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Pay It Forward Scholarship Winner

On June 1, 350 of the city’s top business associates, education advocates and community leaders joined Philadelphia Academies, Inc. at their annual fundraising event, ‘The Party 2013,’ held at Loews Philadelphia Hotel. The event raised nearly $195,000 to support the nonprofit youth development organization’s mission to expand life and economic options for Philadelphia public high school students through career-focused programming and activities.

In the course of the evening, Abel Jose Perez – a 2011 graduate of the Business Academy at Kensington High School – was named this year’s Pay it Forward Scholarship Award winner. Recognized as an outstanding Philadelphia Academies, Inc. alum who has overcome significant challenges to continue his education and pursue his career goals, Perez is now enrolled at Pierce College and working part-time at a local law firm.
PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

BOARDS

Rhonda Costello
The Joseph Fund
named Rhonda Costello, executive VP/chief retail officer of Republic Bank, a trustee.

Frank Murphy
Temple University College of Eng. Alumni Association
named Frank Murphy of Deeb Blum Murphy Frishberg & Markovich, VP.

Darrel German
Economy League of Greater Philadelphia
named Darrel German, senior VP of Wells Fargo, a director.

Marc Ammaturo
Peirce College
named Marc Ammaturo, managing director of PFM Group, a trustee.

CONSTR.

John Sajda
Reynolds Restoration Services of Wayne hired John Sajda as carpenter foreman.

FINANCE

Christine Walker
Drexel Morgan Capital Advisers Inc. of Radnor hired Christine Walker as VP.

Tony Cavaliere
Republic Bank of Media hired Tony Cavaliere as VP/store manager.

Daniel B. DiFrancesco
Turner Investments of Berwyn hired Daniel B. DiFrancesco as global equity research associate.
HEALTH CARE

Katherine Schleider
Kennedy Health System of Voorhees, N.J., promoted Katherine Schleider to VP of clinical integration and hired Jim Mullen as VP of clinical services for Kennedy University Hospital in Turnersville, N.J.

Jim Mullen

Sue Ronnenkamp
Wesley Enhanced Living of Hatboro hired Sue Ronnenkamp as corporate director of community life.

Paul Perrault
CSL Ltd. of King of Prussia hired Paul Perrault as CEO and managing director.

INSUR.

Gary Rispoli
Construction Risk Partners of King of Prussia hired Gary Rispoli as director of surety operations.

HOW TO SUBMIT

SEND US YOUR PEOPLE
Philadelphia Business Journal accepts People on the Move submissions online at pjb.com/people.

We welcome information about any Delaware Valley business person who has been promoted, joined a new company or received an award.

Include name, position and jpeg photo attachment (see requirements online) of the person, along with company contact name and phone number in case additional information is needed.

LAW

Colby Smith
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP of Philadelphia promoted Colby Smith partner-business and finance practice.
Higher turnover

Presidents of many area colleges are leaving sooner.

By Susan Snyder

INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

Daniel H. Weiss stepped into the presidency at Haverford College this month — a full 14 months after accepting the job.

The Main Line liberal arts school agreed to wait longer than usual so Weiss could finish his eight-year tenure at Lafayette College in Easton, Pa., on good terms; Lafayette will name a theater after Weiss and his wife.

“It’s nice to go out in a way in which people are pleased with the work accomplished,” said Weiss, an art-history scholar.

In the Philadelphia region, some presidential departures in recent months, including those at Arcadia University and Bryn Mawr and Cabrini Colleges, have been much more abrupt and in some cases less collegial.

Arcadia’s president, Carl “Tobey” Oxholm III, was fired, while Bryn Mawr and Cabrini both announced that their presidents would leave after only five years each at the helm. At Bryn Mawr, Jane McAlfife’s tenure was the shortest in the women’s college’s history.

Those surprise exits, coupled with a spurt in presidents reaching retirement age or moving to new posts, have led to a high turnover in presidencies in the Philadelphia region.

Over three years, from July 2011 through June 2014, 16 of 36 four-year colleges and universities will have seen the exit or arrival of a president.

In Pennsylvania, the number is also up. Seventeen of 88 private four-year colleges represented by the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania will have a new or interim president this year alone, said Don Francis, association president.

“It’s the biggest turnover I’ve seen in one year since I’ve been here, and that’s 1991,” said Francis, noting that the average number of such turnovers is six to eight per year.

He said low turnover occurred during the recession, probably because boards encouraged leaders to stay and some presidents postponed retirement because of concern over their financial portfolios.

“Some of this is pent-up demand to loosen,” he said.

Other reasons?

Presidents are aging. And the job is becoming much more complex, given financial pressures and the competitive landscape.

“We are experiencing as a nation the graying of the presidency,” said Molly Corbett Broad, president of the American Council on Education, a higher education group.

A quarter of a century ago, the average age of presidents was 48; today’s it’s 61, she said.

In addition, many states are cutting higher education funding, while students and their families struggle to pay increasing tuition bills, she said. Add technological advances such as the swell in Massive Open Online Courses and greater expectations for universities to respond to the job market.

The average tenure of a college president, according to a 2012 council report, was seven years, down from 8.5 in 2006. In addition to Arcadia, Cabrini, and Bryn Mawr, several other schools had shorter presidential tenures in recent years. Ann Weaver Hart left Temple University after six years. Stephen G. Emerson departed Haverford after four years.

At Rutgers University, the honeymoon period was short for Robert L. Barchi. He was on the job seven months when the basketball coach was ousted after a video showed him shoving players, throwing basketballs at them, and using slurs. The athletic director also lost his job. The school came under criticism again after it hired a new athletic director with allegations of player abuse in his past.

Some faculty called for Barchi’s resignation, but the board of governors and political leaders backed him.

Arcadia’s board has declined for months to say why it dismissed Oxholm. Christopher van de Velde, the new chair of Arcadia’s board, offered some insight this week.

“Tobey’s a very bright guy. He’s got a lot of energy and talent. It just wasn’t a good fit,” said van de Velde, general manager at the Awbury Arboretum in Germantown.

Lucy A. Leske of Witt/Kieffer, an executive search firm in Chicago, cited heightened scrutiny of college leaders.

“In the old days, boards would let leaders get away with a lot more,” she said. “They were more forgiving. ... There’s no tolerance for mistakes now. You have to fall on your sword or quit.”

Faculty unions increasingly are taking no-confidence votes in presidents, though some, including New York University’s John Sexton, have weathered the criticism.

In decades past, presidential tenures were a lot longer. Two presidents at Bryn Mawr College, for example, held the position for 27½ years each, the most recent of the two ending in 1970. Some recent presidential departures in the Philadelphia area were routine and came after a decade or more of service. Bobby Fong started at Ursinus Col-
college in July 2011 after John Strassbeger, who has since died, served 16 years.

Pennsylvania State University, Lincoln University, Moore College of Art and Design, the University of the Sciences, Rowan University, Princeton University, Rutgers and Eastern University all had presidents who served more than a decade.

Several presidents continue lengthy tenures, including Sister Francesca Onley, who has led Holy Family University in Northeast Philadelphia since 1981, and Sister Carol Jean Vale, at Chestnut Hill College since 1992.

At the University of Pennsylvania — the largest private employer in Philadelphia, with its 12 schools and a health system — Amy Gutmann has started her 10th year and has a contract through 2019.

“At Penn, we’re blessed with a board that not only cares about the university but shares my vision and goals for the university,” Gutmann said. “It’s their vision and their goals as well, and that makes a huge difference.”

Gutmann has shown that she will respond to criticism when she deems it valid. Most recently, after complaints that her cabinet was largely white, Gutman appointed a black female law school professor as vice provost of faculty.

“I definitely want to be responsive to that because I agree with it,” she said. “I agree that we should be a model of excellence and diversity at every level.”

James T. Harris III has led Widener University in Chester for 12 years. He also attributes his success in part to trustees who understand their role as a governing board.

“A board needs to recognize that no individual member has any authority. The board as a whole has all the authority,” said Harris, whose contract runs to 2017.

Luck plays a role, too.

“We’ve been fortunate in that things have gone our way in some difficult situations,” he said.

At Haverford, Weiss said he was meeting and listening to everyone in the college community so that he can develop a path that students, staff, alumni and the board can embrace and share — critical to success, according to experts.

He also will prepare to represent Haverford in the larger world.

“There’s much greater skepticism about the role of higher education,” Weiss said. “A president must do a much better job of advocating for the value of the institution than in the past. Twenty years ago, it was a given.”

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Rutgers president Robert L. Barchi was on the job about seven months when controversy erupted over a video of a coach shoving players. Associated Press

Haverford College president Daniel H. Weiss listens to student Emily McKinstry explain her research. Weiss started this month, 14 months after he accepted the job. Michael Bryant / Staff Photographer
Presidential Terms at Area Schools

A look at presidential tenures at four-year colleges in the Philadelphia area, with the year each took over.

- **Sister Francesca Onley**, Holy Family University, 1981.
- **Sister Carol Jean Vale**, Chestnut Hill College, 1992.
- **Rosalie Mirenda**, Neumann University, 1996.
- **Michael J. McGinniss** (a Christian brother), La Salle University, 1999.
- **Sister R. Patricia Fadden**, Immaculata University, 2002.

- **Sharon Latchaw Hirsh**, Rosemont College, 2006.
- **Peter M. Donohue**, Villanova University, 2006.
- **Sean T. Buffington**, University of the Arts, 2007.

- **Todd J. Williams**, Cairn University, 2008.
- **Greg R. Weisenstein**, West Chester University, 2009.
- **Kristin King**, Bryn Athyn College, 2011.
- **Bobby Fong**, Ursinus College, 2011.
- **Helen Giles-Gee**, University of the Sciences, 2012.
- **Neil D. Theobald**, Temple University, January.
- **Daniel H. Weiss**, Haverford College, July 1.
- **Robert G. Duffett**, Eastern University, July 1.
- **Christopher L. Eisgruber**, Princeton University, July 1.

Bryn Mawr and Cabrini Colleges have interim presidents, and Arcadia University has a chief operating officer.

* McGinniss has announced he will leave May 31.
** Erickson will leave by June 30, 2014, or earlier if a successor is appointed.
On the Boards

HelpHOPELive, a Radnor nonprofit that helps patients and families with uncovered medical expenses related to transplantation or catastrophic injuries conduct fund-raising campaigns, named John Geary vice chair. He is cofounder for New Start Mobile LLC and an executive vice president for Advanced Mobile LLC. The following were named board members: Marie Logue, a TPI certified golf-fitness instructor at Training Inc., Bryn Mawr; James F. Madden, senior vice president and director of client services of Hillview Capital Advisors LLC; Betty Pettine, vice president of philanthropic services for the Private Bank at Wells Fargo; Jason Rubin, president and founder of the Redstone Group LLC; and Nick Ryder, a senior corporate strategy analyst in Vanguard's Corporate Strategy Group.

The Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations trade group elected the following officers to its board: Rose Gray, senior vice president, community and economic development, at Asociación Puertoriqueños en Marcha, is president; Gina Snyder, executive director of East Falls Development Corp., is vice president; Sandy Salzman, executive director of New Kensington Community Development Corp., is treasurer; and Cicely Peterson-Mangum, executive director of Logan Community Development Corp., is secretary.

Board members include: Marcus Allen, CEO of Big Brothers/Big Sisters South-eastern Pennsylvania; John Chin, executive director, Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corp.; Michael Davidson, an attorney with Fineman, Krekstein & Harris P.C.; Maria Gonzalez, president of HACE; Liz Hersh, executive director, Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania; Don Kelly, director of community and economic development for the Urban Affairs Coalition; Melissa Kim, director of economic development at Villages of the Arts and Humanities; Nora Lichtash, executive director of the Women's Community Revitalization Project; John MacDonald, president and CEO of Impact Services Corp., Mark Schwartz, executive director of Regional Housing Legal Services; and Kira Steen, vice president of community and economic development at the People's Emergency Center.

Philip Kirchner was appointed by the Supreme Court of New Jersey to serve as a member of the court's Advisory Committee on Expedited Civil Actions. The goal of this committee is to achieve speedier justice at a lower cost without sacrificing due process and fairness to litigants. He is a shareholder at the Cherry Hill law firm Flaster/ Greenberg and chair of the litigation department.

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the National Association of Professional Organizers elected the following board officers and members: Annette Reymann, owner of All Right Organizing LLC, is president; Debbie Lillard, owner of Space to Spare, is vice president; Jackie Mangasarian, owner of Common Sense Organizing, is treasurer; Ellen Tozzi, owner of Natural Order, is secretary; Kathy Luskus, owner of Orderly Manor Organizing, is immediate past president; Gabrielle Watters-Smith, owner of Red Button Organizing, is communications and technology director; Daniel Loya, owner of Spaces Transformed, is marketing director; Barbara Siegel, owner of Kerlavage Enterprises, is membership director; and Carla Shippman, owner of DeClutter Enterprise LLC, is professional-development director.

The Intercollegiate Studies Institute, a Wilmington-based think tank, named the following trustees to its board: Michael W. Gibbs, president and trustee of the Sarah Scaife Foundation and trustee of the Carthage Foundation in Pittsburgh; Patricia L. Herbold, U.S. ambassador to Singapore from 2005 until 2009 and co-founder of the Herbold Foundation; James Peterson, president of the William E. Simon Foundation and a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, where he directs the Center for the American University; Ion Ratiu, CEO of the Austin Thyroid and Endocrinology Center in Texas; and Marc A. Thiessen, a columnist for the Washington Post and a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute.

Peirce College, Philadelphia, named Marc D. Ammaturro and Scott Douglas Smith to its board of trustees. Ammaturro is managing director at PPM Asset Management LLC. Smith is managing partner at Clinton Rubin LLC.

National Organization on Disability, a New York nonprofit, elected to its board...
John M. Quain, a former member of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. He is an attorney with Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC, and is the immediate past chair of the firm’s energy and utility law practice.

— Mike Zebe
Evan tuition-free, college a challenging commitment

Wilford Shamlin III
Tribune Staff Reporter

Myrna Coleman wanted to set an example for her four children by going back to college for an associate’s degree, the first step toward pursuing her dream of becoming a teacher.

Along the way, the 46-year-old Southwest Philadelphia woman wound up inspiring her 91-year-old mother, Martha Young, who dropped out of the ninth-grade due to a life-threatening health condition. She recovered, but four years had passed by and she went to work instead.

“I’m glad my mom lived to see it. She wants to go back and get her diploma,” said Coleman, who was part of the first graduating class of Parent University, which allows working adults to earn an associate’s degree tuition-free from Peirce College in partnership with the Philadelphia School District.

Rita Toliver-Roberts, vice president of academic advancement for Peirce College, said she supports the idea behind Parent University because it helps more working adults in Philadelphia obtain college degrees and makes it easier for parents to talk to their children about pursuing higher education.

Coleman and 16 fellow graduates can inspire college students to complete their degree programs. That doesn’t always happen, Toliver-Roberts said.

Peirce College, a nonprofit four-year accredited college catering to working adults, offers accelerated courses and online programs for students with busy work schedules, in addition to traditional classes.

Coleman relied on family and friends for support in balancing work, household chores and college studies. Her daughter, Alicia, 23, helped with cooking and cleaning, and her son, Aaron, 24, drove her around so she could complete errands. She saw how her youngest child, Aric, 13, bubbled with excitement over her college studies.

“I really couldn’t have done it without them,” Coleman said proudly. She encourages other working adults who want to pursue higher education goals to declare their intentions to family and friends and involve them by asking for their support.

“Call on them so you can continue and stay focused. It’s very easy to get off track and get into other things,” she said.

With an associate’s degree in art, Coleman plans to pursue a bachelor’s degree, one of the qualifications for working as a teacher. She now works in the Philadelphia Public School District as a special education classroom assistant.

The most challenging part of juggling work and school was staying focused while undergoing personal difficulties. She coped with a death in the family, financial pressure, major surgery and separation from her spouse and the anxiety over the deployment of her son, Anre Young, a 30-year-old Marine who was sent to Iraq and Afghanistan.

But she wanted to set an example for all of them.

“You can achieve your goals if you work hard,” Coleman said, proudly. “This is one step closer to my goal of becoming a teacher and getting my bachelor’s degree.”

Dr. William Hite Jr., superintendent of schools, lauded the joint partnership with Peirce, saying it helps supports Philadelphia’s “longstanding commitment to education and degree attainment.”

“Parents serve as the first teachers to our children and play a large part in their academic success, which only emphasizes the need for our parents to have a solid education foundation. As a result of Parent University, we have provided the resources, support, and education necessary for our parents to succeed,” Hite said in a prepared statement.

Contact staff writer
Wilford Shamlin III
at 215-893-5742
or wshamlin@phillytrib.com.
First row, left to right: Taryn Perkins and President and CEO of Peirce College, Jim Mergiotti.
Second row, left to right: Myrna Coleman, Joanne Wilson, Octavia Lewis, Jennifer Boone, Ernestine Bristow.
Third row, left to right: Carla Bell, Raquel Osorio, Lori Coleman, Dorna McKoy, Cindy Stone.
Fourth row, left to right: Robert Benjamin, Patricia Whitehead, Darnice Martinez.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PEIRCE COLLEGE
Philadelphia

Despite all the talk about staggering college dropout rates among African-American male students, more than three dozen Black men who graduated from Philadelphia's area colleges and universities this past year were lauded at a city-wide inaugural commencement held in their honor.

The event, titled "Black CAPS Philly 2012: A Celebration of Black Men's Academic Achievement," was sponsored by the Mayor's Commission for African-American Males and grew out of an idea developed by a group of graduate students enrolled in an independent study course at the University of Pennsylvania.

"Black males don't get a lot of recognition as they're navigating their way through colleges," says Eric K. Grimes, an adjunct instructor at the Graduate School of Education and a coordinator of the city event. "We wanted to provide an opportunity for these young men who are leaving college with mass debt to create a network amongst themselves."

While predominantly White institutions across the country have long held ALANA (African, Latino(a), Asian and Native American) ceremonies to honor students of color, the idea of a public commencement, sanctioned by a major U.S. city specifically for Black males, was something brand new.

But Philadelphia's former mayor, Dr. W. Wilson Goode, who attended the ceremony, which was held in May, says that such symbolic events are important.
"I think that whenever an African-American male graduates from college, we should celebrate, not because it should be unique, but because of all of the struggles and terrain that African-American males go through in our society," says Goode. "When they reach that achievement, it’s worthy of that celebration."

During his last term in office, Goode — the first Black mayor of Philadelphia — established the African-American Male Commission by issuing an executive order and charged the commission to push city departments to examine how their policies impact Black males.

But once he left office in 1992, the commission was dormant for years, and was only recently revitalized under the mayoralty of Michael Nutter. Goode now serves as one of the co-chairpersons.

While much of the public focus in recent years has been on Black male dropout, a topic that Dr. Doreen E. Loury, a professor of sociology and anthropology at Arcadia University, knows about all too well, the accomplishments of Black males, she says, often go unnoticed.

"Where is the conservation about those who, as my mother would say, ‘did what they were supposed to do?’” asks Loury, who has hosted the Black Male Development Symposium at Arcadia for the last eight years. "We had never heard or seen someone doing something citywide for just African-American males."

In what Grimes and Loury hope will become an annual event, students from various Philadelphia area schools, including Arcadia, UPENN, Temple University, Community College of Philadelphia, Fiusco College and Cheyney University, sent representatives to the commencement ceremony.

Angelo Saxon, who graduated from Temple University, hopes that the ceremony is replicated in other U.S. cities. "Coming from Baltimore and understanding the struggle other Black males go through to make it to this point in their lives means that this event is something that can be and should be held everywhere," he says.

Darrell Carson, a graduate of the Community College of Philadelphia, agrees. "It feels like there are more negative portrayals of Black men in urban areas," he says. "It felt good to be recognized with my peers from different colleges and universities."

Stephen Tyson Jr., who received a master’s degree in international peace and conflict resolution from Arcadia, was among the cohort of Black men who listened as deputy mayor Everett Gillison encouraged the graduates to push forward beyond their individual circumstance.

"The presence of co-sponsors and supporters beyond the commission was our way of harnessing a citywide commitment to make sure that Black men have access to the opportunities their work and accomplishments should afford them," says Grimes. "Black CAP’s Philly 2013 was a great success, and we look forward to making this an annual national event, with origins in the City of Philadelphia. We see it as a way of motivating young Black males and others to pursue education and college, since the men present today show that it can be done."
Church's lab gets upgrade

Peirce College donates computers to community center

BY MORGAN ZALOT
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In a city where nearly half the citizens don't have home Internet access, easily accessible computer labs are an asset. But in some neighborhoods, like Northwest Philadelphia's Allegheny West section, those are few and far between.

One church in Allegheny West, though, is working to change that: Through a partnership between Berean Baptist Church and Center City's Peirce College, the city's PhillyRising collaborative, the college last week donated several additional computers for the computer lab at Berean's Lydia M. Edwards Community Center.

With the donation of a half-dozen updated Hewlett-Packard desktops, the lab now will have 15 computers — La Salle University previously donated Dells — available for community residents and neighborhood kids to use.

"We wanted to educate people in [information technology] and give kids a place to do homework and people a place to come," said Pastor James Buck.

Buck said the lab inside the center at 26th and Cambria streets is expected to be up and running by July 10. It will be open Monday through Friday from 1 to 5 p.m., and will offer extended hours depending on the needs of schoolchildren and community members. Anyone is welcome to walk in and use the computers, he said.

Without the community center's lab, the closest computers accessible to the neighborhood are at the Free Library's Widener Branch, on Lehigh Avenue near 28th Street.

"What [having the lab here] means for us is closer access, and more time that people can come," said Buck, who's been pastor at Berean for three years. He added that the lab will offer classes to educate people who may be out of work and prepare them for new careers.

Berean church administrator Veronica Stovall said she's already received several inquiries from neighborhood residents eager to hop on the new computers.

"The lab serves greater need by being available to the community," said city Assistant Managing Director Jim Sanders, who works with the PhillyRising collaborative and helped to connect Berean with Peirce College.

"Computers definitely open a pipeline for additional learning and programs to be brought to the area," Sanders said. "One of the greater things that came out of the partnership is it's not just computers being donated, but also additional learning that's desperately needed."

@morganzalot
Berean Baptist  Pastor James Buck and church administrator Veronica Stovall show off the community center’s new computers.