

Welcome Home,
Class of 2024!

The Riepe Review

Summer 2020
Volume 14



This year will look different!

Welcome to the Penn Community, Class of 2024!
You're joining our House at a very different time.
We're looking forward to working together with you,
our residents, to create a welcoming, safe, and healthy
community in Riepe.

Before your arrival on campus, please look over the
Student Campus Compact to see how we expect each
of our community members to act to help keep
everyone safe. More helpful links can be found
towards the end of this Newsletter. We look forward
to meeting you!

Student Campus Compact



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Follow us on Social Media!



@riepecollegehouse



Riepe College House

Riepe—It's not just a name, it's a FAMILY!



Three generations at PENN:
Orville Petty, II, Wharton '36
James S. Riepe, Wharton '65
Wharton Grad. '67;
Gail Petty Riepe, CW '68
James S. Riepe, Jr., College '98



What's in a Name?

Riepe College House (pronounced “ree-pee”) is named after James S. Riepe W'65 and Gail Riepe CW'68, two prominent Penn alumni. Mr. Riepe recently served as the chairman of Penn's Board of Trustees (he remains a Trustee) and Mrs. Riepe serves on the School of Veterinary Medicine's Board of Overseers. Their connection to Penn is particularly strong when it comes to the Quad—three generations of the Riepe family have called it home.





Greetings from Faculty Director Dr. Ralph Rosen

Congratulations on joining the Penn community! We're all very excited to greet you when you arrive on campus. Riepe College House is a fantastic place to live and we're looking forward to showing you why. Of course, I don't need to tell you that this won't be an ordinary opening of the year, and we are still figuring out all the logistics required to keep everyone safe during the pandemic, while allowing us to get to know each other in our residence. Many of the new protocols and procedures are outlined in the [Student Campus Compact](#), but we will also send out further information as it becomes available during the summer!

I'm the Faculty Director of the house, and you'll be able to find me in Ward 205, where I live with my wife Ellen. I teach in the Department of Classical Studies. As a classicist, I spend much of my time thinking about the ancient world, and am fascinated by all aspects of pre-modernity. But it's the connections with our own world that especially excite me, whether it's comparing ancient and modern comedians, social structures, or political theorists. Ellen worked for several decades in the banking world as both a lawyer and businessperson, and currently serves on the board of the Presser Foundation and volunteers in the library of the Lea School for the West Philadelphia Alliance for Children. We have two grown children, Ben who lives in South Philadelphia and is a composer/musician, and Charlotte who is a grad student in US History at Northwestern University, specializing in the history of the carceral state. Last but not least is Miles, the curious and adorable kitten who joined us in Riepe last spring. He's also eager to meet all of you!

Ellen and I have many interests that go well beyond the academic, and are eager to share them with you—music, theater, art, and cooking. In a normal year anyone who wants to be initiated into the mysteries of pulling the perfect shot of espresso will

definitely want to stop by our Sunday Open Houses. We obviously won't be able to host such in-house gatherings in the fall semester, but I'm hoping at some point in the spring it will be safe for us to resume this hallmark bi-weekly event! We also enjoy listening to music on our vacuum tube stereo equipment. We still have a turntable, and lots of LPs. The specialty of the house is jazz, but we have lots of classical music, rock, hip-hop and indie pop as well. We hope you'll share your favorites with us, too, if only virtually at first!

Throughout Penn's College House system, each house has several faculty members in residence, and Riepe is no exception. Three of my colleagues also reside in Riepe:

Dr. Amy Stornaiuolo lives with her husband Vincenzo in McIlhenny (first floor). She leads the Riepe Mentors Program and reaches out to undergraduates interested in education, digital literacies, urban issues, and cross-cultural dialogue online. She is also director of the Education Minor in Urban Education and can advise people interested in learning about education at Penn. Amy and Vincenzo are former restaurateurs, and love to share their cooking experience with students—we hope to have some virtual cooking classes with them this Fall. These are not to be missed! Stay tuned for other regular events from the Stornaiuolo house that include Italian language and culture events and writing support.

Dr. Sebastián Gil-Riaño is an Assistant Professor in the Department of the History and Sociology of Science, with particular research interests in race and globalization in the history of science. Sebastián, his wife Adriann and their young children live in their apartment located in Magee on the second floor. Sebastián and Adriann love hosting film nights! Also be on the lookout for virtual Riepe Writing Retreats, hosted by Sebastián and Amy.

And of course **House Dean Dr. Marilynne Diggs-Thompson** (or Dean Diggs, as you'll learn to call her) completes the Riepe faculty team. Besides making Riepe hum along like a well-oiled machine, she teaches in the Anthropology department as an Adjunct Assistant Professor, with special interests in the anthropology of consumerism and markets. She is assisted in the Riepe House office by Alaina (Lainie) Bailey, who is the Riepe House Coordinator. As a recent Penn graduate, Lainie can be a great resource regarding all things Penn.

Last, we have a wonderful staff of RAs and GAs. They are incredibly helpful and a lot of fun! Among many other things, they will help you settle in to Penn, and get to know the great city of Philadelphia!

All of us are looking forward to another great year at Riepe, in the Quad, and at Penn.

We look forward to meeting all of you soon and to welcoming you as part of our Riepe House family! See you in August!

Letter from House Dean Dr. Marilynne Diggs-Thompson



Welcome to Riepe College House, the second largest community in the Quad and home to an extended family of creative, innovative, and passionate students, faculty, and staff. Comprised of 12 residential buildings clustered around the “Baby Quad” and Lower Quad, Riepe College House is both historically important and architecturally beautiful. Indoors and out, and even in this environment, it is a great setting for your freshman year experience.

Frequently praised as Penn’s best home away from home our event calendar is always diverse and interesting. We feel that it is important that we offer residents a good mix of on-campus and off-campus academic, cultural and social events. For example, the House and the faculty-hosted events are carefully planned to provide you with information about the major and minor options available to you at Penn, as well as information workshops about graduate, medical and law school. During the coming semester, we still hope to sponsor (social distanced) outings to Center City where you may choose to sample some of the regional and international food options offered at Reading Terminal Market (still open!) or to one of Philadelphia’s impressive array of restaurants, cafes and bistros—many of whom are offering “al fresco” dining and wonderfully prepared meals to go! This semester we plan to continue our practice of offering movie nights, and special event viewing nights—as there should be a good array of political/presidential campaign-oriented events as well as other small screen specials.

Although the House offers a full schedule of on- and off-campus events, Riepe residents can always find quiet spaces (indoors and out) where they can study or simply kick back and enjoy a good book. The staff tries to offer residents a nice balance of fun, food, and intellectual stimulation within a supportive yet laid back lifestyle. In short, Riepe is an all-around great House and I look forward to welcoming you into our wonderful family.

Thank you for joining us!

Dr. Diggs-Thompson (aka Dean Diggs)

Meet your Faculty Fellows!



Dr. Sebastián Gil-Riaño, Adriann Moss, and Arturo | 209 Magee

Hola todos! We are one of the faculty families joining Riepe this year. Sebastián teaches in the History and Sociology of Science Department. He studies the history of scientific ideas about race as well as the history of science and medicine in Latin America and the global South. He is originally from Colombia and grew up in Vancouver, Canada. Adriann has worked for several years in the fields of immigration settlement and student counselling and is an avid grave gardener at the Woodlands cemetery in West Philadelphia. You'll definitely see signs of her green thumb when you arrive at Riepe—she leads our student-planted Riepe garden, named the B.U.G. (Baby Unicorn Garden—named for its location in the Baby Quad and for our unicorn on our House crest!). She hails from southern Ontario in Canada and can skate circles around Sebastián on the ice rink. Arturo is a lively toddler who was born in Sydney, Australia (where we all lived for two years before coming to Philadelphia) and has a passion for construction vehicles of all sorts and Prince (who doesn't love Prince though, right?). Our household is multi-lingual with a healthy dose of Spanish, English, Spanglish, occasionally a bit of French and a toddler version of "robot". This will be our fifth year in Philadelphia and we're still exploring all of the fascinating nooks and crannies of this city so we are very much looking forward to meeting all of you and learning more about you and your adventures...



Dr. Amy Stornaiuolo and Vincenzo Stornaiuolo | 102 McIlhenny

Hello everyone! We are one of the faculty families in Riepe. I (Amy) am an Associate Professor of Literacy in the Literacy, Culture, and International Education division at the Graduate School of Education. I am also directing the Urban Education Minor, so if you have any questions about that minor, please come see me. My research is about how to use digital technologies for learning, and I work mostly with adolescents and teachers (particularly in studying how new communication technologies online can connect people globally). In Riepe, I direct the Mentors program, which brings together Riepe students who will connect with young people in Philadelphia public schools, providing tutoring and other programming to support their learning lives. If you are interested in issues of education (or interested in potentially tutoring in programs like the West Philadelphia Tutoring Project and others), you are welcome to join our monthly online education webinar for Riepe students – each month will feature a topic about how to support young learners and include powerful guest speakers from Penn and beyond. My husband Vincenzo is a chef from Italy (Sicily, to be precise, which you will immediately know when you talk to him), and we love to share a passion for cooking. Tune in to some live virtual events we will hold this year where we will give you some cooking lessons: what are some easy dishes you can add to your repertoire and impress friends, dates, and family. I specialize in teaching writing, having been a writing coach and teacher for many years and currently teaching rhetoric and composition to prospective teachers, and am excited to support you as writers (watch for some virtual writing retreats and drop in sessions). We are looking forward to meeting you soon!

Riepe Mentors

Members of the Mentors Program form a unique team dedicated to serving children in West Philadelphia public schools. Directed by Riepe House Fellow Dr. Amy Stornaiuolo, the Mentors program aims to familiarize its residents with West Philadelphia by connecting them with children who live and attend West Philadelphia schools. Under the direction of senior faculty at Penn's Graduate School of Education, participants mentor children in nearby elementary, middle, and high schools, devoting at least two hours a week to such activities. In the process, mentors learn about the challenges facing kids in Philadelphia's educational system, while also learning about the talents and great potential of these students. Throughout the year, mentors have the opportunity to develop their own leadership skills, gain exceptional pre-career experience, and discover the rewards of community service.

Riepe Mentors come from cities all across the country and around the world, but are linked by their shared commitment to community service. They bring this commitment to the children at these schools who benefit from their weekly encouragement and support. By joining the Riepe Mentors community with the local school communities, Riepe Mentors support the learning and growth of both Penn and Philadelphia public school students. Mentors become a significant part of the life of the school and through their service and care they create important connections between Penn and the Philadelphia schools.

Living Cultures

The Living Cultures program offers a fun environment for students interested in exploring the dynamic relationship between Philadelphia's local communities and global cultural trends.

Members play a crucial role in shaping the direction of the program in collaboration with Faculty fellows, GAs, and RAs. Living Cultures activities can include outings to the Mütter Museum, Bartram's Garden, The Woodlands Cemetery, The Italian Market, Chinatown, Penn Museum, Barnes Foundation, and sampling some of Philly's many culinary delights. They can also include hall events such as home-cooked dinners, film screenings, and creative craft-making. Student interest in leadership and interactive learning is of vital importance to this group and ensures that the program is lively and evolves throughout the school year.

Whether you are interested in majoring in science, business, humanities or social science, Living Cultures can offer meaningful learning experiences that strengthen intercultural understanding. Living Cultures welcomes First-Generation, Low-Income students and minority students and provides opportunities to build community and establish a solid footing on campus. Through its emphasis on lived cultural experiences this program community plays a vital role in making Riepe an inclusive space.

Creative Minds, Creative Souls

This first-year community based in Riepe College House brings together students with interests in all the arts: music, theater, literature and the visual arts. Throughout the year we will visit some of Philadelphia's amazing art museums, attend musical performances (all varieties!), theater, and familiarize ourselves with the city's vibrant gallery scene. The faculty director will periodically host informal arts-related gatherings at his apartment—listening sessions, literary discussions, and student performances, etc. In addition, Riepe House as some of the best music practice spaces in the College House system (sound-insulated rooms, upright and baby grand pianos!), which will be easily available to community members. Writers, artists, musicians, and all fans of the arts will find a warm, welcoming and inspiring community in this eclectic artsy program!

University Fall 2020 Links

[Penn Fall Semester Planning Homepage](#)

[Students: Penn Fall Semester Planning](#)

- * [Housing FAQ](#) (more information also on the next page)
- * [Dining FAQ](#)
- * [Academic FAQ](#)
- * [International Students FAQ](#)
- * [Financial Aid FAQ](#)

[Student Campus Compact](#)

Review this Compact closely before coming to campus.

[Safety & Wellbeing Homepage](#)

- * [Facilities FAQ](#) (including Housekeeping Standards)
- * [COVID-19 Safety Information from Penn EHRS](#)
(including universal mask coverings
& hygiene best practices)
- * [Counseling & Psychological Services](#) (with virtual services)

[Penn Coronavirus Information and Resources Homepage](#)

[Virtual Learning Resources](#)

- * [Remote Learning Tips for Students](#)
- * [Resources for Remote Learning](#) from Weingarten LRC
- * [Student Remote IT Support](#)

University Fall 2020 Schedule

For all up-to-date University Scheduling:

- * [Penn Almanac Academic Calendar](#)
- * [Penn Fall Semester Calendar](#)

First-Year Move-In	Begins August 21
New Student Orientation (NSO)	August 24–31
Freshman Convocation	August 31
First Day of Classes	September 1
Labor Day (no classes)	September 7
Fall Term Break	CANCELLED
Family Weekend	October 16–18
Homecoming	November 14
Last Day of In-Person Instruction	November 20
Online Instruction Begins	November 23
Thanksgiving Break (no classes)	November 26–29
Classes Resume	November 30
Fall Term Classes End	December 10
Reading Days	December 11–14
Final Examinations (Online)	December 15–22
Fall Term Ends	December 22

Move-In Tips

Housing and Room-Related FAQs

Can I visit my room over the summer? What does my room have?

Sorry, you cannot. Our building is closed for the summer. However, floor plans and amenities are listed on the [CampusExpress](#) housing portal.

How early can I move in?

Official move-in dates are listed online in Campus Express. Please check to see your assigned move-in date and time. In this year in particular, move-in dates and times are important to ensure social distancing. Questions regarding dates can be directed to living@upenn.edu. Please note: once a resident has been given room access, they are officially taking occupancy of the room, and will be billed accordingly. For more info: [Residential Services Move-In](#).

What should I bring? How can I rent a fridge?

Follow this link to find a list of items to bring & info on fridge rentals: [Move-In Tips](#).

Can I change to another room in the Quad before Move-In?

No, room changes are made only during scheduled periods throughout the year. More information about this will be made available on the Housing Services website at that time. During room change periods, we cannot guarantee another Quad room.

Can I ship stuff to my room?

Your mailing address is indicated in your assignment information. Given the high volume of mail and packages around move-in, we ask that you time your shipping to coincide with your arrival and not too many days earlier than that date. Please add 1-2 days to shipping company's delivery time estimates for campus processing. Please be advised, Riepe does not have a storage room for belongings that you ship but cannot fit in your room. We also recommend shipping Amazon items to Amazon@Penn.

For additional information, visit:

<http://cms.business-services.upenn.edu/residential-services/services-a-support/move-inout.html>

All Questions Regarding Housing & Move-In:

Living@upenn.edu

Computing Tips

Remote Student IT Support

- * Including two-step verification user guides
- * Zoom and BlueJeans support
- * Internet Service for remote learning

Penn Wifi Support: AirPennNet

College Houses & Academic Services Technology

- * Information on how to request connection for gaming and streaming devices





See you soon!

Riepe College House

