BUDGET SHOCK

How would Pitt absorb such deep state cuts?

P r e s i d e n t's budget proposal to cut state aid by nearly $17 million in funding (See Oct. 14 University Times.)

The governor's budget proposal triggers hearings in the House and Senate appropriations committees before legislators vote on a general appropriation bill and separate bills for non-preferred appropriations for agencies not under the complete control of the state. Pitt is among the non-preferred appropriations, requiring a two-thirds vote of the House and Senate for approval. Representatives of the state-related universities testified before the Senate committee March 16 (see related story on this page) and are scheduled for a March 28 hearing in the House.

The deadline for passing a state budget bill is June 30.

Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg called a press conference March 8 to react to Gov. Tom Corbett's proposal for deep cuts in the state's higher education support.

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UNIVERSITY TIMES

Kimberly K. Barlow

How would Pitt absorb such deep state cuts?

Pitt stands to lose nearly $100 million in funding in a state budget proposed last week by Gov. Tom Corbett. As part of his $27.3 billion general fund budget proposal for the fiscal year that begins July 1, the governor cut state funding in half for Pitt and its fellow state-related universities, Penn State, Temple, and Lincoln. He similarly slashed funding for the 14 State System of Higher Education schools.

Excluding medical school funding, Pitt's current appropriation includes $1.06 billion in state money plus $7.5 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds for a total of nearly $168 million. Pitt's current operating budget is $1.89 billion.

Corbett's proposed budget cuts Pitt's general appropriation to $80.245 million. In addition, Pitt would lose nearly $17 million in support for the School of Medicine, Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, and more than $7.5 million in ARRA federal stimulus money.

Initial fears that Pitt also would lose more than $9 million in tobacco settlement fund support for biomedical research research appear to have been allayed, according to Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations Paul A. Sopowitz, who said the Corbett administration has said it intends to administer those dollars in the same way but is proposing to move them into the general fund.

The University had asked for a 5 percent increase in its annual appropriation request, made last fall. For FY12, Pitt sought a total of $319.1 million including nearly $176.4 million in general support and $17.7 million in academic medical center funding. (See Oct. 14 University Times.)

Corbett, in announcing a proposed budget that he said “sorts the must-haves from the nice-to-haves,” said that Pennsylvania entered 2011 more than $4 billion in debt.

Regarding higher education, the governor said, “This fiscal crisis is a time to re-think state spending on higher education. Despite state subsidies over the past decades, tuition has continued to increase. If the intent was to keep tuition rates down, it failed. We need to find a new model. When it comes to higher education we should do the same thing that we do in basic education: the dollars should follow the student. It’s their money.”

Everything is on the table

The loss of ARRA funding for higher education was expected because the program was designed to expire this fiscal year, and administrators were braceing for a “funding cliff” as the result of state budget deficits. However, at a March 8 press conference in response to the governor’s announcement, Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg expressed surprise at the “stunningly deep” cuts to higher education included in the governor’s proposal. “The idea that cuts of this magnitude would be envisioned by the governor,” he said.

“Obviously the prospect of cuts of this size almost means that everything has got to be on the table. But beyond that it’s difficult to say what actions or combinations of actions might in the end prove to be the best response to the budget if it should move forward as proposed,” Nordenberg said.

The chancellor said Pitt is not seeking to retreat from its designa- tion as a state-related university. “If that relationship has now been called in question it is only by the announced actions by the governor today of these proposed cuts that would take our level of support to historically low levels,” he said.

State support for Pitt in the 1970s represented about 30 percent of the University’s operating budget, but since has fallen to less than 10 percent. “If the governor’s proposal was to be accepted, it would fall beneath 5 percent. When you reach that level, then I think there are a new range of questions to ask,” Nordenberg said.

Tuition differentials

“While you’re not funded like a public university, it’s difficult to maintain the traditional programs

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Pitt pleads case for $$$ Senate panel holds hearing

“T’ve never had to close a $4 billion budget deficit and I’ve never had to do it in six weeks,” Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg told the Senate appropriations committee in a March 16 budget hearing, acknowledging the pressure under which Gov. Tom Corbett’s state budget proposal was developed.

“I also do understand that all of us will need to do our share to bring things into better alignment economically, but I do hope as has been the case in the past that the proposal is the beginning of dis- cussions — certainly discussions involving you, but also involving the individuals and institutions who will be affected so that collectively we might have the chance to develop a better approach for Pennsylvania.”

Nordenberg and the leaders of Penn State, Temple and Lincoln acknowledged the state’s budget would matter a great deal to their will- ingness to share in the pain. At the same time, they outlined the potential impact of Corbett’s prop- osal to cut their state support by more than half, counting layoffs, campus closures, tuition increases and deeper debt for students among the possible outcomes.

“The proposed cuts are deep, they are disproportionate and they are damaging to some of the most productive institutions in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania,” Nordenberg said.

“Whether you’re talking about investments in the young people who are pursuing higher education today and the support that their families have depended upon, or whether you’re talking about these institutions as economic engines that have become increasingly important in the 21st century, the proposed cuts really do represent a short-term solution to a very real problem that could have damaging impacts not only for the commonwealth of Pennsylvania and its people.”

Ivory Nelson, president of Penn State, T emple and Lincoln funded.

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This architect’s rendering shows the proposed 11-story dorm at the corner of Fifth Avenue and University Place, which would replace the existing Pitt surface lot and the University Place office building. The first floor of the dorm would be retail space; the second floor would house the Counseling Center and Student Health Service. Floors 3-11 would provide housing for 578 freshmen. Completion is expected in summer 2013.

578-bed dorm plans unveiled

Pitt’s Counseling Center and Student Health Service would move and a new traffic light would be installed at Fifth Avenue and University Place under the University’s plan to build an 11-story residence hall, according to information pre-briefed on Pitt’s project last week to city planners.

Under the city’s zoning code, dormitories require a special exception in the Educational/Medical Institute (EMI) district. Pitt’s proposal for a freshman dormitory at 121 University Place brought no objections to a March 10 hearing before the city zoning board of adjustment, according to information pre-briefed last week to city planners.

The first floor of the dorm would be retail space; the second floor would house the Counseling Center and Student Health Service. Floors 3-11 would provide housing for 578 freshmen. Completion is expected in summer 2013.

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The University took swift action in response to Gov. Tom Corbett’s March 8 budget proposal. In addition to holding a press conference within three hours of the governor delivering his budget message, by the end of the day the University had contacted alumni and employees with the news.

The administration also posted a web page titled “Pitt’s Progress: Improving Quality While Maximizing Resources in the Face of State Budget Cuts” at www.progress.pitt.edu. The page includes the chancellor’s remarks as well as facts and figures about the University’s value and efforts to economize.

“State support for the University in fact over the past 80 years has been lower than for their out-of-state counterparts. That’s a sizeable loss of revenues for the University of Pittsburgh as we move further into an increasingly competitive environment,” he said. “And third, that the increases that could be in store. We clearly have met our end of the bargain,” Nordenberg said, noting that tuition for in-state students has not been increased at the private university that we had been for nearly 200 years at that point in time, and the Commonwealth would provide an appropriation that would enable us to do so,” he said.

“We have clearly met our end of that bargain,” Nordenberg said, noting that tuition for in-state undergraduates in the School of Arts and Sciences is nearly $10,000 less than for their out-of-state counterparts.

“If half of the money that is usually used to support that differential is being taken away, that’s a sizeable loss of revenues for us.”

Nordenberg pointed out that the actuality and economic times “you’re not effective-” in a situation in which sensible decisions would be an institution that is affordable for the overall health of the Commonwealth. “The same is true when you mention the lowest possible priority was the humane thing to do. And third, that the increasing employment levels at the University of Pittsburgh was important for the overall health of the Commonwealth of western Pennsylvania,” Nordenberg said. “Now, with cuts like this … everything’s on the table.

“Second, making layoffs the lowest possible priority made good business sense for the University of Pittsburgh, which faced increas- ing demands for its services. And third, that the increasing employment levels at the University of Pittsburgh was important for the overall health of the Commonwealth of western Pennsylvania,” Nordenberg said. “Now, with cuts like this … everything’s on the table.

He continued, “But we have a history that suggests that certain alternatives are not good for us: they would not be good for our students, they would not be good for the consumers of our research and they would not be good for the region. And wouldn’t it be ironic, if in a situation in which jobs is listed as the number one economic development priority, if spending policies in effect had the key impact of undermining the very forms of economic growth and job generation that have been a hallmark of the region through these difficult times.”

Preparing for funding cuts
Nordenberg said he and the University’s senior leadership needed time to review more closely the governor’s proposal. “Our first item of business is to try to ensure that it is modified in ways sensible for the University, sensible for our students, sensible for their families, sensible for the region and its communities and sensible for the Commonwealth.”

As far as closing the result- ing gap in the University budget that would result from a cut in state support, Nordenberg said the responsibility would lie with him and senior administrators in conjunction with the University Planning and Budgeting Commit- tee. “We do have an agreed-upon set of processes and procedures to follow,” in the University planning and budgeting system, he said.

It is important to underscore the fact that sensible responsible budget building and cost-effective operations have been characteristics of the University of Pittsburgh now for a considerable period of time. Remember, we’re facing a huge, surprising proposal for reductions today. But again, we’ve had budget cuts reduced six of the last 10 years. We had midyear reduc- tions, we had normal budget cycle reductions and the system seems to work quite well.”

—Kimberly K. Barlow

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“State support for the University in fact over the past 80 years has been lower than for their out-of-state counterparts. That’s a sizeable loss of revenues for the University of Pittsburgh as we move further into an increasingly competitive environment,” he said. “More significantly though, it’s not an organization that has had trouble sustaining demand for the services it provides,” citing increases in research funding and in the number of students enrolled at the University.

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Almost 200 staff, faculty, students and alumni participated at last year’s Pitt Day in Harrisburg but the proposed cuts in Pitt’s appropriation are expected to swell this year’s numbers.

How would Pitt absorb such deep state cuts?

orious financial planning and some very forms of economic growth in Pennsylvania we have more into an increasingly competitive new century.”

A joint email message to alumni from Governmental Relations and the Pitt Alumni Association encouraged alumni to contact their legislators and the governor about the proposed cuts. “The University has worked success- fully to reduce costs and imple-
State-relateds plead case to appropriation panel

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lincoln University, called the proposed cut “a backbreaker” for its school, said Senator Temple Univer-
sity President Ann Weaver Hart and Penn State President Graham Spanier said such a cut would result in "leaving a rock" not to have anticipated this budget. "I followed the election pretty closely. I had conversations with the governor while he was on the campaign trail. I co-chaired his education transition committee. I don’t think that I was living under a rock," he said.

"But in fact, the depth and disproportionate nature of these reductions is not only shocking and surprising to me. I think there is an element of the same thing that would be brought under control. There were campaign statements made about increases in taxes. But I don’t think anybody was asked to buy into the notion that public education will not be enough for a lot of large numbers of students. At the same time, the appropriations in our universities really have created anchor institutions," Nordenberg said. "Of course, as demonstrated by the leaders, the support that you give to these institutions is doing great good for large numbers of students—150,000 Pennsylvanians getting the highest quality and the highest education experience through these four institutions," he said.

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tions invested in our univer-
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tutions in their respective roles in the four-state region. Sen. John Pippy (R-Allegheny/Butler) said, "Among the other things, I would like to mention the impact on the most vulnerable the middle class and the university that we’ve had in developing our country is based on public education. Our country is heavily dependent on the fact of a highly educated young persons to attend whatever educational institutions are the engines of America," he said. "At the same time, the state’s investment in public institutions of higher education have impact not only in education, but also in research, educational development and contributions to community economic development. That goes against everything I’ve ever read about the evolution of a knowledge-based economy.

"I’m really freaked out about this," Spanier said about the cuts. "I’m not freaked out about this," Spanier said that inflation has risen 20 percent, state spending has increased 40 percent and basic education appropriations have increased 60 percent over the past decade while state-related universities’ funding has held flat. Spanier said he hopes to find ways to work together to minimize the impact of the budget cuts.

In concluding the hearing, Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Jake Corman (R-Centre) presented an odd silver lining to the harsh situation. "I think in a lot of ways Gov. Corbett did us a tremendous favor by introduc-
ing the budget the way he did," Corman told the four university leaders. "I think, just talking with him, a lot of this is driven by math. We certainly have significant financial issues here and we have to find where the savings are. But I think that’s the most overlooked piece of this budget, he said, acknowledging that though the cuts have been made, the fund will direct 100 percent of its money to the education of children in Japan. "I didn’t panic, really, but as we call it, the experiment. It was 24 hours a day, and the correspondence was of a new heart attack." Paolone said.

"I was on shift, as we call it, because the experiment is a new heart attack." Paolone said. "I'm really freaked out about this," Spanier said. "I'm not freaked out about this," Spanier said about the cuts. "I’m really freaked out about this," Spanier said. "I think, just talking with him, a lot of this is driven by math. We certainly have significant financial issues here and we have to find where the savings are. But I think that’s the most overlooked piece of this budget, he said, acknowledging that though the cuts have been made, the infrastructure of the government and the public’s going to get engaged and you're getting targeted," noting that inflation has risen 20 percent, state spending has increased 40 percent and basic education appropriations have increased 60 percent over the past decade while state-related universities’ funding has held flat. Spanier said he hopes to find ways to work together to minimize the impact of the budget cuts.
RANKINGS

The magazine includes 251 programs, ranked by the number of full-time faculty, research and teaching activity — based on data collected in fall 2010 and early 2011. Law school deans were asked to choose up to 10 top programs in each specialty area by department heads, whose names came from the American Bar Association's official directory of accredited law schools. The online edition ranked 145 schools including ties.

Schools of law were assessed for quality based on a weighted average of 12 measures from survey data collected in fall 2010 and early 2011. Each program was asked about the number of full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty members, percentage of full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty members, and student selectivity (mean LSAT scores, median undergraduate GPA and proportion of applicants accepted to the first-year class who were ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class). Additionally, factors such as the number of full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty members and research activity, including the number of full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty members, were considered.

Education

Pitt's School of Education tied for 23rd (same as last year) in the five disciplines, the magazine stated. Among the five disciplines, the magazine ranked the School of Education as the top 75 percent of schools, with the bottom 25 percent listed as unranked. Among the previous years in the law discipline, U.S. News ranked only the top 100 law schools nationally as of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

Pitt's School of Medicine ranked nationally by U.S. News by U.S. News in its online edition ranked 97th (same as last year). Among the five disciplines, the magazine ranked the School of Medicine as the top 75 percent of schools, with the bottom 25 percent listed as unranked. Among the previous years in the law discipline, U.S. News ranked only the top 100 law schools nationally as of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

Pitt also had nine engineering specialty programs ranked among the nation's best by U.S. News. These rankings were based on a weighted average of 12 measures from survey data collected in fall 2010 and early 2011. Each program was asked about the number of full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty members, and research activity, including the number of full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty members, and percentage of full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty members over fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

Michigan Technological University

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Michigan Technological University
J on-Paul (J.P.) Matychak has been elected Staff Association Council (SAC) vice president of steering. Matychak, who ran unopposed, succeeds Rich Colwell, who resigned from the position effective Feb. 28. Matychak will serve out the remainder of Colwell's two-year term, which runs until June 30.

In accepting the position March 9, Matychak said, “I can say from my time here at SAC that I believe in this organization. I may not agree with everybody all the time, because we have many different personalities, but one of the things I’ve liked is that we’ve always welcomed each other’s opinions, and that’s something that I’d like to see continue. I do look forward to working with all the chairs and the committees to help them as much as possible. Let’s face it: That’s where the real work gets done for this organization.”

Under SAC bylaws, the vice president of steering also serves on the grievance committee. Matychak will continue to serve on the marketing and communications committee, but has stepped down as its chair.

SAC also announced at its March 9 meeting the acceptance of three new associate members: Lindsay Evanish, Office of Medical Education, School of Medicine; Randy Oest, University Marketing Communications, and Anna Sangl, Department of Epidemiology, Graduate School of Public Health.

New members serve for six months as non-voting associates who sit on one or more of SAC’s standing committees. Michael Semcheski, who accepted a job outside the University, and Fred Schiffer, whose employment was terminated, are no longer SAC members.

In other SAC business:

Libby Hill, vice president for marketing and communications, reported that the SAC members-only online community has been launched.

SAC hopes to hold officer elections via the new online community, but will be prepared to conduct them via paper ballot if problems develop, elections committee chair Barbara Mowery said. She noted that the bylaws also must be adjusted to reflect the online balloting process.

Mowery reported that officer elections will begin with nominations in writing accepted at the April 13 SAC meeting; voice nominations will be accepted at the May 13 meeting, and results of the elections will be announced at the June 8 meeting.

• Due to a lack of a quorum at the March 9 meeting, SAC postponed a vote on changing the status of its committee on diversity and inclusion from an ad hoc committee to a standing committee. The council expects to vote on the proposal April 13.

• SAC President Gwen Watkins reported that a campus-wide blood drive will be held 10 a.m.–4 p.m. March 22 in the William Pitt Union lower lounge. For more information, contact Watkins at 4-7702 or gwatkins@pitt.edu.

• Student conduct officer and SAC member Deborah Walker said the Office of Student Conduct is recruiting Pitt staff to serve as volunteer hearing officers. For more information, contact Walker at 8-7910 or dwalker@pitt.edu.

• Vice chair Natalie Blais reported that the benefits committee is looking at Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) issues as they affect staff. Her committee is soliciting anecdotal input from staff with experience negotiating FMLA regulations. Blais can be reached at 4-3107 or narnold@pitt.edu.

—Peter Hart

University of Pittsburgh Repertory Theatre

March 31 — April 10
Charity Randall Theatre
412.624.7529
www.play.pitt.edu

By William Shakespeare
Directed by Sam Turich
Nancy Pfennig came to Pitt in 1986 as a mathematician and joined the Bellet teaching awards were established in 1998 and joined the full-time teaching faculty in 1998. She was named senior lecturer in 2004. She earned her BS in mathematics at Pitt in 1978, her MBA from the D'Angelo Graduate School of Business in 1984. A Pittsburgh native, she was valedictorian at the former St. Mary's High School in Swissvale.

Pfennig's research interests in graduate school included combinatorics, game theory, design, and applied mathematics. As Pitt, Pfennig has taught undergraduate classes in Basic Applied Statistics, Statistics in the Modern World and Honors Applied Statistical Methods, as well as introductory courses in applied statistics, statistical methods and probability and statistics. At Pitt, Pfennig has taught undergraduate programs in Basic Applied Statistics, Statistics in the Modern World and Honors Applied Statistical Methods, as well as introductory courses in applied statistics, statistical methods and probability and statistics. At Pitt, Pfennig has taught undergraduate programs in Basic Applied Statistics, Statistics in the Modern World and Honors Applied Statistical Methods, as well as introductory courses in applied statistics, statistical methods and probability and statistics. At Pitt, Pfennig has taught undergraduate programs in Basic Applied Statistics, Statistics in the Modern World and Honors Applied Statistical Methods, as well as introductory courses in applied statistics, statistical methods and probability and statistics.

In 2009, Armstrong helped develop an integrated field trip abroad, a Pitt course cross-listed with the University of Zagreb in Croatia, where teams of Pitt and Zagreb students work together to research municipal housing projects in central Europe. Armstrong is credited with reforming the architectural studies program curriculum by developing a number of courses and designing a two-track pathway — the 60-credit design track for students wishing to pursue professional degrees in architecture and the 52-credit preservation track for those wishing to pursue graduate degrees in historic preservation.

In a letter supporting Arm- strong's Bellet Award nomination, department chair Kirk Savage praised Armstrong for his pedagogical contribution to the department and the university that extends beyond the classroom through curricular innovations and new student assessment strategies.

Within the department, Armstrong has set a new standard for passion, intensity and achievement in the classroom," Savage wrote. "Even in a large lecture class, he wades the aisles, addresses the students by name and engages directly with them. Watch him teach an auditorium full of students how to read a ground plan. By the end of the exercise he has not only empowered the students but shown them how interesting ideas about social order and cultural ideals are embedded in the diagram. He has never seen an instructor who managed to create such an effective rapport with his students while maintaining the appropriate boundaries that structure the teacher-student relationship.

Armstrong said that Armstrong's open-door policy allows him to mentor and teach students individually and has had exceptional success in creating new and intellectually challenging learning environments for students.

Armstrong maintained. "I think it's crucially important for universities to stress that the four-year on-campus undergraduate experience is an interactive, social process. The more close contact between students and professors, both in the classroom and informally, the more effective the learning experience for everyone." He also noted that Armstrong encourages out-of-class network.

"Creating opportunities for students to work in the community has been a priority since I became chair of the department. My own courses similarly aim to bridge the classroom and the community. My research interests also include fostering collaborative work among faculty members and majors with opportunities to study impor-
A cure for glaucoma. A device that allows blind persons to experience the visual realm via other senses. Eye transplants. Regenerating biosynthetic corneas. Creating Lisa Funderburgh's discovery of corneal stromal stem cells. A decade ago those studies led to Schuman's specialty. The next step is testing the project in a clinical trial. Funderburgh and Du are working with researchers in India to design and conduct such a trial. The work is advancing in the clinic. The two scientists demonstrated in the lab that creating a biosynthetic cornea is possible. In addition, they injected human corneal stromal stem cells into the corneas of a special strain of mice that normally get cloudy corneas and discovered that the human stem cells essentially rebuilt and cleared the corneas in the mice. This is very dramatic. It's more like a mission than regular, normal science. "The Fox Center is a little different, because it's very specific to regenerative medicine, and ophthalmology, with a target of taking the basic science into clinical practice. It's very specific to regenerative medicine and ophthalmology, with a target of taking the basic science into clinical practice." Schuman said. "Our vision — no pun intended — was for a comprehensive center that would be able to create new discoveries and inventions, but, importantly, to translate them into clinical practice." Schuman said, "Typically, scientists will be able to work on their ideas in any way that they choose, as long as they can convince peers who control funding that their work can be funded. This center is a little different, because it's very specific to regenerative medicine and ophthalmology, with a target of taking the basic science into clinical practice. It's more like a mission than regular, normal science." The Fox Center now specializes in areas associated with vision loss, including macular disease, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, optic nerve disorders, corneal scarring and ocular trauma. Schuman and Russell initially invented the research interests in the ophthalmology department and at the McGowan Institute in order to pair up people who were working in similar areas. "We found that there are a lot of pretty good resources right here at the University," Schuman said. "We've also encouraged some people who are here to look at their work in a different way and marry this different approach to the goals they have." In addition, the Fox Center recruited researchers in novel areas, such as scientists who were working in stem cell therapy in the retina and the optic nerve. "This particular type of stem cell is responsible for most of the tissue that makes up the cornea, sitting in the middle part of the 'sandwich' that is the cornea," Schuman said. "It's a very important cell. His thought was that you could create a biosynthetic cornea using these stem cells." The Fox Center recruited VJuan Du, a stem cell expert and ophthalmologist from China, to partner with Funderburgh on the project. The two scientists demonstrated in the lab that creating a biosynthetic cornea is possible. In addition, they injected human corneal stromal stem cells into the corneas of a special strain of mice that normally get cloudy corneas and discovered that the human stem cells essentially rebuilt and cleared the corneas in the mice. This is very dramatic. It's more like a mission than regular, normal science. "The Fox Center is a little different, because it's very specific to regenerative medicine, and ophthalmology, with a target of taking the basic science into clinical practice." Schuman said, "Our vision — no pun intended — was for a comprehensive center that would be able to create new discoveries and inventions, but, importantly, to translate them into clinical practice." "Our vision — no pun intended — was for a comprehensive center that would be able to create new discoveries and inventions, but, importantly, to translate them into clinical practice." — Joel S. Schuman, co-director of the Louis J. Fox Center for Vision Restoration The eyes have it...
camera to the tongue, through gentle electrical stimulation.

BrainPort consists of a postage-stamp-size electrode array for the top surface of the tongue, a base unit, a digital video camera and a hand-held controller for zoom and contrast inversion. Visual information is collected from a head-mounted camera and sent to the BrainPort base unit. The unit stimulates nerves in the tongue, which the brain can interpret as visual images.

“The device takes a visual image and translates it into an electrical simulation on the tongue,” Schuman explained. “So people are able to experience the visual environment through their tongue. You might call it ‘taste-vision.’”

Blind volunteer study participants have described the sensation as low-resolution pictures and shapes that are painted on the tongue with bubbles. Based on conversations with users, Nau has described the sensation as similar to Pop Rocks, the carbonated candy that creates a fizzy reaction as it dissolves in the mouth.

Nau’s study has shown that, with practice, users can identify and reach for nearby objects, and point to and estimate the distance of objects out of reach. Some people were able to identify letters and numbers, and recognize landmarks.

“It’s not vision exactly. But it is the information that they need to perceive the world so they can ambulate,” Schuman said.

Nau currently is trying to fill a cohort of 24 blind people and six sighted controls for a clinical trial of the device set to begin in June. Nau also is studying the rewiring of the brain that occurs in adults who use this device. In people who are completely blind, there is no activity in the part of the brain where visual messages go. But through the use of this device, over time the brain rewires and the signals from this device get processed in the part of the brain usually responsible for vision, Schuman explained.

Eye transplantation

The most futuristic project being explored at the Fox Center is eye transplantation, Schuman said, a project headed by Vijay Gorantla, a Pitt faculty member in the Department of Surgery and administrative medical director of the Pittsburgh reconstructive transplant program at UPMC.

Schuman said, “We’re pretty sure that we can do the eye transplant technically and prevent rejection. But the hardest part, actually, is going to be getting the patient to accept that and to get the brain. That will take a lot of effort, time and money in order for us to be able to do it.” But Schuman is confident eye transplants eventually will be a reality.

Initially, he believes, the transplants will be performed using cadaveric eyes, as opposed to bioartificial eyes, which are years away from development.

“But one of the tricky parts is that the eye needs to be implanted within four hours of death. The window is very narrow for maintaining the health of the tissue in the eye,” Schuman said.

Fox Center OTERO projects

Several other Fox Center projects are being developed through the ocular tissue engineering and regenerative ophthalmology (OTERO) postdoctoral fellowship program, begun in 2009-10.

“These OTERO fellows are specifically people who are working with a scientist at the McGowan Institute and either a scientist or clinician in ophthalmology,” Schuman said. “The concept is to create scientists who have expertise in regenerative ophthalmology.”

One OTERO project is investigating ways of using ultrasound to break up clots that are blocking blood vessels in the retina or the optic nerve.

Other OTERO projects are looking at extended-release drug delivery for age-related macular degeneration patients and at extended-release drug delivery for glaucoma patients.

The future

The new field of regenerative ophthalmology has not yet filtered down into medical school or ophthalmology training, Schuman noted, but he believes it will eventually.

“I don’t think we’re ready yet, because all of this stuff is cutting-edge right now, and until we make the discoveries and implement them in terms of clinical trials, it’s hard to argue that it’s a good idea teaching this stuff to students who are learning the basic skills of how to be a doctor,” Schuman said.

One of the first applications for stem cell therapy, he said, may be for Lasik, laser refractive surgery than corrects people’s vision so they can avoid wearing glasses or contacts, he said. Sometimes, during Lasik surgery, a haze develops in a portion of the two flaps of the cornea, the clear part in the front of the eye.

“Stem cells placed in that interface, we believe, would inhibit what is essentially scar formation that caused the haze — stem cells that would reverse the scarring,” Schuman explained. “But, for now, that’s a theoretical application.”

With so many innovations in the Fox Center fire and so much potential for dramatic developments in eye disease treatments, Schuman is cautiously optimistic.

“Imagine that instead of having a scar that you can have retraction of normal tissue again. That analogy works throughout the body,” he said. “So the expectations would become you’re not going to do just regular healing of scars, you’re going to do ‘constructive healing.’ It’s actually being able to get the tissue to repair itself to where it was before it was injured,” Schuman said.

“It’s my job to be skeptical and I am. But it’s also my job to say, ‘We’ve got a lot of dreamers in the department, in a good way, a lot of creative people. And it really does take that type of creativity to see beyond the ordinary and be able to come up with new insights and new ideas for ways to cure or prevent diseases.”

He also is encouraged by the support the Fox Center gets from Pitt and UPMC, as well as from foundations such as the Western Pennsylvania Medical Eye Bank. In fact, UPMC is matching one for every dollar we get from philanthropy or industry and they haven’t placed any limit on that,” Schuman said. “I’m really excited about all of this. The Fox Center was a concept and now it’s a reality.”
2 Pitt book stores merging

Pitt’s Health Book Center is being transplanted from its location in Forbes Pavilion to Pitt’s Book Center. The Health Book Center will remain open for business at its current location through Friday, March 25, but as of Monday, March 28, its health-related books and merchandise will be available at The Book Center. The Health Book Center’s three employees will make the move as well, said The Book Center manager Debra Fyock.

The Health Book Center’s general books will be added to the general books section on the first floor of The Book Center while textbooks for the Schools of Health Sciences classes will be included in the textbook department.

The Health-related supplies and gift items also will make the move to The Book Center, said Fyock. Plans to relocate the Health Book Center got underway last fall, she said.

“We wanted to respond quickly to the rapidly changing face of the book-publishing industry. With an increased variety of delivery methods, such as eBooks and rentals, and the rise of Internet sales, the Health Book Center no longer required the amount of space it had in the past. Add to this the convenience of one-stop shopping, and the move to The Book Center seemed obvious,” Fyock said.

The Health Book Center moved to its current location on Forbes Avenue in 1988 after 20 years in Scaife Hall. No plans have been finalized for the space the Health Book Center will vacate.

Fyock said the merger of the two book centers is the first phase in Pitt’s plan for a renovation of The Book Center. Details for the renovation have not been completed but student input has been sought in surveys.

— Kimberly K. Barlow

Social work honored for its work on problem gambling

The Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania, a nonprofit affiliate of the National Council on Problem Gambling, recognized Pitt’s School of Social Work March 8 during National Problem Gambling Awareness Week for its support of the education and treatment of problem gamblers and for its research on gambling addiction.

In February 2008, social work launched a six-month training program for human service professionals to obtain national certification in gambling addiction counseling. Approximately 150 clinicians have received certification to date, most from western Pennsylvania.

The school also surveyed other social work schools to determine the extent to which social work students are learning about issues associated with problem gambling.

In 2008, more than a year before the opening of the Rivers Casino in Pittsburgh, the school released a report, “Raising the Stakes: Assessing Allegheny County’s Human Service Response Capacity to the Social Impact of Gambling,” which surveyed 137 agencies to determine whether they offered or were preparing to offer gambling prevention, intervention and treatment services. The report’s findings suggested that more than 77 percent of the agencies surveyed did not screen for or treat problem gambling and that most agencies did not feel problem gambling was an issue for their clients.

Co-authors of the report were social work faculty members Rafael Engel, Dan Rosen and Tracy Soska.

The report is available at www.socialwork.pitt.edu/downloads/RaisingTheStakes.pdf.

New ULS e-journal seeks submissions

Academic manuscripts and essays on French philosophy are being solicited for The Journal of French and Francophone Philosophy (JFFP), a new e-journal published by the University Library System.

JFFP is an international, bilingual peer-reviewed journal devoted to the study of French and Francophone thought. Though rooted in the discipline of philosophy, the journal also publishes interdisciplinary extensions and explorations of French and Francophone thought, and accepts peer-reviewed academic articles and book reviews written in both English and French. JFFP will consider publishing essays on prominent or lesser-known figures in French and Francophone philosophy.

The journal operates in collaboration with The Société Américaine de Philosophie de Langue Française. The e-journal’s goal is to foster international communication and collaboration among Francophone scholars.

The Serge Koussevitzky Music Foundation in the Library of Congress and the Koussevitzky Music Foundation have awarded commissions for new musical works to eight composers, including Eric Moe, a faculty member in the Department of Music and co-director of the Music on the Edge program.

Koussevitzky commissions, which aim to perpetuate the late conductor Serge Koussevitzky’s efforts to encourage contemporary composers, are awarded annually on a competitive basis and are open to performing organizations or individuals.

Manuscripts of Koussevitzky commissioned works are archived in the Music Division of the Library of Congress.

In honor of Black History Month, School of Social Work Dean Larry E. Davis was chosen as one of “Today’s Social Workers” by the Pennsylvania chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. The designation recognizes influential African-American social workers who continue to help shape the social work profession.

Davis, who also is the Donald M. Henderson Professor and the director of the Center on Race and Social Problems, focuses his professional interests on interracial group dynamics, the impact of race, gender and class on interpersonal interactions, African-American family formation, and youth. He has received research funding from sources including the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Mental Health.

Sandra D. Mitchell, chair of the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, was elected as a member-at-large of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) section for the history and philosophy of science. The section promotes the exploration of scientific research and arguments by looking at their basic structure to determine the strength of presented evidence and to reveal what may be hidden assumptions.

As a member-at-large, Mitchell will assess the section’s performance and role in AAAS, urge section officers to establish working panels on interdisciplinary subjects and help involve members in professional interaction, among other responsibilities.

Mitchell is a philosopher of biology whose research centers on scientific explanations of complex behavior and the best approach for representing multilevel, multicomponent systems. She is the author of numerous articles and books, among them the recently published “Simple Truths: Science Complexity, and Policy,” which argues that as science unravels the complexity of nature and society, long-held assumptions about linear causes, reductive explanation and simple predict-and-act decision-making need to be revised.

Mark Rebeiz, a faculty member in biological and physical sciences, has been named a winner of a 2011 Sloan Research Fellowship. Sloan fellowships recognize early-career scholars who demonstrate outstanding promise and potential in one of seven fields.

Rebeiz was honored for his work in computational and evolutionary molecular biology.

The School of Law has appointed Justine Kasznica executive director of the Innovation Practice Institute.

Kasznica has worked as a practicing corporate attorney and a business consultant for a number of Pittsburgh robotics and high-tech start-ups. Since 2009, she has led ReefBot, a Pittsburgh-based team she helped establish that develops and uses underwater robotic technology for coral reef education and conservation efforts.

In 2008, Kasznica served as a law clerk for the Hoon. Thomas Hardiman of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in Philadelphia.

Prior to that, Kasznica spent two years as a commercial litigation associate for WolfBlock in Philadelphia. While there, she also taught constitutional law seminars at Princeton University.

Pitt’s Innovation Practice Institute develops experiential and cross-disciplinary learning and immersion opportunities for students. Pitt law students, faculty and members of the bar collaborate in supporting various innovations, including the creation and evaluation of cutting-edge technologies, the development of new neighborhood economies, the commercialization of medical innovations and the study of the legal services strategies and culture.

Nicholas Rescher, distinguished University Professor of Philosophy, has been awarded the premier Cross of the Order of Merit (Bundesverdienstkreuz erster Klasse) of the Federal Republic of Germany in recognition of his contributions to philosophy and to German-American cooperation in the philosophy field.

Author of more than 100 books, Rescher has been teaching philosophy for 60 years, beginning at Princeton in 1951, and has served on the faculty at Pitt since 1961. He has lectured at many German universities, and he has made extensive contributions to scholarship regarding Leibniz and Kant.

Rescher’s honors include the Alexander von Humboldt Prize for Humanistic Scholarship, the Belgian Cardinal Mercier Prize and the Thomas Aquinas Medal of the American Catholic Philosophical Association.

An honorary member of Oxford’s Corpus Christi College, Rescher has been elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the European Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Royal Society of Canada, the Institut International de Philosophie des Sciences and the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland. He has been awarded honorary degrees from seven universities on three continents.

John Twyning, until recently chair of the Department of...
Berg Center develops Food Abundance Index

The David Berg Center for Ethics and Leadership, part of the Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business, has developed a scorecard — the Food Abundance Index (FAI) — to measure food security and examine food security based on health and overall wellbeing.

The 30-credit program provides mid-career professionals an opportunity to expand their knowledge, develop new analytic tools and professional skills and explore new ideas and theories. GPSEA officials said the program is ideal for professionals to advance their careers, or begin a new career in public service.

“Requirements can be tailored to fit the covered story in the March 13 issue of the Pitt Alumni Magazine, a quarterly publication of the University of Pittsburgh alumni association. "The University Times" is the monthly student newspaper of the University of Pittsburgh.

The Harvard-PSC team exploited improvements in computer speed and storage capacity available at PSC that made it possible to transmit and process more than 3 million high-resolution images from a pinpoint-like section of the brain. Starting with these very thin slice (40 nanometers) images obtained at Harvard via electron microscopy — Wetzel and Hood stitched together a large-scale, single-section mosaic. From these sections, they then reconstructed a 3-D volume, making it possible for the Harvard team to trace interconnections among selected neurons, in effect mapping a firing diagram of the portion of the mouse visual cortex.

By tracing interconnections within this volume, the Harvard researchers produced new insights into how the brain functions, finding that neural circuits tasked with suppressing brain activity seem to be randomly wired, putting the lid on local groups of neurons all at once rather than picking and choosing. Such findings are important because many neurological conditions, such as epilepsy, are the result of neural inhibition gone awry.

The team now is working to scale up this platform to generate larger datasets that could unravel the mysteries of how the brain works.

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

We welcome submissions from all areas of the University, including departments, colleges and schools. Please submit your comments or suggestions for future topics to utimes@pitt.edu by fax to 412/648-4579 or by campus mail to 308 Bellefield Hall.

For submission guidelines, visit us on the Web at: www.pitt.edu/utimes.
U.S. News ranks grad school programs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ers 2009-10 as teaching in the specialty field, or by directors of clinical and 15 writing programs. They named up to 15 of the best programs in each field. In the health care law specialty, Pitt tied for 12th with Harvard (tied for 17th last year) among the 28 such programs listed.

In the “law firms rank schools” category, new this year, Pitt tied for 7th (same as last year) among 18 such programs listed. The magazine ranked 111 schools in this category.

According to the magazine, “For the first time, U.S. News presents a ranking of law schools based on the opinions of the people doing the hiring at the nation’s most highly regarded law firms. To produce this list, we asked 750 recruiters and hiring partners at those highly ranked firms for their input. The response rate was 14 percent.”

Medicine

U.S. News issues two separate medical school rankings, one emphasizing research activity and the other a school’s preparation of primary care physicians.

Pitt’s School of Medicine ranked 14th (same as last year) in the research category among 92 medical schools ranked in the online edition. In the primary care preparation category, the University tied for 28th (tied for 12th last year) among the 97 schools ranked nationally. Pitt tied with Baylor College of Medicine, Brown, Mayo Medical School and New Mexico.

Without mentioning Pitt by name, U.S. News noted that, “Griff...government health officials worry about the growing shortage of primary care physicians nationwide, which has developed, at least in part, because primary care salaries pale in comparison to specialties... To bridge this gap, a growing number of state loan forgiveness programs for primary care physicians have sprung up, and schools are sharpening their focus on primary care programs. In contrast to the research rankings, many primary care schools made significant jumps in the rankings this year.”

The magazine surveyed the 126 accredited medical schools plus 20 accredited schools of osteopathic medicine for both the research rankings and the primary care rankings.

For the research category, 123 schools provided the data needed to calculate the rankings; 123 schools also provided the data needed to calculate the primary care rankings.

Quality assessment indicators for both categories were based on peer assessment surveys conducted in fall 2010 and early 2011 of deans of medical and osteopathic schools, deans of academic affairs, heads of internal medicine and directors of admissions. The response rate was 40 percent. Also surveyed in fall 2010 were residency program directors. One survey dealt with research and was sent to a sample of residency program directors in fields outside primary care, including surgery, psychiatry and radiology. The response rate was 17 percent.

A second survey involved primary care and was sent to residency directors in the fields of family practice, pediatrics and internal medicine. The response rate for that survey was 19 percent. The source for the names for both of the residency directors’ surveys was the Graduate Medical Education Directory 2009-2010 edition, published by the American Medical Association.

In both categories those quality indicators included student selectivity (mean composite Medical College Admission Test score, mean undergraduate grade point average and the proportion of total applicants accepted for the class entering in 2010), and faculty resources (ratio of full-time faculty to students in 2010).

In the research category only, research activity was included in the rankings. It was defined as total dollar amount of National Institutes of Health research grants awarded to the medical school and its affiliated hospitals, and the average amount of those grants calculated per full-time medical school and clinical faculty member, both averaged for fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

In the primary care category, the magazine measured the percent of graduates who entered primary care specialties, such as family practice, pediatrics and internal medicine, averaged over the past three graduating classes. Among eight medical school specialties ranked by U.S. News, five of Pitt programs were ranked nationally.

Pitt’s drug and alcohol abuse specialty ranked 11th among 13 such programs ranked nationally. Pitt ranked 8th last year.

The geriatrics specialty at the University ranked 10th (same as last year) among 21 programs listed.

Internal medicine was ranked 15th (14th last year) among 25 schools listed.

The pediatrics specialty program was ranked 11th (13th last year), among 21 programs listed nationally.

Pitt’s women’s health program ranked 3rd (4th last year) among 19 such programs listed.

Medical specialty rankings were based on ratings by medical deans and senior faculty at peer schools, who were asked to identify up to 10 schools offering the best programs in each of eight specialty areas.

Selected Health Schools and Programs

Health disciplines where Pitt was ranked in the 2012 edition of U.S. News Best Graduate Schools include: the nursing program and several nursing specialty areas; public health, and the health care management specialty. According to the magazine, all the health rankings were based solely on the results of peer assessment surveys sent to deans, other administrators and/or faculty at accredited degree programs or schools in each discipline.

In fall 2010, surveys were conducted for the magazine’s current rankings of schools of public health accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (response rate: 61 percent), health care management programs accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (76 percent), master’s programs in nursing accredited by either the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education or the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (33 percent), graduate nurse anesthesia programs accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (49 percent), and rehabilitation counselor education programs accredited by the Commission on Standards and Accreditation: Council on Rehabilitation Education (40 percent).

The nursing specialty programs are ranked based solely on input from educators at peer nursing institutions, who nominated up to 10 schools for excellence in each area.

Pitt’s nursing graduate program tied for 7th with Duke, Oregon Health and Science University and Yale among 449 such programs ranked nationally. Pitt also was ranked in several nursing specialty areas, including tied for 3rd with Rush University (among 101 programs ranked overall) in nursing-anesthesia; 6th in clinical nurse specialist: psychiatric/mental health (10 programs listed), 6th in nurse practitioner: adult (16 programs listed), tied for 14th in nurse practitioner: family with Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing (23 programs listed), 4th in nursing service administration (31 programs listed).

Pitt’s graduate program in public health tied for 11th with Boston University among 99 such programs ranked.

Pitt tied for 25th overall in health care management with Arizona State, Baylor and Tulane. There were 63 such programs ranked nationally.

The rehabilitation counseling specialty area at Pitt tied for 2nd for 23rd among 96 such programs. Pitt tied with North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Northern Colorado, Portland State, Syracuse, SUNY-Buffalo and Texas-Austin.

—Peter Hart
University of Pittsburgh
The Senate of the University of Pittsburgh
Tuition and Academic Freedom Standing Committee

The Senate of the University of Pittsburgh Spring 2011 Plenary Session

Teaching Excellence as a Criterion for Promotion and Tenure
Thursday, April 14, 2011
1-3 p.m. Assembly Room, William Pitt Union

Objectives:
• To discuss academic promotion and tenure in the context of the three goals of a university (teaching, research, and service).
• To identify models for integrating teaching-excellence in faculty performance.
• To identify factors and criteria considered in weighing teaching excellence in faculty promotion and tenure.
• To discuss the development of criteria that support and enhance teaching as one of the primary goals of a university.

12:00 pm Complimentary Buffet Lunch
12:15 pm Opening of the Plenary
Michael R. Pinsky, President, University Senate
12:25 pm Welcoming Remarks
Mark A. Nordenberg, Chancellor
12:40 pm Introduction
Cary Balaban, Chair, Senate and Academic Freedom Committee
12:55 pm Address
James W. Maher
Distinguished Service Professor of Physics, Senior Science Advisor, and Provost Emeriti
1:15 pm Address
Sharon P. Smith, President, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg
1:35 pm Address
Thomas C. Saslawker, Professor of Medicine
2:25 pm Panel and Discussion Summary
2:45 pm Closing Remarks
Patricia E. Benson, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor
3:00 pm Adjournment

All Faculty, Staff & Students are Invited to Attend
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C A L E N D A R

**24, March 114 Music, 11 am**
A&S/Music  
“A Coexistence of Liturgical Conusmus in the Mass for the Dead From Its Origins Through the 14th Century,” Nemesio Valle; March 28, 114 Music, 1 pm

**23, March 4321 Posvar, 11 am**

**23, March 22, 114 Music, 11 am**
A&S/Music  
“Contrasts”; through March 18; "Mind Space, Maximalism in the Age of Advertising," Evie Cohen; March 29, 109 GSPH, 12:30 pm

**23, March 22, 110 Parran, 9 am**

**23, March 22, 110 Parran, 10 am**

**23, March 23, 110 Parran, 9 am**

**23, March 23, 114 Music, 11 am**

**23, March 23, 110 Parran, 10 am**

**23, March 23, 110 Parran, 10 am**

**23, March 25, 109 GSPH, 2:30 pm**
GSPH/Epidemiology  
“Tumor-Stromal Interactions in Type I & II Endometrial Cancer: The Role of CCLX12/ CCRX4R-HGF/F-MET/FGFR in a Large Cohort of Endometrial Cancer Patients,” Alexis Fehn; March 25, 109 GSPH, 2:30 pm

**23, March 25, 109 GSPH, 3 pm**
GSPH/Epidemiology  
“Polyepitopes in Inflammation-Related Genes & Risk of Smoking-Associated Lung Cancer & COPD,” Yan Du; March 29, 109 Parran, 12:30 pm

**24, March 24, 302 Music, 3:30 pm**
GSPH/Epidemiology  
“The Birth of Musicology From the Spirit of Evolution: Ernst Haeckel’s Entwicklungs- slehre as Central Component of Guido Adler’s Methodology for Musiology,” Benjamin Breuer; March 30, 302 Music, 3:30 pm

**24, March 24, 114 Music, 11 am**
A&S/Music  
“A Coexistence of Liturgical Conusmus in the Mass for the Dead From Its Origins Through the 14th Century,” Nemesio Valle; March 28, 114 Music, 1 pm

**Theatre**

**25, March 25, Greensburg Campus Theatre**  
“Men Can’t Take It With You,” March 31-April 2; Ferguson Theatre, UPG, 7 pm (724/661- 9860)

**25, March 25, 5511 Posvar, 1 pm**

**25, March 25, 5511 Posvar, 1 pm**

**25, March 25, 5511 Posvar, 1 pm**

**25, March 25, Bridgeside Point 5th Fl., Noon**

**26, March 26, Falk Library, Scare, reg. libraryhours**

**MARCH 17, 2011**

**Exhibits**

**HADA Exhibit**  
“Mind Space, Maximalism in Contrast”; through March 18; U Art Gallery, FFA, 10 am-4 pm M-F (3-2600)

**HSLS Exhibit**  
“Harry Potter’s World: Renais- sance Science, Magic & Medi- cine”, through March 26; Falk Library, Scare, reg. libraryhours

**Event Deadline**

The next issue of the University Times will include University and on-campus events of March 11-14. Information for events during that period must be received by 5 pm on March 24 at 108 Bellefield Hall. Information may be sent by fax to 4-4579 or email to utcalls@pitt.edu.

**Who’s going to Pay For This?**

A PANEL DISCUSSION FEATURING

Stephen Engelberg  
Managing editor of ProPublica, a Pulitzer Prize-winning non-profit news organization that has produced investigative journalism since its inception in 2008. Previously, Engelberg was managing editor of the Oregonian in Portland where he supervised investigative projects and news coverage. Engelberg worked for The New York Times for 18 years as an editor and reporter, founding the paper’s investigative unit and serving as a reporter in Washington and Warsaw.

Mary Leonard  

Andrew Pergam  
Editorial director of J-Lab. The institute for interactive journalism, the nation’s most successful incubator for news entrepreneurs. Pergam works with grantees, oversees innovations in journalism, and builds resources for professional and citizen journalists launching local news initiatives. Pergam was a managing editor of NBCConnecticut.com and prior to that he was on-air producer for NPR’s Newshour. Pergam also created online programming for a division of NBC universal.

E-MAIL YOUR RSVP

This is a free event and open to the public. However, seating is limited. You must RSVP with your phone number, and the name(s) of your guests to:

uhcevent@pitt.edu

The University Club  
123 University Place  
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

**March 24, 2011 7:30 PM**

**Who’s going to Pay For This?**
**C A L E N D A R**

- **Thursday 17**
  - **received after the deadline.**
  - **to: 412/624-4579, or by campus mail to: 308 Bellefield Hall. We cannot guarantee publication of events or concert, and the program’s specific title, sponsor, location and time. The name and phone number of**
  - **July 21-Sept. 1**
  - **June 23-July 7**
  - **April 28-May 12**
  - **April 14-28**

**Friday 18**

- **Endocrine Conference**
  - **to: 412/604-5890**

**Saturday 19**

- **FRIDAY 20**
  - **April 16**

**Sunday 20**

- **MONDAY 21**
  - **Philosophy of Science Workshop**
  - **Science Fiction**
  - **Tuesday 22**
  - **Wednesday 23**

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**For more information, call Barbara DeRosa, 412/242-7264.**

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**By it! In the University Times Classifieds!**

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**UNIVERSITY TIMES**

**2010-11 publication schedule**

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<td>March 31-April 14</td>
<td>March 24</td>
<td>March 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 14-28</td>
<td>April 7</td>
<td>April 14</td>
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<td>April 28-May 12</td>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>April 28</td>
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<td>May 12-26</td>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>May 12</td>
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<td>May 26-June 9</td>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>May 26</td>
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<td>June 9-23</td>
<td>June 2</td>
<td>June 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 23-July 7</td>
<td>June 16</td>
<td>June 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 7-21</td>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>July 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 21-Sept. 1</td>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>July 21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**INTERESTED IN ROWING?**

**The Pitt Masters Rowing Club is recruiting new members. Staff & facility of all skill levels are welcome to join. Indoor practice sessions & in-season water rowing. For more details about club membership, contact dubro@pitt.edu.**

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**DIABETICS**

Are you helping a friend or family member with type 2 diabetes? The University Health Center School of Nursing invites you to participate in a research study about caregiving strategies. The study involves a combination of home visits & phone calls. A small monetary compensation will be provided. Call 1-800/851-9234.

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**BLOOD PRESSURE & THE BRAIN**

Researchers at one MRI and brain imaging center seek healthy adults ages 15-40. Cannot have hypertension or diabetes. $150 compensation. Some invited to repeat study in 2 years with additional compensation. Contact Karn Novak at 412/246-8529 or novakk@upmc.edu.

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**LADIES’ NIGHT**

A different, get-different, part-time business opportunity can be a wonderful way to fund a dream or get back on track. Call 1-800/681-7356.