Chancellor pleads Pitt’s case to state legislators

Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg toured Pitt’s accomplishments and spoke out against the idea of shifting state funding for higher education from institution-based appropriations to a student-based system as part of a Sept. 12 state Senate appropriations committee hearing on campus.

The change comes as the result of a state law that will require the University to withhold the taxes for about 10,500 employees. Currently Pitt withholds the taxes for about 10,500 employees who live and work in the same municipality but other workers typically must file their own local tax formsquarterly.

Legislators finally settled on a budget that slashed the four schools’ appropriations by a total of about 12 percent, significantly less than the 54 percent cut initially proposed by Gov. Tom Ridge, who also floated the idea of phasing higher education funding to individual students rather than institutions. (See March 17 University Times)

Still, state appropriations for the four schools have fallen to 1995 levels, said minority chair Vincent J. Hughes (D-7). “That is significant.”

The overall 22 percent reduction in state support — most pronounced over the past decade during which Pitt’s appropriation was cut 10 times, Nordenberg said — has culminated in the most recent cut of 19 percent of Pitt’s general appropriation and 50 percent to academic medical center support.

Currently Pitt withholds the taxes for about 10,500 employees. Next year, that number is expected to rise to about 18,500, he said.

Act 32 also consolidated local wage tax collections by requiring tax jurisdictions within a defined geographic area to select a wage tax collector for their area. The legislation provides for a single tax collector per county, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

More information on the legislation can be found at www.newpa.com.

—Kimberly K. Bartholow

Employers to collect local wage taxes Jan.

Pitt’s payroll department is gearing up to begin withholding local wage taxes from the paychecks of most employees. The change comes as the result of a state law that will require the University to withhold the taxes for employees who live in Pennsylvania. Currently, employers withhold local taxes for employees who work and live in the same municipality but other workers typically must file their own local wage tax forms quarterly.

Under Act 32 of 2008, effective Jan. 1, employers will be required to withhold wage taxes that go to local municipalities and school districts for employees who reside in Pennsylvania. Employers initially will need to collect a certificate of residency from all employees stating the county and municipality in which they live. Workers will need to file certificates of residency when they are hired or when they have a name or address change.

The changes aim to simplify tax collections statewide. While they will save many workers from the effort of filing their own local tax forms and ultimately streamlining collections for employers, payroll offices are busy adjusting their systems in time for the deadline.

Pitt Payroll director Daniel Jeffreys said logistics still are being worked out, but employees University-wide should be receiving a mailing in early- to mid-October to verify their addresses.

Currently Pitt withholds the taxes for about 10,500 employees. Next year, that number is expected to rise to about 18,500, he said.

Act 12 also consolidated local wage tax collections by requiring tax jurisdictions within a defined geographic area to select a wage tax collector for their area. The legislation provides for a single tax collector per county, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

More information on the legislation can be found at www.newpa.com.

—Kimberly K. Bartholow

UPMC outlines prelim Oakland plans

UPMC officials this week unveiled a preliminary proposal for expanding the Health System’s Oakland campus.

The major component of the 10-year plan, which still needs approval from the UPMC board, various city planning departments and City Council, is to raze the remaining building of the Oakland Children’s Hospital and build a 12-story facility on the DeSoto Street-Fifth Avenue site.

“Some of you have seen the end result of the tearing down of the DeSoto [Street] wing of Children’s Hospital and replacing the area with grass and keeping that ground fertile for future expansion,” said John Innocenti, president of UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside, at a community information meeting held Sept. 12 that drew an audience of about 20.

Before any new construction can begin, however, several steps must be taken, he noted. “Right now all our clinical pathology labs are in the main building that is going to be torn down.”

—Kimberly K. Bartholow
Pitt called pollution scofflaw for not posting diesel signs

A nonprofit environmental group recently accused the University of being "an air pollution scofflaw," citing Pitt's failure to post signs alerting drivers to the 2008 state law banning idling by certain diesel vehicles. The director of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) here said Pitt already was on its way to complying with the law before the scofflaw charges were leveled.

In a press release issued by Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future (PittFuture), Tiffany Hickman, western Pennsylvania outreach coordinator for the citizens organization, stated, "We were astonished to find that Pitt is in violation of this important law. Diesel idling contributes to our region's dirty air because of Pennsylvania's severe air pollution problem ... yet Pitt has no signs that would lead to cleaning up this pollution.

The Diesel Powered Motor Vehicle Idling Act (Pennsylvania Act 124), was enacted in February 2009, requires that property owners post permanent signs where "diesel subject vehicles," that is, commercial vehicles weighing more than 5 tons, are parked and idled in any location that provides 15 or more parking spaces for such vehicles.

The law requires owners and drivers of diesel-powered motor vehicles engaged in commerce (as opposed to private use) from idling for more than five minutes in any continuous 60-minute period, with exceptions for extreme weather conditions, vehicle maintenance and emergencies.

(Under the law, diesel-powered buses, school buses and school vehicles may idle for 15 minutes in a continuous 60-minute period when passengers are on board.)

In response to the PittFuture allegations, EH&S director Jay Freerotte told the University Times, "Prior to PittFuture targeting Pitt about a lack of speciﬁc signage in parking areas for large vehicles, the University had initiated planning to address the installation of these signs where necessary."

In addition, Freerotte continued, "Signs with identical intent already exist in certain loading dock areas at the University, but these signs will be replaced with signs that conform to the current specification," that is, to read precisely "No Idling, Diesel Powered Vehicles Over 5 Tons, Act 124 of 2008" as required by the law.

"Pitt's plan to provide additional signage where applicable will include only buildings owned by Pitt. University stakeholders will be consulted to determine sign locations in the coming weeks," Freerotte said.

He added, "Pitt has an excellent record for reducing air pollution in the county, as exemplified by several recent environmental stewardship awards and the construction of our state-of-the-art steam generation plant that uses natural gas as a fuel to fire boilers with exceedingly low emission of air pollutants."

—Peter Hart

GSPH: A "breastfeeding friendly" place

The Allegheny County Health Department has named the Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH) a winner in its 16th annual Breastfeeding Friendly Place Awards. The awards recognize workplaces, public places and other sites away from home that make an extra effort to accommodate breastfeeding mothers.

Instituted as the Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace Awards in 1996, these awards were expanded in 2002 to include an environment that makes it easier to breastfeed away from home.

Even though state law expressly allows women to breastfeed in public, the Association of Women in Public Health says one of the keys to extending breastfeeding times is making places outside the home more breastfeeding friendly, including workplaces that go beyond the minimum requirements for an employer to express breast milk under the U.S. Fair Labor Standards Act.

Honored in the workplace category for creating a supportive environment, GSPH provides a private office as a lactation room.

UPMC end-of-life program honored

UPMC recently was recognized for programs that improve the care of patients near the end of life or with life-threatening conditions. The American Hospital Association awarded UPMC with a Circle of Life Citation of Honor.

The award honors programs that strive to provide effective, patient-centered, timely, safe and efficient palliative and end-of-life care.

UPMC was selected by leaders in medical education, social work, ethics and health administration.

The committee focused on innovative programs that respect patient goals and preferences, provide comprehensive care, acknowledge and address the family or caregivers’ concerns and needs, and build systems and mechanisms of support to continue the program for future patients and caregivers.

Flu shot clinics planned

Seasonal flu shots will be provided through Nov. at select Pittsburgh campus locations.

In addition, Falk Pharmacy will provide the seasonal flu shot 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Thursdays Sept. 29-Dec. 22 on the second floor of the Falk Medical Building.

Flu is a contagious disease caused by the influenza virus, which can be spread by coughing, sneezing or nasal secretions.

Like last year, only one vaccine is necessary this year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This year’s flu vaccine is designed to protect against the three main flu strains that research indicates will cause the most illness during the flu season. CDC recommends the influenza vaccination for all people ages 6 months and older. Additional guidelines are provided directly to the school's website.

All the flu clinics, Pitt faculty and staff with UPMC Health Plan coverage can receive a flu shot at no cost.

However, they must show valid UPMC Health Plan ID cards. The claim for the flu shot will be forwarded directly to the insurance carrier by flu clinic administrators.

UPMC Health Plan members also can get a flu shot from a participating provider at no out-of-pocket cost.

If plan members go to a clinic or pharmacy that is not a UPMC Health Plan participant, they will need to pay for the flu shot at the time of service and file a claim for reimbursement. Forms can be accessed at www.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/COM- FluReimbursementForm.pdf.

Flu shot clinics will be held:

• Sept. 17, lecture room 6 Scalf Hall, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
• Sept. 26, 540 & 542 William Pitt Union, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
• Sept. 29, Student Health Service, Suite 500, Medical Arts Building, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
• Oct. 1, 102 Benedum Hall, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
• Oct. 10, Povar Hall Gallery, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
• Oct. 12, Student Health Service, Suite 500, Medical Arts Building, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
• Oct. 20, Student Health Service, Suite 500, Medical Arts Building, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
• Oct. 24, 5th floor conference room Bridgeside Point Building, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
• Nov. 1, 342 Craig Hall, noon-2 p.m.

For more information, call Falk Pharmacy Communications Care, 412/647-4003, or the Student Health Service, 412/383-1800, www.health Pitt.edu.

Flu shot clinics also will be held on the regional campuses and at the Mechanicsburg satellite location.

Mechanicsburg has a clinic scheduled for Oct. 4 in room 2 of the Computer Building, noon-2 p.m.

Pitt-Greensburg is offering flu shots Sept. 26, 219 Student Union, 9 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m.

Flu clinics at the Bradford and Johnstown campuses are in the planning stages.

Flu season typically runs from December through March, peaking in January and February, but can start as early as October and last until May, according to CDC.

Protection against influenza virus infection takes about two weeks after vaccination to develop fully in the body.

For more information is available at www.cdc.gov/flu/about/seasons/flu-season-2011-2012.htm.

—Peter Hart
Pitt moved up spots to No. 58 among the nation's PhD-granting universities in the 2012 edition of the Times Higher Education World "America's Best Colleges" rankings. Pitt tied with Connecticut, Florida State and Xavier University for 64th. Among the 118 national public institutions ranked by US News, Pitt tied for 19th, with the same three schools as on the list, up from 23rd the year prior. Pitt tied for 23rd among the publics. Carnegie and Princeton tied at the top of the overall list this year, followed by Yale and Columbia, with Stanford and Harvard in third, with five schools tied in fourth, all American public institutions. The University of California-Berkeley, which was ranked 21st overall, again held the top spot among the publics, followed by the University of Virginia (tied for 23rd overall), the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor (tied for 23rd) and North Carolina-Chapel Hill (29th overall). In addition, Penn, Pennsylvania institutions ranked by U.S. News among the overall top 300 national universities (including Pitt), national liberal arts colleges, regional universities, and regional colleges. However, as a result of this latest Carnegie classification revision, more than 100 colleges have switched ranking categories (for example, from national liberal arts colleges to regional colleges, or vice versa) and some schools have been added to the rankings for the first time. In such cases, the category changes were the main explanation for the biggest movements in this year's rankings, according to the magazine.

For the first time, U.S. News has ranked for-profit colleges and universities that grant bachelor's degrees, are regionally accredited and were eligible to be ranked based on whether they met the U.S. News criteria to be included in the rankings. The for-profits include many schools that have large online bachelor's programs.

Overall, U.S. News breaks down approximately 1,400 of the schools it ranks into 17 subject categories, including public and private institutions. Among national institutions, the magazine ranks the top 200, including ties.

National universities are defined by U.S. News as those institutions that "offer a wide range of undergraduate and graduate academic excellence by providing a broad range of advanced studies, programs and courses in the arts and sciences, professions, and the humanities; offer graduate degrees in at least five fields; and have at least 10,000 students." The magazine also annually ranks graduate programs. See March 12 story for more details following the publication of its grad school rankings. U.S. News ranked 111 of its 12 engineering specialties, academic specialty areas, reverting to rankings from the previous year.

Methodology

U.S. News gathers data from the institutions each year. According to the magazine, 92 percent of the 1,378 schools returned surveys supplying data for this year's rankings. Missing data were drawn from sources such as the American Association of University Professors, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the Council for Aid to Education, the Commission of Graduate Education, the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

For the first time this year, in the case of colleges that have changed class sizes, the magazine used separate weighted scores for the same year's rankings. Missing data were drawn from sources such as the American Association of University Professors, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the Council for Aid to Education, the Commission of Graduate Education, the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

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UPMC outlines Oakland plans

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In the case of Pittsburgh, graduates in this category, 2010-11 net cost of attendance for an out-of-state student who received the average level of need-based financial aid.

The need-based aid factor is percentage received out of a state.

Carnell Mellon was ranked 8th and Penn State tied for 17

To arrive at the business program

Also ranked by

Among the

The University of Pittsburgh, as an educational institution and as an

For the Best Colleges 2011

 Pitt moves up 6 spots in 2012

U.S. News undergraduate rankings

Pitt again appeared in a number of special categories listed by U.S. News

• In the Best Value Schools category, Pitt ranked 45th nationally

UPMC again receives

“Most Wired” honors

For the 13th consecutive year, UPMC has been named

U.S. News surveyed deans and senior faculty at undergraduate business programs accredited by the Association to Advance

Pitt ranked 16th overall among such programs

The purpose of that is intended

At that point, “what’s left of

Pitt-Titusville, primarily a

University of Pittsburgh

Nondiscrimination Policy Statement

The University of Pittsburgh, as an educational institution and as an

For complete details on the University’s Nondiscrimination Policy, please refer to Policy 07-03-01. Individuals who wish to file a complaint under this Policy, please refer to Procedure 07-03-01.
Chancellor pleads Pitt’s case to state legislators

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What others had to say

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told, was driven by math. Put simply, there was a huge budget deficit to close. Time was short, those in charge essentially needed to make cuts wherever they could find the money. But this is a new budget-building year. Hopefully and with this insight, 2011 can be a year in which more careful thought can be given to the long-term sequences in charting the pathway we will be traveling together.”

Nordenberg traced the Uni-

versity’s progress in the 45 years since it became a state-related institution.

What could not have been anticipated, he said, “is the extent to which the impact of its work would become so central to regional economic development.”

In that time, Nordenberg said, Pitt has awarded 287,000 degrees and faculty have attracted $10.5 billion in research grants. Research expenditures rose from less than $21 million 45 years ago to more than $800 million currently, Nordenberg said, adding that research expenditures support some 29,000 local jobs and that Pitt attracts more than $3.5 billion in research funding for every dollar of the state appropriation it receives.

In addition, education and health services is the Pittsburgh region’s largest industry sector, employing one in five local work-

ers.

However, Nordenberg said, “Even extraordinary returns of the kind that Pitt has made on investments. This is true whether those investments were in real estate or in research.”

Student concerns

SGB’s Molly Steiber testi-

fied that, as the youngest of four siblings, affordability was an important consideration when she chose a college.

“In my opinion, and in the opinion of many other Pitt students, $30,000-$40,000 a year for an out-of-state or private education is hard to justify when there is an opportunity to receive in-state tuition and a top-of-the-

line education at Pitt,” she said.

Chancellor Mark A. Nor-

denberg, Student Government Board President Molly Steiber, member Graham Hatfull of biological sciences and Board of Trustees chair Stephen R. Trichter, among the speakers who presented testimony to the state Senate appropri-

ations committee hearing on campus.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6
returns are measured arithmetically, by dollars generated that flow through the local economy, or in more human terms, by lives enhanced through the power of education or lives improved through the products of research or lives fulfilled by the opportunity to hold a job and engage in meaningful work.”

Nordenberg told the committee that the cuts the University has endured aren’t fair or appropriate, given the return on investment Pitt provides, nor are they good for the state’s future.

“It does seem as if everyone felt trapped by the numbers last year,” Nordenberg said, adding that the discussion needs to turn toward longer-term directions for restoring higher education funding.

“We’d like to have a discussion on the appropriate path to restoration as the state’s revenue picture becomes clearer, he said.

Higher ed vouchers?

Committee member Jay Costa (D-43) asked Nordenberg about the impact of moving to a student voucher-type system in funding for higher education.

“The issue, Nordenberg said, “has a naturally divisive potential.” In arguing against the approach, Nordenberg clarified that he is not speaking against independent institutions of higher education nor against financial aid for students.

“Sometimes when you hear dollars follow the students”, the language has such a superficial appeal that you almost sit back and become reluctant to criticize it, but I do think such an approach is fundamentally flawed for a range of reasons,” Nordenberg said.

“It’s really the higher education equivalent of the voucher systems that have been proposed in basic education, those systems almost always are grounded in the argument that they are designed to help students who are prisoners in low-performing school districts.”

“Well, there are no prisoners in higher education and certainly there are not performance problems of that type within public higher education,” Nordenberg said. “America’s public research universities remain the envy of the world.”

The approach also ignores the contributions made by public universities and the scale that is needed to deliver on those contributions, the chancellor said.

“Think about what it takes to attract $800 million in research support every year. You need a large, strong university. If you took the state support from the University of Pittsburgh that’s helped build us into an institution that can attract those kinds of funds and spread it out to 100 other universities, it’s not as if each of them would return $1/100th of that amount to the economy of western Pennsylvania or would make the kind of contributions to the future strength of society, when it comes to that part of our mission.

It makes sense to concentrate investments in institutions that can deliver on their assigned goals, Nordenberg said, adding that the same is likely true for community colleges which provide vocational programs or remedial education.

“I have never heard anyone explain how the math works,” Nordenberg said. In comparison to tuition differential offered today, “No matter how you work the numbers, it almost always works to the disadvantage of the students.”

He also pointed out the recent “messes and controversies” in federal funding for higher education.

Although there is an appeal to the idea that students be free to invest money for education wherever they wish, “What we have seen from the federal experience is that students, subjected to the right kinds of marketing, are often likely to invest those dollars in programs for which they may not be particularly suited, in institutions that do not have reputations for quality, and end up without having productive alternatives in life after having traveled down that path.”

Nordenberg said, “If you’re investing in Pitt students through your investments in the University of Pittsburgh, you really are helping high-quality students who already have demonstrated their commitment to work or they wouldn’t have built the records that got them admitted in the first place. And they’re earning degrees from an institution that is respected,” he said, an advantage that will give them a leg up on future opportunities as they embark on their careers.

Sen. Jim Ferlo (D-38), minority vice chair, asked whether a position paper on the issue was being developed, adding that he would find such information helpful.

Nordenberg said, “We are prepared to step forward and analyze the impact of ongoing appropriation reductions.”

In light of the fact that the state-related schools have been reduced to 1955-level appropriations, minority chair Hughes inquired about how that level of funding might cripple the University’s mission in the future.

“If we held to the status quo, it would be a lot better than another year of disproportionate cuts. But it still would put us in a position where we would be squeezed in very significant ways,” Nordenberg said.

In addition to maintaining the University’s employment base and keeping tuition levels “reasonable,” the chancellor said the University would like to be involved in the kinds of public outreach consistent with its tradition.

“Those are things, too, that it’s very difficult to turn to students and say, ‘There are 1,000 special-needs patients in the dental clinic and we just lost the funding. Can we make that up through tuition increases?’ Clearly we can’t. It’s a package of pressures and a package of problems that will continue.”

—Kimberly K. Barlow
What are rights of faculty & staff who also are students?

Question: When should a faculty member not be treated as a faculty member?

Answer: When said faculty member also is enrolled as a student.

That dual status of faculty-member-student, and by extension staff-member-student, was the crux of a discussion at the Sept. 6 Faculty Assembly meeting, where members pondered why the University does not extend the rights and privileges of a student to faculty and staff who are enrolled in classes.

Assembly member Linda Hartman said that last spring term she was denied access to printing at the student computer lab in Sutherland Hall, which requires a student ID card, even though she was enrolled in classes and had paid the student computing fee.

That anecdote kicked off a discussion about whether the University should issue separate student ID cards to enrolled employees or otherwise amend the identification system to afford those employees access to student discounts for athletic event tickets, Pitt Arts events and other bargains, both within and outside the University.

Similarly, Assembly members noted an imbalance favoring faculty and staff who enjoy free Port Authority rides that are financed largely through the student transportation fee.

University Senate President Michael Pinsky said, “I believe this is an important question. The people who have dual responsibilities, for us it’s faculty and student, but it could be staff and student, what is their status with regard to printing and other privileges?”

“I do believe that if you’re a student, you should have the rights and privileges of a student, regardless of any other status,” Period,” he continued. “No matter how old you are, you still should get all the benefits. Unless there’s something I’m missing.”

Pinsky cautioned that he was not arguing for a one-size-fits-all approach to all privileges, because there are differences established by Pitt’s administration for faculty status, staff status and student status.

For more information, call 1-855/588-6542.

UPMC Health Plan portal outage planned

UPMC officials have announced a planned outage of both the UPMC Health Plan member portal and employer portal from 7:30 p.m. today (Sept. 15) until 9 a.m. Sept. 19.

The portals will be unavailable to users during this time.

During the outage UPMC will be upgrading the system’s software.

The secure portal can be accessed at www.upmchealthplan.com/login.html.

SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

Godzilla escapes from Parran Hall

Actually, the gaping hole in the Parran Hall auditorium wall is part of the renovation and expansion underway at the Graduate School of Public Health.

Lung cancer screening clinic set up

UPMC has established a new specialty clinic that will offer early lung cancer screening using low-dose helical CT scanning. That technique was proven in a national trial to reduce deaths because tumors were detected early when treatment is more effective.

The Lung Nodule Clinic is intended to screen current and former heavy smokers, said Christopher Faber, medical director of the UPMC Comprehensive Lung Center. Smoking remains the leading cause of lung cancer, the most common cancer in adults.

Patients will be evaluated to see if they are candidates for the screening test,” Faber explained. “If they are, they will participate in a one-hour, eight-person, group-educational session led by a nurse coordinator, followed by a low-dose helical CT scan. The educational session will include smoking cessation information.

A low-dose helical CT scan, also referred to as spiral CT, uses X-rays to obtain a multiple-image scan of the chest during a 15-second breath-hold. Results of the CT scan will be sent to the patient and the patient’s primary care physician.

This clinic grew out of the findings of the National Cancer Institute’s national lung screening trial, which compared the effects of two screening procedures for lung cancer — low-dose helical CT scans and standard chest X-ray — on lung cancer mortality. The study found 20 percent fewer lung cancer deaths and a 7 percent reduction in overall mortality among the trial participants who were screened with low-dose helical CT.

The lung screening program currently is not covered by insurance. The $200 fee includes the nurse coordinator-led class, CT scan and valet parking.

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Blackboard 9.1 is now at Pitt!

Blackboard Upgrade Provides Easier Editing

Students and faculty who use CourseWeb/Blackboard will notice faster editing tools and easier navigation since the University of Pittsburgh upgraded to version 9.1.

Bb9.1 provides more user-friendly tools teamed with fewer mouse clicks and improved features.

For more information visit the CourseWeb/Bb9 Support Site: www.cidee.pitt.edu/bb9.
The Department of Studio Arts faculty exhibit, "On a Lucky Day a Surprising Balance of Forms and Spaces Will Appear," will run through Oct. 21 in the University Art Gallery, Frick Fine Arts Building. The show features the work of 14 faculty members, encompassing paintings, drawings, prints, video and mixed media.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 10 a.m.-7 p.m. on Thursday. The gallery is closed Oct. 10 during fall break.

Four artist talks, each beginning with the show: Sept. 21, Paul Glabicki and Scott Turri; Sept. 28, Kenneth Batista and Julie Stund; Oct. 5, Delanie Jenkins and Barbara Weissberger, and Oct. 12, Aaron Henderson and Michael Morrill.

For additional information visit www.studioarts.pitt.edu or call 412/648-2430.
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Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 10 a.m.-7 p.m. on Thursday. The gallery is closed Oct. 10 during fall break.

Four artist talks, each beginning at noon, are scheduled in conjunction with the show: Sept. 21, Paul Glabicki and Scott Turri; Sept. 28, Kenneth Batista and Julie Stunden; Oct. 5, Delanie Jenkins and Barbara Weissberger, and Oct. 12, Aaron Henderson and Michael Morrill.

For additional information visit www.studioarts.pitt.edu or call 412/648-2430.

Above: “Self Portrait with Gladiolas” by Stephen Hankin
Above: “Hornets’ Nest” by JoAnna Commandaros
At left: “The River Bank” by Scott Turri
At right: A reception guest views the video installation “Parabolic Fountain Music” by Aaron Henderson with sound by University of Virginia faculty member Ted Coffey.
Deaths, strokes halt stent study

A nationwide clinical trial involving 451 patients at high risk for a second stroke has found that those who received intensive medical treatment had fewer strokes and deaths than patients who received a brain stent in addition to the medical treatment. Investigators from UPMC and 49 other sites around the country published the results recently in the online edition of the New England Journal of Medicine.

New enrollment in the study was stopped in April because early data showed significantly more strokes and deaths in the stented patients at the 30-day mark compared to those who received the medical management alone.

Researchers involved in the NIH-Stenting vs. Aggressive, Medical Management for Preventing Recurrent Stroke in Intracranial Stenosis (SAMMPRIS) study looked at whether patients had a second stroke or died within 30 days of enrollment, or had a stroke in the same area of the brain from 30 days to the end of follow-up. Investigators had hypothesized that compared to intensive medical therapy alone, the addition of an intracranial stenting system would decrease the risk of a stroke or death by 35 percent over two years. Instead they found that 14.7 percent of patients (33) in the stenting group experienced a stroke or died within the first 30 days after enrollment, compared with 5.8 percent (13) of patients treated with medical therapy alone. There were five stroke-related deaths within 30 days, all in the stenting group, and one non-stroke-related death in the medical management group.

During a follow-up period of just less than one year, 20.5 percent of patients in the stenting group experienced a stroke or death, or a stroke in the same area of the brain beyond 30 days, a highly significant difference in favor of the patients in the study’s medical group.

Based on these data, the Data and Safety Monitoring Board recommended that the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke stop enrollment, and the NIH issued a clinical alert. All patients will continue to be followed for two years to determine long-term effects of both interventions.

One possible explanation for the higher stroke rate in the group that got a stent, which self-expands to widen a major artery in the brain to facilitate blood flow, is that patients who have had recent stroke symptoms sometimes have unstable plaque in their arteries that the stent could have dislodged, researchers suggested. The study device, the Gateway-Wingspan intracranial angioplasty and stenting system, is the only system currently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for certain high-risk stroke patients. The authors noted that although similar stenting systems that do not have FDA approval are being used in clinical practice, they did not evaluate those devices in this study.

The researchers also emphasized that the study participants were in the highest-risk category, with blockage or narrowing of arteries of 70-99 percent. Stroke patients with moderate cerebral arterial blockage (50-69 percent) were excluded because their risk of stroke is low with good medical management, and researchers thought this group would be unlikely to benefit from treatment.

Tudor G. Jovin, director of the UPMC Stroke Institute and co-principal investigator at the UPMC study site, said, “One of the most important observations from SAMMPRIS is that in keeping with findings from multiple other cardiovascular trials, the great progress in terms of event reduction achieved in the past decade by medical therapy also applies to symptomatic intracranial atherosclerotic disease.”

Therefore, for patients who met SAMMPRIS eligibility criteria, we found that aggressive medical therapy regimens, similar to those used in SAMMPRIS, were superior to angioplasty and stenting with the Gateway balloon and Wingspan stent system.”

Participants’ intensive medical management included a daily dosage of 325 milligrams of aspirin and 75 milligrams a day of clopidogrel (used to prevent blood clots) for 90 days, and aggressive management of key stroke risk factors — high blood pressure and high levels of low density lipoprotein (LDL), the unhealthy form of cholesterol.

All patients also participated in a lifestyle modification program focused on quitting smoking, increasing exercise and controlling diabetes and cholesterol.

Vick K. Reddy, a faculty member in neurology and medical director for hospital information technology, also is a co-principal investigator at the UPMC study site.

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke funded the trial.

The researchers previously noted increased rates of psychiatric disorders in the children prior to their deaths, not only among those who died from suicide but also among those who died from accidental and sudden natural death, suggesting a pre-existing vulnerability in their children that puts them at higher risk for adverse psychiatric outcomes following their deaths.

The research team examined the wellbeing of the children’s surviving caregivers, as previous research consistently shown that it is a significant predictor of the children’s overall wellbeing. They found that the presence of complicated grief in the surviving parent and in the child were particularly strongly associated with depression in children up to three years after the death.

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“For these findings have important clinical implications for intervention and prevention efforts,” noted Melhem. “We believe it is imperative to assess the surviving parent and intervene when appropriate to improve the outcome of paren tally bereaved children. Treatment of prolonged grief in children may require interventions that are family focused, rather than individually focused. Preventive interventions should target not only the 10 percent of bereaved children with prolonged grief, but also the 30 percent with increased grief reactions as they also showed increased incidences of depression.”

Pitt co-authors of the study included David A. Brent, Giovanna Porta and Monica Walker Payne, all of the Department of Psychiatry.

This study was supported by the National Institute of Mental Health and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.
PittBenefits

Office of Human Resources • September 2011

Flu Shot Clinics on Campus

Preparations have been made to conduct flu shot clinics throughout the University. The schedule is included in this newsletter. It may also be found online at www.hr.pitt.edu. A bad case of flu can leave you with symptoms of fever, congestion, fatigue and body aches. And, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), from 5% to 20% of the U.S. population gets the flu each year. More than 200,000 people are hospitalized each year as a result of flu complications; 3,000 - 49,000 deaths are linked to the flu annually.

Vaccine experts recommended that everyone 6 months and older get a flu vaccine each year starting with the 2010-2011 influenza season. CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends “universal” flu vaccination in the United States to expand protection against the flu to more people. It also encourages flu shots be administered to anyone with certain chronic medical conditions, pregnant women, people living in nursing homes or other long-term care facilities, health care workers, anyone who has daily household contact with people in those risk groups, and household contacts and caregivers of children younger than 6 months old.

CDC recommends that people get their seasonal flu vaccine as soon as the vaccine becomes available. Vaccination before December is best since this timing ensures that protective antibodies are in place before flu activity typically is at its highest. CDC continues to encourage people to get vacci- nated throughout the flu season, which can begin as early as October and last as late as May.

The 2011-2012 vaccine will protect against an influenza A H3N2 virus, an influenza B virus and the H1N1 virus that emerged in 2009 to cause a pandemic. Talk to your doctor to confirm if the flu shot is right for you. In addition, make sure those around you are immunized against flu so this viral infection does not become a “family affair” in your home.

At all the flu clinics, Pitt faculty and staff with UPMC Health Plan coverage can receive a flu shot at no out-of-pocket cost; however, they must show their valid University and UPMC Health Plan ID cards. The claim for the flu shot will be for-warded directly to the insurance carrier by UPMC admin-istrators. UPMC Health Plan members also may obtain a flu shot from a participating provider at no out-of-pocket cost. If plan members go to a clinic or pharmacy that is not participat-ing with UPMC Health Plan, they will need to pay for the flu shot at the time of service and file a claim for reimbursement.

Pittsburgh Campus Flu Shot Clinics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 19</td>
<td>Schrift Hall</td>
<td>Lecture Rm. 6</td>
<td>10 am - 2 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 26</td>
<td>WPU</td>
<td>540 &amp; 542</td>
<td>10 am - 2 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 29</td>
<td>Medical Arts</td>
<td>5th fl, cor. fl.</td>
<td>11 am - 2 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 3</td>
<td>Benwood</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>10 am - 2 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 10</td>
<td>Posvar Library</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>10 am - 2 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>Medical Arts</td>
<td>5th fl, cor. fl</td>
<td>11 am - 2 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 20</td>
<td>Medical Arts</td>
<td>5th fl, cor. fl</td>
<td>11 am - 2 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 24</td>
<td>Bridgeport Pt.</td>
<td>5th fl, cor. fl</td>
<td>10 am - 2 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 1</td>
<td>Craig</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>Noon - 2 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fall Pharmacy will also offer flu shots on each Tuesday and Thursday, 9 am - 3 pm, September through December.

Regional Campus Flu Shot Clinics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Campus/Building</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 26</td>
<td>Titusville/Student Union</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>9 am - noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 4</td>
<td>Mechanic Avenue/1st Floor Office</td>
<td>Room 2</td>
<td>noon-2 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>Greensburg/Chambers Hall</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>3 - 6 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Financial Planning and Counseling in Turbulent Economic Times

Have you checked the stock market lately? It is up one day and down the next. The market has been on a roller coaster ride recently with no end in sight. Many choose to ride out the ups and downs of the market. Generally this is a good prac- tice, but it is also a good idea to obtain a better understand- ing of your savings portfolio and determine if any mid-course adjustments need to be made. The good news is that you do not have to take this on by yourself. Both TIAA-CREF and Vanguard have experts on campus to guide you.

Joseph Grunwald, CFP, senior consultant, in the field consult- ing group for the Pittsburgh office of TIAA-CREF, is responsible for helping faculty and staff members make smart choices with their retirement plan assets, a role he has played since joining TIAA-CREF in 1999. Joe is a native of Pittsburgh and a 12-year veteran of the financial services industry. He has been a registered representative with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) since 1995, and earned his certified financial planner certification in February 2003. He graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Science degree in finance.

Charles Rice and Dan Tatorma are also consultants in the field consulting group for the Pittsburgh office of TIAA-CREF. Chuck has been in his role with TIAA-CREF since July 2007. He is a 25-year veteran of the financial services industry. Chuck has been a registered representative with FINRA since 2005, and earned his certified employee benefits specialist license in 2000. He graduated from Robert Morris College with a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in business management.

Dan has occupied his position at TIAA-CREF since Febru- ary 2010. He is a 12-year veteran of the financial services industry. He is fully licensed in the State of Pennsylvania for both securities and life insurance, and has been a registered representative with FINRA since 1999. Dan graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor of Arts degree in business and economics.

Eric Askew, CRPC®, is a retirement planning counselor with Vanguard’s institutional retirement plan services and has been in the financial services industry since 1998. His primary responsibilities are to offer one-on-one counseling sessions to employees of Vanguard’s 403(b) clients. Eric has worked with a variety of higher education institutions and with the University of Pittsburgh since 2005. He is on campus and available to meet with you through scheduled appointments. Eric is a graduate of Franklin & Marshall College. In addition to obtaining the chartered retirement planning counselor designation, Eric is FINRA series 7, 6, and 65 licensed.

You may meet with a counselor by yourself but are welcome to bring your spouse or domestic partner.

To schedule an appointment with a financial advisor

| TIAA-CREF | 1-877-209-3136 |
| Vanguard | 1-800-662-0106 x 14500 or www.meetvanguard.com |

To contact the participant services department

(Take changes in investments, ask questions about your account, check balances, etc.)

| TIAA-CREF | 1-800-682-9139 |
| Vanguard | 1-800-523-1188 |

Web sites

Visit the web sites (to review your account, use on-line tools for projections, check balances and make changes in your investments, etc.)

| TIAA-CREF | www.tiaa-cref.org/pitt |
| Vanguard | www.vanguard.com |

Follow market activity

You can follow the latest updates from the TIAA-CREF and Vanguard perspectives by following the link within the Announ- cements section of the Human Resources home page at www.hr.pitt.edu.

TIAA-CREF and Vanguard will set up counseling sessions in your building

Both TIAA-CREF and Vanguard will accommodate departments when possible by setting up one-on-one counseling sessions within a department or campus building. To make it practical to do so, they would need to set up five to six sessions at any given site on a particular day. They will need a private room/office with a table and chairs that can accommodate two to three people. Please contact Stan Charul at 412-624-8667 in the Benefits department if your department is interested.

Important Vendor Contact Information

Benefits Department
Office hours: 8 am - 5 pm EST
320 Craig Hall
412-624-8100 (Main Line) • 412-624-3485 (Fax)
www.hr.pitt.edu/benefits
Please visit our web site for FAQs, downloadable forms and other benefits information.

Medical
UPMC Health Plan
1-888-499-6885 • www.upmchealthplan.com
Dental
United Concordia
1-877-215-3616 • www.ucdc.com
Vision
Davis Vision
1-800-999-5431 • www.davision.com
Retirement/Savings
TIAA-CREF
1-800-682-9139 • www.tiaa-cref.org/pitt
Vanguard
1-800-523-1188 • www.vanguard.com
Flexible Spending Accounts
UPMC
1-888-499-6885 • www.upmchealthplan.com/myflex
LifeSolutions
1-800-647-3432
www.hr.pitt.edu/worklife-balance/health-wellness/life
Payroll
412-624-9070
www.bc.pitt.edu/payroll/index.html
Faculty Records
412-624-4232
Suit against former Pitt cop settled

Pitt's green efforts have placed the University at No. 52 out of 118 institutions in Sierra Magazine's annual list of "coolest schools," which ranks the nation's colleges and universities according to their environmental practices and sustainability-oriented education.

Pitt scored 60 out of 100 possible points. The University of California at Berkeley is tied for first place with 81.2 points. The University of Texas at Austin is No. 1.

"Green" efforts place Pitt No. 52 in Sierra Magazine rankings

Laura Zullo, Facilities Management, said the University placed in the middle of the pack among schools interested in sustainability-oriented education. "This is pleasing the University," she said.

"The magazine's ranking is a guide for prospective students, faculty and alumni who want to know where Pitt's green efforts are placed," Zullo added.

Pitt's first year participating in the survey.

The full report, including a list of "coolest schools," can be viewed at www.sierraclub.org/sierra/201109/coolschools.

—Kimberly K. Barlow

Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Awards

The Award: This award annually recognizes teaching excellence by members of the University of Pittsburgh's faculty. Up to five awards may be given annually. Each award consists of a cash prize to the faculty member of $2,000 and a $1,000 grant to support the faculty member's teaching activities.

Definition: Teaching is defined broadly and includes all activities that influence students. Teaching is carried out by undergraduates, professional, or graduate students; lecturing; clinical teaching; conducting seminars, tutorials, or recitations; etc. Excellence is based on the quality of teaching, including the quality of the learning experience for the students, the quality of the materials that support the learning experience, and the quality of the learning outcomes achieved.

Senior Scholar Awards include faculty members who have completed a substantial and continuing contribution to outstanding teaching and learning. Nominees in this category must have achieved preeminence in their field and be so recognized in support of national and international leaders in the field. In unusual circumstances, referees cannot be friends or colleagues of the nominees.

Junior Scholar Awards include faculty members who, by virtue of the exceptional quality of their early contributions, have demonstrated great potential as scholars who have achieved significant contributions to the field. Candidates for this award must have received their highest degree more than 12 years before the time of nomination.

Eligibility: Any full-time faculty member who has served for at least three years at the University of Pittsburgh is eligible to be nominated for a Chancellor's Distinguished Public Service Award.

Nominations: Any member of the University community may make a nomination. A nomination consists of a letter from the nominator and a letter of support from a colleague. The University will keep nominations on file for up to two years in case of eligibility for a future award. Nomination letters are due by October 31, 2011, and should be sent to: Dr. Andrew R. Blair, 826 Cathedral of Learning, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

Nominations will be held publicly.

Eligibility: Any tenured or tenure-stream, full-time faculty member who has served for at least three years at the University of Pittsburgh is eligible to be nominated for a Chancellor's Distinguished Research Award.

Nominations: Any member of the University community may make a nomination. A nomination consists of a letter from the nominator and a letter of support from a colleague. The University will keep nominations on file for up to two years in case of eligibility for a future award. Nomination letters are due by October 31, 2011, and should be sent to: Dr. Andrew R. Blair, 826 Cathedral of Learning, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.
Ron Binder, associate dean of student affairs and coordinator of judicial affairs at the Bradford campus, has been elected as co-chair of the Fraternity and Sorority Knowledge Community of NASPA, an association for the advancement, health and sustainability of the student affairs community.

School of Medicine

Alejandro Soto-Gutierrez has joined the Division of Experimental Pathological Medicine as an assistant professor of pathology. Formerly a Harvard postdoc, he transferred institutions during the mentorship trained period of his postdoc at the National Institutes of Health because of Pitt’s ability to support his research focus on novel therapies for treating liver diseases using bioengineering, cell transplantation and regenerative medicine techniques.

D. Lansing “Lans” Taylor, Jr., has been named director of Pitt’s Drug Discovery Institute and Allegheny Foundation Professor of Computational and Systems Biology. A former professor at Harvard and Carnegie Mellon University, Taylor also has been a CEO and entrepreneur who has founded multiple biotechnology companies and chaired the board of the Pittsburgh Life Sciences Greenhouse.

Agnieszka Slomka has been named professor emerita at the John A. Frey Vogel Funeral Home, 4900 Clemente Street, and named Elise R. Broussard, professor emerita of public health psychiatry and clinical associate professor of psychiatry in the School of Medicine. Broussard, 87, died of a heart attack Sept. 12,2011, while driving in Shadyside. A reception at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association will follow the memorial service.

Broussard earned a bachelor’s degree at Louisiana State University in 1942 and went on to earn a master’s degree in public health in 1962 and a doctoral degree in 1964, both in maternal and child health.

Broussard joined the Pitt faculty in 1967 as an associate professor of public health psychiatry and head of the community mental health program at the School of Medicine. She was named a professor of psychiatry and head of the Division of Student Affairs in 1977.

She serves as an associate professor of child psychiatry, 1974-85, then as a professor of psychiatry, 1986-2006.

She coordinated the GSPH violence prevention efforts for 30 years and served as co-chair of the Fraternity and Sorority Knowledge Community of NASPA, an association for the advancement, health and sustainability of the student affairs community.

Broussard was named GSPH professor emerita in 2002. A neuropathologist and psychiatrist, Broussard retired from the Pitt clinical faculty in 1985 after more than 15 years of work on maternal-child interactions. Among her programs was the Pittsburgh First-Born Project, a longitudinal study begun in 1963. The research focused on how a mother’s perceptions of her newborn impact the child as he or she matures. Broussard continued to follow the infants for decades, continuing to publish on the newborns in the middle-aged cohort as recently as 2010. She developed the Broussard Neonatal Perinatal Inventories, an instrument used to measure the first month of life infants at high risk for development of emotional and developmental deviation.

Broussard dedicated her life to studying how infants bond with their parents, especially mothers,” said Kari Sharma, a colleague in the School of Medicine and Community Health Sciences. “She was an authority on infant bonding and had published a number of papers on this subject. She was still working on her research when she had entered her nineties years ago.”

Former department chair Edmund Reda, who had been Broussard’s colleague for 40 years, said she was interested in the prevention of mental illnesses, which she felt had origins in early childhood. Her research on bonding between mothers and newborns strove to understand the process “and what about it could lead to a healthy personality or a damaged personality,” he said.

He counts her among the first community psychiatrists who work with populations, rather than one-on-one with individuals.

Ricci commended Broussard’s professional and dedication to the profession of public health as well as her malleability in research and ethics.

“She was totally devoted to advancing knowledge about prevention of illness, and about doing public health research that could be implemented by public health agencies. The way she integrated research and teaching and moving it into the community was an absolute model for the way a faculty member in the school of public health should work.”

Broussard participated in tele- conferences and made videos to disseminate what she had learned from her research, “to get what she had learned out into the community and get ideas adopted,” he said.

Ricci said Broussard kept her personal life private. “That was part of her professionalism,” but as a colleague, “she was very easy to work with. “She was always prepared in meetings, she always contributed and she was always polite and respectful to colleagues.”

In addition, “she was welcoming to students,” he said, noting her rare ability to balance teaching and research. “She was moving into public health scholarship into the community. Among many professional honors and awards, Broussard received the American Psychi atric Association’s 2010 N. Holmher Prize for Outstanding Research in 1973, and the National Mental Health Association’s Award For Service and the Pennsylvania Public Health Association Presidential Award for Outstanding Contributions in the Field of Public Health, both in 1970 and 1972.

She was also the University Senate representative on the chancellor’s faculty council, and she was active in community health, the University in 1970-72. She was a member of the chancellor’s committee on community health, 1970-72. She also was the University Senate representative on the chancellor’s faculty council, and she was active in community health.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorial donations be made to the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 2620盏 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. —Kimberly R. Barlow
Cooper rm. C, 8 am
Czura; Hillman Cancer Ctr.
“Compliance Update,” Frank
ogy Grand Rounds
Clinical Oncology & Hematol-
fl. LHAS aud., 7 am
Kraig Graham; Montefiore 7th
Orthopaedic Surgery Grand
pm (4-1052)
We Are So Irrational?” Nils-Eric
“How Can We Be Moral When
Philosophy of Science Talk
noon (412/623-7771)
Jun-Lin Guan, U of MI; Hillman
tein FIP200 in Breast Cancer,”
“FAK: Mediated Signaling Path-
Research Seminar
UPCI Basic & Translational
U N I V E R S I T Y
TIMES
5:25 pm (mbury@pitt.edu)
Cruz & Eduardo Lalo; 139 CL,
“Signos Preñado: Deriva en
Hispanic Languages & Litera-
tures Lecture
HSLS Workshop
“Irony: A Neglected Aspect of
Philosophy of Science Talk
UPC Basic & Translational
Research Seminar
“Fisk-Mediated Signaling Path-
ways & a Novel Autophagy Pro-
tein FIP200 in Breast Cancer,”
Jun-Lin Guan, Of MI; Hillman
Cancer Ctr. Cooper clmr., D,
noon (412/623-7771)
Philosophy of Science Talk
“How Can We Be Moral When
We Are So Irrational?” Nils-Eric
Sahlen, Lund U; 871 CR, 12:05
pm (4-1052)
Wednesday 21
Orthopaedic Surgery Grand
Rounds
Kraig Graham; Montefiore 7th
Fl. LHAS aud., 7 am
Clinical Oncology & Hematol-
ogy Grand Rounds
“Compliance Update,” Frank
Czura; Hillman Cancer Ctr.
Cooper clmr. C, 8 am
(mullercl@umassmed.edu)
Tuesday 22
Flu Shot Clinic
Falk Pharmacy, 2nd fl. Falk
Medical Bldg., 9 am-3 pm
(412/623-6222)
HSLS Workshop
“PubMed Basics,” Esther Saghafi,
Falk Library clmr. E, 11 am
(saghafi@pitt.edu)
Basic & Translational Research
Seminar
CCTR winners Sarah Wheeler,
Hilary Tindel & Kelly Queenelle,
Hillman Cancer Ctr. Cooper
clmr. D, noon (412/623-7771)
Pharmacology & Chemical
Pharmaceutical Science Semi-
inar
HSLS Workshop
“Fundamentals of Autophagy,”
Andrew Ketchum; Falk Library
clmr. 2, 1-3 pm (ketchum@pitt.edu)
History Lecture
“Race Relations in Today’s
Cuba,” Rafael Duharte, 1703
Paying, noon (rduharte@pitt.edu)
Psychiatry Seminar
“Magnetic Resonance Spectros-
topy & a Study of Pulmonary
Disease & Schizophrenia New
Uses for an Old Technique,”
Dust O’Gorgan, 1605 Starzl RSE,
noon (dlopkhehr@upmc.edu)
Wednesday 26
Orthopaedic Surgery Grand
Rounds
“Tangled Extremity,”
Robert O’Toole; Montefiore 7th
Fl. LHAS aud., 7 am
Clinical Oncology & Hematol-
ogy Grand Rounds
“Regulation of Androgen
Receptor Signaling in Prostate
Cancer,” Zhou Wang. UPMC
Cancer Pavilion Herberman
Ctr. 2nd fl. aud. 8 am
(mullercl@umassmed.edu)
United Way Day of Caring
8:30 am-4 pm (www.unitedway.
pitt.edu or gwatkins@pitt.edu)
PhD Defenses
Engineering/Biomedical
“Controlled Release Micropar-
icals for Immuno-regulation:
Towards a Synthetic Tolerogenic
Dendritic Cell,” Siddharth
Suguneethan, Sept. 16, 1002
Benjamin, 2 pm
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14
New UPMC program will provide electronic report of immunizations

To help ensure that patients are properly vaccinated, UPMC has created one of the first systems in the state to provide not only real-time, electronic reporting to Pennsylvania’s immunizations registry but also to allow UPMC’s clinicians to view a patient’s vaccine data at any time. Reporting of immunizations through the Pennsylvania Statewide Immunization Information System (PA-SIIS) is voluntary for health care providers. In 2011, the state created a web-based application that allows providers to enter their immunization data directly, rather than sending paper files.

In creating its automated, real-time feedback to PA-SIIS, UPMC added more information than was required. In addition to a patient’s name, the type of vaccine and the date the vaccine was administered, UPMC hospitals and physicians’ offices provide the manufacturer, and lot number of vaccinations and the name of the patient’s physicians. UPMC provides about 10,000 immunizations each week to patients of all ages. Working with IBM and its systems integration partner Summa, UPMC’s technology team created a computer interface that allows clinicians to match information from PA-SIIS to any individual patient and to include that data when viewing a patient’s electronic health record at UPMC. The system uses IBM’s Imitate Patient software to link patient identity data from numerous sources.

Inpatient, outpatient and state data are provided to caregivers in a single application. Thus, physicians are able to see immunizations given outside of UPMC, as well as those provided by pharmacy-based clinics or employee health departments.

Pharmacy/Pharmaceutical Sciences

“Characterization of Renal Anionic Drug Transport in the Kidney: Implications for Drug Development,” Matthew Herbst, Sept. 28, 11:45 am

Engineering/Biotechnology

“New Approaches to Understanding Lung Cancer,” Switzerland, Sept. 29, 2 pm

GSPHI/Epidemiology

“Meat, Peas, Fish, and Nutrition,” Laura Sperti, Sept. 28, 11:45 am

GSPHI/Epidemiology

“Astrophysical and Magnetic Phases of Stellar Evolution,” Michael J. Reynolds, Sept. 29, 4 pm

Deadlines

SCIENCE 2011 Deadline is Sept. 16 for abstracts for Oct. 6 & 7 poster sessions. Submit at www.science2011.pitt.edu/postereg.htm

Pitt-UW Day of Caring

Register online by Sept. 19. (www.unitedway.pitt.edu)

Cheap seats

The Pitt Arts “Attack of the Cheap Seats” event brought approximately 350 members of the University community to the William Pitt Union Assembly Room last week for a chance to meet representatives of local dance, theatre and music organizations and buy discounted tickets for the upcoming season. This year’s event was the largest ever, said Pitt Arts director Annabelle Klinking.

The Cheap Seats program gives Pitt faculty, staff and students the chance to buy reduced-price seats for selected events. Participating organizations include the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, Pittsburgh CLO, Pittsburgh CLO Cabaret, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Pittsburgh Opera, Quantum Theatre, Pittsburgh Irish and Classical Theatre, Guitar Society of Fine Arts, Renaissance and Baroque and Cimiope, Pittsburgh Folk Music Society. Details on the program are available at www.pittarts.pitt.edu/tickets.

As a special preview to two days of dynamic presentations at SCIENCE 2011—NEXT GEN, the University of Pittsburgh’s 11th annual science and technology showcase, the Office of Enterpreneur Development and Office of Technology Management invite you to join investors and entrepreneurs from across the region for a first look at exciting, cutting-edge technologies recently developed at Pitt.

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

Michael G. Wells Student Health Care Entrepreneurship Competition

This is the inaugural year for this exciting competition, which is a component of our Technology Showcase. Six student finalists will display posters describing their unique technologies. The winner of the competition will receive $10,000 to further the project toward commercialization.
**Thursday 15**

**ULS Workshop**

“RefWorks Basics”, ground fl. Hillman, noon (register at www.library.pitt.edu/services/class/es/infocom/refsworks_training.html)

**History Book Symposium**

“How Baseball: The Major Leagues Colonized the Black & Latin Game,” Rob Buck; lower lounge WPU, 4-6 pm (charest@pitt.edu)

**Friday 16**

**GL, Hepatology & Nutrition Lecture**

“Followings” Orientation to Conferences (Grand Rounds, Tue., Series, GLPathology etc.) Matthew Rockey, Kenneth Fanelli & Toby Graham; M2 conf. rm.

**Saturday 17**

**Constitution Day**

Flu Shot Clinic

Sclerasc lectures rm 6, 10-2 am

Adoption on Film

“Adopted: For the Life of Me,” Joachim, noon & “Secrets & Lies,” FAA aud., 1-7 pm (university.pitt.edu/events.php)

Bradford Campus ArtsEndowment Gala

Dinner & auction, Blaisdell, UBP, 6 pm (412/362-3155)

**Tuesday 20**

**Blood Drive**

Lower lounge WPU & 1st fl. indoors Victoria 8 am-2 pm (gratwitkin@pitt.edu)

**Flu Shot Clinic**

Falk Pharmacy, 2nd fl. Falk Medical Bldg., 9 am-3 pm (412/623-6222)

**HELP WANTED**

**RESEARCH ASSISTANT**

Position available for lab/directing lab, coordinating lab duties among other researchers, routine biological assays (cell cultures, immunostaining, immunoblotting, protein, etc.), data analysis & data summaries. Candidates should have 1-2 years experience & baccalaureate degree. Submit CV to Patricia Stricker at strickerp@upmc.edu. EEO/Alt- Status Employer.

**RESEARCH ASSOCIATE**

Candidates must have PhD. It should have evidence in neuroscience research (ischemic neurodegeneration, glioma tumor) either in vitro or in vivo models. Experience for experimental design, data collection & data analysis, writing manuscript & grant applications. Applicants should submit CV to Patricia Stricker at strickerp@upmc.edu. EEO/Alt-Status Employer.

**RESEARCH ASSOCIATE**

Motivated scientist for collaborative group studying autonimmune pathophysiology in Parkinson’s disease using novel transgenic mouse models. Experience in homecinery, molecular biology & confocal microscopy is advantageous; must have PhD, excellent skills in writing & spoken English & strong team attitude. Contact Theresa Hayes at 843-9@pitt.edu. EEO/Manager Training employer.

**HSLS Workshop**

“PowerPoint for Beginners,” Julia Jankovic, Falk Library classrm 2-9, 11-15 (gej@pitt.edu)

**Office of Research/NCCU Workshops**

“The Fiscal Aspects of Human Subjects’ Compliance,” $120 Starzl BST, 11:30 am-3:30 pm (6-7405)

**Pharmaceutical Science Seminary**

“Mechanism of HPV Capsid Assembly & Host Cell Restriction,” 7:30 am, noon (boucek@pitt.edu)

**MWRI Work-in-Progress Conference**

“New Directions in Endometrial Cancer Research,” Time to Look Into Adipose Tissue,” Faina Linskoy, 209 MWRI, 1st fl conf., crtr., 11:30 am

**Molecular Medicine Research Seminar**

“Role of Fibroblast Growth Factor Receptor Signaling in Urogenital Development,” Carolen Bates, 2:30-4:00 CRSP Research Ctr., noon (linda.chery@chp.edu)

**Senate Community Relations Committee Meeting**

272 Hillman, noon-2 pm

**Pharmacology & Chemical Biology Seminar**

“Receptor-Targeted Radiopharmaceuticals for Cancer Imaging,” Carolyn Anderson, 1395 Starzl BST conf., crtr., 3:00 pm (mnovy@pitt.edu)

**Veterans Services Workshop**

“Military to Civilian Resume Workshop,” McCand Cr. 4th fl. C.L., noon-2 pm (4-6491)

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**CALENDAR**

**September**

### Monday 19

**Bradford Campus Executive Speaker Lecture**

“The Success of Zippo,” Gregory Rosoff; Mukanay U Rm. Frank-Weston Comm. UBP, 11 am (412/362-0248) **Constitution Day Lecture**

“The Continuing Relevance of Judicial Review for the Preservation of Constitutional Rights,” David Garrow; Barco Teplitz Crtr., noon (www.library.pitt.edu)

**CRSP Lecture**


**Greensburg Campus Lecture**

“Politics & Education in PA,” Mike Reese; 118 Village, UBP, 1 pm (upmc@pitt.edu)

**Contemporary Writers Lecture**

TERRANCE HAYES, 2010 National Book Award for Poetry winner; FAA aud., 8-10 pm (4-6058)

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**Tuesday 20**

**Blood Drive**

Lower lounge WPU & 1st fl. indoors Victoria 8 am-2 pm (gratwitkin@pitt.edu)

**Flu Shot Clinic**

Falk Pharmacy, 2nd fl. Falk Medical Bldg., 9 am-3 pm (412/623-6222)

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**STUDENT HELP WANTED**

Need reliable, helpful, hard working studen-t—overview or grad student with car for part-time help. 5-8 hrs/ wk. on weekends. Help with hard work, yard work, some heavy jobs. Prefer year-round availability. Good hourly rate. Start immediately. University of Pittsburgh 412-269-1261 or oncampus@pitt.edu

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**SUBJECTS NEEDED**

**BLOOD PRESSURE & THE BRAIN**

Research study with one MRI & two interview questions. Submit CV to rushresearch@comcast.net. Government agencies. Call 1-301/565-2917 or email to rushresearch@comcast.net.