Goodbye, broadcast messages

This broadcast message includes a recommendation to eliminate Pitt’s broadcast message service.

Computing Services and Systems Development director Jim Walton said she’s making the call to terminate the service based on a recent survey in which nearly 9 out of 10 respondents said the compilation of announcements and promotional messages provided through CSSD was not useful or was only minimally useful.

“There are so many other ways to reach people, this one’s no longer relevant,” Walton said.

About 1,780 people (36 percent) responded to the survey sent last month to the University’s 4,875 voicemail subscribers by CSSD in conjunction with the University Senate computer usage committee.

Committee co-chair Alexandros Labrinidis told Faculty Assembly at its May 4 meeting, “We’ve been hearing anecdotal evidence in the committee, and by reports from other people, that they don’t like broadcast voicemail.

Faculty should add a statement to course syllabi clarifying students’ use of recording technology in the classroom, Faculty Assembly recommended last week.

Kathleen Kelly, co-chair of the University Senate educational policies committee (EPC), reported May 4 on what she termed a “classroom civility topic.”

As University Senate President Michael Pinsky reported at the November Assembly meeting, in October a student secretly taped a Pitt class and posted it on YouTube. The posting included the student’s caustic commentary about the class, the instructor and the University, he said.

When confronted by the instructor, the student removed the video from the site and resigned from the course. The teacher elected not to pursue any action against the student, Pinsky told Assembly members in the fall.

At the May 4 Assembly meeting, Kelly said, “There was an incident that was taken care of, but it raised the bigger issue of making faculty more aware of the potential of this happening with the growth of electronic media.

“We spent a lot of time deliberating on the issue of students’ disseminating what happened in a classroom. We had the input of legal counsel on several occasions, as well as the provost’s office, to come up with—not a policy—but a statement.”

The statement, which was approved by Assembly members with one abstention, reads: “To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the student’s own private use.”

Use of the statement is optional, Kelly noted.

To disseminate this recommendation to faculty members, EPC plans to work with the Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education (CIDDE), she said.

“We thought the best vehicle for that might be to go through CIDDE, to have them perhaps pre-populate that statement in their [syllabus] template,” Kelly said.

At last week’s Assembly meeting, Pinsky, in endorsing the statement, said, “The principle here is the sanctity of the classroom, and that the classroom should have open and free conversation, but it is not a public place. So, for example, you can’t go into someone else’s classroom without their permission.”

The other issue, he said, was protecting students’ confidence.

Carved in stone

Facilities Management laborer Lennie Burd inscribes the names of the 2009 Omicron Delta Kappa Senior of the Year awardees on the ODK walkway crossing the Cathedral of Learning lawn. The inscriptions on prior years’ stones were sandblasted offsite as part of the recent restoration of the walkway, but additional names are being inscribed in place.

Kathleen Kelly, co-chair of the University Senate educational policies committee (EPC), reported May 4 on what she termed a “classroom civility topic.”

As University Senate President Michael Pinsky reported at the November Assembly meeting, in October a student secretly taped a Pitt class and posted it on YouTube. The posting included the student’s caustic commentary about the class, the instructor and the University, he said.

When confronted by the instructor, the student removed the video from the site and resigned from the course. The teacher elected not to pursue any action against the student, Pinsky told Assembly members in the fall.

At the May 4 Assembly meeting, Kelly said, “There was an incident that was taken care of, but it raised the bigger issue of making faculty more aware of the potential of this happening with the growth of electronic media.

“We spent a lot of time deliberating on the issue of students’ disseminating what happened in a classroom. We had the input of legal counsel on several occasions, as well as the provost’s office, to come up with—not a policy—but a statement.”

The statement, which was approved by Assembly members with one abstention, reads: “To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the student’s own private use.”

Use of the statement is optional, Kelly noted.

To disseminate this recommendation to faculty members, EPC plans to work with the Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education (CIDDE), she said.

“We thought the best vehicle for that might be to go through CIDDE, to have them perhaps pre-populate that statement in their [syllabus] template,” Kelly said.

At last week’s Assembly meeting, Pinsky, in endorsing the statement, said, “The principle here is the sanctity of the classroom, and that the classroom should have open and free conversation, but it is not a public place. So, for example, you can’t go into someone else’s classroom without their permission.”

The other issue, he said, was protecting students’ confidence.
Pitt ranked among top research schools

The University received an estimated $50 million in research expenditures in fiscal year 2007, 160 institutions — 113 public and 47 private — met the criteria for FY07. According to the report, 38 percent of all reported federal research expenditures.

The listing identifies 52 institutions (27 private and 25 public) that rank in the top 25 nationally on at least one of nine measures related to financial support, faculty salaries, postdoctoral appointees, and American research universities nationwide in at least one of nine measures.

Pitt ranked in the top 25 of research universities nationwide in four of the nine measures: No. 12 in postdoctoral appointees, with 946; No. 13 in federal research dollars, with $84 million; No. 18 in total research dollars, with more than $776 million in FY07; and No. 25 in endowment assets with more than $2 billion. Pitt ranked in the top 26 nationally in eight measures. Among public research institutions, Pitt ranked in the top 25 in all nine measures: No. 6 in postdoctoral appointees; No. 11 in federal research dollars; No. 8 in endowment assets; No. 10 in faculty awards; No. 12 in total research; No. 17 in endowment assets; No. 21 in National Academy members; No. 25 in annual giving; and No. 25 in SAT/ACT range.

Joining Pitt in the group of leading institutions with top rankings in all nine measures were Berkeley, UCLA, Illinois/ Urbana-Champaign, Michigan-Ann Arbor, North Carolina-Chapel Hill and Wisconsin-Madison.

Current and previous years' report data are available in spreadsheet format at http://msup. pitt.edu.

For more information, contact Pitt's Partnership for Food drive's results by extending the food drive has been extended to May 17. Participants in the virtual food drive receive a receipt for tax deduction purposes.

The University receives a donation will be matched by the Chancellor's office.

Pitt is hanging up on broadcast messages

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

messages. We now have factual evidence. The conclusion is this is not useful, it's a nuisance, more nuisance than it's worth. We're going to recommend that this is eliminated, and we're going to be coming up with alternative methods for these messages to be delivered, possibly on a web site.

While about 13 percent of respondents found the service somewhat, very or extremely useful, 64.5 percent said the message service was not useful and 22.3 percent found it minimally useful.

Nearly two-thirds admitted to never listening to the announce- ments, which typically are sent four times per month.

Though 12 percent said they'd like to see the broadcast messages eliminated completely, more than 55 percent of respondents preferred the messages be delivered in some other format such as on a web site or portal. Labinoff said some used the word “annoying,” “hassle,” “waste of time” and “useless nuis- ance” to describe the broadcast messages. Others labeled the messages “audio spam.”

Walton said University phone users have been extremely vocal in opposing the broadcast messages.

"To date, no one is coming forward with evidence. The conclusion is this is not useful, it's a nuisance, more nuisance than it's worth. We're going to recommend that this is eliminated, and we're going to be coming up with alternative methods for these messages to be delivered, possibly on a web site."
Incorporating how students learn into how faculty teach

Transfer issues. Understanding is not something that is indicated on a test. It’s the act of doing something,” he said.

That’s where the “three Ps” in problem posing, prof-

ed and using peer persuasion, Donovanz said. What makes a good scientific question? The goal of any prob-

elem is to get students to move from being an audience to participants. To do that, they have to see how research, which can be introduced into the teaching process, but in a way that is meaningful and fresh to the direc-
tor of undergraduate programs for the BioQUEST Curriculum Consortium, a 25-year national reform effort in biology educa-
tion, said.” “It is about learning to learn: Integrating Disciplinary and Media Literacy.”

We have the educational theories of Allan Collins, author of “Situated Cognition,” and his colleague from Western University, with leading him to “a revelation.”

“We are visual creatures, we can gravitate toward these things. We need to think about it when they’re teaching.”

The key is to integrate discipli-

nons of photomechanical and informa-
tional literacies,” Donovanz said. It used to be that the professor and the textbook were the sole sources of information. “Now that is true much less so,” he said. “Think about all the information that’s on the Internet. Students need to gain experience to find the information, which is what faculty have been trained to do,” he said.

In addition to accessing the most current discipline-specific academic literature, students need to develop the ability to critically analyze — RSS feeds (such as Science News and PubMed), Google alerts, tweets, and blogs — in their course assignments, he said. “Students should notice and process these sources of information. We are visual creatures, we can make sense of complex things.”

“Undergraduates need to understand the process of science, its interdisciplinary nature and how science is closely integrated within society. Students also should be competent in communication and collaboration, as well as have a certain level of quantitative competency, and a basic ability to understand and interpret data.”

Donovanz said his main “take-

way messages” are:

• While lectures have a role in course delivery, they are overemphasized on didactic instruction does little to engage students as learners and even less to prepare them for future lifelong learning.

• Work setting changes, people have to retrain regularly, so we need to rethink our responsibil-

• Online information resources exist to provide students with authentic learning experiences.

• Adopting this new curricular model will involve addressing both disciplinary and information literacy.

• “We need to think about not just our disciplinary knowl-

dge but how things play out in the real world. It plays out with the interactions with all sorts of media,” Donovanz said.

Another approach to applying research is by employing evidence-based practice (EBP) techniques, accord-
ing to Richard Henker, professor of Anesthesiology and Surgery at the University of Michigan. “We don’t do things unless we’ve learned from the clinical experience,” Henker said.

“We do give content through lectures, which work well for recognition, but not for under-

standing. Recognizing a correct answer on a test does not show understanding.”

So faculty in the nurse anes-

thesia program use the Socratic method to engage students. In addition, the nursing school has decided to de-emphasize multiple choice exams in favor of essay tests, which provide a clearer indication of whether students understand concepts, he said.

“Our goal is a deeper founda-

tion of factual knowledge, but there are obstacles, chiefly the attitude of ‘this is the way we’ve always done this procedure.’ The goal also is we want to teach you a process: Try to look at the litera-
ure, and incorporate the literature into patient care. Most important is to develop the habit of review-

ing and critiquing the literature in order to relate it to practice. The literature on patient care changes almost each day in a short period,” Henker said.

He then explained how the program incorporates EBP into its nurse anesthesia master’s program curriculum.

“In the first course, Foun-

of Anesthesiology, there is mostly content but we make sure we have an assignment that starts them identifying clinical questions, going out and doing research, then writing a summary,” Henker said. Students quickly learn that the answers to these questions are black and white.

“Textbooks may make it look black and white, but that’s not the case in the real world,” he said.

In the Pharmacology course, students learn to critique the aca-

demic literature in stacks of two-to-three students. “They critique the article and discuss it, and then have someone get up in front of the class and present the critique and then discuss how this will affect their practice,” Henker said.

Graded on whether that process is continued throughout the cur-

riculum.

“In Statistics, evidence-based practice helps to evaluate the methodology used in articles, and in Evidence-Based Practice I and II, students take some of the results of evidence they’ve found and apply it to real patients,” he said.

“I love the research Practicum, which I teach, the format is a series of short lectures, a review of statistical analysis and the critique process; an evidence-based practice part that shows small groups critique different sections of the articles, and on a discussion board post a summary of their critique. We’ll spend two hours discussing the critiques, and then we rotate the small groups,” Henker explained. “This really gives me insight into how well they can understand. The article selection is important. Articles should be clinically relevant articles.”

He added that students are graded 40% on classroom discussion and online discussion.

The goal, he said, is to dem-

strate the importance of research in supporting practice. “It’s a clinically oriented program, and that is the real world, in gaining clinical skill, but they often don’t see the connection between evidence-based research and clinical skill,” Henker said.

He added that the program promotes teaching the view that part of lifelong learning; students learn to organize knowledge in a way that enables them to incorporate knowledge into practice, and they develop self- efficacy regarding learning.

—Peter Hart
At a glance

Highest-paid staff

Highest average (by job category)
- Executives, administrative & managerial employees: $289,819 average, $217,000 median
- 164 other professionals: $128,919 average, $127,000 median

Highest median (by job category)
- Executives, administrative & managerial employees: $45,914 average, $42,642 median
- 10 secretarial and clerical: $29,072 average, $24,656 median
- 14 technical, skilled and service: $32,035 average, $33,014 median

Lowest-paid staff

Lowest average (by job category)
- Technical, skilled & service
- Associate vice chancellor, Human Resources: $70,218 average, $66,749 median
- 120 other professionals: $41,777 average, $42,813 median
- 46 secretarial and clerical: $30,374 average, $31,309 median
- 20 technical, skilled and service: $27,111 average, $26,679 median

Lowest median (by job category)
- Secretarial/clerical
- University Library System: $17,537

Lowest median (net total by area)
- University Library System: $23,639

"At a glance" tables continue on page 5

• Highest paid staff
• Lowest paid staff
• Highest median (by job category)
• Lowest median (by job category)
• Highest median (net total by area)
• Lowest median (net total by area)
**Staff/administration salaries**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6
T he University Senate budget policies committee is requesting longitudinal salary data for the administration’s annual report on mean and median salaries at Pitt.

In response to the presentation of Pitt’s Management Information and Analysis report on mean and median salaries of full time faculty and staff for fiscal year 2009 at BPC’s April 30 meeting, Senate President Michael Pinsky proposed examining salary faculty trends over a multi-year period.

“I have a hard time looking at any data from one year alone,” he said, adding that a comparison of faculty salaries over a longer period of time would give the committee perspective on trends and help guide future salary discussions.

Because each salary report is a snapshot of Pitt employees as of a certain date (the current report is based on August 2009 employment), the employees enumerated in the report vary from year to year, meaning that a strict apples-to-apples comparison isn’t possible, Pinsky said. Pinsky argued that the size of the University workforce is large enough to render some helpful information.

“If the population is large enough then that degree of variance will not be an issue in terms of you looking over time,” he said. The overall salary data can be influenced by faculty being promoted through the ranks or full professors leaving or retiring, for example. But, while there may be some variance in a given year, over time a trend should emerge, he said.

“Unless you significantly change the demographics of the population, it should be able to be followed as a mean and median value,” Pinsky said. Although the individuals can’t be looked at, the trends still are valid.”

The committee agreed to request a report showing faculty pay (by rank) from the past five mean and median salary reports in relation to pay at public Association of American Universities institutions.

Vice Chancellor for Budget and Controller Arthur G. Ramicone agreed to convey the committee’s request to the provost.

Another report typically sought by BPC is not being requested this year due to the University’s pay freeze. Management Information and Analysis prepares a report on salary increases for full-time continuing faculty at BPC’s request each year, but BPC chair John J. Baker did not request that report this year because there was no salary pool increase.

“I didn’t think it would show much,” he said. Committee member Phil Wion reiterated his contention that “this might have been some value in seeing how many people indeed did get some raises even though there was freeze,” adding that the lack of a report “breaks the continuity” for BPC’s review of the report.

In other business:

• Baker noted that the full University planning and budgeting committee held its last meeting of the fiscal year, May 29. As part of the University’s annual budget process, UPBC, made up of faculty, staff and administrators, develops budget parameters and recommends compensation increases to the chancellor.

• Baker said, “I think UPBC had a very fruitful discussion on parameters for next year,” adding that because UPBC deliberations are confidential, he could not provide details. “There was a good discussion and I thought it was a very good discussion,” he said.

• A closed portion of the April 30 BPC session was devoted to discussion of BPC’s own recommendations for fiscal year 2011 salary pool increases. Members were provided historic data on how Pitt’s salary pool and average faculty salary were compared with inflation rates over the past five years. “I think it’s a negative trend we need to discuss,” Baker said.

• In four of the past five years, more than half the faculty who performed satisfactorily or better received pay increases that were less than the increase in the Consumer Price Index, according to figures compiled by Baker. While the fiscal year 2010 Consumer Price Index rose 0.1 percent, Pitt’s FY10 pay freeze meant that more than 95 percent of faculty still lost ground compared with inflation. Although the current fiscal year’s figure can be attributed to extenuating circumstances, Baker said, in FY08, 11 percent of faculty received pay raises that fell below the CPI’s 2.5 percent increase. In the other three of the past five years, 4.57 percent of Pitt faculty whose performance was rated satisfactory or better received increases that failed to keep pace with inflation.

• Baker noted that he examined more extensively the relation between Pitt’s salary policy and faculty members’ actual buying power in a University Times opinion column. (See Oct. 12, 2006, University Times.)

• Nomination of committee officers is expected to take place at the May BPC meeting. Although the committee is scheduled to meet May 28, Baker told the University Times that the date would be changed. This date had not been set as of press time.

—Kimberly K. Barlow

BPC requests longitudinal salary data
Dealing with the ravages of Alzheimer’s

Until treatments for dementia are found, researchers must seek ways to best care for people who have the condition, said the author of one of the first guides for families caring for Alzheimer’s patients. “We are living through a revolution in dealing with illness, and that can help us,” said Peter V. Rabins, professor of medicine and behavioral sciences and co-director of the Division of Geriatric Psychiatry and Neurology at the University of Rochester School of Medicine, who presented the 2010 Mayo Lecture, “The 36-Hour Day: A Family Guide to Caring for People with Alzheimer Disease, Related Dementias, and Memory Loss in Later Life.” The 1981 book is now in its fourth edition and has sold 2 million copies.

The Foster Community lecture was an annual event of the Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, attended to educate family members, caregivers, and others about dealing with the illness. Early detection has been the focus of a lecture in this field, Rabins said, which will be especially important once good treatments are developed. In the meantime, given that most people who have Alzheimer’s disease die from other causes, and about 85 percent will eventually have dementia, Rabins suggested that caregivers should stand how to care for them, said Rabins, whose recent research has focused on caregivers’ decision-making and quality-of-life issues for people who have late-stage Alzheimer’s disease.

**Dementia defined**

Dementia is defined as any disease that begins in adulthood and impairs two or more aspects of thinking. Rabins said. “The parts of the brain while 75 different diseases can cause dementia, Alzheimer’s disease is the most common, responsible for about three-quarters of all dementia cases,” Rabins said. Although Alzheimer’s typically is considered a memory disease, “It’s a fact that most of the disease ability, most of the struggles that the patient has and the family have are actually from the non-memory, non-cognitive functioning,” Rabins said.

In spite of the notion that Alzheimer’s disease only can be diagnosed after death, Rabins said doctores can diagnose it with approximately 90 percent accuracy in living patients. Those who later are diagnosed with the disease typically have had some other form of dementia, he said.

“Following a medical, neuropsychological and psychiatric assessment to rule out other causes such as Parkinson’s disease, lupus, multiple sclerosis, criteria for an Alzheimer’s diagnosis include a decline in memory, judgment, problem solving, concentration and at least one of the following: difficulty with language or communication (aphasia), difficulty with everyday activities (apraxia) or difficulty with one’s ability to see or hear (agnosia), Rabins said.

Alzheimer’s disease progresses slowly, he said. “Most people don’t come to their family’s or their doctor’s attention for at least two years,” he said. “If you’re retired and you’re living a pretty robust life, you actually don’t depend on memory all that much. If you’re working enough to have a spouse or live with somebody else, they remind you when your doctor’s appointment is, or the occasional out-of-the-ordinary thing. Once you become dysfunctional, and you’re thinking to yourself: ‘What am I doing all my life, that’s what gets people’s attention.’”

The general course of Alzheimer’s disease progresses over an average of about 10 years. During the next three years, personal care difficulties may include the need to provide medication, help with bathing, dressing, eating, or to take medications. As the disease progresses, family members may need to help the person with basic activities like getting them to doctor visits, communicating, performing everyday tasks or finding the world around them. As the disease progresses, the person with Alzheimer’s disease will have more trouble communicating, performing everyday tasks or finding the world around them as they get lost while they’re driving or have trouble doing their chores, Rabins said.

The next three years may include physical decline: the person develops incontinence, loses bladder or bowel control, becomes agitated by changes in the environment, loses ability, most of the struggles that the patient has and the family have are actually from the non-memory, non-cognitive function symptoms,” Rabins said.

Dementia is very rare prior to age 60, Rabins said. After that age, 25 percent of people have dementia. Age 80 is the most common age of diagnosis, he said, noting that about 20 percent of 80-year-olds have dementia. “That still means that 70-80 percent of 80-year-olds are cognitively normal,” he pointed out.

Ongoing research finds 9.5 percent of residents over age 64 in Cache County, Utah, have dementia, the county with the nation’s longest life expectancy. Of those with dementia, about 75 percent of those in the last six months of their life, often after they get sick. “And usually it’s in the direction of wanting money, not, treat- ment. But people with dementia can’t do that,” he said. “How do we deal with that?”

Public health considerations also arise from the financial issues dementia patients introduce, he said. “Dementia adds to medical costs, affecting hospital as well as nursing home beds. “This is a group of diseases that interact with every other health problem,” Rabins said. “It turns out that people with dementia stay twice as long in the hospital for the same medical condition at the same age as people without dementia.”

If 8 percent of the population over age 60 have dementia, that equates to 20-25 percent of hospital patients in a given year. “When you add medicare’s added medical cost,” he said. “In addition, Rabins said, “The single biggest item in almost every state budget in the United States is the state budget in the United States is public health issues.”

Public health impacts of dementia

The incidence rates, coupled with lengthening life expectancies, create many worries for Social Security and Medicare, he said. “We are living through a revo- lution in human life expectancy,” Rabins said, noting that since 1830 life expectancy has increased from 40 years to 80 years, and only 25 percent of those women and 30 percent of men aged 65 now survive to age 90. “The 90-year-olds of today are the 65-year-olds of tomorrow,” he said. In addition, Rabins said, “The single biggest item in almost every state budget in the United States is the state budget in the United States is medical assistance. And the single biggest medical assistance cost is nursing home care.”

Rabins estimated that 75-80 percent of the 3 million people in nursing homes and assisted living facilities in America have dementia. “If we could come up with a prevention or effective interven- tion for Alzheimer’s, there would be very few nursing home beds,” he said. “And so improved treatments have elimi- nated the need for tuberculosis wards.”

**Research findings**

In a study of 125 people with late-stage dementia who met hospice criteria (they were likely to die within six months), Rabins and colleagues found that, match- ing for medical severity, those who were hospitalized in the last six months of life had a lower quality of life compared to people who were not hospitalized. Rabins said 41 percent of the patients studied were sent to the hospital at least once during those six months, about 90 of them died during that time. The most common reasons for hospitalization were infections (typically bladder or respiratory), delirium, confusion or dehydration, or falls.

Except for fractures, Rabins believes many such conditions could be better managed in a nurs- ing home. “Sending people to the hospital removes the potential for benefit,” he said, given that not only has aggressive care been found to be bad for the late-stage dementia patient’s quality of life, but that it also is expensive. “We need to be thinking about how do you take care of people in place.”

Researchers also found that higher quality of life correlated to a lower rate of behavior prob- lems, including agitation or other psychiatric symptoms. “That’s what we would hope would be very few nursing home beds, because it’s very hard, it’s very hard,” he said.

In light of these findings, Rabins suggested that medi- cal personnel not only provide information about the value of proposed treatments, but also support decision makers by acknowledging that the choices they face are difficult. Even when such issues have been discussed before the patient became ill, “It’s still hard for some people to make difficult decisions even in late-stage disease.”

Rabins’s lecture and the accom- companying panel discussion are posted at www.publichealth.pitt. edu/lecturearchive.

Kimberly R. Barlow

---

Following his lecture, Peter V. Rabins joined a panel of experts on aging and Alzheimer’s disease, moderated by Dr. Steven Albert of the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, University of Colorado, Denver, Jennifer C. Gerson, Thomas Baumberg Jr. of Pit's Alzheimer Disease Research Center, and Lois Lutz of the Greater Pennsylvania Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association.

---

Mary Jane Bent/CIDDE
Diseases such as bird flu also potentially can threaten human survival. Because diseases can move back and forth between us, if we are healthy and the animals are not, we are not healthy. So we need to look at a total health system," Swanson advised.

Other threats include solar storms, the possibility that the Earth's magnetic poles will reverse and global climate change, he said.

"Let me tell you for sure that our climate will change. What we don't know for sure is which way it's going. It would be presumptuous to think that we can control the climate," Swanson said.

"The answer, I believe, is let's plan on change ... not on which change. But let's not build on miracles. Let's get the boats away from the seacoast. Let's do the incremental things that can be done, so that when the earthquake comes or the hurricane comes, the Earth will not be annihilated, that we can pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off and go on again," Swanson apologized on behalf of his generation for the threat it created to the survival of the nation. "I can talk about this because I am a U.S. citizen. I am proud of it, but I am not necessarily proud of our government," he said.

"A grand challenge is to balance the federal and state budgets. We cannot continue spending more than we earn. I have to apologize for my generation, because what you are facing in the national debt, you and your children, is abominable. You have your hands tied behind your back and we are impotent because nobody wants to allow us access to everything with only raw data. Form opinions. Discuss those opinions. Be curious. Look at the other field — look at what they are doing versus what you are doing," he continued.

"Get involved in government. Make sure that you are a part of it and you understand it. Work with society. Being a loner is not a good thing. Have friends. Have neighbors. Talk to them. Work with them. Stay healthy." "Volunteer. Work with other people. There are needs out there. And support your University. You have received, now is the time to start giving back," he said.

"When troubles come — and they will — a very useful thought is, 'This too will pass.' It may hurt, but it will — a very useful thought is, 'This too will pass.' It may hurt, but it will pass. It may hurt, but it will pass."
Above: B. Jean Ferketish (right), assistant chancellor and secretary of the Board of Trustees, lends a hand prior to the May 2 commencement ceremony.

At left: Pitt conferred an honorary science doctorate on Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor James V. Maher, who is stepping down as provost to return to the physics faculty.

Regionals hold own ceremonies

Pitt-Bradford held its commencement May 2 in the KOA Arena of UPB's Sport and Fitness Center. UPB awarded degrees to 286 students.

Pitt-Greensburg held its May 1 commencement ceremony outdoors on Ridilla Field. UPG awarded degrees to 178 students. Of those, 27 students received their diplomas from family members as part of the Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association's legacy diploma presentation program.

Also on May 1, Pitt-Johnstown honored 560 students who completed bachelor's or associate degrees in August or December 2009, April 2010 or will complete degree requirements in June of this year.

Pitt-Titusville held its commencement May 1 as well, conferring bachelor's and associates degrees on 64 students. The ceremony was held in UPT's J. Curtis McKinney Student Union.

At right: UPG's assistant women's basketball coach Andy Geter hugs Lindsay Littler, one of his graduating players.

The keynote speaker at Pitt-Greensburg's May 1 commencement ceremony was Ken Sawyer, CEO of the Pittsburgh Penguins.

UPJ's keynote speaker was U.S. Air Force Captain Scott O'Grady.

At right: Pitt-Johnstown President Jem Spectar presents the first President's Medal of Excellence to Mary Rose in recognition of her work to raise the standards of education for women globally. Her efforts resulted in the construction of a dormitory and educational development center at a school for girls in Cameroon.

The medal is given to an individual “who has strengthened our communities by empowering human beings to achieve their fullest potential, contributing to the dignity of all, and promoting social progress.”

UPJ’s keynote speaker was U.S. Air Force Captain Scott O’Grady.

Pittsburgh campus photos by Jim Burke/CIDDE

from now, a month from now, it will get better. You have a Pitt education. You are well on your way. Try to make each day a better day. Make the world a little better each day.”

Following Swanson’s address, Pitt conferred on him an honorary Doctor of Science degree.

When he introduced Swanson, Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg said, “In summarizing his philosophy, John once said, ‘Charitable giving feels good. It’s a happy thing. It’s so much better than just keeping up with the neighbors.’

“That may be true, but your gifts to Pitt have made it possible for our engineering school not only to keep up with its engineering school neighbors, but to surpass them by allowing us to make available cutting-edge facilities, attract and retain world-class faculty and top students, expand innovative industry partnerships and provide educational programs that are second to none.”

Breaking from the custom of awarding only one honorary doctorate at commencement, the University also conferred an honorary science doctorate on Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor James V. Maher, who is stepping down as provost after 16 years in the post to return to the physics faculty.

Pitt awarded approximately 7,000 undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees this year at five campuses. Pitt-Bradford, Pitt-Greensburg, Pitt-Johnstown and Pitt-Titusville hold their own graduation ceremonies.

—Peter Hart

Keynote speaker at Pitt-Titusville’s May 1 commencement ceremony was Joseph Grunenwald, president of Clarion University.
**Research Notes**

**Why omega-3s reduce inflammation**

School of Medicine pharmacologists have found new mediators that not only can explain how omega-3 fatty acids reduce inflammation, but also hint at new treatments for diseases linked to inflammatory processes. Their findings are in the online version of Nature Chemical Biology.

There is strong evidence that omega-3 fatty acids (found in some fish, plant-derived oils and nuts) reduce inflammation and lower the risk of cardiovascular and other inflammatory diseases, but exactly how omega-3s induce such effects has remained a question. “This study has given us fresh and revealing perspective into that process,” said senior author Bruce A. Freeman, chair of the Department of Pharmacology and Chemical Biology.

In this study, also led by pharmacology and chemical biology faculty member Francisco J. Schopfer, researchers examined metabolic byproducts of omega-3 fatty acids that are produced by activated macrophages (a type of immune cell found in inflamed tissue) and discovered previously unknown biochemical mediators of inflammation.

Researchers chemically modified several derivatives of omega-3 fatty acids that were produced by immune cells to become electro-phobic fatty acid oxidation products (EFOX).

The research team found that an enzyme called cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) mediates the transformation of omega-3 fatty acids into EFOX products, which are attracted to electrons and react with molecular targets in many cell types.

COX-2 is the molecular target of common drugs such as aspirin, ibuprofen and acetaminophen. Researchers found that cellular EFOX concentrations were significantly increased in the presence of aspirin, suggesting another mechanism for that drug’s beneficial effects.

By interacting with certain protein residues that have electrons available for chemical binding, these derivatives stimulate changes in cellular protein function and the genetic expression patterns of cells, resulting in a broad range of antioxidant and anti-inflammatory responses.

“There is a lot of evidence that supports minimizing inflammation as a fundamental therapy for many diseases,” Freeman said. “Our new insights help explain in part the multitude of beneficial actions observed for both omega-3 fatty acids and aspirin, and the discovery of this new class of omega-3 fatty acid-derived anti-inflammatory mediators could point drug development activities in new and fruitful directions.”

For example, drugs that enhance the production of EFOX could be of use, or new agents might be synthesized to induce anti-inflammatory signals similar to those induced by EFOX, Freeman explained. The researchers and their drug discovery team are working on some of these approaches.

“The research team also included co-lead author Alison L. Groeger, as well as Marsha P. Cole, Steven R. Woodcock and Gustavo Bonacci, all of the Department of Pharmacology and Chemical Biology.”

The study was funded by the School of Medicine, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the American Diabetes Association and the R.I.MED Foundation.

**Child abuse increase coincided with recession**

The number of cases of abusive head trauma in children increased dramatically during the recession, according to a multi-center study led by Children’s Hospital.

Lead researcher Rachel Berger, a child abuse specialist and researcher at Children’s Hospital’s Child Advocacy Center, presented the results at the Pediatric Academic Societies annual meeting.

The study involved 512 patients, ages 9 days-6 years, who had abusive head trauma. In addition to Pittsburgh, the patients were treated at pediatric hospitals in Cincinnati, Columbus and Seattle.

The number of cases of abusive head trauma (shaken baby syndrome) rose from six per month before December 2007, to 9.3 per month after that. Researchers collected demographic and clinical data for all cases of unequivocal abusive head trauma before the recession (January 2004-November 2007) and cases during the recession (December 2007-December 2009).

“Our results show that there has been an increase in abusive head trauma, that it coincided with the economic recession and that it’s not a phenomenon isolated to our region but happening on a much more widespread level,” Berger said. “This suggests we may need to dramatically increase our child abuse prevention efforts now and in future times of economic hardship.”

Of the children studied, 61 percent had injuries severe enough that they had to be admitted to pediatric intensive care units, 16 percent died.

Berger and colleagues said a possible reason for the increase in abuse is that government programs such as social services often are cut during a recession and their loss can increase family stress, which is a known risk factor for abuse.

**Transplant research presented**

Pitt researchers were among the presenters earlier this month at the American Transplant Congress in San Diego. Among their presentations were:

Innate immunity in transplantation

Fadi Lakkis, a faculty member in surgery and immunology at the School of Medicine and scientific director of the Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute, presented findings from his research on the role of innate immunity in distinguishing foreign tissues from self.

“It has been for many years assumed in transplantation that adaptive or acquired immune mechanisms, meaning antigen-specific responses, play the essential role in recognizing and rejecting donor tissue,” he said. “But our research indicates that the innate system, which is more primitive, also knows the difference between self and non-self.”

Unraveling the signals of this other recognition system could lead to another set of criteria to match donor and recipient tissues, which in turn could improve patient and donor organ survival and reduce the need for anti-rejection drugs.

This research was funded by NIH.
Quality-of-life predictors for caregivers 

Karissa Myaskovsky, a faculty member in medicine and psychiatry, presented her research on quality of life for caregivers of cardiovascular transplant recipients.

She and her team interviewed 242 adult caregivers to determine social support, self-image, optimism, caregiver burden and quality of life. They found emotion-focused coping and physical functioning remained high for the first year after their loved ones’ transplant, but physical functioning and bodily pain worsened during that time. Optimism, mastery and family support were important predictors of physical and psychological quality of life in caregivers, but greater perceived burden predicted poorer physical quality of life.

The study was funded by the National Institute of Mental Health.

Fibrosis regulator found 

Medical school researchers have discovered that a molecule that regulates gene expression plays a central role in the development of fibrosis, a condition in which organ-supporting connective tissues become thick, hard and rigid, restricting normal function.

The findings are available in the April edition of the American Journal of Pathology at http://ajp.amathpathol.org.

Early Growth Receptor-1 (EGR-1) is known to have the capacity to control growth factors and influences the activity of numerous genes, said lead author Carol Feghali-Bostwick, a faculty member in medicine and pathology.

“Our study shows that abnormally high levels of EGR-1 are associated with the development of fibrosis,” she said. “Therefore, controlling EGR-1 could be a potential therapy for disorders such as scleroderma and pulmonary fibrosis.”

Researchers induced fibrosis in animal and human fibroblasts (cells that give rise to connective tissues). They found that the induced fibrosis was associated with abnormally high levels of EGR-1. The amount of fibrosis was dramatically reduced. And, when fibrosis was produced in cells and animals lacking EGR-1, the amount of fibrosis was comparable to that produced in cells and animals lacking EGR-1. The findings suggest that targeting EGR-1 provides a potential therapeutic approach for organ fibrosis.

The authors suggest the following: When weight was at increased risk of preterm births and infants with restricted growth. For severely obese women, however, very minimal weight loss (less than 5 pounds) or weight loss was not detrimental to newborn health.

The study also found that women who gained a large amount of weight were at increased risk of preterm births and infants who were overweight, suggesting that very high weight gain also is related to adverse birth outcomes.

Lisa M. Bodnar, lead author of the study and faculty member in epidemiology, obstetrics and gynecology, said: “We need to consider level of obesity and advise women accordingly.”

The authors suggest the following

Regular exercise speeds learning and improves blood flow to the brain, according to a study by School of Medicine researchers that is billed as the first to examine these relationships in a non-human primate model. The findings are available in the journal Neuroscience.

Other animal studies have shown that exercise benefits cognition, but it has been unclear whether the same holds true for human. Testing the hypothesis in monkeys can provide information that is more comparable to human physiology, said senior author Judy L. Cameron, a faculty member in Pitt’s psychiatry department and a senior scientist at the Oregon National Primate Research Center at Oregon Health and Science University.

“We found that monkeys who exercised regularly at an intensity that would improve fitness in middle-aged people learned to do tests of cognitive function faster and had greater blood volume in the brain’s motor cortex than their sedentary counterparts,” Cameron said. “This suggests people who exercise are getting similar benefits.”

For the study, researchers trained monkeys to run on a treadmill at 80 percent of their individual maximal aerobic capacity for an hour each day, five days per week, for five months. Another group of monkeys sat on the immobile treadmill for a comparable amount of time.

Half of the runners went through a three-month sedentary period after the exercise period. In all groups, half of the monkeys were middle aged (10-12 years old) and the others were more mature (ages 15-17). Initially, the middle-aged monkeys were in better shape than their older counterparts, but with exercise, all the runners became more fit. In a preliminary task, the monkeys learned to lift a cover off a small well in a testing tray to get the food reward. In a spatial delay task, the researchers placed two objects over side-by-side wells and displaced the correct cover, it got the treat. After reliably succeeding at this task, monkeys that correctly moved the designated one of two different objects placed over side-by-side wells got the food reward that lay within.

Monkeys that exercised learned to remove the well covers twice as fast as controls, Cameron said. “Also, they were more engaged in the tasks and made more attempts to get the rewards, but they also made more mistakes.”

She noted that in later testing, learning rate and performance were similar among the groups, which could mean that practice at the task eventually would overshadow the impact of exercise.

When the researchers examined tissue samples from the brain’s motor cortex, they found that mature monkeys that ran had greater vascular volume than middle-aged runners or sedentary animals. But those blood flow changes reversed in monkeys that were sedentary after exercising for five months.

“These findings indicate that aerobic exercise at the recommended levels can have meaningful, beneficial effects on the brain,” Cameron said.

The research was supported by the National Institute of Aging, the National Institute on Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Disorders and the Retirement Research Foundation.
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Shoppers plan for impulse buys

Straying from the grocery list can yield some surprises in your shopping cart, but not necessarily in your wallet, say researchers from Pitt and Baylor University who have co-authored a new study. They found that shoppers often expect to buy a certain number of unplanned items, and most have a fairly accurate estimate as to how much they will spend on them. The study’s co-authors use the term “in-store slack” to describe the room shoppers leave in their budget for unplanned purchases. Written by Jeffrey Inman, associate dean for research and faculty and Albert Wesley Frey Professor of Marketing in Pitt’s Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business, “Planning to budget for unplanned purchases: The Role of In-Store Slack in Budget Deviation” will be published in the August issue of the Journal of Consumer Research.

The researchers asked shoppers at several grocery stores what they intended to purchase, how much they expected to spend on unplanned items, and how much they intended to spend total. After shopping, participants provided their receipts and answered questions about themselves and their purchases. More than 75 percent of the participants included room in their mental budgets for unplanned purchases.

“Shoppers in the study indicated that they employ this strategy both because they anticipate ‘forgotten needs’ as well as because they realize that they will encounter ‘unplanned wants’ — with some respondents even explicitly indicating that they expected to make impulse purchases,” the authors write. The shoppers were remarkably accurate when predicting how much they would spend, the average budget deviation (actual spending minus planned spending) was only 47 cents.

The impact of in-store slack on the shoppers’ lists depended on how many aisles the shopper visited and their level of impulsiveness. “Less-impulsive individuals who shop most aisles tend to spend the money available from in-store slack but don’t exceed their overall budgets. In contrast, in-store slack tends to overspend for highly impulsive individuals who shop most aisles,” the authors explain.

For retailers, this research suggests that consumers who shop only specific aisles are not spending all of the money that they are prepared mentally to spend on the current trip, according to the authors. “In addition to highlighting the importance of encouraging consumers to shop more aisles, this research also affirms practices that retailers employ to encourage consumers to spend all of their mental budgets, such as offering samples (increase desire) or reminder placards as they approach the checkout lines (cued forgotten needs).”

Finally, the researchers’ mental budgeting perspective suggests that brands may be viewing for a fixed amount of money that consumers have allocated for unplanned purchases. The fact that most consumers do not exceed their mental budgets despite making unplanned purchases suggests that different product categories function as substitutes (i.e., should I spend my in-store slack on ice cream or Parmesan cheese?).

“Thus, the researchers believe research should further examine whether in-store stimuli may simply serve to redirect what items consumers purchase rather than generate incremental spending. ‘For the majority of consumers, having in-store slack appears to be a rational way to use the store to cue needs and preserve self-control,’ the authors write, but caution that ‘highly impulsive individuals may want to consider planning as many specific purchases in advance as possible.‘

MicroRNAs’ role in fibrosis studied

A multipiece of RNA appears to play a big role in the development of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF), according to researchers at the School of Medicine. Their study is available online in the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine.

MicroRNAs are short strands of genetic material that are involved in regulating gene expression. They are thought to be factors in embryonic development, multiple cancers and chronic heart failure, said senior author Natali Kaminski, a faculty member in medicine, computational biology and pathology and director of the Dorothy P. and Richard P. Simens Center for Interstitial Lung Diseases at the School of Medicine and UPMC.

“Our research now indicates that microRNA changes also contribute to IPF,” Kaminski said. “We have identified an entirely new molecular mechanism for the disease, which gives us new ideas about how to treat it.”

In microRNA profiles in healthy lung tissue samples and samples from tissue affected by IPF, “Ten percent of the microRNAs were different between IPF and control lungs,” said Kusum Pandit, the study’s lead author and a postdoctoral researcher in Kaminski’s lab.

The researchers particularly noted a diminished amount of a microRNA called let-7d. It was abundantly present in samples from healthy tissue, but there was almost no expression of let-7d down or even present in areas of 40 IPF lung samples. Further experimentation showed that let-7d is inhibited by the cytokine TGF-beta, a signaling protein that promotes the development of fibrosis through several pathological pathways.

Researchers also administered and measured let-7d in several mice through their windpipes for a few days. When the mice looked very much like what is seen in patients with early lung fibrosis, “These results suggest that by increasing let-7d in the lung, we may be able to slow down or even prevent lung fibrosis,” Kaminski said.

Osher grant funds tech lectures

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Carnegie Mellon University and the Carnegie Science Center received a $1,000 grant to develop a model OLLI/Science Center collaborative project.

The award comes from the Osher National Resource Center, which recently received a planning grant from the National Science Foundation to create a Science Education Center for the Third Age. The purpose of the grant is to increase adult knowledge and skill in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The project, designed to increase understanding of the science and technology of robotics and the application of robotics in society, brought three robotics lecturers to an OLLI audience at the Carnegie Science Center.

In March, Ralph Hollis, research professor of robotics and director of CMU’s Microdynamic Systems Laboratory, explored the history of robotics in his talk, “Robots and Robotics Through the Years: A Personal View.”

In April, CMU robotics faculty member Howie Choset, associate director of the Center for Robotic Mining, presented on “Medicine — The Wonder of Snake Robots and Minimally Invasive Surgery.” Choset’s group has developed a family of snake-like robots that can reach places conventional tools cannot.

The third lecture, held this month, was given by CMU Robot- ics Institute professor William (Red) Whittaker, who spoke on robots in space.
The International Symposium on Ligaments and Tendons (ISLT) will honor the Professor Savio Woo Young Researcher Awards for individuals who have performed the best research studies in three major areas: biomechanics, biological research, and clinical research. Woo is University Professor of Bioengineering and the founder and director of the Musculoskeletal Research Center at the Swanson School of Engineering. He has led the ISLT for more than 40 years of translational research in knee ligament healing and repair.

ISLT established the awards in recognition of Woo’s lifetime commitment to training, mentoring and providing recognition of aspiring students in the fields of biomechanical engineering and orthopaedic research and his lifelong contributions and accomplishments as an internationally recognized researcher and scholar in these fields.

Baseball head coach Joe Jor- dano has been elected into the Metropolitan Erie chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame, joining nine others selected for induction this year.

An Erie native, Jordano was a Tech Memorial and Glenwood League star prior to his tenure as head coach at Mercyhurst College (1988-97) and at Pitt (1998-present).

At Tech Memorial, Jordano played both baseball and golf and helped the ECA American Legion baseball team to a district championship and a third-place finish in the state tournament. While playing in the Glenwood League, Jordano was MVP in 1982 and went on to win batting and home run titles for the league in 1984 and 1988.

Jordano played his collegiate ball at Westminster College, batting .295 in his career, and was named to the all-district team in 1982.

At Mercyhurst, Jordano had a 281-118 record and was named the Louisville Slugger Coach of the Year in 1995 and 1996.

This year, he has led the Panthers to their highest ranking in school history at No. 20. At 359 wins in his Pitt career, Jordano ranks second on the all-time wins list.

The School of Arts and Sciences has named Barbara Kucins- ski, a faculty member and adviser in the Department of Psychology, the recipient of the 2010 Golden Quill Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Houston was recognized at Pitt-Johnstown's May 1 gradu- ation ceremony, where he was presented with an engraved medallion.

The award was established to recognize teaching excellence and to promote UPJ's primary mission of providing high-quality under- graduate education. The award recipient must have demonstrated a high level of competence in the professional aspects of teaching, such as construction of courses, classroom presentation, assignments and grading; innovation in the classroom; commitment to undergraduate teaching; evi- dence of intensive and sustained attention to the teaching/learning process; instilling in students the desire to be lifelong learners, and availability to students.

Houston also was commended for his efforts to involve students in real-world projects and extracurricular activities.

Also at the May 1 graduation exercises, Spectar presented the campus's first-ever President's Medal of Excellence to Mary Rose of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The medal is given to an indi- vidual who has "strengthened our communities by empowering human beings to achieve their fullest potential, contributing to the dignity of all, and promoting social progress.”

Rose was chosen to receive the award in recognition of her work to raise the standards of education for women globally. Her efforts have resulted in the construction of a dormitory and educational development center at St. Joseph’s Vocational School for girls in the missionary country of Balut, Cameroon.

The Press of Western Pennsylvania announced the win- ners of the 14th annual Golden Quill Awards this month. The competition recognizes profes- sional excellence in written, photographic, broadcast and online journalism in western Pennsylvania.

Pitt faculty and staff recently won the 2010 CGS Student Choice Awards, which are deter- mined by nominations from Col- lege of General Studies students. The awards, announced at a recep- tion last month, are designed to highlight teachers and staff who are dedicated to Pitt’s non-traditional students.

Award winners include:

Sherry Miller Brown, director of the McClar Center for Nontraditional Student Success; Tim Carr, CGS adviser; Thomas Damski, a staff member in the Department of Classics; David Korman, an adjunct faculty member, Graduate School of Social Work and International Affairs (GSPW); Jeff Oakes, a faculty member in the Department of English, and Robert Stumpf, a faculty member in GSPW.

Pitt faculty and staff recently won the 2010 CGS Student Choice Awards, which are deter- mined by nominations from Col- lege of General Studies students. The awards, announced at a recep- tion last month, are designed to highlight teachers and staff who are dedicated to Pitt’s non-traditional students.

Award winners include:

Sherry Miller Brown, director of the McClar Center for Nontraditional Student Success; Tim Carr, CGS adviser; Thomas Damski, a staff member in the Department of Classics; David Korman, an adjunct faculty member, Graduate School of Social Work and International Affairs (GSPW); Jeff Oakes, a faculty member in the Department of English, and Robert Stumpf, a faculty member in GSPW.

Pitt faculty and staff recently won the 2010 CGS Student Choice Awards, which are deter- mined by nominations from Col- lege of General Studies students. The awards, announced at a recep- tion last month, are designed to highlight teachers and staff who are dedicated to Pitt’s non-traditional students.

Award winners include:

Sherry Miller Brown, director of the McClar Center for Nontraditional Student Success; Tim Carr, CGS adviser; Thomas Damski, a staff member in the Department of Classics; David Korman, an adjunct faculty member, Graduate School of Social Work and International Affairs (GSPW); Jeff Oakes, a faculty member in the Department of English, and Robert Stumpf, a faculty member in GSPW.

Pitt faculty and staff recently won the 2010 CGS Student Choice Awards, which are deter- mined by nominations from Col- lege of General Studies students. The awards, announced at a recep- tion last month, are designed to highlight teachers and staff who are dedicated to Pitt’s non-traditional students.

Award winners include:

Sherry Miller Brown, director of the McClar Center for Nontraditional Student Success; Tim Carr, CGS adviser; Thomas Damski, a staff member in the Department of Classics; David Korman, an adjunct faculty member, Graduate School of Social Work and International Affairs (GSPW); Jeff Oakes, a faculty member in the Department of English, and Robert Stumpf, a faculty member in GSPW.
OTM offers new Pitt commercialization guide

The Office of Technology Management (OTM), Pitt’s central unit dedicated to developing, protecting, and commercializing University technologies, recently published its new Pitt commercialization guide.

In straightforward style, it guides the reader through Pitt’s commercialization process, outlining how the University decides which innovations have commercial value and what inventors and their academic departments can gain from successfully licensed innovations.

The booklet also offers advice on various tips and practices that stand to benefit a broader segment of the University community; such tips on what information should be included in laboratory notebooks and how the notebooks should be maintained.

The new guide takes the place of OTM’s outdated and antiquated Inventor’s Guide to Technology Commercialization, which is outdated and comprised of policies and procedures that are no longer relevant.

Malandro said the aim in putting together the primer was to do what needs to be done — to call attention to pitfalls to look out for when commercializing University technologies. “We're asking anyone looking for, e.g., intellectual property law and how the notebooks should be maintained.

The new guide takes the place of OTM’s outdated and antiquated Inventor’s Guide to Technology Commercialization, which is outdated and comprised of policies and procedures that are no longer relevant.

Malandro said the aim in putting together the primer was to do what needs to be done — to call attention to pitfalls to look out for when commercializing University technologies. “We're asking anyone looking for, e.g., intellectual property law and how the notebooks should be maintained.

The new guide takes the place of OTM’s outdated and antiquated Inventor’s Guide to Technology Commercialization, which is outdated and comprised of policies and procedures that are no longer relevant.

Malandro said the aim in putting together the primer was to do what needs to be done — to call attention to pitfalls to look out for when commercializing University technologies. “We're asking anyone looking for, e.g., intellectual property law and how the notebooks should be maintained.

The new guide takes the place of OTM’s outdated and antiquated Inventor’s Guide to Technology Commercialization, which is outdated and comprised of policies and procedures that are no longer relevant.
**TUESDAY 25**

**ISLS Workshop**
*The WOW Factor: PowerPoint for Posters,* Sam Lewis, Falk Library classroom 210, 2-4 pm, available as computerized applications.

**Continued from Page 16**

**412/682-7622. OAKLAND OFF-STREET PARKING**
**412/243-8722 or 412/973-4347.**

**Check required-$20 fee. $500 + security deposit.**


**HELP WANTED**

**RESEARCH ASSOCIATE POSITION**

Candidate must have PhD, extensive experience with design & characterization of animal models of neurodegeneration; expertise in stereotaxic surgery, neurotransmitter analysis, neurochemistry, histology, microscopy & viral vector construction/characterization & be experienced in using these to assess neuro protection & potentiation of neuroplasticity. Send CV & letter to Theresa Hayden, BST3-7035.

**HOSPITALITY/RECEPTIONS**

**SQUEEZE IT!**

Healthy 1-BR furnished house (can be unfurnished) on Ross St. Close to Oakland hospitals & universities. Fully equipped kitchen, TV room, bedroom, tool kit, W/D, sunroom, deck & yard. All utilities included. 1,810 sf. 2 bd. 2 bath. $1,300/mo. Call Rob 412-862-6762.

**WISCONSIN BLACK/SLADE**


**WISCONSIN/BLACK/LIGHT**


**PARKING**

**OAKLAND-OFF-STREET PARKING**

1 block from Forbes. 975/mo. Rob Re. 412-780-4722.

**Wednesday 26**

**Clinical Oncology & Hematology Grand Rounds**

*Enterotyping of an Era of Personalized Therapy for Head & Neck Cancer.* Matthew Burnette, 2nd fl., 5th UPMC Cancer Pavilion, 8 am

**Pathology Research Conference**

*Iron Homeostasis & Its Disorders: Hepatocytes as Endocrine Regulators,* Thomas Ganz, UC, 1101/AR Scalpe, noon

**Thursday 27**

**EOH Seminar**

*How Retinal Lost ‘PATH’ & Found ‘WAY’ to Support Self Renewal of ES Cells,* Jaspal Khullar, 540 Bridgeland Pk, noon

**Endocrine Research Conference**

*Organization & Trafficking of Lipoprotein in Fat & Muscle Cells,* James Grammennos, 119/2/23, noon

**ISLS Workshop**

*PubMedBasics,* Kanta Kurita, Falk library classroom 1, 1-2:30 pm

**PhD Defenses**

**A&S/Economics**

*Essays on Term Structure, Forward Premium Anomaly & Globalization,* Ting Ting Huang, May 3, 14:00-15:00, noon

**A&S/English**

*Modern Kinetic Motion Picture Technology, Embodiment & Replicability,* Amy Borden, May 14, 15:26, 10:10 am

**A&S/Slavic Languages & Literatures**

*Between Philosophers: The Emergence of a New Intellectual Paradigm in Russia,* Alya Besleva, May 18, 12:16 CL, 11:10 am

**SHRS/Rehabilitation Science**

*Evaluation of Young Adults’ Preferences, Needs & the Understanding of the Personal Health Record Data Contents,* Haya Al-Khatlan; May 17, 16:05, Forbes Tech, 10:30 am

**A&S/Psychology**

*The Association of Affective, Behavioral & Cognitive Components of Resilience With Telomere Length, a Marker of Biological Aging,* Judith Carroll, May 17, 16:27, Sennott, 2 pm

**A&S/Chemistry**

* Copper Ion-Based Electron Spin Resonance Spectroscopic Rulers,* Zhongyu Yang; May 18, 17:55, Forbes Tech, 1:10 pm

**A&S/English**

*The Wordworthian Inheritance of Melville’s Poetics,* Corey Goehringer, May 19, 16:26, CL, noon

**A&S/English**

*Mature Synthesis & Spectroscopic Analysis of a Stereospecific Library of the Phosphothreonine Mating Hormone Alpha1 & the Corresponding bis-MTPA Esters,* Reena Bajpai; May 21, 17:04, Forbes Tech, 10:30 am

**A&S/Anthropology**

*Pedopodial Social Organization in the Jamastan Valley, Southeastern Honduras,* Eva Martinez; May 24, 17:01, Posvar, 1 pm

**Medicine/Cellular & Molecular Pathology**

*b-Catenin: A Friend or Foe in Liver Pathobiology,* Michael Thompson; May 25, 17:43 BST, 7 pm

**GSPH/Epidemiology**

*Mortality Trends in a Population-based Type 1 Diabetes Cohort,* Aaron Secrett; May 25, 17:06, conf. rm. DLR Bldg., 16:24 5th Ave., 3 pm

**Business**

*Strategic Knowledge Disclosure: In Effect on Competitive Response & Knowledge-Based Competencies in the Global Hard Disk Drive Industry,* Donghun Lee; May 26, 17:20, Merico, 1 pm

**SHRS/Rehabilitation Science & Technology**

*The Relationship Between Ultrasonographic Median Nerve Characteristics, Symptoms of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome & Wheelchair Propulsion Techniques Amongst Manual Wheelchair Users,* Reinald Jumps; May 27, 16:46, Forbes Tower, noon

**WEDNESDAY 26**
Wednesday 19
Orthopaedic Surgery Grand Rounds
“Total Elbow Arthroplasty,” Bernard Morrey, U of TX, 7th fl. LHAS aud. Montefiore, 7 am noon
Clinical Oncology & Hematology Grand Rounds
“Malignant Superficial Dismutase (MnSOD) Plasmid Liposome (PL) in Combination With Standard Chemoradiation in Surgically Unresectable Stage IB/III LC,” Robert Schillo, 2nd fl. aud. UPDC Cancer Pavilion, 8 am

Thursday 20
Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds
Pathology Fetteman Lecture
“The Desire to Purge: A Histori- cal View,” F. Gonzalez-Crussi, Northwestern, 5th fl. class rm. Rangos, 8 am
Finance & Retiremt Seminar
Endocrine Research Conference
“Irulin & Angiotensin II Regula- tion of Microcirculation in Diabetes,” Zheng Liu; 1195 Starzl BST, noon
Alzheimer Disease Research Ctr. Lecture
“Epidemiology of Mild Cogni- tive Impairment: Update on the Mon-Yough Healthy Aging Team (MYHAT) Project,” Mary Ganguli, psychiatry, neurology & epidemiology; Beth Smit, neurology; $439 ADRC conf. rm. Moncloa noon
Paul Dowd Chemistry Lecture
“Chemical Approaches to Understanding Redox Biology in the Brain,” Christopher Chang, UC-Berkley; 157 Benchem, 5 pm

Friday 21
GI Research Rounds
“Halt C Trial: Lessons Learned,” Anna S.F. Lok; 152 conf. rm. Presley, 7:30 am
Paul Dowd Chemistry Lecture
“Metals on the Brain: Prob- lems & Realities of Association,” Samuel Santoro, Vanderbilt; 12:15-2 pm

Saturday 22
Dental Medicine Continuing Ed Conference
“Virtues of Profitable Dentistry,” Howard Furman; aud. 5-6 Scaife, 8-30 am noon