3 faculty win top Pitt public service award

Winners of 2009 Chancellor’s Distinguished Public Service Awards, which honor faculty who have made outstanding contributions to the community, have been announced.

The winners are:

• John M. Burkoff, professor of law.
• Toi Derricotte, professor of English.
• Paul Douglas Newman, professor of history at the Johnstown campus.

Each faculty public service honoree will receive a $2,000 cash prize. In addition, honorees will receive a $3,000 grant to support his or her teaching. The winners will be recognized Feb. 27 at Pitt’s 33rd annual honors convolution, along with winners of the chancellor’s annual faculty teaching and research awards, which had not been announced as the University Times went to press.

Winners’ names also will be inscribed on plaques displayed in the William Pitt Union.

A selection committee, chaired by Andrew Blair, vice provost for Faculty Affairs, recommended the winners after reviewing supporting materials.

Chancellor proposes no FY10 hike for Pitt

A 6 percent cut in state support would continue next fiscal year under Gov. Edward G. Rendell’s proposal for no increase in the appropriation for Pitt and its fellow state-related universities in fiscal year 2010.

In addition, the governor has proposed the elimination of funding for the eight Pennsylvania Governor’s Schools of Excellence, which include two programs housed at Pitt.

The governor’s proposal to hold the line on Pitt’s appropriation incorporates the nearly $10.25 million that is to be cut from the current appropriation as declining revenues put pressure on the state’s budget. Rendell announced a 4.25 percent reduction in support for Pitt in October. Then, in December increased the amount to 6 percent. The funding is to be withheld from Pitt’s final FY09 appropriation payment only if the state’s budget situation fails to improve.

But with the state facing an estimated budget deficit of up to $2.3 billion and declines in projected revenues expected to continue, the 6 percent cut seems a certainty.

Rendell, in his Feb. 4 budget message, proposed a $160.5 million appropriation for Pitt — 6 percent less than the $170.73 million legislators approved last July. Pitt’s current overall budget is $1.71 billion.

Rather than identify line item appropriations for Pitt’s education and general budget, student life initiatives, recruitment of the disadvantaged, rural education outreach and the WPPC Services for Teens at Risk program as typical, the appropriation simply is labeled “general support.” Under the governor’s plan, Penn State would receive $138.1 million; Temple would get $165 million and Lincoln $13.6 million in FY10.

The proposed budget would reduce Pitt’s appropriation to less than its FY06 appropriation of nearly $164.5 million. Similarly, next year’s funding for the School of Medicine, Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, Pitt’s dental clinic and the Center for Public Health Practice, which comes through the Department of Public Welfare, would be reduced.

In addition, the governor has proposed that Pitt’s $7 million allocation for outreach and the WPIC Services for Teens at Risk program be reduced to $5.5 million.

A University Senate committee wants Pitt to address some ADA concerns. 

Sunday’s Super Bowl celebration was less than super in Oakland......
Pitt showed a better-than-average growth in the market value of its endowment last year compared to other schools surveyed in the annual National Association of University and College Business Officers (NACUBO) Endowment Study, but the university was also ranked among the worst.

The 791 colleges and universities in the survey averaged growth of 0.5 percent in their endowment values for fiscal year 2008. Pitt's FY08 consolidated balance sheet, which was included in the University Times for the past two years, shows that Pitt's endowment value grew 3.5 percent, resulting from $2.21 billion to $2.34 billion, according to NACUBO, the best-performing endowment in the 1990s and the first time since FY08 Pitt's endowment increased by more than 2 percent year-over-year.

Assembly members approved the resolution unanimously. As the University Times went to press, Munro was expected to introduce the resolution to the Senate Council, which met at 3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 4.

• Baker reported that the Senate's executive committee convened a working group, chaired by Senate vice president Susan Hansen, to work with the Center for Management of National Health Insurance, re-wording of Pitt's Sexual Harassment Policy (Policy 07-06-04).

The group is expected to take a few weeks to finish its work and complete the final report to the Senate Council. The group should then be ready to present its report to the Senate Council for presentation and discussion.

• Baker reported that the faculty senate at the Bradford, Greensburg and Johnstown campuses have approved revisions to the meeting dates and times for creating more flexibility and consistency for faculty meetings.
After a career in both the public and private sectors, Bill Ford began his association with the University as a student in the School of Social Work. He earned both a master’s degree and a certificate in gerontology in 1991 and was awarded a doctoral degree in social work in 2006. In 1996, she joined the Pitt staff as assistant executive director of the Center for Minority Health (CMH).

Nordenberg stated, “The commitment to service, along with the number of public health initiatives and agencies you support, is what makes your dedication to your profession stand out.” He acknowledged the countless number of letters you received as an outpouring of support and support to the magnitude of the extra time you spent on behalf of Pitt and Pittsburgh, the many ways you volunteer to help others, and your willingness to undertake and create new initiatives.”

Among those initiatives, in 2004 Nordenberg established a women’s leadership conference, “Women Building Community and Dreams,” which was attended by more than 70 Pitt-Brookdale faculty, staff and students, as well as students from four area high schools.

The selection committee noted that Baldwin was nominated for both chancellor’s staff awards. According to the committee, Baldwin “stood out from other nominees for several reasons: the time he puts in, the many ways he helps others, and his ability to create and create new initiatives.”

Among those initiatives, in 2006 Baldwin established a women’s leadership conference, “Women Building Community and Dreams,” which was attended by more than 70 Pitt-Brookdale faculty, staff and students, as well as students from four area high schools.

The committee noted that Baldwin’s nomination was “a tribute to his dedication to Pitt and Brookdale.”

Milwaukee told the University that Baldwin “is an integral part of our office and honored to be recognized. I understand that this award has no financial benefit and no special dates, so it really is an honor to be selected.”

Baldwin plans to take his family on a vacation this summer with the prize money. “I really want to do something nice for my family. I don’t spend enough time with them,” he said.

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Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg has committed "to deal swiftly with any Pitt student who violated laws or violated the Student Code of Conduct following last Sunday's Super Bowl party."

After the Steelers' victory, hundreds of revelers took to the streets of Pittsburgh; a number of them caused damage in Oakland that included cars, overturned vehicles, a ransacked bus shelter and broken windows.

In a sharply worded Feb. 3 campus update, Nordenberg promised Pitt's cooperation with law enforcement officials in investigating and prosecuting those charged with crimes and said judicial procedure charges would be filed against Pitt students who violated the student conduct code, regardless of whether they face criminal charges.

"Our judicial procedures provide for the fair and expeditions disposition of Student Code of Conduct charges, with available sanctions and, if warranted, criminal charges," Nordenberg wrote. "In addition, the Student Conduct Board is empowered to impose any Pitt student who violates the Student Code of Conduct a process of public celebration the disturbance was Pitt-related. It was not tolerated in the future. The unfortunate part is this has occurred just at a time when we had achieved an incredible relationship with the community. I do appreciate that the student leadership has been very responsive and appalled by these actions.

Burkoff came to Pitt in 1976. He has published four volumes of poetry and garnered numerous awards for her 2001 poetry collection, "a Distinguished Service Professor" in 1976. He has published four volumes of poetry and garnered numerous awards for his first book, "Teaching Poetry," in 1987.

The selection committee also cited Burkoff's recent contributions to scholarship, including three volumes of poetry and a video-documentary, "Remembrance," which she directed.

"I think that I've done some things that I would be proud of, but I'm happy that I can help in the community."

Nordenberg wrote that the football victory was "celebrating peacefully. "But for some within the group, this was a process of public celebration through acts that put others at risk of physical harm, that included arson, criminal mischief, public disorder, public drunkenness, drug possession and assault.

"Mowing forward, we intend [to] rebuild relationships with our neighbors and work with student leaders to ensure that this type of disturbance is not repeated on any of our campuses ever again," Nordenberg wrote.

The University Senate community relations committee (CRC) discussed the recent vandalism and its effects at a meeting Wednesday. Charges included public disorder, arson, criminal mischief, public drunkenness, drug possession and assault.

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University competes to increase recycling

A n expanded emphasis on recycling in Pitt’s residence halls has brought Recyclingmania to campus.

Pitt is among some 500 schools participating in the College and University Recycling Council’s nationwide campus recycling challenge. The 10-week competition concludes March 24.

Pitt is among 169 institutions that have registered for the less formal benchmark division, in which recycling collections are measured but not reported in the competition rankings. Recyclingmania can be viewed at www.recyclemania.org.

“We wanted to start off smaller and get our feet wet,” said Laura W. Zullo, Facilities Management’s senior manager of capital and special projects, who is working with student leaders on the first-time initiative at Pitt.

Organizers have set a goal of collecting 15 pounds of recyclables per resident student during the competition.

Zullo said Facilities Management hopes to expand the program next year, possibly to include employee areas in addition to the residences.

Based on 2008 results from campuses including Carnegie Mellon, Ohio State, Connecticut, Temple and Villanova, as well as the 17-pound-per-student average from RecycleMania’s whole campus division competition, Zullo said the goal is reasonable and attainable.

Overall recycling collections on the Pittsburgh campus rose from 15 percent of the University’s waste in fiscal year 2002 to 39.5 percent in FY08, according to Facilities Management statistics that cover both housing and non-residential areas of the campus.

The University receives credits for recyclables from its waste hauler and, in spite of recent low market prices for such materials, still is receiving credits, Zullo said.

With the expanded recycling competition, “We hope to see additional credits,” she said.

In conjunction with Housing and Residence Life, Facilities Management is coordinating collections and weigh-ins of recyclable glass, plastic, metal, paper and cardboard from the residence halls.

“What’s it’s we’re already doing, but we’re just putting a little more emphasis on it,” Zullo said.

“The main goal is to get students more involved and engaged in recycling. We thought this would be a fun way to do this.”

According to Pitt’s residential student handbook, paper recycling areas are available in residence hall lobbies and containers for glass, aluminum and plastic are located in the trash room on each floor.

Zullo said Facilities Management provided an additional 250 cardboard containers for housing staff to place in strategic locations throughout the residences. The main purpose is awareness, Zullo said: “Think twice before you throw something away.”

Student organization Free the Planet has been instrumental in promoting the competition, Zullo said. Advertising for RecycleMania is running on the Sodexo screens in Market Central and Sutherland Hall, students have set up information tables in the Towers Lobby and Housing and Residence Life sent emails to resident students.

“We counted on the students for promoting it and they’ve done a great job,” Zullo said. “They responded and they are excited.”

Whether or not the 15 pounds-per-student goal is reached, Zullo said, “If we can get the students to think twice before throwing recyclable materials into the trash, I think we’ll have met our goal.”

—Kimberly K. Barlow

Katz alum to address honors convocation

Raymond W. Smith, an alumnus of the Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business (KGSB) and a former Pitt trustee, will be the keynote speaker at Pitt’s honors convocation, to be held at 3 p.m. Feb. 27 in Carnegie Music Hall.

His address is titled “Hensenberg’s Certainty Principle.”

In 2003 Smith was named a Pitt Legacy Laureate. Previously, he received the University’s Bicentennial Medal of Distinction.

Smith will receive an honorary doctorate during the convocation, which recognizes undergraduate, graduate and professional student academic achievement; student leadership, and faculty and staff accomplishments.

Smith, a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, began his career at Bell of Pennsylvania. He held various positions in the company, including president and CEO. When the company merged to become Bell Atlantic, he was named vice chair and CEO. When the company merged to become Bell Atlantic, he was named vice chair and CEO.

In 1999, Smith became chair of Verizon Ventures. He also founded Arlington Capital Partners and became the chairman of Rothschild, Inc., the oldest international investment banking firm in the world.

Smith is the first recipient of the Mickey Leland Award for Diversity in Telecommunications from the National Association of Black Telecommunications Professionals. The NAACP honored him for his continuing service to equal opportunity, and Harvard Business Review recognized him as a pioneer in the transformation of corporate culture.

Smith also was named CEO of the Year by CNBC, Top Manager of the Year by Business Week and Outstanding Corporate Leader and CEO of the Year by Financial World.

In addition to his Pitt MBA, Smith received BS degrees in industrial engineering and electrical engineering, both from Carnegie Mellon (then Carnegie Institute of Technology).
Join the Club.

Introducing the Newest Tradition on Campus

The University Club offers you a sanctuary from the energy and activity of Pitt and the surrounding Oakland establishments. Here, you’ll enjoy fine dining, a state-of-the-art fitness center, a tranquil rooftop terrace, and the intellectual stimulation of a library and reading room as well as a lounge where you can enjoy a drink, entertain guests, or just relax with your colleagues.

Now owned by Pitt, the University Club is newly restored and available exclusively to faculty, staff, and their guests. Enjoy top-of-the-line menu selections in a serene atmosphere. Discover a new favorite haunt where you can get away from the bustle of Oakland while remaining within walking distance of your office.

As a member of the University Club, you’ll enjoy:

* Access to the finest dining in Oakland
* Access to the College Room lounge
* Special events tailored to faculty and staff, including live entertainment and holiday offerings
* Access to a rooftop terrace with a tranquil view of Oakland
* Access to our new upscale coffee and pastry shop, Brioche Doree
* A state-of-the-art fitness center with classes in aerobics, Pilates, yoga, and spinning

And much more.

Membership Options

Joining the University Club is easy and affordable. We offer a variety of membership options to suit your needs.

**Annual Membership**

Social membership: .................. $15/month
Fitness membership: ............... $40/month
Full membership: ................. $45/month

**Academic Term Membership**

Social membership: ...................... $80
Fitness membership: .................... $180
Full membership: ..................... $200

Academic term memberships are four-month memberships to be paid monthly via payroll deduction, or you may make an advanced payment (in full) via cash, check, or credit card.

**Introductory incentive:**

If you join by June 1, 2009, and then renew for the following year (July 1, 2009–June 30, 2010), you will receive four free lunches at our Fraternity Grill dining room. Incentive applies for annual memberships only.

To register your membership or inquire further about what the University Club has to offer, call 412-648-8213, e-mail uclub@pitt.edu, or visit www.uc.pitt.edu/facstaff.html.

We’ll see you at the Club!
The free blacks in New York and insured individuals and medical scientists, wanted to prove that freedom caused insanity. Even statisticians wanted to prove so small as to be meaningless, but it was still argued," he said.

The 1850-1920 period, when the United States population grew from 23 million to 106 million, featured major immigration and assimilation of immigrants. Immigration created a challenge for the Census Bureau because up until 1850, white essentially meant English, Dutch or German, not, for example, Irish or Italian. It added a differentiation among whites in the place-of-birth category to measure that other dimension, Hogan said.

The 1860 census is a very important one. The race categories are white, black, mulatto, non-taxed Indian and Chinese, Hogan noted. "It might be argued, I think with some persuasion, that the 1860 census is well regarded in our Civil War because a number of Southern states were losing population, and the Census Bureau needed representatives and that motivated some states to seek secession.

In 1870, the Census Bureau added racial categories were unchanged, except Japanese was added to the California list. But by 1870, for the first time, we had second-generation Japanese. Those who came in the 1840s and 1850s, their children were now native-born Americans, and asking of birth you could not separate them from anybody else," Hogan said.

So in 1870, the Census Bureau added one question: Was your father born somewhere else?

"That concept was expanded on the 1880 census to include the birthplace of the person, meaning the U.S. state or territory, as well as the place of birth of the father and of the mother.

The late-19th century also saw the rise of "race science theories," which included making claims based on "blood quantum." The 1890 census is my favoritest the pseudo-scientists of the 19th and 20th century, Hogan said. The race categories were white, black, mulatto, quadroon, octoorean, Indian, Chinese and Japanese.

Black meant more than three-quarters black; mulatto meant one half to three-quarters black; quadroon, one quarter to one half black; octoorean, less than one quarter black, he said.

"There was a separate question for American Indians, all of whom were taxed and not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons." (The definition later was amended by the 14th Amendment.)

"First, the emphasis is on race. They were then thinking economic, military and political power, not one person-one vote," Hogan maintained. "Secondly, although they're talking about race, it's white and everyone else.

By 1820, the census was separating blacks — categorized as colored — from other non-whites. A low point was the 1840 census, where there were a couple questions geared toward social statistics in those days, including: 'Are you insane?' In tabulating some technical errors, was their excuse."

He dubbed the period 1910-1960, when the U.S. population grew from 123 million to 179 million, as one of consolidation and assimilation from the Census Bureau's perspective.

"There was also a loosening of white ethnicity. What it meant to be Irish, for example, in 1960 is pretty different from what it meant in 1920," he said. "The 1930 census dropped mulatto, and we were categorizing people by the one drop rule to enforce segregation. Both black and mulatto persons were determined to be black without distinction.

The conception of color/race on the 1930 census included the categories white, Negro, Indian, Japanese, Chinese, Filipinos and Hindu, a lame attempt to differentiate between natives of India and Native Americans, Hogan said. By 1960, racial categories added Hawaiian, Alaskan, Eskimo, Aleut and my favorite, 'et cetera.'

The 1960 census also was the first to measure interracial unions, Hogan noted. Only 0.2 percent of the population said they were in an interracial union in 1960. That percentage had grown to 3.7 percent by 2000. That also was the year the Census Bureau added the option for individuals to declare themselves to be "more than one race." By 1970, political pressure to better measure the Hispanic population was growing. The Census Bureau sent out a sample form, which went to about 3 percent of the population, with questions on Spanish origin. "But one of the questions was: Are you Central American or South American? No, that was a South American thing? So there was a tremendous reaction in the U.S., to the South American population. We needed to work on that." In 1976, Congress mandated that Hispanic data be included in all federal surveys, including the census.

In 1997, the Office of Management and Budget issued a Standard for Data Collection that established minimum standards for survey questions on race and ethnicity: "The standards have five categories for data on race: American Indian or Alaska native, Asian, black or African American, native Hawaiian, Puerto Rican, white. There are two categories for data on ethnicity: 'Hispanic or Latino,' and 'Not Hispanic or Latino.'

The 2000 and 2010 censuses are built around that directive, "although we obviously are still learning. It makes it difficult when, for example, Latino means one thing in Los Angeles, [typically] Mexican American or Chicano, but a different thing in mid-town Manhattan, [typically] Puerto Rican," Hogan said.

He said that of the 10 questions on the forthcoming 2010 census, one only is on ethnic origin and one is on race, although there are many options for answers.

The first of the two questions is: "Is this person Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin?" The census specifies that Hispanic origins are not races, Hogan said.

The choices offered are: No, not Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin; Yes, Mexican, American, Chicano, Yes, Puerto Rican, Yes, Cuban, or Yes, another Hispanic or Latino, Spanish origin.

The second question is: "What is this person's race? Mark one or more boxes."

Possible answers are: white, black, African American or Negro, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian Indian, Chinese; Filipinos, Japanese, Korean, Viet- namese; other Asian, native Hawaiian, Guamanian or Cham-orro, Samoan, other Pacific Islander.

The data are used for civil rights monitoring issues. If a person checks white plus one minority, he or she is counted as the minority for the purposes of civil rights issues only. If a person checks two minority races, and if civil rights complaints are in either one of these, the person is counted in the complaint category.

"So we now have a tremendous concentration on measuring race and ethnicity. But there are challenges to measuring the multi-cultural society that we've become." Hogan said we say words, many people think of Europe, not Turkey or Afghan- stan or the Middle East. Hogan said that of the people who say, I'm not Hispanic, I'm Mexican, someone should ask them that tells you? That they don't think of themselves as part of a global Hispanic population. The point is that race and ethnicity are fluid concepts that reflect social, political and demographic environments.

—Peter Hart

Howard Hogan
Mary Jane Hogan

Census Bureau tracks changing face of U.S.
Teenagers who watch the most TV are more likely to show signs of depressive symptoms in young adulthood, according to a School of Medicine study in the February edition of Archives of General Psychiatry.

The study also found that boys reporting the most exposure to television were at greater risk for developing depressive symptoms than their female counterparts.

The study’s lead author, Brian A. Primack, faculty member in medicine and pediatrics, said: “Each extra daily hour of television use in adolescence was associated with an 8 percent increase in the odds of developing depressive symptoms by young adulthood.”

Primack and his team analyzed study data from 4,142 adolescents who reported their exposure to various media and their baseline symptoms by young adulthood.

The authors note that the study was limited in that it relied on self-reporting of media exposure and depressive symptoms. They also note that they were unable to assess what specific types of television programs participants watched, an important direction for future work.

Pitt co-authors of the study are Graduate School of Public Health students Brandi Swanner, Stephanie R. Land, biostatisticians, and Michael J. Fine, Department of Medicine.

Primack’s research is supported by the National Institutes of Health, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Maurice Falk Foundation.

**Hepatitis consortium funded**

The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases has awarded a seven-year, $11 million grant to the Graduate School of Public Health to coordinate the Hepatitis B Clinical Research Network — a consortium of 13 clinical research centers in the U.S. and Canada that will conduct translational research on hepatitis B.

The network will include a multi-site treatment trial, create and maintain a large database of study results and store tissue and serum samples to facilitate clinical and basic research on the liver disease.

**Steven Belle**, principal investigator of the data coordinating center and professor of epidemiology at GSPIH, said: “Media exposures have been linked to many treatments for chronic hepatitis B infection and most patients who use them. However, these treatments do not cure the infection, but contain it by making it more difficult for the virus to reproduce.”

Many patients need to stay on therapy for a long time, he noted. When treatment is prolonged, the virus can become resistant, making future treatment more difficult.

“We don’t know why treatment works better for some patients than others, and we can’t accurately predict who may go on to develop liver abnormalities,” Belle said. “But with the many disciplinary expertise within the network, we hope to learn more about the immune changes that occur with hepatitis B infection and make improvements to finding a lasting cure.”

Co-investigators on the grant include Abbas Wahid, biostatistician; Michael Nalesnik, pathologist; Obaid Shaikh, medicine, and Robert Squires Jr., pediatrician.

The network also includes Harvard, Johns Hopkins, the Mayo Clinic, Saint Louis University, UCL, University of California-San Francisco, University of Michigan, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Penn, University of Texas Southwestern, University of Toronto, University of Washington, Virginia Commonwealth University, the Centers for Disease Control Prevention and the National Institutes of Health.

**Happy marriage can equal quality zzzz**

School of Medicine researchers have found that a happy marriage can lead to a better night’s sleep for women.

Their study examined the association between marital happiness and sleep disturbances in multiple ethnic groups of married or partnered women. Researchers found that Caucasian and African American women had more sleep complaints than Japanese, Hispanic and Chinese women. Caucasian and Japanese women also reported the highest marital happiness.

The study also found that women who believe they have happy marriages reported less difficulty falling asleep, less likelihood of waking up during the night or too early in the morning and less restless sleep compared to women who report less happiness in their marriage. The findings are reported in the current issue of Behavioral Sleep Medicine.

Wendy Troxel, lead author and professor of psychiatry, said: “Women consistently report more sleep problems than men, but most research has focused on how husbands’ sleep problems, such as snoring and apnea, can affect their wives’ sleep quality. These findings, however, provide an understanding of how being a happy and fulfilling marriage can affect women and their sleep habits.”

In assessing the effects of marital happiness on sleep, the researchers studied a number of other factors that might contribute to sleeplessness, such as a woman’s social support network, depressive symptoms, economic hardship and employment status, relationship satisfaction, family consumption, presence of children in the home, sexual activity, age and hormonal status.

“We found that even after taking into account all of these factors that are known to affect marital happiness emerged as an independent risk factor for sleep disturbances.”

“General social support was not as strong as marital happiness, and the likelihood that there may be something specific about happiness in one’s marriage that is connected to good sleep.”

Co-author of the study include Daniel J. Buysse, Morriica Hall and Karen A. Matthews, all of psychiatry.

**Water power propels mini boat**

Inspired by the aquatic wriggling of beetle larvae, a Pitt research team has designed a propulsion system that strips away paddles, sails and motors, and harnesses the energy within the water’s surface.

The technique destabilizes the surface tension surrounding the object with an electric pulse and causes the craft to move via the surface’s natural pull. The findings were presented Jan. 26 at the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers’ micro electro mechanical systems conference.

The Pitt system has no moving parts and the low-energy electrode that emits the pulse could be powered by batteries, radio waves or solar power. This method of propulsion would be an efficient and low-maintenance mechanism for small robots and boats that monitor water quality in oceans, reservoirs and other bodies of water, said Sung Kwon Cho, senior researcher and professor of mechanical engineering and materials science in the Swanson School of Engineering. These systems are typically propeller-driven.

Cho envisioned the system after reading about the way beetle larvae move on water. Like any floating object, larva resting in a container, surface tension will pull equally on both sides. To move forward, the larva bends its body back and forth, changing the direction of the force that is pulling on it. The forward tension then pulls the larva through the water.

Cho, with engineering doctoral students Sang Kug Chung and Kyungjo Bae, also from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at CMU, demonstrated the small boat that employs the system. The Pitt system could also be used to power the boot or help it move around.
an electric pulse for the larva's back muscle, while another electrode attached to a 2-centimeter “mini-boat” emitted a surge to change the rear surface tension and propelled the boat at roughly 4 millimeters per second. A second electrode attached to the boat’s front side served as the rudder.


Male, female brains fueled differently

Neurons from female rats and mice are better able to survive starvation compared with male brains because they consume fat rather than protein, said School of Medicine researcher Supriya Okada. The differences may be explained by the brain’s fat-storing ability, which is not only sex specific, but may also be related to body weight.

Study authors said the findings might be especially relevant to the evolving nature of the obesity epidemic, which is reaching epidemic proportions in both sexes, but may hit men before women.

“Within 24 hours, neurons from the males were dying off because they initiated a self-eating process called autophagy,” Clark said. “But neurons from the females mobilized fatty acids and used them to produce a fuel source, prolonging their survival.” Autophagy-induced cell death in brain cancer could result in permanent damage, he said. Other research has revealed brain cancer’s resistance to treatment, on scans of brain-injured and other critically ill patients, who likely were stressed and possibly inadequately nourished during long hospitalizations.

“[We] really need to take critical care nutrition to the next level,” he said. “We can show that undernutrition of the brain during times of illness could lead to worse neurological outcomes, so it may be important to feed men and women, and boys and girls, differently to prevent brain cell death.”

The research was supported by the National Institutes of Health’s National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

Anthrax vaccine fears abound

When anthrax was sent through the U.S. mail in 2001, an overwhelming majority of postal workers chose not to be inoculated because of confusion and distrust, according to a Graduate School of Public Health study.

“Although the FBI officially closed the case on the attacks this year, lingering supposition and uncertainty remain, say study authors, which could influence the public’s reactions to future emergencies.

According to the report, reactions from postal workers were shaped partially by fears of being experimental "guinea pigs," disinformation from public health agencies about whether the vaccine should be recommended, physician advice, low perceived risk of infection and conflicting reports from national professional groups.

The study was based on interviews and focus groups conducted with 65 postal workers in Trenton, N.J., New York and Washington, D.C., and published in the December 2008 issue of Biosecurity and Bioterrorism: Biodefense Strategy, Practice and Prevention.

A team led by critical care medicine professor Robert Clark, associate director of molecular biology at the Safar Center for Resuscitation Research and pediatric intensivist at Children’s Hospital, and critical care medicine department research associate Linda Du, deprived male and female rat and mouse neurons of nutrients for 72 hours to gauge the potential impact of starvation on the brain.

"We hypothesize that vaccine-induced "guinea pigs," disinformation from public health agencies about whether the vaccine should be recommended, physician advice, low perceived risk of infection and conflicting reports from national professional groups. The study was based on interviews and focus groups conducted with 65 postal workers in Trenton, N.J., New York and Washington, D.C., and published in the December 2008 issue of Biosecurity and Bioterrorism: Biodefense Strategy, Practice and Prevention.

Study author Sandra Quinn, associate dean for student affairs and an assistant professor at GSPI, said: "The reaction of postal workers demonstrates the essential need to build trust and educate the public before the uncertainty, confusion and fear in time periods of a bioterrorist or pandemic emergency create major barriers for clear communication. These concerns may be particularly relevant given that, in October 2008, the Department of Health and Human Services declared anthrax as a continuing bioterrorism threat through the end of 2015, she said.

During the 2001 anthrax attacks, which resulted in five deaths, 10,000 postal workers and others who were or who may have been exposed received a two-month dose of antibiotics. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention then recommended people who failed to complete the regimen or who were at high risk to receive a booster shot and were advised to take antibiotics for an additional 40 days with or without a supplemental anthrax vaccine. Only 11.5 percent of postal workers who took the additional 40-day course of antibiotics agreed to take the anthrax vaccine as a precautionary measure.

"Scientific knowledge about the effectiveness of the vaccine after exposure to anthrax was uncertain at the time, making it an almost impossible task to communicate precise and proper health information to postal workers and other affected groups, including Senate staff," said Quinn. "Given the evolving nature of the crisis, postal workers were unsure whose advice they should trust and as a result, many decided to do without the recommended vaccinations," she said.

Tommy Thomas and Supriya Kumar of GSPI were among the study’s co-authors.

The study was funded by the CDC’s cooperative agreement with the Association of Schools of Public Health.

Pediatric glioma research funded

Researchers from the Department of Neurological Surgery have been awarded $309,000 from the Brain Tumor Society for a clinical study of treatments for children with brain tumors.

Based on experience with immunotherapy for adult gliomas, the researchers propose to extend these insights to the treatment of childhood gliomas, given similarities between these tumors in their epidemiology, anatomy and biology.

Principal investigator Ian Polack and co-investigators Hideko Okada and Regina Jalalzai plan to use a GAA-based vaccine cocktail, combined with an immunoadjuvant, for children with progressive low-grade gliomas.

"The research that vaccine-based immunotherapy will not only prove safe for the treatment of pediatric gliomas, but will also demonstrate activity as assessed by clinical, radiologic and immunologic parameters," the researchers stated.

The University Times Research Notes column reports on funding awarded to Pitt researchers as well as findings arising from University research.

We welcome submissions from all areas of the University. Submit information via email to utimes@pitt.edu, by fax to 412/624-4579 or by campus mail to 308 Bellefield Hall.

For submission guidelines, visit www.umc.pitt.edu/utimes/deadlines.html online.

Financial Times ranks Katz program “best value”

The Financial Times, a London-based business news organization with a print and online readership of 1.3 million people, has ranked the full-time MBA program at the Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business first in the United States for the third consecutive year in the “Best Value for the Money” category.

The program was ranked ninth in the world in that category.

The Katz school’s program was ranked ninth among public U.S. universities in overall rankings, up from 27th last year. In overall worldwide rankings, Katz’s school program moved from 56th last year to 25th this year, tied with Rice University’s Jones Graduate School of Management.

A total of 157 business schools that met the criteria for participation were included in the Financial Times compilation.

To be eligible, a business school had to be internationally accredited by a body such as the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, the Association of MBAs or the European Quality Improvement System; have a full-time MBA program that has been running for at least five years, and have graduated its first class at least three years ago.

To aid in the accuracy of its ranking process, the Financial Times, through its independent auditor, conducted random audits of the data submitted by schools.

The other U.S. public institutions ranked in the top nine were the University of Michigan, Emory University, the University of Virginia, UCLA, the University of California-Berkeley, the University of Arizona, the University of Maryland, the University of North Carolina and the University of Texas-Austin.

Among the other Pennsylvania institutions in the worldwide rankings, Penn was ranked 1st, Carnegie Mellon was 24th and Penn State was 14th.

Scholarly Publishing Today and Tomorrow: What You Need to Know Tuesday, March 3, 2009 12:15 - 3:15 p.m. Assembly Room, William Pitt Union 12:15 COMPLIMENTARY BUFFET LUNCH 12:30-2:00 PLENARY SESSION, Assembly Room, WPU Opening of the Plenary John S. Baker, President, University Senate Welcoming Remarks Mark A. Nordenberg, Chancellor Comments and Introduction Rose L. Hoffmann and Adam Shear, Co-Chairs, University Senate Library Committee INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER James V. Mahon, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor KEYNOTE ADDRESS: “University Research Development: From Option to Necessity” David Shulenberger, Vice President for Academic Affairs, National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges ROUNDTABLE RESPONSE Moderator: James V. Mahon, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor Steven L. Kantor, Vice Dean, School of Medicine Michael J. Madonna, Associate Dean for Research, School of Medicine Cynthia Miller, Director, University of Pittsburgh Press John D. Norton, Director, Center for Philosophy of Science and Co-Founder, PHiC archive I. THE FUTURE OF SCHOLARLY JOURNALS location: WPU Ballroom Barbara A. Epstein, Director, Health Sciences Library System Steven L. Kantor, Vice Dean, School of Medicine; Editor, Academic Medicine II. THE ROLE OF INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES location: WPU Assembly Room Rush G. Miller, Hillman Library Librarian & Director, University Library System John D. Norton, Director, Center for Philosophy of Science and Co-Founder, PHiC archive III. AUTHOR'S RIGHTS IN THE NEW ENVIRONMENT location: WPU Dining Room A Michael J. Madonna, Associate Dean for Research School of Medicine Cynthia C. Moore, Associate General Counsel IV. THE FUTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESS location: WPU Lower Lounge Cynthia Miller, Director, University of Pittsburgh Press David Shulenberger, Vice President for Academic Affairs, NIASUC
Ronald L. Larsen, dean of the School of Information Sciences, has been named to the committee of visitors (COV) of the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Division of Information and Computer Sciences. The committee conducts reviews of the NSF programs to maintain high standards of program management, provides advice for continuous improvement of NSF performance and ensures openness to the research and education community served by NSF.

The COV provides NSF with evaluations and advice in two areas: assessments of the quality and integrity of program operations and program-level technical and high-level merit review of program management, provides advice for continuous improvement of NSF performance and ensures openness to the research and education community served by NSF.

Jeremy Levy, professor of physics and astronomy, recently was named a winner of the fourth annual Nano Briefs Nano50 Award by Nano Briefs. The awards recognize the top 50 nanoscale researchers, entrepreneurs, products and innovators that have significantly contributed to the field of nanotechnology.

On a recent trip to China, University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown, chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown Campus, and was the graduate residence hall director at IUP’s Puxx bury campus.

No hike planned for Pitt

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

No hike planned for Pitt
Chemistry Seminar “Evaporation Tells a Story: Decoding Chemical Reactivity From Scanning Tunneling Microscopy.” Images,” Melissa Hines, Cornell, 12A Chevron, 4 pm

Geology/Planetary Science Colloquium “Problem of the Opening of the Arctic Basin,” Jaime Inoue, WVU, 11 Thaw, 4 pm

Friday 13 SDSC Workshop “The 1st step: Mechanics of Starting a Small Business,” 117 Meriv, 7:30-10 am (6-1542)

Dental Education Seminar “Dental Careers: Advances in Detection & Disease Management,” Marie George, 218 Salk, 9 am noon

General Internal Medicine Journal Club “Stability of Preferences for the End-of-Life Treatment After 1 Year of Palliative Care,” Julie Childer, 913W Montefiore, 10 am

Clinical Grand Rounds “Geriatric Psychiatry,” Jules Rosen, WPIC and 8th, and 11, noon

UPMC Bariatric Surgery Info Session Major level zero and +, 10:30 am-11 pm (also Feb. 17, 612/441-4651)

Medical Education Grand Rounds/Medicine Lecture “Trends in the Health of the Nursing Workforce: Concerns on the Clinical Environment,” Pamela Klauer Triolo, Scaife 4th (4-0933)

Pulmonary Grand Rounds “Molecular Phenotyping of Asthma,” Anthony Schwacha; Scaife aud. 6, noon


Cancer Action Network PA: 1-800-813-4663.

 Tuesdays Tuesday 17 Healthy Lifestyle Experience Fair WPV Bullins & Kurtzman Rin., 11 am-1:30 pm

Pitt Research Network Seminar “Who’s Minding the Study?” Laurel Yasko, Clinical & Translational Science Inst. – Data & Safety Monitoring,” Jane Alexander, CKTIS. "Creating a Plan, Monitoring the Study & Reporting the Assessment to the IRB,” Jean Barone, IRB; 500A Star Bldg, 1-3 pm

Basic & Transcriptional Research in Lung Diseases Lecture “Cavoscin-1 & EANO Encou-
ing in Diabetic Vasculopathy; Arturo Cardoncelli, 628NW Montefiore, 3 pm

CVR Seminar “HCV Infection Prevents Cell Stiknom & Tan,” Yuan Wang, 6014 BST, noon

Health Services Research Seminars “Subjective & Objective Sleep Quality & Aging in the Sleep Healthy Heart Study,” Mark Unruh; 503 Parkale, noon

CRSP Lecture “Not All Black is White: The Challenges of Covering Race in the Mass Media,” Mark Roth, Pgh. Post-Gazette, 2017 CL, noon-1:30 pm (4-4730)

HSLS Workshop “Introduction to PsyNFO,” Rebecca Altemon, Folk Library, noon-1:30 pm

Greensburg Campus Lecture “Contemporary Art & the Contemporariness Question,” Terry Smith, history of art & architecture; Campus Chapel, UPG, 7 pm (2412/96-7741)

Wednesday 18 Orthopaedic Surgery Grand Rounds “Adult Acquired Flatfoot Deform-” Corry Packel, LHAS Aud. 7th fl. Montefiore, 7-8 am

Clinical Oncology & Hematology Grand Rounds Lecture “HPV & the Changing Epidemiology of Head & Neck Cancers,” Mauro Gillison, Herberman Conf. 2nd fl. 8 am, and 8

Pathology Research Seminar “Mechanisms That Initiate Hypoxia & Biologic Progession in Glioblastoma,” Daniel Brat, Emory; 1105 Scaife, noon

Global Studies Lecture “Healthcare for Indigenous Peoples in the Amazon,” Chris Fernopulo, 4217 Posvar, noon (4-2918)

Women’s Studies Lecture “A Feminist Profession?” Teaching Feminist Theory & Practice in Social Work,” Sarah Goodkind, social work; 2201 Posvar, noon

HSLS Workshop “PubMed Basics,” Mary Jo Dorsey; Folk library classes. 1-2, 1:30 pm

HSLS Workshop “Pathway Analysis Tools,” Abramson Cancer Center Path. Folk library conf. Rm. 8, 1-3 pm

Academic Career Development Workshops “General K Award Workshop,” Robert Milner, Penn State, and Joan Liskas, 5100 Star Bldg, 1-5 pm

Asian Studies Lecture “Regulating Memories: Urban Cultural Change in GIS Perspec-
- “Bill Kelly Lee Soo-Chang, U of Cincinnati,” Ilkhanipour, 6014 BST, noon

Women’s Basketball Vs. Villanova, Petersen, 7 pm


HSLS Workshop “PowerPoint for Beginners & Advanced PowerPoint,” Sam Lewis; Folk library classes. 2, 10-2 am

IRB Workshop “Ask the IRB for an Exemption/E qual-ified Research,” Christopher Bayard, 4-4130 Posvar, noon

Asia Over Lunch Lecture “Two Tale of Korea: Division Systems in History & Collected Works in Korea & History,” Jiyoung Shin; 6108 Student Health, 12-1 pm


Epidemiology Seminar “In the Forefront of Prevention/ Liferat Research/Invention Research, Current Effort & Future Directions,” Andrea Kriksis; A115 Cranberry, noon

Chemistry Seminar “Vascular Disease & Its Risk Factors Are a Driving Force for Age-Related Brain Atrophy,” Cyran Ruz, pathology & radiology; ARCS conf. rm., 849 Montefiore, noon

Chemistry Seminar “Testing the Historic Code Hypothesis Using Synthesis,” Tom Mun, Rockefeller U, 12th Chevron, 2-3 pm


Chemistry Seminar “What Is Conceptual Learning in Chemistry & Why Should We Promote It?” David Varon, CMU; 12th Chevron, 4 pm

Geology & Planetary Science Colloquium “An Overview of Geophysical Exploration,” Joel Starr, Equi. 3632, 4 pm (8-1542)

* For info on up to 15 words, $9 for 15-30 words, $15 for 31-60 words. For University ads, submit an account number for transfer of funds.
* All ads should be accompanied by check for the full amount payable to the University of Pittsburgh.
* Reserve space by submitting ad one week prior to publication. Copy and payment should be sent to University Times, 10, 9-15, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.
* For more information, call Barbara DeRosa, 412/386-4481.
Contemporary Writer/Series Conference
"Microconference on African American Literature"; lecture, Arnold Ramospadr, Stanford, noon, and panel discussion, 2 pm.

Intelligent Systems Forum

Contemporary Writers/Micro-
conference on African Ameri-
can Poetry
Opening remarks, Arnold Ramp-
ser, 110 CL, noon; "Panel Dis-

Anthropology/Music Lecture
"Female-Men, Male-Women & Others: Constructing & Negotiating Gender Among the Buganda of Uganda," Sylvia Namuyonga-Tamussiu, Mak-
ere U, Uganda, 1100 Polvar, 2:00 pm.

Global Studies Lecture

Economics Lecture
"Toward a Solution to the Unapproved Therapy Paradox," John Thomas Potts, Harvard, 1100 Polvar, 4:30-6 pm (8-7370).

HSLS Workshop
"Searching EBSCOHost: University of Houston Search Tips & Strategies," Norm Miller, Miami U; Miami, 1100 Polvar, 12:30 pm (info: www.pitt.edu/~wallst/).

A638 Crabtree, 12:30 pm (info: www.pitt.edu/~wallst/).

UNIVERSITY TIMES
publication schedule

Events occurring
Submit by
Feb. 19-March 5
Feb. 12
March 5-19
Feb. 19

March 19-April 2
March 12
April 2

March 26
April 9
April 16

April 23
May 7
May 14

May 21
June 11
June 25-26

June 18
June 27-23
July 16

Information submitted for the calendar should identify the type of event, such as lecture or con-
cference, and state the specific title, time, place and name of a contact person should be included. Information should be sent by email to: calendar@pitt.edu, or by FAX to: 412/624-4579, or by campus mail to: 308 Bellefield Hall. We cannot guarantee publication of events received after the deadline.

Thursday 5
Johnstown Campus Global Water Solutions Forum
Carnegie Rm., Student Union, UP, 1:30-2:30 pm (8-2902)

HSLS Workshop
"Adobe Photoshop for Begin-
ners," Sam Lewis, Folk Library classrom, 2, 10-noon

CIDDIE Workshop
"Promoting Civility in the Class-
room. 2, 10 am-noon

Friday 6
Health Policy Inst. Briefing
"Government Challenges in the New Political & Economic Environ-

Dentistry Seminar
"Surgical Management of Metazo-

Artistic Colloquium
"Missing Lives: Tales From the Chechen War," Zarema Makusheva, Sutherland Hall lounge, 8 pm (4-2918)

Saturday 7
Dental Education Seminar
"But Doc, It Hurts When I laugh: McCloud Evans & Ucers," Bobbi Collins; "Implant Supported Prosthesis for Edenta-
lose Patients," Joseph Arshad; "Practice Transition: The Time to Plan Is Now," David Moffa; "oral Surgery for the General Practitioner," Joseph Cillo, 1130 Salk, 8:30 am-3:30 pm

Bradford Campus Concert
Blessed Union of Souls, Blaisdel,
UP, 8 pm

Monday 9
Information Sciences Info Session
212 LS 6, 10-8 pm (4-3988)

Men's Basketball
Vs. WVU; Petersen, 7 pm

Bradford Campus Author Visit
"The Children's Blizzard," David Laskin; Bronxley Family The-
atre, Blaisdell, UP, 7 pm

Global Studies Lecture
"Do We Know What We Are Really Going On in Iraq?", Raed Jarrar; American Friends Service Committee, FPA and, 7:30 pm (4-2919)

Tuesday 10
Survival Skills & Ethics Work-
shop
"Carriers Over Lunch", $200
noon, 1-3 pm (412/778-
1766)

Health Services Research Seminar
"Detecting Adverse Drug Events in the Nursing Home Setting Using Computerized & Paper-
Based Approaches," Steven Han-
der, 105 Bank Parkade, noon.

Pharmacology & Chemical Biology Seminar
"Parathyroid Hormone Action: Physiological & Pharmacological Parallels Link to Therapeutic Applications in Bone & Mineral Metabolism," John Thomas Potts, Harvard, 1100 Salk, 1:30 pm.

REES/Global Studies Lec-
ture
"Missing Lives: Tales From the Chechen War", Zarema Makusheva, Sutherland Hall lounge, 8 pm (4-2918)

Wednesday 11
Orthopaedic Surgery Grand Roun-
ds
"Complex Trauma of the Forearm, Wrist and Hand; Congenital Differences of the Hand," Thomas Graham, Curtis National Hand Center, LHAS Aud. 7th fl. Montefiore, 7:30-8:30 am

Clinical Otolaryngology & Otolo-
yngology Grand Rounds
"Surgeons Management of Meta-

Information Sciences "Archit-
ectural Agitators & Advocates" Lecture, 2 pm

Social Work Teller Lecture
"The Epidemic of Incarceration and the Role of Social Work," Ryan Canan, Penn, 2017 CL, noon, 11:30 am-12:30 pm (4-3980)

CIDDIE
"The Vote Is In: Ways to Enhance Your Teaching", 815 Alumni, noon

Staff Association Council Meet-
ing
129 Victoria, 12:30 pm

HSLS Workshop
"Conome Variation Resources," Folk Library conf. room, R, 1-3 pm

U & S Workshop
"Advanced RefWorks", Hillman Library ground fl., 4-6 pm

Thursday 12
Emergency Medicine Grand Roun-
d
"ED Thoracotomy," Louis-Mar-
corn, "Toxicology Postmortem,
"Matthew Grendough, Mort-

Health Policy Inst. Briefing

Bradford Campus Darwin Day
Lecture, Richard Milner, Maki-
yama U; 4716 Posvar, noon.

Health Services Research Seminar
"Conome Variation Resources," Folk Library conf. room, R, 1-3 pm

U & S Workshop
"Advanced RefWorks", Hillman Library ground fl., 4-6 pm

HSLS Workshop
"Searching EBCOHost CINAHL," Mary Lou Klein; Folk Library classrom, 1, 1-2:30 pm

HSLS Workshop
"Ending Obesity: Ablash Salem, Folk Library classrom, 2, 1-3:30 pm

Chemistry Seminar
"Reactions of Aromatic Nitrile-
Compounds Forming Heterocy-
tle Compounds, " Michael Friesen, WVU, 128 Chen, 2:30 pm

Learning Policy Ctr. Lecture
"Improving Access to Higher Edu-
cation Lessons From the Ameri-
can Diploma Project Network," Michael Friesen, WVU, 1105 Scaife, noon

"Religious Studies Collo-
quium
"Religion & Politics in China: Evidence From Survey Data," Wendang Tong, Political science, 2628 CL, noon

Pathology Research Seminar
"Adoption of New Therape-
upnic Targets in Acute Leukemia," Jay Hess, U of MI, 1105 Scaife, noon

Social Work Teller Lecture
"The Epidemic of Incarceration and the Role of Social Work," Ryan Canan, Penn, 2017 CL, noon, 11:30 am-12:30 pm (4-3980)

CIDDIE
"The Vote Is In: Ways to Enhance Your Teaching", 815 Alumni, noon