Definition of disability expanded

Under a new federal law, some employees at Pitt may be eligible for job-related accommodations based on disabilities that previously were not covered by the 1990 Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

Whether the changes in the law will have a significant impact at Pitt remains to be seen, officials here said.

ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability, and it requires institutions to provide “reasonable accommodations” for those otherwise qualified individuals with a disability who request accommodations.

In September, President Bush signed into law the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008, which went into effect Jan. 1. The amendments act stipulates that if the condition is in remission or impairment that when active, “even if acute episodes are shorter than six months,” remain outside the scope of the ADA. However, the amendments clarify that a chronic condition or impairment that is “episodic or in remission is a disability if it would substantially limit a major life activity when active,” even if acute episodes are shorter than six months.

Examples of such medical conditions, the report states, include multiple sclerosis, lupus, epilepsy, a seizure disorder, diabetes and muscular dystrophy.

According to Pitt law school Dean Mary Crawley, the new act represents the U.S. Congress’s

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
Some FMLA changes go into effect

The University's staff handbook has been updated to reflect the changes to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) of 2009. The updated FMLA clarifies employer and employee rights and responsibilities under FMLA and adds special provisions for military service members and their families.

FMLA gives eligible workers up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave a year to care for a newborn child or a sick or injured child. During the leave, the employee's job is protected and group health benefits are covered for up to five months. If the employee is working, (Pitt's disability insurer, MetLife, administers FMLA requests, posts FMLA guidelines, and research associates. The Office of the Provost administers leave for associate and full professors.)

Kathy Pratt of Human Resources said Pitt receives some 800 staff requests for FMLA leave each year. Those include requests that must be filed by employees who anticipate absenteeism for more than three days (even if they ultimately do not need extended FMLA leave), for pregnancy, birth, adoption, or foster care of an infant or child. The new FMLA also extends the leave or bonding time for new parents to 12 weeks, given that soldiers' injuries often are complicated and require lengthy recovery times.

In addition, taking effect with the Jan. 16, update, is an entitlement that allows families of military members or reserves called to active duty to use their 12-week FMLA entitlement to deal with "qualifying exigencies." This includes attending certain military events, financial and childcare arrangements, attending counseling or post-deployment reintegration programs, and more.

Noting the sacrifices military families make when a loved one is deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan, Pratt said, "All of this makes life easier, that would be great.

One Pitt staff member is among those who have walked in those shoes. Marcia Chmill, an administrative employee in Faculty Records, had no such FMLA protection when her son, John, was wounded in Iraq in November 2004. John, a Marine, was driving 19 Army engineers when their armored truck was rammed by a police car filled with explosives. The truck became airborne and burst into flames, but all the soldiers survived, Chmill said. Her son's leg was shattered and he lost an eye, three fingers and part of his hand. He spent a month at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, where he was initially in the intensive care unit; there are no ICUs in Pittsburgh, he would have been able to return to work by his room the whole month," she said — before he was able to return home.

Chmill, who at the time worked in the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid, knew she might be able to return to work when John was discharged, but she could not be away from work for any longer than he would need. Heavily medicated and needing to use a wheelchair or unable to open a door or handle other personal care tasks on his own, he was not eligible for the Navy surgeons in Bethesda.

Chmill used vacation and sick leave to cover four weeks of time off, but was denied FMLA leave for additional time. She was able to arrange an unpaid administrative leave for six more weeks while her son was healing.

Chmill said she was especially pleased to see FMLA leave extended to 26 weeks, given that soldiers' injuries often are complicated and require lengthy recovery times.

In Bethesda, Chmill became acquainted with other families facing similar situations. She saw soldiers whose families simply could not afford to work away from home during the long recovery times.

"Just to know your job is pro-
tected is such a relief," she said. "You don't need another worry."

Chmill's son's injuries have healed and he now is living on his own. He graduated last August from Pitt with a degree in com-
puter science.

The American Red Cross, a Marathi newspaper in Pittsburgh, has launched a new campaign titled "day without a hero." As far as I can tell no one is doing anything for our night shift's work. We know our custodians be by their side.

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Expert predicts more discrimination suits nationally

"If an impairment substantially limits a major bodily function of a person, it qualifies as a disability regardless of whether it also substantially limits a more traditionally understood activity like walking, hearing or speaking."

—Dean Mary Crossley

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

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mple under the law, a reasonable accommodation is defined as a modification or adjustment to a job or the work environment that will enable a qualified employee or applicant with a disability to perform essential job functions. "I hesitate to give too many examples, because we don't want to identify any individuals, and we also do not want anyone to think: if this department did it, then, of course, my department would be willing to do it, too," Greeno said. "We don't know that. It's always a case-by-case basis. What is reasonable for one department might be a hardship for another and, of course, it depends on the job itself.

He said an example of a reasonable accommodation is a schedule adjustment for people who have conditions that make it difficult for them to adhere to the normal work schedule. "So adjustments can be made for that, if it's the kind of job that doesn't require a certain set of hours, and if the department can accommodate that adjustment," Greeno said.

He added that there also is precedent for employees to be moved to a different location within a department to improve accessibility or as a result of reac
tions to environmental factors. "The most important consideration is whether the employee can fulfill the essential job functions and whether a reasonable accommodation will help ensure that the employee can," Greeno said. "Regardless of whether you have a disability or not, you must be able to perform the essential functions of the job. Some people may have an obvious impairment of a major life activity — like an arm amputation or being on crutches, for example — which would have no effect on their essential job functions, and yet requiring the need to ask for accommodation, etc., he said."

Those essential functions are outlined in Pitt's job descriptions, he noted.

There are several issues employees should consider when deciding whether to identify as disabled, Greeno said. "Unless there's a connection between your impairment and your job function, and there is a reasonable accommodation that would allow you to perform your functions, why self-identify?" he said. "From the University's perspective, your disability is irrelevant as long as you're performing your essential job functions just fine."

Greeno also noted that, in some cases, filing a request under ADA may not be the appropriate vehicle for or fall under provisions in the federal Family and Medical Leave Act, which could result in 12 weeks of unpaid leave for a serious medical condition. (See story on page 2.)

Pitt also offers a long-term disability program for those who qualify.

"We do over time have tragic cases where people have cancer, for example. An employee, potentially, will come a time when they are unable to do enough and it becomes a hardship on the department and the individual — that's a very difficult situation," Greeno said.

"We certainly do everything we can to work with that person. If this is discovered with a supervisor and it doesn't just sud-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6
It wasn’t that members wouldn’t invest their money, just that none of them had been willing to invest their time, said club president Lois Kepes, a reference librarian in the GPSPH Economics Library.

The club’s officers are aging and some members are the only handful of the 80 or so members, said Dave Edwards, a pharmaceutical sciences faculty member who serves as treasurer for portfolios A-F.

“Most of the time the University is looking for a way to define the situation in terms of the impact on job performance. That’s the most important thing from a supervisor’s standpoint,” Greeno noted.

Supervisors, however, should be wary of making judgments about disabilities on their own, he added.

“Don’t assume someone’s absence is due to an illness or disability,” Greeno advised. “You need to have a pretty good chance of everyone coming to terms with that situation in a way that satisfies everyone. That’s why we have long-term disability benefits. It’s not like you’re out on the street with no income. We provide benefits that allow them to continue working and pay medical insurance,” he said.

Greeno recommended that employees also be aware of privacy issues, particularly when considering whether to self-identify as disabled.

“Most of the time we look at it as a need-to-know basis, a reasonable need to know,” he said. “We don’t want it to go anywhere more than that,” he said.

Greeno said that most likely would include informing the employee’s supervisor of a disability, once the disability has been self-identified, documented medically and confirmed by the University.

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Presby recognized for electronic records system

UPMC Presbyterian has been recognized by the leading health care technology industry organization for its advanced use of a comprehensive electronic medical record (EMR) system. The hospital, a technology and patient safety distinction earned by only 24 of more than 51 percent of UPMC/UPMC employees or lose their positions. After discussing this further, I have discovered that UPMC has re-evaluated its staffing model and if the percentage of effort of a Pitt staff member is larger than 51 percent of UPMC/UPMC employees, the decision was made that the funding for these positions should come directly from UPMC and not from Pitt,” Colwell told the University Times following the Jan. 14 meeting.

In other SAC news:

• SAC members praised the efforts of the University community to staff the annual Christmas Day at Pitt event, which included a Salvation Army-sponsored dinner for homeless and needy. More than 100 volunteers hosted some 650 guests at the event, according to Steve Zupec, Pitt Volunteer Pool coordinator.

• The Johnstown campus reported the results of elections of the UJP Staff Activities and Concerns Association. Beverly Walerysuk was re-elected president; Vicki Biter and Angela Boyd were elected co-chairs of the staff relations committee; Wanda Radovanic was elected chair of the issues and concerns committee. The UJP association raised $250 to aid the family of a UJP staff member whose home was destroyed in a fire. The association also raised $354.27 to aid the Salvation Army in December. —Peter Hart

IN CLEMENT WEATHER PERMIT PARKING

In order to better serve our permit holders, the University Parking Office requests that personnel with permits in surface lots utilize the Soldiers and Sailors Garage or the O’Keefe Technology building parking garage. This will make the lots difficult to access for permits available for permit holders on these days.

Please do not use any lots after midnight if snow begins to accumulate. Your cooperation will assist Facilities Management in clearing the lots of snow and ice in a timely manner.

If you have any questions concerning these arrangements please call the Parking Office during business hours Mon-Sat, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sun 1:00 a.m. – 5:00 a.m. at 412-624-4034 and press 5 for a customer service representative.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

John V. Collins
Parking Operation Manager

UPB program receives grant

Pitt-Bradford’s petroleum technology program has received $13,500 from an annual oil and gas industry charity auction for equipment and scholarships. Each full-time student in the program will receive $2.50 and each part-time student $1.25.

Assad Panah, director of the petroleum technology program and professor of geology, said two desktop computers and a Trimble hand-held computer designed for field data collection were purchased with the donation. The program also was able to purchase a ProScope HR, the world’s first handheld digital microscope, which can let students see samples in the field at magnifications of 30-100x. The donation also funded the purchase of 12 pocket microscopes for interpreting enhanced aerial photos that appear three-dimensional, and high-powered hand magnifying lenses and surveying tools to collect geologic field data and measure rock layers.
At Winchester Thurston, success isn’t measured solely by test scores, although ours are among the strongest in the region. It’s apparent in a different kind of result: the confidence, social responsibility, and intellectual curiosity that our students carry with them to college and throughout life.

In a supportive and student-centered environment, our students learn how to learn. To ask questions. To discuss, to give and take, and to collaborate in a dynamic process of discovery and problem solving.

So in addition to a solid academic foundation, WT prepares students to be actively engaged, lifelong learners; productive, innovative members of the community; and responsible citizens of a rapidly changing and uncertain world.

**Grades 6 - 12: Challenging Academics and Inspiring Experiential Learning**

The cornerstone of Middle School, the **Leadership Academy** challenges students with outdoor experiential activities that build teamwork and self-reliance, and further develops leadership skills through student-driven community service projects designed to effect change.

Challenging internships and our unique **City as Our Campus** initiative that links curriculum with neighboring universities, medical centers, and historical archives, coupled with expansive AP offerings, Junior and Senior Seminar, and a personalized college process, define the culminating Upper School experience.

Blending both academic and social learning, Cultivating the character to serve. Preparing citizens of the world. And holding students to a new and higher standard of rigor.

That’s Winchester Thurston. That’s our measure of success.

**Middle School Open House**

**Thursday, January 29**

8:30 a.m.

City Campus

555 Morewood Avenue, Shadyside

**Online registration at**

[www.winchesterthurston.org](http://www.winchesterthurston.org) or call 412.578.7518
T he fatal Virginia Tech shootings in 2007 focused new attention on the federal law that protects student privacy. Now, the U.S. Department of Education has issued a new rule that seeks to elucidate — and significantly modify — the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, or FERPA. The new rule, issued by the Department in December, went into effect Jan. 24.

There are no significant changes if you follow the "University as policy as written, you’ll be okay," Conte said.

The most important change, Conte said, affects interpretation of the emergency exception to FERPA. Under the new rule, there is more discretion allowed on what constitutes an emergency. For years, there has been a clear understanding that an emergency exists if there is a rational basis on the information available at the time of a request. In the event that point of view. In the event that point of view. In the event that point of view. In the event that point of view. In the event that point of view.

The new rules relax that strict construction standard in favor of disclosing information about a student “if there is an articulable and significant threat to the health and safety of the student or other individuals.”

“The rules now say that you can make an accommodation based on the facts and circumstances of the situation,” Conte said. “We have more flexibility to make a judgment.”

While the new rules are significant, students can still sue if they believe their privacy rights are being violated. The Department of Education previously defined an emergency as “a situation where there is a reasonable basis to believe that an immediate and significant threat exists.”

The new rules define a threat as “dangerous, serious and imminent.”

In addition, the new guidelines establish that online (distance education) students are protected under FERPA, and specify that contracts with third parties that handle student information must reflect that the information is used and disclosed in a manner governed by FERPA regulations, he pointed out.

All students, including international students, who currently are or formerly were enrolled at an institution, regardless of the status of their dependent status, are covered by FERPA regulations. FERPA coverage continues until the death of an individual, although students and former students can waive certain privacy rights.

FERPA also gives parents certain rights with respect to their children’s educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. However, the new FERPA rules specify that institutions to release student education records information to parents of dependent children, as demonstrated by the most recent federal tax returns. Faculty who get a call from a parent inquiring about a student who is under disclosure exceptions to FERPA regulations should decline the call, the faculty member has confirmed the student’s dependent status. Where there is doubt, call the Registrar’s office, Conte said.

Also, schools may still advise parents of any violations of federal, state or local laws, or of university policies governing the use or possession of alcohol or controlled substances, if the student is under 21, regardless of dependent status. Parents routinely informs parents of all such violations, Conte said.

While the national hubbub over FERPA interpretations focused mainly on the emergency exception issue, the law also governs which student identification numbers may be used and in which contexts. The new guidelines reiterated that Social Security numbers may be used provided access is limited.

“Years ago, you might have a FERPA issue, for example, when someone was given grades using the Social Security numbers,” Conte said. “But ever since we released the initial rule on how to use Social Security numbers, it’s a non-issue for us. Faculty submit the grades and they’re processed overnight and students can view them the next day online in a secure environment. There’s no need to post grades.”

Employees who handle student records are prohibited from discussing records under disclosure exceptions to FERPA regulations based on a “need to know.” That would include Pitt faculty, staff and administrators with a “legitimate educational interest,” which is defined as a need for access to the information to fulfill their job functions or responsibilities.

“This is nothing new,” Conte reiterated, adding that no new training would be required for employees.

The complete text of the FERPA regulations can be found online at: www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister/tintu2008- 41/2008-0906.html

— Peter Hart

UCSUR award applications sought

The University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR) is seeking applicants for the annual Steven D. Mannors Faculty Development Awards. Awards of up to $10,000 are given to units each relating to work in the social, behavioral and policy sciences to give grants to professors, researchers or graduate students who are assistant director at the time of his death in 2000.

The awards range from $4,000 to $15,000.

The deadline for submission is April 8. Awards will be announced in June. For more information, contact Croft, 4-6172 or martire@pitt.edu.
Evolution of motor cortex anatomy and function

An area of the cerebral cortex has evolved to enable humans and higher primates to pick up small objects and dexterously use tools, according to neuroscientists at the School of Medicine and Pittsburgh’s Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The findings have been published in the early online edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

The brain’s primary motor cortex turns out to have an ‘old’ and ‘new’ part. In most animals, including cats, rats and some monkeys, the old primary motor cortex controls movement indirectly through the circuitry of the spinal cord, explained senior author Peter Strick, professor in the Department of Neurobiology and senior career scientist at the VA Medical Center.

But in humans, the great apes and some monkeys, another area of the motor cortex developed and is now home to a special set of corticomotoneuronal (CM) cells, he said. These cells directly control spinal cord motor neurons, which are the nerve cells responsible for causing contraction of shoulder, elbow and finger muscles.

The direct control exerted by CM cells endows humans with the superior hand skills to manufacture and use tools — an especially human trait.

Strick noted that the direct connection from the cortex to motor neurons is not present at birth, but develops during the first few months of life and becomes fully mature around two years of age. Thus, the progress of an infant’s motor skills will display the establishment of these connections.

Strick and co-author Jean-Alban Rathelot, a research associate in his lab, based their conclusions on a series of experiments in which rabies virus was injected into single muscles in the shoulder, elbows or fingers of monkeys.

The virus, chosen because of its unique ability to travel between networked nerve cells, was tracked to locate CM cells in the primary motor cortex.

Swahili book project funded

Pitt-Tanzania faculty member Linda Winkler has been awarded a Hewlett International Grant for her project, “Developing a Children’s Book on Rumanika, Last Chief of Karagwe Chiefdom in Tanzania.”

This book is part of an ongoing project that has resulted in several children’s books in Swahili.

The books are used in Tanzanian schools in the area where Winkler has led the Pitt in Tanzania study-abroad program.

Winkler has collaborated with New York City-based artist Katie Mazon on three previous books. The new book on Rumanika will tell the story of the last in a long line of powerful chiefs.

Rumanika is said to have had supernatural powers, including the ability to produce rain.

As with the previous books, this book will be published in Swahili and provided free of charge to schools in Tanzania.

Winkler is professor of anthropology and biology and vice president for academic affairs at UPT.

ULS partners to preserve subsiding maps

The University Library System (ULS) has received a public/private pledge of $200,000 to cata-

logue and preserve a collection of local, historical coal maps for widespread public use. The pro-

ject brings together professionals from academic, state and federal areas specializing in conserva-
tion, preservation, environmental protection, mining, digitization and geographic information systems.

The commitment represents a seamless partnership in not only fund-
ing, but in work efforts between CONSOL Energy, the Pennsyl-
vania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the U.S. Department of the Interior Office of Surface Mining (OSM).

CONSOL Energy has pledged a total of $100,000 to be paid over five years, while DEP contributed $25,000 and OSM contributed $75,000. This collaboration endeavors to assemble information about the maps of under-
ground coal mines in the state, built on the web-based database for maps and map location infor-
mation, digitize vital maps and preserve the original work. The project has implications for mine safety, mining operations, land reclamation, new development and research.

R. Hill Miller, Hillman Univer-
sity Librarian and director of ULS, stated, “That the Department of Environmental Protection, the Office of Surface Mining and CONSOL Energy have joined forces for this project is clear recognition of just how important this project is. Our maps capture the subsiding history of a region in southwestern Penn-
vania, including the heavily urban areas as well as rural communities. Together, we will work in collabor-

ative ways to ensure that our collection is accessible to all.”

In 2000, CONSOL Energy provided ULS with its substantial collection of mine maps dating as early as the 1850s as well as coal mine artifacts and other histori-
cal items.

Many of the hardback maps are in need of conservation repair in order to facilitate the evaluation and cataloguing process as well as the work of the state DEP in the task of modern maps that are part of this collection.

Enhancing access is among the goals of the new project, which involves processing and generat-
ing an inventory of the collection of maps and providing archival description finding aid.

In addition, the University, DEP, OSM and CONSOL Energy are collaborating to catalogue and accurately describe this collection and input the inventory into the DEP’s Penn-
vania Historical Underground Map Inventory System (PHUMIS), which eventually will provide the enhanced public access to PHUMIS and the Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access System.

Vaccine cuts spread of meningitis

A standard pediatric vaccine used to prevent several common types of life-threatening infections also effectively reduced the rates of another disease, pneumococcal meningitis, in children and adults, according to a multi-center study led by Pitt’s School of Medicine.

The findings are in the early online issue of the New England Journal of Medicine and based on a detailed review of pneumococcal meningitis cases, also noted an increase in strains of pneumo-
coccal meningitis not covered by the vaccine and those resistant to antibiotics.

After reviewing 1,379 cases of pneumococcal meningitis from 1998 through 2005, study authors found rates of the dis-

ease decreased in children and adults after the introduction of pediatric pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV7) in 2000. PCV7 protects against seven of the most common pneumococcal types, which account for more than 80 percent of pneumococcal disease in children. It is not administered to adults.

According to the study, inci-
dences of pneumococcal meningitis in all age groups declined 30.1 percent from 1998-1999 to 2004-2005. After PCV7 was made available, the incidence of meningitis decreased by 64 percent in children and nearly 54 percent in older adults.

Lee Harrison, professor of medicine and senior author of the study, explained: “When you immunize children, they are much less likely to transmit pneumococcal strains covered by the vaccine in the back of the throat. When vaccinated children carry these virulent strains, they don’t end up transmitting them to their parents or grandparents.”

Prior to the study, conflicting data existed about the effect on the incidence of meningitis in adults, he said.

Also observed was that non-PCV7 strains increased by 60.5 percent from 1998-99 to 2004-2005. These findings highlight the need to continue to explore new meth-
ods of prevention with a special emphasis on pneumococcal vaccines not covered by PCV7 and strains that are drug resistant. Next-genera-
tion vaccines that the vaccine can’t protect and patients and physicians need to avoid unnecessary use of anti-
biotics.

Other Pitt co-authors were: Michael Scott, Alanna Kim, Daniel Rush Miller, Hillman University Librarian, and Heather Hsu and Kathleen Shutt, a research associate in the Department of Medicine.

PCV7 was developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institute of Allergy and Infections Diseases and con-
ducted at eight active bacterial core surveillance sites throughout the United States. ABCs are a component of the CDC-funded emerging infections program network.

Pancreatic beta cells replicated

School of Medicine research-

ers have induced human insulin-

producing cells, known as beta cells, to replicate robustly in a human animal as well as in the lab. The discovery not only could improve models for studying diabetes, but also opens up new possibilities for treating the condition.

“Most scientists thought that these important pancreatic cells could not be induced to regen-
erate, or could only replicate very slowly,” said senior author Andrew F. Stewart, professor of medicine and chief of the medical school’s Division of Endocrinol-
gy and Metabolism. “This work provides proof-of-principle that the production of human beta cells can be stimulated, and that the cells can continue to support insulin production effectively both in the lab and in a living animal.”

These findings are in the early online version of Diabetes, one of the journals of the American Diabetes Association.

Lead authors Nathalie Fias-
chi-Taesch, of the endocrinology lab, and Todd A. Bigel, who worked on a graduate of the postdoctoral fellowship program, identified in a study published in the journal in human beta, or islet, cell rep-
lication, building on previous work conducted by a research team.
The People of the Times

M ichael Sacks, Wil- liam Whiteford

Professor in the Department of Bioengineering and a fel- low at the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medi- cine, has been named the 2009 recipient of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Van C. M. Tow Medal. Sacks was selected to receive this honor for his contribu- tions in advancing the biomechanics of the engineered heart valve tissues.

His research emphasis is on quantitative and mathematical models of the structure- mechanical properties of native and engineered bio- tissues, with a focus on tissues of the cardiovascular and urological systems.

The Van C. M. Tow Medal, estab- lished in 2004, is bestowed upon an individual who has demonstrated meritorious contributions in the field of bioengineering through research, education, professional development, leadership in the development of the profession, mentoring of young engineers and service to the bioengineering community.

Sacks will receive the medal at a bioengineering conference in June.

Fiore Pugliano, senior adviser and lecturer in the Department of English, has been awarded the 2009 Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Advising. The award, which consists of a $4,000 cash prize, recognizes Arts and Sciences undergraduate advisers for their outstanding achievements.

David Barabas, chair of the department, said Pugliano has played a key role in the overall development of Pitt’s English program. “For more than 35 years, Pugliano has served in the home careers of thousands of students in Arts and Sciences. He has helped establish both the conventions and the high standards for advising that are currently in place,” said Barabas, who also credits Pugliano for his role in the development of the department. “Over the last few decades, we have carried out major revisions of our under- graduate curriculum, and Pugliano has been an integral player in overseeing, monitoring and evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the curriculum.”

Pugliano has advised writ- ing, literature and film studies majors at Pitt since 1974. He also teaches courses in professional communica- tions and has sponsored a number of student internships and independent studies for students at the University and with city and government groups.

Pugliano earned his BA degree at Duquesne University and both his MA and PhD degrees at Pitt. He has received the Dean Markman Prize for Excellence in Teaching, the Educational Foundation’s Advisor and the Eastern Partner Award.

The Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize for excellence in advising is given annually to a full-time faculty member who has served as a departmental adviser for at least three years on the Pitts- burgh campus. The award was established in 1997 through a contribution from the Ampco- Pittsburgh Corp.

Adam Shear, assistant profes- sor in the Department of Religious Studies, has won the 2008 Nahum M. Sarna Memorial Award in Scholarly Work. a national award given by the Jewish Book Council, for “The Kuzari and the Shaping of Jewish Identity, 1167–1900.”

“The book is believed to be the first comprehensive exploration of this major medieval work in the English language of any work of medieval Jewish literature.”

The Jewish Book Council is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of Jewish-interest literature. It serves as a catalyst for the writing, publication, distribution, reading and public awareness of books that reflect the variety of the Jewish experience.

The Pediatric Environmental Medicine Center at Children’s Hospital has recruited Fernando Holguin, a nationally renowned asthma researcher, to lead efforts to identify how environmental risk factors impact asthma in this region and to develop new education, prevention and treat- ment strategies.

Holguin will serve as the clinical director of the Pediatric Environmental Medicine Center. The center is funded through a five-year, $5 million grant to Children’s Hospital from The Heart and Lung Association.

Holguin and his team will identify communities in the region and begin studying environmental risk factors that may impact asthma.

They will utilize Children’s Ronald McDonald Care Mobile to conduct these studies. The communities to be studied cur- rently are being identified. Patient recruitment is expected to begin later this year.

“Environmental risk factors that may affect asthma include everything from depression and family stress to smoke and air pollution exposure. We plan to study areas where asthma rates are higher than normal and/or the people are suspected risk factors such as the poor,” said Holguin.

“Once we better identify which of these environmental risk fac- tors are most prevalent, we can then determine how the stressors are related to the severity and control of children’s asthma. Thus we can begin to develop education, prevention and treatment strate- gies that can be sustained in these communities.”

In addition to his new role at Children’s Hospital, Holguin will serve as an assistant profes- sor of medicine and pediatrics in the School of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. He will also be a member of the American Thoracic Society’s Asthma Education, Training and Accreditation Program Committee.

The asthma burden in Penn- sylvania is especially acute in chil- dren and other special popula- tions, such as African Americans, females, people with low income and those with limited educa- tion.

In the Pittsburgh region, asthma is diagnosed at about the same rate as the national aver- age. However, the quality of emergency services by children with asthma in Greater Pittsburgh is 300–400 above the national average, and asthma hospitalization rates for children are two to three times the national average recommended by recent studies.

David A. Anderson, clinical assistant professor in the Depart- ment of Prosthodontics, has been appointed director of diversity initiatives for the School of Dental Medicine.

Anderson received his Doctor of Dental Surgery and Master of Dental Science degrees from Howard University and Pitt, respectively. He also holds certifi- cates for general dental practice and prosthodontics residencies from the Veterans Administra- tion.

In addition to maintaining a private practice in Pittsburgh for 25 years, Anderson has held faculty appointments in departments of oral and maxillofacial surgery in area hospitals.

Anderson has led regional com- mittees of the American Dental Association, American College of Prosthodontists and Chi Delta Mu — an affiliate organization of the National Medical Association and the Pennsylvania dental political action committee.

Jeff Gleim was named asso- ciate vice chancellor for alumni relations and executive director of the Pitt Alumni Association (PAA), effective Jan. 1.

Gleim, who has served as Pitt’s interim associate vice chancellor for alumni relations and executive director of the Pitt Alumni Association, was appointed two years ago as the PAA’s associate executive director.

In his role as associate vice chancellor for alumni relations and executive director of the Pitt Alumni Association, Gleim will oversee the association’s com- munications, marketing, mem- bership, student involvement and outreach areas.

Gleim joined the University in 2007, Gleim was director of the Ohio State University Alumni Association’s advocates program.

There he was responsible for more than 200 alumni clubs and organizations worldwide. He was instrumental in developing a new strategic plan and generating new sources of revenue.

Valerie Watlzaz, associate professor in the Department of Health Information Manage- ment at the School of Health and Information Sciences, (SHRS), recently was elected director of the American Health Information Management Association’s board of directors.

AIHMA has more than 50,000 members and provides a net- work of health information manage- ment professionals dedicated to improving health care through high-quality information manage- ment.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14
Jeanne Elaine Zborowski

Jeanne Elaine Zborowski, a Pitt graduate, was a senior research specialist in the Department of Epidemiology at the School of Public Health (GSPH), where she worked from 2008, following nearly two years of treatment for cancer. She was 57.

A native of Monessen, Zborowski earned three degrees at Pitt—BS in biological technology (1973), an MS in hematology (1984) and a PhD in epidemiology (2000)—and was a great writer of business management (1989).

She started at the University in 1973 as a research professor and teaching fellow in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. In 1996, she was named a graduate researcher in the GSPH Department of Epidemiology, and in 2000 was appointed a senior research specialist.

Her early career included clinical laboratory work and teaching at Washington Hospital in Washington, Pa.

Colleague and friend Evelyn O. Talbott, professor of epidemiology at GSPH, said Zborowski was the “goodest person” he knew who was relied on by faculty and students alike. “Jeanne had a warm and friendly personality. She was selfless, that was perhaps her greatest strength. She would do anything for anyone. She was the first person you’d think of to call.

She never said no, she was just that kind of person,” Talbott said.

Also at SHRS, Anthony Delitto, professor and chair of the Department of Rehabilitation Science and Physical Medicine, has been named associate dean of research. Delitto also serves as vice president for education and research at the UPMC Comprehensive Spine Center.

Books by two Pitt professors were selected as Choice magazine outstanding academic books of 2008.

Winners were English professor Susan Harris Smith for “Plays in American Periodicals, 2008.” Smith received her PhD in English from the University of Pennsylvania and is a member of the Academy of American Theatre & Dramatic Arts. Her book, “The American Theatre: 1800-1918,” won Choice magazine’s Outstanding Academic Title award in 1998.

The CFA program sets a global standard for investment professionals, thus certifying them as committed to a stringent code of ethics, thus certifying them as committed to a stringent code of ethics.

The guidelines are expected to be accomplished to move stem cell therapies for patients.

The guidelines provide a roadmap for medical researchers and cell therapy providers who need to be accomplished to move stem cells from promising research to clinical treatments for patients.

The guidelines are expected to accelerate the translation of stem cell research to clinical treatments while addressing associated scientific, clinical, regulatory, ethical and social issues including the Black Action Society and the UPJ Alliance.

Typically, she will lead the efforts to assess progress in promoting equal opportunity, including minority groups.

Perry-Thompson earned an MBE in rehabilitation counseling and a PhD in pastoral studies, and is the project coordinator and a retired Pitt-Greensburg physics professor, other Pitt-Greensburg faculty in these subject areas and the ninth-grade science and math teachers.

The summer program will be an inquiry-based, hands-on, experiential learning experience where students will have the opportunity to learn on campus, engage in work with professional scientists and math teachers.

The program will be offered this summer to 15 students who have been selected by Pitt-Greensburg faculty.

UPG high school math/science program funded

Pitt-Greensburg has received a $10,000 grant from the McFerly-Rogers Foundation for a week-long summer science and mathematics program for rising sophomores in the Greater Latrobe School District.

The program will be offered this summer to 15 students who have been selected by the University's math and science professors.

Katz recognized as CFA institution

The Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business has been recognized as a CFA Program Participant in Business Ethics.

Such recognition signals to potential students, employers and faculty members that the Katz undergraduate program’s curriculum is tied closely to professional practice as well as well-suited in preparing students to sit for three levels of chartered financial analysts (CFA) examinations.

The CFA program sets a standard for developing the skills, knowledge and experience in the fields of investment professionals, thus certifying them as committed to a stringent code of ethics, thus certifying them as committed to a stringent code of ethics.

Ltt. governor to address Bradford grad


Scarnati, who recently was named acting chairman of the Senate as the representative from the 25th District, assumed the lieutenant governor's duties after the death of Lt. Gov. Catherine Baker Knoll Nov. 12.

Scarnati was elected to the Senate in 2000, for two years, as secretary of the labor committee, and also served as majority whip from July 2005 to February 2006.

Scarnati has served as an ex-officio member of Pitt-Behrend's advisory board since being elected to the Senate.

Pitt Confucius Institute honored

The Chinese Ministry of Education's Office of Chinese Language Council International (Hanban) named Pitt's Asian Studies Center's Confucius Institute (CI-Pitt) as one of 20 Confucius Institutes of the Year last month.

Established in 2007, CI-Pitt was the first Confucius Institute in Pennsylvania. Since then, CI-Pitt has experienced rapid growth — expanding from two to 10 Chinese language teachers, from three to 25 partner schools, from three to 69 Chinese classes and from 49 to about 1,200 students.

Confucius Institutes are a joint effort of 12 Chinese provinces, municipalities and commissions in China. The institutes promote the understanding of Chinese language and culture worldwide.

There are 295 Confucius Institutes worldwide.

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Friday 30
Dental Education Seminar
“Problem Solvers: With Adhesive Restorative Materials,” Howard Strasser, 2418 Salk, 8-10 am
Geneeral Internal Medicine Journal Club
“Global Health—Health System & the Rights to Health: An Assessment of 194 Countries,” Thuy Bui & David Barnard, 919W Montefiore, 10 am
Info Sciences Lecture
“Seeing Pye,” Rom Baraff & Tiffani Enig, 501 S, 10:30 am
CIDD Workshop
“Guidelines for Providing of Hospitals,” 815 Alumni, noon
Bradford Campus Photograph y Exhibition Talk & Opening
Ward Roe; Webl/Bradford Forest/Recreation Hall, Blaisd, UPB, noon
Faculty Development Lecture for Medical Educators
“Simulation as an Educational Tool,” Bill Mclvor, Scalare library rm, noon
UPMC Bariatrics Surgery Info Session
Magie zero level aud, 2-3:30 pm (also Feb. 4, 1:30 am-1 pm; 4-11064; 1-11079)
Women’s Basketball Vs. Marquette; Petersen, 7 pm
Men’s Basketball Vs. Notre Dame; Petersen, 7 pm

Saturday 31
Dental Education Seminar
“Conscious Sedation & Medical Emergency Review,” Paul Moore, Joseph Giovannetti, Michael Casidy & Sean Byrnes, 2418 Salk, 8:30 am-11:30 pm
Men’s Basketball
Vs. Notre Dame, Petersen, 7 pm

Tuesday 3
HSLS Workshop
“The WOW Factor: Power Point for Presenters,” Fak Library classroom. 2, 10-11:30 am

ULS Workshop
“Basic RetWorks”, Hillman Library ground fl., noon-1:30 pm
Senate Community Relations Committee Mtg.
272 Hillman, noon-2 pm
CVR Seminar
“Immunity induced by the Smallpox Vaccine: Understanding how Vaccines Work,” Shaine Crofty, 6014 BSTJ, noon
Pharmaceutical Sciences Seminar
“Toward SMART Stem Cells,” Tao Cheng, 456 Salk, noon
Institutional Review Board Workshop
“Ash the IRB,” Richard Guido, S106A Starl BST, noon
Women’s Basketball Hoopla Game
Reception, Campbell View Club, Petersen, 5:15 pm; game vs. Notre Dame, 7 pm (4-6623)

Monday 2
HSLS Lunch With a Librarian
“Their test beyond the Laboratory: Finding Testing Instruments Used in Research & Clinical Settings,” Eter Saghafi, Fak Library, noon
Men’s Basketball
Vs. Robert Morris, Petersen, 7 pm

Tuesday 3
HSLS Workshop
“Terabyte Power: Power Point for Presenters,” Fak Library classroom. 2, 10-11:30 am

U.S. showing styles, patterns, yarns, exotic basket weaving. Exhibitors from across the country.

CHET FESTIVAL
5TH ANNUAL PGH. KNIT & CROCHET FESTIVAL
For events during that period for more information:
www.crochet.com

February

Wednesday 4
Pathology Research Seminar
“Molecular Regulation of Gastric Tumoral Development,” Resharya Shivaswamy, Dana Farber Cancer Inst., 1104 Scaife, noon
HSLS Workshop

Thursday 5
HSLS Workshop
“Adobe Photoshop for Beginners,” Sam Lewis, Fak Library, classroom 2, 10 am
CIDD Workshop
“Promoting Civility in the Classroom”, 815 Alumni, noon-1:30 pm
EOH Seminar
“Green Screen: Exporting Automated High Throughput & High Content Screening for Environmental & Occupational Health Targets,” John Liao, S90 Bridgeside Point, noon
Asia Over Lunch Lecture

Friday 3
Bioethics & Health Law Grand Rounds
Geology & Planetary Science Colloquium
“Landslides in the Appalachian & Other Regions of the World,” Didier Crust, Geol & Associates, 11 Wth, 4:00 pm

Johnston Inst. for Responsible Leadership Seminar
“Civil Society in the Age of Obama,” Jon van Til, Rutgers, 4110 Poular, 4-5:00 pm (8-1366
Tischville Campus Concert
Steel Impressions Band; Henni aud., UPT, 7:30 pm

PhD Defenses
GSPIA/Environmental & Occupational Health
“Transcriptional Regulation of Env-G2 by Ixodes Genus Family Proteins,” Wenjie He, Jan. 26, Bridgeside Point 5th fl. conf., 9 am
GSPIA
“Fiscal Constitution and the Geographic Distribution of Economic Development: An Exploration of the Cases of Colombia, Canada & Spain,” Jorge Armando Rodriguez; Jan. 26, 16080 Poular, 9:30 am
Engineering/Bioengineering
“Profiles in Capillary Morphogenesis of Vascular Endothelial Cells,” Zhong Ding; Jan. 27, 2nd Fl. Sev. Cor. for Bioengineering, 10 Technology Dr., 10 am
Engineering/Electrical & Computer Engineering
“Spatial Filtering of Magnetoencephalographic Data in Spherical Hemispheres Domain,” Tolga Oruklu; Jan. 29, Parkinson mng, 2 pm

Theatre
Kuntu Repertory Theatre
“Clean Drums”; through Feb. 7; Rancho Titanus, 8 am. at 4 pm. & 7 pm.

Friday 31
CELEBRITY CONVERSATIONS
The next issue of the University Times Calendar will include events for Feb. 5-19. Information for events during that period must be received by 5pm Jan. 29 at 308 Bellefield Hall. Information may be sent by fax to 4-3579 or email to utca@pitt.edu.

Deadline

Innovation in Education Awards Program
Proposals due Jan. 30. (info: 4-5750)


Faculty Development in Info Technology Business Trip Applications for “European Economies in Transition” due Feb. 2. (info: www.ucis.pitt.edu/cgi-bin/events/ucistransfer.pdf)

• $8 for up to 15 words; $9 for 16-30 words; $10 for 16-30 words.
• For University ads, submit at account number for transfer of funds.
• Other ads should be accompanied by a check for the full amount due payable to the University of Pittsburgh.
• Reserve space by submitting ad copy one week prior to publication. Copy and payment should be e-mailed to University Times, 106 Bellefield Hall, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh 15260.
• For more information, call Barbara DelRaso, 412/624-6464.

5TH ANNUAL PGL KNIT & CROCHET FESTIVAL
Feb. 10. 8:30 am to 4 pm. at 3200 Forbes Ave. Beverly Hills Shopping Center. (4-5286)

For University ads, submit at account number for transfer of funds.

SERVICES
ELDER LAW—ESTATE ATTORNEYS

EVENTS
FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2009
YOUNG ADULTS
Pitt researchers seek volunteers 24-35 yrs to investigate effects of a continuous administration of Human Papillomavirus-related Prostate (HPV16-16). Requires wearing a portable IV pump & staying overnight for 1 week for observation & laboratory testing. Limited seats available. Contact Dr. DelRaso at delraso@pitt.edu.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1
Housing/rent
OAKLAND 2-BR apt. with equipped kitchen, bath. All utilities included. $400. 412-824-8066.

Housing/sale
FOX CHASE
2BR, 1 1/2 bth on 0.5 acre, 2 1/2 baths, finished & finished basement, covered porches, beautiful big garden, separate 2-car garage with driveway, 4 storage rooms & much more. New appliances included; range, fridge, D/W, W/D & more. Must see! $325K. Contact Dr. DelRaso 704-947-5167 or 412-387-1413.

Nontraditional Part-Time Student Study Abroad Scholarship Applications due Feb. 2 (info: 4-1834)

Provost’s Faculty Diversity Seminar
Application package including CV, syllabus, cover letter & department letter due Feb. 20 to Joanna Nieves, Provost. (info: 412/381-9729)

University Research Council Mult idisciplinary Small Grant Program
White papers must be submitted to the Office of the Provost no later than Feb. 27 (info: George Klimczyn at klimgsz@prouost.pitt.edu or Charles Lyon at lyan@pitt.edu)

Calendar
CALENDAR

January

Thursday 22
CIDDIE Workshop
“Developing a Course”, 815 Alumni, 11 am-1 pm
CRSP Lecture
“Measuring Race & Ethnicity in a Changing, Multicultural America,” Howard Hogan, US Census Bureau, 2017 CL, noon-1:30 pm (4-7182)
Epidemiology Seminar
“Long-Term Effects of Prenatal Cocaine Exposure,” Gail Richardson & Marie Cornelius; A115
EOH Seminar
“Exposure Science in the 21st Century & Its Linkage to Public Health,” Howard Hogan, US Census Bureau, 2:30 pm (4-7182)
Chemistry Lecture
“Small Molecule Control of Bacterial Behavior,” Christian Melander, NC State, 12B Chevron, 2:30 pm
Chemistry Lecture
“Dynamic Nuclear Polarization Enhanced Magnetic Resonance Analysis to Study Local Water Dynamics in Molecular Assemblies & Protein Aggregates,” Song-Han, UC-Santa Barbara, 12B Chevron, 4 pm
Geology & Planetary Science Colloquium
“An Overview of Petroleum Geology With an Emphasis on Natural Gas in Paleozoic Shale of the Northeastern United States,” Gregory Wrightstone, Texas Keystone, 11 Tahoe, 4 pm
Global Studies Lecture
“The Answer Is ‘Meth’in the Wind: Shifts in the Production & Distribution of War Photography Through 150 Years of Armed Conflict,” Jennifer Sullivan, English; 111 Barco, 6 pm (4-2918)
GSPIA Ridgway Lecture
Bradford Campus Comedy Show
“The Improvers; Mikiyauana U Rim, Framie-Westerberg Commons, UPB, 8-10 pm (814/362-5154)
Friday 23
SBDC Workshop
“The 2nd Step: Developing a Business Plan”; 117 Mervis, 7:30-10 am (6-1542)
General Internal Medicine Journal Club

Saturday 24
Survival Skills & Ethics Workshop
“Writing Research Articles”, Scife aud. 2, 10 am-3 pm
Greensburg Campus Music Concert
Al Music Pittsburgh; Campana Chapel, UPG, 7 pm
Bradford Campus Concert
D’Vine; Bromeley Family Theater, Blaisdell, UPG, 7:30 pm (tickets: 814/362-5111)

Monday 26
Translational Neuroscience Seminar
“EEG & MRI Evidence of Progeria Gray Matter Reduction in Schizophrenia,” Dean Salisbury, 1695 Starzl BST, noon

Tuesday 27
Cell Biology & Physiology Seminar
“Assembly of the Mammalian Golgi Apparatus: Mechanism & Functional Consequences,” Adam Linsteadt; E&EI 5th fl. boardrm., 11 am
Basic Research Seminar
“Division of Labor at Eukaryotic Replication Forks,” Thomas Kunkel; Cooper Conf.Ctr. clrm., 8 R & C, noon
Philosophy of Science Talk
“Epistemic Landscape Models of Cognitive Labor,” Michael Weisberg, Penn, 817R CL, 12:05 pm
Faculty Assembly Mtg.
2700 Poister, 1 pm
ReSET Roundtable Discussion
“Discrimination & Back Again: Developing a Research Methodology From Outcomes of a Community Prenatal Smoking Cessation Program,” Patricia Cluss, psychiatry; 109 Parran, 1:30 pm
Pharmacology & Chemical Biology Seminar
“Preconditioning Mitochondria With Nitric Oxide,” Paul Brooks, Of Rochester Medical Center, 1199 Starzl BST, 1:30 pm
GSPIA Philanthropy Forum
“Generosity: What’s at Stake?” Richard Gandelman, IN U; 410 Posvar, 2:30-5 pm (4-1166)
Asian Studies/Global Studies Lecture
“The Aftermath of the Tsunami 2004, Relief & Recovery Efforts in Indonesia,” Elyahht Martini, UCSD, Sutherland Hall lounge, 8 pm (4-29-1)

Wednesday 28
Orthopaedic Surgery Grand Rounds
“Orthopaedic Surgery,” Tharun Karthikeyan, LHAS aud., 7th fl. Montefiore, 7 am
Clinical Oncology & Hematology Grand Rounds

Thursday 29
Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds
HLS Workshop
“Advanced PowerPoint for Presentations,” Sam Lewis; Falk Library clrm., 2, 10 am-noon
Pgh. Supercomputing Ctr.
Open House
100 S. Craig St., 10 am-4 pm (412/268-4960)
Asia Over Lunch Lecture
“Marriage Policy & Consumption in India: A Historical Perspective,” Siddarth Chandra, GSPIA; 4130 Poccar, noon-8 pm
EOH Seminar
“Genomic Instability in Chromosome Cancers,” Anatoly Zhivotikov, Brown; 540 Bridgecliff Point, noon
Film Studies Lecture
“Women & Cosmopolitanism (Marlene Dietrich, Anna May Wong, & Loni Riefenstuhl),” Patrice Petro, Of SW-I-Milwau- kee; 501 CL, 1 pm
Epidemiology Seminar
HLS Workshop
“EndNote Basics,” Iakob Sales, Falk Library clrm., 2, 1:30-3:30 pm
Chemistry Lecture
“Oxynancic 5-exo Cyclization/Clausen Rearrangement Reactions: Applications to the Synthesis of Cycloheptanoid Natural Products,” Timo Ovaska, UofC, 12B Chevron, 2:30 pm
Chemistry Lecture
“Molecular Modeling of Ligand-Protein Interactions in Membrane Proteins,” Maria Kurnikova, CMU; 12A Chevron, 4 pm
Geology & Planetary Science Colloquium
“Basaltic Lavaes Emplaced Beneath Ice: Emplacement Mechanism & Their Use as Paleo-ice Indicators,” Jefferson Hungerford, 11 Tahoe, 4 pm

Time is running out for University Times Books Journals & More submissions
Deadline Jan. 31

The University Times is compiling its annual listing of books, journals and creative efforts in other media. Please furnish us with information on peer-reviewed books, journals, CDs, electronic publications, art exhibitions, films, plays or musical compositions you wrote, edited or produced.

• 2008 COPYRIGHT ONLY
• No individual articles
• No self-published works

Questions?
Contact: 412/624-4644 or delraso@pitt.edu
Fast and easy online form is available at:
www.umn.pitt.edu/utimes/books.html

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