Pitt assets recovering from largest-ever drop

The University's net assets have not recovered entirely from fiscal year 2009's largest-ever decline; however, Pitt's consolidated financial statement for fiscal year 2010, which ended June 30, shows net assets have rebounded in part and Pitt's endowment — a major negative factor in the FY09 performance — ended the year with a positive gain.

After falling more than 17 percent to $2.6 billion at the end of FY09 (down from FY08's $3.14 billion), net assets grew to $2.89 billion as of the June 30 end of FY10, up more than 11 percent from the prior year, but still off 8 percent compared with FY08.

Pitt's endowment ended FY10 with $2.02 billion in net assets, up from $1.83 billion at the prior year-end, according to FY10 audited financial statements approved by the Board of Trustees audit committee Oct. 14.

FY10's total endowment return (earnings plus net gains) totaled $235.1 million. In contrast, endowment returns for FY09 were a negative $498.8 million.

Gifts in FY10 added $21.85 million to Pitt's endowment, up from $18.3 million in FY09. "Last year was a very difficult year," said Arthur G. Ramicone, vice chancellor for Budget and Controller. "This year the endowment did quite well. It bounced back. We had a return of over 12.7 percent," he said, noting that the upswing has continued in the current fiscal year.

Westridge

While the economic downturn was responsible for some of the FY09 decline in Pitt's endowment value, some of the loss was related to securities fraud involving the operators of Westridge Capital Management and related firms, with whom the University had invested approximately $70 million. Last year, the University valued its Westridge investment at $14.5 million, representing a 50 percent write-down that continues to be carried in FY10.

Paul Greenwood, one of two fund operators indicted in 2009, pleaded guilty in July to defrauding charges and is to be sentenced in federal court in December. His partner, Steven Walsh, has not changed his not-guilty plea.

According to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Greenwood and Walsh “essentially treated their clients’ investments as their personal piggy bank to purchase multi-million dollar homes, a horse farm and horses, and a private jet, all of which ended up in bankruptcy proceedings.”

Frisch noted.

Survey says higher ed employees more confident about retirement

With the economy still reeling from the 2008 recession, are university employees nationally delaying retirement or taking other steps as a result?

That was the central question posed by TIAA-CREF Researchers in a retirement confidence survey completed in June that measured perceptions related to retirement savings.
The survey compared employees in higher education to all other employees in the United States.

In general, the survey showed significantly higher confidence levels in their retirement plan among university employees than for those outside the higher education sector.

To illustrate the point, Frisch said that 85-90 percent of Pitt employees are currently saving, compared to 60 percent of U.S. workers, others have tried to determine how much they need to save for a comfortable retirement, compared to 46 percent of U.S. workers, he said.

A long-time member of TIAA-CREF's advisory board for its research wing, Frisch spoke in New Orleans last month at the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR) annual conference. He, along with Paul Yakoboski, principal research fellow of the TIAA-CREF Institute, reported on the retirement savings survey results, particularly as they apply to the higher education community.

While the TIAA-CREF Institute conducted the survey, data were garnered from across the higher education sector, not just from TIAA-CREF participants, Frisch noted.

Survey results were broken down into four levels of confidence: very confident, somewhat confident; not too confident, and not at all confident.

In response to the survey question on overall retirement confidence — “How confident are you that you will have enough money to live comfortably throughout retirement?” — the results were as follows:

- For higher education employees, 26 percent were very confident; 54 percent, somewhat confident; 12 percent, not too confident, and 5 percent, not at all confident.
- For all U.S. workers, 16 percent were very confident; 18 percent, somewhat confident, 24 percent, not too confident, and 22 percent, not at all confident.

Frisch said that comparison meant the higher education community is markedly more confident than American workers in general, although partly that can be attributed to higher ed’s worker demographics, such as age (generally older), as well as higher

IT'S NOT JUST THE QUANTITY BUT THE QUALITY OF DONATIONS THAT COUNTS IN FOOD DRIVES, A SENATE COMMITTEE SAYS……………………………………5
Campus glassblower Lori Neu not only is producing scientific equipment, he is teaching some Pitt scientists how to make their own basic research vessels. ………………………………………………………….6
Survey says higher ed employees more confident about retirement

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education and income levels. While 90 percent of higher education employees are saving, the confidence and objectivity of the advice they receive varies, according to what different story, Frisch noted.

In response to the question, “How confident are you that you are saving the right amount?” respondents rated themselves as follows: 21 percent very confident; 59 percent somewhat confident; 15 percent not too confident, and 9 percent not at all confident.

“What that tells us is that there appears to be unformed saving in that people do not have a good idea how much they need to accumulate,” Frisch said. “We see the ramifications in their confidence in the large percentage of ‘somewhat confident’ category; it’s, ‘I think I’m doing the right thing, but I’m not sure.’”

Frisch believes employees both have overestimated and underestimated their retirement costs.

Confidence in the higher education community in the investment of retirement savings is about 88 percent, according to Frisch, which is quite high in the saving the correct amount category. 26 percent are very confident they are investing wisely and 59 percent are somewhat confident they are. “You would think that people would be very confident in the very confident category, given that nearly half — 49 percent — said they had sought investment advice from a financial adviser within the past year,” Frisch said.

Those who were very confident in the advice they received were very confident that the advice they received was independent and objective, and 41 percent said they were somewhat confident of that. Confidence in the independence and objectivity of the advice impacted “follow-through” — 31 percent of those very confident regarding the advice generally followed all of it. By comparison, only 7 percent of those somewhat confident in the advice followed all of it,” Frisch said.

The most telling data on retirement confidence levels, he said, derived from the question breaking down confidence between having enough money for retirement to take care of basic expenses versus having enough to take care of medical expenses.

In the basic expenses category, for higher education employees, the percentages were as follows: 45 percent, very confident; 45 percent, somewhat confident, 5 percent, not too confident, and 4 percent, not at all confident.

In the medical expenses category, however, the percentages were: 23 percent, very confident; 52 percent, somewhat confident; 15 percent, not too confident, and 8 percent, not at all confident.

Confidence in covering basic expenses was much higher, Frisch said. That translates into concerns over retiree health insurance benefits, which are a very expensive proposition for higher education institutions and well could be draining jobs employees to delay retirement.

“We don’t worry about that at Pitt. We’re one of the anomalies in the very confident category, given that nearly half — 49 percent — said they had sought investment advice from a financial adviser within the past year,” Frisch said.

But of all the people surveyed, he said, is the confidence in the advice they were given. “That’s the missing link.” 56 percent said they were very confident that the advice they received was independent and objective, and 41 percent said they were somewhat confident of that. Confidence in the independence and objectivity of the advice impacts “follow-through” — 31 percent of those very confident regarding the advice generally followed all of it. By comparison, only 7 percent of those somewhat confident in the advice followed all of it,” Frisch said.

Frisch said the survey results were useful to him in his ongoing evaluation of Pitt’s retirement benefits.

“A lot of Pitt just have TIAA-CREF and Vanguard. These are two of the most efficient, well-managed companies around. Typically they are dedicated to the not-for-profit sector, unlike industry, which uses a 401K model,” Frisch said.

“While higher ed people, generally, are confident, I hear people all the time say, ‘I’ll never have enough money to retire.’

A lot, do you really know how much you have? Have you even looked at your TIAA-CREF statement? Have you talked to a financial adviser? Most have not done that,” he said. Appointments with financial counselors are available through Human Resources, TIAA-CREF and Vanguard, Frisch noted.

Much of the discussion at September’s CUPA-IR conference centered on concerns over unenrolled employees, he noted.

“We’re moving into electronic statements and, frankly, I have a problem with that.” Frisch said. “Meanwhile, many people simply delete material they receive online, whereas they may save a home mailing until they’re ready to read it.

Online statements to retiree retirement plan participants also can bypass spouses, who in many cases manage the household finances, he noted.

“We have a fair number of employees who are making phone or online inquiries for financial counseling at an increasing rate.

Calls to Vanguard, for example, increased by 27 percent between January 2008 and December 2009 and online requests for financial counseling Vanguard increased 45 percent during that timeframe.

“What you can do calling the phone counseling centers in a matter of minutes is no different from what you can do face-to-face,” Frisch said.

“Those are TIAA-CREF and Vanguard staff who know the Pitt plans. That helps, because every plan is different. It really pays to get advice specific to the plans, because your plan design, which depends on your salary and the choices you make, is always going to be different. Even if you transfer to another institution it’s plan design you’ll need to know,” Frisch said.

In addition, TIAA-CREF and Vanguard staff have no stake in pushing any one plan over another. They’re simply there to offer advice to sign up for any particular plan. “They’re not earning a commission for anything. That way they can be objective and look out for your interests,” he said.

For those employees who are starting at square one in their retirement planning, they recommend a call to the Benefits office.

“Our folks can help direct you. There’s the unvested period, there’s the vested period. We’ll help you through that first step, get you set up, show you where to go online, explain your options,” he said. “We can’t make a fiscal decision for you. We can guide you, we can coach you and we can give you the names of the right people to talk to. But even TIAA-CREF and Vanguard can’t tell you what to do. They can give you performance ratios and tell you, ‘If you do this, here’s what the trend shows.’ They’re not allowed to say, ‘You’re out of your mind if you don’t enroll in this plan.’

You have your own fiduciary responsibility, which makes sense. It’s the law, way it is set up too,” Frisch said.

“From our perspective, they’re partners. We provide what we consider to be some of the best opportunities for retirement investment that we could possibly find, in an efficient, low-cost manner. I’m a believer that if you’re not investing, you’re losing money for sure. And the only person that you’re cheating is yourself.”

—Peter Hart

—Peter Hart

**Correction**

Rohit J. Woyant is chair of the dental school’s Department of Dental Public Health & Information Management. His name was spelled incorrectly in the Oct. 14 University Times.
We need to prepare students for a dramatically different world, lecturer says

Carlos Cortés

“What does it mean, what doesn’t it mean, do I need to know about?” he said.

“And since in fact group-ness is part of me, then I also need to recognize it’s a part of you.”

History

In addition to understanding their own and others’ relationship to their culture, students need to develop a grasp of the historical processes that have formed today’s multicultural society.

“We can’t just forget the past because institutions have grown up based on history and culture,” he said. “Rules have grown up — sometimes you don’t know why — and memories build up in people and in nations and in groups that have significant and long-lasting differences. Similarity and dissimilarity; it refers to patterned differences based on the groups to which one belongs. Those groups may be ethnic, religious, or other categories.”

Understanding how institutions and groups have evolved is important, he said. Using the Constitution as an example, he noted the document was “born with asterisks” to the benefit that all people are created equal, censure restrictions on citizenship or voting that excluded some groups.

Part of the understanding of the Constitution, he said, is not only knowing what asterisks are in the founding documents, but also understanding the historical process that removed some of them, recognizing which asterisks remain and what new ones have been added, and considering which asterisks today’s society is struggling to remove.

“I think helping undergraduates grapple with these questions is part of their preparation for being citizens in a multicultural nation in a globalizing world,” he said.

The issue of creating equity in a society is an ongoing struggle. If students don’t have a grasp on the nature of that struggle, what it has meant historically and what it means today — how are we going to be able to make our 21st century multicultural society work?”

Dilemmas

Students also need to be prepared to grapple with dilemmas inherent in a diverse nation — issues for which the right answers aren’t easily found.

Cortés noted that many people cite the Golden Rule as the principle they use to navigate those dilemmas.

On one level, that’s fine,” he said. “On one level, that’s fine.”

But on another level, doing unto others as you would have them do unto you “means I’m going to treat you like me,” he said. “What if everyone wants to be treated just as just another you?”

Cortés asked, “Are there circumstances that would justify differential treatment of different groups for fair or unfair reasons?”

He cited the recognition by the Boston Symphony Orchestra in the 1960s that women were under-represented, and in the 1980s that men behind a curtain so judges couldn’t see who was playing yielded an increase in women filling the orchestra chairs. “That was a case where treating everyone alike was not the most equitable,” he said.

In contrast, he noted that his home state’s motor vehicle policy, which required that after he turned 70, he no longer could renew his driver’s license remotely, but had to be tested in person. “I was being discriminated against just because my birthday came along,” he said, adding, although it’s an arbitrary number, he is in favor of reducing the age of keeping people’s age from determining whether they can, given that people tend to lose physical ability at about that age.

Professional implications

Students need to be trained to be both cultural critics as profes- sionals as they prepare for careers in a diverse culture, Cortés said. In 2005 New Jersey became the first state to require cultural competence in public school licensures, in recognition that doctors must provide care to patients with diverse values who speak languages other than English, or linguistic needs, he said.

But in dealing with issues of what happens when people of different cultural backgrounds collide within the legal system. “What adjustments do we make in the legal system to integrate immigrants into our system?”

Cultural changes have increased awareness of the recognition of feng shui as a principle in designing offices or homes, or the need for homeowners to build their own curriculum from others’ work, but no one program is a scratch. “Reinventing the wheel is something we can do without becoming so reductive that we’re trying to turn it into statistical measurements to prove whether you’re a good multiculturalist or not,” he cautioned. “I don’t think it’s the sort of thing that lends itself to measurement.”

Cortés offered the following thoughts on preparing undergraduates for a future in a diverse nation in an increasingly global world.

First, he said, students must understand diversity. Cortés noted that while many businesses or institutions have developed diversity statements, there’s no agreement on what that mean.

“Think that’s a danger because it simply becomes a code word without meaning anything,” Cortés argued.

What is diversity?

To me, diversity does not mean difference. Nor does it mean variety. If diversity was only another word for variety or another word for difference, we wouldn’t need it,” he said. Diversity is not about discovering differences; it refers to patterned differences based on the groups to which you belong. Race, gender, religion, age, what you do, your orientation, disability, ability,” he said. “If you believe every individual is just a freestanding human being unattached to anything ... then fact there’s no reason to ever study groupings of people.”

Once there is a recognition that the groups to which an individual belongs may have an influence, “then you’re on the road to saying diversity is something that has a meaning and therefore we’ve got to contend with it,” Cortés said.

The first step is not to try to discover differences, he said. “Understanding how cultures and groupings come into contact becomes an important part of analyzing the world around us.”

Self-understanding

Cortés offered the idea of places where recognizing those — not only of the changing realities of different groups and different attitudes about those changing realities — ought to be a part of a good undergraduate preparation for the future.

Cortés, who has consulted on development of the curriculum and the future — looking part of the curriculum is still a way to do that and don’t think we’re ever going to come up with the ‘the’ answer. I don’t see this as a problem that problem-solving techniques are going to resolve,” he said.

“Undergraduates need an understanding of the kinds of essential issues of what makes one culture unique to the point of which people — and countries — in the middle of the 21st century, the white majority will shrink and the nation will become a society in which no single racial or ethnic group represents a majority of the population. We’re all coming together, but we’re not sure what it all means,” said University of Cali- fornia–Riverside professor emeritus of history Carlos Cortés, in his School of Arts and Sciences Teaching Excellence Lecture, “The Changing Face of America.

“What does it mean to be in a pluralistic population? What does leadership mean? What does being a professional mean in those situations?” asked Cortés, author of the textbook Understanding Cultural Competency and diversity.

“What does it mean when an 18-year-old is entering the University of Pittsburgh or any university in the United States and we’re saying ‘We want you to prepare yourself for the future?’”

The question is an apt one for educators who are charged with preparing students for a world that we don’t quite know how to imagine and what it’s going to mean.”

One thing is certain: “Diversity is going to be part of our future,” said Cortés.

“The framework on how to make sense of this — the issues that have come in,” Cortés said. “Those groups that make up the world and avoid stereotyping, then we haven’t equipped them with stuff they need to function in a diverse society.”

Students need to contemplate what it means when people of different backgrounds come together, he said. “They’re not just people, they’re people who come from groups. Those groups mean something. What does it mean when Christians and Jews come together? Or Jews and Muslims? Or Muslims and Christians? Does leadership mean? What does it mean when

The concept of cultural com- petency has come to the fore in recent years. “The question is how can we make cultural competency — since it’s the reigning term — something that is part of our undergraduate analytical framework on what we’re doing without becoming so reductive that we’re trying to go on the road to saying diversity is something that has a meaning and therefore we’ve got to contend with it,” Cortés said.

The first step is not to try to discover differences, he said. “Understanding that groups draw from others’ work, but no one program is a

The value of generalizing

Undergraduates need an understanding of the concept of culture as well as the content of some of the cultural groups that make up the world around them, Cortés said.

More and more people are afraid of making generalizations for fear of stereotyping. “If we don’t generalize, we almost can’t make a difference,” he said. Cortés said. “If we talk about a nation and its culture, you’re making generalizations. Talking about poor women ... the fact that a woman may be different, you’re talking about cultural differences. Race, ethnicity and religion. Why study religions of the world or of our nation if those religions don’t have some meaning for you? Do you see yourself as part of them?”

Cortés said, “I find just the ability to have healthy use of generalizations while avoiding stereotyping is a huge learned skill. If we don’t help students learn to be able to function with constructive generalizations — which all science is based on — and avoid stereotyping, then we haven’t equipped them with stuff they need to function in a diverse society.”

Current educational institutions have developed diversity statements, he said, and believing in what they mean.

“What does it mean, what doesn’t it mean, do I need to know about?” he said.

“And since in fact group-ness is part of me, then I also need to recognize it’s a part of you.”

History

In addition to understanding their own and others’ relationship to their culture, students need to develop a grasp of the historical processes that have formed today’s multicultural society.

“We can’t just forget the past because institutions have grown up based on history and culture,” he said. “Rules have grown up — sometimes you don’t know why — and memories build up in people and in nations and in groups that have significant and long-lasting differences. Similarity and dissimilarity; it refers to patterned differences based on the groups to which one belongs. Race, gender, religion, age, what you do, your orientation, disability, ability,” he said. “If you believe every individual is just a freestanding human being unattached to anything ... then fact there’s no reason to ever study groupings of people.”

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The first step is not to try to discover differences, he said. “Understanding that admission that belonging to a group has meaning to your life, including belonging to groups over which you had no or little choice about whether you belong to them,” he said.

“Diversity is an outgrowth of the recognition that equity in America is partially group based,” Cortés said. “Partially” because we’re not prisoners of groups, but we’re influenced by them.

Understanding that groups make a difference leads to another question: What do we need to learn about those groups in order to understand their significance in individuals’ lives? “That’s where the issue of cultural competence comes in,” Cortés said.

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Pitt secured 33 patents in FY10

T he U.S. Patent office awarded 33 patents to the University and technology commercialization at Pitt generated revenue of more than $6 million in fiscal year 2010, bringing the five-year total for Pitt’s efforts to more than 144 patents and revenues of $34 million, according to the recently released Office of Technology Management annual report.

OTM and the affiliated Office of Enterprise Development, Health Sciences oversee commercialization of University intellectual property.

The bulk of the FY10 revenue — $3.8 million — came from licensing income, with reimbursement of legal fees adding $2.2 million. There were no equity sales from startup companies based on Pitt technologies to include in the FY10 total.

OTM also reported:
• Licensing and options rose to $54 million — a 32 percent increase over the prior year.
• A change in the way the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM) counts licenses and options is changing how the University reports that category. The new system permits the inclusion of sublicenses executed (Pitt had two) and licenses that come under inter-institutional agreements in which Pitt is not leading the commercialization (Pitt had 24). When added to the $54 regular licenses and options, the new subcategories bring the total to 80.
• Inventor disclosures fell to 225, down from 348 in FY09. More than 350 University employees and students were represented in the 225 submissions, which are the first step in the commercialization process.

Marc S. Malandro, associate vice chancellor for Technology Management and Commercialization and OTM director, said FY10 was a year in which the office had to respond to the changing environment in biotechnology and pharmaceutical sectors impacted by corporate consolidations, acquisitions and bankruptcies.

Companies can’t afford to make mistakes in choosing which technologies to pursue, so they increasingly are looking farther and farther down the development pathway in the interest of “de-risking,” Malandro said. “The days of companies approaching the University with a ‘What do you have to license?’ approach are past; he said today’s trend is to have institutions take innovations as far as possible using federal and other funding sources with more proven, prototyping and testing completed before companies step into the commercialization process.

However, he said, very early-stage research partnerships (which include options to license) are on the upswing. Building broad, deep relationships between universities and businesses — by moving students into companies, networking and conducting sponsored or collaborative research, for example — also helps move technologies toward the marketplace more efficiently, creating a win-win situation.

Looking ahead, Malandro foresees turbulence in the health care sector, given the uncertainty surrounding health care reform. “Nobody knows where it’s going,” he said. “We definitely will have to deal with it.”

Unlike software, for instance, where commercialization is centered on knowing the potential market for a product, commercializing health care innovations is more complicated due to the additional challenges of navigating the regulatory and reimbursement pathways that likewise impact a product’s marketability.

The ability to commercialize novel treatments or diagnostics hinges on the direction health care reform will take. Given that the uncertainty makes it difficult to strategize, remaining nimble in order to react to whatever changes become reality is important. “It’s a big unknown,” he said. “Understanding how these are going to move forward is challenging.”

OTM reported six startup companies were launched in FY09 based on Pitt technologies.

They are:
• Cerève, founded by psychiatry faculty member Eric Nofzinger, director of the sleep neuroimaging research program. The company is based on a medical device designed to treat insomnia by cooling the front part of the brain and reducing metabolism during sleep.
• Decision Simulation, a spin-off that has licensed a computer software system developed by James McGee, a faculty member in medicine and assistant dean for medical education technology. The software provides virtual patient simulation for medical education and includes a management system for education and assessment.
• Insitvive, a company established to market the sonic flashlight developed by bioengineering faculty member George Steffen. The technology, which was licensed to a product development company in FY09, replaces ultrasound monitor displays with a virtual image on the part of the body being scanned.
• Parallel Solutions, a startup based on radio frequency identification (RFID) technology developed by Martin Mickle, the Nicholas A. DeCecco Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and faculty member in electrical engineering, computer engineering, telecommunications and industrial engineering. Designed mainly for first responders, the RFID system provides location, identification and sensory information in buildings. Other markets include life safety for personnel in dangerous situations, child safety, hospital/hospice safety and tracking situations such as in prisons.
• Plexision, a company that plans to develop a line of diagnostics tests and biomarkers that assist in mediating disease pathways. The startup is based on an immune system monitoring system developed by transplantation surgery faculty member Rakesh Sindhi, director of pediatric transplant research at Children’s Hospital. Sindhi’s diagnostic assay system measures the risk of organ rejection and the effects of anti-rejection drugs.
• Telecardia, a company based on technology developed by cardiac surgery faculty member Marco Zaneti. Zaneti’s “Cardio-Guard” device is designed to be implanted on the surface of the heart to give cardiac patients early warning of heart attacks.

Licensing is one aspect of technology transfer that fits into the University’s broader mission of education, research and service. But the University’s impact goes well beyond counting the number of patents issued. Such figures aren’t necessarily a true measure of how much of the federal investment in research is benefiting the public, Malandro noted, adding that the infrastructure to track it needs further development.

“We count the people we educate as part of the impact,” through such programs as the Academic Entrepreneurship and Benchtop to Bedside courses for faculty, as well as through education of MBAs, post-docs and other graduate students, Malandro said.

Quantifying the number of invention disclosures that make

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

From October 1, 2010 through October 31, 2010, the School of Arts and Sciences will accept nominations for the 2011 Tina & David Bellett 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 Bellett Awards Committee.

Faculty and students may submit nomination letters to Arts and Sciences Senior Director for Undergraduate Studies Judy McCannaha, 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.as.pitt.edu/teaching/awards.html#bellet.

Arts and Sciences Recognizes Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

University of Pittsburgh
School of Arts and Sciences
Senate group wants to improve food drives

The University Senate community relations committee (CRC) last week strategized about food collections, with a staff member of the non-profit organization that runs the Oakland Food Pantry.

Genevieve Barbee of Community Human Services (CHS), which heads up the food pantry at 3201 Craft Place, told the committee that awareness of the ongoing efforts to support the food bank has increased, evidenced by the number of people it now serves. “Just in two days in October at Oakland Food Pantry, we had 300 heads of households, about double what we normally see,” she said.

She said the pantry is focusing on procuring donated food with higher nutritional value. “We’re focusing on helping people with special dietary needs, like those with diabetes or heart disease who need low-sodium products. So, we’re not just getting people food, but getting them the nutrition they need,” she added.

Barbee said that while the food pantry never turns down a donation, it sometimes gives food because they don’t want it themselves, rather than because of lack of nutritional content. “Food is a matter of informed giving. A lot of people don’t know that we need low-sodium products, or that we need women’s hygiene products,” she noted. (For information about the Oakland Food Pantry, call 412/246-1648.)

CRC member Steve Zupcic, who heads Pitt’s annual spring food drive benefiting the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and its satellite food pantries, including the Oakland pantry, said Pitt’s efforts also should focus on high nutrition. “One person’s idea of what’s healthy might vary from the next person’s,” he noted. “You’re going to do, to listening to what communities would like to do, to engaging them in the whole process and everything in between,” Terry said.

She also asked committee members to keep track of the organizations and agencies where they volunteer.

“What we want to do at the end of the year for an annual report is compile a list, an overall report is compiled of all the places we on the committee do service. That’s what we’re all about, after all,” Terry said.

In other CRC business:
• Responding to a written complaint, CRC members expressed support of Pitt’s homecoming festivities, including the laser show and fireworks event, which will be held at 9 p.m. Oct. 29.

John Wilds, assistant vice chancellor for community engagement, reported on plans to host the fall 2011 Senate plenary session, tentatively titled “Community-Engaged Service and Practice.”

“What we want to do is feature some of the community-based service projects that are being done at Pitt. That’s means everything from telling communities what you’re going to do, to involving them in the whole process and everything in between,” Terry said.

She added that a good strategy for those organizing “physical” food drives would be asking for specific products or a range of products, that is, mimicking certain clothing drives such as those that ask for women’s professional clothing.

Zupcic also reported on Pitt’s ongoing efforts to support the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. To avoid a conflict with Thanksgiving, November’s “Fourth Thursday,” program has been rescheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 23. Zupcic said.

Fourth Thursdays is the Pitt-sponsored community volunteer effort to repack and distribute food at the community food bank’s warehouse in Duquesne on the fourth Thursday each month. (For more information on Fourth Thursdays or other volunteer projects, contact Zupcic at 412/624-7709 or srz@pitt.edu.)

CHANCELLOR’S DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD 2011

Nominations are being solicited for this University-wide award that recognizes outstanding public service (including community service) contributions by members of the University of Pittsburgh faculty. Any full-time faculty member who has served for at least three years at the University of Pittsburgh is eligible to be nominated for this award. Up to five awardees may be chosen. Public service is broadly defined as the use of University and academic resources to address social problems and to improve the general welfare of humankind. It is a serious academic activity, which provides public or community benefit, is related to a faculty member’s academic expertise, is different from and goes beyond traditional duties of a faculty member, and is conducted outside the University. Each award consists of a cash prize to the faculty member of $2,000 and a grant of $3,000 to support the faculty member’s public service activities.

The deadline for receipt of nomination letters is Monday, November 15, 2010; letters should be sent to: Dr. Alberta M. Sbragia, Office of the Provost, 801 Cathedral of Learning.

Additional details on this and other Chancellor’s Distinguished Awards may be accessed at:
www.provost.pitt.edu/information-on-guidelines.html (go to "Award Nomination Guidelines").
Frost traffic outside Pitt’s glass shop in Allen Hall often slows when the University’s scientific glassblower is at work. Amid the hiss of gas and the glow of flames from a hand torch, Lori Neu works magic — repairing broken glassware or creating custom apparatus — all the while making it look easy.

Neu is happy to demonstrate and explain her work to visitors, and now is letting a select group of graduate students try their hand at the basics of her profession. Students learn to bend and join glass, making various kinds of seals and adapters. They also learn to complete simple repairs and to fabricate simple apparatus, such as bubblers for bubbling gases through a liquid, and tube-within-a-tube condensers for condensing vapors.

In the not-so-distant past, many chemists did their own glassblowing, Neu said. With the rise of computer modeling, the availability of other materials such as ceramics and plastics and the broader array of scientific glassware available through catalogs, there isn’t as much call for the skill today.

But emergency repairs still are needed and custom work isn’t always readily available, Neu said. Scientific glassblowers are few and far between. According to the field’s professional organization, the American Scientific Glass Society (ASGS), Neu is one of only two in Pennsylvania and is among only 26 in the northeastern U.S.

Chemists, physicists and chemical engineers are the main users, but many disciplines have some need for scientific glassblowing. To date, Neu counts customers from 34 different areas, including materials science, radiology and cardiology as well as some outside the University.

“Someday I’d like to see graduate students from all over,” Neu said, adding that she’d like to arrange her workshop to accommodate as many as seven students.

Given that many of her customers in the glass shop have expressed interest in learning more about what she does, Neu is convinced that plenty of prospective students are out there. Nevertheless, graduate chemistry students would have priority — not solely because she’s officially a chemistry department staff member, but also because they stand to use the skills most frequently. “It’s an exciting opportunity for graduate students to get a hands-on feel for scientific glassblowing that someday may help them in their research,” Neu said.

A proposal to expand the course is in the works, said Meyer, who oversees and advises the course while leaving the hands-on instruction to Neu.

Meyer noted that as the glassblowing field has become more industrialized, fewer local glassblowers are available to create custom work, making it more imperative for scientists to have some ability to do their own glass work.

“In one term, they’re not going to be able to make the things they can make,” but students in Neu’s class will gain an understanding of what can be fabricated from glass, allowing them to envision custom designs, Meyer said.

She sees a green aspect to the course as well. “Across the scientific world, lots of glassware that is broken in a small way is thrown away instead of being repaired,” in spite of the fact that, in contrast to many other materials, holes in glassware can be repaired “and made as good, as strong and as useful as the original,” Meyer said.

“The ability to repair it is nice in a sustainable way.”

Neu said the expression interest in offering instruction in glassblowing when she interviewed at Pitt, but after taking the job in 2007 delayed launching the course until she settled into her new surroundings and gauged her own workload. Extrapolating from ASGS survey data, Neu estimated that about one-third of the nation’s university glassblowers offer some sort of glassblowing instruction.

Her class currently is set up as a three-hour lab held once a week, although Neu is considering proposing alternatives, such as expanding the class to two credits or compacting the one-credit class into a half-term, meeting twice a week to minimize the gap between classes.

She said glassblowing is like riding a bike — students may have the ability but need to refresh their knowledge each time if they’re CONTINUED ON PAGE 7
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

neither doing it regularly. “Students would get more out of it if they came twice a week for three hours each time,” Neu said, adding that in addition to focusing on gaining basic skills, students could try their hand at fabricating more complicated apparatus and have extra practice time in the shop.

Neu isn’t aiming to train a new generation of scientific glassblowers, despite the fact that the field’s professional society numbers only about 650. Instead, she hopes to send at least a few chemistry graduates into the world with the ability to make simple repairs, fabricate some basic glassware and better understand the principles behind glassblowing so that they are better able to work with a scientific glassblower when they need custom-designed glassware.

Although Neu’s years of experience and advanced skill level make glassblowing look simple, it’s not as easy as it looks. Some will find the exacting work relaxing; others reap only frustration. “To ensure students have an idea of what they’re signing up for,” Neu said, “You’ve got to be willing to physically try it,” she said, cautioning that although safety is a primary emphasis, the risk of cuts and burns comes with the territory.

After initial instruction in safety, each class period generally consists of a demonstration and discussion of the skills Neu hopes to impart, followed by hands-on practice.

The three students who completed the course last spring gave it high marks.

Chenry Gogick is among the researchers who take their broken glassware to Neu for repair, and said she was fascinated by the prospect of learning to work with glass herself. Gogick said the course presented a unique opportunity. Comparing notes with friends in graduate chemistry programs at other universities, “None of them have this available to them,” she said.

Her classroom experience started out “daunting,” but by the end she gained competence. She found it useful to learn basic repairs and expects those skills will come in handy after graduation. Gogick hopes to launch a career in industry or government.

Student Peter Bell, who plans to teach after he earns his PhD, leaped at the chance to sign up for the course and hasn’t lost his enthusiasm for working with glass. He’d like to see an intermediate level course for students interested in going beyond the basics.

Although Bell would like to lecture at a large university, he anticipates most teaching opportunities will be at smaller colleges with smaller budgets. “You’re not going to have a glassblower on campus and you’re probably not going to have the resources to get lots of glassware.” Knowing how to repair glass will be a unique addition to his qualifications, said Bell.

In Neu’s class he learned to bend, pull and join glass tubing in a variety of ways. After a semester’s worth of learning the basic joints, “We probably have the tools to make anything,” he said.

Tao Li began the course with a head start on his classmates. Part of his work in the lab of chemistry faculty member Nathaniel Rosi involves testing materials’ reactions in sealed glass tubes. He estimates he might prepare 20-30 such samples in a day, having learned from another graduate student how to pull a vacuum and seal the glass tubes to create an environment devoid of water and oxygen.

“Still, I learned a lot in class,” he said, noting that Neu showed him a faster way to seal the tubes. “It was not easy at the beginning, but it was not too hard. Lori teaches very well,” he said.

Each week brought a different skill — learning a new type of seal or how to create something useful. The one-on-one attention helped him through the parts he initially couldn’t do well.

At the end of the term students were challenged to combine their skill and imagination to create a complicated piece. Li’s masterpiece was a complex maze of intricately connected glass tubing. As another test of his skill and creativity, he formed a miniature teapot from the glass tubing.

Li said he found the course relaxing, adding that he enjoyed the opportunity in class to focus entirely on the glass. “Most important of all I had fun.”

—Kimberly K. Barkow

Open House
Sunday, November 7
2:00 pm

I’m part of the Model United Nations team at Ellis and captain of our JV tennis team. I love that Ellis lets me explore many different options for my future — I’m in leadership, science, math, history, and writing clubs. Academically I couldn’t ask for anything better than Ellis; no other school helps you to think and learn the way Ellis does.

Above, Pitt scientific glassblower Lori Neu assists Tao Li as he learns to gather glass to form a custom flask.

At right, Neu helps student Chenry Gogick tip off a vacuum tube from a glass manifold. During the spring 2010 term, Neu offered hands-on instruction through a new glassblowing course for graduate chemistry students. The class will be offered again in the coming spring term and Neu hopes to expand its availability.

I am unique

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Open House
Sunday, November 7
2:00 pm

I am an ellis girl

The Ellis School Pittsburgh’s Only Age 3 – Grade 12 Independent Girls’ School www.TheEllisSchool.org 412.661.4880
Social entrepreneurs combine knowledge, skills, and a passion for change to make an impact on the world around them. They are described as nontraditional thinkers who use business solutions to address social or environmental problems.

They are described as nontraditional thinkers who use business solutions to address social or environmental problems. Social entrepreneurship, defined as nontraditional thinking to make an impact on the world, is the concept that adversity creates opportunities for people with disabilities.

In the Army, I was an elite athlete. I ran the 5,000 meter, 10,000 meter events and I qualified for the Olympic trials in 1980 in the 5,000 meters. I was injured a few months later, he recounted.

So running was a big part of my life. And we had to leave what people are not just fueled by the desire to make an impact on the world, but for a particular social problem or mission, there are a whole range of facets.

Instead of looking at disabilities as impairments and functional limitations, the key concept is that disability is the interaction of the environment, an individual and their disability.
As part of the Senate’s plenary session, School of Social Work faculty member and continuing education director Tracy Soxer moderated a panel discussion, posing questions to Max F. Miller, director of the law school’s Innovation Practice Institute; Laura Atkinson Schaefer, deputy director of the Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation and faculty member in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, and Ann Dugan, associate dean and director of the Institute for Entrepreneurship Excellence in the graduate and undergraduate schools of business.

What constitutes social entrepreneurship? Dugan said, “I view entrepreneurs as those who see an opportunity, are able to garner resources and take advantage of that opportunity to create something that wasn’t there before, or improve upon something that was there. Social entrepreneurship, in my mind, is not anything different. It’s just what is the outcome and how is it going to be measured? I really look at it as just another important form of entrepreneurial behavior,” she said.

Miller agreed, adding that the social entrepreneurs he’s known in many cases who had sold other businesses and had great success, in his own words found other things and other kinds of activities that morphed into this idea of social entrepreneurship, “Part of it was very meaningful, aiming to make nonprofits efficient and looking for that opportunity to move toward appropriately pricing products and services. They found that just doesn’t work when your customer base looks a lot different than a customer who pays a premium for that sort of entrepreneurial venture.”

In the nonprofit field, there are a lot of things that social entrepreneurship really works, both in competing with the private sector for nonprofit dollars and in serving people who may have deep disadvantages, she said. “I think the whole field of social entrepreneurship is moving forward in trying to create the balance between the two business activities,” Dugan added.

How to define and evaluate success in social ventures? Schaefer said environmental sustainability is just one key to sustainability that’s well known, but sustainability also involves determining what it is that you can’t deliver in delivering products or services economically. “It’s the economically feasible fashion that people tend to fix on because a dollar is something you can very easily look at in the plus or minus column,” Schaefer said.

Dugan cited management consultant Peter Drucker’s tenet that nonproﬁt’s mission is to improve lives. In such circles, while some numbers may be necessary to help fulﬁll their mission or constituents, “Metrics are usually not hard numbers,” she said. “In general it has to be a more qualitative review of how we improve lives by what we’re doing in social entrepreneurship.”

What are the challenges? Dugan said there are many passionate, well-meaning people who want others to buy into their vision. But the question comes down to who will pay for it. In a time of increasing competition for government, foundation and philanthropic dollars, “It becomes a smaller and smaller market with larger and larger goals,” she said. “Nonprofits lost their way from their mission because they ended up with big buildings and a staff and an infrastructure that they had to spend a lot of their time raising money for, and the pressure of the roofor the air conditioner became more important than their mission.”

She noted there are many needs and many good ideas, but “the biggest struggle as to who will fund them.”

Schaefer agreed that money can be a big problem for sustaining an enterprise, but in getting the capital to move it, the challenge is, “Are you interested in starting a for-profit business, there are plenty of resources out there. But if you have shelves after shelves of books in the library about how to start a business, there are venture capital firms, there are avenues for people to pursue. If you’re interested in starting a business where the goal is not to profit but the good that you can do, that’s much more difficult for those individuals to start up that type of enterprise.”

Miller agreed, adding that the question of familial and societal support. “Is it what you’re doing something that your family and society really value, or is it something you’re going to get support from your immediate relatives about this?” he asked.

Miller said he sees a shift in the student mindset toward wanting to find where doing good and making money intersect. “Therein lies the challenge: to make what you’re doing relevant,” he said. “Relevance is the challenge.”

Is the movement growing on campus? Schaefer said she definitely sees things changing at UC Berkeley with the opening of the Entrepreneurship Center. Citing a recent New York piece by Malcolm Gladwell about the shift between capital and talent, she said today it’s expected that talent such as ball players or CEOs will receive exorbitant salaries. “But even 50 years ago it wasn’t that way. People were paid modest salaries and it was assumed that the capital had everyone’s best interest at heart and was there to the talent as it really deserved,” she said.

The problem with the capital being there is that there can’t be a certain sort of paternalism in the system. But the problem we see now is the potential that the talent is there that it’s greed in the system,” Schaefer said.

Do we just move toward ever-increasing greed or is there a shift beyond this? Gladwell asked. Demanding appropriate compensation doesn’t just apply to a monetary point of view, Schaefer said, they have a moral and societal obligation. Pursuing the societal obligation may be the next step for the affiliated campus classes. “I think the young people, among the young people, is where we see this shift occurring. I certainly see it in my own students,” Miller added that college is the place where students, especially those considering entrepreneur- ship, begin to figure out what they are and where they fit in. “Universities are all recognizing experiential learning. … Now more and more of us are trying to make it part of our culture. It’s clearly happening here,” he said, adding that collaboration between schools and an aggregation of intellectual capital that occurs with such coop- eration can be of the highest order and opportunities are for a university.”

Dugan said she’s seeing a recognition of the need to do everything. “We’ve had some massive failures in things that we’ve tried, we wouldn’t be there when we needed them,” she said, citing FEMA in Hurricane Katrina and the decision to send troops to the Gulf of Mexico. “The aegis and the things we thought we could make work, a lot of times we just didn’t stick, we didn’t really turn up.”

Such turmoil presents a time of opportunity, someone to come forward that sees that jobs aren’t plentiful and ask how they can deploy their passions better, “the same sort of things that are going on in government,” Dugan said. “I think that part of the beauty of being in the public sector is the time to ask the question the time to start to think about these things and do these things in a new way.”

What roles and responsibilities do the social entrepreneurs have in promoting social entrepreneurship? Dugan said the Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence and similar organizations are important in that they can help give students an early look into the classroom to help students consider the areas in which they might be interested. “I think encouraging students to think in different ways … is an important part of their classroom experience.”

Miller said cross-disciplinary activities benefit students. He also noted that in addition to nuts-and-bolts curricular elements, the law school aims to equip its students with the ability to survey a landscape to recognize areas of importance that they might then tailor to a job market. I tell students all the time that the 区quadrant backalways has a place and some people are just going to be … The receiver goes to the open spot, not to the crowded spot. Why not? It’s the same way. The only way you know where it’s crowded is to have spent some time being a student of a particular market.”

Schaefer agreed that it’s important to educate students about market opportunities. “It’s also important to provide mentor- ship to the students that there are alternate options for them.” Engineering’s co-op and career center can help.“People really don’t know that opportunity content that is out of the school, but she also sees growth in less traditional paths — product development, start-ups, and affiliated facilities, for instance. Groups such as the Sustainable World and Engineers Without Borders provide support for students who want to pursue social goals, and a group that is currently mentoring students in pursuing ideas related to social entrepreneurship to help students identify opportunities to support their entrepreneurial ideas.

Faculty and administration have to play a very active role in letting students know about these opportunities,” she said.

Are there conflict-of-interest issues?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

OCTOBER 28, 2010
risks in public-private partnerships?

One thing I didn’t know was how

their good work to help their

For faculty, Schafer said, “We need to teach people how to translate their social experiences and social ventures into rewards that are recognized in the current system. For example, how to take their outreach in the community and translate that into an article, or start an entrepreneurial applica-
tion that could help their publication record. To bring the lessons from that community outreach into the classroom, which will also help inspire students as well. How to use the fact that they have a platform to gain more research funding for societ-

Welsh lauded the effort and

In the broader view, Miller said, how we structure the supply chain impacts how the market views us. The University is sup-

she said. “It’s not just doing good and

as the number of patents filed and awarded. The key themes by the University for nature by should be on the cutting edge and the traditional ways in which the institutions view education and promote faculty.

University Senate President Michael Pinsky said he sees a

What rewards might drive faculty work in this area be encour-

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Social entrepreneurship

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Innovators: The Changing

University Senate President

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We need to look beyond what

Pitt earns 33 patents

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A potential barrier to

Karen E. McGivney

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A potential barrier to
Foreclosure picture here not all good

Despite claims of Pittsburgh’s relative immunity to the most recent financial and real estate crunch, certain city neighborhoods have racked up foreclosure rates far above the state average, a tally by the University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR) revealed. These properties often languish on the books of financial institutions or are unloaded for less than market value, two circumstances that can speed a neighborhood’s deterioration.

Sabina Deitrick, director of UCSUR’s urban analysis program, and Christopher Briem, a regional economist at UCSUR, matched city foreclosure filings with assessment records from the Allegheny County Department of Real Estate to determine the location of real estate owned (REO) properties—those held by a bank or financial institution. The results can be found in the current issue of UCSUR’s Pittsburgh Economic Quarterly, available at www.scurt.pitt.edu/eqq.php.

During 2008 and 2009, the statewide foreclosure rate was 0.7 percent — the 31st lowest rate in the nation. In Pittsburgh’s Shadyside neighborhood, on the other hand, 117 foreclosures during those two years put the rate at 2.2 percent, followed by Northside with 1.7 percent and Marshall-Shadeland with 1.6 percent. Even some of the city’s more stable neighborhoods such as Crafton Heights and Brighton Heights had a rate of 1.4 percent. Recent reports of problematic foreclosure processes resulting in wrongful seizures and evictions have highlighted the influence financial institutions can have on real estate markets, Briem said. As an extension of that, large numbers of properties owned by financial institutions can have significant repercussions for an area — foreclosed properties often sell cheap or stand vacant.

The average price of the 626 Pittsburgh homes sold by a financial institution from January 2009 through January 2010 was less than $25,000.

Moreover, 40 percent of those homes were located in just 10 neighborhoods. In Beechview, which had the highest number of REO homes, 26 homes sold for an average of 37 percent less than their assessed value. Those same 10 neighborhoods also contained 40 percent of the 521 Pittsburgh homes owned by a financial institution in January 2010 — Beechview led with 29 properties — meaning several more below market sales in these areas are likely.

Fifteen banks do the majority of seizing and selling in Pittsburgh. This group held 60 percent of the 717 REO homes in Pittsburgh in May 2010. The leading holders were Fannie Mae (9 percent), the Veterans Affairs Administration (7 percent), U.S. Bank National Association (6 percent), Bank of New York Mellon (6 percent) and Wells Fargo Bank (5 percent).

Which plastic is greener?

An analysis of plant and petroleum-derived plastics suggests that biopolymers are not necessarily better for the environment than their petroleum-based relatives, according to a report by a team of Pitt researchers published in Environmental Science & Technology. The researchers found that while biopolymers are the more eco-friendly material, traditional plastics can be less taxing environmentally to produce.

Biopolymers trumped the other plastics for biodegradability, low toxicity and use of renewable resources. But the farming and chemical processing needed to produce them can devour energy and dump fertilizers and pesticides into the environment, wrote lead author Michaelangelo Talone, who conducted the analysis as an undergraduate student in the lab of environmental engineering faculty member Amy Landis. Talone and Landis worked with undergraduate chemistry student James Cregg and Eric Beckman, co-director of Pitt’s Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation and the George M. Reveler Professor of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering. The project was supported by the National Science Foundation.

The researchers examined 12 plastics — seven petroleum-based polymers, four biopolymers and one hybrid. They then performed a life-cycle assessment (LCA) on each polymer’s pre-production stage to gauge the environmental and health effects of the energy, raw materials and chemicals used to create one ounce of plastic pellets. They then checked each plastic in its finished form against principles of green design, including biodegradability, energy efficiency, wastefulness and toxicity.

A graph of the LCA results and a chart ranking the polymers by ecofriendliness are available online. The researchers found that the petroleum-plant hybrid biopolyether terephthalate, or B-PET, combines the kinds of agriculture with the structural stiffness of standard plastic to be harmful to produce (12th) and use (8th). B-PET is currently a product of Minnesota-based NatureWorks LLC.

Biopolymers were among the most promising pollutants on the path to production, the LCA revealed. The team attributed this to agricultural fertilizers and pesticides, extensive land use for farming and the intense chemical processing needed to convert plants into plastic. All four biopolymers were the largest contributors to environmental impact throughout their use and eventual disposal.

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Reasons for melanoma screening vary

Women are more likely to seek skin cancer screenings because of a worrisome skin lesion, a family history of skin cancer or concern about sun exposure, whereas men age 50 and older — a group at highest risk for melanoma — may seek screenings only after a previous skin cancer diagnosis, according to researchers at the School of Medicine who conducted the study in the October edition of Archives of Dermatology, one of the JAMA/Archives journals.

Dermatology faculty member Laura Korb Ferris, corresponding author on the study, said, "Interestingly, the patients seeking skin cancer screenings are not necessarily the patients who are at the highest risk for developing or dying from melanoma."

Researchers surveyed patients over the age of 18 who were seen at a dermatologist’s office for skin cancer screenings between May and October 2009. Participants completed a 12-question survey that included questions about factors, risk factors for melanoma and reasons for seeking skin cancer screenings.

Of the 487 patients surveyed, more than 80 percent made an appointment for a skin exam with a particular skin lesion that concerned them. In addition, patients younger than 60 were more likely to seek screening because of a family history of melanoma, whereas men 50 and older were more likely than other groups to seek screening because they had a previous skin cancer diagnosis.

The most common reason for seeking skin cancer screenings was a personal history of skin cancer, followed by concern about sun exposure and a family history of non-melanoma skin cancer.

"A large percentage of patients, more than 95 percent, believe that skin cancer screenings have been shown to prevent skin cancer, a belief that is very strong and without scientific basis," said Ferris. "Also, almost 90 percent of these same respondents correctly believe that skin cancer screenings can reduce the risk of death from skin cancer, and they viewed skin cancer screenings as equally valuable as colonoscopy, mammography and Pap smears in preventing cancer-related death."

In the United States, melano- noma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, was diagnosed in more than 62,000 people in 2008, and almost 8,500 died of the disease that same year. Other skin cancers, such as basal and squamous cell carcinomas, are more prevalent, but rarely fatal. "While patients show great interest in skin cancer screenings, there currently are no universally accepted guidelines for when a skin lesion should be first screened and how often they should be screened," said Ferris. "We need to determine that there needs to be better communication with the public in the form of specific guidelines, but also improve on encouraging screening of older men, which could allow us to reach those individuals who would most benefit from skin cancer screening."

Study tests anal safety of anti-HIV gel

School of Medicine researchers have developed a vaginal microbicide that has shown promise for preventing HIV through vaginal sex, to determine its safety and acceptability when used rectally.

"This multi-center trial study, led by the National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded Microbicides Network, is aimed at helping determine if the gel should be evaluated further for its potential protective effects against HIV in men and women who engage in receptive anal intercourse."

While condoms generally are effective for protecting against HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, most acts of anal sex go unprotected. Moreover, the risk of acquiring HIV through anal sex is at least four times greater than unprotected vaginal sex and increases if other infections are present in the rectal lining.

Ross Cranston, a faculty member in the medical school’s Division of Infectious Diseases and leader of the Pitt study site, said: "Although the fields excited by the promise of anti-HIV microbicides, as a vaginal microbicide, there is a series of steps that must be taken before we can even consider whether the gel is equally promising for preventing HIV through receptive anal intercourse. First, we must determine that it’s safe to use rectally, which is why we are conducting this trial." The study will enroll 60 men and women across three NIH-affiliated U.S. sites: Pitt; the University of Alabama-Birmingham; and the University of Boston.

It aims to determine if rectal use of tenofovir gel is safe and, in particular, does not cause cells in the rectum to become more vulnerable to HIV than they already are. The study also will help to determine whether men and women would be willing to use a rectal microbicide.

In addition, researchers are hoping to identify biological markers — specific proteins or biochemical activity — that can be used to better assess the potential protective effects of anti-HIV microbicides before they are tested in humans.

The site co-leader is Ian McGowan, faculty member in the Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition and co-principal investigator of the MTX, which is based at Pitt and the Magee-Womens Research Institute.

DNA exchange regulator found

A team led by a scientist at the School of Medicine has discovered a regulatory protein that influences where genetic material gets swapped between maternal and paternal chromosomes during the process of creating eggs and sperm.

The findings, which shed light on the mechanisms of infertility, were published in Nature.

While eggs and sperm contain 46 chromosomes, half coming from each parent. But eggs and sperm, as germ cells, have evolved in such a way so that when they combine to form an embryo, the correct chromosome number is maintained. With premature ovarian failure, a syndrome that affects 1 in 1,000 women, the senior author Judith Yanowitz, a faculty member in obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences and a member of the Magee-Womens Research Institute (MWRI), "When a germ cell, segments of DNA are exchanged, or recombined, between maternal and paternal chromosomes, leading to greater diversity in the daughter cells," she said. "Our study reveals a protein that plays a key role in choosing where those crossovers occur."

Crossing over is essential for the correct movement, or segregation, of chromosomes into the germ cells. Failure to exchange DNA properly can lead to offspring with the wrong number of chromosomes. In humans, defects in this process are a leading cause of infertility, Yanowitz noted.

The team studied the genome of the tiny roundworm C. elegans, in which gene recombination typically occurs toward the ends of the chromosomes, which contain few genes. But crossovers are also common in other parts, which central areas of the chromosomes in worms that had a mutation in a gene that plays a role in DNA disjunction factor (xnd-1). In addition, crossovers on the X chromosome often did not occur in these worms.

"This is the first gene in any system that is specifically required for the segregation of single chromosomes," she said. "The fact that this is the X chromosome is interesting because the sex chromosomes play a unique role both in germ line and general development."

These observations led the researchers to suggest that xnd-1 affects the way chromosomes are packaged into the nucleus of the cell as a DNA protein complex known as chromatin.

They further showed xnd-1 also affects a chromatin protein that remains maintained through species evolution and that this packaging is directly responsible for the segregation of single chromosomes.

The study was funded by the National Institutes of Health, MWRI and the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

University of Pittsburgh Department of Pathology

**LUNG CANCER: HISTO-MOLECULAR CLASSIFICATION & SIGNALLING PATHWAYS**

**Wednesday November 10 Noon**

Scalfe Hall, Lecture Room 5 (Lunch provided)

**Annual Robert S. Totten Lecture**

Dr. Elisabeth Brambilla has been Professor of Pathology since 1993, nominated as 1st Class Professor in 2004 and as Exceptional Class Professor in 2006, and currently the Head of the Department of Pathology at the Grenoble University Hospital.

At the frontier between expertise in lung pathology and leadership of the INSERM research unit, her work has provided original insight into the functional network of P53 / P14 tumor suppressor gene network in lung cancer with application to the early molecular lesion in bronchial preneoplasia providing tools for early detection. As a pathologist she provided founding descriptions of new pathological entities with clinical significance, served on the panel of experts pathologists to provide the revised version of WHO classification of lung tumors in 1999 and was editor and author of 2004 Pathology and Genetics of the Lung. "I have always been interested in the Crosstalk between the normal and the pathologiclung tissue".

Between 2007 and 2010, she was chair with WD Travis of the IASLC/REALS/ERS Histopathology Committee in the International Classification of Lung Adenocarcinoma. She was a recipient of the Mary Matthews Award for "excellence in the practice of pathology" in 2011. She is an author of more than 300 peer-reviewed manuscripts, 17 book chapters and editor of 4 books. At the interface between pathology and lung biology, she is the actual President of the Assembly of Cell and Molecular Biology of the European Respiratory Society (ERS), member of the Board of ATS Clinical Assembly since 2000, chair of the Pasteur-Toussaint Committee of IASLC since 2005, and member of the Board of Directors of IASLC since 2007.

University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine

**POSITION AVAILABLE**

The Department of Dental Anesthesiology is inviting applicants to fill a part-time faculty position for a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) at the level of a Clinical Instructor. Responsibilities included in this 60% effort position are supporting the patient care, didactic and research activities of the Department. Experience with special needs patients, both pediatric and adult, requiring dental care is preferred. Salary would be commensurate with experience.

To apply, send a curriculum vitae including three of professional references by mail or email to:

Dr. Paul A. Moore
University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine
Department of Dental Anesthesiology
3801 Terrace Street
G39 Salt Hall
Pittsburgh, PA 15261
(412) 648-8609 — phone
pammt@pitt.edu

(The University of Pittsburgh is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer)
Associate professor of English Eric Otto Clarke died Oct. 10, 2010, in his Shadyside home. He was 46. The death was ruled accidental, according to the Allegheny County Medical Examiner’s Office.

Clarke joined the Pitt faculty in 1992 as an assistant professor. He was promoted to associate professor in 1998. Prior to coming to the University, he taught for a year at the University of New Hampshire.

A native of Washington state, Clarke received a BA in English in 1986 from the University of Puget Sound, graduating cum laude. He earned his MA in 1988 and PhD in 1991 from Brown University.

Colleagues said that Clarke was an innovative scholar in 19th-century British literary studies and sexuality studies. He published articles on George Wilhelm Fried- rich Hegel, Immanuel Kant, Percy Bysshe Shelley, queer theory and contemporary film.

In 1998, Clarke was a visiting scholar at the program for the study of sexuality, gender, health and human rights at Columbia University. He was awarded a Rockefeller Residency Fellowship at the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies at the Graduate Center, City University of New York, in 1998-99. The book he completed that year, “Virtuous Vice: Homoroticsm and the Public Sphere,” published by Duke University Press, was an interdisciplinary study examining the effects of queer inclusion in public culture.

According to English department chair John Twyning, Clarke’s book has been praised by reviewers in gay and lesbian studies, cultural studies and political science, and it brought together British Roman- tic culture, U.S. popular culture and philosophy — the Kantian tradition, represented especially by Jurgen Habermas.

Clarke served as an advisory editor and writer for boundary 2, an international journal of litera- ture and culture, 1996-2008. His last essay, “Kant’s Kiss,” soon will be published by the journal. In recent years, he had been at work on two book-length proj- ects: “What the Novel Knows,” a study of George Eliot, and “Lifelyle: Investigations of Gay Modernity.”

Within the English department, Clarke served as director of graduate studies, 2001-06. He developed a popular course for the English department in sexu- ality studies titled Sexuality and Representation. Other courses he taught included the graduate seminars 19th-Century British Novel, Institutions of Literature and Introduction to Modern Critical Practice, and the under- graduate course The Victorian Novel, Introduction to Popular Culture, Introduction to Critical Reading and 19th-Century British Literature.

He also taught courses in con- junction with the cultural studies and women’s studies programs. He was a faculty associate at the Center for West European Stud- ies and the Center for Social and Urban Research.

Twyning said, “Eric was active as a commentator on queer culture and politics and a mentor to gay and lesbian students. He was inter- viewed for a Chicago public radio program on ‘Living Gay’ in 2004, and he was part of a panel discus- sion here in Pittsburgh in 2007 about ‘Tearoom,’ a documentary film about police surveillance of gay men.”

An Oct. 17 memorial service for Clarke was held at Phipps Conservatory.

Clarke is survived by his mother, Gerry Johnson, brothers Jeff Clarke and William Melnik; nieces Karen Melnik and Jennifer Clarke; and nephews Nicholas Melnik and John Clarke.

—Peter Hart

Levine service set

A memorial service for Ruth Eleanor Levine will be held at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 5 in Heinz Memorial Chapel. Levine, who died Oct. 18 at age 74, was the wife of Arthur S. Levine, senior vice chancellor for Health Sciences and dean of the School of Medicine.

A reception in the Hall of Architecture of Carnegie Museum of Natural History will follow the memorial ser- vice.

Eric Otto Clarke

Linda Frank, a faculty member in the Depart- ment of Infe- cious Diseases and Microbiol- ogy, Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH), has been desig- nated as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (AAN).

Frank, principal investigator and project director of the Penn- sylvania and Mid-Atlantic AIDS Education and Training Center, as a nursing professional who combines clinical practice with leadership in policy, education, professional services and scholarly activities, Frank was recognized for her outstanding contribu- tions and achievements. She will be honored at the AAN’s annual awards ceremony and induction on Nov. 12 in Washington, D.C.

Also at GSPH, former dean Bernard Goldstein, a faculty member in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, was appointed to the Insti- tute of Medicine’s committee to assess the health effects associated with the Gulf of Mexico oil spill. The committee will address the effects of the spill on both the short- and long-term health of individuals — including workers, volunteers, residents and visitors — to improve understanding of the crisis and determine what actions should be taken to protect public health in the future.

Livingston Alexander, pres- ident of Pitt-Bradford, has been appointed to the board of directors for the Center for Rural Pennsylvania.

The center is the second oldest state-level rural research policy center in the nation. It is a bipartisan legislative agency that serves as a resource for rural policy within the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

The center works with gov- ernment groups and organiza- tions to maximize resources for Pennsylvania’s 3.4 million rural residents. In part, it sponsors research projects, collects data on trends in rural Pennsylvania and publishes information and research results about diverse people and communities in rural Pennsylvania.

Delia Kreiling, recently retired staff member in the Office of Veterans Services, was elected president of the American Veter- ans (AMVETS) National Ladies Auxiliary for 2010-11.

A 44-year Pitt employee, Kreil- ing served as the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs certifying official who evaluated veterans for benefits eligibility.

Kreiling has served in many roles for AMVETS, including:

• President of the AMVETS National Ladies Auxiliary Post 60, where she oversaw a drive resulting in a 10-fold increase in membership.

• Sergeant-at-arms of the AMVETS National Ladies Auxiliary.

• Past department president and legislative liaison for the Pennsylvania chapter of the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary.

• Member of the National AMVETS committee for honor- less veterans in Pennsylvania.

• Fundraising leader for the local AMVETS ‘Sharing and Caring’ program to benefit hos- pitalized veterans.

• Organizer for the local AMVETS boat ride for disabled veterans.

Anthony Iannacchione, a faculty member in the Depart- ment of Civil and Environmental Engineering and director of the mining engineering program at the Swanson School of Engineer- ing, is the 2010 recipient of the Syd S. Peng Ground Control in Mining Award.

The award recognizes indi- viduals who have demonstrated technical and scientific excellence in advancing the understanding of ground control technologies or approaches by either publica- tion or direct applications in the mining industry.

Iannacchione is the principal investigator on a two-year state contract to examine land disrup- tions, structural damage and water source impairments in areas where mining has occurred.

Iannacchione has participated on numerous scientific advisory committees. Most recently, he has served on several National Science Foundation committees associated with the Deep Under- ground Science and Engineering Laboratory.

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A reception in the Hall of Architecture of Carnegie Museum of Natural History will follow the memorial ser- vice.
Friday 5

SBDC Workshop
“The 1st Step: Mechanics of Starting a Small Business”; Merwin, 7:10-10 am (4-1142)

UPC Symposium
“Innovative Strategies to Target Stem Cells in Cancer”; Cooper Conf. Ctr., Hillman Cancer Ctr. ground fl., 8 am-4 pm

Jazz Week Lecture
“I Remember Monk”; George Cables; WPU Assembly Rm., 10 am

WFIC Distinguished Scientist Lecture
“Gustamate, Prefrontal Cortex & Schizophrenia: Capturing the ‘Angel’ in Angel Dust”; Joby Krytal, Yale; WFIC 2nd fl. aud., 11 am-12:30 pm

GI Research Rounds
“Visceral Representation in the Rat Primary Motor Cortex”; David Levinthal; Presby MD conf. rm., noon

ULS Music Concert
Roumini & Ali Cap & Chaucer, gr. Hillman, noon

Memorial Service
For Ruth Eleanor Levine, wife of Arthur Levine, sr. vc for Health Sciences & dean of School of Medicine, who died Oct. 18; Heinz Chapel, 1:30 pm (followed by reception in Hall of Architecture, Carnegie Museum of Natural History)

Jazz Week Lecture
“Artistry in Rhythm: Dedicated to Kenny Clarke”; Wynn Harper, WFIC Assembly Rm., 2 pm

Jazz Week Lecture
“Bags Meets Wes: A Salute to Milt Jackson & Wes Montgomery”; Dave Pike & Bobby Broom; WPU Assembly Rm., 6-8 pm

Asian Studies/Linguistics Lecture
“Nominalization & Relativization: The Japanese & the Rest of the World”; Masayoshi Shibatani, Rice; 132 CL, 5 pm (8-7426)

French & Italian National C. Tucci Lecture
“Cartographic Dante”; Theodore Cachey Jr., Notre Dame; 144 CL, 7 pm (reception follows in 156 CL)

Classics Lecture
“Classics in the 21st Century: Radical Change & Deep Traditions”; Gregory Crane, Tufts; 244A CL, 4 pm

Women’s Basketball
Vs. Seton Hill; Petersen, 7 pm

Saturday 6

boundary 2 Symposium
602 CL, 9:45 am-6 pm (4-5253)

Jazz Week Lecture
“From Bird to ‘Trane’ With Love”; Peter King & Javon Jackson; WPU Assembly Rm., 10 am

Jazz Week Lecture
“A Salute to Louis ‘Pops’ Armstrong”; Jon Faddis & Randy Brecker; WPU Assembly Rm., noon

Jazz Seminar Concert
Carnegie Music Hall, 8 pm (4-4125)

Sunday 7

Slovak Heritage Festival
CL Commons Rm., 1-5 pm (4-5960)

Monday 8

Health & Wellness Lecture
“Getting Better Sleep: What You Need to Know”; Daniel Buysse, UPMC; Carnegie Library, Oakland; 6:30-7:30 pm (412/864-3465)

Men’s Basketball
Vs. RI; Petersen, 7 pm

HSLS Film
“Harry Potter & the Chamber of Secrets”, lecture rm. 6 Scarfe, 7 pm

Tuesday 9

HSLS Workshop
“Focus on Behavioral Medicine: Searching in PsychINFO.” Michele Klein-Feshbach, Falk Library classrm. 1, 10-11:30 am

Health Services Research Seminar
“Predicting Hospital Readmission Before the Index Admission.” Pamela Poele & Scott Zasadil; 305 Parkvale, noon

World History Lecture
“Reign Multisexual?.” Tom Anderson; 1707 Peters; noon

CRSP Lecture
“Race, Class & Student Achievement in KIPP Middle Schools.” Philip Gleason, Mathematica; 2017 CL, noon (4-7382)

Pitt Alumni Assocs. Lectures

Wednesday 10

Clinical Oncology & Hematology Grand Rounds
“Do Not Disturb the Brain: Minimal Invasion for Maximizing Resection of Brain & Spinal Cord Lesions.” Robert Friedlander; UPCI Herberman Conf. Ctr. 2nd fl. aud., 8 am

Pathology Research Seminar
“Lung Cancer: Histo-Molecular Classification & Signaling Pathways.” Elizabeth Brumballa, Grenoble U Hospital; Scifaite lecture rm. 5, noon (8-1040)

SAC Mtg.
532 Alumni, 12:15 pm

GSPIA Ford Inst. Lecture
“The Responsibility to Protect.” Allison Giffen, Stimson Ctr.; 1800 Posvar, 12:30 pm

HSLS Workshop
“Protein Sequence Analysis.” Anuman Chattopadhyay; Falk Library classrm. 6, 1-3 pm

Senate Council Mtg.
2700 Posvar, 3 pm

Men’s Basketball
Vs. Ill.-Chicago; Petersen, 7 pm

Latin American Studies Film
“La Bella del Alhambra”, FFA auditorium, 6:30 pm

Thursday 11

GSHP Foster Lecture in Alzheimer’s Disease
“Dementia in the Aged: Inevitable, Postponable or Preventable?” Lewis Kuller; G23 Parran, 11-3 pm

EOH Seminar
**Homecoming 2010**

**THURSDAY 28**

- Pathways to Professions: Career Networking Event
  - Bridges Room, Holiday Inn-University Center, 3 pm; Alumni Connolly Ballroom, 6 pm

**FRIDAY 29**

- Pitt News Centennial Alumni Open House
  - 454 WPJ, 9-3 pm
- Pitt News Assn. Committee Mtgs., Banner Luncheon & Board Mtg.
  - Alumni Connolly Ballroom, 9:30 am-3 pm
- Nursing Tea & Alumni Program
  - Veazie Bldg., 2 pm
- Katz Executive Women’s Panel FFA aud. & lobby, 3-5 pm (8-1620)

**C A L E N D A R**

- Business Lecture
  - “The MBA Oath,” John Delaney; Business Lecture
    - Soldiers & Sailors Patio, 6-9 pm
- Education Alumni Reception
  - Soldiers & Sailors Patio, 6-9 pm (8-1738)
- Pharmacy Banana Split Party
  - FFA aud. & lobby, 5-6:30 pm (8-1620)

**SATURDAY 30**

- Nationality Rms., Navy Armory
  - CL, 9-2 pm (also Oct. 31, 11 am-2 pm; 8-4608)
- Pitt Business Pancake Breakfast
  - Soldiers & Sailors Patio, 7:30 am-11:30 pm

**Homecoming Extravaganza**

- Fireworks & Laser Show
  - Guard Tower, 9 pm
- Student Mentoring Event
  - Soldiers & Sailors Patio, 9 pm
- Education Alumni Reception
  - Soldiers & Sailors Patio, 9 pm
- Pharmacy Banana Split Party
  - Soldiers & Sailors Patio, 9 pm

**THE FALL 2010 LIMBACH LECTURE SERIES**

- “Tapping into the 700M NIH SBIR/STTR Funds”
  - Gregory Milman, PhD
  - The Office of Innovation for Special Programs & Development, Interdisciplinary School of Affairs
  - National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases, NIH, DHHS
- Wednesday, November 17
  - 3 pm
  - Biomedical Science Tower South Room, S120

**Pitt PhD Defenses**

- A&S/Statistics
  - Functional Connectivity Analyt.
    - of fMRI Time-Series Data
    - Douch/Dough, Oct. 28, 2132 CL, 2:10 pm
- Engineering/Biomedical Engineering
  - The Effects of Obesity on Occupant Injury Risk in Frontal Impact: A Computer Modeling Approach
    - Michael Turkovich, Nov. 2, Bakery Square Conf. Rm., Suite 401, 6423 Penn Ave., 9 am
- Engineering/Industrial Engineering
  - Understanding the Modeling Skill Shift in Engineering: The Impact of Epistemology, Metacognition & Self-Efficacy
    - Tita Pinar Yildirim, Nov. 2, 2060 Benedum, 1:30 pm
- Education/Administrative & Policy Studies
  - The Effect of NCLB on State Board & Local School Board Relations: A Pennsylvania Example
    - Joseph Dietrich, Nov. 4, 4212 Posvar, 11 am

**Pharmacy Banana Split Party**

- FFA aud. & lobby, 5-6:30 pm (8-1620)

**Sunday 31**

- Homecoming 2010
  - Open House
    - Pathway to Professions: Career Networking Event
      - Bridges Room, Holiday Inn-University Center, 3 pm; Alumni Connolly Ballroom, 6 pm

**C L A S S I F I E D S**

- Pitt Council of Alumni Events
  - AAAC Fellowship Brunch
    - 1st fl. WPU, 10 am-1 pm
  - Pitt News Centennial Brunch
    - AAAC Steppin’ Back in Time…
      - CL, 4 & 6 pm (412/251-5532)

**Events**

- Bradford Campus Exhibits
  -UPB faculty; through Oct. 29;
    - Arts & Humanities EXHIBITS
      - Pitt-Bradford Student Art Exhibi.
        - through Nov. 7;
      - Davis Hall, 1st fl.
      - Pitt-Bradford Student Art Exhibi.
        - through Dec. 1;
      - Davis Hall, 1st fl.

- Library Law Exhibit
  - Law Library, 1st fl. (closed)
    - through Nov. 7;
    - Davis Hall, 1st fl.

- University Art Gallery Exhibit
  - Slag: What’s Left After Inclusi.
    - Somers and Associates, Inc.
    - 2-6 pm (8-8200)

**Wanted**

- OFFICE WORKER
  - Seeking part-time office help. Must have good phone skills. Duties include taking orders over the phone & calling customers. Both Carpenter, Gland, 412/244-9290.

**CONVERSATION**

- CONVERSATION
  - About the Learning, Life & Literature program
    - Arts & Humanities EXHIBITS
      - Soldiers & Sailors Patio, 6-9 pm

**WEB SITE PROMOTERS**

- Website looking for web promoters for www.hypepittsburgh.com. It is a locally owned web site designed to promote the social activities in Pgh. We are looking for men & women who will take pictures in bars, clubs, restaurants & school events. Compensation provided. Email hypepittsburgh@gmail.com if interested.

**POST-MENOPAUSAL WOMEN**

- Caucasian, Asian or Hispanic women wanted for a 3-month osteoporosis study. Must qualify by having low bone density on screen.

**WANTED**

-elsea B. Lessa, MD, Lupus & Immune System Disease Specialist at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Chicago. She is seeking patients suffering from lupus.

**MEDICINE**

- Biophysical Characterization of Chemically Unfolded States of the Membrane Protein Rhodop.
  - Drivers, Jr., Nov. 11, 6414 BT3, 1:30 pm

**Theatre**

- Pitt Repertory Theatre
  - Slasher
  - through Nov. 7
  - Theatre Student Lab
  - Tymba Vlasich & "Krapp’s Last Tape"
  - through Nov. 10

**Web Site**

- WANTED
  - Website looking for web promoters for www.hypepittsburgh.com. It is a locally owned web site designed to promote the social activities in Pgh. We are looking for men & women who will take pictures in bars, clubs, restaurants & school events. Compensation provided. Email hypepittsburgh@gmail.com if interested.

**Hire Pitt, Find Pitt**

- Buy it, sell it, find it
  - in the University Times CLASSIFIEDS!

**Call**

- 412/624-4844.
Thursday 28

- Homecoming activities through Oct. 30 (see box on page 17)

EOH Seminar
“Context & Cell Type in Control of Lung Inflammation,” Amuralla Ray; 540 Bridgeside Point, noon

Epidemiology Seminar
“Taking a Better Look Upstream: How Do We Increase Public Health’s Impact?” Ron Voorhees; AI51 Catsree, noon

ADRC Lecture
“Neuromaging Predictors of Treatment Response in Late-Life Depression,” Howard Aizenstein, psychiatry & bioengineering; 419 Montour, noon

Asian Studies Lecture
“The Paradigm of Prehistoric Representation,” Cecile Chu-Chin Sun, East Asian languages & literatures; 410 Posvar, noon

Nordenberg Lecture in Law, Medicine & Psychiatry
“Legal & Ethical Issues in Medical Treatment of Children With Variations of Sex Anatomy,” Anne Tamar-Mattis, Advocates for Informed Choice; Barco Teplitz Courtroom, noon

Humanities Discussion
“Worlds Made by Words,” Anthony Grafton; 602 CL, 12:30-2 pm

Friday 29

- Deadline for students to submit monitored withdrawal forms to deans’ office for fall term.

Johnstown Campus Workshop
“International Traffic in Arm Regulations,” Living/Learning Ctr., Heritage, UPJ, 8:30 am-4 pm

Sociology Conference
“Beyond the IRB: New Frontiers in the Ethics of Qualitative Research,” 2400 Posvar, 9:30 am-4 pm (8-7580)

HSLS Workshop
“Mobile Computing,” Roman Cibirka, Bitfor Husan & Rusu Sfurdura; 1010 BST, 10 am-4 pm

GSPIA Legacy Laureate Lecture
“Obesity, Physical Activity & Breast Cancer Diagnosis,” Lucile Adams-Campbell, UClub Ballroom, A, 10-10 am

WPPC Lecture
“Brain Monomoronic Oxidae A Binding & Major Depressive Disorder: Relationship to Phase of Illness,” Jeffrey Dette; 2nd fl. aud., 11 am-12:30 pm

PHLP Walking Tour
“Oakland’s Civic Center: Big Gifts & Big Dreams;” meet at Forbes Ave. & Schenley Dr. Ext. by the dinosaur, noon

Anthropology Lecture
“Dancing With the Invisible: Gender, Performance & the Cult of Mohomot Post-Colonial Congo,” Yolanda Cavington-Ward, African studies; 3106 Posvar, noon

Pharmacology of Science Lecture
“Time’s Arrow & Eddington’s Challenge,” Hugh Price, U of MN; 4130 Posvar, noon

Music Lecture
Joan Tower; PGH Symphony Orchestra; 132 Music, 4 pm (G-6125)

November

Monday 1

- Spring term enrollment begins.

Flu Shot Clinic
Pitt 1st fl. Gallery, 10 am-2 pm

Tuesday 2

HSLS Workshop
“Adobe Photoshop for Beginners,” Sam Lewis, PGH Library classes; 2, 10 am-Noon

CVR Seminar

GSPIA Innovation Lecture
“Designing Drugs Targeting Nuclear Receptors,” Thomas Burns; 456 Salk, noon

Health Services Research Seminar
“Patient & Population-Level Trade-Offs of Discontinuing Antiretroviral Therapy for HIV-Infected Individuals in Resource-Limited Settings,” April Kimmell, 105 Parkvale, noon

History Seminar
“Advances & Limitations in the Current Fight Against Racism in Cuba,” Tomas Fernandes; 4132 Posvar, noon

MMG Seminar
“Immune Cell Perturbations Induced by HIV-1 Nef,” Paul Jolicoeur; 501 Bridgeside Point 2, 1:15 pm

Pharmacology & Chemical Biology Seminar
“Living With Oxygen: Tales of Superoxide Dismutase,” Valeria Culotta, Johns Hopkins; 1395 Star Ballroom, 3:30 pm

Wednesday 3

Orthopaedic Surgery Grand Rounds
“Management of the Unstable Pelvis Fracture: Current Controversies,” Wade Smith, LHAS aud. 7th fl. Montefiore, 7 am

Pathology Research Seminar
“Pathogenesis of E. coli & Anaflagin Infection & Disease,” Nahid Ismail, Meharry Medical College; 1104 Scafe, noon (10-1004)

Thursday 4

GSPIA Innovation Lecture
“Metro Patterns & Regional Engagement,” Myron Orfield, U of MN; UClub Ballroom, A; 9 am (8-2282)

Epidemiology Seminar
“Creating a New Workforce (Dental Therapists) in Oral Health Care to Help Close the Access Gap just Does Not Have Teeth!” Robert Weyant & Richard Rubin; AI51 Catsree, noon

Asian Studies Lecture
“The Visual Presentation of Western Music in China During the 18th Century,” Lawrence Fox Ctr. Innovations in Vision Research, 1105 PPG, noon

ADRC Lecture
“The Diagnosis & Treatment of Dementia in Urban Catalonia, or Innocence AHEAD,” James Recky, psychiatry, neurology & psychology; 121 Star Ballroom, noon

Survival Skills & Ethics Brown Bag Lunch
“Careers Over Lunch,” 1105 Scafe, noon

Humanities Colloquium
“Humanities & Interhumanities,” Anthony Grafton; Pittsburgh, 602 CL, 12:30-2 pm

Law Lecture
“Disability Law & Policy,” Andrew Imparato, American Asn. of People With Disabilities; UClub Ballroom B; 1-2:30 pm (8-1418)

Geology & Planetary Science Colloquium
Salmo Iwema; Falk Library Conference Room

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Saturday 30

Nursing Conference
“Advances Breast Cancer, Living With Health & Wellness,” Shannon Puhalla, medicine; Gilda’s Club, 2816 Smallman St., Strip District, 8:30 am-2:30 pm (G-1889)

Football
Vs. Louisville; Heinz Field, noon

Monday 1

November

Monday 1

- Spring term enrollment begins.

Flu Shot Clinic
Pitt 1st fl. Gallery, 10 am-2 pm

Tuesday 2

HSLS Workshop
“Adobe Photoshop for Beginners,” Sam Lewis, PGH Library classes; 2, 10 am-Noon

CVR Seminar

GSPIA Innovation Lecture
“Designing Drugs Targeting Nuclear Receptors,” Thomas Burns; 456 Salk, noon

Health Services Research Seminar
“Patient & Population-Level Trade-Offs of Discontinuing Antiretroviral Therapy for HIV-Infected Individuals in Resource-Limited Settings,” April Kimmell, 105 Parkvale, noon

History Seminar
“Advances & Limitations in the Current Fight Against Racism in Cuba,” Tomas Fernandes; 4132 Posvar, noon

MMG Seminar
“Immune Cell Perturbations Induced by HIV-1 Nef,” Paul Jolicoeur; 501 Bridgeside Point 2, 1:15 pm

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