Highlights from the Museum's traveling exhibition, "THE ROYAL TOMBS OF UR"—including the world-renowned "Ram-in-the-Thicket," Lady Pu-Abi's headdress, and a gold and silver drinking tumbler—returned to the Mesopotamian gallery mid-summer 2001 and will be displayed through March 24, 2002. To date, more than 500,000 visitors in eight American cities have seen UPM's traveling show of famous Sumerian materials, jointly curated by Dr. Richard Zettler, Associate Curator-in-Charge, Near East section, and Dr. Donald P. Hansen, the Stephen Chan Professor of Ancient Middle Eastern Archaeology at the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. The exhibition travels again in May 2002. Due to extensive gallery renovations, the Museum will not have a full reinstallation of this important Mesopotamian material in the galleries before 2005.

Inspired by his collaborative Black Sea Project with Bob Ballard (see Expedition Vol. 43, No. 1), Museum archaeologist and Penn professor Dr. Frederik Hiebert offered the first undergraduate Underwater Archaeology course at the University in more than 25 years. The course introduced students to some of the ground-breaking research undertaken by the Museum, beginning with the work of Dr. George Bass, deemed by many the "father of underwater archaeology," taught the first Underwater Archaeology course ever, at the University of Pennsylvania.

Just to make sure his students got their feet wet, Dr. Hiebert coordinated a sailing expedition in May aboard the state of Delaware's official tall ship, the Kalmor Nyckel. Students boarded the ship at Penn's Landing for a back-into-history journey. After a tour of the ship, which included a look at traditional navigation equipment and such niceties as pre-luxury ship living quarters, they received their sailors' instructions and left dock for a two-hour working cruise of the Delaware River.

Dr. Charles K. Williams II became the eighth recipient of the Angell Medal—named in honor of Martan Angell Godfrey Boyer (1892–1985)—established to honor distinguished service to the Museum by a Museum supporter. Dr. Jeremy A. Sabloff surprised Dr. Williams, an archaeologist, long-time UPM benefactor, and member of the Museum's Board of Overseers, with the award at the Board's annual spring dinner on April 24, 2001. An active member of the Board since 1985, Dr. Williams is currently serving as Chairman of the $55 million, 21st Century Campaign, after helping to kick off the campaign in February 2001 with an unprecedented $16 million contribution.

Ida Goldstein, UPM's longtime Volunteer Placement Coordinator, was the surprise recipient of the Director's Award, established to honor exceptional volunteer achievement. Dr. Jeremy A. Sabloff presented her with the award at a volunteer appreciation luncheon on April 24, 2001. Ms. Goldstein first came to the Museum in 1983 as a volunteer in the Education Department. Two years later, she became the Volunteer Placement Coordinator and since then has contributed more than 9,000 hours,devoting her time to the recruitment and coordination of more than 300 volunteers.

Ida Goldstein.