

MODERN ROMANCE & FACEBOOKOLOGY:
PENN EXPERTS AND STUDENTS DISCUSS
EFFECTS OF SOCIAL NETWORKING ON RELATIONSHIPS
Panel Featuring Leading Psychology and Social Networking Experts
to be Held During Penn Women's Week
Mon., Feb. 11th at 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm in Logan Hall

Sponsors: Trustees Council of Penn Women (TCPW); Counseling and Psychology Center at Penn (CAPS); Penn Consortium of Undergraduate Women (PCUW)

Philadelphia, PA, February 4, 2008 -- With Valentine's Day fast approaching, love is in the air – and on the web. To help Penn students best understand the effects of social networking in the age of Facebook and other community sites, Penn-affiliated experts in psychology and social networking will participate in a panel discussion and question-and-answer session to be held during Penn Women's Week.

Panelists include:

*Moderator: **Dr. Ilene Rosenstein**, Director of CAPS*

*Asst. Professor of Psychology at Penn, who has done extensive research on relationships and dating, **Dr. Robert Kurzban***

*Annenberg Graduate and Expert in New Social Networking Technologies, **Dr. Lee Humphreys**, Assoc. Lecturer, Dept. of Communication Arts, University of Wisconsin*

*CAPS Associate Director, **Dr. Meeta Kumar**, who focuses her work on healthy relationships*

***Ms. Drew Tye**, Penn Panhellenic Council President (Class of 2009)*

***Mr. Brett Perlmutter**, President of Penn's Junior Class (Class of 2009)*

Dr. Rosenstein, Director of CAPS, said, "The emergence of Facebook and other social networking technologies has dramatically changed the way in which people meet and interact. We are delighted to have this important dialogue at Penn, to gain further understanding of the use of technology on relationships."

Dr. Kurzban, said, "Networking sites add a new tool for understanding human behavior. How people interact on these sites is an important new source of data for social scientists. The insights developed from this research, in turn, hold the promise of providing a richer understanding of why people do the (often mysterious) things they do in the context of romance."

Lauren Lorberbaum, PCUW President, "Outside of the classroom, one of the most discussed topics among Penn students is relationships and dating in the Internet age. We are so glad to have the opportunity to learn from experts in the field, who can address our questions about how we can be most successful in navigating in this environment and having healthy, positive interactions. We thank CAPS and TCPW for arranging this event."

"This panel, the second in a series co-sponsored by TCPW, reflects the successful collaboration of Penn students, faculty and alumni to share knowledge and enrich the Penn experience by

leveraging the enormous expertise that exists across the University. As part of TCPW, we look forward to continuing to work closely with PCUW, CAPS and other highly effective groups across the campus to ensure that students can take full advantage of being part of the Penn community,” concluded Jill Glazer and Marjorie Patkin, TCPW Student Life Committee members and co-chairs of the event.

During Women’s Week 2006, TCPW co-sponsored with other University groups, including CAPS, a panel titled “Body Image: Shifting Perspectives”, which focused on a shift in body image from thin to healthy ideals and drew an audience of more than 220.

Event Details:

Time: Monday, February 11th, during Penn Women’s Week; 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Place: Logan Hall, G-17

Entrance to the panel event is free of charge.

Podcast Details:

For those who cannot attend the event in person, a podcast featuring highlights of the discussion will be available for download by Monday, February 25th on the websites of the sponsoring organizations: the Penn Consortium of Undergraduate Women (<http://dolphin.upenn.edu/~pcuw/>); the Counseling and Psychology Center at Penn (<http://www.vpul.upenn.edu/caps/>); and the Trustees Council of Penn Women ([http://www.alumni.upenn.edu/groups/tcpw/.](http://www.alumni.upenn.edu/groups/tcpw/))

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