

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2012 Women Against MS Luncheon to honor Penn President Amy Gutmann

PHILADELPHIA – The 10th annual Women Against MS Luncheon announced today that it will honor University of Pennsylvania President Amy Gutmann with its 2012 Woman of Spirit Award. The luncheon, to be held on Tuesday, May 8, at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel, unites a powerful network of women throughout the Greater Philadelphia region to create a world free of multiple sclerosis.

Gutmann was named president of the University of Pennsylvania in 2004, launching the Penn Compact in her inaugural address—the University’s commitment to integrating knowledge, engaging locally and globally and increasing access.

Penn is now the largest university in the country to establish a no-loan guarantee for all undergraduate students receiving financial aid. Gutmann also pushed Penn to the forefront in civic engagement, opening Penn Park, a 24-acre park connecting West Philadelphia to Center City, in 2011.

Penn’s top-ranked Perelman School of Medicine received more than \$500 million in NIH research funding in 2010. The Perelman School and University of Pennsylvania Health System together form a \$4 billion enterprise. In addition to conducting international research trials for the treatment and cure of multiple sclerosis, Penn’s Multiple Sclerosis Center provides consultation and care for more than 3,000 patients yearly.

The Women Against MS Luncheon will take place from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel, 1200 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Proceeds from this event benefit the Greater Delaware Valley Chapter of the National MS Society.

The luncheon, hosted by Kathy Orr of CBS3, will also include a keynote speech by Zoe Koplowitz, an award-winning author and motivational speaker. Koplowitz has completed dozens of marathons despite her diagnoses of MS and diabetes.

For more information about this event and to get involved, visit nationalMSSociety.org/WAMS or call 215-271-1500.

Thank you to our presenting sponsor AmeriHealth Mercy Family of Companies; gold sponsors University of Pennsylvania, Fox Rothschild LLP, Penn Medicine, and Vynamic; silver sponsors The Leaders Edge/Leaders by Design, Dechert LLP, Firstrust Bank, Diversified Search, Jackson Lewis LLP, and EMD Serono, Inc.

About MS

Every hour in the United States, someone is newly diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, an unpredictable, often disabling disease of the central nervous system. Symptoms range from numbness and tingling to blindness and paralysis.

About the National MS Society

MS stops people from moving. The National MS Society exists to make sure it doesn't. We do this through our home office and 50-state network of chapters by funding more MS research, providing more services to people with MS, offering more professional education and furthering more advocacy efforts than any other MS organization in the world. Join the movement at nationalMSSociety.org or by calling 1-800-FIGHT-MS.

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