

New Student Orientation

Subject: A Welcome from Penn President Amy Gutmann



The President

June 11, 2018

Dear Quakers,

Greetings from Penn!

Summer is flying by and in just a few weeks, you will embark on a unique adventure—one that will lead you to places, people, and ideas that will forever change your life. Penn will quickly become your new home, and we are excited to welcome you and help you succeed. The University of Pennsylvania is a university without equal. It is truly a place like no other.

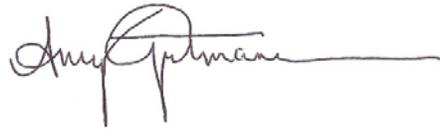
Soon, you will receive more information about the Penn Reading Project, during which you'll join the rest of the Class of 2022 in exploring the theme of your first year at Penn: [the Year of Why](#). Your Penn Reading Project book is *The Bridge of San Luis Rey*, a Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Thornton Wilder. As you read, you'll be able to share comments with other students and Penn faculty and academic staff. During New Student Orientation in August, you'll also participate in person in a small group conversation. Events around the theme will continue on campus throughout 2018-19.

Bold inquiry and exploration at Penn go far beyond this year's theme. They are core values in our approach to education: embrace the unexpected and pursue discovery at every opportunity. Be sure to take courses in some unfamiliar fields that fascinate you. Learn from Penn's exceptional faculty who are both inspiring teachers and path-breaking scholars. Engage with fellow students who hail from across the country and around the world. Experience our vibrant city and get involved in edifying and satisfying civic service in our West Philadelphia community. Also, be sure to take full advantage of Penn's multitude of resources to help you feel at home away from home. Reach out whenever you feel in need of someone to lean on. Caring and expert staff and faculty are eager to listen and advise you when you have questions and concerns.

As you get started, take a moment to visit the [New Student Orientation \(NSO\) website](#). The [Class of 2022 Facebook Page](#) is another great resource. You will soon hear more about Thrive at Penn (TAP), an online program about living and learning at a world-class research university. It will help you make the most of both your student orientation in August as well as all the wonderful Penn experiences yet to come.

I hope you enjoy the summer, and I look forward to welcoming you officially to Penn at Convocation!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy Gutmann", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Amy Gutmann

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