



University of Pennsylvania Library

Office of the Vice Provost and Director of Libraries

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Penn Library Receives Gift for Teaching Seminar Room in Historic Fisher Fine Arts Library**

The University of Pennsylvania Libraries, announces a \$100,000 gift from Elizabeth Toll Davis, College for Women '70, and Joel P. Davis, College '66, for a Teaching Seminar Room in the Fisher Fine Arts Library.

The Anne & Jerome Fisher Fine Arts Library is housed in the University's first library building, built in 1890 from the designs of architect Frank Furness. A flamboyant Victorian building, the Library was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1985. Its restoration by the architectural firm of Venturi, Rauch and Scott Brown has won national honors.

The Davis Teaching Seminar Room, prominently located on the main floor of the Fisher Fine Arts Library, will be used for classes, group study, meetings, and seminars. It will be a handsome space fully equipped with high-speed internet connections and multi-media capability. The room's four arched windows overlook College Hall Green.

Generous supporters of the University, Mr. Davis has served on the University of Pennsylvania Northeast Regional Advisory Board, and Mrs. Davis has been an alumni interviewer for Penn applicants and President of Florida's First Coast Penn Club.

“The University of Pennsylvania holds a special place in our hearts, and we wanted to give a tangible gift in appreciation,” said Joel and Lissy Davis. “A library is central to any great university, and we knew the Penn Library was an appropriate place for our gift. We hope that many students will enjoy the room and its lovely view overlooking the Green.”

Penn Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Carton Rogers said, “Joel and Lissy wanted to make a difference in the lives of our students. I am honored that they chose the library for their gift. When the Fisher Fine Arts Library was renovated, this room was untouched. Now it can become another facet of the jewel that is the Fisher Fine Arts Library. We are very grateful for their generosity.”

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