Health insurance cost here going up 2.5%  

Pitt’s health insurance premiums are going up slightly next year, but at a rate lower than the national average, officials here say. Co-pays on non-generic drugs also will increase.

The overall cost increase of Pitt’s medical plans, which are administered by UPMC Health Plan, is 2.5 percent for the health plan that begins July 1, according to Benefits director John Kozar.

For example, Panther Gold enrollees, who make up about 90 percent of the approximately 23,000 plan members (employees, spouses/domestic partners and children), will see their premiums rise for individuals from $55 a month to $75; for parent/child(ren) from $116 a month to $140; for two adults from $203 a month to $208, and for family coverage from $285 a month to $290.

That compares to a projected national average of 7.8 percent increase, Kozar said. “We think this is good news for faculty and staff, and good news for the University.”

Last year employee health insurance costs at Pitt rose 6.6 percent, he noted.

Pitt’s overall health care costs for the plan year are expected to be roughly $100 million, up from about $97 million for the current plan year. The University will continue to absorb 80 percent of the annual rate increase to the medical programs covered under the UPMC medical plans. Kozar said.

Employees who elect to maintain their current benefits need not take any action; all others must make changes during the open enrollment period. Changes must be made electronically by following the online enrollment procedure, which will be accessible beginning April 21 at www.hr.pitt.edu by clicking on the “open enrollment” link. An instruction sheet for online enrollment also will be provided in the printed enrollment materials.

A confirmation letter will be sent to the employee’s home address within a few days of changes being made, according to Human Resources.

To keep the increases in health plan rates relatively low, Kozar said, the University is making two plan design changes.

The co-payment for generic drugs will remain the same at a $10 co-pay for a 30-day supply. However, the co-pay for preferred-brand drugs will go from $30 to $12 and for non-preferred-brand drugs will rise from $60 to $64 for a 30-day supply.

Plan members can save on co-pays by purchasing a 90-day supply of prescription drugs at the Student Health Service pharmacy or Falk Pharmacy at a discount. Savings is equal to one co-pay.

Faculty Assembly last week unanimously endorsed the creation of a University-wide task force to develop policies governing open-access publishing of Pitt-generated research.

As the University Times went to press yesterday, Senate Council was expected to discuss the Assembly-approved motion at its April 14 meeting.

Lousi Berry, chair of the University Senate library committee, introduced the motion. His committee has studied open-access issues for more than a year.

“This motion is drawn from discussion at the 2009 Senate plenary session on ‘Scholarly Publishing: Today and Tomorrow’ and the creation of an institutional repository at the University,” Berry said. Pitt opened its repository, known as D-Scholarship® Pitt, last May.

See obituary, page 2.

Assembly endorses task force on open-access publishing issues

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See obituary, page 2.

Assembly endorses task force on open-access publishing issues

‘Both of these have led to four important issues for University-wide consideration,’ Berry said.

He said those issues are:

• What is the role of the University as producer and disseminator of knowledge/scholarship?
• What is the role of the individual members of the academic community in the dissemination of their own scholarship?
• How will the University evaluate and reward the dissemination of scholarship in new or nontraditional forms in the tenure and promotion processes?

Assembly endorses task force on open-access publishing issues

What are the long-term implications of new financial and technological arrangements for the consumption of scholarship and the production of new knowledge in research universities?

The library committee’s motion recommended that a task force of major stakeholders be appointed by the provost and the president of the University Senate to address the issues. The motion suggested that key constituencies could include the Provost’s office, the University Library System (ULS), the University of Pittsburgh Press; the Office of the General Counsel, the University Senate; the Dean’s Council, and faculty with expertise in open access-related areas.

Berry said, “We would like to see the University develop policies in regard to open access and to research productivity. That’s the bottom line. Frequently, research is not available only because it’s not accessible. We know this is complex and sometimes controversial. But it is of great importance to many research universities today. We think it is an appropriate thing for the University to consider, and probably the best way to do that would be a task force.”

Prior to Assembly’s vote, ULS director Rush Miller lobbied for the formation of the task force to develop open-access policies.

“The rate at which that is, of participation by faculty at those hundreds of universities international— that is, for a repository, is well under 10 percent,” Miller said.

He acknowledged that some work is involved in getting published research into Pitt’s institutional repository. In many cases, Miller said, a faculty member can’t deposit the version published in a journal, but must submit a separate version with a separate description.

“So there is a little work involved. But the world of journal publishing overall is shrinking, for lots of reasons. Many universities, especially in this recession, have been cutting back [on purchasing] journals, so the articles you publish as a faculty member in your major journals are being read less and less every year,” he explained.

“Open access opens all of this, not only to the subscriber base of a journal, but to scholars in every country in the world who can get on the Internet.”

Miller said nearly 101 universities worldwide with repositories like Pitt’s, including Harvard and MIT, have open-access policies in place that mandate that their faculty submit research output into...
Pitt’s open enrollment runs April 21-May 12

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

For example, the co-payment for a 90-day supply of a generic drug at Falk Pharmacy is $20, at a rate of $10 per drug.

“The prescription drug inflation rate nationally is also 7-8 percent so this is still lower,” he said. “Plus, this change includes a 25-cent increase in the cost of the preferred drug co-payment and the $4 increase for the non-preferred, non-potency drugs. This price change is really just keeping up with inflation,” Kozar pointed out.

More than 60 percent of all prescriptions filled are for generic drugs, he noted. “We always urge members to consider taking advantage of generic drugs where they are available,” Kozar said.

The second plan change involves inpatient hospitalizations for Panther Gold enrollees receiving health care benefits through Pitt.

“Currently, we have a $100 copay and you can incur a maximum of four co-pays a year. That’s a maximum of $400,” Frisch said. “We’re changing it to be a $250 co-pay, with a maximum of two co-pays a year. So the maximum you’ll pay in a year is $500,” Kozar explained.

The two plan changes brought costs down from a potential 3.5 percent increase to 2.5 percent. “This year, there’s no magic behind it, it’s simply looking at claims experience. They’re all trade-offs. We try to manage the overall increase because it does impact employee wages when money comes out of their pay check and we’re always concerned about that,” Kozar said.

Plan options continue to be Panther Gold (HMO), Panther Premium (PPO), Panther Plus (PPPO) and Basic (PPO).

Details on premium rates

Corrections

In the April issue, an incorrect title was listed for Samuel Zullo. He is director of the Center for Public Health Preparedness. His correct title and name are listed, incorrectly, is 412/385-2400.

Kozar noted that the medical insurance decisions are made with Pitt’s health care faculty on the medical advisory committee, working with Buchr Coulnts, an employee benefits and human resources consulting firm.

We go through survey data, utilization data, medical inflation data,” Kozar said. “We rely on national survey data to get a hint of what is going on. But the year we also for the first time developed our own benefits survey and sent it to our employees. The plan designs remain with inflation, the overall increase because it does impact employee wages when money comes out of their pay check and we’re always concerned about that,” Kozar said.

Kozar said Benefits would continue to perform the survey each year and try to keep peer health insurance data.

Michael Pinsky, director of the University Senate who sits on the medical advisory committee, told the University Times, “I’m very pleased with the results of our committee’s work this year.”

The meetings were serious and informative, with an emphasis on shifting the costs of medical care and creating more opportunities for the patients to choose the best medical care at the lowest price.

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“Overall, we are very pleased

The lower per-capita total for 2010 reflects the expansion of the program to the full campus, Zullo said. “The first year’s results included only the residence hall population of 6,537 students. Pitt’s open enrollment runs April 21-May 12.

Pitt’s 2010 ranking won’t be known until results are announced on April 21-May 12.

RecycleMania competitors are ranked based on standardized weights for the materials collected.

According to RecycleMania organizers, last year 510 participants at participating colleges and universities collected more than 69.4 million pounds of recyclables and compost, including 168,873 pounds of paper, 329,455 pounds of corrugated cardboard, 35,475 pounds of bottles and cans.

During the competition, which ran Jan. 17- March 27, nearly 267 tons (31,803 pounds) of recyclables were collected on the Pittsburgh campus, including 168,873 pounds of paper, 329,455 pounds of corrugated cardboard, 35,475 pounds of bottles and cans.

In a benefit-related development, Pitt is changing the administration of its flexible account spending plan from EBDS to UPMC Health Plan, effective July 1.

One of the advantages will be that if you are enrolled in UPMC Health Plan coverage and you have a spending account, your new health plan’s ID card also will be your stored-value card. So when you show it to your provider to show your membership in UPMC Health Plan, they can swipe it for your co-pay,” Kozar said.

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AAUP’s survey shows smallest pay hike for faculty in 50 years

Most full-time faculty members across the nation saw a decline in their paying power in 2009-10, according to the Annual Report on the Economic Status of the Professor released this week by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). In 2009-10, the overall average salary for a full-time faculty member increased 1.2 percent over last year, the smallest year-to-year increase in the survey’s 50-year history.

Many faculty members at the more than 1,200 institutions surveyed lost financial ground, given that the average salary increase fell short of the 2.7 percent inflation rate. Continuing faculty members showed a decrease in earning power as well. Their average change in salary was 1.8 percent, well below the historical levels of about 4 percent. “Because this figure falls well short of the rate of change in the Consumer Price Index, it represents the first inflation-adjusted decrease in salaries for continuing faculty since the hyperinflation years of the late 1970s,” the survey authors stated. The survey found that two-thirds of continuing faculty members were employed by institutions where the average change in salary was below the rate of inflation—meaning that most continuing faculty have less buying power compared to a year ago.

Pay freezes at Pitt put the University’s faculty among that group. Continuing faculty at the regional campuses all showed no increases, while continuing faculty on the Pittsburgh campus showed only fractional pay increases. Professors and instructors showed a 0.4 percent increase, associate professors showed a 0.6 percent pay increase and assistant professors showed a 0.7 percent increase.

The report can be found online at www.aau.org/AAUP/commu/
rep/AA/cestatreport09-10/.

Pitt’s annual salary analyses are expected to be presented to the University Senate budget policies committee soon.

Although there will be no annual salary increase analysis this year because of the salary freeze, the annual mean and median salary report for University employees is expected to be presented on BPC’s April 30 meeting agenda.

The annual benchmark study comparing faculty pay at Pitt to a select peer group of Association of American Universities public institutions is expected to be ready until at least May, according to BPC chair John J. Baked.

—Kimberly K. Barlow

In assembly

Assembly endorse task force

The University Senate President Michael Pinsky summarized a report from Senate President Manessie. “Task force to address these and to develop procedures and policies.”

In other Assembly business:
• University Senate President Michael Pinsky summarized a report from Senate President Manessie.
• Task force to address these and to develop procedures and policies.

—Peter Hart

In memoriam

Members of Pitt’s Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and the Russian East European studies program placed flowers in the Polish National Society, 126 Cathedral of Learning, to commemorate those killed in the crash of Poland’s presidential plane last week.

The note included with the flowers read: “In solidarity with the Polish nation during this week of mourning, we publish the tragic loss of life in the crash of the presidential airplane in Smo- lonk, Russia, April 10, 2010. The crash took the lives of Poland’s President Lech Kaczynski and many other Polish officials.”

Swanson to address 2010 grads

Pitt trustee and engineering school alumus John A. Swanson will be the featured speaker for Pitt’s 2010 commencement exercises, to be held in the Petersen Events Center at 2 p.m. May 2.

Swanson helped revolutionize computer-aided engineering after receiving his PhD degree in applied mechanics here in 1966. He is recognized internationally as an authority and innovator in the application of finite-element methods to engineering. In 1970, Swanson founded ANSYS, which markets the ANSYS software code that Swanson created for use by the aerospace, automotive, biomedical, manufacturing and electronics industries to simulate how product design will behave in real-world environments.

With more than 40 sales locations worldwide, ANSYS and its subsidiaries employ approximately 1,400 people. Pitt’s products are distributed through a network of channel partners in more than 40 countries.

At Pitt, Swanson helped to establish the John A. Swanson Institute for Technical Excellence, which houses the John A. Swanson Center for Micro and Nano Systems; the John A. Swanson Center for Product Innovation; the RFID (radio frequency identification) Center of Excellence, and the John A. Swanson Embedded Computing Laboratory in Computer Engineering.

Now retired, Swanson hired Pitt engineering students as an adviser on senior design projects. In 2007, Pitt renamed its engineering school the John A. Swanson School of Engineering in recognition of Swanson’s $41.3 million donation, the largest individual donation in Pitt’s history.

Swanson has two of the highest honors a professional engineer can receive. Last year he was named to the National Academy of Engineering for contributions to and innovations in engineering. In 2004, he received the American Association of Engineering Societies’ John Fritz Medal, widely considered the highest award in the engineering profession.

—Kimberly K. Barlow
S
ome Pitt employees have
done beyond the annual
Pitt Partnership for Food
Drive to help the region's
need.
Kathryn Trent, a groundkeep-
er and member of the Staff
Association Council, has
volunteered for more than
10 years. She said that her
Pitt-sponsored community
effort to repack and distribute
food at the Greater Pittsburgh
Community Food Bank's
warehouse in Duquesne on
the fourth Thursday
every month.

"Now that my kids are
grown I have more time to
volunteer and Pitt makes it easy
to participate in this project,
with reminder notices and
transportation provided to
and from campus," Trent said.

Trent said she's inspired by her
parents, who, although in their
80s, still volunteer with Meals on
Wheels. "My mother raised seven
children and still found time for
volunteer work even when we
were growing up. I'd been looking
for something for a while, and this
just seemed like a way to use my
spare time," she said, adding that
any Pitt employee looking for a
volunteering opportunity can
sign up for the project on the
Fourth Thursday project.

"The first time I went to the
warehouse I was simply amazed
to see the number of people,
the numbers of people, just lined
up for hours waiting for food. It's
also said I saw a lot of older
women. As a single mother, I
think older single women sometimes fall
through the cracks and struggle with
their cloth and paper bags, coolers
and carts. Most express gratitude
for the food offered, some hunt
with the volunteers while others
are more reserved, perhaps
due to pride, concern about getting
their food safely home, anxiety
or fatigue," Rohrer said.

His most vivid memory of
volunteering involved helping an
elderly couple carry their food to
their car.

"Without intending to
listen to their conversation, I
overheard a few familiar words
and the cadence of Russian, a
language that I had never quite
mastered decades earlier. 'To my
surprise it was perhaps the
heat and fatigue — I attempted
a few half phrases but what
must have been laughable Russian,' Rohrer said.

The elderly gentleman
immediately acknowledged my
effort and then offered me a few more phrases
that I might understand.

"On its own experience
working on the food packaging
and distribution line, I
flash back to what appears to be
a never-ending line of individu-
als who in a very orderly process
patiently move forward to receive
their bag and boxes of food. The
clients are diverse in age, ethnicity
and style-young mothers enlivening
the mix, eating families that
looked uncomfortable in this
situation; the many elderly
women and men struggling with
their cloth and paper bags, coolers
and carts. Most express gratitude
for the food offered, some hunt
with the volunteers while others
are more reserved, perhaps
due to pride, concern about getting
their food safely home, anxiety
or fatigue," Rohrer said.

University's food drive runs through April

Pitt's 24th annual Partner-
ship for Food drive is
collecting non-perishable
food items throughout April
to help restock the shelves of the
Greater Pittsburgh Community
Food Bank.

In addition to on-campus
collection sites, Pitt again is
holding a virtual food drive,
where members of the University
community can shop and purchase
items that the Food Bank needs most. Food
can be purchased at about half the retail
cost. Pick-up and delivery drivers
delivered directly to the Food
Bank.

To find the online shopping
link is www.pittsburghfoodbank.
org/pitt. Credit cards accepted are
Visa, MasterCard and American
Express and Diners Club.

A new feature this year: Dona-
tions from the regional campuses
can be designated for a food
bank or food assistance organization
in their area. This is accomplished
via a drop-down menu accessed
during checkout on the virtual
site.

For the fourth year, the
value of all donations, including
those purchased online, will be
matched by the Office of the
Chancellor.

Items such as peanut butter,
tuna and salmon, meats, baby
formula, chunky-type soups
and stews are especially
welcomed. Also welcome are
dry cereal and household items
including paper products, cleaners,
soaps and toothpaste. Items that will
not be accepted include home-canned
or home-packaged foods and
baby food in glass jars.

For more than a decade
the University has ranked among the
five most successful Pittsburgh-
area employers in the region's
annual spring food drives. Over
twenty years, contributions from the
University have totaled
nearly 1 million pounds of food.

This year Pitt's food drive
includes an expanded student
effort, coordinated by the
Student Government Board.
Participating student organiza-
tions are competing for prizes,
donated by Sodexo, for collecting
the greatest amount of food and
the most unused Dining Dollars
donations.

Beyond the annual food
drive, the Greater Pittsburgh
Community Food Bank in conjunction
with UPMC Health Plan has
convened the Ending Hunger Task
Force. The task force is made
up of a wide range of stakeholders
from Pitt, UPMC, Sodexo, employees
teaching solutions regionally to end
hunger and malnutrition.

Serving on the task force from
the University are John Wilds,
assistant vice chancellor for
community relations, and Steve
Zupcic, assistant director of
community relations.

For information or to
attend its meetings, contact
Steve Zupcic at 412/624-4920.

"Our efforts to help the hungry
have been driven more by the
personal satisfaction of its
volunteers. On June 8, Steve
Wilds, director for Food drive
and Faculty in Service to
Communities, will be honored by
the Greater Pittsburgh
Community Food Bank with its
Annual Volunteer Award for his
"passion and long-term commitment
for the fight against hunger and
poverty," Zupcic said.

For more information
on Fourth Thursdays or other
volunteer projects, contact
Zupcic at 412/624-7709 or
stz@pitt.edu

Pitt's 24th annual Partner-
ship for Food drive is
collecting non-perishable

Where to donate food

Collection boxes for Pitt's Annual Food Drive are available
through April at the following locations:

- William Pitt Union, 1st-floor information desk, circulation
department
- University of Pittsburgh at
Pittsburgh's Hillman Floor 21
Law School lobby and library; Starzl BST entrance lobby;
Cathedral of Learning ground floor; Parran Hall 1st-floor
lounge; Atrium of Biotech; 4th-floor SIS
- 5th-floor lobby; Scale Hall 4th-floor and 2nd-floor
elevator lobbies; Sutherland Hall main lobby; Litchfield
Towers lobby and library

Those needing bulk food pickups should contact food drive
director Steve Zupcic at 4-7709.
Pitt students win Goldwater, Udall scholarships

Two Pitt students have been named recipients of 2010 Goldwater and Udall scholarships. Nicholas R. DeStefino, a neuroscience and history major, was awarded a Barry M. Goldwater scholarship. Amy L. Scarbrough, who is majoring in ecology and engineering, was named a Udall Scholar.

DeStefino, whose career plans are to teach and conduct research on the neural basis of mental health diseases, was among 278 Goldwater scholars selected from a field of 1,111 math, science and engineering students who were nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities nationwide. The Goldwater scholarship program honoring Sen. Barry M. Goldwater was designed to encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences and engineering.

Scholars receive a maximum of $7,500 per year to cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, and room and board. In its 24-year history, the Goldwater foundation has awarded 6,079 scholarships worth approximately $38 million.

Two Pitt students were among 50 receiving honorable mentions in the Goldwater competition. They are physics major Edlyn Victoria Levine and computer engineering/Japanese major Heather Lynn Dressel.

Udall winner Scarbrough was among 80 students selected as Udall Scholars from among 537 candidates nominated by 256 institutions. Scholars are selected on the basis of commitment to careers in the environment, health care or tribal public policy, leadership potential, and academic achievement.

Slate for Senate committees set

This year’s slate of candidates for seats on the 15 University Senate standing committees has been set. There are three openings on each committee. Vying by Faculty Assembly members will take place April 21-midnight May 2.

• Admissions and student aid: Leonard Baidoo, medicine; Cyril Kendrick, Pitt-Titusville; Sharon Nelson-Le Gall, Arts and Sciences (A&S); Susan Shaiman, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SHRS).

• Anti-discriminatory policies: Gabrielle Boel Iomone, medicine; Jane Feuer, A&S; Andrew Franz, Pitt-Greensburg; Roy Smith, medicine; Hussein Tawbi, medicine.

• Athletics: Timothy Averch, engineering; Lisa Fabian, education; Marie Fioravanti, nursing; Judith Lave, Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH); Emilia Lombardi, GSPH.

• Budget policies: Barbara Gaines, medicine; Hiro Good, University Library System (ULS); Michael Hahn, SHRS; Chandraksha Singh, A&S.

• Bylaws and procedures: Sasa Zirkovic, medicine.

• Community relations: Laurie Cohen, ULS; Bruce Rabin, medicine; Kyle Soltry, medicine; Martha Ann Terry, GSPH.

• Computer usage: Joseph Costantino, GSPH; Asif Jamel, ULS; John LaDue, Health Sciences Library System; Xiuying Zou, ULS.

• Educational policies: Debbie Miller, SHRS; Thomas Platt, SHRS; Jay Rajgopal, engineer.

• Faculty utilization and planning: Nancy Baker, SHRS; Michael Beach, nursing; Jeanine Buchanich, GSPH; Attilio Favorini, A&S.

• Student affairs: Anthony Bledsoe, A&S; Scott Mark, pharmacy.

• Tenure and academic freedom: Rose Costantino, nursing; William Federzpiel, engineering; Linda Frank, GSPH; Maria Kovacs, medicine; Kenneth McCarry Jr., medicine; Sumi Saha, medicine; Rakesh Sindh, medicine.


Pitt Hallman Library extends hours during finals period

Hallman Library will be open continuously from 10 a.m. Sunday, April 18, until 6 p.m. Saturday, May 1. The University Library System will provide free coffee and tea in the Cup & Chaucer cafe after its regular closing time.

During the two-week 24-hour schedule, admittance to Hallman from midnight to 7 a.m. will be with Pitt ID only.

Join the Club!

The University Club offers you fine dining, a state-of-the-art fitness center, a quiet library, an exciting College Lounge offering a daily casual lunch & a place to unwind at the end of the day with your colleagues.

Gather your department together on a Wednesday night in the college lounge for Collegiate night. Complimentary food. Call 412-648-1188 for further information.

On Friday evenings, the Fraternity Grill and College Room Lounge are open to members of the University Club for dinner! Join us between 5 and 8 pm every Friday night for a delicious meal at the Club. A perfect way to begin your weekend!

Wine Dinner

Join us on Wednesday, April 28 at 6 pm for a Wine Dinner. Executive Chef Jeff Carroll has designed an exciting menu to pair with some wonderful California wines. Price Per Person...$35.95 (inclusive of Tax, Gratuity and beverages additional). Reservations are required, call 412-640-8213.

Mother’s Day Brunch

Treat that special lady in your life to brunch at the University Club on Sunday, May 9th from 11 am to 2 pm. Reservations may be made by calling 412-648-8213.

University of Pittsburgh faculty and staff can find more information about membership at www.uc.pitt.edu.

123 University Place • 412-648-8213 • www.uc.pitt.edu

APRIL 15, 2010
Relieving the burden of mood disorders

Ellen Frank traces her atypical path to becoming a Distinguished Professor at Pitt

Ellen Frank admits she followed an atypical path on her way to being named a Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry. She earned a bachelor's degree in drama at Vassar, then a master's in English at Carnegie Mellon before earning master's and PhD degrees in psychology at Pitt and moving through the academic ranks as a faculty member in the University's psychiatry department.

Now an internationally known expert in mood disorders, Frank received a medallion from Provost James V. Maher. She delivered her inaugural lecture, "Relieving the Burden of Mood Disorders: A Three-Decade Journey," April 6 in the Frick Fine Arts auditorium.

"When I graduated from Vassar College in 1966 with a bachelor's in drama, this is the last place I thought I'd ever be," Frank said.

Noting that of four As on her undergraduate transcript, three were in psychology, she said, "It never would have crossed my mind that actually constituted a profession or one that I would follow."

Her career began when, in 1973, David Kupfer and Thomas Detre came from Yale to found Pitt's psychiatry department in the School of Medicine. They had to leave behind their research assistant "who happened to be a Distinguished Professor of E.

Their emphasis was on anxiety but what was known as rape trauma syndrome included a mix of anxiety and depressive symptoms. "In the literature at the time all of the emphasis was on anxiety but when we looked more carefully at women we were studying, one of the first things we noticed was that a very substantial portion of them also had depressive symptoms and many met full criteria for major depression," she said.

Early intervention, either with behavioral or a more cognitive-behavioral type of therapy, reduced both the depression and the anxiety experienced by these women, Frank said, adding that without intervention, depression and anxiety tended to persist. "But if we instituted intervention six months, eight months, 10 months after the assault, we were equally successful at reducing the depression and anxiety that these women were experiencing."

Other research at Pitt at the time involved treatments for patients with bipolar and unipolar disorders, including research into improving the long-term outcomes for patients with depression.

In one such study, researchers compared how patients fared with different maintenance approaches after being treated for an episode of depression. Participants were divided into groups that received interpersonal psychotherapy (IPT), medication, IPT plus medication, or a placebo. Researchers found "maintaining a full dose of antidepressant treatment was a really good idea. Monthly IPT did not add to the benefits of medication, but there was very little room to add to the excellent outcomes we saw with the medication," Frank said. "But IPT did provide some protection and this was especially true for those who could remain highly focused on the interpersonal themes."

Frank said visits to the clinical research center by Nobel laureate Julius Axelrod contributed to her departure from following the research "opportunities of the moment." She noted that when Axelrod

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7
Mood disorders

Frank was among a network of mood disorder researchers who developed a theory about how biology and life events might interact to produce new episodes of illness. “What we said was life events not only have the power to precipitate new episodes through their meaning, through the stressfulness of these events, but that they also have the capacity to change social rhythms — the routines in our lives,” Frank said.

Such changes can destabilize daily routines, impacting social rhythms, which in turn can lead to increased instability of social rhythms,” Frank said. “That could in turn lead to disruptions in personal psychotherapy and a focus on regularizing social routines, impacting social rhythms, which in turn can lead to decreased mood symptoms and eventually to increased ability to manage disruptive life events.”

Known as interpersonal and social rhythm therapy (IPSRT), the treatment was found to help a substantial subset of patients with bipolar disorder, leading to significantly longer periods without a major episode of illness, regardless of whether the therapy was continued after the acute phase of treatment.

Although the study initially was surprised, Frank said, she realized the therapy is an educative treatment. “If patients were able to learn the new lifestyle it seems we don’t need to continue to reinforce that because in fact it’s kind of self-reinforcing,” she said. “Indeed, when they lived lives that were characterized by much more regular routines, they felt a lot better, and so the behavior change tended to persist.”

Research is continuing into further identifying those who are likely to have better outcomes with medication compared to those who can be treated with psychotherapy.

One study randomly assigned individuals with an acute episode of unipolar depression to receive either medication or IPT. “If they responded, we continued that treatment. If they stabilized they went on into a six-month continuation phase. If they didn’t stabilize, we added the other treatment,” she said.

In addition to gaining insight into which subsets of patients were likely to respond, researchers found the method to be very effective. “I don’t know too many areas in psychiatry where treatments get remission to 75, 85, 90 percent levels,” she said. “What this suggests to me is this strategy of starting monotherapy and then moving to combined treatment is really a very good strategy for treatment of depression.”

Frank is continuing research into the impact of IPSRT on patients with bipolar disorder. She is seeking NIMH funding to compare patients treated with IPSRT with those who receive a standard pharmacotherapy approach with respect to the alignment with their circadian rhythms and sleep rhythms. “And whether IPSRT really does in fact change circadian alignment,” she said.

---Kimberly K. Barlow
Panel proposes high-level sustainability official

With campus efforts to “go green” ranging from student-driven endeavors, to decisions made by vendors to hire, to multi-million-dollar capital projects, Pitt should consider establishing a high-level administrative position to coordinate its sustainability initiatives.

The recommendation stems from an April 8 panel convened by the University Senate’s sustainability subcommittee, part of Pitt’s two-day Blue, Gold and Green Sustainability Festival.

Moderators Bernard Goldstein, professor of environmental and occupational health; Ward Allebach, assistant professor in the Department of Geology and Planetary Sciences and lecturer in the Department of Geology and Planetary Sciences and lecturer in the Department of Geology and Planetary Sciences, provided a brief history of Pitt’s sustainability initiatives.

The narrative covered past initiatives including the University’s achievement of LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification – the national gold standard – for Benedum Hall.

Goldstein also highlighted the Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation, which is part of the University’s sustainability initiatives.

The festival will result in 30 percent reduction in energy consumption, while at the same time, 47 percent of the total waste from the Benedum projects are being recycled. “To date, over 1,600 tons of construction waste — over 75 percent of the total waste — has been diverted from the landfill,” Zullo said.

In addition, Pitt shifted from the Bellefield Boiler Plant to the newer Carrillo Street Steam Plant to provide heat and hot water to University buildings. The change is expected to cut carbon emissions by 47 percent, reducing emissions by 48,000 metric tons per year, Zullo said. Pitt expects to wean itself off the Bellefield plant entirely in the next few years, which will increase its energy savings, she added.

Pitt holds 2nd sustainability festival

On an issue as broad as sustainability, there are many factors to consider, in order to do so in a meaningful way, Goldstein said.

“On an issue as broad as sustainability, it’s important to make sure that you have a broad range of people involved,” Goldstein said.

Following are summaries of the panelists’ presentations.

Bernard Goldstein

Goldstein, former dean of the Graduate School of Public Health and an expert in environmental sciences, provided a brief historical perspective and maintained that while large-scale efforts are in place in the big “go green” picture, personal responsibility also factors into today’s successful sustainability efforts.

“Let’s go right back 40 years ago in the first teach-in on the first Earth Day at a student center in New York City. Here we are 40 years later at the University of Pittsburgh student center discussing the same subject, but actually it really is different,” Goldstein said.

For one thing, identifying environmental problems used to be easier, he said, “because it was dirty out there. The sky was dirty. The water was dirty.”

Pittsburghers who are old enough will remember images from the Senator Carey Cratemker Pittsburgh deserved, due to the industrial dust and pollution that often blacked out sunlight. “You

know the story of Pittsburghers who worked Downtown in their white shirts having to bring a change of shirt if they planned to go out to lunch, because otherwise you’d end up with a dirty white shirt,” Goldstein said.

“The Cuyahoga River was on fire. Growing up, I used to hear stories of all the great fish older people used to catch in the Hudson. I’d think: not a chance.”

Ironically, for a time in Philadelphia, water treatment plants were the largest source of the city’s pollution, he added.

“So we had an environment with easily identifiable problems. “We approached that through what we call command and control. You will stop polluting. If not, we’ll put you in jail, we’ll fine you; you’ll do something to you.” And that’s a very effective way of dealing with pollution,” Goldstein said. “But it always led to costs, to take into account life cycles, to be aware of our effect on the environment and to take personal responsibility for our actions.”

Laura Zullo

Zullo outlined some ways in which Pitt’s sustainable design and construction, recycling, energy conservation, pollution reduction and the greening of the campus have helped sustainability efforts there.

She said Pitt has implemented design standards that stipulate sustainable energy- or conserving measures in new construction or renovation projects. Among the standards are:

• No new incandescent lighting is installed unless required for research.
• Direct digital controls (DDC) are required for all mechanical system installations and upgrades.
• All DDC controls must be tied into the campus energy management system.
• occupancy sensors for lights are required for all new construction and renovations.
• Standard carpet installations must include a minimum of 25 percent recycled content.
• Carpet adhesives must contain no volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

The majority of prints used on campus must be low-VOC paints.

In addition, Pitt is pursuing LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification for several of its current capital projects, Zullo said.

LEED is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings developed by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Pitt’s McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine building on the South Side was the first Pitt building to achieve LEED status, earning gold level certification in 2005.

Among newer projects on the docket for which Pitt will seek LEED certification are:

• The Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation, an ongoing project that will add approximately 27,000 square feet to Benedum Hall and renovate approximately 17,000 square feet of existing space on the second floor, will be equipped with high performance glazing for energy efficiency.
• Energy-saving strategies are expected to result in a 17.5 percent reduction in energy consumption.

“Low-flow plumbing fixtures will result in 30 percent reduction in water consumption when compared with traditional fixtures” and other features will reduce the landfill,” Zullo said.

All Benedum Hall windows are being replaced with insulated tempered glass, and a green roof, planted with sedum, now covers the Benedum auditorium, she added.

Construction and demolition waste from the Benedum projects are being recycled. “To date, over 1,600 tons of construction waste — over 75 percent of the total waste — has been diverted from the landfill,” Zullo said.

The Chevron Science Center renovation, set to be completed next year, has similar energy-saving features, as will the planned expansion of the Graduate School of Public Health’s Parran and Crabtree halls and the addition planned for Salk Hall.

In addition, last November Pitt shifted from the Bellefield Boiler Plant as its main source to the newer Carrillo Street Steam Plant to provide heat and hot water to University buildings. The change is expected to cut carbon emissions by 47 percent, reducing emissions by 48,000 metric tons per year, Zullo said. Pitt expects to wean itself off the Bellefield plant entirely in the next few years, which will increase its energy savings, she added.
Sustainability Festival

Regarding energy conservation, Zullo said, “Since 1996, an estimated cost avoidance of nearly $28 million has been achieved via energy conservation projects.” Those efforts included:

• Improvements in campus utility infrastructure, building system upgrades and energy efficiency.
• To date, our cumulative savings from this $6 million investment are estimated at over $12 million. Zullo said.

• Upgrading lighting in nine Pitt buildings to standard energy-efficient lighting fixtures for an annual savings of approximately $17,500.

• Replacing 770 exit signs with light-emitting diode, or LED, signs, saving 156,000 hours each year.

• Replacing nearly 1,000 defective steam traps in University buildings; savings: $167,000 per year.

In 2005, Facilities Management also began an aggressive initiative to expand its recycling program, Zullo said. Some of those initiatives have included:

• Implementing a recycling and trash reduction program for all custodial and supervisory positions.

• Expanding plastics recycling to grades 1-5 (previously Pitt recycled only grades 1 and 2).

• Expanding recycling of construction and demolition debris.

Karen Allebach

Allebach reviewed some of the student-driven sustainability initiatives at Pitt, many of which came from students in the environmental studies program. That program was founded in 1996, in part with the support of the Heinz Endowments, on the premise that human interaction with the world requires an interdisciplinary approach, “because every action has a unique impact.” Allebach said.

“Unfortunately, change happens slowly. So you have to make the case and not just the point at a single step in time,” he said.

In addition to classroom work, each environmental studies course includes an emphasis on hands-on student projects outside the classroom in real-world situations, Allebach said.

“Our students work on projects ranging from simple neighborhood clean-up to large-scale projects that affect the city of Pittsburgh,” he said. “Projects they cover in and out of class include recycling, composting, biking, endangered species protection, clean water requirements, energy efficiency, plastic bag campaigns, animal rights, fair trade.”

Pitt students also partner with their counterparts at Carnegie Mellon and Duquesne to help shrink their respective campus’ environmental footprint, he noted.

Pitt students help educate arriving freshmen each year, who are trained as ambassadors of Pitt’s sustainability efforts. Those trainings, he said, are designed to affect others on campus and encourage the awareness of other environmental issues.

They sponsor events such as an eco-art show, tree plantings and other campus and community greening projects and residence hall green-living contests.

“They put together the first-ever sustainability directory for the University and the surrounding community,” Allebach said.

As part of a report to the Heinz Endowments, Zullo said under terms of the grant, environmental studies students made three general recommendations to improve campus sustainability initiatives:

• The creation of a stand-alone facilitator for Pitt.

• The creation of the student sustainability symposium.

• The attainment of membership in the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, an association working to create a sustainable future that provides resources, training and support for sustainability efforts.

It is difficult to quantify how many student efforts affect wider PMA’s sustainability efforts. So while we don’t wish to take undue credit, it’s important to acknowledge the efforts and involvement of students, even where other people in the University may have taken the lead,” Allebach said.

Jodi Ludovici

Ludovici, general manager of Sodexo, discussed sustainable policies and practices that Sodexo uses.

“Sodexo is an international leader in sustainability,” she said. “We have a large impact.”

She said the company’s guiding document, “The Better Tomorrow Plan,” includes three programs focused on nutrition, health and wellness, and the environment.

She noted that companies are focusing on sustainable product packaging, transportation distance and local purchasing.

That’s “All of our products like bread, dairy and specialty food products come from within a 50-mile radius of the campus,” she said. “We’re looking into that packaging. For example, we use Xpressnap napkins, the ones that involve systemwide environmental practices for environmentally safe practices for both the consumer and the business.

Sodexo’s sustainability includes recycling cooking grease and refill programs, where the company provides students with reusable coffee mugs and water bottles.

“Allison Robinson

As UPAMC’s director of environmental initiatives, Robinson produced the college’s first green giant vs. green sprout story for environmentally safe practices that involves systemwide environmental policies and ongoing research initiatives, and environmentally friendly and sustainable operations.

Sodexo is an international leader in sustainability,” she said. “What we’re doing here at UPAMC is unique in that we don’t just have one goal. It’s a way of life. We’re working to create a sustainable future that provides resources, training and support for sustainability efforts.

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Taking the GREEN LEAP

Continued from Page 9

Entrepreneurs, particularly technological ones, "are the perfect people to think that way," Hart said, adding, "But if you're an engineer, you might have to leave Pittsburgh to do it."

"For the last 50 years, we've been laboring under a military metaphor in thinking about development," he said.

Americans with the big footprint are at the top of the pyramid with assets and aversion to change. Poverty at the base of the pyramid represents a separate camp.

"We've tended to view them as well-defended hills," Hart said, adding that the top of the pyramid has been attacked via regulation, incentives or even guilt trips (against driving big cars, for example) to motivate change.

Meanwhile, at the bottom of the pyramid, rapid industrialization, aid and structural adjustment have been used to attack poverty.

Neither has been a huge success.

While the number of people who earn less than $1 per day is declining, the population is growing. The global population of 2 billion in the 1960s has grown to 6.7 billion, "and 4 billion to 5 billion of them are poor," Hart said.

"That sort of inquiry is increasing, not diminishing," he said, noting that there are "fewer and fewer completely desperate people, but we have a massive and growing underclass."

More weapons against poverty are needed, Hart said, suggesting the use of what management guru Peter Drucker calls "entrepreneurial judo" to "whittle the opponent's momentum to throw him."

"With judo you don't have to be nearly as big as if you were making a frontal assault on a well-defended hill," Hart said.

Rather than aiming at the big-footprint people at the top, the nature of green sprout technologies makes them ideal for a bottom-up approach. They can avoid direct competition and seek out early incubation markets. But that requires innovation, new business models, unconventional partners and new strategies and approaches, he said.

If numerous entrepreneurs adopt this approach, "some of these are going to work and they're going to grow and take root and be copied," he said. Gradually, as income is generated, poverty levels will be reduced.

"This is creative creation, new growth," Hart said, adding that green sprout entrepreneurs can start with a low-cost platform and later add features that increase costs, creating trickle-up innovation that someday could compete in the United States with established companies.

"That's when they're going to change," he said. "That's when you begin to disrupt incumbents," and can have an impact on them

...then have a material impact on the "big footprint" problem. "It's a judo move," he said.

Using honeybee colonies as an example, Hart said success isn't about the queen, but the worker bees that launch their own entrepreneurial initiatives in search of honey. Those who do well communicate the way and find that the next time they leave the hive, more bees follow them.

"I think that's how the green thing works. There was no central director for the Industrial Revolution. There won't be any central director for the environmental and sustainability revolution," Hart said.

"At the end of the day it will be environmentally, socially and competitively superior strategies that win out."

"It's not as simple as just figuring out how to tap into this huge market," he said, blaming the structured nature of many first-generation BOP (Bottom of the Pyramid) strategies for their general lack of success. Most efforts sought to lower costs, source globally, get extended distribution or partner with non-government organizations, for example, Hart said.

The green leap represents the coming together of green tech and BOP. People must realize it's not just a technology problem — a "killer app" mindset won't fix it, he said. Nor is it primarily a marketing problem that can be solved by finding the proper price point, he added.

"It's more of a business process challenge," he said. "How do we actually do this on the ground?"

Embedded innovation, rather than structural innovation, is needed. Hart said. "That's where I think the future lies in terms of bringing these green technologies to life in the world."

Becoming imbedded

"You just can't airdrop solutions," he said, arguing for engaging with marginalized groups, building trust and partnerships.

"It's about two-way communications," Hart said. "We have to be thinking of the underserved as partners, not just as consumers or producers."

To succeed, entrepreneurs must figure out how to creatively marry the skills, resources and technologies a company brings with the knowledge, skills, resources, fears, hopes and aspirations of people in the community, and together make a business neither could have imagined on their own," Hart said.

"How do we bring the latest high tech we can imagine from the top of the pyramid and blend it with local knowledge ... into businesses that come to actually blend those together, creatively fuse those together — that's the opportunity — and then evolve them from the bottom up?" Hart said.

"To me this idea of the green leap is enormously exciting. It holds the potential to address the funnel problem," Hart said, enumerating two large challenges:

"No. 1 is this corporate imperialism problem," he said. Companie comes in, selling poor people things they don't need and taking the profits. "The whole idea of embedded innovation and co-creation begins to address that in a rather direct way. The green leap is a vehicle by which we can do that," Hart said.

"This is where all the problems are, all the people are and all the population growth is. It's where the future lies if you're interested in business."

No. 2 is the environmental meltdown problem. "The green leap is an effective leverage point for us to address this mounting environmental footprint problem," Hart said. "Using the entrepreneurial judo — trickle up — is a way to address that problem in a rather direct way."

"In order to do it effectively, it's going to require that we develop new skills in business co-creation processes."

"I must admit to you that I'm ultra-convinced that this embedded approach that I'm talking about really holds the key," — Kimberly K. Barlow
Research grants announced

The School of Health Sciences recently announced the following government and private grants funding for new or continuing research:
• The School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SHRS) has received a five-year, $4.73 million grant from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research to continue its Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Telehabilitation.

The main emphasis of the center is to investigate the value and effectiveness of rehabilitation services delivered in consumers' homes, workplaces and communities.
• Leming Zhou, a faculty member in SHRS's Department of Health Information Management, received a two-year, $283,640 grant from the National Library of Medicine for a project titled "Integrating Community and Academic Knowledge to Inform Health Science Education."

The project's aim is to teach undergraduate students in health information management and other health science students to gather, collate, and retrieve information from large data sets using computing concepts, technologies, and tools that are referred to as "computational thinking."
• Samuel Poloyac, a faculty member in the Department of Pharmacological Sciences, and Paula Shawood, a faculty member in the School of Nursing's Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, are co-principal investigators on a five-year, $1.3 million grant from the National Institute for Nursing Research.

This research project will help to identify key factors that predict complications and outcomes in patients who have had a subarachnoid hemorrhage in the brain in order to develop earlier intervention strategies.
• Thomas Krivak, director of the gynecologic oncology fellowship program in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, received the 2009-2010 GCF/Caring Together NY Ovarian Cancer Research Grant from the Gynecologic Cancer Foundation. The $30,000 grant will fund research on gene expression to help identify patients who are most likely to respond to different therapies.

• Gretchen M. Ahrendt of Surgical and Jules Sumkin of radiology, both of the Magee-Womens Hospital, have been awarded a cancer program, received one-year grants totaling $133,000 from the Pittsburgh affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure to support an interdisciplinary breast surgery and breast imaging fellowship.

The local Komen affiliate also awarded Magee Womancare International $17,100 to develop and facilitate Mujeres Educando Mujeres: Breast Health in the Latina Community. The grant will facilitate training of Spanish-speaking "promotoras," breast self-examination community educators, and promotion of breast health awareness education and breast cancer education activities to Latinas, in collaboration with organizations serving the Latino community.

Research Notes

Enzyme attacks imaging samples

An international study based at Pitt has identified a human enzyme that can biodegrade carbon nanotubes, according to findings published online in Nature Nanotechnology. The researchers found that carbon nanotubes degraded with the human enzyme myeloperoxidase (MPO) did not produce the lung inflammation that intact nanotubes have been shown to cause.

Furthermore, neutrophils, the white blood cells that contain and emit MPO to kill invading bacteria, and also could lead to the development of a natural treatment for people exposed to nanotubes, either in the environment or the workplace, the team reported.

Carbon nanotubes are one-atom thick rolls of graphite 100,000 times smaller than a human hair yet stronger than steel. They are used to reinforce plastics, ceramics or concrete, are excellent conductors of electricity and heat, and are sensitive chemical sensors.

However, a nanotube's surface also contains thousands of atoms that could react with the human body in unknown ways. Tests on mice have shown that nanotube inhalation results in severe lung inflammation coupled with an early onset of fibrosis. The tubes' durability raises additional concern about proper disposal and cleanup.

According to lead researcher Valerian Kagan, a vice chair in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health in the Graduate School of Public Health, "The successful medical application of carbon nanotubes relies on their effective breakdown in the body, but carbon nanotubes are also notoriously durable. The ability of MPO to biodegrade carbon nanotubes reveals that this breakdown is part of a natural inflammatory response. The next step is to develop methods for stimulating that inflammatory response and reproducing the biodegradation process inside a living organism."

Kagan and his research group led the team of more than 20 researchers from four universities along with faculty members Yulia Tyurina of environmental and occupational health, Donna Stolz of cell biology and physiology, and the laboratory groups of Alexander Star of chemistry and Judith Klein-Seetharaman of structural biology. Other researchers were from Sweden's Karolinska Institute, College of Ireland, Magee-Womens Research Institute, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and West Virginia University.

Low EPCs, pre-eclampsia linked

Compared to women with uncomplicated pregnancies, women with pre-eclampsia have reduced numbers of special "progenitor cells" that are thought to help grow and maintain blood vessels, according to a study by researchers at the Magee-Womens Research Institute (MWRI) and the School of Medicine. The findings are available online in Reproductive Sciences.

As a healthy pregnancy progresses, two types of endothelial progenitor cells (EPCs) increase in number, possibly indicating the augmentation of the mother's cardiovascular system to meet the need of the growing fetus, explained senior author Carl A. Hubel, MWRI associate investigator and faculty member in obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences.

"The adaptation doesn't happen in patients with pre-eclampsia, a pregnancy disorder characterized by high blood pressure and protein overload in the third trimester. Pre-eclampsia is the leading cause of maternal mortality."

"When we examined blood samples from these women, we found they had far fewer EPCs," Hubel said. "We wouldn't have been able to tell them apart from women who weren't pregnant or men." The researchers drew blood samples during the first, second or third trimester from 52 healthy women expecting their first child, 14 with pre-eclampsia expecting their first child, and 13 women who had had pre-eclampsia before.

In addition to the reduced numbers of EPCs, pre-eclampsia samples showed alterations in key signaling molecules that may contribute to the mobilization of progenitor cells into the circulation.

The investigators also collected the trimester blood samples from other groups of 11 women with pre-eclampsia and 12 healthy pregnant women. From those samples, they cultured cells known as circulating angiogenic cells (CACCs), which are a type of progenitor cell thought to secrete growth factors to support cells that regenerate the vascular endothelium, or blood vessel lining. Cultures from pre-eclampsia samples grew fewer CACCs.

"Still, it's not clear to us whether these differences are the cause of pre-eclampsia or are a consequence of it," Hubel noted. "We need to monitor women throughout pregnancy to see if we can figure out what came first, as well as get a better understanding of how all these cells work."

He added that studying women with pre-eclampsia after pregnancy also would be valuable because of the relationship between low numbers of EPCs and the development of cardiovascular disease.

The research team included lead author Patrizia Luppi of pediatrics, Vivek Verma, Lia Edmunds and Daniel Pymiere of MWRI, and Robert W. Powers, of MWRI, the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences and the Center for Vascular Remodeling and Regeneration. The project was funded by the National Institutes of Health and the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Are you overweight and have type 2 diabetes?

Is your body mass index (BMI) between 30 and 40?

Are you between 25 and 55 years of age?

If yes, volunteer to participate in a randomized trial to compare surgical and medical treatments for type 2 diabetes.

Eligible patients will be randomly assigned to undergo one of three treatments: lifestyle weight loss program, gastric bypass surgery, or third-party HMO. The study will last for one year. Study treatments will be offered at no cost to the participant.

For more information, call Jesse at 412-641-3743.

UPMC.com

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The COMMERCIALIZATION PATHWAY

Short course series in Intellectual Property

The University of Pittsburgh's Offices of Enterprise Development and Technology Management are sponsoring a two-part series to give participants in-depth information on the value of intellectual property.

April 27 and May 4, 2010, 5-8 p.m.

University Club, Conference Room A

Light dinner will be provided.

Intellectual Property, a two-part series

Cost is $75.

Limited partial scholarships are available.
The University's chief proponent of “life above the neck,” University Honors College Dean G. Alec Stewart was remembered this week in a memorial service that filled Heinz Chapel with a standing-room-only gathering of faculty, staff, students, family and friends.

Alec Stewart, known by most as Doc or simply Alec, was described as a provider of the highest quality program of undergraduate education as he did,” Nordenberg said, noting how Stewart’s belief of the boundaries should have the opportunity to be the best they can be reflected in the attainments of Honors College students who have earned the highest forms of recognition.

Under the guidance of the Honors College, Pitt students have earned prestigious scholarships, such as Marshall Scholarships and five Udall Scholarships, as well as Churchill and Gates Cambridge scholarships.

Stewart’s commitment to attainment also has spread far beyond the Honors College to becoming a defining characteristic of the broader culture of the University, Nordenberg said.

Stewart earned his bachelor’s degree in physics in 1962 from Amherst College. He earned master’s degrees in physics and nuclear engineering and a PhD in solid-state physics at the University of Washington.

In comments to the University Times, the dean continued to teach regularly in the physics department, where he held the Bernstein and Lerner Professorships. McCord emphasized the importance of the student to the Honors College’s director of academic affairs. “He believed in and lived the values of a liberal education.”

Stewart viewed the Honors College as “the place for the intellectual helodner,” and provided a context of gravity that drew students in on the premise that the intellectual life is fun — a mindset that led to achievements and milestones, Hilberg said. “When students gravitate to that message, they’re the right kind of student. And they do amazing things.”

He remembers Stewart as “serious but not solemn, irreverent in his way, but in no way that would compromise what we are all trying to do.”

Hilberg recalled that many of his conversations with the dean were about matters that affect the place a university was and the near-sacred obligation to make the world a better place. “People had freedom to express opinions no matter how outrageous” — as long as they were prepared to back them up. To that end, when Hilbert was teaching in the Honors College suite, Stewart on occasion would poke his head into the classroom, wait for him to finish his sentence, then let loose with a loud, “Bulldog!”

The tactic got attention, yet was backed by an educational intent: “It was his pathy way to get to the heart of the matter.”

Stewart often preferred to avoid “dead work” in favor of engaging students with projects — as in a Monday-through-Friday physics class he had been teaching that term, conducting Honors College information sessions, helping students with their research or projects, and hanging out and engaging them in conversation.

He liked everybody deferring to him because he was the dean,” said Honors College staff Chris Callahan. “He didn’t make them say, ‘Hey, it’s only 2 p.m. down to earth as he said he was.”

Nevertheless, Chirdon said, Stewart was keenly aware that large universities can be prone to losing their focus. He guarded against by restating his decisions whenever the interest of the student?

He was gallantly defensive of Stewart coming inﬂamed if he felt a student was being taken advantage of or getting the better of him, McCord said. “He would leap to their comebacks.”

Stewart maintained an open-door policy, and demonstrated his regard for students by example. “If there were problems, you told him he was left unsaid,” McCord recalled. “He radiated by his manner, style, his values.”

Chief among them was that students and student interactions came before everything — a concept that was not announced to the staff, but was evident by their conversations.

“Students who dropped in and wanted to spend time with him — he would rearrange everything around them,” McCord said. “He would put whatever he was doing aside — sometimes for hours — be it to help with physics problems or to work on academic issues.”

“Whenever he was interacting with frustration or moodiness,” nor did he hold grudges or think less of a student who didn’t perform well, McCord said.

In dealing with students who were doing poorly or considering dropping out of school, “He had a magical ability to discern who was really at risk,” McCord said, adding, “with a gift for knowing how to engage their interest and motivate them.”

“He would shrewdly come up with suggestions and offer them opportunities that lift them up like a light bulb,” McCord said, recalling one instance in which a student who had recently spent some time on campus used to be a dedicated student, but then had stayed and later went on to win a Fulbright Scholarship.

Stewart was known for his patience with students to do their best, he understood they might have bad days, he would shrewdly come up with suggestions and offer them opportunities that lift them up like a light bulb,” McCord said, recalling one instance in which a student who had recently spent some time on campus used to be a dedicated student, but then had stayed and later went on to win a Fulbright Scholarship.

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G. Alec Stewart

Continued from Page 12

into their job.

“‘He wanted everyone to love their job here, to find a way to do something they loved and incorp-orate it into their work,’” she said. “‘He so much loved what he did, he wanted everyone to love their job as much as he did.’”

She said she also was the quint-essential example of the connect-edness of people — often not even needing the proverbial 6 degrees of separation before finding a common bond with anyone he would meet — be it in the way of a common acquaintance, a place they had visited or a book they both had read. “He was always able to converse with anyone, whether prospective students, parents or tourists who wandered into the Honors College for the view from the 36th floor’s windows.”

Billingdale recalled the audit cited by the provost during Stew- art’s memorial — and confirmed the auditor’s alarm at how many books were being bought and that they were being given away.

Among those books were the volumes bestowed upon students who came in for a Chancellor’s Scholar interview. The dean’s practice was to hand-pick a book for each one, inscribing it with a personal message related to the interview, she said, noting that many recipients have recounted to her over the years how meaningful they found his gesture.

Students weren’t the only recipients of Stewart’s book rec-o mmendations. Honors College staffer Dave Hornyak recalled his job interview with Stewart. “He got up in the middle of the interview and walked out of the room.”

Giazzoni hadn’t botched the interview, as he initially feared. “He so much loved what he did; he was always able to incorporate it into their work,” she said, adding that Stewart forced him to be more circumspect, to resist jumping to conclusions — and how much he valued educa-tion and the humanities — in his doctoral dissertation in the School of Education.

McCoerd said Stewart was sup-portive of colleagues’ intellectual pursuits, noting that several Honors College staff have earned PhDs while working there. “This just delighted him,” McCord said, adding that Stewart’s attitude was that everyone’s track of personal improvement served the Honors College. “He built a strong operation perfectly prepared to move into the future, carrying forward his vision and values,” said McCord, who is coordinating the office now.

Giazzoni agreed. “He brought on a lot of people who shared his values,” noting that the Honors College has been “on autopilot” — and Stewart “was a great academic role model for so many people,” said staffer Dave Hornyak, who noted that several faculty have intimated to him since Stewart’s death that they considered the dean their hero.

Stewart’s value of education, “how much he valued educa-tion for everyone,” stands out in Hornyak’s mind.

When prospective employees were being considered, the dean’s question always was, “Do they read books?” Hornyak said. “That sums up his whole philosophy of what an honors college, a university should be about.”

Judy Zang, who joined the Honors College staff in 2008 as director of national scholar-ships, said as a newcomer to Pitt she enjoyed drawing on Stewart’s wealth of experience and insight.

Stewart’s emphasis on curios-ity, attitude, imagination and creativity was impressed upon her. “He looked at the attitude: If people had the right attitude, everything is possible,” she said.

When she would come to him seeking an opinion — admitted ly with an idea in her head about the answer she expected — she always came away surprised. “He never had in mind what I thought,” she said, adding that Stewart forced her to be more circumspect, to resist jumping to conclusions and to guard against being judg-mental.

“He made me step back and look at the bigger picture,” she said, counting herself fortunate to have had Stewart as a mentor, if only for a short while. “I wish it hadn’t ended. At least I got to see what could be possible.”

“He was the heart and soul of the whole idea of this Honors Col-lege,” said McCord. “The Honors College has grown around his values and his character.”

As they look toward the future, Honors College staff intend to continue Stewart’s legacy. “He built a strong operation perfectly prepared to move into the future, carrying forward his vision and values,” said McCord, who is coordinating the office now.

Giazzoni agreed. “He brought on a lot of people who shared his values,” noting that the Honors College has been “on autopilot” in the wake of Stewart’s death “but doing what he would have wanted,” he said.

Among the tangible legacies Stewart left behind are five loose-leaf binders kept in a prominent place in the auditor’s office at the Honors College kitchen.

Credited to “Bedlam Pub-lishers,” the binders’ covers are emblazoned with Stewart’s tongue-in-check handwritten warnings: “Danger! Ideas and Thoughts! Risks! Stuff!” or his advice to “Enjoy, Reflect, Criti-cize, Advocate.”

The set of “dean’s scrapbooks” bulge with articles and clippings Stewart found interesting. (Staff recently took to collecting elec-tronic versions of Stewart’s selec-tions in a virtual dean’s scrapbook that can be found at www.hon-orscollege.pitt.edu/about/deans- scrapbook.html.) Items range from news reports on expeditions to the Cook pre-serving commentaries on edu-ca- tional issues or articles about physics.

Stewart’s final selection closes the book fittingly. It is Jon Meacham’s recent Newsweek article, “In Defense of the Liberal Arts.”

—Kimberly K. Barlow

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Fifth Annual Springboard Celebration of Undergraduate Research & Creativity


At Pitt, undergraduates get to take part in the development of new knowledge by working closely with senior, high-performance faculty who are doing some of the most interesting research in the world. Now is the season to celebrate the research and creativity of undergraduates across the Pitt campus. Come out and show your support.

For a complete list of all Springboard 2010 events, visit the new Undergraduate Research website at: www.undergradresearch.pitt.edu

G. Alec Stewart

Continued from Page 12

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Giazzoni hadn’t botched the meeting, as he initially feared. “He was just going out to get a book for me,” Giazzoni recently used the book, a collection of essays on the “Two Cultures” — technol-ogy and the humanities — in his doctoral dissertation in the School of Education.

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—Kimberly K. Barlow
Thursday 22

Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds
"Etropic Pregnancy," Linda Morrison; "Tick, Tock, Shock: Implanted Cardiac Devices," Vincent Mosesso; "X-ray Eosinomas From the Pediatric Emergency Department," Chris King; 5th fl. classroom, A, 230 Mckie PL, 8 am noon

HSLS Workshop
"Adobe Photoshop for Beginners," Sam Lewis; Falk Library classroom, 2, 10 am noon

Epidemiology Seminar
"CASE: Crossover Study of Injuries to Wheelchair Users," Thomas Songer; Falk Library classroom, noon-12:30 pm

GI Grand Rounds
"New Insights Into the Molecular Action of Hepatocyte Growth Factor (HGF/HGFR) in Tissue Growth & Homeostasis," Reza McKee Pl., 8 am-noon

M&MG Seminar
"Making Sense of Skin: Regulation of Keratinocyte Differentiation and Survival," Richard Eckart, U of Chicago; 503 Bradford Pt., 2 pm

Pharmacology & Chemical Biology Seminar
"X/Autosomal Differences in Meiotic Chromosome Behavior," Judith Yanowitz; 503 Bradford Pt., 3 pm

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Wednesday 28

HSLS Workshop
"Cancer Immunology," Jason Chattopadhyay; Falk Library conf. rm. B, 1-1:30 pm

GI Grand Rounds
"MEN 1 & Zolinger-Ellison Syndrome: A Surgeon’s Perspective," Edward Prochownik, pediatrics; 1395 Starzl BST, 3:30 pm

GI Grand Rounds
"Bowel Obstruction & Stimulant Treatment of Stimulant Dependence Outcomes," Johnsthahn Campus Lecture
"Making Sense of Skin: Regulation of Keratinocyte Differentiation and Survival," Richard Eckart, U of Chicago; 503 Bradford Pt., 2 pm

Pharmacology & Chemical Biology Seminar
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**PhD Defenses**

**April 16, 1528 CL, noon**

- "The Electronic Negro" & "Sister Soul(s)?", through April 17, 7th fl. aud., Alumni (for times: www.kuntu.org)
- PICT Play Reading
  - "Blue/Orange", April 26, Foster Memorial, 7 pm (412/561-6000)
- PICT's Music Drama
  - "Beautiful Dreamers", through May 1, Charity Randall, Foster Memorial (for times: www.pict-theater.org/)

**Event Deadline**

The next issue of the University Times will include University and on-campus events of April 29-May 13. Information for events during that period must be received by 5 pm on April 22 at 108 Belknap Hill. Information may be sent by fax to 4-4579 or email to uctimes@pitt.edu.

**Subject Areas**

**Healthy Mid-Life Women Needed**

Healthy mid-life women are needed for a research study. Requirements include phone (20 min.) & in-person screening (95 min.) & 1 day of monitoring as you go about your daily activities. $30 compensation & parking provided. For more information contact: Allie (412)422-2939 or allie@upmc.edu.

**Post-Menopausal Women**

Caucasian, Asian or Hispanic women wanted for a 3-month osteoporosis study. Must qualify by having low bone density on screening DXA scan within 2 years. Women are randomized to treatment arms daily injections of either an approved or investigational drug for osteoporosis. Contact coordinator: 412/696-2483 (m) or coordinator@upmc.edu.

**EXHIBITS**

Greensburg Campus Performance/Exhibit

- "Negotiable Ambivalence," Michael Walter, Barloché, through May 28, M-Th 7:30 am-11:45 pm, F 7:30 am-8 pm, Sat. 10 am-8 pm, Sun. 10 am-11:45 pm
- Studio Arts Student Exhibit
  - EFA Gallery, through May 1, M-F 10 am-4 pm (6-2430)

**EXHIBITS**

**NEWSPAPER CLASSIFIEDS**

Classifieds for the University Times are accepted for the Thursday's issue. Ad copy must be received one week prior to publication. Copy and space may be reserved by submitting ad copy to the University Times. A $10 charge will be added for each insertion. Orders must be accompanied by a check for the full amount made payable to the University of Pittsburgh. Reserve space by submitting ad copy and a check for the full amount made payable to the University of Pittsburgh. For University ads, submit an account number for transfer of funds.

For more information, call 412/624-4644.

**WANTED PHOTOGRAPHERS**

The new online classifieds site www.hypepittsburgh.com is looking for exciting, intriguing & fun pictures to post on its site. We are especially interested if your picture is humorous. Please submit 3-5 pictures. Pay is $0.50 per picture. Visit www.hypepittsburgh.com for details.

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**412/624-4644.**
Epidemiology Seminar
“Natural History of Genetic Risk Variants for Psychotic Disorders in Oceanian Polynesian Populations,” Gale Richardson & Nadine Melham, A115 Crabtree, noon
HSLS Lunch With a Librarian
“May We Suggest Something in a Game? Sensors, Database Ads & Other Polymed Discovery Features,” Patricia Weiss; Falk Library conv., R, noon

Neurology Seminar
“Genetic Analysis of Neurodegeneration in Drosophila,” Mel Feany; 120 Starzl BST, 3 pm
Geology & Planetary Science Colloquium
“High Resolution Chronology of the Early Solar System: New Constraints From Recent Advances in Mass Spectrometry,” Mika Sakuma, ASU, 11 Thaw, 4 pm (4-8780)

UCIS Workshop
“HighTech: How to Teach the European Union in 45 Minutes,” Melissa Parker, 405 Posvar, 5-6 pm (chk: to register 412-471-7852)

Poetry Reading
Lynn Emanuel & Bob Hsok; FFA aud., 7 pm
Jazz Ensemble Concert
With Claudio Roditi, Brazilian trumpeter, WP Hol Assembly Rm., 8 pm (4-4187)

Friday 16
SRDC Workshop
“The 1st Step: Mechanics of Starting a Small Business”, Merino, 7:30-10 am (to register: 8-1294)
Medical Ethics Update
“President George W. Bush: White Paper, Where Do We Go From Here?”, lecture rm. 5 Scarfe, 8 am-noon, & S100A, S120 & S123BST, 1-3.15 pm (5-7120)
Endocrine Conference
“Hirosumi & Laser Hair Removal”, Samantha Demauro, 1195 Starzl BST, 8:30 am
Trustees Executive Committee Meeting
2700 Posvar, 10 am
Asian Studies Symposium
“Minority Groups & State Authorities: Comparisons & Cases From Taiwan & the PRC,” Andrew Strathern & Pamela Stewart, VPDU Dining Rm. A, 10 am-4:30 pm (also April 17, 10 am-noon; 8-3730)
WPIC Clinical Grand Rounds
“Psychiatric Emergency Intake Services,” Jeremy Musher, 2nd fl. aud. and Dnt, 11 am-12:10 pm
Medical Ed Grand Rounds
“Narrative, Reflection & the Fostering of Empathy in Medical Education,” Anna Kamagui, U of MI, Scarfe 4th fl. lecture rm. 3, noon (8-9000)
Pulmonary Grand Rounds
“Advanced Cardiopulmonary Support Systems & the PRC,” Graft Dysfunction UPMC Experience, Christian Bermudez, NW 22 Monforte, noon
Dental Medicine Continuing Ed Lecture
“Dental Photography: Shooting Digital,” Ali Soydan; 2148 Salk, 1:15 pm
Medieval & Renaissance Studies Lecture
“Truth, Self-Evidence & the Colonial Question (ca. 1500),” Gonzalo Lamana, 501 CL, 3 pm (4-5220)
Music Lecture
“Essentialism, Orientalism & Musical Identity in Goldmark’s ‘Queen of Sheba,’” David Bordwell, UC-Irvine; 112 Musc, 4 pm (4-4125)
Brazilian Festival
“Carnaval!”, 1st fl. galleria Prowar, 6 pm
African Music & Dance Ensemble
Bellefield aud., 8 pm (412-394-3353)

Saturday 17
Additional instructional time for Tuesday classes due to February weather-related closing of University.
Dental Medicine Continuing Ed Conference
“Local Anesthesics for the Dental Hygienist, Part I,” Sean Byrnes & Paul Moore, 2488 Salk, 7:30 am-5 pm (also April 18)
Johnstown Campus Undergrad Psychology Conference, UPJ, 9am (412-629-7293)
Pitt Men’s Glee Club Concert
1st Baptist Church, 139 N. Bellefield, 8 pm (412-394-3353)

Sunday 18
Women’s Choral Ensemble Concert
Heinz Chapel, 3 pm

Monday 19
Auditory Research Seminar

Tuesday 20
Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition Journal Club
“Time Dependent Analysis,” Matthew Rockey & Dhiraj Yadav, M2 conf. rm. Presby, 7:30 am
Office of Research/NCURA Brown Bag Workshop
“Managing Financial Requirements of Awards”, S120 Starzl BST, 11:30 am-1:30 pm (8-7405)
Basic & Translational Research in Lung Diseases Lecture
“TREM-1 in ALI & Sepsis,” Roxana Salikove, NW 28 Monforte, noon
CVR Seminar
“Chemokine-driven Inflammation During Pathogenic SIV Infection,” Todd Reinhardt; 6014 BST, noon
Health Services Research Seminar
“Developing More Effective Anti-Aging Public Service Announcements Using an Intensive Laboratory-Based Approach,” William Shadel; 305 Parkvale, noon
Senate Community Relations Committee Mtg.
United Cerebral Palsy, 4618 Centre Ave., noon-2 pm
UPCI Basic & Translational Research Seminar
“HTLV-1 & Cellular Transformation: Insights After 50 Years of Virus Discovery,” Kuan-The Feany; 120 Starzl BST, 11:30 am-1:30 pm (8-7405)
M&M/MG Seminar
“Regulation of Inflammation & Fibrosis During Chronic Infection,” Thomas Byrn; 1295 Starzl BST, 3:30 pm

Wednesday 21
Clinical Oncology & Hematology Grand Rounds
“Novel Therapeutic Strategies for Recurrent Prostate Cancer,” Anna Ferrari, 2nd fl. aud. UPMC Cancer Pavilion, 8 am

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