

# TEMPLE TIMES

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## President Hart, state-related university leaders, appear before Pa. Senate Appropriation Committee



Joseph V. Labolito

President Ann Weaver Hart (right) addresses the Senate Appropriations Committees on March 16 in Harrisburg. She is joined by (from left) Graham Spanier, president of Pennsylvania State University; Mark A. Nordenberg, chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh; and Ivory V. Nelson, president of Lincoln University.

# Making the case

By Vaughn Shinkus  
vshinkus@temple.edu

Temple President Ann Weaver Hart and the leaders of Penn State, Pitt and Lincoln made the case for Pennsylvania's continued support for the state-related universities to legislators at a budget hearing on Thursday in Harrisburg.

Appearing before members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the university leaders fielded questions from senators on the impact Gov. Tom Corbett's proposed cut of more than 50 percent in appropriations to the institutions would have on students and their families, employees and on the overall prosperity of the state.

In her remarks at the meeting and in documents distributed to members of the

committee beforehand, President Hart stressed that Temple is ready to partner with the Commonwealth in resolving its fiscal challenges.

"We know that everyone must make sacrifices as we collectively work through the impact of the economic recession on the state and on Pennsylvania families," she said. "However, the scale of the reduction of Commonwealth support proposed in the governor's budget will have devastating and long-term effects in the lives of our citizens and on the economy of Pennsylvania."

The president reminded lawmakers of Temple's efforts over the past three years to manage costs and keep tuition low, and highlighted the economic benefits Temple provides to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

"Temple was taking steps to meet the challenges of these economic conditions well before the announcement of the governor's proposed budget," said Hart, adding that the university implemented a series of measures beginning in 2008 to permanently reduce its budget by \$40 million.

Hart explained the dramatic impact the proposed reductions in Commonwealth appropriation funding to Temple would have on current students, and in particular the disproportionate effect the cut would have on working families throughout Pennsylvania.

"Temple will not impose the full burden of the proposed appropriation reduction on its students, who would face a 44 percent increase in tuition or an additional \$5,000 for in-state

*Hearing continued on 2*

## TALON responds to proposed funding cuts

By Andrew McGinley  
andrew.mc@temple.edu

When Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett proposed cutting the Commonwealth's investment in Temple by more than 50 percent for the next year, the Temple Advocates Legislative Outreach Network (TALON) quickly mobilized to communicate the importance of higher education to Pennsylvania's elected officials.

In less than one week, more than 7,000 Temple students, parents, employees and alumni signed TALON's Stand with Temple petition. The petition will be delivered to members of the Pennsylvania

House and Senate Appropriations Committees in the coming months as they craft Pennsylvania's budget for the next fiscal year.

Additionally, TALON has launched another letter writing campaign.

Members of the Temple community can use TALON's online tools, including sample letters, to quickly send letters to their state representative and state senator, urging them to oppose the governor's proposal. University leaders encourage advocates to personalize their correspondence by sharing their Temple experiences with their legislators.

In just two days, nearly 2,500 letters were sent by TALON members. Senator Robert Mensch mentioned the amount of correspondence he received from Temple during Wednesday's Senate Appropriations Committee hearing on state-related universities.

"We need to ensure that leaders across Pennsylvania know that their constituents are connected to Temple and will be deeply affected by a substantial cut in the Commonwealth's support," said Kenneth E. Lawrence Jr., senior vice president for government, community and public affairs. "Students, alumni, faculty, staff and Temple parents provide a important perspective on the effect of cuts in Temple's funding."

Lawrence encouraged students to ask their parents and other family members to also utilize TALON to contact their legislators.

As budget deliberations continue, TALON intends to continue to advocate for Temple's Commonwealth appropriation, working with university officials, student leaders and Temple's alumni community.

Both TALON's petition and letter writing tools can be found on the Office of Government Relations's website at [www.temple.edu/government](http://www.temple.edu/government). ♦

### TAKE ACTION!

Visit [www.temple.edu/government](http://www.temple.edu/government) to write your legislators and sign the petition.

## USDA awards \$3.7M to Temple's Center for Obesity Research and Education

By Renee Cree  
renee.cree@temple.edu

When the Center for Obesity Research and Education (CORE) opened its doors five years ago, its goal was to become the focal point for expanding Temple's research involvement in all aspects of obesity — basic and clinical research, epidemiology and outcome studies involving adult and pediatric patients — as well as for launching important outreach programs in local communities and school systems.

Thanks to a new, \$3.7 million grant from the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, CORE will now be able to expand those goals even further.

Awarded to Jennifer Orlet Fisher, associate professor of public health

and director of CORE's Family Eating Laboratory, and Elena Serrano, associate professor of human nutrition, foods and exercise at Virginia Tech, the new five-year grant will fund a project aimed at preventing obesity among low-income preschoolers by teaching mothers simple yet authoritative strategies to promote appropriate food choices and portion sizes to their children.

"There's a lot of talk about what types of food children should eat, but there is very little research about what factors affect how they eat," said Fisher. "Some studies have shown that parents with a more authoritative parenting style have children that are less likely to be obese. Those parents are able to achieve a good balance between placing demands on the child and at the same time being responsive

to the child's unique needs. To that end, we want to see if giving mothers straightforward authoritative feeding strategies around food portion size could be the key."

She says the study will be the first of its kind — a translational research project that proceeds from basic behavioral science on child portion sizes to a clinic-based intervention to a community-level nutrition education program.

In the first part of the project, researchers will talk with mothers to learn how factors — whether socioeconomic, socio-cultural or structural — influence their child-feeding strategies around portion size. The next step will be to develop a behavioral intervention for mothers



Joe Labolito

Jennifer Orlet Fisher, in her Family Eating Laboratory at Temple's Center for Obesity Research and Education, was recently awarded a five-year, \$3.7 million grant from the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture to study the link between authoritative parenting styles and childhood obesity.

*USDA continued on 2*



# After-work medical screening could save your life

Temple University Hospital electrician James Nixon had no fear of being screened for colorectal cancer. In fact, he wishes he had been tested earlier.

“My wife had a colonoscopy and they found a couple of polyps that had to be removed,” said Nixon. “That made me decide that I should be screened too.”

During his colonoscopy, Nixon says that Temple physicians found four small polyps. None of them were cancerous, but all were removed.

“It made me feel good that I got checked because they told me colon cancer takes years to grow,” said Nixon. “Imagine if I had waited and those polyps would have grown even more.”

To help make colorectal screenings more convenient for Temple employees and their family members, the Temple Digestive Disease Center is offering “after-work” screening appointments between the hours of 4:30-6:30 p.m. throughout the month of March.

At the appointments, Temple GI specialists will evaluate risk for colorectal cancer and recommend appropriate screening tests. Everyone age 50 or older should be screened. Appointments can be made by calling Family First at 215-707-5300.

“We’re offering these appointments to Temple employees and their family members because we want to provide them with a convenient opportunity to get tested,” said Dr. Benjamin Krevsky, director of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and associate chief of Gastroenterology at Temple University Hospital. “This is truly a screening that could save your life.”

According to Krevsky, colorectal cancer is the second leading cancer



Temple University Hospital electrician James Nixon took advantage of after-work colorectal screenings offered at the hospital throughout March. Employees age 50 or older are being encouraged to schedule appointments with a Temple GI specialist.

killer in the United States. It is also one of the most preventable and is often successfully treated if caught early.

“Colon cancer starts in the large intestine (colon) or the rectum (end of the colon),” he said. “Nearly all colon cancers begin as noncancerous polyps, which slowly develop into cancer. That is why it is so important to catch polyps early through screenings.”

Krevsky recommends that anyone over the age of 50 be screened every five to 10 years depending on whether there is a history of colon cancer in the family.

Busy Temple employees are

taking advantage of the Temple Digestive Disease Center’s convenient appointments and urging their family members and friends to do the same.

Katherine Levins, director of Government Affairs for the Temple University Health System, says getting screened for colorectal cancer was a “no-brainer.”

“I eat right and exercise, but I knew getting screened was the right thing to do for me and my family,” said Levins.

“My entire experience at Temple was very positive, and I was made to feel comfortable throughout the procedure. Everyone took the time to answer my questions and was very friendly and helpful.”

“Honestly, it was the easiest thing I did all year.”

James Nixon agrees.

“People shouldn’t be afraid to get screened,” he said, “because one day it could save your life.” ♦

**To make a screening appointment with a Temple GI specialist, call Family First at 215-707-5300**

## Hearing

From page 1

undergraduates in the coming year,” said Hart. “We also will be unable to make up the difference in budget cuts alone without eliminating significant numbers of jobs and programs that are vital to the Commonwealth.”

“In-state tuition gives us the opportunity to develop the judges, dentists, doctors, journalists, pharmacists, teachers, nurses and other professionals of this state, many of whom are from blue-collar families who could never have aspired to these careers if they didn’t have this opportunity,” said Hart. “I think of those families and those students when I contemplate what a 50 percent cut to our state appropriation would mean.”

All four university leaders cautioned the committee about the long-term effects the proposed budget would have on Pennsylvania’s economy, through the direct loss of university jobs, decreased economic activity, lower levels of educational attainment and the loss of intellectual capital that attracts new employers to

the Commonwealth.

Senators from both parties expressed support for the state-related institutions, and noted that the governor’s proposal represents the beginning of a process that involves further discussion and input from all parties.

“Clearly this part of the budget has gotten the most amount of attention since the governor’s budget proposal was announced last week,” said Senate Appropriations Chair Jake Corman. “In a lot of ways Gov. Corbett did you a tremendous favor by introducing the budget the way he did.... Now the public is going to get engaged, and maybe put higher education at a higher level of priority for funding in future.”

The discussion hits close to home for President Hart, who attended the state-funded University of Utah and later was named to the faculty there, all while raising her four children.

“I really get it personally,” said Hart. “I wouldn’t be here if it were not for a state commitment to higher education.”

The university leaders will present before the House Appropriations Committee on March 28 at 10:30 a.m. in the Main Capitol Building, room 140. The hearing will be carried live on [pcntv.com](http://pcntv.com). ♦

# IMPACT

Temple is the sixth largest provider of professional education in the United States and a leader in translation research. Researchers conducted more than \$97 million in research projects in 2010, discovering innovative ways to improve the lives of all Pennsylvanians.

## USDA

From page 1

and their children to be tested in a clinical trial at CORE. The last step will be to implement the clinical-based program within an urban community in Virginia as part of the SNAP-Ed program, an extension of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program that provides schools with nutrition education.

“Low income individuals are some of the hardest hit by obesity,” said Fisher. “And we know that preventing obesity in childhood is critical, so we want to implement a program that will help mothers promote healthy child behaviors as early as possible, to reduce the risk of obesity later.”

Roger Beachy, director of NIFA, will attend a meeting with Fisher and other CORE researchers, as well as key administrators and researchers from across Temple, next week to discuss the grant’s potential for both the university and the community, and to identify future research opportunities.

“We know that if our kids are going to grow up and win the future, they have to be healthy and receive the right nutrition,” said Beachy. “NIFA supports research and the development of methods built on sound science to reverse the trend of rising obesity and assist children and their families in adopting healthy eating habits that will last a lifetime.”

In addition to Fisher’s work, CORE has published several studies focusing on the prevention of childhood obesity. Last year, Gary Foster, director of CORE, published a study which found that school-based nutrition programs could be helpful in reducing obesity rates among middle-schoolers.

Prior to that, researchers at CORE worked with the Food Trust on a study that looked at the spending habits of school children at local corner stores. The study found that children were spending a little over a dollar a day per visit, which amounted to about 300 extra calories per day.

“The increasing prevalence and serious consequences of childhood obesity are pushing us to find solutions that go beyond the clinic and reach greater numbers of children,” said Foster. “Dr. Fisher’s grant from the USDA will allow us to do that.”

The grant is the first to bring together the expertise of multiple CORE investigators. Foster and Robert Whitaker, professor of public health and pediatrics at CORE, will also collaborate on Fisher’s study, along with Adam Davey, associate professor of public health in the College of Health Professions and Social Work. ♦





# SCT announces new center for public interest reporting

By Jazmyn D. Burton  
jburton@temple.edu

Temple University's School of Communications and Theater (SCT) has been selected by The William Penn Foundation to receive a \$2.4 million grant to support a new initiative designed to spur public interest reporting in the Delaware Valley.

"Temple was chosen to implement the project based on its strong tradition of intellectual freedom, the assets of its faculty who are active researchers in public policy issues across a wide range of disciplines, and the journalistic expertise and

professionalism of its School of Communications and Theater," said Brent Thompson, spokesperson for the William Penn Foundation.

The grant, SCT's largest single gift since the school was founded in 1967, will support an effort to strengthen public interest reporting by establishing a network of media outlets, the first phase of which is the creation of the Center for Public Interest Journalism (CPIJ).

Developed under the leadership of Thomas Jacobson, interim dean of SCT, and the Department of Journalism, the center is a response to recent studies that show a 20 percent decline in public



affairs reporting among Delaware Valley media outlets between 2006 -2010.

"This shift reflects a nationally endemic problem," Jacobson said. "There's a lot of media content covering a vast number of subjects, but we're seeing a steady decline in the kind of coverage necessary to nurture the political culture a democracy requires."

The second phase of the initiative includes the creation of the

forthcoming Philadelphia Public Interest Information Network (PPIIN); a collaborative project between local, independent journalists who have a reputation for strong community-based reporting.

A national search for a CEO of PPIIN began in January and is expected to conclude this spring.

Once in place, the CEO will have the opportunity to shape the project by incorporating the organization, assisting in governing board recruitment, leading the strategic planning process, hiring staff and establishing partnerships with other news organizations, said Jacobson.

Anyone affiliated with CPIJ will have access to Temple's network of journalism educators, training programs, events and several of Temple's reporting resources, including the Metropolitan Philadelphia Indicators Projects.

"The way we communicate has changed. We want to help journalists reach their audiences effectively and with the best information possible," said George Miller, assistant professor of journalism and associate director of CPIJ. "Through the Center we hope to ensure that the Greater Philadelphia region is well-served in terms of news." ♦

## New program aims to close unemployment gap

By Renee Cree  
renee.cree@temple.edu

A new Temple program is providing a pathway to jobs in one of the nation's fastest-growing employment areas.

Funded by a \$1.6 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families, Temple's Health Information Professions (HIP) Career Pathways Initiative offers qualified low-income residents free training leading to certification for positions in medical accounts and electronic health records.

The U.S. Department of Labor has classified health information professions as an emerging job market. With Philadelphia's unemployment at nearly 2 percent above the national average, the program is designed to help city residents find work.

"We want to empower low-income people with the opportunity to get into a rapidly growing field where they'll be able to earn their own, self-sustaining wages," said Shirley Moy, interim director of the Center for Social Policy and Community Development (CSPCD), which is coordinating the program.

The center also offers supplemental help during participation in the Career Pathways Initiative, including childcare services, adult literacy services and case management. Non-credit certification takes about 18 weeks, but the program also offers assistance with scholarships and tuition help to eligible students who enroll in credit-bearing programs leading to an associate or bachelor's degree in health information management or a master's degree in health informatics. Upon completion of the program, CSPCD will assist with job placement.

"We understand that success doesn't mean



simply completing the training program," said Moy. "To that end, we're offering supportive services to break down some of the barriers that impede access to achievement — things like transportation, childcare issues and lack of social supports."

The inaugural class of the HIP Career Pathways Initiative recently completed their orientation at Temple's Main Campus, and several participants lauded the program's support system.

"This program is beyond what any technical school offers in terms of support," said participant Naeemah Felder, a single parent to four girls. "This is a much better opportunity, both in terms of time and the level of assistance you receive."

If participants are interested in continuing their education after completion of the program, they have the opportunity to earn a bachelor's degree through Temple's Department of Health Information Management, one of only two degree programs in the Philadelphia region certified by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIM).

"We're all here, from different backgrounds, and we all want to succeed, but not having a job makes it difficult to afford quality training," said Felder. "This program gives people who want to work the boost they need to get their foot in the door."

For more information about the HIP Career Pathways Program at the Center for Social Policy and Development, contact Mansura Karim at 215-204-7491 or mkarim@temple.edu. ♦

## Project will map cultural hot spots

By Kim Fischer  
kim.fischer@temple.edu

By identifying areas of social concern and demographic trends in Philadelphia's neighborhoods, Temple's Metropolitan Philadelphia Indicators Project (MPIP) is helping the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance (GPCA) make the case for expanding arts and culture outreach and partnerships in the region's communities.

The project, called a Road Map for Regional Activity Analysis, will be completed this spring.

"A lot of arts and culture organizations are involved in social service projects, such as literacy education or theater programs for autistic children," said Nicholas Crosson, research analyst at the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance. "We enlisted MPIP to help us match our knowledge of what arts and cultural groups are doing with a better understanding of the concerns in the region."

"MPIP's expertise in analyzing data and understanding the Philadelphia region made us think they would be the best ones to help us with our project," Crosson added.

While GPCA inventories its members to determine the range of social issues they are involved with, MPIP will examine survey and census data to develop an understanding of what area residents care about most. The two groups will then marry their results and see what they find.

GPCA will use the findings to strengthen coordination among arts and cultural groups addressing some of the most critical social service needs in the region.

"Through our analysis of trends in populations and perceptions we will develop a broad picture of the area's most pressing needs, allowing GPCA to think creatively about how its members can best address those issues and what partnerships among arts organizations would be most successful," said Michelle Schmitt, MPIP's project coordinator.

Slicing and dicing data to find the meaning behind it is what MPIP is all about. Funded by the William Penn Foundation, the project has collected, updated, analyzed and mapped information from dozens of data sources at the local, state and federal levels to measure conditions and track changes across metropolitan Philadelphia. Its mission is to promote regional thinking about metropolitan Philadelphia's most important challenges.

"We crunch the numbers and craft stories about the Philadelphia region," said Schmitt.

To learn more about MPIP, visit [www.temple.edu/mpip](http://www.temple.edu/mpip). ♦

## Researcher receives grant to develop alternative leukemia treatment

By Preston M. Moretz  
pmoretz@temple.edu

A Temple researcher has been awarded a grant from the University City Science Center to develop a tumor-inhibiting protein to treat acute myeloid leukemia (AML).

George P. Tuszyński, a professor of neuroscience in Temple's School of Medicine and professor of biology in the College of Science and Technology, discovered the novel protein Angiocidin and will receive the \$200,000 proof-of-concept grant as part of UCSC's QED Program. The awards bridge the funding gap between research grants and commercial seed investment by providing funds for life science technologies with high potential in the healthcare industry.

Tuszyński said that AML causes white cells in the blood to stop maturing at a certain level, which can cause a suppression of the immune system and lead to secondary problems such as infection and pneumonia, which are often



TUSZYNSKI

fatal. Additionally, immature leukemic cells can spread to other organs and grow, compromising organ function and leading to death.

Patients diagnosed with AML are treated with chemotherapy, a highly toxic treatment that kills off these immature cells in the blood but does not prevent more of them from appearing. Currently, the only other option is a bone marrow transplant, which requires a compatible donor. The development of Angiocidin would offer an alternative treatment to these options.

"Remission rates are so low that, basically, leukemia is like a death sentence," said Tuszyński, who is also a member of the Sol Sherry Thrombosis Research Center in Temple's School of Medicine. "That's why there's an enormous need to find something to treat the disease that's non-toxic."

In initial studies against AML cell lines, Angiocidin demonstrated the ability to stimulate maturation in the effected white cells, causing them to behave and function like normal cells in the blood. In addition, it

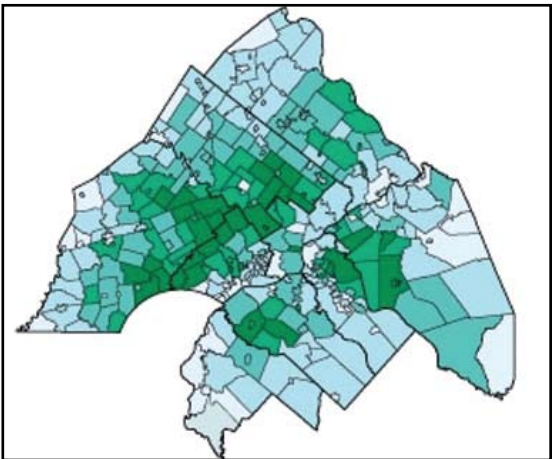
stimulated and bolstered the immune system.

"We're not eradicating the cancer; the cancer is still there, but the protein is stimulating the cancer cells to function like normal cells," said Tuszyński. "So you would still be living with the cancer in your blood, but it is more manageable."

Tuszyński said the proof-of-concept grant will allow his team to conduct a mini-clinical trial. Working in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania, they will treat leukemia samples taken from patients with the protein and evaluate its results in a mouse model.

"If we see positive results with this next phase of testing, we can go right into a phase I clinical trial," he said.

"This funding marks a great achievement for George Tuszyński and represents Temple's continued focus on commercializing new discoveries," said Kenneth J. Blank, senior vice provost for research and graduate education at Temple. "The QED program is a leading model to establish proof-of-concept and we look forward to advancing this technology for the benefit of patients." ♦



By developing maps like the one above, Temple's Metropolitan Philadelphia Indicators Project will show places ripe for collaborations among arts and cultural organizations.



# Medical school’s new, 150-foot art installation reveals unseen world

By Renee Cree  
renee.cree@temple.edu

The three-story atrium in the Medical Education and Research building is now home to some super-sized bacteria.

The medical school recently unveiled *The Unseen World*, a new, 150-foot art installation comprising 55 giant sculptures of various bacteria and one virus found in the body. Each piece is inlaid with light-emitting diodes that pulse and wave to give the illusion of movement and illustrate the way that bacteria communicate with each other in the body, a process called quorum sensing.

The installation was formally dedicated at last week’s Stiffel Learned Lecture Series, hosted by Dean John Daly and the Art Committee at Temple University School of Medicine.

“The Medical School’s art selection committee was comprised of experts

from the Tyler School of Art, artists and collectors from throughout the region,” said Daly. “They selected this beautiful work from over 22 competing artists. Art and medicine are inextricably linked, and this sculpture is just another example of this linkage.”

The stunning work is the creation of local artists Kate Kaman and Joel Erland, who say that their goal is to instill a sense of wonder and awe among those who sit under it each day and members of the community who pass by it on North Broad Street.

“This is what Temple’s medical students are learning about, right here in this building,” said Kaman. “We wanted to take what was going on in the classrooms and the labs and make it accessible and fun for the people outside these walls — and maybe spur their interest in science as well.”

“When we started the process we were very much in love with the forms, which are very, very complex,”



“The Unseen World,” a new, 150-foot art installation introduced this month at Temple’s Medical Education and Research Building, features 55 sculptures representing bacteria and a virus found in the body.

said Erland. “There’s this entire other world that exists inside of us — cities and highways and rivers and skyscrapers — and everything is just phenomenally busy. None of us would be here without bacteria.”

During the construction of the sculptures, which took about a year to create, the artists met with Bennett Lorber, M.D., Thomas M. Durant Professor of Medicine at the School of Medicine, to explore potential

microbial forms that might be included in the work.

“Kate and Joel did a tremendous amount of homework for this piece,” he said. “They were deliberate in their design, and seriously researched microorganisms and considered in great detail how bacteria stick together in the body and how they move around and communicate with each other.”

Lorber, whose own art graces the walls of break-out rooms throughout the building, said that the sculptures would help make Temple a destination for artists and scientists alike.

“The piece reminds us that we are constantly surrounded by successful life forms that we can’t even see,” he said. “It’s a visual reminder that there is a world we don’t consider, but is crucial for our existence.”

*The Unseen World* was largely made possible by the support of alumnus E. Ronald Salvitti, chair of the School of Medicine Board of Visitors. ♦



Strategic communications and anthropology major Laura Gillespie has taken a two-year hiatus from Temple to play the character Abby Cadabby (right) with Sesame Street Live, which appeared at Temple’s Liacouras Center March 12-14.

## Temple sophomore goes on the road with Elmo

In today’s competitive job market, many college students seek experience through internships or volunteer work. But sophomore Laura Gillespie has chosen a more unorthodox path: the strategic communications and anthropology major is touring the nation as one of the stars of Sesame Street Live.

What makes Gillespie’s choice of work even more remarkable is that she found it almost on a whim. In 2009, while working as a character at Sesame Place theme park, she attended an open audition for roles in the live show. She was thrilled to be chosen to play fairy-in-training Abby Cadabby, and soon decided to take a two-year hiatus from her studies at Temple to tour with the popular franchise.

“I feel that you should never turn down a great opportunity and never live with regrets,” she said. “Touring and performing with Sesame Street Live is not an opportunity that everyone is offered. Once I was, I couldn’t turn it down.”

Earlier this month the road that has taken Gillespie around the country and around the world led her back to Broad Street, when “Elmo’s Green Thumb” played at the Liacouras Center. For the Levittown, Pa. native, it was a homecoming in more ways than one.

“Knowing that I am in an arena not only close to home, but one that is a part of my university is very exciting,”

she said. Her cheering section at the show included her parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents, as well as friends who came out to support her.

Gillespie has fond memories of growing up in the Philadelphia area, watching Sesame Street with her sister, taking trips to Sesame Place in Langhorne, and seeing Sesame Street Live at the Spectrum.

Now a part of the show herself, she enjoys bringing a beloved character to life and especially helping to educate children on the importance of going green — one of the show’s central themes.

Once “Elmo’s Green Thumb” wraps in May, Gillespie will return to Temple full time to complete her studies. While she will miss performing — and her castmates, whom she describes as family — she is excited to get back to school.

After graduation, Laura hopes earn a graduate degree in NGO management or international studies and to one day join the Peace Corp.

To date, Laura has toured the world, learning first-hand about dozens of cultures and lifestyles, and is using her down time while on the road to learn new languages.

“Finishing my education at Temple University is important,” she said. “But in the meantime I am learning so much about the world and about myself by experiencing life on the road.”

— Elizabeth DiPardo

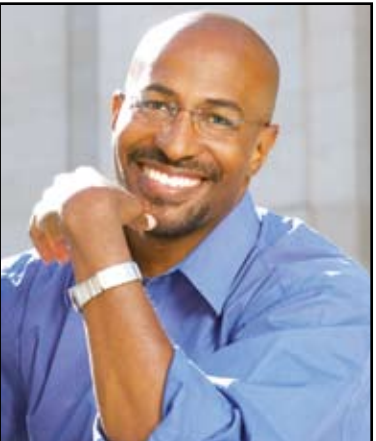
## Sustainability Office hosts green-collar activist Van Jones

The Office of Sustainability will welcome guest speaker Van Jones to the Temple Performing Arts Center March 29 at 7 p.m.

Jones is a best-selling author of the book “The Green Collar Economy,” and a former advisor to president Obama on green-collar jobs. An internationally recognized leader for human rights and clean energy, Jones has founded three non-profit organizations: the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, Color of Change and Green for All. He is a distinguished visiting fellow at Princeton University in both the Center for African-American Studies and in the program in Science, Technology and Environmental Policy at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

Jones will speak about the future of the green economy and the creation of green-collar jobs in today’s divisive political climate. He will also be available to answer audience questions and to sign copies of his book.

The event is free and open to the public, and tickets will be sold at the door. To pre-register, visit [www.temple.edu/sustainability](http://www.temple.edu/sustainability). This lecture is co-sponsored by Barnes and Noble, General Education, Paley Library, the Department of Geography and Urban Studies, the Honors Program and the Center for the Humanities.



Van Jones presents at the Temple Performing Arts Center on March 29.

### Theater presents *A Flea in Her Ear*

A new production from Temple Theaters, *A Flea in her Ear*, opens March 23 at the Tomlinson Theater.

Originally written by Georges Feydeau and translated by David Ives, *Flea* is the farcical, early 1900s story of

### FeaturedEvents



Temple Theaters presents *A Flea in Her Ear* for 12 performances through April 3.

a jealous wife’s scheme to try to discover if her husband is cheating. Her machinations quickly spin out of control, nearly turning deadly, and drawing her social circle into a comedy of errors.

There are 12 performances between March 23 and April 3; see a full listing of show times at [www.temple.edu/sct/theater/currentseason](http://www.temple.edu/sct/theater/currentseason). For tickets, visit [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/125620](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/125620). Student discounts are available only by phone at 215-204-1122 or at the Tomlinson Theater Box Office on Norris St. between 13th St. and Liacouras Walk.

### Ambler celebrates 100 years with women in gardens

Ambler Campus is celebrating its 100th anniversary with a series of events beginning March 20 and continuing throughout the year.

When the campus first opened in 1911, it was the Pennsylvania School of Horticulture for Women (PSHW). The March 20 event, “100 Years of Women in Gardens: A Living History,” will feature MaryAnne Fry, class of 1958 — the last class to graduate from PSHW before it became Temple Ambler. She will present “Decades of Diamonds,” a lecture highlighting key figures from Ambler’s history. Following the presentation, Jenny Carey, director of Temple Ambler Arboretum, will offer a hands-on workshop on growing heirloom plants.

Other 100th anniversary events

include a lecture and history tour on April 10, Homecoming and the dedication of a formal garden to Louise Bush-Brown — a graduate of PSHW and the school’s director for more than 25 years — on June 5 and a tour of Northview Garden on June 12. For a full listing, visit [www.temple.edu/ambler/campus\\_life/anniversary.htm](http://www.temple.edu/ambler/campus_life/anniversary.htm).

The “100 Years of Women in Gardens” presentation begins at 1 p.m. at the Ambler Learning Center Arboretum. Registration opens at 12:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each.



A pruning demonstration at the Pennsylvania School of Horticulture for Women, the predecessor to Temple University Ambler.

### History professor assesses Obama’s first two years

The Ambler Office of Student Life continues its Lunch and Learn lecture series with a speech from former Ambler Dean James W. Hilty on March 30 at 1:20 p.m. in Bright Hall lounge.

Hilty, a professor of history and community and regional planning, is a nationally recognized expert on the history of the presidency. He will talk about President Obama’s first two years in office — his achievements, disappointments, impact on the 2010 elections and the likelihood that he will have a second term.

According to Hilty, history judges presidential success based on their effectiveness in executing the roles as Commander-in-Chief, legislator-in-chief, party leader, economic leader and educator, communicator and empathizer.

Contact the Ambler Campus Office of Student Life at 267-468-8425.