She is currently a member of the Chairman’s Council of Conservation International and on the advisory board of the Palm Beach Theatre Guild.

Krista Buerger of Plymouth Meeting, PA. Ms. Buerger is executive vice president for Coventry, the leader in the secondary market for life insurance and the company that pioneered the life settlement industry. Ms. Buerger joined the company in 1999 and currently oversees the company’s operations, specializing in implementing key company-wide initiatives that continue to strengthen Coventry’s distinctive corporate culture. Ms. Buerger plays a critical role in the continuity and development of Coventry’s operations by enhancing current processes and systems to continue to improve on the company’s existing platforms. Ms. Buerger is a graduate of Bucknell University.

Jay S. Fishman, W’74, WG’74 of Englewood, NJ. Mr. Fishman is chairman and chief executive officer of The Travelers Companies, Inc., a Dow 30 company offering property and casualty insurance products and services to businesses, organizations and individuals in the United States and selected international markets. Mr. Fishman is a member of the University of Pennsylvania Board of Trustees, the Industry Advisory Board of the Financial Institutions Center for The Wharton School and serves as chairman of the Travelers/Wharton Partnership for Risk Management and Leadership. He also serves on the Philharmonic-Symphony Society of New York, Inc. He is an active member of the Business Council, a vice chairman of the Kennedy Center Corporate Fund Board in Washington D.C., and member of the ExxonMobil Corporation Board of Directors.

John P. Shoemaker, C’87 of Wyndmoor, PA. Mr. Shoemaker is a managing partner with Milestone Partners, a Radnor-based middle market private equity firm. He currently serves on the boards of several Milestone portfolio companies including Safemark Systems, Miche Bag and Avure Technologies. Prior to entering the private equity business he was a corporate lawyer for Reed Smith Shaw & McClay in Philadelphia and an investment banker for Morgan Stanley, Inc. in New York. Mr. Shoemaker serves as a member of the Board of Trustees to the University of Pennsylvania where he is also on the Board of Overseers of the Athletic Department. He also serves on the board of the Children’s Scholarship Fund Philadelphia. Mr. Shoemaker holds a BA from the University of Pennsylvania and a JD from Boston College Law School.

Adam Silfen, C’98, WG’03 of New York, NY. Mr. Silfen is the founding partner of Wickapogue Advisors, LP, a real estate advisory and investment firm. Personally, Mr. Silfen rode horses competitively for many years at the national show level and was an avid polo player. He’s also an avid golfer and runner.

Lynne L. Tarnopol, CW’60, PAR’83, PAR’85 of New York, NY. Mrs. Tarnopol is a Trustee of the Tarnopol Foundation. As one of the founders of the Penn Club of New York, Mrs. Tarnopol served as its Founding President. At Penn, Mrs. Tarnopol currently serves on the Wharton Undergraduate Executive Board and is a member of the Trustees’ Council of Penn Women. In addition, she has served as a member of the Penn Alumni Board of Directors and was the fundraising chair for the 125th Anniversary of Women at Penn Committee. Mrs. Tarnopol was the recipient of the Alumni Award of Merit in 1995.