Pitt volunteers pitch in

Groups start work on Pitt's reaccreditation report

W hat takes 60 people from across the University more than two years to complete? It's the University's decennial reaccreditation process, which runs from March 2010, when Pitt submitted a preliminary proposal launching the reaccreditation, to spring 2012, when the University's final report is due.

Pitt has convened a steering committee and three working groups, which collectively include administrators, faculty, staff and students from the five campuses, to meet the requirements of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, the accrediting arm of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. The Middle States region comprises Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and several international locations.

The reaccreditation process culminates in a site visit by a Middle States evaluation team, expected in spring 2012, followed by a decision by Middle States about Pitt's accreditation status, expected in summer or fall 2012. Pitt has been accredited by the Middle States Commission since 1921.

According to University Registrar Samuel Conte, who with Provost Patricia Beeson co-chairs the steering committee, Middle States provides general guidelines for designing the self-study that forms the basis of the commission's review, as well as 14 institutional and educational standards that must be documented. Middle States also allows institutions to select from three models in preparing the self-study.

"Those models are 'comprehensive,' 'selected topics' and 'collaborative,'" Conte explained. "We chose the selected topics model, partly because we're such a big university and it would be impossible to cover every program, and partly to reflect on the culture of assessment that we've had in place for several years. Because assessment is such a big part of this process — for all the regional accreditors around the country — and because we have and have had for a number of years assessment procedures that have grown and improved, I think it definitely was the way for us to go."

"For related stories on Pitt's student assessment strategies, see Feb. 21, 2008, University Times."

Pitt's resulting selected topic is "Using a University-wide Culture of Assessment for Continuous Improvement," which includes major components on assessment of the student experience, assessment of institutional effectiveness and demonstration of compliance with Middle States standards. Conte said. Each of the three working groups is responsible for preparing a report on one of the components. The steering committee then will combine the reports and prepare the overall self-study document.

Pitt's self-study design was approved by the commission following a preliminary site visit last week by Pitt's Middle States liaison, Mary Ellen Petrisko, who met with the chancellor, Board of Trustees representatives, faculty, staff and student representatives.

The Provost's office developed a timeline to keep the University on track over the two-plus year process, Conte said. "We've already completed several key steps," including forming the working groups in July and charging them earlier this month, he said. The steering committee has been meeting monthly since June, and beginning in October will get a monthly progress update from the working group chairs, who will then present it to the steering committee. The next major step, Conte said, is in December when the steering committee will review the working groups' self-study drafts.

In March 2011, the Middle States Commission will select a chair and an evaluation team, subject to Pitt's approval. "Next April, the working groups will submit their final reports, which the steering committee will go over. Then in the summer a draft of the self-study will be sent to the steering committee and the evaluation team chair for a review. At the end of August next year, there will be the approval of the whole committee and working groups and the Middle States visiting evaluation team chair," Conte said.

In fall 2011, the University community will be invited to comment on the self-study before it is finalized for submission, be noted. "I'm not sure at this point what the mechanism for that will be, whether it will be a public forum for example, but definitely the report will be out there available through the University portal," Conte said.

He said Pitt's selected topics self-study model is designed to address the commission's 14 required standards, which can be covered "substantially" or "partially" under Middle States guidelines. "The self-study directly will address standard 7, institutional assessment, and standard 14, assessment of student learning," Conte said.

Pitt's report also partially will address standard 2, planning, resource allocation and institutional renewal; standard 8, student admissions and financial aid; standard 9, student support services; standard 11, educational offerings; and standard 12, general education, he added.

For the remaining standards 1: mission and goals; 3: institutional resources; 4: leadership and...
September 16 compared to its position on the top 200 list and the six subject tables ever.”

The magazine also has begun publishing new rankings of top universities by subject. In its Sept. 16 news release, THE said the latest list represented “year zero” for the rankings because of the new methodology, which “places less importance on reputation and heritage than on research, teaching and knowledge transfer.”

The two rankings lists vary greatly. For example, the top five universities on the Sept. 8 list were Harvard, California Institute of Technology (California Tech), Stanford, and Princeton. The previously published list’s top five were University College London, Harvard, Yale, University College London and MIT.

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The magazine expects to publish five other subject area top rankings this fall, including the top 50 in arts and humanities (Oct. 28), life sciences (to be published Sept. 30); physical sciences (Oct. 7); physical sciences (Oct. 14); social sciences (Oct. 21), and arts and humanities (Oct. 26).

Information on the Sept. 16 2010-11 World University Rankings Project can be found at www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/

— Peter Hart

Letters

Supporting the wounded warrior

To the editor: As a former Marine turned scientist in the field of regenerative medicine, our wounded soldiers hold a special place in my heart. The Pittsburgh region is making a tremendous effort to help heal and adapt to the soldiers injured by the current conflicts. While relatives are grateful for their return, the round-the-clock care required to treat wounded warriors often falls on their families, giving caregivers no choice but to leave their jobs and forgo health care of their own.

For this reason, I want to highlight the first volunteer-run event for the Wounded Warrior, which is being held Nov. 13 in Pittsburgh’s North Oakland Business District. This event is being organized to assist service members who have been injured in the line of duty. Runners and walkers have a choice between a 5K or a 5-mile distance to choose from. All runners and walkers will be able to volunteer for the Wounded Warrior will be donated to the nonprofit organization Wounded Warrior Project (WWP), and will support a full range of programs and services for severely injured service members and their families.

WWP provides programs and services to assist injured service members and their families during their recovery, rehabilitation and transition. Its mission is to honor and empower wounded warriors.

Whether through caregiver retreats, combat stress programs, career and education services or adaptive sports opportunities, Wounded Warrior Project’s vision is to help make this generation of wounded warriors successful and well-adjusted in our nation’s history.

As a Marine-turned-scientist, I have been organizing efforts to be a model for other institutions. We are looking for sponsors, donations and of course runners/walkers for this great event. If you would like to get involved, please contact cemig@ptei.org for more information.

Let’s support our wounded warriors!

Charlotte Emig
Research Program Manager
Pittsburgh Tissue Engineering Initiative
cemig@ptei.org

We caught up with three new Faculty Assembly representatives after an orientation session and their first meeting Sept. 7. (See Sept. 16/23 METRO.) The new representatives introduced themselves — Kevin Kearns, William Elliott. I am struck by the lack of racial diversity on the Faculty Assembly. I was the only African American in the group that I noticed. I understand that there may be reasons for this, however, it does suggest the need to recruit African Americans for Faculty Assembly. It also raises the issue of how well this group’s needs, to the degree that its concerns may be unique, are being met. This became obvious when we spent 15 minutes of spirited debate on inequity in women’s pay, and the potential for racial disparities never came up.

Kevin Kearns: At orientation, I learned about the University’s commitment to diversity and inclusion. I am struck by the lack of racial diversity on the Faculty Assembly. I was the only African American in the group that I noticed. I understand that there may be reasons for this, however, it does suggest the need to recruit African Americans for Faculty Assembly. It also raises the issue of how well this group’s needs, to the degree that its concerns may be unique, are being met. This became obvious when we spent 15 minutes of spirited debate on inequity in women’s pay, and the potential for racial disparities never came up.

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Long-awaited rankings of doctoral programs released

Pitt senior administrators are pleased with new national rankings in a doctoral program report released this week from the National Research Council (NRC). Overall, Provost Patricia Beeson said, Pitt’s programs did quite well in the NRC study. "We had a number of programs that advanced, as far as we can tell, from where they were in 1995, some of them spectacularly so. If we look at [medical] pharmacology, it could be one of the top two or three in the country; microbiology is another one," she said.

Other Pitt programs that did well in the report are bioengineering, biostatistics, epidemiology, neuroscience, nursing, philosophy and psychology. The provost said she was pleased with the improvement in the report, including computer science, mathematics and political science, she noted.

When asked if she was surprised by anything in the report, Beeson mentioned the ratings of English, which she said did not reflect its true quality. "I know the English department is better than the data show. I've seen the faculty's CVs, I know what they have accomplished, I know they have a very strong program. And it's not just my opinion. They're one of the highest ranked in terms of placement of students and that is something we think is very important, but is not weighted so highly in the NRC study," Beeson said.

"It's also the case that the humanities were the most difficult for the NRC to come up with quantitative measures and weights that are meaningful. In some of the programs you'll notice the rankings are incredibly wide. It's not just Pitt. In those weights, size of the program ended up being really important. But for some of our programs, we don't want them to be really big, because we want to be able to focus on mentoring our graduate students and placing the graduate students," she said.

In a separate interview, Arts and Sciences Dean N. John Cooper said, "The whole objective was to make the study less of a beauty contest than some rankings are, and for it to be useful to those interested in graduate education, including faculty and prospective students, and I think it succeeds in doing that."

Cooper noted, "The data are dated and the world of academia does change. For example, if a department was in the middle of hiring a lot of assistant professors in 2005, that would affect the picture."

Regarding the 20 variables in the study, Cooper said, "It's a little of a one-size-fits-all. For example with publications, it's rather little of a one-size-fits-all. For example with publications, it's rather one-size-fits-all. For example with publications, it's rather subjective. The same is true for citations, which are critical measures of how important published work is. But they are valued differently, carry different weights, according to the discipline," he said.

"One thing that stood out for me was how much our psychology graduate education had improved since the 1995 report. I think that reflects the fact that we have devoted resources to the program, in terms of hiring outstanding faculty. The Arts and Sciences component of psychology since 2002 has been centralized in Sennott Square, which promotes collaboration and is better conducive for learning," Cooper said. "On the other hand, the program ended up being really important. But for some of the programs, we don't want them to be really big, because we want to be able to focus on mentoring our graduate students and placing the graduate students," she said.

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A new report released that week by the National Center for Education Statistics found that the number of national doctoral programs includes 38 of Pitt’s programs and 141 in Pennsylvania. The National Research Council (NRC) report, “A Data-Based Assessment of Research Doctorate Programs in the United States,” has good points and bad, according to Pitt’s director of graduate studies, Vice Provost for graduate studies overview Pitt’s data collection for the NRC report.

Beezon told the University Times, “The NRC study reflects an unpreceded collection of data on research doctorate programs in the U.S. using a very complex methodology to try to estimate what some of these data say. We will be sorting through and interpreting this information for quite some time, but from our initial analysis, the University’s doctoral programs are doing quite well, with the majority showing improvement even in comparison to the state and national system used in the last [1995] NRC study.”

There are several aspects of the study’s methodology that need to be considered, however, she said. “The NRC took on a very complex methodology for itself an almost impossible task, in that what they want to do is include all 112 departments in the state, they took the right approach: Get the data and evaluate data to see how well the departments are doing in the relative strengths of doctoral programs. However, how they chose to interpret the data is subjective. They have collected some 50 variables, although they used only 20 in this analysis,” Beezon said.

“I might have chosen some other variables. For example, they chose as their research measure the percent of the faculty who have grants. But it could be that they have more than 10,000 grants, it could be $1 million grant. It was a just a yes/no question. It illustrates again that the same weight put on a doctoral program may be different from one person to another, so there is no particular way that measures that is definitive,” she said.

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Proposed changes to federal spousal conflict of interest rules for researchers funded by Public Health Service (PHS) entities, including the National Institutes of Health — could put more investigators under the microscope.

That, in turn, could create more work for department heads as well as for Pitt's conflict of interest committee and the affiliated Conflict of Interest Office, which supports the committee.

The PHS is proposing a lower threshold for defining significant financial interests (SFIs) from the current $10,000 to $5,000, changing which financial interests count toward that threshold, and increasing the amount of information that must be reported to the PHS funding agency.

The proposed rule also would require institutions to post certain information about researchers’ financial conflicts of interest on a publicly available web site and require investigators to determine and report the SFIs related to research funded by PHS agencies. The proposal would expand SFIs to include financial interests related to a researcher's professional duties and would shift to the institution the responsibility for determining whether a SFI relates to the funded research and is a financial conflict of interest.

The proposed rule also would require institutions to post information about investigators’ SFIs on a publicly available web site.

In the University’s comment, Rosenberg argued in favor of a single SFI threshold defined by PHS rather than individual sites managed by each institution.

Wehrle cautioned that the web site requirement would mean his office would need to develop a page and keep it updated.

Financial conflict of interest management

The proposed rule would require institutions to develop a management plan for all identified financial conflicts of interest. While the comment does not specify how an institution must comply, reporting currently must be done within 60 days of conflicts that arise. Under the proposed rule, institutions would be required to include annual updates on any identified financial conflict for the length of the research project.

While institutions currently may gather basic information about identified financial conflicts of interest to the funding agency, the proposed rule would require more details, including the dollar value of the financial interest, the nature of the financial conflict of interest and highlights of the management plan.

Training

Current rules don’t require investigators to have COI training, but the proposed rule would require training before the funded research is started and every two years thereafter.

Currently Pitt investigators are required to undergo COI training once, but training isn’t required, Rosenberg said. Although the University’s comment didn’t address the issue, Rosenberg said the University is arguing that it should be left to the institutions to decide when additional training is needed.

In his conclusion to the University’s comment, Rosenberg stated, “Ensuring that science is free from bias that may undermine the integrity of scientific findings is an important goal, but it is a goal that requires an appropriate balance between the need for industry interactions to be entirely transparent and the need for institutions to have one central location rather than go to individual university web sites to look up an investigator’s research to check into potential conflicts, he said.

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School of Arts and Sciences faculty members Anthony A. Grace and James F. Woodward each has been named a Distinguished Professor, effective Sept. 1. Grace has been named Distinguished Professor of Neuroscience and Woodward has been named Distinguished Professor of History and Philosophy of Science.

The rank of Distinguished Professor recognizes extraordinary, internationally recognized scholarly attainment in an individual discipline or field.

A professor of neuroscience, psychiatry and psychology, Grace serves on Pitt’s Center for Neuroscience’s executive and faculty admissions committees and on the MD and PhD degree supervisory committee.

Grace’s research interests lie at the interface of neurobiology and psychiatry. He has been involved in the identification and characterization of dopamine-containing neurons. Grace’s most recent work involves examining the interactions of several brain regions with known involvement in psychiatric disorders and drug abuse and determining how these interactions are disrupted by stress.

He has used the methylazoxymethanol acetate developmental model of schizophrenia, which was developed in his lab. Employing this model, his lab now has advanced GABAergic drugs that may be effective in the treatment of schizophrenia.

Grace earned his undergraduate degree in psychology and biology from Allegheny College and his PhD in pharmacology from Allegheny College in 1968 and his PhD from Yale University.

Woodward came to the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at the beginning of the 2011-12 academic year from California Institute of Technology, where he was the J.O. and Juliette Koepfli Professor of Humanities.

Woodward’s research covers a number of different areas, including theories of causation, the philosophy of psychology and the philosophy of science. Among his interests is the empirical psychology of causal learning and judgment.

He is part of a multidisciplinary project through the James S. McDonnell Foundation to explore the relationship between formal theories and actual observations of how children and adults learn about causal relationships.

The basis of the project is that theory and experimental work should complement one another.

Woodward’s own work in this area, the book “Making Things Happen: A Theory of Causal Explanation,” won the 2005 Lakatos Award, which is endowed by the Geneva-based Latsis Foundation and given annually for an outstanding contribution to the philosophy of science field.

Woodward also is interested in moral psychology and empirical ethics, that is, studying how people behave in moral situations and the psychological mechanisms that dictate that behavior.

Woodward currently serves as president-elect of the Philosophy of Science Association, which publishes the scholarly journal Philosophy of Science, organizes conventions, awards prizes for notable work, and promotes discussion and research.

Woodward received his bachelor’s degree from Carleton College in 1968 and his PhD from the University of Texas in 1972.

**Book, article discussions set**

Learner-centered teaching and authentic learning are the topics of the fall term’s faculty book and article roundtable discussions.

The book and article discussions, now in their sixth year, are sponsored by the Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education (CIDDE) in conjunction with the Provost’s Advisory Council on Instructional Excellence.

Faculty-led book discussions are set for Oct. 19 and 21. This year’s text is the 2002 book, “Learner-Centered Teaching: Five Key Changes to Practice,” by Penn State emeritus professor of teaching and learning Marvin Weimer. Weimer is editor of The Teaching Professor newsletter and has written or edited eight books on teaching and learning topics. Registered participants will be provided with a copy of the book.

This year’s article discussions, set for Oct. 20 and 22, will center on the article, “Authentic Learning for the 21st Century: An Overview,” by Marilyn Lombardi, edited by Diana Oblinger. The article explores the importance of authentic learning experiences and how such educational opportunities can be supported by technology. Lombardi is a faculty member in Duke’s School of Nursing, where she is director of academic and strategic technology. Oblinger is president and CEO of Educause. The article can be found at http://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/ELI3009.pdf. Copies are provided to faculty who participate in the discussion.

Space in the discussions is limited. Faculty can register at www.ciddle.pitt.edu by selecting “Events” and choosing the desired event date from the calendar.
Pitt begins process for reaccreditation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Other measures could include documentation of mid-term progress evaluations, end-of-college career tests that show how much a student has retained in the major field at graduation, the placement rates of PhD graduates or survey information on the extent to which alumni believe their Pitt education helped in their careers.

Conte noted, “We’re so early into this process that I’m hesitant to speculate about what the working groups will come up with as they write their reports. It’s a very diverse group of committed individuals, many of whom have experience with this type of process. So far, for the most part, it’s a very enthusiastic group, though we still have a long way to go and a lot of work to do.”

—Peter Hart

Reaccreditation steering committee and working group members

Steering Committee
Co-chairs: Patricia Beeson, provost and senior vice chancellor, and Samuel Conte, University registrar.

Members: David Bartholomae, English; Andrew Blair, vice provost for faculty affairs; Jeffrey Brodsky, biological sciences; John Camillius, Katz Graduate School of Business (KGSB) and College of Business Administration (CBA); Valerie Copeland, social work and public health; Mary Crossley, dean, School of Law; David Gau, undergraduate student; Steven Kanter, vice dean, School of Medicine; M. Kathleen Kelly, health and rehabilitation sciences; Byron Kobut, graduate student; Alan Legold, dean, School of Education; Juan Manfredi, vice provost for undergraduate studies; Arthur Ramincone, vice chancellor, Budget and Controller; Sheila Rathke, assistant provost for strategic and program development; Mark Redfern, associate dean for research, Swanson School of Engineering; Richard Schulz, director, University Center for Social and Urban Research; William Shields, president, Pitt-Titusville; Jane Thomp- son, associate vice chancellor, Management Information and Analysis.

Shannon Hukriede, Office of the Provost, is staffing the committee.

Working Group: Using Assessment to Improve the Student Experience
Co-chairs: M. Kathleen Kelly and Juan Manfredi.

Members: James Baldwin, assistant dean of academic affairs; Matt Barry, associate vice chancellor; Frank Beatus, Jr., mathematics; Shawn Brooks, associate dean of students and director of Residence Life; Helen Burns, associate dean for clinical education, School of Nursing; Sharon Corey, assistant dean of students, School of Pharmacy; Michael Goodhart, political science; Janet Grady, interim vice president for academic affairs, Pitt-Johnstown; W. Richard Howe, associate dean for admissions and planning, School of Arts (SAS), Kathy Humphrey, vice provost and dean of students; Steven Husted, interim dean, University Honors College; J. Wesley Jamison, vice president for academic affairs, Pitt-Greensburg; Kelly Otter, associate dean, College of General Studies; Edward Palascek, associate dean, CBA; Betsy Porter, director, Admissions and Financial Aid; Martha Rodgers, director, Office of Institutional Research; Robert Rodgers, senior information analyst, Office of Institutional Research; Larry Shuman, associate dean for academic affairs, Swanson School of Engineering; Molly Steiber, undergraduate student; John Twining, English; Hidenori Yamatani, associate dean for research, School of Social Work; Madalina Valeria Veres, graduate student.

Working Group: Using Assessment to Improve Institutional Effectiveness
Co-chairs: Richard Schulz and Jane Thompson.

Members: Susan Albrecht, associate dean for external relations, School of Nursing; Steven Belle, public health; Mary Besterfield-Sacre, associate dean of Engineering; Stephen Carr, A&S assistant dean for graduate studies; Samuel Conte, David Givens, graduate student; Amanda Godley, education; Elizabeth Greville, assistant to the president and director of sponsored programs; Pitt-Bradford, James Gyure, vice president for enrollment services and planning, Pitt-Johnstown; Laurie Kirsch, senior associate dean, KGSB and CBA; Rush Miller, director, University Library System; Sam Rezaean, undergraduate student; Linda Rinaman, radiology; Cynthia Roberts, Eli Shorak, associate vice chancellor for business.

Working Group: Demonstrating Compliance Through Document Review
Chair: Andrew Blair.

Members: Malcolm McNeill, health and reha- bilitation sciences; Susan Meyer, associate dean for education, School of Pharmacy; Thurman Wingrove, associate vice chancellor, financial information.

(Sources: Office of the Provost)

UPMC gets top award for its diversity efforts

UPMC has received the top honor from the Profiles in Diversi- ty Journal, winning a 2010 Innovation in Diversity Award. The award recognizes organizations, corporations and institutions that have developed innovative solutions with measurable outcomes that enhance workforce diversity and inclusion.

UPMC placed No. 1 out of 10 awardees nationwide for its Dignity and Respect Campaign. That campaign joins individuals, communities, corporations, organizations, educational institutions, businesses and corporations under the common theme that everyone deserves dignity and respect. The Center for Inclusion in Health Care at UPMC introduced the campaign to UPMC employees in 2008, asking them to sign a pledge demonstrating their commitment to treating others the way they want to be treated and providing their opinions on behaviors that represent dignity and respect in the workplace.

UPMC’s Center for Inclusion in Health Care also partnered with community leaders on efforts around community unity, cultural competency and multicultural awareness.

In 2009, the Dignity and Respect Campaign was introduced to the community and initiated the mayor of Pittsburgh declaring October as Dignity and Respect Month. The campaign kicked off with a city-wide pledge drive, which engaged more than 43,000 UPMC employees and awarded a day of service to the organization that received the most pledges.

Follow us on Twitter! www.Twitter.com/UPMC/UPMC

Hieb’s Compounding Pharmacy
3500 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412/681-6400 • Info@Hiebers.com • www.Hiebers.com

Ladies Night Out
Wednesday, October 20, 2010
5:30 pm - 7 pm

Wine, cheese and other refreshments will be offered while we discuss women’s health. Topics include:

Bio-Identical Hormone Replacement (BHRT), pharmaceutical skin care, dietary supplements for women, and more!

RSVP by October 6, 2010

Name: _____________________________
Address: ____________________________
Phone: _____________________________
Email: ______________________________

Please list any topics of interest to you:

Follow us on Twitter! www.Twitter.com/Hieber’sPharmacy

Like us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/HiebersPharmacy

Why not devote an evening to looking and feeling great while having a fun time? Registration is only $10.00, and can be applied to your next purchase at Hieber’s Pharmacy! Limited seating available for this event — register today via this form, our Facebook page, or by emailing or calling Hieber’s Pharmacy!
Pitt drops to 22nd in R&D spending survey

Although Pitt’s science and engineering research expenditures continue to climb, the University fell out of the top 20 schools in the National Science Foundation (NSF) annual survey of research and development (R&D) expenditures at universities and colleges.

Pitt’s fiscal year 2009 R&D expenditures for science and engineering (S&E) on all campuses combined totaled $646.3 million, placing the University at No. 22 among the nation’s top research institutions. Pitt ranked No. 17 in last year’s survey with $595.6 million in science and engineering R&D expenditures in FY08.

According to NSF, the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and the University of Colorado each increased their R&D spending by more than $100 million, displacing Pitt and the University of Florida from the top 20. Colorado ranked 18th with $646.8 million, followed by UNC-Chapel Hill at No. 19 with $646 million.

Two Pennsylvania schools made the top 20: Penn State (all campuses) rose to No. 9 with $733.5 million, up from No. 11; Penn fell to No. 12 with $726.8 million, down from No. 9 last year.

The survey’s top five institutions have remained the same since FY04. Johns Hopkins had the highest R&D expenditures with nearly $1.86 billion in FY09. Rounding out the leaders were the University of Michigan, $1 billion; the University of Wisconsin-Madison, $952 million; the University of California-San Francisco, $947.7 million; and UCLA, $890 million.

Academic R&D spending rises

NSF found that overall university spending on R&D for science and engineering among the 711 institutions surveyed rose 5.8 percent to $59.4 billion in FY09. Pitt’s increase was slightly below average, with an increase of 4.7 percent over FY08’s $595.6 million.

R&D at public institutions

Among public institutions, Pitt ranked No. 15 in FY09, down from No. 11 last year.

Topping the list of public institutions were Michigan, Wisconsin-Madison, UC-San Francisco and UCLA, all of which made the overall top five. At No. 5, UC-Berkeley and Stanford were followed by UC-Wisconsin-Madison, $952 million; the University of California-San Diego with $879 million.

Penn State rose one spot among public institutions to No. 7 with $753 million in science and engineering R&D expenditures. Sources of funding

The federal government spent $32.6 billion on academic S&E research funding in FY09, an increase of 4.2 percent. It remained by far the largest source of such funding. Institutions invested a collective $11.2 billion of their own money in S&E R&D (an increase of 7.6 percent), making internal funding the second-largest source. State and local government support grew to $3.6 billion, up 5.7 percent. Industry funding rose to $3.2 billion, up 11.6 percent in FY09. Funding from other sources rose to $4.3 billion, up 9.6 percent.

Among public institutions, federal funding contributed 34 percent of the academic R&D total, with institutional funds covering 24 percent, state and local government contributing 8.6 percent, industry funding 5.8 percent and other sources covering 7.3 percent.

At Pitt, the figures are more heavily skewed toward federal dollars. Of Pitt’s $646.3 million in research expenditures, 74 percent was funded with federal dollars, with institutional funds accounting for 16 percent, other sources adding 5.5 percent, state and local government funding 2.6 percent and industry funding 1.5 percent.

Funding by field

Life sciences accounted for $57.8 billion in overall academic R&D expenditures at the surveyed institutions, with more than half that amount invested in medical sciences ($18.2 billion) and biological sciences ($10.2 billion) research.

At Pitt, life sciences R&D made up the vast majority of expenditures at 87 percent ($544.4 million). Engineering R&D made up 4 percent of Pitt’s total, followed by physical sciences with 3 percent. Rounding out Pitt’s S&E R&D expenditures by field were: sciences not elsewhere classified, 1.76 percent; psychology, 1.3 percent; math and computer sciences, 1.38 percent; social sciences, 0.6 percent; and environmental sciences, 0.3 percent.

Non-S&E R&D

In this category, Pitt ranked No. 108 in FY09, with research expenditures in non-S&E fields totaling $5.74 billion. The bulk of those R&D expenditures (77 percent) were in the subfield of education, $4.4 million. Other subfields included business and management, 11 percent; humanities, 7.8 percent; law, 3.7 percent; and communication, journalism and library science, 0.1 percent.

Methodology

The academic R&D expenditures data cover 711 universities and colleges that grant degrees in the sciences or engineering and expended at least $150,000 in S&E R&D in FY09. According to NSF, the amounts reported include “all funds expended for S&E activities specifically organized to produce research outcomes and sponsored by an outside organization or separately budgeted using institution funds. R&D expenditures at university-administered federally funded research and development centers are collected in a separate survey.” Non-S&E R&D expenditures are reported separately in the survey and are not included in the overall R&D expenditure totals.

Changes for next year

According to NSF, the annual survey is being renamed and revamped for FY2010 to improve the validity of the expenditure data and to include additional details requested by data users. Next year’s Higher Education R&D (HERD) Survey will continue to track R&D expenditures by funding source and field, but will be expanded to include R&D expenditures both in S&E as well as non-S&E fields. Other changes include a definition of R&D that explicitly includes research training grants and clinical trials and specific tracking of R&D expenditures funded by nonprofit institutions. These have been included in “other sources.”

In addition, institutions with multiple campuses headed by separate administration (such as a campus-level president) will be asked to report separately.

New data that will be collected are: R&D expenditures funded by foreign sources; R&D expenditures by type of funding mechanism (contracts or grants); R&D expenditures within an institution’s medical school; clinical trial expenditures; R&D expenditures by character of work (basic research, applied research, and development); detail by field (both S&E and non-S&E) for R&D expenditures from each source of funding; R&D expenditures funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act; total R&D expenditures by direct cost categories (salaries, software, equipment), and headcounts of principal investigators and others paid with R&D funds.

The FY09 statistics are available online at www NSF.gov/statistics/infbrief/NSF10329/.
—Kimberly R. Barlow

University of Pittsburgh

School of Arts and Sciences

Arts and Sciences Recognizes Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

From October 1, 2010 through October 31, 2010, the School of Arts and Sciences will accept nominations for the 2011 Tina & David Bellet Teaching Excellence Awards. These annual awards recognize extraordinary achievement and innovation in undergraduate teaching. Winners receive a one-time stipend of $5,000.

Eligibility Requirements:
+ Must be an Arts and Sciences faculty member with a regular full-time appointment who teaches undergraduate students.
+ Must have taught for three years on the Pittsburgh campus.
+ Must receive three or more nominations.

Eligible nominees will be notified and invited to submit a dossier for further consideration by the Bellet Awards Committee.

Faculty and students may submit nomination letters to Arts and Sciences Senior Director for Undergraduate Studies Judy Mcconnah, 140 Thackeray Hall. Electronic submissions must be followed by a signed paper duplicate.

For more information, contact Carol Lynch at clynch@pitt.edu or visit our Web site at www.cs.pitt.edu/teaching/awards.htm#Bellet.
The University of Pittsburgh Supplier Management Department, in cooperation with the School of Health Sciences, cordially invites you to attend the

Science2010
Supplier Showcase
October 6, 2010
10:30 am - 2:30 pm
Petersen Events Center

Complimentary Lunch
Instant Prize Winners

Special thanks to our Contract Suppliers:


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The ability to conduct research online is forcing a new look at long-established research ethics concepts.

In the online world, who is a human subject? What is private? How do researchers protect subject data and guard against harm?

Researchers — and the institutional review boards that oversee their protocols — need to consider these emerging issues, said Buchanan, Internet research ethics expert and director of the Internet Research Ethics Digital Library, Research & the Internet, a newsletter of the University of Wisconsin faculty member and director of the Internet Research Ethics Digital Library, Research & the Internet, a newsletter of the University of Wisconsin faculty member and director of the Internet Research Ethics Digital Library (IRB) office.

Keeping up with new online environments, tools and technology is a huge challenge. "Everything in the online world is in a short period of time," said Buchanan, who was co-principal investigator on a 2005-06 project that surveyed hundreds of IRBs nationwide on their Internet research policies.

"It was obvious that out of that data was that everyone felt completely lost," she said. "Everyone was struggling with the language, the tools, the technology." The landscape is even more complex now.

"We looked back on our survey that we did in 2005 and it looks almost like we didn't learn anything that we weren't thinking about before," Buchanan said. "We weren't thinking about cloud computing in the same way.

The online environment has forced a radical redefinition of such basics as what is a human subject. Are avatars? Are turks? (Turks are people who, for a very small amount of money, complete a requested task in an online exchange using the Amazon Mechanical Turk marketplace.)

Ethically speaking, traditional definitions and guidelines sometimes don't align online.

"What we need to recognize — and this is the hardest part for us as researchers — is that decisions — which is the black and white, yes/no, dichotomous model of research — is more complex, doesn't fit, especially not in this web 2.0 and beyond environment."  

Harm to subjects

Some traditional ethical standards — such as consent and harm to subjects — are accepted principles across disciplines. However, defining harm in the context of online research can be difficult because harm may not be as evident as it is in the physical world. People may not see the effects of our research.

"We're going to want you to share your data. That's part of the public good of research. We're not used to that model right now." Buchanan said.

Online data can be tracked indefinitely, she noted. "Think about the ease with which Google has been infiltrating our lives . . . all that data is out there. They have it and they are going to do it!"

Why online research?

Research integrity itself is a fundamental principle. Good methods and ethics equal good research, Buchanan said. "Unfortunately, there's a lot of crappy research going on. Increasingly, online environments are used for convenience "where the justifiable reason? This comes back to research integrity."

Researchers need to think about it. If one fact awaited its collection, it should have been known beyond the confines of the forum, so that these data are out there. They need to think about their shared sets of data.

An infrastructure will need to be in place for banking data, but Buchanan expressed concern about outsourcing of research and the potential for losing more and more control of data if entities such as XRI, and Google someday charge researchers access to data sets. "Those are the things I hope don't come to be."

She urges that librarians and information architects be consulted as institutions prepare for the issues that will arise under the new NSF requirements.

Public & private forums online

Researchers may have a good understanding of what's private in the real world, but what about online spaces? The public park, people have no expectation of privacy, but what about an Internet chat room or other online space? The very nature of operating on Facebook or Twitter implies that by virtue of entering such spaces, users want to be known or seen, she said.

Even owners of private Twitter accounts (who must approve those followers who wish to receive their tweets) may find their communications flow into the public realm easily. For instance, if an approved follower with a public accountmeter sends a message from a private account, it becomes widely visible.

Users of members-only sites may have other expectations of privacy. Contacting the moderator or owner of such sites to obtain consent may be a solution, Buchanan said.

The nature of the data can influence privacy considerations, so greater care needs to be exercised in the case of sensitive information.

Data ownership

Data mining is one of many online tools such as the Survey Monkey raise questions about who owns the collected data, and whether they have the right to use it.

Buchanan said some institutions are building or customizing their own tools to maintain control of their data. She advised those who use third-party services to examine closely the terms of service agreements.

If the information collected is non-sensitive, it may pose little problem, but in the case of highly sensitive data, questions of where they are kept and for how long can be an issue, she said.

The potential for hacking and lost data also are dangers that researchers need to consider. Again, Buchanan said that information technology experts be consulted to identify potential risks.

The distance principle

Internet research complicates human subjects review, but the distance principle can help. As the distance — be it emotional, psychological, physical or methodological — between a researcher and participant decreases, the research is more likely to be defined as involving human subjects. As distance increases, the opposite is true, Buchanan said.

For instance, in an interview conducted in the virtual world of Second Life, data mined from an interaction in which there is little distance between researcher and participant. In contrast, although that data is collected by avatars, the avatars correspond to actual individuals.

"More and more often, avatars are being considered human subjects, Buchanan said. In contrast, using an automated bot program to collect data on web-surfing behavior, for instance, yields data collected from a researcher and therefore is less likely to be considered human subject research.

Researchers take the responsibility for ensuring the IRB understands the online aspects of their proposed project. Submissions could include a glossary of online environments and the type of data that might be collected from them. A researcher also could submit screen shots of the online tools to the IRB meeting to walk the committee through the venue.

"Researchers need to consider some new questions in reviewing online protocols, Buchanan suggested. Among these:

• Does the researcher understand the venue or the tool? • Do the research subjects perceive their interaction as public or private? • Do subjects consider personal networks of connections to be sensitive information? • How will a subject's profile, location or other personally identifying information be used or stored by the researcher? • If the content of a communication were to become known beyond the context of the venue being studied, would harm likely result?

• Are there means to terms-of-service agreements articulate privacy of content? How is content shared with others?

• How can the researcher ensure that participants understand, and consent to, their level of interaction or interaction may be used for research purposes?

• Are the data easily searchable and retrievable?

• Are the data subject to open access?

• Are the data object to open access?

• Are the data easily searchable and retrievable?

• Are the data subject to open access?

• Are the data object to open access?
New machine on campus produces Books while you wait print-on-demand books, journals

**Pitt has acquired a new machine on campus that will print and bind a paperback book from a PDF file in a matter of minutes.**

The Espresso Book Machine (EBM), acquired by the University Library System in collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh Press and the University Book Center, will permit more economical printing of books and journals from the ULS D-Scribe digital collection. University Press titles and other publications including textbooks, to order, one at a time. Although the EBM currently is located at Hillman Library, database compatibility issues and the availability of service staff who are in the business of selling books prompted the decision to house the machine at the Book Center, said ULS director Rush Miller.

Plans for moving the EBM are in the works, but in the meantime ULS is filling book orders and training Book Center staff to ensure a smooth transition. According to Book Center director Debra Fyock, the EBM will be located on the main floor but the exact spot has yet to be determined.

The EBM could print a copy for you procured through the traditional channels. "But what if you want a copy of an out-of-print book?" he asked.

Fyock noted that many old and rare books currently are not available for public access, Fyock said. For instance, an 1806 book by Lewis & Clark expedition member Patrick Gass is viewable online as part of Pitt’s digital Darlington Library collection of materials related to southwestern Pennsylvania history. "But what if you want a copy for your shelf?" he asked.

The EBM could print a copy for purchase. For example, millions of titles that have been digitized by other sources could be available for print via the EBM. That step is months to years away, "but it all will happen eventually," Miller said.

Miller pointed out that the EBM currently is set up to print University Press digital editions; certain journals published by ULS, select books and journals as processed by ULS, and all titles provided by Espressnet, the database of EBM’s manufacturer On Demand Books.

That resource includes the Ingram Content Group’s "Lightning Source" database of on-demand titles and Google Books public domain materials (books that no longer have copyright restrictions).

Customers will need to work with Book Center staff to find print-on-demand books, because no comprehensive list is available for public access, Fyock said. However, if a title is chosen from among the databases, a customer would be able to place an order and walk out of the Book Center with the freshly printed book in hand, she said.

"We anticipate that, after covering production and labor costs, our print-on-demand books will be less costly than a comparable book procured through the traditional route," Fyock said.

According to its manufacturer, EBM book production costs are about a penny per page.

Miller noted that print-to-order saves on upfront publishing costs. For instance, rather than estimating sales and having a number of copies of a book published, the University Press will be able to print new titles as they are ordered, as well as fill individual orders for backlisted or out-of-print books.

The EBM also could offer students a way to save on textbook costs. Printing a textbook to order spares the expense of ordering, stocking and possibly having to return unsold copies from the bookstore, Miller said.

Journal publishers also will save. While most readers access the journals published through Pitt's D-Scribe system online, a small number of printed copies are needed to accommodate people who lack Internet access. The EBM can produce the journal copies in excess of the print shop, he noted.

Miller pointed out that many old and rare books have Pitt’s digital holdings also will be available. For instance, an 1806 book by Lewis & Clark expedition member Patrick Gass is viewable online as part of Pitt’s digital Darnlington Library collection of materials related to southwestern Pennsylvania history. "But what if you want a copy for your shelf?" he asked.

The EBM could print a copy for purchase.

Eventually, millions of titles that have been digitized by other sources could be available for print via the EBM. That step is months to years away, "but it all will happen eventually," Miller said.

Miller said the print-on-demand machine first came to his attention several years ago when University Press director Cynthia Miller saw an earlier version at a conference. After meeting with representatives of On Demand Books, he passed on an earlier version that he found to be "smelly and loud. When a new version was released, his interest was rekindled. "We’d all seen the advantage this would have to us at the University," Miller said.

Pitt’s EBM was unveiled Sept. 27 at an event highlighted by the printing of an updated paperback version of former U.S. Attorney General and governor of Pennsylvania Dick Thornburgh’s autobiography, “Where the Evidence Leads.”

Once a book is requested, the EBM prints the pages and covers simultaneously, trimming and gluing the book, which then emerges from a chute. A typical book can be produced in less than seven minutes. The machine, not including its printer, sells for $97,500, according to the manufacturer.

Pitt is among approximately three dozen owners of EBM machines in the world. Most are in universities or libraries, but fewer than a dozen U.S. universities have EBM machines.

According to On Demand Books, other EBM’s are located at the University of Arizona, Brigham Young University, Harvard, North Dakota State University, the University of Michigan, the University of Missouri, the University of North Carolina, the University of Texas, the University of Utah and the University of Washington.

—Kimberly K. Barlow

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**Research & the Internet**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16**

**Data laws or regulations?**

- What third-party policies impact the research?

- How long does the third-party provider or ISP preserve the data and where?

- Can the researcher provide additional information to participants concerning how the third party will protect their data?

- How will researchers render anonymous email content or header information to protect subjects’ privacy?

- Regardless of terms of service, what are the community or individual norms and/or expectations for privacy?

**For additional information, the Internet Research Ethics (IRE) Digital Library, Research Center and Commons, online at www.Internetresearchethics.org, contains literature on Internet research ethics, a blog area and IRE presentations.**

—Kimberly K. Barlow

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**yum! Please join us for**

**Tuesday Tastings**

Every Tuesday from now until December 21st we will be featuring samples from our favorite food items in the store. Be inspired to give your favorite foodie, host or hostess a perfect gift from Godiva, Stonewall Kitchens, Barefoot Contessa, Colebrooks Chocolates, Republic of Tea and more.

Sampling begins at 11 a.m.
THURSDAY, 7 OCTOBER
8:00 a.m.
Registration
Alumni Hall Foyer, 1st Floor
9:00 a.m.
SPOTLIGHT SESSION 1—Endocytosis
Science Lecture Hall, 3rd Floor
Moderator: Ora A. Neus, PhD
Speakers:
- Alexander Sonkin, PhD—Cell Signaling and Endocytosis: Friends or Enemies?
- Linton-Traub, PhD—Clathrin-Coupled: Designing Membrane Coats
- Gerard Apedoea, PhD—Endocytosis in Bladder Urothelial Cells: You Get What You Give
- Kenneth R. Hallows, MD, PhD—Nedd2-2, A Ubiquitous Bridge between Kinase Cascade and Epithelial Cell Migration

SPOTLIGHT SESSION 2—Material Related to Energy
Room 531
Moderator: Brian Gleeson, PhD
Speakers:
- Anthony Cupig, PhD—NEI-University Collaboration: A Driver for Energy Innovation and Regional Economic Development
- Anthony J. Della, PhD—Stoichiometry for Conserving and Transporting Energy
- Geoffrey Robinson, PhD—Next Generation Plastic Solar Cells: Faster, Cheaper, Better
- Jing M.K. Waczen, PhD—Multifunctional Materials: Sustaining and Enabling “Clean” Nuclear Energy Technologies

SPOTLIGHT SESSION 3—Biological Implications of Climate Change: Past and Present
Room 532
Moderator: K. Christopher Beard, PhD
Speakers:
- K. Christopher Beard, PhD—Ancient Episodes of Global Warming and the Irreplaceable Role of North American Primates
- Andrew N. Manik, PhD—Climate Change and Birds: What Is Already Happening and What Can We Expect To Happen?
- Mark Abbott, PhD—Climate Variability over the Last 11,000 Years: Is It Unusual for the Holocene?

SPECIAL SPOTLIGHT SESSION—Navigating Intellectual Property Rights in Biomedical Research
Room 538
Given the increasing emphasis on commercialization in biomedical research and biotechnology, it is crucial for research scientists to understand their rights and obligations when dealing with funding agencies, commercial entities, and other researchers. Join representatives from the Office of Technology Management, Office of Research, and Office of General Counsel as they present case studies and real-life scenarios that scientists face daily.
Moderator: David Carroll, PhD
Speakers:
- Thomas J. Czeckich, JD
- Kelly Cowings
- Alexander P. Dzurask, PhD

10:30 a.m.
EXHIBIT BREAK
J.W. Connolly Ballroom, 1st Floor
11:00 a.m.
PLENARY SESSION 1
Dickson Prize in Medicine Lecture Auditorium, 7th Floor
Welcome: Mark A. Nordenberg, JD
Introduction of Speaker: Arthur L. Levine, MD
Keynote Speaker: Stephen J. Elkins, PhD
The DNA Damage Response: Stopped for Repairs
Moderator: Jane A. Cauley, DrPH

12:30 p.m.
EXHIBITS & LUNCH
J.W. Connolly Ballroom, 1st Floor
1:00 p.m.
POSTER SESSION 1
J.W. Connolly Ballroom, 1st Floor
- Basic Life Science—From Molecule to Mouse
- Translational Life Science—From Animal to Human to Community
- Physical Science and Engineering
- New Research Tools and Techniques

SCIENCE AT WORK SESSION 1—Building a Smarter Planet: Hype or the Real Deal?
Room 531
Moderator: Yoram Vodvotz, PhD
Presenter: Christine Kutz
You’ve seen the ads; now get some examples of where—and how—technology is driving better cities, health care, and energy use. IBM has learned a lot over the past year about what it takes to build a smarter planet. Hear these compelling examples, then decide for yourself whether the smarter planet idea is real.

FOR REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION ABOUT ALL SCIENCE2010 EVENTS:
WWW.SCIENCE2010.PITT.EDU
FRIDAY, 8 OCTOBER
8:00 a.m. REGISTRATION
Alumni Hall Foyer, 1st Floor
9:00 a.m. SPOTLIGHT SESSION 7—The Mysterious Operation of the Basal Ganglia in Health and Disease
Room 532
Moderator: Robert Turner, PhD
Speakers:
• Peter L. Strick, PhD—Basal Ganglia loops with the Cerebral Cortex—The Neural Substrate for Disorders of Movement, Cognition, and Affect
• Edward A. Burton, MD, DPhil—Angiography for Cures: Drug Discovery for Basal Ganglia Disorders Using Novel Zebrafish Models
• J. Timothy Greenamyre, MD, PhD—Why Basal Ganglia Go Bad—
—or—What the Create from the Black Lagoon Told Me about Parkinson’s Disease
Gonzalo Torres, PhD—Protein Networks Regulating Dopamine Homeostasis

SPOTLIGHT SESSION 8—Pragmatic Clinical Trials and Convergent Effectiveness Research
Room 531
Moderator: Jane A. Cauley, DPH
Speakers:
• Seryl F. Kelso, PhD—Does It Really Work? Making Clinical Trials Practical
• Daniel P. Normolle, MD—Adaptive Clinical Trial Design: Pivoting at the Future
• Sally J. Mordon, PhD—Comparative Effectiveness and You: When, How, and Why?
• Mays H. Roberts, MD, MPP—Comparative Effectiveness Research: Are There Methods in the Madness?

SPOTLIGHT SESSION 9—Stem Cells in Embryogenesis and Cancer
Science Lecture Hall, 3rd Floor
Moderator: Cecilia Wu, PhD
Speaker:
• Li Yang, PhD—Cardiovascular Differentiation from Human ES/iPS Cells
• Edward V. Pachonik, MD, PhD—Targeting the “Untargetable.” The c-Myc Oncoprotein as a Universal Driver of Malignant Proangiogenic Potency
• Dongshin Shin, PhD—The Quest for Liver Development and Beyond
• Thomas E. Smithgall, PhD—Chemical Genetics Reveals Specific Functions for Src Family Kinases in ES Cell Differentiation
10:30 a.m. EXHIBIT BREAK
J.W. Connolly Ballroom, 1st Floor
3:30 p.m. PLENARY SESSION 2 Millman Lecture
Auditorium, 7th Floor
Welcome and Introduction of Speaker: Peter L. Strick, PhD, Keynote Speaker: Ann M. Graybiel, PhD, NIMH
Speaker:
• Li Yang, PhD—Cardiovascular Differentiation from Human ES/iPS Cells
11:00 a.m. LUNCH & LAST CALL FOR EXHIBITS
J.W. Connolly Ballroom, 1st Floor
1:00 p.m. POSTER SESSION 2 J.W. Connolly Ballroom, 1st Floor
• Basic Life Science—From Molecules to Mouse
• Translational Life Science—From Animal to Human
• Physical Science and Engineering
• New Research Tests and Techniques

SCIENCE AT WORK SESSION 3 Adding Trend Discovery to Search Engines
Room 532
Moderator: Anuram Chattopadhyay, PhD
Presenters: Rahul Valdes-Perez, PhD and Randy L.-lawner, PhD, MLS
Search technology can match user queries and intermediate lines documents but doesn’t answer a basic user question. What topics are emerging or fading over time? Dr. Valdes-Perez, collaborator and executive chairman of VIPsimo, will discuss new National Science Foundation–sponsored work that adds trend discovery to search engines, with applications to research and development, competitive analysis, mining patient narratives, and more.
3:30 p.m. BREAK
Alumni Hall Foyer
4:00 p.m. PLENARY SESSION 4 Klaus Hofmann Lecture
Auditorium, 7th Floor
Welcome and Introduction of Speaker: Mark T. Gadwhin, MD, Keynote Speaker: Mark B. Roth, PhD, Metabolic Flxibility and Suspended Animation
5:00 p.m. CLOSING HAPPY HOUR
Foyer, 5th Floor
After two well-packed days of focusing on great science, it will be time to kick back and enjoy some good eats and drinks—as well as the requisite good music that inevitably defines this closing event.

SCIENCE AT WORK SESSION 4 Bringing Science to Market: Navigating the FDA’s Regulation of Medical Technologies
Room 531
Moderator: Cynthia Kern
Presenters: David S. schedules...
Edwin Chu, an internationally renowned expert in the biology and treatment of colorectal cancer, has been named chief of the Division of Hematology/Oncology and the William J. James Endowed Chair in Gastrointestinal Oncology at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI).

Before coming to UPCI, Chu served as a professor of medicine and pharmacology at Yale University School of Medicine, chief of the section of medical oncology and deputy director of the Yale Cancer Center. Chu is well-recognized for his contributions in understanding the action of anti-metabolites in cancer therapy. His findings have been published in more than 160 publications and his work has been funded through the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the Veterans Administration merit program. He has served as a member of numerous editorial boards and has an active role in the review process, serving as a member and chair of the National Institutes of Health/NCI experimental therapeutics study section. In 1987, he began training in medical oncology at NCI, where he extended his interest in cancer pharmacology and gastrointestinal oncology. James, who has served as a tenured senior clinical investigator in the NCI-Navy medical oncology branch in Bethesda, Maryland.

Pitt has named Everett James as associate vice chancellor for health policy and planning at the Schools of the Health Sciences, and he will serve as secretaries of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, will assume this newly created position on Oct. 1. James, who also will hold the title of professor of health policy and management at the Graduate School of Public Health, will be engaged in teaching, student advising and collaborative research among the six health sciences schools, as well as between the University and UPMC in the area of health care delivery.

He will also advise on legal issues related to new delivery models driven by health reform and monitor, analyze and provide guidance on emerging health care delivery systems and reimbursement models. As secretary of the health department since 2008, James has overseen the regulation of all pharmaceuticals, insurance regulatory and compliance issues, and the commonwealth. He will remain in that role until 2013. Before that, James was part -

The Senate of the University of Pittsburgh Fall 2010 Plenary
Social Entrepreneurship at Pitt: Innovators, Change-makers & Local Heroes
Tuesday, October 26, 2010
Noon-3 p.m.
Assembly Room, William Pitt Union

Social entrepreneurs combine research, knowledge and a passion for change to make an impact on the world around them. They are described as non-traditional thinkers who use business solutions to address a social problem or mission. Across the Pitt campus, there are a number of examples of social entrepreneurs that utilize innovative practices to solve problems.

Anita Myers, director of the Innovation Practice Institute, School of Law, will discuss traditional business with a social mission or a hybrid partnership of business-government-community, social entrepreneurs look for the most effective methods to have a social impact that creates meaningful change. This plenary session will explore the various ways in which students, faculty and units across the University are engaged in research, projects and partnerships that tackle major social issues and offer new ideas for local and national change.
Pitt, Comcast join up

Pitt and the Comcast Network have teamed up to broadcast more than 500 hours annually of Panthers athletics events, including live broadcasts of some men’s basketball games as well as re-broadcasts of all home football games.

The Panthers Television, which was launched last week on Comcast channel 188 or 210, depending on the neighborhood, also will air live football and men’s basketball pre- and postgame shows, women’s basketball games and women’s volleyball games, as well as other Olympic sports and original programming. The station also offers rebroadcasts of football and basketball games on Comcast’s Xfinity on Demand platform.

Comcast digital customers living in western Pennsylvania and parts of central Pennsylvania will see Pitt Panthers Television throughout the current week, including Sundays 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Athletics director Steve Pederson said, “We know from our current viewership numbers that the public wants as much Pitt sports programming as we can give them. This will also give us an opportunity to showcase our entire program.”

Pederson said the schedule for certain games, for example men’s basketball, was determined until national and local networks announce the games they will air. “We’ll take any games that go untelevised under our current contracts and put them on Pitt Panthers Television,” he said.

For the television schedule, go to www.pittsburghpanthers.com/ or/panthers-on-the-air.html.

UPMC recognized for technology innovation

UPMC ranked fifth on this year’s InformationWeek 500 list of the nation’s top technology innovators from across all industries. The global health enterprise also was honored with the Healthcare Innovation Award for creating a new business model that draws on the skills of radiologists and physicians to access imaging studies from across UPMC.

UPMC rose from No. 9 last year and has made the list for nine consecutive years. Among the many well-known companies as Vanguard Group, Merck and Colgate-Palmolive, the hometown heroes are featured on InformationWeek.com, available at www.informationweek.com/1278/index.shtml.

As one example of UPMC’s technology performance, InformationWeek focused on the health system’s development of a standards-based platform called SingleView for providing radiologists and other clinicians with a unified view of a patient’s imaging studies from across UPMC’s 28 hospitals and 30 imaging centers.

For 22 years, the InformationWeek 500 has honored the most innovative users of business technology,” said InformationWeek editor-in-chief Rob Preston. “As we start to emerge from the worst recession in decades, the IT focus is now on driving growth — new sources of revenue, new relationships with customers, even new business models. This year’s ranking placed special emphasis on those companies and business technology, executives leading that charge.”

UPMC long has been recognized as a leader in using technology to improve the quality and efficiency of health care. Pitt Panthers TV, which offers rebroadcasts of football and basketball games on the network, was honored with a new director and new staff members.

The new staff is led by Joanne Burgert, who comes to UPT after spending the last three years as a director and new staff members.

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Megan Leadbetter has been named director of Admissions at the Titusville campus. Leadbetter joined Pitt-Titusville in 2008 as an admissions counselor and was promoted to assistant director of Admissions in 2009.

In her new position, Leadbetter will assume direct responsibility for UPT’s overall recruiting process with a focus on strengthening relationships with high schools in western Pennsylvania.

In the coming year, she will lead an effort to visit more than 100 high schools and participate in 25 college fairs, with the goal of increasing the quality of students who apply directly to Pitt-Titusville.

Leadbetter is a 2007 graduate of Clarion University where she earned her B.S. in speech communications. She previously earned a master’s degree at Walden University pursuing her master’s degree in higher education with a concentration in enrollment management.

Also on the Titusville campus, the UPT Teaching and Learning Center has a new director and new staff members.

The new staff is led by Joanne Burgert, who comes to UPT after serving for 10 years as the director of learning support at Pitt-Bradford. In addition, Burgert was the coordinator of UPB’s freshman learning cluster program and a faculty member in education.

Assisting Burgert in the Learning Center are Shannon Barrios and Jillian Woodriddle.

In addition to tutoring, Barrios teaches Spanish and is a director of learning and teaching courses at UPT. She earned a B.A. from Bucknell University with a double major in English literature and music. Her master’s in public administration degree is from Columbia University.

Woodriddle is an electronics instructor at the Erie Institute of Technology and is teaching the freshman engineering seminar at UPT this year.

She earned a B.A. in electrical engineering from Penn State-Behrend where she worked as a math tutor for three years. She also holds a B.A. in secondary mathematics education from Mercyhurst College and an M.Ed. in curriculum and instruction from Gannon University.

Robert E. Schoen, a new director in medicine, research and policy at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, was named director of Admissions at the School of Medicine.

Schoen, who comes to UPT after spending the last 25 years in medicine and epide-

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The Center for Russian and East European Studies (REES) and the global studies program, both units of the University Center for International Studies (UCIS), recently received new designations. REES was designated for the first time as a Title VI Comprehensive National Resource Center (NBCC) by the U.S. Department of Education. Previously, the center had been recognized as an Undergraduate NRC, with Title VI funding primarily targeted to initiatives in undergraduate education.

The center’s new status acknowledges the excellence of REES’s graduate and professional school programs in addition to its traditionally strong undergraduate programs. REES also received Title VI funding for foreign language and area studies fellowships which, under new U.S. Department of Education regulations, are no longer available to undergraduates as well as graduate students who are pursuing coursework in foreign languages and area studies.

REES will apply its new Title VI funds, totaling approximately $2.5 million over the next four years, to a variety of educational programs, including:

- Visiting faculty positions in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian language and on Islam in southeastern Europe and Central Asia;
- Specialized training and proficiency assessment in critical need languages, including intensive summer language programs;
- Faculty-led study abroad courses in Turkey, Croatia, the Czech Republic and Poland;
- Interdisciplinary one-credit courses on contemporary issues in the REES world area;
- Linkages with East European universities, including those in countries with significant Muslim populations such as Bulgaria, Kosovo and Turkey;
- Annual graduate and undergraduate student conferences;
- Professional development workshops for educators, including non-traditional constituencies such as K-12 science teachers and community college faculty;
- Acquisition of library and film resources, and
- Graduate and undergraduate foreign language and area studies fellowships in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Polish, Russian, Slovak, Turkish and Ukrainian.

In addition, the UCIS global studies program recently received its first-time designation as a National Resource Center by the U.S. Department of Education. The Title VI grant totals approximately $1.3 million and will be applied over the next four years.

The global studies program fosters interdisciplinary, comparative and cross-cultural learning and research on critical global issues within the areas of the economy, health, security and society.

The program grants undergraduate and graduate certificates and, in cooperation with the University Honors College, offers the Bachelor of Philosophy in International and Area Studies degree. The federal funding supports such global studies initiatives as:

- Increasing global content in the advanced study of less commonly taught languages, specifically Turkish, Swahili and Farsi;
- Developing a new global-studies-themed historical library collection at Pitt that will be accessible to the public;
- Offering both graduate and undergraduate foreign language and area studies fellowships in Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Hindi, Farsi, Portuguese, Swahili, Turkish and Urdu;
- Providing global studies and language pedagogy training via professional development opportunities for K-12 teachers and postsecondary faculty, and
- Increasing global content in two school districts serving a combined K-12 student population of approximately 27,000.

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Oakland

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*St. Nicholas Cathedral is located on the corner of S. Dithridge St. and Forbes Ave., across from The Carnegie Museum.
Sustainable LCA criteria to be updated

Melissa Bilec, a faculty member in civil and environmental engineering in the Swanson School of Engineering, has received a $2 million emerging frontiers in research and innovation grant in science in energy and environmental design from the National Science Foundation to lead a group of Pitt and Carnegie Mellon University researchers in evaluating and expanding the scope of life-cycle assessments, or LCAs.

When used in construction, LCAs analyze a building’s environmental impact throughout its existence, from the production of its basic components and raw materials to its eventual demolition and disposal.

The current LCA model has not developed in step with sustainable engineering research, Bilec explained, meaning that important considerations are not factored into a building’s construction.

Notably absent is a method for quantifying a structure’s potential environmental impact, a key consideration that is overlooked in current case studies on sustainable construction.

The team then will develop criteria that engineers and architects can use to determine the long-term sustainability of a building and its components. In addition, the group plans to integrate the revised LCA template into a digital interface.

“By using the model, architects and engineers could quickly evaluate the environmental impact of materials in their projects,” Bilec said.

Their findings are available online in Nature Medicine.

Valve implants aid emphysema patients

Tiny one-way valves that block portions of emphysema-ravaged lungs improved lung function, exercise tolerance and symptoms at the cost of a modest increase in adverse events, according to a multicenter international study led by School of Medicine researchers. The findings are available in the Sept. 23 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine.

The valves are designed to allow emptying but not re-inflation of overinflated portions of the lung, making them shrink and allowing the healthier portions of the lung to function more normally. The valves are about the size of a pencil eraser and are inserted using a bronchoscope. They are being tested as a minimally invasive substitute for lung-reduction surgery, which involves removing selected areas of hyperinflated lungs.

The Endobronchial Valve...
The University Times Research

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for Emphysema Palliation Trial (VENT) compared the safety and efficacy of endobronchial valves (EBV) to medical treatment in patients with severe emphysema, explained principal investigator Frank C. Sciurba, a faculty member in medicine and director of the Emphysema/COPD Research Center in the Division of Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine.

“This study confirmed that a minimally invasive alternative to lung reduction surgery can result in significant improvements in well-selected patients. Lessons learned in this study will allow us to better select patients who are most likely to benefit from the procedure,” Of 321 participants enrolled in the study, 220 were randomized to receive EBV. Standard tests of lung function showed measurable improvements among participants who received the valves. At 12 months, there was no difference in survival rates, but valve patients reported feeling better. Adverse events included pneumonia, respiratory failure, coughing up blood and air leaking from the treated lung, and were mild relative to the possible complications of lung surgery.

While the valves currently are available clinically only in Europe, more clinical trials in the United States are anticipated. The next trials will utilize lessons learned in the VENT study, which revealed that patients with the most heterogeneous emphysema (differences in severity between lobes of the lung) and who had complete fuses between lobes (preventing the non-blocked lung from filling the blocked lung back up with air) have much better results.

Sciurba is supported by the National Institutes of Health. The study was supported by Emphasis Medical and Pulmonx.

Nursing faculty receive funding

The School of Nursing recently announced research funding awarded to the following faculty members:

- Michael Beach of the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care was awarded $60,000 from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation new careers in nursing scholarship program. The initiative aims to expand the pipeline of students in accelerated baccalaureate nursing programs.
- Catherine M. Bender of the Department of Health and Community Systems received a $1.1 million grant from the National Institute of Nursing Research for training nurse scientists to lead independent research programs in cancer survivorship.
- Mary Beth Happ of the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care received a $50,000 grant from the Greenwall Foundation’s Kornfeld program on bioethics and patient care. Her research involves nonsparking patients in the intensive care unit and explores the ethical implications of their participation in treatment decisions.
- Elizabeth A. Schlenk of the Department of Health and Community Systems received a $2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for research on improving physical activity in older adults with co-morbidities.

University of Pittsburgh School of Arts and Sciences

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Sunday, October 10: 1-3 p.m.
Wednesday, November 10: 6-8 p.m.

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

For submission guidelines, visit www.utimes.pitt.edu/?page_id=4807.

Better preschools benefit low-income kids later

A longitudinal study led by psychology faculty member Elizabeth Votruba-Drzal reveals that children from low-income families placed in high-quality preschool programs have fewer behavioral problems in middle childhood, and that such settings were especially important for boys and black children.

The study, conducted by researchers at Pitt, Boston College, Universidad de las Americas, Loyola University Chicago and Northwestern University, was published in the September/October issue of the journal Child Development.

The researchers looked at approximately 350 children from low-income families in Boston, Chicago and San Antonio when they were preschoolers, ages 2-4, and again when they reached middle childhood, ages 7-11.

The youngest were part of the Three-City Study, a long-term look at the effects of low-income families following welfare reform in 1996. The children in this study used childcare options available in their communities.

An examination of the data revealed that children who attended more responsive, stimulating and well-structured settings during preschool had fewer behavioral problems — such as aggression and rule-breaking — in middle childhood. Boys and black children especially seemed to be responsive to stimulating and responsive care outside the home. “This study adds to a growing body of evidence suggesting the need for policy and programmatic efforts to increase low-income families’ access to high-quality early care and education,” said Votruba-Drzal.

The study was funded by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Planning, the Administration on Developmental Disabilities, the Administration for Children and Families, the Social Security Administration and the National Institute of Mental Health.

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

For submission guidelines, visit www.utimes.pitt.edu/?page_id=4807.

For more information, contact Carol Lynch at clynch@pitt.edu.

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Children of Spirit

3333 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412.578.6368
http://campusschool.carlow.edu

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19
Anti-HIV drug film being developed

With the support of an $11.8 million, five-year federal grant, Pitt researchers and their collaborators are developing a quick-dissolving vaginal film containing a powerful drug that reduces the risk of HIV infection, and they plan to begin testing it locally within a year.

A small film, like those used to deliver breath fresheners, could have several advantages over vaginal microbicide gels that currently are being tested overseas, said Sharon Hillier, faculty member in obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences at the School of Medicine, senior investigator at Magee-Womens Research Institute (MWRI) and co-principal investigator of the new project, which is funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

"Multiple films could be packaged in discrete cartridges without the need for refrigeration, making them portable and easier to store and distribute, and therefore probably cheaper than a gel," she noted. "And, because they aren't likely to be as messy as a gel, women might be willing to use them routinely, perhaps on a daily basis."

Led by co-principal investigator Lisa Cencia Rohan, School of Pharmacy faculty member and MWRI associate investigator, the researchers first will develop a film version of the anti-retroviral drug tenofovir and establish the necessary processes to make it on a large scale for human use. Tenofovir in its pill form is used as an HIV treatment, and South African researchers recently showed that a gel formulation of the drug cut the risk of HIV infection by more than half among women who were most conscientious about applying it before and after intercourse; the gel reduced the infection risk by 39 percent among women who were less vigilant.

"The film would provide an alternative dosage form that preclinical testing suggests could release the drug faster and more efficiently than the gel version. "An effective microbicide strategy should include different forms of the product," Rohan said. "Women will have preferences, and having options to meet those needs will lead to greater use and therefore better protection from infection."

The researchers also will develop and test a second film containing another anti-HIV agent. Pitt project collaborators include Bernard J. Moncla and Charlene Dezzutti, both of obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences and MWRI. Also involved are researchers from the University of Washington, the New York State Institute for Basic Research, Johns Hopkins and the Eastern Virginia Medical School.

Fat stem cells OK to rebuild breasts

Fat-derived stem cells can be used to aid reconstruction of breast tissue after mastectomy as long as there is no evidence of active cancer, according to researchers at the School of Medicine. Their findings are available in Tissue Engineering Part A.

For some time plastic surgeons have moved fat from one part of the body into the breasts for reconstruction, but with some complications and a varying success rate, explained surgery faculty member and senior author Vera S. Donnenberg. More recently, they have considered adding stem cells derived from adipose, or fat, tissue (ADSC) or the bone marrow to the transferred fat with the aim of supporting graft integration by enhancing new blood vessel formation.

"But it has not been clear whether these stem cells are safe for breast cancer patients because they could send growth signals that promote tumor reactivation or provide new blood vessels for the tumor," Donnenberg said. "Our research suggests that this risk is real if the patient still has active tumor cells, but is safe when the cells are inactive or resting."

For the study, the researchers collected adipose tissue that would have been discarded during "tummy tuck" procedures performed by study co-author J. Peter Rubin of the Department of Surgery, whose team has several federally funded projects underway to develop fat grafting and stem cell therapies for reconstruction of a variety of tissues.

The researchers isolated ADSC from normal fat and mixed them with human breast cancer cells obtained directly from patients. After two weeks in culture they found that ADSC greatly encouraged the growth of tumor cells. In a follow-up experiment, the researchers injected small numbers of highly purified active or resting tumor cells under the skin of mice either with ADSC or with previously irradiated tumor cells. The combination of active tumor cells and ADSC led to dramatic tumor growth, while injections of resting tumor cells were not affected by co-injection of either ADSC or irradiated tumor cells.

"There is already some clinical evidence that breast reconstruction with transplanted fat is safe," Donnenberg said. "Our findings lead us to conclude that augmentation of fat grafts with additional ADSC should be postponed until there is no evidence of active tumor cells."

SEPTEMBER 30, 2010

All Eyes On This Deal

Receive 50 percent off all glasses and sunglasses at UPMC Eye Center Optical Shop locations during our October sale.

This discount includes designer brands such as Christian Dior, Silhouette, Gucci, and more. No appointment is necessary.

Although the 50 percent sale cannot be combined with vision insurance or other discounts, you can use your health care flexible spending account (FSA) to pay for your purchase. Offer ends Oct. 31, 2010.

Bring your current vision prescription with you, or schedule an exam with the UPMC Eye Center by calling 412-647-2200.

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UPMC Eye Center Optical Shop

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UPMC Mercy, Building D, Suite 3101, 412-232-8520
cancer. Our data in the mouse sug-
gest that dormant cancer cells are not
sensitive to the growth signals
sent by the ADSC.5

Co-authors included Ludovic
Zimmerlin and Albert D. Don-
nenberg of medicine, Per Basse,
immunology, and Rodney J.
Landreneau, surgery.

The study was funded by grants
from the U.S. Department of
Defense, the National Institutes
of Health, the Hillman Founda-
tion, the University of Pittsburgh
Cancer Institute, the Glimmer
of Hope Foundation and the
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
through the McGowan Institute
for Regenerative Medicine.

NSF awards grants to
info science

The National Science Founda-
tion (NSF) recently awarded five
grants to School of Information
Sciences (School) faculty.

• Geoffrey Bowker, with co-
principal investigator Dean
Ronald L. Larsen, secured a
grant for $90,084 to support a
workshop on “Emerging Con-
figurations of the Virtual and the
Real” this fall. Funded by NSF’s
Office of Cyberinfrastructure,
the event will bring together experts
from various fields to address the
impact of advances in information
and communication technologies
(as well as the resulting human
disengagement with the natural
world) on research and education in
the information sciences. The
intent is to outline the intellectual
frontiers of research across the
Schools, and to create synergies
for future research efforts.

• Peter Brusilovsky, the
recipient of two EAGER (Early
Concept Grants for Exploratory
Research) awards. The first grant
for $99,999, for which Jung Sun
Oh will serve as co-PI, will support
a project exploring personalization
and social networking for
short-term communities. Using
academic research conferences
as a test bed, Brusilovsky will
explore new methods to leverage
information about user interests
(available from multiple external
resources) and develop techniques
to facilitate use of existing social
technologies.

Brusilovsky’s second EAGER
grant, for $155,882, will look at
how to model and visualize lateral
communities — people who form communities based on
their similar interests. This work
will consider how to elicit lateral
communities from various kinds of
data about individuals available on
the modern social web and deliver
the results in a manner suitable for
interactive exploration through
interactive visualizations. This
grant is one of the first attempts
to use a variety of social web data
and approaches for community
modeling.

• Daqing He received a
$49,983 grant from NSF’s Divi-
sion of Information and In-
telligent Systems to explore the emerging
phenomenon of public academic
information resources on the
social web. The project aims to
develop an instrument and asso-
ciation identification framework
for online academic information
through the event of a large-scale radio-
ing, organizing, utilizing and
exchanging all types of academic
information.

• Cory Knobel and Geoffrey
Bowker were awarded a grant
from NSF’s Office of Cyberin-
frastucture to study “Evaluating
Best Practices in Collaborative
Cyber-Science and Engineering.”

The project, funded at $198,506,
will result in a socio-
technically informed set of out-
come-based best practices and
evaluation criteria for large-scale
cyber-science efforts. The goal is
to create a framework to transform
cyber-enabled grand challenge
communities, improve the ability
to identify and assess categories
of project impact across levels of scale
and guide the future development
of appropriate cyberinfrastructure
tools.

Anti-radiation grant renewed

Researchers at the University
of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute
and the School of Medicine have
been awarded $13.9 million over
five years by the National Institutes
of Health to continue developing
mitigators of radiation damage,
which can lead to massive cell death
quickly and intelligently to block
mitochondria ‘wrong-doings’ that
could lead to massive cell death after
a nuclear event.”

Previous funding supported
research examining several potent
mitigators of radiation damage,
including new classes of chemicals
and known natural compounds.

Greenberger’s team, in conjunc-
tion with a team of chemists led
by Peter Wipf, Distinguished
Professor of Chemistry, aided in
the development of JP4-039, a
drug that assists the mitochondria
in combating irradiation-induced
cell death.

In addition, research from
Greenberger’s lab showed reserva-
trol, the natural antioxidant com-
monly found in red wine and many
plants, when altered by a process
called acetylation protected mouse
cells from radiation.

Other co-principal investiga-
tors on the study were Valerian
Kagan, Detcho Stoyanovskay
and Oleksandr Kapralov of environ-
mental and occupational health;
John Lazo, pharmacology and
chemical biology; Hulya Bayir,
critical care medicine; Song Li
and Xiang Gao, pharmaceutical
science; Paul Florenczog and
Alexander Star of chemistry,
and Hong Wang and Michael
Epperly of radiation oncol-
ygy.

Help Us To Recognize
Outstanding Academic Advisors

The School of Arts and Sciences annually recognizes outstanding faculty academic advising of its undergraduate students with the Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Advising, consisting of a one-time $4,000 cash prize.

Eligibility

• Any Arts and Sciences faculty member with a regular full-time appointment is eligible (assistant professor, associate professor, full professor, lecturer, senior lecturer, or instructor).

• Nominees must have been a departmental advisor for at least three years on the Pittsburgh campus.

• Faculty members who receive a nomination from their department chair and from two or more undergraduate students whom they have advised will be considered.

Nominations

Nominations are open from October 1, 2010 until October 31, 2010, and should be sent to Senior Director for Undergraduate Studies Judy McComnaha, 140 Thackeray Hall.

A letter from the chair of the department is required; it should explain the advising model used in the faculty member’s home department, include a perspective on her or his advising appointment and case load, and describe how the faculty member has demonstrated excellence in academic advising.

A letter from at least two current or former undergraduate advisees is required. These letters should describe when and how the faculty member’s advice has impacted the academic and career goals of her or his advisee.

Selection

The prize winner will be selected by the Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Council on the basis of her or his demonstrated excellence in academic advising in the School of Arts and Sciences.

Announcement

The prize will be awarded in early 2011.

For more information, contact
Z Taylor at taylorz@as.pitt.edu.

Oakland walking tours planned

The Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation (PHLF) is sponsoring free one-hour walking tours of the Oakland Civic Center every Friday in October, beginning at noon.

Tour participants should meet the PHLF guide on Forbes Avenue near Schenley Drive Extension by The Carnegie’s dinosaur. Participants are asked to sign up for a tour at least one day before the event by contacting Mary Lu Denny at 412/471-5808, ext. 527, or mary@denny@phlf.org.

More details are available at www.phlf.org/phlf-tours-events/walking-tours/free-friday-walking-tours/
Pitt's United Way campaign to begin

Pitt hopes to raise $660,000 in this year's United Way campaign, which runs Oct. 5-Nov. 12. The theme for this year's campaign is "Live United for a Greater Pittsburgh."

Last year, the University raised $543,863, falling short of its goal of $600,000. Faculty and staff pledged $121,752, and special events brought in $8,049.

Pitt's 2009 campaign had a participation rate of 17 percent, slightly lower than the previous year's. Although overall participation was somewhat lower, there was a 4 percent increase in leadership giving, that is, individuals who gave at least $1,000. Overall, 2,166 donors, 1,411 directed $262,237 to the United Way Impact Fund, a pool of unrestricted contributions allocated to some 60 nonprofit agencies deemed by United Way to deliver measurable results in improving the quality of life in the county.

Donors can direct all or a portion of their donation to the Impact Fund or to a specific United Way organization.

A list of the United Way partner agencies is available by accessing the "How to Give" link on the Pitt United Way web site (www.unitedway.pitt.edu); other eligible organizations can be found by accessing the "Search Agency" form link.

Pitt's United Way leadership team encourages donations to the Impact Fund. This year, the fund will focus on helping struggling families put food on the table, find and maintain employment, keep utilities active, and avoid home foreclosures.

The Impact Fund also provides support for programs to help the elderly, disabled individuals and children, and youth. The fund's community initiatives focus on motivating kids to succeed in school; preventing youth violence, and helping seniors to be healthy and safe at home.

Anne Franks, Pitt's United Way campaign executive director of leadership in the Office of Institutional Advancement, said, "It was stated at the beginning of the Pitt community that we were able to raise more than $600,000 a year when so many people were struggling to make ends meet. In spite of the challenges, Pitt's campaign was the top 10 campaigns in Allegheny County. I am proud to be part of this amazing group of dedicated and generous people who were able to find a way to share what they have with others who were in even greater need. This year's campaign, Live United for a Greater Pittsburgh, gives us the opportunity once again to support our friends and neighbors who need our help.

The donation process has been streamlined this year. Payroll deduction is available through the United Way web site; the site also provides a link for online pledging.

Members of Pitt's UW steering committee

Members of the 2010 Pitt United Way steering committee include campaign manager Anne Franks, Executive Director, UA; Pitt campaign co-chairs G. Reynolds Clark, committee chair; T. Val Martin, campaign co-chairs R. Murphy; David Esse, campaign co-chair; T. Cameron Smith, campaign co-chair; and T. Clendenning, campaign co-chair. Other steering committee members are Andrew Blair, Office of the Provost; Kenyon Bonner, Student Life; B. Jean Ferkeis, Office of the Chancellor; Heidi Fonzi, Parking, Transportation and Services; Chris Kephart, University Administration; Debbie Pratt, Computer Services and Systems Development; Gwen Weeks, and John Wilde, Governmental Relations; Trish White and Bill Young, Public Affairs, and Steve Zupic, Community Relations. Other steering committee members are: Elaine Meinsen heads the retreats' campaign. Megan Marasco is the United Way representative.

Grant to fund public health training center

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded $1.2 million to the Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH) to create the Pennsylvania Public Health Training Center (PAPHTC) to ensure public health professionals are well-trained to meet the nation's health needs.

The five-year grant funds a partnership between GSPH, Pitt-Bradford and Drexel University School of Public Health, and other centers and universities that provide training to help counter the impact of a shrinking public health workforce as well as to prepare the workforce to practice in underserved communities that serve them, she said.

PAPHTC is one of 27 accredited public health training centers funded over the next five years.

PAPHTC project director is Linda S. Kuchak, Associate Director of the GSPH Center for Public Health Practice.

Younousi J. Swee, PAPHTC project manager and director of the Center for Rural Health Practice at UPIJ, said, "At a time of ever-increasing health care cost, prevalence of chronic and lifestyle modifiable diseases, emphasis on health promotion and disease prevention through a trained public health workforce is a step in the right direction to improve health outcomes in our state and impact the entire nation."

PAPHTC staff will develop a training program that is multi-site, community-based organizations and health departments to provide training in the heart of the body of knowledge, program development and evaluation, and public health law and policy. PAPHTC also will provide organizational development services such as strategic planning and quality improvement.

Flu shot clinics set

S easonal flu shots will be provided through Nov. 23 at each Pittsburgh campus locations.

In addition, Falk Pharmacy will provide seasonal flu shots 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays through January on the second floor of the Falk Medical Building.

Unlike last year, when both a seasonal flu vaccine and an H1N1 flu vaccine were recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), this year only one vaccine is necessary. The vaccine approved for this year protects against the H1N1 virus circulating in 2009, as well as a strain of seasonal flu as an added layer of protection.

The CDC recommends the influenza vaccination for all people ages 6 months and older. Additional guidelines are provided by CDC at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/downloads/vis-flu.pdf.

At all the flu clinics, Pitt faculty and staff with UPMC Health Plan coverage can receive a flu shot at no out-of-pocket cost, however, there will be no supplies to provide flu shots at the time of service and a file a claim for reimbursement. Forms can be accessed at www.hr.pitt.edu/benefits/pdf/COM-FiuReimbursement-Form.pdf.

Pitt flu shot clinics will be held:

• Oct. 7, 402 Salk Hall, 1-5 p.m.
• Oct. 8, Student Health Service, Suite 500, Medical Arts Building, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
• Oct. 11, Dining Room A, William Pitt Union, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
• Oct. 12, 402 Salk Hall, 1-5 p.m.
• Oct. 13, 421 Benedum Hall, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
• Nov. 1, Point Park Hall, Juniata St., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
• Nov. 21, 1228 Cathedral of Learning, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.


Flu shot clinics also are scheduled for the regional campuses and the Meuberg campus satellite location.

Mechanichus has a clinic scheduled for Oct. 5 in Room 2 of the Computer Building, noon-2 p.m.

Pitt-Greensburg has a clinic scheduled for Oct. 6 in Frame-Westbergh Commons Rooms A&B, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Pitt-Greensburg has a clinic scheduled for Oct. 13 at 214 Chambers Hall, 2-5 p.m.

Pitt-Titusville is offering flu shots by appointment Oct. 11 in 120 Student Union, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

A clinic already has been held at the Johnstown campus.

Flu season typically runs from December through March but can start as early as November, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Influenza virus infection takes about two weeks after vaccination to develop fully in the body.

In a typical year, seasonal influenza causes 36,000 deaths in the United States and more than 100,000 hospitalizations, CDC officials say. More information is available at www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/1011season.htm.

—Peter Hart

SEPTEMBER 30, 2010

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As a special preview to two days of dynamic presentations at SCIENCE2010—TRANSFORMATIONS, the University of Pittsburgh’s 10th annual science and technology showcase, the Office of Enterprise Development and Office of Technology Management invite you to join investors and entrepreneurs from across the region for a first look at exciting, cutting-edge technologies recently developed at Pitt.

Exhibits will feature new technologies that provide opportunities for licensing and development of start-up companies.

Come and mingle with some of the region’s top scientists. You might just discover your next investment opportunity!

A 2GB iPod Touch will be given away. Must be present to win.

Information: 412-624-3160
Advance registration: www.science2010.pitt.edu/register.htm

All Science2010 events are free and open to the public.
WEDNESDAY 6

**Life Sciences Supplier Show**

Petersen concourse level, 10-10:30 a.m.

**Career Development Symposium**

*Early Career Transitions: Exploring Your Passions & Recognizing Your Potential*, Alumni 7th fl. & *Cathedral Views Gallery*, 3-5 p.m

*Opening Reception & Technology Showcase*

Alumni Connolly Ballroom, 3-5 p.m (4-1160)

**Thursday 7**

**Science as Art**

*Transitional Art: From Bench to Bed* Top Alumni Cathedral Views Gallery, 7th fl. (also Oct. 8)

**Spotlight Session 1: Endoscopy Past & Present**

Moderator: Ora Weizer; *Cell Signaling & Endoscopy Friends or Enemies?* Alexander Sorokin; *Glarhin Courtois: Designing Membrane Coats*, Linton Trush; *Endoscopy in Bladder Urotherapy Cells* Wagoner & *What You Give Your*; Gerald Apodaca; *Ned-4. A Unique Bridge Between Kinase Cascades & Epithelial Channels*; Kenneth Hallows; Alumni 3rd fl. science lecture hall, 9 a.m

**Spotlight Session 2: Material Related to Energy**

Moderator: Brian Glesson; *University of Minnesota*: A Driver for Energy Innovation & Regional Economic Development, *Anthony Cugno*; *Next Generation Plas- tic Solar Cells: Faster, Cheaper, Better*; Geoffrey Hutchinson; *Multiphysical Materials: Sustaining & Enabling* *Clean Energy* *Nuclear Technologies*, Jiyong Wieszrok; *Steel for Constructing & Transporting Energy*; Anthony DeAndros; 531 Alumni 7th fl. science lecture hall, 10 a.m

**Spotlight Session 3: Biological Implications of Climate Change Past & Present**

Moderator: K. Christopher Beard; *Ancient Episodes of Global Warms & the Irritative Rise & Fall of Earth’s Sea Levels*; K. Christopher Beard; *Climate Change & Birds: What Is Already Happening & What Can We Expect to Happen?*; Andrew Mack; *Climate Variability Over the Last 100 Years: Is It Usual for the Holocene?*; Mark Abbott; 532 Alumni 7th fl. science lecture hall, 11 a.m

**Special Spotlight Session: Navigating Intellectual Property Rights in Biomedical Research**

Theresa Coalecia, Kelly Donning & Alexander Ducrue; 528 Alumni 7th fl.

**Poster Session 1: Dickinson Prize in Medicine Lecture**

*The DNA Damage Response: Stopped for Repairs?*; Stephen Elledge; Harvard; Alumni 7th fl & Cathedral Views Gallery, 9 a.m

**Poster Session 1**

Alumni Connolly Ballroom, 1 p.m

**Science at Work 1**

*Building a Smart Planet: Hype or the Real Deal?*; Christine Kretz; 531 Alumni, 11 a.m

**Science as Art**

*Comparative Effectiveness & You: Really Work? Making Clinical Trials Work or Superficial Science?*; Sally Burton; 531 Alumni, 12:30 p.m

**Special Spotlight Session: Critical Need**

*Faculty & grad students should contact Jacque- line Saslawski at jsaslawski@katz.pitt.edu*

**Closing Happy Hour**

Plenary Session 4: Klaus Hofmann Lecture: *Adapting Flexibility & Sustained Performance*; Mark Robert, R.U. of VA; 531 Alumni 7th fl., 6 p.m

**Science 2010**
C A N D I D A T E

September

Thursday 30

Bioethics & Health Law Grand Rounds
“The Ethics of Vaccine Mandates for Health Care Workers,” Arthur Caplan, Penn, G23
Parran, 11:10 am Endocrine Research Conference
“African-American Women Demonstrate Similar Adherence to Weight Loss Intervention but Lose Less Weight Due to Lower Energy Requirements,” James DeLany, 1195 Scaife Hall, noon Epidemiology Seminar

October

Friday 1

• Family Weekend activities on the Pittsburgh campus through Oct. 3.

Continuing Medical Ed Conference
• “Surgical Treatment of End-Stage Cardiovascular Disease,” 5120 Starzl BST, 7:30 am-5 pm (also Oct. 2; 7:30 am-4 pm; registration: 412/647-4735)

PHLF Walking Tour
“Oakland’s Civic Center: Big Gifts & Big Dreams,” meet at Forbes Ave. & Schenley Drive Ext. by the dominant, noon (also Oct. 4, 12/4/71-1:00 pm)

Human Genetics Seminar
“Planning Parenthood in the Postgenomic Era,” Mark Slifer, AIU5 Crabtree, noon

Pulmonary Grand Rounds
“Pulmonary Care for the Pulmonary Patient,” Winifred Teutre, Montefiore NW628 conf. rm., noon

Asian Studies/Music Lecture
“Intangible Cultural Heritage Preservation in China Today: Theory, State Policy & Practice,” Helen Rees, UCLA; 4130 Posvar, noon

Health Sciences Forum
“Educating Health Care Teams of the Future,” Scaife aud. 5, 6, 1-5 pm

Philosophy of Science Lecture
“Scientific Exercises & Speculations: Maxwell’s Three Methods,” Peter Achinstein, Johns Hopkins, 817R CL, 3:30 pm (4-1052)

Communication Lecture
“From the Eye to the Soul, Industrial Labor’s Mary Harris ‘Mother’ Jones and the Rhetorics of Baltimore; G20 Barco, 12:30 pm; registration: 412/647-4735)

Saturday 2

World History Workshop
“Teaching & Learning World History,” Bob Bain, U of MI, 5604 Posvar, 9 am-3 pm

Bridgeside Point Park/ Vendor Fair
Campus drive loop, UPB, noon-4 pm (4-162-0254)

Asian Studies Day of Non-Violence Celebration
“Gandhi and Jesus: Practising Nonviolence for Enduring Peace,” Terrence Rynne, Marquette, Bellefield aud., 1-3 pm (9-7426)

Tuesday 5

GI Fellow Educational Program
“Pathophysiology/Board Review,” David Levinthal, M conf. rm. Presby, 7:30 am HSLS Workshop
“Adobe Photoshop for Beginners,” Sam Lewis, Falk Library classroom, 2, 10 am

Pharmaceutical Sciences Seminar
“Pigpal/Adiponutrin in Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease & the Metabolic Syndrome,” Eriz Kefarawy, 456 Salt, noon

Health Services Research Seminar
“Alcohol & Drug Use Among HIV-Infected Veterans,” Kevin Krzemien, 307 Parkvale, noon

Mage Research Conference/Seminar
“Final Alcohol Spectrum Disorders: An International Perspective,” Christina Chambers; Mage 1st fl. conf. rm., noon

Mechanicsburg Flu Shot Clinic
Computer Bldg. rm. 2, noon-2 pm

Philosophy of Science Lecture
“Toward a New Epistemology of Science,” Samuel Schindler, U of Konstance, 817R CL, 12:05 pm (4-1052)

Faculty Assembly Mtg.
UCbals Ballrm. A, 3 pm

Pitt Graduate School Seminar
“Host Interactions of Epstein-Barr Nuclear Antigen 1 (EBNA1),” Lori Frappier, 503 Bridgeside Point 2, 3:15 pm

Pharmacology & Chemical Biology Seminar
“MicroRNA Regulation of EPC Angiogenesis in Diabetes,” Alex Chen, medicine; 1195 Starzl BST, 3:30 pm

Endocrinology & Metabolism Bone Club Conference
“ASMR Practice”, 1195 Starzl BST, 4:10 pm

Classics Lecture
“Magic & Religion in Ancient Greece,” Marcus Rediker, history; 602 CL, 4 pm

Geology & Planetary Science Colloquium
“Remote Sensing of Volcanoes: Thermal Deconv...What?” Shelly Rose, 11 Thaw, 4 pm

Latin American Film
“Vampiros en Habana”; FFA aud., 7:30 pm

Titanville Campus Performance
Disco Duck, Henne Aud., UPF, 7:30 pm

Alleghegy Observatory Open House
159 Riverview Ave., Riverview Park, North Side, 7-10 pm (reservations: 412/521-2400)

TUESDAY 2

University Times 2010-11 publication schedule

Events occurring

Submit by

For publication

Oct. 14-28

Oct. 7

Oct. 14

Oct. 28

Nov. 11-24

Nov. 4

Nov. 11

Nov. 24-Dec. 9

Nov. 18

Nov. 24 (Wed.)

Dec. 6-9

Dec. 2

Dec. 9

Jan. 6-20

Jan. 13

Jan. 6

Jan. 20- Feb. 3

Jan. 27

Feb. 3

Feb. 17- March 3

Feb. 10

Feb. 17

March 3-17

March 24

March 3

March 17-31

March 10

March 17

March 31-April 14

March 24

March 31

April 14-28

April 7

April 14

April 28-May 12

April 21

April 28

May 12-26

May 5

May 12

May 26-June 9

May 19

May 26

June 9-23

June 2

June 9

June 23-July 7

June 16

June 23

July 7

July 10-Sept. 1

July 14

July 21

The University Times events calendar includes Pitt-sponsored events as well as non-Pitt events held on a Pitt campus. Information submitted for the calendar should identify the type of event, such as lecture or concert, and the program’s specific title, sponsor, location and time. The name and phone number of a contact person should be included. Information should be sent by email to: utcal@pitt.edu, by FAX to 412/647-4759, or by campus mail to: 308 Bellefield Hall. We cannot guarantee publication of events received after the deadline.

The Diary of Anne Frank.” will be performed Oct. 13 at 7:30 pm in the Bradford campus’s Broomsley Family Theater; Blaisdell.
Pgh. Contemporary Writers Reading
Mark Kurlansky; FFA aud., 8:30 pm (4-6508)

Wednesday 6

Clinical Oncology & Hematology Grand Rounds
“Contemporary Management of Oropharyngeal Cancer Gauging the Swing of the Pendulum,” Unnamaheswar Durwani, Cooper Conf. Ctr. classm., C Hillman Cancer Ctr., 8 am
Bridgeside Point Park/ Vendor Fair
Introduction to Vector NIT,” Carrie Iwema; Falk Library conf. rm. B, 1-3 pm
Greensburg Campus St. Clair Lecture
“Andrew W. Mellon: Making Money & Giving It Away,” David Cammack, Princeton; Ferguson Theatre, Smith, UPJ, 7 pm (724/836-7497)

Thursday 7

Greensburg Campus Graduate & Professional School Fair
Chambers gymnasium, UPJ, 10 am and 1 pm
Asian Studies Lecture
“An Update of Japanese Database & Effective Methods to Find Articles,” Hirokazu Good, Pitt East Asian Library, 4140 Posvar, noon

Epidemiology Seminar
“Epi in Action/Internship Poster Session”, AIU5 Crabtree, noon

Humanities Lecture
“Reimagining the Amistad Rebellion,” Marcus Rediker, history, 602 CL, 4 pm

Geology & Planetary Science Colloquium
“Remote Sensing of Volcanoes: Thermal Deconv...What?” Shelly Rose, 11 Thaw, 4 pm

Latin American Film
“Vampiros en Habana”; FFA aud., 7:30 pm