

# Johns Hopkins Highlights

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an update

October 2010

who's news

**HOW OLD THE UNIVERSE?**—Johns Hopkins University astrophysicist Charles Bennett and two colleagues have been awarded this year's \$1 million Shaw Prize in astronomy for groundbreaking research that has helped determine the precise age, composition and curvature of the universe.

**HALTING ALZHEIMER'S**—At 84, Paul Greengard, A&S '53 (PhD), made a discovery that could quell the effects of Alzheimer's. Greengard's findings, which were published in a September edition of the journal *Nature*, describe a specific protein therapy that could potentially halt the disease.

**PATHS DIVERGE**—Author and Rhodes Scholar Wes Moore, A&S '01, recently appeared on *The Oprah Winfrey Show* discussing his new book, *The Other Wes Moore*. The memoir recounts the divergent life paths of two young men with the same name.

**DAVID W. ANDREWS**, a distinguished scholar who has dedicated his career to improving academic and behavioral outcomes for at-risk children and youth, took the helm of the School of Education on Sept. 1. Andrews comes from The Ohio State University, where he served as founding dean of the College of Education and Human Ecology.

**DANIEL ENNIS** joined Johns Hopkins on Aug. 2 as the new senior vice president for finance and administration. As chief administrative officer and one of the university's top three leaders, he will be responsible for finance, accounting, investment and money management functions; the Real Estate and Audit offices; Facilities Management; Purchasing; Human Resources; and Homewood Campus Safety and Security.

**CAROLINE LAGUERRE-BROWN** became vice provost for institutional equity at Johns Hopkins on July 1. Laguerre-Brown is charged with providing oversight for the Office of Institutional Equity and enhancing the university's diversity and inclusion efforts.

**RALPH D. SEMMEL**, a 23-year veteran of APL, became the eighth director of the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory on July 1. Semmel succeeded Richard T. Roca, who has served as APL's director since January 2000.

appointments

## Building report

### Gilman redux

**G**ilman Hall is back! Ten humanities departments are now in business in a historic building stunningly renovated for the 21st century. The \$73 million renovation has transformed the 1915 building into a modern academic facility while preserving its architectural integrity and historic spaces. The building has new offices, meeting spaces, state-of-the-art classrooms and 14,000 additional feet of usable space that includes a museum for the university's archaeological collection.

### Hackerman Hall named for 1938 grad, university leader

**F**or more than 70 years Willard Hackerman, Engr '38, has rallied behind his alma mater, providing scholarships, advising deans and,

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- **Meet the president, in China**—President Ron Daniels traveled to China this month to visit the Hopkins-Nanjing Center, meet with key university and government leaders and host receptions for Johns Hopkins alumni and friends in Beijing, Oct. 12, and in Shanghai, Oct. 14.
- **Dinner at the dean's house**—Katherine Newman, the new James B. Knapp Dean of the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, expects to welcome 800 undergraduates to her home throughout the 2010–2011 academic year, thanks to two informal dinner-and-discussion programs pairing distinguished Krieger School faculty and Homewood students: Four Course Dinners and the new Zelicof Family Dinners with the Dean.
- **An MBA for the world**—The first class in the full-time Global MBA program arrived at the Carey Business School's new Harbor East headquarters in August. Enterprising, creative, opinionated, and adventurous, the men and women of the charter class are strikingly diverse in personal and professional experience, represent about a dozen nations and range in age from early 20s to late 30s
- **Bravo!**—Beth Stewart, A&S '04, Peab '04, '06 (MM), '09 (GPD), has founded the Chesapeake Concert Opera. Presenting monthly semi-staged productions in a local church, the opera company is garnering rave reviews of its inaugural season performances of *Così fan Tutte* and *La Bohème*.
- **Bureaucracy buster**—Clifford L. Stanley, Ed '77 (MS), is the Pentagon's new undersecretary for personnel and readiness, charged with shaking up the "vast bureaucracy responsible for military pay, physical and mental health care, career development and schooling."

## Building report

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perhaps most notably, leading the 1970s charge to re-establish an engineering school, named in honor of his mentor, G.W.C. Whiting. On Sept. 15, the Computational Science and Engineering Building on Homewood's Decker Quad was named in honor of Hackerman's volunteer leadership and transformational philanthropy.

### A space for student nurses

In May, the School of Nursing opened the doors to its new Student House, located on Jefferson Street, behind the Pinkard Building. The Student House gives the nearly 700 nursing students

a place to study, relax and eat. The three-story brick building contains three study rooms, a doctoral room, lecture space, an exam-proctoring room, a full-size kitchen with a seating area, a breastfeeding room and a lounge.

### A groundbreaking celebration for the Brody Learning Commons

Friends and patrons gathered in June to fete the library of the future—Homewood's Brody Learning Commons. Construction has now commenced on what has been imagined as a light-filled, four-story hub for collaborative learning and individual study, scheduled to open July 2012.



*After three years of top-to-bottom renovations, the Homewood campus's flagship building celebrated a new beginning with a Grand Reopening on August 30. The renovation has transformed the 1915 building into a modern academic facility while preserving its architectural integrity and historic spaces.*