NEW MAN on CAMPUS
One on one with Pitt’s 18th chancellor

For the first time in nearly two decades, there’s a new leader behind the desk at 107 Cathedral of Learning. Patrick D. Gallagher, who took office as Pitt’s 18th chancellor Aug. 1, spoke with University Times staff writer Kimberly K. Barlow during his first week on campus.

Patrick D. Gallagher earned a bachelor’s degree in physics and philosophy at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, in 1985, then taught high school science and math in Missouri before continuing his education at Pitt. As a graduate student here, Gallagher was a research assistant and earned his PhD in physics in 1991. James V. Maher, now provost emeritus, was his thesis adviser.

Gallagher was awarded an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree and delivered the University’s commencement address in 2013. He worked as a research associate at Boston University before joining the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in 1993 as a research physicist and instrument scientist at the NIST Center for Neutron Research. He went on to lead the center’s facilities operation group, then became center director. Gallagher also served as NIST deputy director before becoming director of NIST in 2009.

President Barack Obama appointed him acting deputy secretary of the Department of Commerce in 2013. Gallagher was both acting deputy secretary of the commerce department and director of NIST when Pitt’s Board of Trustees elected him chancellor in February.

Gallagher, 51, was born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico, but has Pittsburgh ties. His mother’s family came to Pittsburgh when she was 12 and Gallagher spent time as a child visiting his maternal grandparents in Carrick. While at Pitt, he met Karen Abrahamson, whom he married in 1991. She remains in Brookville, Maryland, while the youngest of their three sons completes high school.

In case you didn’t recognize the new man on campus last week at Arrival Survival...

Patrick D. Gallagher had been a leader in science and technology for years, but his new role at Pitt is a significant one. He has been tasked with guiding the university through a period of change and uncertainty. His experience in science and technology, as well as his education and research background, make him well-suited for this task.

One of the challenges he faces is the need to balance the university’s academic and research interests with its financial health. The university is facing a budgetary crisis, and Gallagher will need to find ways to cut costs while maintaining the quality of education and research.

Another challenge is the need to attract and retain top faculty and students. Gallagher will need to work with the administration to create an environment that is conducive to excellence in education and research.

Gallagher is also faced with the challenge of navigating the political landscape of higher education. He must work with the state legislature, the governor, and other stakeholders to ensure that Pitt is able to continue to provide a high-quality education to its students.

Despite these challenges, Gallagher is optimistic about Pitt’s future. He believes that the university has the talent and resources to overcome these challenges and continue to be a leader in education and research.
Working with your teaching assistants

Teaching assistants play an important role in the departments that employ them. Their tasks include grading labs, helping students in homework and tests, and leading discussions during recitations. In many courses, TAs have more direct contact with students than professors, and many have undergraduate students, and they can shape the educational experience of those undergraduates in profound ways.

However, as service teachers, these undergraduate or graduate students may struggle to complete instructional-related tasks that you, as supervising faculty, perceive as simple. Many TAs do not know how to be effective as a classroom teacher and do not have training or guidance as they develop their teaching skills. As both supervisors and mentors, you need to establish clear expectations and maintain communications with your TAs. Ensure that they aren’t working more than 20 hours a week, and communicate with them directly to relate to their instructional responsibilities.

These three steps will help you to work effectively with your TAs:

1. Define the role of your TAs. The first step is for you to be on the same page as your teaching assistants contribute to student learning. As a leader of a discussion section, you are the focus of a lab section associated with a large lecture, a TA may provide comprehensive information, concrete examples, hands-on experience or in-depth exploration of concepts. As a grader, a TA may be responsible for providing feedback to students on their performance.

2. List your expectations for your TAs. What do you expect from your TAs, and in what format? What kinds of tasks are they responsible for? What support or guidance can they expect from you, and in what format, and by what dates and times? If TAs are developing problem-solving skills, how far along in this direction will they be developed? Will you be reviewing their work and tool them about anything? If you TA's passing problem is something that you will be discussing with your TA, how and by when will you expect grades to be reported?

3. Meet regularly with your TAs. Be sure that your TA's understands the trajectory of the content of the course so they can determine their understanding of the content of the course in their understanding in interacting with students. Be aware that TAs may struggle to complete un instructed tasks, and that they may struggle to understand the instructors' insights. They may see aspects of student learning that you do not. If students are struggling to understand a concept, the TA who has been visiting and reviewing the material should be able to provide some benefit from suggestions about how to present the information in a new way, or if they focus on it more before moving on to a new subject.

Provide information on course content, institutional resources and effective teaching techniques. Understand that teaching and classroom management are different responsibilities. A TA's role is to be a support role for students, and that your role as a mentor is to guide and support. In addition, TAs may have special needs in managing the class as a whole, in class discussions, with the Office of Student Conduct, refer students to University resources such as the Writing Center, or take workshops in pedagogy from CIDDIE's TA Services.

4. Monitor your TAs to ensure a consistent, effective educational experience for students. Consider that your TAs are effective instructors by periodically reviewing their progress, they provide graded assignments, sitting in on recitations, asking for presentations to the class, and involving them in construction of tests and other areas.

Provide constructive feedback to your TAs. Regularly evaluate your TAs' teaching, grading, guidance or other instructional activities, and let them know in writing what they did well, their strengths, and their areas for improvement.

5. Support your TAs' goals for professional development. Be aware of their goals in studies, in teaching, in research, in technology, and in any other area that you think might be important to their future.

If your TA finds classroom management or other aspects of the course to be challenging, your departmental level of support your TA's goals may be a great one. This type of support for another could be an ideal way to get them to talk about their goals.

Remember that your TAs are learning to juggle many challenging tasks. You might ask them to think about their goals in a new way, or if they focus on it more before moving on to a new subject.

Lauren R. Herks is CIDDIE's coordinator of TA Services.

Lauren R. Herks

Satisfying employees to get 1% wage increase

A 5 percent salary pool is allocated to be distributed among the instructional staff in July, to be distributed for $390 million. The Board of Trustees approved a salary increase for instructional staff in July, to be distributed for $390 million.

In his final University Update (www.universityupdate.com), President Michael A. Neuberg acknowledged that the salary-income pool was larger than the 1.7 percent recommended by the University planning and budgeting committee (UPBC).

Neuberg noted that UPBC estimated the draft budget for the upcoming fiscal year to be $390 million and a budget for the upcoming fiscal year, which marks the University's budgetary year. The University's budget is expected to decrease by $390 million in the upcoming fiscal year, which marks the University's budgetary year.

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Cathedral elevator project promises more efficiency

The cracking and squeaking and the waiting and crowding familiar to elevator passengers in the Cathedral of Learning is about to become a thing of the past.

A $10.44 million capital project is underway to replace the original elevators with a more efficient system designed to save passengers time, reduce crowding, increase reliability and cut energy consumption.

"This is the first time we're touching pretty much every piece of the elevators," said Don MacCain of Facilities Management, noting that there have been some modifications to elevator control systems and to doors and cabs, "but nothing as complete as this." The Westinghouse elevators were installed in 1931 during the Cathedral's construction, with small-scale upgrades in 1971 and 1998. Many parts no longer are available, but must be fabricated when the antigated elevators break down, delaying repairs, MacCain said.

Mascaro Construction is the contractor for the design-build project, in partnership with Hord Coplan Macht Architects, Leopardo Engineers and Otis Elevator.

The bulk of the project — $10.24 million — is being funded by the state, $200,000 is coming from University plant funds.

The new elevators will use destination-based technology in which passengers enter their destinations on a wall-mounted video screen or keypad and are directed to the elevator they should board. The elevators will stop at the preselected floors; there are no buttons to push inside the car.

When the work is finished in spring 2016, the Cathedral's eight main elevators will have a total of 201 stops, up from the current 127. The additional 74 stops will come from a combination of reactivating stops on some floors and reprogramming doors on some floors that had been sealed, MacCain said.

A half-deck-caliber video kiosk will be placed in the ground floor lobby with another six on the first floor.

The small elevator to the Babcock Room on the 44th floor will be upgraded, but won't have the destination-based technology, according to MacCain.

With the destination-based system, instead of passengers crowding in front of the elevators, heading onto the first car to arrive, then stopping at many floors, "smart-grouping" technology that optimizes the elevator trips will direct passengers to specific elevators based on their destination.

The elevators also will "learn" to wait where peak traffic is expected — on the lower floors in the mornings when people are going up, and the reverse in the evenings, for instance.

Similar systems already are in use in some Pittsburgh high-rises, including PNC offices, MacCain said.

Frequent riders should adjust quickly, however, the large number of "transient" riders — including visitors and incoming freshmen — means that there will be an ongoing education process until destination-based systems are more widespread and familiar, he said.

Attempts were made to use more visible work will follow in December, with pairs of cars — one upper level car and one lower level — taken out of service for three-four months. That's when doors fuses and openings will be changing, Niemann said.

Passengers should be seeing the destination-based control system beginning to take over next March or April, when the first pair of cars is modernized and the video screens are put into use, Niemann said.

The system will direct traffic for the updated cars as well as the old ones during the transition.

Passengers will key in their desired floor on the screen. They will see either a message corresponding to one of the modernized cars or a "Please wait for car ahead" message, indicating that they should board one of the old elevators and push the button inside for their floor.

Facilities Management is using social media to update the University community on the project and to familiarize riders with the new system. A three-minute video on the elevator system is posted on the project Facebook page (University of Pittsburgh Cathedral Elevator Modernization), Facilities Management also has set up a Twitter account (@ cathedralelever) and a dedicated email address (clev@pitt.edu) for project-related questions.

In addition, posters will be placed in the ground floor and first floor elevator lobbies and Facilities Management's building contacts will receive email updates on the project.

— Kimberly K. Barkow
One on one with Chancellor Gallagher

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I did look at some potential faculty positions, but I had been impressed with NIST through some earlier work. I became very interested in this big-facility science and I ended up going to NIST.

A whole unexpected series of opportunities opened up there. And that was a very satisfying, very rich career experience. But that wasn’t the game plan going in.

Your background is in science; how will you lead the non-science areas of the University?

I was a liberal arts undergradu- ate. No one person has a direct academic background in every area covered by a university. That would either be an astonishingly narrow experience for a superman individual. I will never pretend to have direct experience in every area.

I have always enjoyed working in very diverse organizations. Commerce is one of the smaller government departments, about 40,000 employees. It’s probably the most diverse, going all the way from hard science to weathermen to satellites to fisheries to trade to spectrum management for the country.

In a diverse organization, to succeed you don’t have to be able to do everybody’s job. You have to have the ability to create the conditions that the best people in their fields want to come work there.

So a lot of the University leadership position, I think, is about setting the conditions where the best faculty want to come work, and the best students want to come study.

What is your management style?

I tried to be a pretty collaborative manager. I think sometimes the organization wants somebody to try to fit into the culture. I tried to err toward a management style where you’re trying to create the conditions where others can thrive and you try to create as many partnerships and collaborations as you can, and then be as good an administrator and communicators as you can, so people know what you’re trying to do.

What is your plan for communicating with faculty and staff?

This is a relationship business and communication is about talk- ing to people and interacting. The focal point as we’ve laid out is: How do I engage with the students and spend time with them? How do I engage with the faculty? How to get out to the different schools? How do I see what they’re excited about? My calendar’s rapidly filling.

Some of them are formal visits, some are joining board of visitors meetings where programs are being assessed or reviewed. Some are casual, where we can meet in less formal settings.

One of my styles is “manage by walking around.” I don’t even drink the coffee here in the office. It’s not that they don’t make great coffee, but for me getting a cup of coffee is an excuse to leave the office and go somewhere and run into people.

My style is to be quite open and accessible. The trick, of course, is that in a very large organization, where you are one person, there are just limits to walking around and having the door open and interacting with people.

That’s where we’ll be looking at other ways: whether it’s email or social media, participating in events where the community is getting together. That’s where I’m wide open to ideas. I don’t want to get isolated.

Let’s use the tools that people would find most helpful, but these technology-based tools, in my experience, just can’t substitute for face-to-face. So I want to get out to the regional campuses, get out to the schools and departments, and I want to meet people.

The chancellor search committee held 14 forums to gather input from faculty, staff, students and alumni on the traits and experiences they desired in a successor to Mark A. Nordenberg. A passion for undergraduate education was one of the expressed desires, given that the value of college education is being questioned.

I think it’s more than just “Is the value of a Pitt degree high?” I think that’s important, but it’s also frankly a discussion that the country is having about the value of education.

This “affordability of college” discussion is in front of us. That issue has so many different perspectives: You can look at it as a discussion about the role of government support for education, which includes this conversation around financing and affordability. How do you pay for something now that’s going to derive long-term benefit to you over your lifetime?

That’s a cash flow problem in some sense, but it’s a big one. And there’s a trillion dollars of student debt in this country and that’s a lot. It has consequences.

But it’s also impacting the value transaction. What’s interesting is the affordability issue: If I’m paying this much for college now, what do I get for it? And increas- ingly, what do I get for it now?

An institution like that’s providing education wants that education to be of value and enrich people’s lives. Certainly part of that value is: Can you be a productive citizen afterwards? Can you get a job? Can you support yourself? But it also gives you so many things that are long-term benefits.

We have research activities and internships. What about research partner- ships?

In research, the rate of growth in federal R&D dollars is going to be set by dynamics that are larger than the way we think research is a great thing. And federal R&D is only about one-third of the total in this country. R&D in this country is funded by the private sector. Compared to our peers, we don’t do as well there, and there’s some real opportunity to find new ways to form partnerships where we can participate in that activity.

No one knows this better than Pittsburgh. Universities play a key role in driving economic growth, whether it’s the ideas and intellectual property coming out of our work, whether it’s the students coming out with new ideas wanting to start businesses, whether it’s just the attractiveness and people wanting to locate near the University because it provides a source of talent and ideas.

This region has changed so much from the time I visited as a little kid. A lot of that is due to Pitt and CMU and the other universities.

That’s a job that we’ll do alone; a lot of that is us working together – (Carnegie Mellon President Subra Suresh) and I are past colleagues and already in frequent discussions, looking at ideas where we can work together to both advance our universities but where the whole is greater than the sum of the parts.

Where do you see opportunities for expanding partnerships?

In some R&D areas it’s very hard for universities to work with a single particular company because you get entangled right away with what the company is trying to do. That’s a place where companies working more broadly by pooling funding into consortia opens up doors that would be very hard to do one-on-one.

On the other hand if you’re trying to provide students with a direct business experience, you’re better off working with particular companies. Does the University have the tools to support people, for example, who want to start a business and be entrepreneurs? Or faculty who want to come out and do that? Those are unique perspectives as well. And you wouldn’t do that through something like Pitt.

I don’t think the University really has the luxury of just zeroing in on my experience. My experience is partnerships is you’re much more effective if you flex the way of partnerships where you’re trying to do rather than try to fit

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How difficult is it for a university to have that flexibility? Frankly, a lot of those "institutional" things that make things hard sometimes were put there because they're protecting the organization from disastrous things that probably happened in the past and the lesson was learned. Some of that bureaucracy is there for a purpose.

On the other hand, it can clearly become self-defeating. Universities are some of the most innovative places that we have in the whole country. There are some of the few organizations that can be good at both ends of that pendulum. The magic, I think, is knowing when you want to be the entrepreneurial small element in a university and when you want to be institutional. The capacity to do both really well is here.

Several faculty felt the next chancellor should be someone who was not far removed from the classroom. Do you see that as a hurdle?

I was always somebody who had aspired to be a teacher but I went on a detour ever since, so from that perspective, that desire didn't play out. What's more important is: Can we build a relationship? I think what's much more important is willingness to work together and the receptivity. And in some ways, the advantage of not having that perspective is that I can bring a different perspective to problems. The truth of the matter is, it's not my job to have every viewpoint that the University can have. There are so many people here that I can draw on. Many of them will have had that faculty experience: You can believe me, I will be drawing on them. And I will be listening to them and they will have a lot of influence on my thinking. But I will also have the advantage of having seen things from a different perspective.

Another desire was commitment to shared governance. Shared governance is a key part of academic life. The creativity and life of a university is driven by its faculty. That has to be the case. That's also where all the great ideas are. You can find out what are the big opportunities we're facing, what are the most exciting things we should be getting behind. Is there anything I can do to make that dream a reality?

Our job in the administration is to set the conditions where those faculty and those departments and those schools can thrive and be successful.

Some felt a need for a chancellor who would take off the gloves and fight for Pitt, especially on budget issues. A chancellor represents the University and everybody wants their representative to be an effective and powerful advocate for their interests. Sometimes that's fighting. But not very often, I think — unless you're using "fighting" to mean a strong and strenuous defense in representation. What makes politics contentious, I think, is not always fighting, whether it's woodwork or house projects or cooking. I just find that to be very satisfying.

What's your specialty in the kitchen?

Southwestern cooking, although that may be more recent from my Albuquerque roots; recently it's been more the grillmaster — smoked salmon and grilled shrimp — I'm much more likely to fire up the smoker on the weekend, so I left it in Maryland. I'll be in vengeful mode this year.

The physicist in me is fascinated with the modernist cuisine. It's almost like taking all the chemicals, like salt, and putting it into the kitchen. That touches very directly on a lot of the ideas of the sciences that I used to use in the lab.

Some members of the University community asked the committee to clone Chancellor Nordenberg. Are you a match?

You don't want a carbon copy. You want someone who can leverage what he's got and bring something new to other folks to cover the other things. That's why it's always a tough decision.

Mark has been such a successful chancellor and he's made such a great transition to the University, that I think one of the things that made him so successful was his ability to leverage all those resources that he was so good at and use them in a way that derived great benefit to the University. It would be an enormous mistake for me to try to copy that from a different mode. My job is to leverage my experiences and strengths and do as much as I can for the University.

There's always both the downside of change and the disruption of it, and trauma, if you will. But there's also the opportunity to try new things.

Because it's a different person leveraging different strengths, it is the opportunity (opportunity) to try some things and focus on things that might not have been there before.

What do you view as your strengths?

I certainly have a lot of experience on the federal research front. I certainly am not in universities, but where I have worked extensively with universities, and I think I can be an advocate for the faculty and the University in strengthening our perspective there.

Another is in economic development in the community. Partnering with business is something I think we should be doing even more than we are. I think there are so many opportunities there: How do we work with the local partners? How do we work with the city? I think that's an area where I have some ideas and some experience that can be leveraged.

I've always been passionate about coaching and education, and even though I haven't been a teacher in a university, aside from my two semesters of being a TA, I think one of the most critical missions you have is. It's something that's been a passion of mine my whole life, even though my career hasn't revolved around it, but in a teaching way.

You are a pastel artist? — maybe it's more just enthusiasm and excitement than it is experience — but really think we are at an interesting point in the University. We're standing about how learning happens. Pitt has played a major role there in the development of technologies that are opening up new possibilities and I just think that maybe we can make a major contribution in forging what education looks like going forward — which gets right to the heart of what the University is.

What priorities have the University trustees set for you?

The board's priorities are the same ones they gave to Mark Nordenberg: academic development, research, community development, international competitiveness. I think the board has changed.

I think the issue is: How do the trustees look at us based on the strong position we're at right now, plus both the opportunities and the threats we're going to face in the coming years?

I will expect to be working with the faculty and staff and administrators of the University in terms of refreshing our thinking about the new role the University plays in Pitt's vision for the future. The board, I think, is receptive to doing that.

The thought of very natural goal-setting will be a priority for us. It's a very natural thing to do when a university is good and it's a good excuse to take a fresh look.

What are your own priorities as Pitt's new leader?

My immediate priority is to engage and to listen: To talk to the students and to talk to the faculty and the staff and the leadership of the University.

It's both listening to them and getting a sense of what's most important and where those priorities are. And also, what can I do to make a difference?

It's also about building those relationships so that we can work effectively together.

We haven't mapped out what the strategic process will formally look like, but in the plan, you're gathering as much input as possible. Different ways of gathering information is better for some people, so if you only pick one style and walk around others, formally, you're going to miss input because some people are waiting for a formal chance to come forward. It's good to have a plan, but formally, you're going to miss the kind of give-and-take that is sometimes better.

Initially I want to embrace the things that are there: Visiting schools, working with the Senate and the faculty leadership and the administrative leadership and also getting our informal and meeting folks.

Planning never stops: Those decisions are constant. You're trying to build, not one-time communication, you're trying to build a pattern of talking to each other because we're going to learn things as we try to do things.

If you only talk once in a while those things don't happen.

What changes do you think are needed at the University?

It certainly feels more like an evolutionary involvement, not a revolutionary involvement. I think the area that I would be looking at are not stemming from weakness per se, as much as...
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as opportunities and shifts that are happening.

I think this value discussion that we’re having as a country — What does higher education mean? — is going to have an impact on how we operate as a university, in all aspects.

What does that undergrad education mean if this value discussion is pointing more towards short-term employability? It may be playing a more active role in making sure we’re nurturing students all the way through. Most students are not coming through at the front end knowing that they want to come out with “this” job. I don’t. Most of them are undergoing self-discovery. And that’s great. That’s part of the university experience — trying all these things. In the end, you don’t want them to go through that discovery and get lost.

We may have a greater stewardship role in supporting that journey because they don’t have the luxury of going five, six, seven, eight years. That’s one of the impacts of this affordability issue. Our accountability to making sure that we support that is higher. It also means maybe engaging more with the prospective employers on the relevancy of what we’re teaching.

It doesn’t mean that we only teach… we’re not just doing workplace training. We have a broader obligation to produce well-rounded graduates, but we also don’t want to be dead to what people are saying. It wouldn’t do any good to be producing a lot of students with great skills that no one finds of value.

So, I think that some of the evolution does come into this partnership, and looking at what we’re doing to help students through this process.

I think the same thing is happening in research. Pitt has done so well, and has clearly grown since I left, particularly in the biomedical area.

That was a period of time when NIH was dividing in funding and we were perfectly poised… I don’t see — at least over the next few to five years — any prospect of major growth on the federal side.

That raises questions on how you have a sustainable program of graduate education in that environment, when such a big part of that education is often doing research?

It certainly includes advocating and finding ways to attract more research funding, but there’s also the discussion: Does it have an impact on how we think about training graduate students as well?

It’s evolution, but it’s taking the strengths we have and using them for the challenges that we see going forward.

Your predecessor, Mark Nor- denberg, and your graduate school advisor, Provost Emeritus James V. Maher, aren’t far away, in offices on the Catte- deal of Learning’s 6th floor. How will you leverage their presence?

Whoever I need it. They’ve both been fabulous and gracious.

Jim was such a powerful mentor in my life as a role model: his approach and his integrity and his honesty. More than he probably knows, those have molded me for the last 25 years. He’s a great friend and somebody that I will reach out to. He’s played such a big role in the University and knows much of it as well.

Mark in the same way. It’s been a real partnership. I think Mark understands how important a change of leadership is to a university, he understands how traumatic it is.

He also understands that he has great value. And he and I have forged, I think, a real, effective, trust-based relationship where we can reach out to each other. I expect that to continue.

I like working with Mark and I think I’d be crazy to neglect such an asset sitting just six floors away.

What vision do you have for your own legacy at Pitt?

Ultimately, the final yardstick for success has to be the difference we make in the lives of the students who have come through Pitt.

We’re in such a strong position right now. If I look back, 25 years ago, when I was here: We were a good school, but we now have an emerging national reputation as one of the leading public universities in the country. I think that can be connected, not just to having the baggage rights but because this would be a go-to place where students want to come, all across the country, to get a great education.

This is where the best researchers and faculty in the country want to come and practice, the place where businesses want to work with us as great partners. I think we’re in a position where all that can be true.

The final test is: Are the students going out and making a difference? I think our success is measured in their success.

If people looked back and said I played a role in helping make that happen or set the conditions where people could be successful, then I would feel great.
New security measures coming to Pgh. campus

The Pittsburgh campus is getting new, more capable security cameras and ID card readers. The approximately 4,000 card readers currently in use at the University can phase in new ID cards with a different type of scanning technology that makes the cards’ encryption more secure.

The current ID cards have magnetic strips that are wiped through card readers, much like a credit card. The new cards, which will be phased in over the next several years, will have “proximity” technology that allows them to be read when placed next to the card reader — similar to what is used on Port Authority vehicles.

According to Joshua Cochran, director of the integrated security department, work began this summer to replace the current card readers with multi-purpose readers that allow cards to be wiped or held adjacent to the reader.

University ID holders — currently more than 60,000 — will be transitioned in the coming years to new “proximity” cards, and the swipe capability on campus card readers eventually will be removed.

Cochran says he worked with Pitt’s card and reader vendor, HID, to create unique encryption for Pitt. “That’s the biggest key to the encryption — it’s not available elsewhere,” he says. “It’s the most guaranteed way to ensure that nobody can duplicate our cards,” to the readers, which only work with Pitt’s cards. “There is no other institution or company in the world that can get the encryption we have.”

Legally duplicating Pitt ID cards might be tempting, Cochran explains, since they not only provide access to facilities but connect users to bus passes, meal discounts and bank accounts. The new cards will have even more capabilities, such as allowing for leg-in at University computer facilities, thanks to a microchip. The new readers also will be somewhat more sustainable, running on 85 percent of previous model’s electricity consumption.

The replacement of current readers with multi-use readers is about 40 percent complete, according to Cochran. Residence hall readers were replaced over the summer and the focus now is on the rest of the Pittsburg campus buildings. The project should be completed before winter break, he says.

The other major integrated security measure to be improved by the department is the Pittsburg campus’s approximately 1,000 surveillance cameras. Cochran says they are running obsolete technology — sometimes obsolete systems — that sender service and maintenance too difficult. All cameras will be replaced by June 2015. Work is in the “very, very early stages.”

The new equipment will be high-definition digital cameras sending their signals through existing cables. But they will use only 10-15 percent of the electricity used by the current cameras, he says, making the system much more sustainable.

—Mary Levine

Police chief brings changes to force

Pitt Police Chief James K. Robinson has announced he will retire on Aug. 7, capping a 39-year policing philosophy to his officers.

“The big thing is morale,” says Lamb, who joined the Pitt Police in 1996 and who was most recently an administrator. “People get into a routine... with the same leaders,” she says. “I think we were stagnating for a while,” prior to the hire of Chief Tom DeLisi, who led the force for a dozen years.

With the promotion of Loftus, “it’s fantastic compared to what it was. People feel change but I think this change is really good for the department.”

Explain Loftus about Lamb’s appointment: “I could tell she had the trust of the rank and file. People go to her to have their questions answered.”

Loftus was hired as deputy chief in July 2013 after 20 years as a detective in the Allegheny County Police Department. “I’ve always wanted to come back,” says the Pittsburgh native.

Going from the eighth-largest police force in the county to Pitt’s campus, “it’s dramatically different,” he says. “The criminality is different,” he adds, but says the police personnel are the same everywhere, with the same background and level of professionalism required for officers on any force.

Pitt has hired 20 new officers this year, with the force expanded to five UPAC hospitals in the wake of the March 2012 shooting at Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic (WPIC): UPAC Shadyside, UPAC Presbyterian, Magee Women’s, UPAC Mercy and WPIC. Pitt’s armed officers now supplement UPAC’s unarmed security personnel, at WPIC’s request. Lamb has seen eight deployments this year for this part of the force.

She expected the side-by-side hospital security work by UPAC’s personnel and Pitt Police to work together, “We are all working together, in the spirit,” she says. “The big thing is the relationship... the hospital administrators have welcomed us.”

To handle the influx of new personnel, Pitt promoted several officers to create new supervisors and acquired some additional patrol cars. But even though the Pitt Police increased by nearly a third last year, Lamb insists that it was not a big adjustment.

“After Western Psych, the idea is to have a more uniform, uniformed presence,” explains Loftus — that is, a consistent application of force policy in all five facilities.

Each hospital now has a set of officers assigned to it, says Lamb. “You need to make sure that everybody is on the same page when responding to the calls, that everybody knows what everybody else is doing.”

While Loftus says the department won’t be seeking any major equipment upgrades soon, it may be looking at a grant proposal to acquire a third bomb-sniffing dog to add to Pillo, the black lab that has worked the second shift since early 2013, and Riggs, Pitt’s first bomb-sniffing dog. The new dog would cover the night shift, but such a move is not yet imminent, Loftus says. He notes that Pitt’s two dogs shift in local, such as at Children’s Hospital, and for any need in the local Homeland Security district, Region 13.

In perhaps his most important move, Loftus says, he is looking to institute “wholesale, systemic changes” — and to communicate to the Pitt community that his officers understand them.

“We have an officer here who is retired from the state police,” he notes. “He’s going to put his kids through school here.” Loftus may do the same. “We’re going to be the parents in a few years. We want those parents to have their kids here, if they have a police department that understands them.”

—Mary Levine

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AUGUST 28, 2014
Pitt's senior administration grabs most of the headlines. The faculty here get noticed when they bring in research dollars, win teaching awards or publish in their fields. But behind the scenes, University staff, some 7,000 strong across five campuses, often toil in jobs ranging from the mundane to the esoteric.

From mailroom workers to data entry specialists, costume designers to biosafety officers, photographers to accountants, staff at Pitt perform tasks great and small, year-in and year-out, for the greater good of the University.

This is one in an occasional series profiling University staff, providing a glimpse of some of the less recognized employees whose primary business is making Pitt work.

On a summer Saturday, a Pitt Pathfinder — current students trained to give tours to prospective students and their families — called Debbie Rupert in a panic at 8 a.m.

Rupert, senior director in the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid, already had been in Alumni Hall since about 5 a.m., making sure food and facilities were ready for the full day's recruiting event, which can attract more than 2,400 people.

"They have shut down the Cathedral of Learning and we can't take tours through," the Pathfinder told Rupert.

The campus's central showpiece was closed so that equipment could be hauled in for a charitable event that evening. "They were bringing in air conditioners while we were bringing in 1,800 people for tours," Rupert recalls. Yet somehow she still wrangled permission to get her students trained to give tours in the room!

"There's some rejoicing if this is the one who empties the nest. There's some rejoicing in the room!" Rupert's boss, chief enrollment officer Marc Harding, is the opening act for these events. He really ought to be the headliner, because he kills. On a recent August morning he was utterly personable and funny as he interviewed students and legged on the parents to let their true feelings show: "Raise your hand if you're the one who empties the nest. There's some rejoicing in the room!"

"That, my children, is the value of learning a second language." Harding dimmed the lights and showed a few hidden-image slides. When the crowd let out an "Ah..." at the realization that there were two dancers in what previously had seemed a Rorschach inkblot, Harding announced: "That sound is you connecting the dots that Pitt is the greatest college..."

He ended his presentation with a drawn-out but rapidly recited joke about a mother mouse who scares a cat from her "micelets" by barking like a dog. The punchline: "That, my children, is the value of learning a second language."

When you come to Pitt, don't care what you study, take a tour; Pitt bus tours and onto other tours and then had to be rescued by van. One time on a tour the father of a prospective student left the group on Mt. Washington to ride the Duquesne Incline and found them gone when he got back up. Rupert had to help him rejoin the Pitt tour. Tour groups get stuck in elevators. People fall down escalators or pass out. On a recent afternoon there were three attendees on crutches.

Rupert's staff does everything from giving out 5,000 pairs of sunglasses for prospective students to distributing baby clothes and little T-shirts for the smallest family members in attendance.

"Or dogs," she says. "Two months ago we put six-month-olds' T-shirts on two little Chihuahuas. I tell the Pathfinders, this job will prepare you for anything in life, because you will experience everything. We always find a way to make it work."

"So you want to be..."

On five Fridays in the summer, Rupert's office runs full-day events called "So you want to be...", geared to prospective students from specific schools.

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Finally, Rupert called in a favor from a Pitt staffer who ran a contracting company on the side and had the right equipment on hand.

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"So you want to be..."

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advantage of everything,” he coached.

Harding doesn’t introduce himself by title, to keep the event more welcoming, Rupert points out.

But the identities and experience of the rest of the presenters is crucial to communicating the Pitt experience to the crowded auditorium. They include two of Rupert’s staff — one a recent grad and former Pathfinder, followed by a student panel and school officials. They all speak from experience about the factors students ought to consider when choosing a university, and explain the opportunities available at each Pitt school.

It takes 25 admissions staff to plan and run each Friday/Saturday event, Rupert says, plus 40 Pathfinders to give the tours. For these weekend events, the tours start at 7 a.m. “Thirty-four went out at 7 a.m. on Saturday,” said Rupert, speaking on a recent August afternoon. “It’s amazing. It’s also smart,” since there are many school-centered panel discussions and other tours — individual schools, the upper campus and the City of Pittsburgh — offered each afternoon.

Last year, 1,179 people came to Pitt for the Friday and Saturday summer programs. By early this month, the events already had set a new record, with 12,609 attendees.

The funnel
Admissions officials like to refer to “funneling” students from vague interest to enrolling and attending. On four Saturday programs in the fall, Rupert says, “that’s where the funnel starts to come down a little, where you get students who are more interested in Pitt.”

Each fall Rupert also organizes a program to attract under-represented minorities. In addition, she produces five spring Saturday events for admitted students, plus two days focused on University Honors College opportunities. “We’re just trying to compete for their matriculation,” she says. “They love Pitt but they might like someplace else. We have to find that perfect fit for them.”

And these are special tours for younger high schoolers and educational sessions for guidance counselors flown to campus from areas of the county where Pitt mostly recruits its out-of-state students.

One of the latest additions to the weekend recruitment events is sports for visitors to put their heads inside cut-outs and click a photo. There are a person-sized Cathedral of Learning, a football player, men and women basketball players, a cheerleader, a giant Pitt ID, a Pitt News front page and Pennzoil the Pathfinder Panther.

At the end of the event, when students fill out an application, the Pathfinders and staff all stop to ring bells and shake pom-poms in celebration.

Preparing for the welcome onslaught
Every Monday, Rupert meets with her Admissions staff and Pathfinders, reviewing attendee survey comments from the past weekend’s programs.

"Every single week we will tweak something for the next Friday and Saturday," she says. "Every to offer you let get a crazy person who thinks you should have kept it from coming," or who asks for more concrete benches outside buildings, she reports. But, mostly, the comments are helpful.

Heather Abrams, associate director of Admissions, assigns staff and Pathfinders to the registration tables, deciding who is going to open what doors and coordinating which Pitt colors each group will don that day.

“We meet a thousand times a week,” Rupert says. “Heather and I are stuck together all summer.” Admissions staff members take top administrators on their tours to show them their own areas of responsibility, up to the eyes of visitors. It has helped get quick action on facilities that need upgrades or a good cleaning, she says.

Rupert has toured other schools informally, but still believes Pitt does its tours best. “The Pathfinders are the key.”

Joining the 130-member Pathfinder group is “very, very competitive,” she says. Only 60 of 600 applicants an accepted each year, and they are put through more than three months of intensive training. Each summer, about 40 of them stay on campus in the Towers and work recruitment tours and PittTARTI orientation.

Rupert says she tells the Pathfinders: “When you speak to a family, you speak from the heart. Even if you had a bad experience you have to be honest. Just put a positive spin on the experience.”

Surveys show that Pathfinders do have a positive influence on family impressions, she reports. “Families know that staff are paid... whereas Pathfinders are closer to the experience and they’re very honest with their comments.”

“I always say to parents, remember the first time you fell in love? Don’t go anywhere you don’t get that feeling in your stomach.”

She fondly recalls a practice of former Chancellor Mark Nordenberg, and wonders about whether new Chancellor Patrick Gallagher will do the same: “Nordenberg used to have a habit of popping in on tours. Families went crazy. I’m hoping Gallagher will do the same. We’ve already picked a group of 15 dates.”

—Marley Levine

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3-D printing technology isn’t new, but its increasing affordability and availability is creating new opportunities on campus for members of the University community to create physical objects from digital files. 3-D printers have been in use in the Swanson School of Engineering for a decade. More recently, the University’s Health Sciences Library System (HSLS) and Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education (CIDDE) have been taking a closer look at practical uses for faculty, staff and students.

Once the domain of product developers—the technology was invented in the 1980s to facilitate prototyping by enabling design changes and the manufacturing of parts without the expense of molds—3-D printing is moving into the consumer realm, thanks to the recent expiration of patents and user-friendly advances in computer-aided design (CAD) software.

Consumer-grade 3-D printers cost around $2,000 and myriad designs are available—many for free—on sites such as thingiverse.com, which features digital design files for items ranging from the practical to the whimsical. But it’s not all toys, tools and gadgets. Recognizing the potential for aiding medical research, the National Institutes of Health recently launched the NIH 3-D Print Exchange (http://3Dprint.nih.gov/). In addition to tutorials on 3-D printing software, the site has designs for tools, labware, models of bacteria, body parts and chemical structures—even a microscope adapter for an iPhone.

In a prepared release on the site launch, NIH director Francis S. Collins stated: “3-D printing is a potential game changer for medical research. At NIH, we have seen an incredible return on investment: pennies’ worth of plastic have helped investigators address important scientific questions while saving time and money. We hope that the NIH 3-D Print Exchange will expand interest and participation in this new and exciting field among scientists, educators and students.”

According to HSLS technology services librarian Julia Dahm, “There’s growing interest in offering access to 3-D printers in libraries.” She noted that the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh offers training and access to its 3-D printer free at the Oakland branch.

Last year, she began investigating how HSLS could help connect the University community with 3-D printing technology. While the library hasn’t ruled out having its own 3-D printer someday, for now Dahm is serving as liaison to existing 3-D printing resources on campus. She also has developed an hour-long class to introduce users to the technology.

The workshop, “Create It Yourself With 3-D Printing,” is offered periodically as part of HSLS’s array of classes. In it, Dahm explains the terminology and history of additive manufacturing, rapid prototyping and the rise of today’s maker-culture phenomenon.

The session includes video of her own project: the manufacture of a library study room key tag using a desktop MakerBot, and current examples of health-related applications for 3-D printing, such as building customizable prosthetics for children, creating anatomical models as study aids for medical students and modeling medical scans to help surgeons plan their approach to an operation.

While 3-D printing is becoming a more familiar concept, “There’s not a huge demand yet,” she said. “It needs to get more common and have more quality at the consumer level.”

Large-scale manufacturing remains cheaper, “and they have what you want,” Dahm said. “But this fills a niche for things that can’t be mass produced.”

CIDDE’s classroom services division—whose primary role is to help faculty and staff use technology effectively in teaching and learning—is experimenting with a recently purchased 3-D printer and assessing interest among faculty, said Michael Arenth, director of classroom and media services.

As one of its initial projects, Arenth said, CIDDE printed structural models for a chemistry department faculty member.

“We’re constantly looking at what’s on the horizon of technology,” said Arenth, noting that the education technology organization New Media Consortium (NMC) includes 3-D printing among a handful of important developments to watch in education technology for higher education.

NMC, in its 2014 Horizon Report, predicted broad adoption of 3-D printing in higher education within two-three years. Arenth noted.

Arenth said CIDDE’s focus is on the mainstream aspects of 3-D printing. The rise of maker spaces and increasing popularity of maker culture brings students to campus “with different expectations, and Pitt wants to respond,” he said, noting that someday there could be stations around campus where individuals could print their own 3-D files.

The technology isn’t solely for science-related fields, he said. For instance, theatre groups could print 3-D models of stage sets prior to their actual construction.

For now, his group is especially interested in reaching out to schools and academic departments that may lack the resources to invest in the technology on their own. “We’re looking to hear from people who may have needs,” Arenth said.

—Kimberly K. Barlow

Dental school faculty member Thomas Kunkel, above, holds a prototype for a steel-cast die replicating an ideal crown preparation, created in the Swanson Center for Product Innovation using 3-D printing technology. The die will be used in research that aims to improve the fit of dental crowns.

At right, top: J. Andrew Holmes feeds plastic filament into a consumer-grade 3-D printer in the Swanson Center for Product Innovation in Benedum Hall. Below, mechanical engineering student Steve Sargent watches as the first layers of a two-part twisty box, similar to the one pictured at far-right, are printed.
While 3-D printing is increasingly accessible at the consumer level, the go-to guru and gatekeeper for Pitt's higher-end 3-D printing resources is Andrew Holmes of the Swanson School of Engineering's Swanson Center for Product Innovation (SCPI).

The printers, which turn a digital design into a 3-D object, are among an array of tools available for prototyping and rapid manufacturing at SCPI, which also houses a machine shop and electronics shop.

Holmes said 3-D printing is merely a tool to help people get work done. “You have to know what it’s good for,” he said. “It’s not for building square things.” There are other tools for that.

“[It’s] for making things you can’t make in any other way.”

Instead of making parts and putting them together, 3-D printing can make it possible to create pre-assembled items, with hinges or movable parts, for instance. The technology also enables shapes to be optimized for weight and strength without the limitations of traditional manufacturing. Certain shapes that would be difficult to machine can easily be printed, layer by layer, he said.

Times have changed since Holmes’ first encounter with 3-D printing—in 1995, when the only machine in the area was at CMU, and learning computer-aided design was a week-long endeavor.

Pitt’s first 3-D printer had a quarter-million dollar price tag a decade ago, said Holmes. That professional-grade stereolithography (SLA) machine, which uses a computer-guided laser to selectively cure and solidify a liquid polymer, is still in use.

The center also has a high-quality fused deposition modeling (FDM) printer, a $35,000 machine the size of a refrigerator that feeds a heated thermoplastic filament through a nozzle to build items layer by layer, along with several consumer-grade MakerBot printers that use the technology.

Consumer-grade machines can be purchased for around $2,000, but they can’t match the resolution and reliability of the more expensive models. Still, users can create some amazing things. A Pitt engineering student designed and built his own brushless motor using one of SCPI’s MakerBot 3-D printers, which are available to engineering students 24/7.

Time-lapse video of his project is featured at http://backyard.com/2014/07/30/a-3d-printer/brushless-motor/.

Holmes, whose background is in machining, has been at Pitt since 1986. Formerly part of the McGowan Center for Artificial Organ Development team that developed the Streamliner artificial heart and blood pump, he has worked in the engineering school since 2001.

In addition to working with students — he speaks in senior design classes and assists with product development projects — for a fee he assists individuals with making parts and prototypes.

Among his most recent projects: creating a prototype for the School of Dental Medicine researchers in prostodontics, who are studying how wear on the cutting burrs that are used in milling dental crowns affects the accuracy of the fit.

“We want to know when to change the burrs to ensure quality restoration,” said prostodontics faculty member Robert Engelmeier. Is the fifth or 10th or 15th crown as accurate at the first?

Minimizing the gap between the tooth and the restoration is important in keeping bacteria out, noted prostodontics faculty member Thomas Kunkel.

Holmes took a sketch on graph paper of a diode replicating an ideal crown preparation to a digital design — “You can’t make a 3-D part without a 3-D database,” he said — to the SLA printer to create a prototype in epoxy resin for the team to evaluate.

Once the researchers are satisfied that the die is exactly right, it will be made in stainless steel.

And that’s the beauty of 3-D printing: “It has a lot to do with mass customizations. You design, make, make changes,” Holmes said. “You don’t need any tools to make this stuff.”

— Kimberly K. Barlow

People of the Times

Patrick Manning, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of World History, is the new president-elect of the American Historical Association. The organization is the largest in the country devoted to the study of history, and its 14,000 members represent elementary school teachers, professors of history, and people in many other specializations and professions. Manning, who also directs Pitt's World History Center, says the association is especially valuable at this time for encouraging historical analysis, both for recent concerns and about our common ancestors.

"There has been a recent outpouring of new knowledge and data in many fields," Manning said. "I hope to help the association invest in alliances worldwide, focus on graduate education, develop ties with other disciplines in the sciences and social science, and stay involved in the debate about public education."

Pitt Police Officer Steve Cerda was honored with the annual Oakwatch Ally of the Year Award for his work with Oakland residents and enforcement partners to reduce disruptive behavior and educate off-campus students about responsible neighborhood living.

Oakwatch is the Oakland code enforcement project hosted by Oakland Planning and Development Corp. It enforces codes on negligent property owners, housing violations, parking violations, disruptive behavior, excessive noise, and other drinking in public places. It has brought together community groups, institutions, local government entities, law enforcement and others to collaborate in finding solutions to challenges within the community.

Tony Berich, director of athletics at Pitt-Greensburg, has been elected chair of the NCAA Division III national golf committee. Berich has served the past three years as a regional representative to this committee, which oversees 299 golf teams as well as the rules regarding Division III golf, the selection of the teams for the Division III golf championship, and the Division III golf championship to be held at the Grandover Resort in May 2015.

Vladimir Zadorozhny, faculty member in the School of Information Sciences, received the Association for Information Science and Technology program, has received a Fulbright award to Norway.

Amelia Acker, faculty member in the School of Information Sciences library and information science program, received the 2014

Bowling league hosts open house

The Pitt bowling league will launch its season with an open house at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 2 at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association (PAA). League bowling begins Sept. 1 and continues on Tuesdays through April at the PAA lanes.

The league is open to Pitt staff, faculty, graduate students, retirees and 100 PAA employees. No experience or skill is necessary.

The weekly cost is $10, which covers three games and shoe rental and funds the year-end banquet. Bowlers pay only when they bowl.

League organizer Howard Goodman, a staff member in budget and financial reporting, tours the league as a good way to meet people from across the University.

Attendance at the open house is not mandatory, but bowlers wishing to be added to a team should contact Goodman at hogoodm@pitt.edu or Dan McCue at the PAA, Dan.McCue@paaclub.org, 412/567/2075.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13
Childhood disability at all-time high

The percentage of children with disabilities due to neurological or mental health conditions continues to rise, particularly among children in non-advantaged communities, according to a study by the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

The study led by Amy Houotrow, vice chair of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. It found that while there has been a decline in physical health-related disabilities by approximately 12 percent, there is a large, nearly 21 percent rise in disabilities classified as neurodevelopmental or mental health in nature.

The researchers studied data from the National Health Interview Survey, conducted by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2001-11, evaluating each child’s ability to perform activities at home and school. Although children living in poverty have the highest rates of disability, children living in families at or above 400 percent of the federal poverty level reported an 8.4 percent increase in disabilities over the past 10 years. Reasons that may explain the increased rates of disability related to neurodevelopmental or mental health conditions include shifts in diagnostic criteria, overall increase in rates of certain problems including autism, increased awareness of these conditions, and the need for a specific diagnosis to receive services such as early intervention.

Said Houotrow: "This study demonstrates what a lot of health care providers have been dealing with for several years—that they are seeing more neurodevelopmental and mental health problems in their clinical practices. As we look toward the future, the pediatric health care workforce will need to adapt to assure the best possible health and functional outcomes for children with disabilities related to neurodevelopmental and mental health conditions."

The authors concluded that documenting the changes in child disability burdens is an important step in developing better prevention and treatment strategies in determining how to create and deliver services to best meet the needs of all children.

Co-investigators were from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the University of California-San Francisco and UCLA.

The research was funded by NIH and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Great funds ECU

The European Union Center of Excellence was awarded a grant of almost 50,000 euros from the Delegation of the EU to the U.S. in 2014 under the European Commission. The grant is the first to receive equal matching from the University, bringing its total funds to $50,000, which will be used for faculty and student research and activities.

Pitt’s EU Center is one of only four centers nationwide to receive continuing funding from the EU since the program began, and one of only two U.S. centers awarded funding and authorized to use the designation “Center of Excellence.”

The grant provides funding for any project that includes the participation of at least one University of Siena EU student. It includes a 500-euro grant for research related to the cultural or historical changes related to the European integration movement and the EU’s impact on student exchange.

The grant is for projects that are completed within the 2014-15 academic year, and the deadline for proposals is October 15.

Michael G. Wells Student Health Care Entrepreneurship Competition Winner Announcement

5:45 pm, 7th floor Auditorium, Opening Reception and Technology Showcase

5-7 p.m. J.W. Connolly Ballroom, 1st floor

All Science 2014 events are mandatory for all students attending the conference. The judges will be evaluating your technologies as a component of the Technology Showcase. All in all, it’s a first look you shouldn’t miss out on and includes technologies that have received development funding and mentorship from the Coulter Translational Research Partnership II and the Center for Medical Innovation.

Information: 412-624-3160
Advance registration: www.science2014.pitt.edu/register.htm

All Science 2014 events are free and open to the public.
RESEARCH NOTES
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Pennsylvania Project, 283 community pharmacists were trained at workshops in PERU staff to ask customers a few quick questions about medication adherence using established survey tools. They also taught to have a brief dialogue with patients whose screening scores indicated they were at risk of not taking their medications as prescribed by their doctors. The conversation might include questions and reassurances about side effects or a request that the patient talk to the pharmacist after taking the medication for a little while to report how they were feeling.

During 2011, 29,042 people had prescriptions filled at 107 Rite Aid pharmacies that implemented the screening and brief intervention approach (SBI) and 30,454 people who went to 111 "control" pharmacies that didn't use SBI. The research team then reviewed insurance claims data to evaluate medication adherence with a measure called "Propor- tion of DaysCovered" or PDC. A PDC of 80 percent, meaning the medication was taken for at least 80 percent of the expected days, indicated that the minimal medication dose needed to achieve the desired clinical outcomes. Over 90 percent of patients were recorded for both the intervention year and for 2010, the year prior to the intervention.

For the five classes of common medications, the researchers reviewed PDC for patients who were given medication as a group during the intervention compared to the control group, indicating that patients showed increased adherence for beta blockers to treat high blood pressure to 4.8 percent for oral diabetes drugs.

About 75 percent of the net improvement was due to patients who were at high risk for poor medication adherence achieving the PDC80 benchmark after the intervention.

Health care costs dropped by $341 annually per person for SBI patients compared to $352 for control patients, along with $241 for SBI patients taking statins to lower cholesterol. In the state of Pennsylvania, the study also received monthly PDC-measure feedback reports that allowed pharmacists to monitor medication adherence relative to peers and helped them identify their population of patients at risk for non-adherence.

The study was co-authored by a researcher from RTI International and funded by Pharmacy Quality Alliance.

Screening + drug therapy could make hepatitis C rare

Newly implemented screening guidelines and improved, effective drug therapies could make hepatitis C a rare disease in the United States by 2036, according to the results of a predictive model developed at the Graduate School of Public Health.

The results of the analysis, performed with the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, were published in the Annals of Internal Medicine.

A disease once so rare that it affects at most one in every 1,500 people. Approximately one in five people in the United States currently has chronic hepatitis C, a viral infection that compromises liver function.

In the U.S., hepatitis C is the leading cause of chronic liver disease and the leading reason for liver transplantation. At 13,100 deaths annually, hepatitis C surpassed the annual number of deaths from HIV in 2007. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that chronic hepatitis C infection is estimated at $6.5 billion a year.

In early 2014, hepatitis C drug regimens that could be taken orally were introduced to the market, allowing primary care physicians and infectious disease specialists to take on the role of treating hepatitis C patients. The drugs have been shown to be highly effective in curing the virus almost under detectable in the blood of patients previously found positive for hepatitis C.

The research team created a highly detailed computer model of health and economic outcomes of hepatitis C, both with and without treatment.

The model predicts the number of hepatitis C infections in the United States will remain constant from 2001 to 2050, under multiple potential scenarios including drug treatment, while taking into consideration infection status awareness, stage of disease, treatment barriers, and comorbid drug development, based on data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys (NHANES) and published clinical studies.

The research team then considered what would happen if the guidelines were increased to include a one-time universal screening for hepatitis C among all U.S. citizens, not just baby boomers.

"In that scenario, nearly 1 million cases of hepatitis C would be identified in the next 10 years," said Kabir. "And that translates into making hepatitis C a rare disease by 2050, a decade earlier than we'd predicted with the current screening guidelines.

"It's unknown how much such a program would increase costs. The oral therapy regimen costs as much as $1,000 per day.

The model estimated that universal screening coupled with the new drug therapies would reduce liver-related deaths by 161,200 and liver transplants by 15,800 from 2014 to 2050.

Future research will be needed to determine how the seduction in deaths and transplants would impact the increased costs of screening and drug therapy.

Additional Pitt researchers on this study were Alison B. Jazwinski, Mark S. Roberts and Andrew J. Schaefer.

This study was supported by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences of N I H.

Eating fish weekly boosts brain health

Eating fish once a week is good for the brain, regardless of how much omega-3 fatty acids a person gets from other foods, according to researchers at the School of Medicine. The findings, published in the Journal of the American College of Preventive Medicine, add to growing evidence that lifestyle changes can improve brain health and extend life.

Scientists estimate that more than 80 million Americans have dementia by 2040, which could
Odds of correct surgery for thyroid cancer patients incorrectly diagnosed

The routine use of a molecular testing panel developed at UPMC greatly increases the likelihood of performing the correct initial surgery for patients with thyroid nodules and cancer, report researchers from the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI), partnering with UPMC CancerCenter. The test, available at the UPMC/UPCI Multidisciplinary Thyroid Center and other high-volume centers, helps doctors avoid unnecessary surgery by correctly identifying 97 percent of patients being diagnosed with one initial surgery. The molecular testing panel has been shown to reduce unnecessary surgery and is a surgical operation to remove the rest of the thyroid.

Researchers at the University of Southern California Health in the case, eating fish, among other lifestyle factors, can affect brain health, particularly in the elderly. The antioxidant effect of omega-3 fatty acids in brain health, rather than biological factors considered responsible for better brain health, has been hypothesized by the team that conducted the study, including faculty member Kirk H. Michael Moore, PhD, and colleagues.

The results show that eating fish, such as broiled or baked fish at least once a week and having a college education than those without a college education, were associated with better brain health. People with a college education had lower levels of high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol, which affects risk of heart disease and stroke, by 20 percent. The researchers found that people who ate fish, especially those who ate fish regularly, had fewer cases of Alzheimer’s disease and impaired cognition.

“We are considering the use of molecular markers when the initial biopsy is inconclusive,” said senior author Oscar Lopez, MD, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Medicine and UPMC CancerCenter. “This test, along with new ideas for improving our current system of care, can help us reduce unnecessary surgery in our patients.”

Researchers have identified a software application, an intervention, or developing patient-focused solutions to the question, “From cell to community: How can we understand and implement real-world solutions for better health and care?”

Solutions could involve personalizing the medical experience, tailoring treatments for a specific disease using genetic information, leveraging family history or other individually unique data, or developing patient-focused interventions.

Certi director Steven Reis, associate vice chancellor for the School of Health sciences and medicine faculty member: “The success of the first PitchCancer and other community members can come up with creative approaches to tackle difficult problems. The competition provides a way of making good ideas a reality.”

Since their selection at a public judging event in May, the teams have been making great progress with their projects, Reis noted. The first step requires submitting a two-minute video by Sept. 15 that introduces the team, and outlines the health problem that is being tackled and briefly outlines the solution. Early round winners will be invited to a final round in which teams will make short presentations to a panel of judges. Teams that bring together different collaborators from different perspectives might be encouraged, but at least one member must be a Pitt faculty member.

The solution could be a device, a software application, an intervention strategy or any other approach that the teams identify. For more information and to register a team, go to www.pitchcancer.pitt.edu.

Pacemakers more likely after dementia

In the second competition of its kind, Pitt will award up to $375,000 to teams of creative thinkers who have fresh ideas to solve tough, health-related problems. Pitt is launching a new challenge to make the medical experience; individualize solutions for better health, and make decisions about treatments in a way that’s user-friendly.

In the previous Pitt Innovation Challenge (PitchCancer), the solutions would have to improve care for a new pacemaker were 1.6 times more likely to receive a pacemaker compared to participants without cognitive impairment, even after controlling for clinical factors. We also saw a bit of a surprising difference among those with dementia, because aggressive interventions might not be appropriate for this group.

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As in the previous Pitt Innovation Challenge, the solutions would have to be creative and increased likelihood of heart rhythm irregularities, pacemakers more likely after dementia. People with dementia are more likely to get implanted pacemakers for heart rhythm irregularities, according to a new study, which shows that people who don’t have cognitive difficulties, according to researchers at the School of Medicine. In a research letter published online in JAMA Internal Medicine, the researchers found that people with dementia were less likely to get a pacemaker when used to help in the diagnosis of thyroid cancer.

The researchers found that participants with cognitive impairments were significantly older and more likely to be male, have ischemic heart disease and pain of stroke. Rates of atrial fibrillation and congestive heart failure were similar among the groups.

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Kevin Hyunkyung Kim

Kevin Hyunkyung Kim, a School of Education faculty member, died July 18, 2014, at his home in Sewickley. He was 45.

Kim taught as an assistant professor, and became an associate professor of methodology in the Department of Psychology in Education in 2009.

Kim served as the University Education Foundation homestudy program director, and was a member of the Mathematics Education Committee.

Kim was known for his work on the development of educational technology and was an expert in the field of educational psychology.

Kim's research focused on the development of educational technology and the use of technology in the classroom. He published several articles on the topic in leading journals and conferences.

Kim was also an active member of the School of Education and was involved in many outreach and service projects.

Kim was survived by his wife, two children, and his parents.

—Lynne Levine

Robert Sutherland Lord

A memorial concert and tribute is set for 3 p.m. Oct. 26 in Heinz Chapel for professor emeritus of music Robert Sutherland Lord, who died July 24, 2014. He was 84.

Lord earned his bachelor's degree in music at Dartmouth and his master's and PhD in music history at Yale.

Lord began his teaching career in 1959 in Davidson College in North Carolina, where he was college organist.

He came to Pitt in 1962 as an associate professor and University organist. He was granted tenure in 1963, and was promoted to full professor in 1984. That same year, Lord became chair of the music department, initially serving a three-year term.

Lord, who served as University organist at Heinz Chapel for 37 years, performed more than 160 organ concerts and played for more than 4,000 weddings at the chapel.

He also performed at high-profile concert events, including the chancelor’s hoilday reception from 2001 and memorials for Vitali Heinz and for Sen. John Heinz III in 2009.

Lord was commissioned to “transplant” a theme from Mozart into a piece for organ in 1978. That same year, Lord was a transplant surgeon Stanford’s 80th birthday. Lord’s “Mozart/Transplant Organ” was an improvisation on an aria from the opera “Don Giovanni.”

Lord's final faculty organ recital at Heinz Chapel, given in March 1999, shortly before his retirement, drew nearly 600 guests. Professor emeritus Don O. Franklin, former music department chair, said Lord was a teacher, a performer and a researcher.

He played a key role in transforming Pitt’s music department “from a service department to one that offered an undergraduate music major and a doctoral program in musicology,” Franklin said.

“He was a very lively presence, both in interacting with the students and in the community,” Franklin said. “He was integral to faculty discussions.”

Franklin said that Lord was beloved by both coloratura and baritone.

“He was a very active chair,” Franklin said. “He just had a focus on strengthening music performance, particularly for undergraduates.”

Franklin said Lord was quite committed to playing at the chapel’s many weddings and accommodating bride’s musical requests. To assist in their selections, he created a listening library of suggested music.

Lord’s academic interests were focused on 19th and 20th century French organ music. He was an author on the music of French composer and organist Charles Tournemire and he wrote extensively on the “St. Clotilde tradition” of music by organists at Paris’ St. Clotilde basilica: Cesar Franck, Tournemire and Jean Langlais, with whom Lord studied.

Music faculty member Deane Root, director of Pitt’s Center for Contemporary Music, said Lord, a fellow musicologist, was among the first people he met when he arrived at Pitt in 1992.

“His international scholarly work was focused on 20th-century French organists, as a performer of that repertoire and a champion of it as well,” Root said.

Lord served as Heinz Chapel organist for more than a decade, learning much about organ repair and construction at Lord’s side in the 1980s as plans to replace the chapel organ materialized.

Lord knew how he wanted the organ to sound, and he wanted it to have the most modern, reliable technology, Root said.

Lord insisted that the new instrument be equipped to record and playback music—in technology that would allow groups to hear the organ play, even in his absence.

He also had a deep bass stop installed above the transept, “to make the whole building feel as if it’s going to lift off the ground,” Root said.

When the organ installation was complete, “he was delighted with it,” Root said. Lord played the dedication recital for the organ’s 2,472-pipe instrument in 1995.

Often spoken of as “The Lord,” Root said “he did have authority. Many people wanted to have access to the chapel organ. If they wanted it, they had to go through him.”

Still, he was easy to get along with, open to new ideas and fun to be around, Root said. “I rarely heard him even express consternation, except when there were problems with the organ that needed repair.”

Lord noted that being University organist “wasn’t just playing at Heinz Chapel. He also played the instruments that were in Carnegie Music Hall and in the Cathedral of Learning Commons Room and the Frick Fine Arts Building.”

Lord’s Intro to Western Art Music was among the University’s most popular courses, drawing some 800 students to his class each year.

Lord said, “He brought students into these pieces using just a vinyl turntable. He got them deeply engaged. That’s why students really remember those classes to fondly. He gave them something really rare: not just intellectual knowledge but knowledge that was felt in their bodies and in their brains.”

Lord died on July 24, 2014, in Atlanta, Georgia. He was 93.

He is survived by his wife, four children: Nanna, Dennis, David and Linda Vlahakis and her husband, John; Beth Lord Eismont and her husband, Jeff, and Holly Sutherland Lord and her husband, Rich; seven grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Memorial donations may be made to the Christ Episcopal Church Endowment, 5610 Babcock Blvd., Pittsburgh 15237; Animal Friends, 562 Camp Horne Road, Pittsburgh 15237; or the Historic Rotors Organ Restorat ion Fund, P.O. Box 840, Urbana, Ohio 43078.

—Kimberly K. Barlow

George Plutchok

George Plutchok, professor emeritus of social work, died July 21, 2014, in Atlanta, Georgia. He was 93.

He joined the University in the early 1970s and rose to become associate dean of the School of Social Work.

“George Plutchok was truly a man for all seasons,” said former colleague Edward W. Sites, also a professor emeritus in the school.

“He was an academic, spiritual, professional and personal lives were intertwined. He was well known for his graciousness, selflessness, social activism, deep knowledge and kindness. A musician, theologian, award-winning social worker and devoted public servant, he was a colleague extraordinary.”

Born in New York City on Oct. 31, 1921, Plutchok earned his PhD from New York University in 1942 and his master’s and doctorate of social work from the University of Pennsylvania in 1949 and 1963, respectively.

He returned for a visit and would note that Dr. Lord had both played at their wedding as well as left them with an appreciation for music and the arts that they never had before their educational experience at the University.”

Beyond his work at the University, Plutchok was an authority on the music of 19th and 20th century French organ music. He was among the University’s first faculty organists and was a leader in the Jewish Community Center in New York City and the Historic Rotors Organ Restoration Fund, P.O. Box 840, Urbana, Ohio 43078.

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—Margy Levine
The founding chairman of the School of Medicine's Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Albert B. Ferguson Jr., died Aug. 20, 2014, at the age of 97. Predreaded for his current chair of the department, remembered Ferguson as "a giant in the field. His impact is tremendous."

Ferguson transformed a mere division into a fully fledged department, adding residency training and research labs.

"From that he was able to train so many good people that 50 of them became heads of departments in the United States and overseas."

His research, which advanced several orthopaedic procedures, was equally important, Ferguson added. "He was a great clinician, too," having operated on and improved the lives of thousands.

Born June 10, 1919, in New York City, Ferguson graduated in 1943 from Harvard Medical School. Following a stint in the Marines, he trained in orthopedic surgery at and became a resident in the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre. He led several orthopaedic organizations and was abroad for his work, as well as nationally and in Pennsylvania by the American Orthopaedic Association. He also published his research widely and authored numerous orthopaedic textbooks.

Ferguson founded the department's sports medicine program, which has become known for research on knee injuries and concussions. He was a physician for Pitt sports as well as the Pittsburgh Steeler and Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre.

He was also an important mentor and supporter for junior faculty and graduate students, he was always available to listen, provide wise counsel and deflect conflicts. He will be remembered for his warmth, empathy and sense of fairness."

University professor emeritus of mathematics J. Bryce McLeod, a noted expert in applied analysis of differential equations, died Aug. 20, 2014, in Abingdon, England. He was 84.

A native of Aberdeen, Scotland, McLeod studied at Aberdeen University and received a DPhil at Oxford. He taught at the University of Edinburgh, then at Wadham College, Oxford.

Having summer and sabbatical appointments in the United States, including at Wisconsin and at Pitt, he maintained many American connections in applied mathematics.

During a mandatory retirement in the UK, he accepted the University's offer of a research professorship, coming to Pitt as a tenured full professor in 1987.

Among many honors, he was a fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and fellow of the Royal Society of London. He was awarded the Whitelaw Prize of the Edinburgh Mathematical Society in 1956, the Keith Medal and Prize of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1967 and the Naylor Prize and Lectureship in applied mathematics in 2011.

McLeod collaborated widely, including with several Pitt colleagues, developing mathematical solutions for problems in fields including mechanics, physics, engineering and biology.

He also monitored a number of grad students and postdoc emeritus colleague Bill Troy said: "Throughout his career he was personally interested in his students and their work, and so would do their research."

"He made sure his students were treated well," McBuney said.

"He would go to bat for them." Charles Persoff, now executive administrator of the Office of the Provost, noted, "Merle Moskowitz was the steady hand in coordinating teaching in the Department of Psychology for many years, prior to my becoming chair of the department in 1992. Merle was an unwavering voice of sound advice to me and to others throughout his active time in the department. He was highly respected for his practical wisdom and broad knowledge of University and department affairs."

Persoff noted that Moskowitz's academic specialty was the normative years of psychological science during the first half of the 20th century. For his part, he had high academic values and contributed to departmental quality by performing duties that help to maintain the good reputation that Pitt received from Merle's course in the history of their discipline, a grounding that is necessary for present-day students, unless they achieve on their own," Persoff said.

Susan B. Campbell, chair of the psychology department program, said, "Merle Moskowitz was a serious scholar of the history of psychology and also instrumental in the history of Pitt's psychology department for decades. Not only was Merle a department historian, but he was also an important mentor and support for junior faculty and graduate students, he was always available to listen, provide wise counsel and deflect conflicts. He will be remembered for his warmth, empathy and sense of fairness."

Memorial contributions are suggested to the University of Pittsburgh Albert Ferguson Orthopedic Resident Education Fund at the Medical and Health Science Foundation, 3600 Forbes Ave., Suite 8084, Pittsburgh 15213.
Burkart Holzner

Burkart Holzner, former director of the University Center for International Studies (UCIS), Distinguished Service Professor of International Studies and emeritus professor of sociology and public and international affairs, died Aug. 25, 2014. He was 83.

A native of Germany, Holzner studied at Munich University and the University of Wisconsin. He earned a PhD in psychology at the University of Bonn. Holzner came to Pitt as an assistant professor in sociology in 1966. He became UCIS director in 1988, following the death in 1979 of founding UCIS director Carl Beck. Holzner was succeeded at UCIS in 2000 by Lawrence Feick, who told the University Times: “Burkart Holzner was a seminal thinker about international education. His influence was enormous in the field and far reaching.”

In 1998, Holzner was a recipi- ent of the Chancellor’s Distinguished Public Service Award in recognition of his “excellently out- standing and consistent service to the university.” He received the award at the PSMLA-University of Pittsburgh-Association of Universities for Research in Higher Education, Educational Conference in October, recognizes presented to Orsatti at the PSMLA-University of Pittsburgh Educator of the Year Award. The award, to be pre- sented at the PSMLA-University of Pittsburgh-Association of Universities for Research in Higher Education, Educational Conference in San Antonio, Texas, in 2014. The award recognizes an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the field of education through clinical care, education, service and/or research.

Several members of the Learn- ing Research and Development Center have received awards recently:

• Einat Heyd-Metzuyanim was selected by the AERA for the Special Interest Group on Developmental Disabilities/Scientific Contributions to Internationalization of the University of Pittsburgh, the Pitts- burgh region and higher education in the United States and abroad.

• Karen Lillis was awarded the 2014 Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award from the Society for Text and Discourse.

• Tessa Warren has won a Women in Cognitive Science Mentorship Award.

The award recognizes an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the field of education through clinical care, education, service and/or research.

School of Social Work faculty member Rafael Engel has been named the co-editor-in-chief of the Journal of Intergenerational Relations. The journal helps scholars, practitioners, policymakers, educators and advocates address the ever-increasing intergenerational research, practice methods and policy initiatives.

The Executive Council of the Pennsylvania State Modern Languages Association (PSMLA) selected Pitt-Greensburg’s Silvina Orsatti, part-time Spanish instructor, to represent Pitt-Greensburg at the 2014 PSMLA Educator of the Year Award. The award, to be present- ed at Orsatti at the PSMLA-University of Pittsburgh-Association of Universities for Research in Higher Education, Educational Conference in October, recognizes individuals and organizations for their distinguished teaching and professional contributions in world languages and cultures.

Gwendolyn Sowa, faculty member in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and assistant dean of medical student research at the School of Medicine, is the 2014 recipi- ent of the Physiatric Association of Spine, Sports and Occupational Rehabilitation Legacy Award and Chairperson of the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. The award recognizes an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the field of education through clinical care, education, service and/or research.

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**CALENDAR**

**SHSU/Rehabilitation Science & Technology**
Biomechanical Validation of Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS) to Exams: Oklahoma Independent Transfers in Wheelchair Users. Chang-Ying Tsai. Sept. 3, 4:00 PM, Ten. 2, 2 pm.

**Pitt Innovation Challenge (PICCh)**
Submission deadline is Sept. 15. (www.pich.pitt.edu)

**Sharing Partnership for Innovative Research in Translation (SPIRIT) Consortium**
Letter of intent due Sept. 15. (www.csit.pitt.edu)

**Event Deadline**
The next issue of the University Times will include University & on-campus events of Sept. 11-25. Information for events during that period must be received by 9 pm on Sept. 4. Send information to ut@pitt.edu.

**AUGUST 28, 2014**

**Thursday 11**

**Molecular Biophysics/Structural Biology Seminar**
Joseph Paglioli, Stanford, 6014 BB27, 11 am

**CTSI Workshop**

**Chemistry Seminars**
"Imaging Mass Spectrometry of 3-D Cell Culture," Amandeep Hansoo, Nima Dania, 2-30 pm, Nicholas Koon, 11 of 11, 4 pm, 150 Chartier (4-8200).

**Defenses**
**Medicine/Biomedical Informatics**

Ahm/Pharmacy
"Kant, the 'a priori' & the Possibility of Empirical Knowledge," Yike Niuq, June 39, 10:01 B CL, 2 pm.

**UNIVERSITY TIMES**

2014-15 publication schedule

**Events occurring**

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**The University Times event calendar includes Pitt-sponsored events as well as non-Pitt events held on a Pitt campus. Information submitted for the calendar should identify the type of event, such as lecture or concert, and the program's specific title, sponsor, location and time. The name and phone number of a contact person should be included. Information should be sent by email to: ut@pitt.edu.**

**Sunday Eucharist**
8 am, spoken; 10:30 am with choral & organ music.

* 5700 Forbes Ave.
* 4th floor, building from Forbes & Murray
* Bus routes: 27A, B, C, D, 64 & 74

**FOR SALE**

**BRADS**
2 never TREAD, red & tan cuddle blhes. $14.95 & $15.95. Less, post receipt. HSP & cash only. Elegant in 1000 papers. For sale or purchase contact: Sarah, 412-624-4843.

**HOUSING/RENT**

**SOUTH OAKLAND**
2 bhk-2.5 bath 2 BR home, 4 BR house, 3 BR home, 2.5 bath, for rent now. For details,
Call 412-783-3853 for details.

**CAMPUS EVENTS**

**FOR SALE**

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**CLASSIFIED**

**FOR SALE**

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Making a difference in Pittsburgh
Welcoming you just as you are!

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What’s NEW at PITT?

The hustle and bustle that marks the beginning of the academic year has returned: The proliferation of laundry carts and upperclass student volunteers pointing the way to newcomers and their families during Arrival Survival.

But for many at Pitt, the hazy days of summer have been anything but lazy: Facilities were renovated; faculty and staff came and went; academic programs were established.

The University Times asked deans, unit heads and others: “What's New at Pitt?” The summaries that follow are overviews of school news based on material submitted by the units. Information previously published in the University Times was not included here.

The listings were coordinated by Kimberly K. Barlow and Marty Levine.

Arts and sciences

The Department of Political Science welcomes new faculty members Michael Aklin and Katherine Francis.

Aklin joins the department as an assistant professor. A specialist in the politics of environmental sustainability and international and comparative political economy, he is particularly interested in understanding why some countries are able to reduce their vulnerability to major risks such as economic or environmental catastrophes. Aklin received his PhD from New York University. During the 2014-15 academic year he will be on leave as a fellow at the Christopher H. Browne Center for International Politics at Penn.

Francis has been appointed a lecturer and will serve as one of the two advisers for the department’s undergraduate majors. She received her PhD this year from the University of Illinois/ Urbana-Champaign, and is interested in American politics,
particular legislative politics and the U.S. Congress.

Kevin Binning joins the Department of Psychology as an assistant professor from the University of California, where he was a visiting and postdoctoral scholar. He also is a research scientist at LRDC. Binning completed his PhD in psychology at the University of California Santa Barbara with an emphasis on social psychology and a minor in quantitative methods. His research focuses on how status and respect influence personal and organizational well-being in ethically diverse contexts.

Also appointed assistant professor are Scott Fraundorf, whose PhD is from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and Tristen Inagaki, whose PhD is from UCLA.

Fraundorf, most recently a postdoctoral research associate at University of Rochester, will be a research scientist at LRDC. He will conduct research on how long-term learning and experience contribute to reading and language processing and on how learners judge their own learning and memory. This fall he will teach a graduate seminar on mixed effects statistical modeling. Inagaki, whose research interests are in social affective neuroscience, social relationships and health and social connection will join the department in winter 2015. Lecturer Jennifer Ganger will teach undergraduate courses in developmental psychology, language development, experimental child psychology and behavior genetics. She earned a PhD in cognitive science at MIT and completed postdoctoral work in developmental psychology at Pitt.

Christina Sinko is a new postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Sociology. She received her PhD at the University of Virginia, where her dissertation examined political discourse in times of crisis in American history, including an analysis of political discourse in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks. She has a contract with Oxford University Press for a book on the politics of consolation, based on her dissertation research. She will use her fellowship to complete the book, work on papers in progress and collect data for a new book project.

New in the Department of Theatre Arts are assistant professor Dennis Schebetta, lecturer on costume design Karen Gilmer and teaching artists Kimberly Griffin and Ricardo Villa-Roger.

Schebetta, whose MFA is from Virginia Commonwealth University, is a writer, director, actor and teacher of film and theatre. He has taught acting, directing, screenwriting and playwriting at schools including Carnegie Mellon, University of Washington, Bellevue College and VCU. He will head the MFA pedagogy program and will teach acting I in the undergraduate program.

Most recently, Schebetta won the Ellen Weiss Kander Award in the Steeltown Film Factory Competition for his script “My Date with Adam.” He has worked as an actor in several off-off-Broadway theatres and has been seen locally in “August: Osage County,” “Shining City” and “Camino.”

Gilmer’s MFA is from Boston University. She worked as assistant costume designer at the Huntington Theatre Company and has been a freelance costume designer. In 2009 she won the African-American Council of the Arts Award for Best Costume Design for August Wilson’s “Seven Guitars.”

Her lectures and research interests include costume, dress and fashion history, African American theatre and history, mask design and construction, millinery, textile dyeing and painting.

Griffin, an assistant professor, holds an MFA from the University of San Diego and The Old Globe in classical performance. She teaches on costume design and introduction to performance, and will serve as a mentor and acting coach for undergraduate performers.

Villa-Roger, a Pittsburgh-based actor, singer and director, studied acting, directing and voice at the University of Colorado. He will teach introduction to performance and serve as a mentor and acting coach for undergraduate performers.

The Department of Philosophy has two new assistant professors, Jessica Gelber and Michael Caie.

Gelber comes to Pitt from Syracuse University. She earned her PhD at the University of California-Berkeley. Her research focuses on ancient Greek and Roman philosophy, history of modern philosophy, metaphysics and epistemology. Caie, whose PhD is from the University of California-Berkeley, works primarily on issues in philosophical logic, epistemology and philosophy of language.

The Department of Mathematics has added three new lecturers: Shi Ting (Ellen) Bao, Thomas Everest and Linhong Wang, who will teach courses ranging from beginning calculus to the advanced undergraduate level.

Bao’s expertise is in partial differential equations. She has been a visiting assistant professor at Pitt since 2011 and holds a PhD from Rutgers. Everest, who earned his PhD at Pitt, has expertise in functional analysis. He joins the department from Indiana University, where he was an assistant professor. Wang’s expertise is in associative rings and algebras. Her PhD is from Temple and she comes to Pitt from Southeastern Louisiana University, where she was an assistant professor.

Lara Putnam has been appointed chair in the Department of History. She is the department’s first female chair.

The history department has five new faculty members this fall: assistant professors Niklas Frykman and Mari Webel and visiting assistant professors Michel Gobat, Emily Winerock and Michael McCarty. Frykman, whose PhD is from Pitt, taught at Claremont McKenna College. He specializes in 18th-century U.S. and Atlantic history.

Webel, whose PhD is from Columbia, specializes in African history. She most recently held a postdoctoral fellowship at Emory.

Gobat, currently on the faculty at the University of Iowa, will teach courses this year on Latin American history. Winerock, who received her PhD from the University of Toronto, specializes in early modern British history and the history of dance.

McCarty, who received his PhD from Columbia, will teach courses on Japanese and East Asian history.

Jacques Bromberg joins the Department of Classics as an assistant professor. Most recently a visiting assistant professor at Duke, he completed his PhD at Penn. His research interests focus on Greek and Latin
Christopher Nygren has joined the Department of History of Art and Architecture as an assistant professor. Nygren, whose PhD is from Johns Hopkins, has spent the last year as a Mellon postdoctoral fellow at Emory. He will teach undergraduate courses on topics in Renaissance and Baroque art, and will team-teach a graduate seminar on historiography and methodology in the discipline.

Rachael Heiser, formerly an undergraduate program administrator in the Department of Industrial Engineering, has joined the Department of History of Art and Architecture as administrator for undergraduate and graduate programs in art history and architectural studies.

Joining the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures are:
• Marla Dolores Bollo-Panadero, a lecturer/language coordinator in Hispanic languages and literatures. Her PhD is from Michigan State.
• Lecturer Tania Perez Cano, whose PhD is from the University of Iowa.
• Kahili Chaa-Taper, a postdoctoral fellow who holds a PhD from Harvard. His work centers on the intellectual world of 19th-century Cuban and Puerto Rican elites and its links to hemispheric and trans-Atlantic flows of ideas, capital and peoples.
• Mike Gonzalez, emeritus professor of Latin American studies, University of Georgia. He will serve as a visiting professor of Spanish for the fall term.
• Camila Pulgar Machado, a visiting scholar through the Fulbright faculty development program. She will work with Juan Duchene-Winter.

Joining the German department are Mike Caprioni and Peter Bell, who will teach the graduate advanced organic chemistry I course. He earned his PhD at UCLA and most recently served a postdoctoral appointment there. His research focuses on computational modeling to quantitatively describe the origins of reactivity and selectivity in organocatalytic and transition metal-catalyzed reactions.

Peter Bell joins the department as a recitation and laboratory instructor in Chemistry for Health Related Professions and Organic Chemistry I. He has earned his PhD at Pitt and most recently served a postdoctoral appointment there. His research involves the preparation of phenylenevinylene conjugated computer chips for use in dye-sensitized solar cells.

The Department of Economics has hired two assistant professors, Rania Gibble and Douglas Hanley.

Rania Gibble is completing her PhD in economics at Stanford. She specializes in labor economics and labor market analysis.

Douglas Hanley is completing his PhD in economics at Penn. His research interests focus on endogenous growth, technological change and firm dynamics. He will teach Intermediate Macroeconomics and Computational Methods in Economics.

The Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures is welcoming new faculty:
• James Coleman, who holds a PhD from Yale, will be a visiting assistant professor of Italian. Coleman comes to Pitt from Johns Hopkins. He is a scholar of the Italian Middle Ages and Renaissance whose work is particularly concerned with the connections between literature, philosophy and politics, as well as with the interactions among Italian humanists during this period.
• Remi Fontaine, maître de confrérences in the Department of Cinema and Audiovisual Studies at the Université Lumière Lyon 2, will be the first scholar to come to Pitt on a newly established exchange with Lyon 2. During his fall semester visit he will teach courses on French cinema.
• Dario Biocca, who holds a PhD from Berkeley and currently is at the University of Perugia, Italy, will be the Italian Fulbright Distinguished Scholar in the spring term. Biocca will teach a course on the history of human trafficking in Italy and France.
• Patrick Samzun, whose PhD is from Universidade de Grenoble, is a visiting scholar in residence in the department for the entire academic year. His work focuses on the development of the Diderot, Restif de la Bretonne and Charles Fourier, exploring the imagination of a “liberal” sexual utopia.

Patrick Fogarty joins the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences as graduate administrator for six departments: French and Italian languages and literatures, Hispanic languages and literatures, classics, German, East Asian languages and literatures, and Slavic languages and literatures. Fogarty holds an MA from the University of Illinois/Chicago and a BA from the University of Kansas.

Karla Chartrand has joined the department as an assistant professor and associate dean for student admissions. She also teaches in the Office of Student Services. She will be staff chair of admissions.

Kathleen Vergona retired after serving on the faculty for 37 years. She taught anatomy and histology and contributed heavily to the geriatric initiative at the University.

Alumnus Chloé Hué joined the dental hygiene program as an instructor.

Matilda Dhima was appointed as an assistant professor in the Department of Prosthodontics.

In the Department of Restorative Dentistry and Comprehensive Care, Ron DeAngelis became vice chairman and Filip Barbatic and Sarah Grantson are new full-time assistant professors.

Education
New faculty in the school include:
• Elizabeth Hufnagel, visiting assistant professor of science education, Department of Instruction and Learning. Hufnagel earned her PhD in curriculum and instruction from Penn State. Her research centers on the intersection between emotions and learning about environmental science topics using discourse analysis. She was a high school science teacher and professional development instructor at the Urban Ecology Institute, both in Massachusetts. Before becoming a teacher, Hufnagel was an AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps member and worked as an environmental scientist.
• Lori Delae-O’Connor, associate director of research and development at the Center for Urban Education and research assistant professor of education. She holds a PhD in sociology from Northwestern. A former social studies teacher in the Boston Public Schools, she has most recently been a research scientist at Child Trends, a nonprofit research center focused on improving the well-being of children across the United States. Her research interests include youth transitions to college and career, parent involvement in education services and admissions.

Christine Wankiri-Hale is now associate dean of student affairs. She has taught in the Department of Restorative Dentistry/Comprehensive Care and served as staff chair of that department. Elizabeth Bilodeau was appointed as chair of admissions in the Office of Student Services with Wankiri-Hale, now director of admissions.

Jinyong Joo, assistant professor of East Asian languages and literatures, has held an MA from Columbia and an MS from the University of Illinois-Champaign.
• Debra Artim, a lecturer in neuromuscular science, is from Pitt.

Business
At the Katz school, Rabi Chatterjee has been named associate dean for master’s and executive programs. Chatterjee joined the Katz faculty in 1996 and has extensive research and consulting expertise in customer-focused development and management of products and services.

Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education
Instructional designer Meiyi Song, who worked at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California, has joined the teaching support staff, working with faculty on a variety of projects, including video learning classes, new workshops and course redesigns.

Laurie Cochenour, senior instructional designer, joined the PITT Online team from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, where she was e-learning policy coordinator.

Dental medicine
Alumnus Joseph Ambrosino is a new instructor and director of the Center for Continuing Dental Education. He had been in private practice as well as practicing from a community health perspective in western Pennsylvania.

Joseph Giovannitti, most recently the interim chair of the Department of Dental Anesthesiology, assumed the chairmanship of that department on July 1.

Charles Sfeir, interim associate dean for research, was appointed on July 1.

Kenneth Etzel has retired as associate professor and associate dean for student
and school choice.

• Gina Garcia, assistant professor of higher education research in the Department of Administrative and Policy Studies. She holds a PhD in higher education and organizational change from UCLA, where she was a research analyst at the Higher Education Research Institute. Her research interests center on issues of equity and diversity within higher education, with an emphasis on the organizational culture and identity of Hispanic-serving institutions and the retention, success and identity development of Latina/Latino college students.

• Lindsay Page, assistant professor of research methodology in the Department of Administrative and Policy Studies and research scientist at LRDC. She most recently was a lecturer in statistics and a researcher at the Center for Education Policy Research at Harvard. She earned an EdD in quantitative policy analysis in education at Harvard. Her research interests are in the areas of quantitative methods and their application to questions regarding the effectiveness of educational policies and programs across the preschool-to-postsecondary spectrum.

• Laura Roop, director of the Western Pennsylvania Writing Project (WPWP), a teacher-centered professional development program hosted by the School of Education. Roop earned her PhD in English and education at the University of Michigan. She directed the Oakland Writing Project, a Michigan-based National Writing Project site; more recently she was coordinator of school-research relations and lecturer at the University of Michigan School of Education. Roop will develop and promote core WPWP programs; offer outreach and professional learning opportunities to writing project teacher fellows and other educators; raise funds on behalf of WPWP; and develop and promote partnerships with local, state and national organizations.

• Sharon Ross, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Physical Activity. Her research focuses on physical activity promotion and obesity prevention in children, with a special interest in Hispanic/Latino populations. Ross received her PhD in biobehavioral health from Penn State. She was a postdoctoral fellow in the Children’s Physical Activity Research Center at the University of Colorado Anschutz medical campus. Ross recently completed a post-doctoral fellowship in the School of Pharmacy in Chapel Hill.

• Lucas Berenbrok, PhD in electrical engineering from Washington University in St. Louis. He comes to Pitt from a faculty position at Northeastern University. His research interests are in statistical signal processing and machine learning with applications to radar signal processing, biologically inspired sensing, noninvasive brain-computer interface systems, and physiological signal analysis for health informatics.

• Katherina Krusius, PhD in industrial engineering from Harvard. Her research focuses on stochastic modeling and simulation, and her synergistic application to problems arising in financial and energy markets, call centers, health care and online markets.

• In the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, Tevis D. B. Jacobs, assistant professor.

• In the Department of Industrial Engineering, Mohammad Moussavi, who will join the faculty in January as an assistant professor.

• In the Department of Management Science and Engineering at Stanford. His research is broadly focused on the formulation and analysis of stochastic models of complex systems. He is particularly interested in the areas of stochastic modeling and simulation, and their synergistic application to problems arising in financial and energy markets, call centers, health care and online markets.

What’s new
at the William Jennings Bryan Dorn Vet- erans Affairs Medical Center in Columbia, South Carolina.

Bridget Walker, named assistant professor of pharmacy and therapeuticcs, is director of the pharmacy business administration program. She completed the executive Master of Business Administration program at the Katz school.

Information sciences
Beth Stepanczuk joined the school’s faculty with a secondary appointment in July. Hired by Pitt’s School of Law, Thaw is a law and technology expert and frequent presenter on issues of cybersecurity, privacy regulation and cybercrime.

Amelia Acker joined the library and information science program as assistant professor. She received her PhD from UCL in 2014. Her research interests are in archival science, cultural informatics, infrastructure studies, mobile communication, biotechnology, personal digital archives and science and technology studies.

Innovation Institute
Babs Carrery, a serial entrepreneur and educator, has been appointed director of education and outreach. In addition, biotechnology industry executive Evan Faust has joined the Institute for Enterprise Development as associate director.

Medicine
In the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Peter Hurh became the medical director of the UPMC Rehabilitation Institute, which opened at Montour UPMC’s East on July 1 and provides specialized rehabilitation care after stroke, brain injury, spinal cord injury and surgeries.

Beth Stepaczuk joined the department as assistant professor after earning her medical degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and completing her residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation, where she was chief resident.

Christine Cleveland became an assistant professor in the department after completing its spinal cord medicine fellowship. She received her medical doctorate from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and completed the physical medicine and rehabilitation residency at UNC hospitals.

Alicia Puskar, assistant professor and assistant director of sports medicine, is a graduate of the department’s physical medicine and rehabilitation residency program.

David Stone, a new assistant professor and a faculty member in the sports medicine fellowship program, received his doctorate from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and completed the physical medicine and rehabilitation residency at New York University and a sports medicine fellowship at Braintree Hospital in Massachusetts.

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery has added new faculty:

Alicia Puskas, an instructor in the specialty of plastic and reconstructive surgery, received her PhD from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She was a neurophysiologist and participated in a postdoctoral concussion program and specialises in concussion management at all levels of sport, including professional, collegiate, high school and recreational.

Patrick Burns is a full-time assistant professor and fellow in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. He received his DMP degree from the Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine and completed his podiatric surgical residency at UPMC South Side. He is program director of podiatric medical education at UPMC Mercy and also provides teaching and didactic expertise for UPMC’s podiatric residency program.

John Fowler is an assistant professor in the Division of Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery. He received his MD from Temple University and did his orthopaedic residency training at Temple University Hospital.

Luke Henry is an instructor in the sports medicine/concussion division. He earned his doctorate in clinical neuropsychology from Université de Montréal. Dr Henry’s practice specializes in neuropsychology patients with mild traumatic brain injuries.

Macalus Hogan, an associate professor in the foot and ankle division, graduated with an MD from Howard University. At the University of Virginia he completed a year as an NIH musculoskeletal tissue repair and regeneration research fellow.

Kevin Bell is a research assistant professor in the Orthopaedic Robotics Laboratory and the Ferguson Laboratory for Ortho and Spine Research. He received his PhD in bioengineering from Pitt and has been a laboratory manager in the Ferguson Laboratory since 2006.

Other new faculty in the school are:

Beth Stepanczuk, assistant professor of pharmacology and chemical biology, earned her PhD in molecular biology from the Institute of Molecular Pathology in Vienna and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies. His investigations focus on telomere replication, disruption of AS1F1 protein-mediated histone exchange and the role of the alternative lengthening of telomeres (ALT) pathway for telomere homeostasis in normal and cancer cells.

Inderpal (Netu) Sarkaria, assistant professor of pathology and of pediatrics, received his MD and PhD at Vanderbilt University. He taught most recently at the University of Michigan medical school and has clinical expertise in molecular anatomic and breast surgical pathology. He studies the relationship between chronic inflammation and the development of vascular, metabolic, and neoplastic diseases. He describes an NF-KB signal pathway controlled by an NF-KB-driven transcription process in tissues and cancer.

Linda McAllister-Lucas, associate professor of pediatrics and chief, Division of Dermatology, earned her MD and PhD at Vanderbilt. She also comes to Pitt from Michigan, where she was associate director of the medical scientist training program. Her research interests include molecular mechanisms of inflammatory and neoplastic disease, with emphasis on osteopontin, promotion of lymphoid malignancy and the contributions of G-protein coupled receptors to dependent signaling in the development of osteogenic and inflammatory disease.

Bryan McVey Hooks, assistant professor of orthopedics, received a PhD in neurobiology from Harvard and comes to Pitt from a postdoctoral associate position at the Janelia Farm research campus of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Ashburn, Virginia. His research focuses on understanding the development, turnover, and plasticity of primary motor cortex circuitry.

Bradley Molyneaux, assistant professor of neurology, received his MD and neurobiology PhD at Harvard, where he was chief resident in neurology and completed fellowships in neurosurgical and in the Department of Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology. Molyneaux’s research interests include mechanisms of cerebral cortex development and repair, genes controlling the development of cortical projection neuron subtypes and early corticospinal motor neuron specification events.

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E. Thompson has been named interim chair of the Department of Critical Care Medicine and medical director for clinical resource management of Critical Care Medicine and medical director for clinical resource management at Children's Hospital. She was chief of pediatric critical care 1981-2009 and was interim chair of the Department of Critical Care Medicine 2006-08.

Thompson received her medical degree from Tufts. After completing her pediatric residency training at the Tufts New England Medical Center and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), she trained in anesthesiology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and did a fellowship in pediatric critical care at CHOP, which is where she held her first faculty position.

Luís De la Torre has joined the school as an associate professor of surgery in the Division of Pediatric General and Thoracic Surgery. He is also founding director of the Colorectal Center for Children at Children’s Hospital. The center will provide multidisciplinary medical and surgical care for children with disorders of the bowel or rectum. De la Torre pioneered a less invasive surgical approach to the treatment of Hirschsprung’s disease and was founding director of the Colorectal Center for Children and chief of pediatric surgery at the Hospital Ángeles Puebla in Mexico.

Dario A.A. Vignali has been recruited to the Department of Immunology, where he serves as professor and vice chair. At the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Vignali is co-leader of the cancer immunology program and co-director of the Tumor Microenvironment Center.

The Department of Medicine, Division of Hematology/Oncology, has recruited three sickle cell experts: Solomon F. Ofori-Acuah, Laura De Castro and Gregory J. Kato for the Ryan Clark Care League under the University's Heart, Lung, Blood and Vascular Medicine Institute (VMI) and UPMC.

Ofori-Acuah will lead a newly created Center for Translational and International Hematology, part of VMI, which will guide new research programs and partnerships with sickle cell disease programs in Africa. De Castro will lead efforts to develop novel clinical and translational research programs, along with several related clinical services.

Kato, professor of medicine, and De Castro, associate professor of medicine, are with the UPMC adult sickle cell disease program. Ofori-Acuah, associate professor of medicine, is a research scientist. Kato, a former director of the sickle cell vascular disease section at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health, will lead the UPMC Sickle Cell Disease Research Center of Excellence.

Nursing

Judith Callan is a new assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems. She earned her PhD here and was program director and research coordinator for the mood disorders treatment and research program at Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic.

Christine Feeley joined the faculty as assistant professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development. She completed her doctoral studies at the University of Alabama-Birmingham and was a post-doctoral fellow at Emory University.

Christopher Imes is an assistant professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care. He recently completed a two-year term as a post-doctoral scholar here after earning his PhD at the University of Washington.

Dan Li, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, earned a PhD at the University of Miami. Carolyn Weiner, joining the school as assistant professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, completed her doctorate at Florida State.

Pitt-Bradford

Maddie Frank is the newly appointed director of Hanley Library at UBP. A librarian at Hanley since 1989, she most recently was its interim director.

Sue Gleason has been named director of the Academic Advising Center at Pitt-Bradford. Previously, Gleason was the center’s academic adviser, an assistant director of financial aid and administrative assistant for the Admissions Office and Office of Financial Aid. In her role as director, Gleason works closely with faculty, including providing advising training for new faculty. She assists with student orientations and is responsible for the early intervention program and for monitoring student progress. In the classroom, Gleason teaches one section each year of Freshman Seminar and several management courses within the Division of Management and Education.

Pitt-Greensburg

Three new division chairs have been chosen at UPG. Dean Nelson, associate professor of statistics, will chair the natural sciences division. Sayre Greenfield, professor of English, will chair the humanities division. Paul Adams, associate professor of political science, will chair the behavioral sciences division.

Jacqueline Horrall has been appointed assistant vice president for academic affairs at UPG. Also at UPG, Matthew Blair was promoted to technology support manager in the computing services and telecommunications department.

New faculty at UPG are Thomas Crowley, a 2014 UPG graduate, visiting instructor of theatre; Glenson France, visiting professor of economics; Jennifer Paul, biology laboratory instructor, and Geoffrey Wood, assistant professor of sociology.

Bradley Miner joined the Pitt-Greensburg staff as study abroad coordinator. Sheila Kudrick is now coordinator of alumni affairs at UPG.

Stephanie Prezpioira joined the Pitt-Greensburg housing and residence life office as the graduate resident director of College Hall. She also will serve as co-advise of the outdoor adventure and community service living community. This is a two-year appointment.
Mandy Waters earned her PhD in agricultural and applied economics at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, where she researched interventions to prevent and reduce morbidity associated with diabetes. Supriya Kumar is a new assistant research professor. He uses computational modeling to assess the effect of policy changes, such as access to sick days in workplaces, on transmission of infectious disease.

Registrar
In the Office of the Registrar, Travis Wisor has been promoted to senior associate University registrar. Previously, he had been an assistant University registrar and manager of information resources. An 11-year Pitt veteran, he is also the office’s communications liaison and manager of PeopleSoft student records functional leads.

In ULS research and educational support, new staff are Thomas Lee, library staff member; Kathleen Linn, building supervisor; and Bryan McGeary, library specialist.

Peterson will teach undergraduate and graduate courses on such topics as Palestine-Israel, History and Conflict, Modern Iran, and the Middle East in the Media. In addition to teaching, Peterson will participate in the Global Studies Center’s outreach programs, presenting at schools, universities and community organizations throughout the tri-state region. He comes to Pitt via King’s College at the University of Cambridge.

University Center for Social and Urban Research
Noam Shoval has joined the UCSR faculty as a visiting scholar. An associate professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, his time at Pitt is sponsored by the American-Israel Cooperative Enterprise. Shoval is a geographer with expertise in the implementation of advanced tracking technologies in various areas of spatial research such as health, tourism and urban studies. He also will be teaching courses for Jewish studies, religious studies and history, urban studies, the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs and the graduate certificate program in geonatography.

Mark S. Roberts became the director of the Public Health Dynamics Laboratory. Roberts is chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management, and holds secondary appointments in medicine, industrial engineering, and clinical and translational science.

David Finegold has been named the director of the multidisciplinary Master of Public Health program. Finegold, who specializes in biochemical genetics and pediatric endocrinology, holds appointments as professor of human genetics, pediatrics and medicine. He succeeds Ronald LaPorte, who has retired.

In the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, Tiffany Gary-Webbs has joined the Center for Health Equity as an associate professor. Formerly of Columbia University, she researches interventions to prevent and reduce morbidity associated with diabetes.

Supriya Kumar is a new assistant research professor. He uses computational modeling to assess the effect of policy changes, such as access to sick days in workplaces, on transmission of infectious disease.

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University Center for International Studies
Luke Peterson joins Pitt as the 2014-2015 UCSR visiting professor in contemporary international issues. The position is funded by an endowed gift from William F. Benter and the Benter Foundation. Peterson will teach undergraduate and graduate courses on such topics as Palestine-Israel, History and Conflict, Modern Iran, and the Middle East in the Media. In addition to teaching, Peterson will participate in the Global Studies Center’s outreach programs, presenting at schools, universities and community organizations throughout the tri-state region. He comes to Pitt via King’s College at the University of Cambridge.
Heinz Chapel is getting air conditioning. The upgrade will help preserve the building, its pipe organ and woodwork. The building will be closed January through May while the climate control system is installed. It will reopen June 1.

Facilities Management recently consolidated energy-related operations on the fifth floor of the Eureka Building. The Facilities Management Energy Center has been established to provide a culture of comprehensive energy conservation.

It is designed and equipped to increase collaboration among energy managers, engineers and building automation system personnel and provide technicians and managers with integrated access to the building automation system and other diagnostic tools.

The center will monitor, maintain and operate the University’s mechanical systems efficiently to conserve money and energy while maintaining comfort for building occupants and meeting environmental requirements of modern teaching and research facilities.

Pitt placed first in the university category in its first year of participation in the Sustainable Pittsburgh 2013-14 Green Workplace Challenge.

The challenge is a yearlong competition among businesses, nonprofits, municipalities and universities to track and measure improvements in managing energy, water, waste and transportation.

The entrance to the Petersen Center has undergone a “green facelift” with planting beds, lawn areas and casual seating replacing concrete to make the sports facility more sustainable and more attractive.

The third floor of the William Pitt Union, which accommodates student group activities, has been renovated. Updates included wall and ceiling finishes, lighting and mechanical systems, plus restroom upgrades and workout facilities.

At Posvar Hall, three sections of roofing totaling 5,400 square feet have been replaced with “green” roof technology. Those roof sections have been topped with growing medium and low-maintenance, drought-tolerant plants that reduce storm water runoff, improve the roof’s insulating properties, improve air quality, moderate the urban heat island effect and extend the life of the roof.

The Mulert Memorial Classroom in 204 Cathedral of Learning has been refurbished with refinshed flooring and woodwork, as well as rebuilt and reupholstered student tablet armchairs.

The third and final phase of Benedum Hall upgrades is underway and the renovated ground floor labs recently opened. Classrooms G36 and G37 have been upgraded to distance learning rooms with new monitors, cameras, lecterns, lighting and a fresh coat of paint.

The ninth floor of Benedum Hall is the most recent project completed in the ongoing restoration. The floor is home to the Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering and includes offices, labs and classrooms, as well as the Lubrizol Innovation Laboratory.

The Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers/Pittsburgh chapter recognized the $154 million transformation of Benedum Hall with its 2014 Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award. Renovations to the 15-story building, constructed in 1971, include an annex housing the Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation, a new Electric Power Systems Lab and other new laboratory, classroom and office space.

A helium recovery and liquefaction plant is under construction as an expansion of the Nuclear Physics Laboratory. This facility will facilitate the continuation of research activity for scientists who rely on experiments conducted at extremely low temperatures. The facility will be online by the end of the spring term.

The Department of Chemistry’s renovated undergraduate teaching laboratories on the first floor of the Chevron Science Center are opening this fall term.

The new design that has been incorporated into all general and organic chemistry teaching laboratories provides laboratory bench space around the perimeter of each lab where students will conduct their experi-
ments. Vented enclosures and fume hoods are available; laptop computers will allow students to access up-to-date technology resources as they complete their assigned tasks.

Each lab accommodates 24 students in both recitation (pre-lab) and laboratory sessions. The three labs feature the most modern air systems and building management systems.

An integrated network enables teams of students to take direct digital readings from their experiments and record experimental parameters on their wall-mounted touchscreen notebook PCs and on a central file server from which data can be shared and compared.

To provide additional flexibility, one lab has been designed to accommodate space for instructor training and practice experiments.

Renovations at Chevron Science Center for the organic chemistry group are on track. Construction of ballroom research lab space on the 13th floor is scheduled for completion in December. The space will accommodate an expanding cadre of faculty who are working on organic synthesis and chemical biology.

Built in the 1970s, Chevron Science Center houses undergraduate laboratories, graduate research groups and administrative offices for the Department of Chemistry.

In addition to modernizing the department’s facilities, the update will relocate the “Fish Bowl” (a popular location for undergraduates to receive tutoring assistance from teaching assistants) to the Ashe mezzanine, where it will be renamed “On the Balcony.”

Clapp Hall is being renovated with significant Pennsylvania Department of General Services funding. The project will increase capacity for the expansion of biological sciences department research and new undergraduate biology labs in response to the continued growth of incoming freshman classes. Completion is scheduled for August 2015.

National Science Foundation funding provided the impetus for replacing the antiquated research building (Building 12) at the Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology.
What’s new

Officials from Pitt and Sichuan University in China participated in a groundbreaking ceremony on July 2 at the Sichuan University campus in Chengdu to launch construction of a 300,000-square-foot building that will house the Sichuan University-Pittsburgh Institute, a joint engineering institute to educate undergraduate students and foster collaborative research.

The partnership between Pitt and Sichuan University was established in 2013. With emphases on advanced sustainable manufacturing and educational innovation, the institute initially will offer three undergraduate degree programs: industrial engineering, mechanical engineering, and materials science and engineering. Students in the institute will be recruited from the United States, China and possibly other countries, with the first class in fall 2015 expected to comprise 100 students. Enrollment is projected to grow to a total of 1,600.

Sichuan University is investing nearly $40 million to support the construction and equipping of the new building to house the institute on its campus; the Swanson school will oversee the curriculum development and academic policies. Faculty from around the world will be recruited to teach at the institute. The institute welcomes Pitt faculty interested in a semester or yearlong sabbatical to teach in the institute.

Sichuan University will cover not only the institute’s operating costs but also faculty startup funds. Courses will be taught in English and students will spend the first two years of the program immersed in the Pitt curriculum in China with the option of transferring to the Pittsburgh campus during their third year in the program. Students who transfer will earn a bachelor’s degree from both Sichuan University and Pitt; all students receive an institute certificate upon completion of their studies.

Groundbreaking for the Murtha Center at Pitt-Johnstown is set for Sept. 26. The $20 million project includes construction of the 8,000-square-foot center and renovation of the 65,000-square-foot Engineering and Science Building and Krebs Hall physics laboratories. The project is expected to earn LEED certification.

Also at UPJ, major interior renovations for biology and pre-medical sciences began on July 1. The $1.9 million project will upgrade 5,720 square feet of space in Krebs Hall, creating five new teaching and research laboratories. The lab renovation is expected to be completed in November.

Interior renovations at UPJ’s Highland Townhouses—the first renovation project identified in the campus’s 2014-2021 strategic planning document—including new teaching and research laboratories. The lab renovation is expected to be completed in November. Interior renovations at UPJ’s Highland Townhouses—the first renovation project identified in the campus’s 2014-2021 strategic planning document—including new teaching and research laboratories. The lab renovation is expected to be completed in November.

The University will continue to update other buildings on campus. Krebs Hall physics laboratories.

Courses will be taught in English and students will spend the first two years of the program immersed in the Pitt curriculum in China with the option of transferring to the Pittsburgh campus during their third year in the program. Students who transfer will earn a bachelor’s degree from both Sichuan University and Pitt; all students receive an institute certificate upon completion of their studies.

A student information station has been built at UPJ’s student union. Located on the top level of the building, the station will be staffed 10 a.m.-10 p.m., providing students with expanded opportunities to purchase movie and concert tickets, pay transportation deposits and get information on campus events.

The Larkspur Lodge commuter-in-residence room at UPJ has been renovated. The common space provides commuter students with a place to study and interact with other students. The space also includes a flat-screen television and lockers.

Pitt-Greensburg’s Ferguson Theater underwent major refurbishing recently. Three speakers were replaced with high quality audio speakers and the audiovisual equipment was replaced to ensure compatibility with the new audio system. Stage equipment was updated. Over the summer, the theatre was painted and new seating, aisle carpeting and flooring were installed.

Smith Hall Lounge, located next door to the theatre, also was recarpeted. In addition, the Chambers Hall gymnasium floor was repaired and resurfaced.

The University Library System continues to add space for student use at Hillman Library. Rooms 201 and 406 have been converted from offices to group-study spaces, as have former storage spaces in rooms 480 and 490.

The ground floor information desk area and map area, second-floor public space with tables and chairs and PhD rooms 401 and 402 also have been converted to student space.

Six movable whiteboards have been added in Hillman Library; the number of tables has been increased to 191, with new electrified tables increasing the number of available power outlets to 146.

Hillman Library also is adding mobile device charging stations on every floor. The stations hold multiple connections and can charge most standard mobile devices, including micro and mini USB connections and 30-pin and lightning connectors for Apple devices.

Pitt-Bradford opened a new 109-bed, $9.3 million residence hall this fall. The all-suite residence hall, which will be named in honor of longtime supporters Lester and Barbara Rice, is the fourth such residence hall built in eight years at UPB to keep up with growing demand for on-campus housing.

Pitt-Bradford now can house 1,028 students on campus. However, demand still outstrips available residence space. For the fifth time, UPB is partnering with Best Western to house students. This fall, approximately 20 students, two upperclass
student resident advisers and a live-in resident director staff member will reside at the hotel.

Several renovation projects were completed at Pitt-Titusville over the summer.

Upgrades to the Spruce Hall residence hall, based in part on responses gathered in a student satisfaction survey, included a lobby renovation in Pitt blue and gold, fresh paint and carpet with the Pitt seal. Floors and ceilings in the building’s restrooms also got a face-lift.

Additional renovations included structural repairs at Bennett Davis Hall that added workspace to the building.

Campus police offices now will be stationed in this more centralized location.

The building, which houses the registrar’s office, financial aid, student accounts, the business office and human resources, was part of the original McKinney Estate.

Restrooms on the ground floor of Haskell Memorial Library received a makeover. Tile on the library’s ground floor was replaced with carpet tiles, complemented by fresh paint and new lounge furniture.

The College of General Studies and its associated units — the McCarl Center, the Office of Veterans Services and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute — have moved from the Cathedral of Learning to 1400 Posvar Hall.

The space provides improved access to University resources, CGS staff and support services and designated spaces for tutoring, quiet study and lounges. The new space opened July 21.

The McCarl Center’s move included the relocation of the limestone slab from the Cathedral’s fourth floor. The new center has a cyber-bar, plus new lighting fixtures, furniture and wood treatment to create a warm and inviting atmosphere. A new seating and study area also has been added outside of the new center.

The move frees up expansion space for English department faculty in the Cathedral of Learning. And the relocation of the McCarl Center has enabled the creation of clustered space on the fourth floor of the Cathedral of Learning for several Dietrich school interdisciplinary programs.

As part of the consolidation of Dietrich school studies programs, the fourth floor now will house cultural studies, film studies and the gender, sexuality and women’s studies programs.

Bruce Hall, which will be home to the College of Business Administration freshman living-learning community, has been renovated. The project included new bathroom facilities, lighting and security, flooring, surface treatments and upgraded mechanical systems.

This living-learning community will give students the opportunity to interact with peers who are taking many of the same classes and make immediate connections with CBA faculty, advisers and fellow students.

The Lothrop Hall Fitness Center has been renovated to include LED lighting, a vinyl dance floor, updated televisions and equipment.

The Korean heritage room committee has completed its fundraising. Its nationality room, based on a 14th-century academic structure, will be built in Korea, dismantled and shipped to Pittsburgh. Construction will begin in 307 CL in May 2015.

Proposals to create Iranian and Moroccan nationality rooms have been submitted to the chancellor for approval.

Salk Pavilion, the School of Dental Medicine’s new research tower and atrium adjacent to Salk Hall, will open soon. It will expand the school’s research space and includes meeting spaces, offices and an atrium/coffee shop on the first floor.

The School of Nursing’s Victoria Hall has new lockers and flooring as well as upgrades to teaching technology in the classrooms.

Further renovations to the interiors of Parran and Crabtree halls will update department offices, classrooms, conference rooms and collaborative spaces for faculty, staff and students in the Graduate School of Public Health.

Parran Hall’s state-of-the-art laboratory pavilion opened in September 2013, when the Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology labs moved to the second floor.

The human genetics and epidemiology departments moved in last January.
The Office of the Registrar has implemented several new PeopleSoft Student System projects, including:

- My Planner, which provides students with an online place to store and organize the courses that they need to take to complete their major, and thus move these courses into their shopping cart in preparation for their registration enrollment appointment.
- Advisee Planner, which provides advisors with an online view of their advisees' Planner.
- My Shopping Cart, which provides advisors with an online view of their advisees' Shopping Cart.
- Class Searc Default Campus, which allows University administrators to set a default campus in PeopleSoft so this does not have to be selected with each Class Search.
- Redesigned Class Search Results, which has been redesigned to be more flexible when viewed on various devices' screens.

The office also has upgraded to a new version of the existing classroom scheduling software, which is expected to provide more efficient scheduling and analytical forecasting.

Heinz Chapel's ensemble in residence, OvreArts, will present a free Family Weekend concert at 8 p.m. Sept. 20 featuring new compositions. The concert will be led by faculty member Chris Keane.

The 2014 United Way Day of Caring is set for Thursday, Oct. 2. Details on this year's project sites, which were being updated as the University Times went to press, will be posted at www.univ.

The classroom services unit in the Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education (CIDDE) recently acquired a 3-D printer to explore its use in an instructional technology tool. In May, Courseweb was upgraded to the most current version of Blackboard. New features include inline grading (allowing faculty to grade papers inside Courseweb) and providing extensive feedback in the margin. The new version also incorporates several social media features and an improved interface.

CIDDE worked closely with Computing Services and Systems Development to test the latest version of Panopto over the summer. The new version (available now) is a lecture capture and video hosting solution.

CIDDE released a completely redesigned website in 2014. It features weekly blog updates, constantly changing educational and ed tech information, easy access to services and support and three self-help areas: Knowledgebase on Educational Technology, Teaching Support and Courseweb for Students.

The Pitt Online course LIS 2600, Introduction to Information Technologies, taught by Chris Tumer, received a Blackboard Exemplary Course Award in 2014 for the fourth consecutive year.

The course introduces students to the field of distributed computing with specific reference to applications for libraries and archives.

The Graduate School of Public Health Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences has developed a Public Health Behavior Lab, which will be led by faculty member Chris Keane.

The lab will use computerized public goods games to assess decision-making relevant to health promotion and disease prevention.

Heinz Chapel will host a renewal of vows ceremony on Nov. 22. The ceremony will include a photo opportunity and the ceremony at the chapel followed by reception and dinner at the Twentieth Century Club. Registration details are at www.heinzchapel.

The Learning Research and Development Center's Kids' Thinking Laboratory, under principal investigator Melissa Libertus, studies how infants and children perceive the world. Libertus is examining children's emerging cognitive skills, their early concepts of numbers and how they may contribute to later math skills, as well as individual differences among children.

The Department of Occupational Therapy in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences has begun an advanced practice doctor of Clinical Science degree (D.C.S.). Elizabeth Stadmore is program director. Students choose among areas of concentration in geriatrics, pediatric/musculoskeletal rehabilitation, neurological rehabilitation, and pediatric practice, clinical education and professional leadership.

The School of Medicine's Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation received accreditation for fellowships on both brain injury and sports medicine from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, bringing to four the accredited fellowships in the department.

The School of Dental Medicine has established a new research center, the Center for Informatics in Oral Health Translational Research. It will expand the scope of the previous Center for Dental Informatics by supporting research and education aimed at improving the delivery of dental care and patient outcomes, along with the treatment of oral and maxillofacial conditions, especially those associated with systemic health. The center will focus on improving translation of research to clinical treatments, and improving the application of high-quality evidence in patient care.

Community and Governmental Relations has set three "Be a Good Neighbor" neighborhood block party events this fall.

The North Oakland party is set for 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sept. 4 at 254 N. Dithridge Street between Bayard and Centre avenues, in partnership with the Belfield Area Citizens Association.

The Oakland and South Oakland parties are set for 4:30-7:30 p.m. Sept. 10 at Community Human Services Community Center, 374 Lawn Street, in partnership with Community Human Services, the Oakland Housing Club and the South Oakland Neighborhood Group.

The Central Oakland party is set for 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the Oakland Square Park on Dawson Street, in partnership with the Oakland Square Historic District Community Organization.

The awards recognize those who work to promote justice in the University, at the local or national level or across the globe.

Pitt innovators were awarded a record $74 U.S. patents from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in fiscal year 2014 for innovations developed at the University, up from 51 awarded in FY13. Pitt's portfolio has grown to 651 patents since the inception of the Office of Technology Management in 1996. OTM now is part of the University's Innovation Institute.

More information about the University's innovation commercialization and entrepreneurship activities will be available in the Innovation Institute's 2014 annual report, which is expected to be released in late September.

The Innovation Institute's Pitt Venture program is running full-tilt now in its efforts to transform more innovations emerging from Pitt research into potential startup companies.

The program provides intensive education, mentoring and business planning assistance for Pitt faculty, staff and students whose innovations have startup potential.

So far in 2014, the program has worked with 16 teams that include faculty, staff and students, in partnership with local industry, investors, entrepreneurs and regional economic development leaders.

The program is launching an internship program this fall for students interested in entrepreneurship, business and science. It expects to hire 10-12 paid interns who will work with institute staff and mentors to provide commercial viability assessment and business opportunity development on behalf of Pitt innovators and innovations with startup potential.

The institute will introduce a student entrepreneurship initiative Sept. 4 that includes numerous educational programs, competitions and startup incubation assistance.

Activities will be open to undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral students from all academic disciplines. For information, contact Babs Carryer at bcarryer@innova
tion.pitt.edu.

This year's annual Iris Marion Young Awards event will take the form of a panel discussion rather than a lecture.

Organizers in the gender, sexuality and women's studies program aim to reach a larger audience by hosting panels focused on activism and social justice. The first panel, to be held at 4 p.m. Nov. 6 in the Twentieth Century Club, will discuss race relations in Pittsburgh.

Young, a philosopher and social and political theorist, was a faculty member in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs during the 1990s, a member of the women's studies program and an advocate for gender equity, labor rights and other forms of social justice.

Young recognized those who work to promote justice in the University, at the local or national level or across the globe.
The Graduate Women in Engineering Network (GWEN) has been established at Pitt to retain women in STEM fields, promote women in leadership capacities and connect with off-campus women in engineering. The network has held book club discussions, a speed-networking event for faculty and students, and hosted guest lecturers. Plans include at least one book club and one seminar speaker per semester.

In addition to touring laptops and iPads, Hillman Library has installed two new high-tech electricity monitors. The Kill-a-Watt monitors also are available at the Engineering Library.

Pitt-Titusville will offer a new associate degree program in petroleum technology this fall. Courses will be delivered on the Titusville campus through a combination of face-to-face instruction and distance education, in conjunction with Pitt-Bradford.

The two-year degree will provide students with the training they need to become qualified petroleum technicians. Students will learn how to develop and operate oil and natural gas extraction and processing facilities, and study what it takes to drill for oil and natural gas, find out how the fuels are transported to other locations, explore the principles of the petroleum industry, and learn about geology, geophysics, geosystems, environmental engineering, oil and gas chemistry and well logging interpretation.

The University Honors College began a health sciences summer research program for undergraduates this summer. Modeled after the Brackenridge summer research program, the new program targets Pitt undergraduates interested in health sciences.

Also this summer, UHC launched its Latino Heritage Month with a partnership with Pymatuning State Park. The initiative is designed to spur curricular opportunities for Pitt students and faculty from multiple disciplines to collaborate in inquiry-based learning and applied research projects. UHC in March began awarding $2,000 scholarships toDepartments of Discipline to undergraduates who have achieved a GPA of 3.5 overall, who are in their third, fourth, or fifth year of study, and who have demonstrated scholarship aid from the University.

For the first time, faculty from the University of Wyoming joined with Pitt faculty and members of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History and The National Aviary in instructing the Wyoming field study course. The multidisciplinary field course in geology, paleontology, ecology and environmental studies has been conducted on UHC property in southeastern Wyoming each summer for the past eight years.

This fall, UHC will roll out a series of one-credit honors supplements — honors courses targeted at regular, three-credit courses. These supplements provide opportunities for a subset of students enrolled in regular courses to earn honors credit for an in-depth exploration of standard course content.

The cooling and electrical systems at the University’s Network Operations Center (NOC) are being upgraded to support the university’s expanding computing. The upgrade has been under taken with sustainability in mind. “Free” cooling will be available from water chillers installed to cool high-density research computer infrastructure, and hot and cold aid systems will provide for efficient use of the equipment cooling the research infrastructure.

A new Pitt Print Station for students will be placed in Bridgeside Point, raising the total number of shared printers available to students on the Pittsburgh campus to 60. A map of printer locations is posted at technology.pitt.edu.

CSSID has added eight charging stations in Alumni Hall for smartphones and other mobile devices. Four of the Alumni Hall stations will be available for general use and four will be used for special events in the Connolly Ballroom.

Frank Dolce, a graduate student at Pitt’s Conduitus Institute, coordinates the Asian Studies Center’s weekly Culture Corner, which brings together anyone interested in Chinese studies, native speakers or not. The program meets 3-5 pm on Fridays at Tang’s Cuisine on Sempel Street. For information, contact Dolce at FMDB@pitt.edu.

Several majors in the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences have been revised, effective in the fall term:

• In the actuarial mathematics major, MATH 1120 Actuarial Mathematics 1 will be replaced with MATH 3070 Actuarial Mathematics 1 and a grade of B or better in the course will be required for admission to the major.

• In the English writing major, ENGWRG 1120 Advanced Fiction is being replaced by a 1000-level elective for the fiction track, ENGWRG 1510 Advanced Poetry is being replaced by a 1000-level elective for the poetry track, and ENGWRG 1310 Advanced Nonfiction: Long Form Narrative Writing is being replaced by an 1000-level elective for the nonfiction track.

• In the Italian Studies major and literature major will require a GPA of 3.5 or higher and students must submit a portfolio of their coursework. They will also be required to take 10 courses and a 10-page formal summary and evaluation of the outcomes of their multidisciplinary Italian studies.

The gender, sexuality and women’s studies program will start the 2015-16 academic year on the theme “Embodiment,” including events on black masculinity, gifthood, nature/nurture and reproductive rights.

The World History Center will host the international workshop on a world-historical gazetteer Sept. 4 and 5. The event is supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The center will present a speaker series this fall on “East Asia, Eurasia and the World.” Scheduled are: Sept. 12, Alexis Dudden; Oct. 10, Michael Khodadavoudi; Oct. 24, Bin Wong; Oct. 31, Peter Perdue, and Nov. 21, Nole Green.

The center will hold a conference May 8 and 9 on “Researching World History in the 21st Century: Nationalism and World History,” cosponsoring the development of a Grade 7 course in world history in the Mas Laboratory School. It will include a four-step plan in a western Pennsylvania program.

The Department of Sociology is offering an thematic cluster certificate in health, environment and technology this fall. Social courses will be offered for efficient use of the equipment cooling the research infrastructure.

The Social Work School has introduced an integrated health certificate program. The certificate prepares graduate social work students specializing in direct practice with individuals, families, groups and communities in a variety of institutional and community-based health-related settings. With a focus on leadership and advocacy, the goal of the certificate program is to increase the number of students focused on health and social work.

“Configuring Disciplines: Fragments of an Encyclopedic,” will be on display Sept. 4-Oct. 5 at the University Art Gal lery. The exhibit is developed from one of the Department of History of Art and Architecture’s first “constellations” collaborative seminars, which bring together graduate and undergraduate students, the University Art Gallery and arts institutions around the city.

Students and faculty have drawn on the resources of local collections to develop a display of how various disciplines in the arts and sciences are connected, as well as visually, through illustrated books, atlases, photography and other media.

Dietrich school faculty members Dan Balderton and John Beverley of the Department of Languages and Linguistics have received grants for an interdisciplinary symposium on the Latin American “Pink Tide” and its role in the region’s economic and political changes. The symposium will feature 16 talks by graduate and independent researchers from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, the United Kingdom and the United States with discussion of regional and global developments, including political science, economics, history, philosophy, literature, journalism and cultural studies, will participate in this two-day event set for Nov. 14 and 15.

New courses in the Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures this fall are: “French Kiss Love, Sex, France” and “Italian America on Screen: Beyond Scandal and Stereotype.” Both courses will be taught in English, and are designed as introductions to the fields of French/Francophone studies and Italian studies.

Beginning in January, the French and Italian department will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a year-long slate of visitors, events and commemorations, culminating in an international conference in the fall of 2015.

The German department introduced two new majors in spring 2014: German language and cultural studies, and interdisciplinary German studies.

The German language and cultural studies major allows courses such as German for Professional Purposes and German for Social Scientists to count towards the major. The interdisciplinary German studies major allows students to enhance their study of German language and culture by earning credits in German-related courses offered in other departments.

Visit www.german.pitt.edu for details.

The Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2015. Anniversary events will include a series of talks by graduate alumni throughout the academic year, publication of a booklet featuring submissions from alumni, and a celebration in May that will include poetry readings by alumna Ana Merino, a faculty member at the University of Iowa.

The speaker series will include a talk in September by Beatriz Gonzalez Stephan of Rice University on 19th-century Venezuelan photography and its effects to “whiten” the Venezuelan population. Mireya Camarut, professor emerita at SUNY-Buffalo, will speak in October on Jorge Luis Borges as an intellectual poet.

In February, David Gies of the University of Virginia will speak on the representation of the “indiana,” as Spaniards who made a fortune in the New World colonies and who returned to Spain from the mainland Spanish plays. In April, Hugo Schijger, the national director of culture in Uruguay, will
What’s new

Pitt is among the sponsors of the Oakland Forever community celebration, which this year will mark the 175th anniversary of the neighborhood’s identity as Oakland.

The event, set for Oct. 10 and 11, will feature live music and performances at Schenley Plaza, art and photography exhibits, lectures and symposiums, outdoor activities, family fun, an art fair and craft market, historical retrospectives, food trucks and restaurant specials, plus free admission to museums and cultural amenities.

Volunteer opportunities are available. Details are posted at www.oaklandforever.org.

Pitt-Bradford and Pitt-Johnstown are featured among the best colleges in the Northeast in the Princeton Review’s 2015 listing at princetonreview.com. The campuses are among 226 institutions in 11 states plus the District of Columbia named to the “Best in the Northeast” list.

Pitt-Johnstown has developed and implemented a seven-year strategic plan, The Next Level: Distinctive Excellence 2014-2021. A steering group led several efforts in exploring the future of Pitt-Johnstown in an effort that included faculty, students, staff and community leaders.

UPJ launched a new website Aug. 4, following a yearlong redesign. With about 4,000 individual pages, pictures, videos and other graphic elements, the project is the first major redesign of the UPJ website since 2004.

The updates focused on availability in mobile formats, ease of navigation, convenient organization of helpful content, customizable experiences and the celebration of the achievements of Pitt-Johnstown's students, alumni, faculty and staff.

Pitt-Johnstown hosted teams from around the country and as far away as Shanghai in June for the American Society of Civil Engineers’ annual national concrete canoe competition.

Twenty-three teams of engineering students participated, including Pitt-Johnstown, which has advanced to the national competition for the past seven out of eight years.

Pitt-Johnstown alumnus Richard Bross has endowed the Bross Family Scholarship in Business. The endowment will reward business majors who have demonstrated academic excellence, who possess strength in communication and interpersonal skills, and who have demonstrated ethical leadership. Bross and wife, Susie, gave nearly $300,000 in initial endowment funding for the scholarship and have pledged an additional $250,000.

Computing Services and Systems Development (CSSD) reports that color printers are now available to students in each of the six Pittsburgh campus computing labs.

The Pitt Mobile site (m.pitt.edu) has been refreshed, and will be available this fall in the form of free apps in both Google Play and the App Store.

The University Library System (ULS) will host a series of workshops open to the entire Pitt community this fall. The topics to be covered are PittCat+, Google Books, Google Scholar, EndNote, Mendeley and Box. Details and registration information are available at www.library.pitt.edu/instruction-services.

A wine and cheese reception for faculty is set for 4-7 p.m. Sept. 23 at Hillman Library. The event will include details on ULS programs and services that support faculty teaching and research.

ULS is adding RapidChapters to its array of interlibrary loan and document delivery services. Instead of requesting an entire print copy of a book from another library, faculty and students may request that a single chapter be sent to them electronically. Visit www.library.pitt.edu/ILL for details.

Last spring the ULS undertook a “strategic audit” of support for digital scholarship on campus. The library interviewed Pitt faculty and support staff, talked with groups within ULS, and spoke with other research libraries that have developed services in this area.

In the coming months, the ULS will be formalizing support for various areas of digital scholarship. The process of creating a physical space in Hillman Library to support these efforts already has begun.

The Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) will mark its 50th anniversary with celebrations on Sept. 12 that include an early afternoon welcome to former center directors and a late afternoon reception to be followed by a reservation-only dinner with dancing.

The widow of former Pitt faculty member and ULS Latin-American bibliographer, poet and artist Eduardo Lozano has donated 27 of his paintings for silent auction during the anniversary gala. Proceeds benefit CLAS’s Eduardo Lozano Prize. The paintings can be viewed at www.ucis.pitt.edu/clas/sites/www.ucis.pitt.edu/auctions.pitt.edu/class/sites/www.ucis.pitt.edu/clas/sites/www.ucis.pitt.edu/ARTWORKS.pdf.

A CLAS conference, “Reforming Communism: Cuba in Comparative Perspective,” will be held Nov. 6-9 in Posvar Hall. Fourteen speakers, coming from as far away as Cuba and the United Kingdom, will address topics including leftist politics in Latin America and Europe, reforms in health and social welfare, arts and literature, gender and sexuality, and race and society.

The Center for Russian and East European Studies was awarded 21 Department of Defense-funded Project GO (Global Officer) scholarships for ROTC students from across the nation to study intensive Russian language at Pitt’s Summer Language Institute (SLI).

Ten students took beginning or intermediate-level classes at Pitt, while 11 advanced-level students went abroad to Narva, Estonia — a Russian-speaking city on Russia’s border. An additional 28 Project GO scholarship recipients funded by other universities — Indiana University, San Diego State University, University of Texas-Austin, University of Mississippi, and Virginia Tech — also enrolled in Pitt’s SLI Russian courses.

The Slavic and East European SLI added a Near Eastern component to its language offerings with an intensive eight-week Arabic course this summer. SLI plans to add Persian next summer. The Near Eastern language courses are cosponsored by the Global Studies Global Study.

Two new study abroad programs to Africa are being launched for summer 2015. Pitt in South Africa is a five-week program based at the University of Cape Town. Students will study South Africa’s history, contemporary literature and social entrepreneurship efforts. Students can take up to six credits and can fulfill two foreign culture requirements.

Designed for graduate students and some undergraduates, Pitirin Zambia offers the opportunity to complete research and data collection in connection with the USAID-funded Read to Succeed Project, which strives to improve student performance in the public school system with a specific focus on reading and math in the early grades.

The program is a cooperative effort among the School of Education, the African studies program and Study Abroad, as well as the Institute for International Development...
Pitt-Greensburg has been awarded $700,000 from the R. K. Mellon Foundation to support critical technology infrastructure in its residence halls wireless project. The five-minute version can be viewed here: https://youtu.be/fhigjOJDjMk.

Tapingo can be used to order at: Cathedral Café; Cathedral Café, Student Union; Bunsen Burner, Posvar halls; Cafe Victoria; Bunsen Burner, Old World Café; Old World Café, Bunsen Burner; Coffee, Cathedral Café; Cathedral Café, Old World Café; Old World Café, Cathedral Café; Old World Café, Bunsen Burner.

Pitt-Greensburg's manufacturing management program has become a certificate program. Initiated in 2013, the program is designed for workers who have technical training in manufacturing and have been identified by their employers as having the leadership roles. It provides courses in management and related areas most relevant to current work experiences and allows the 24 credits earned to be applied toward a bachelor's degree in business management. Classes meet one Friday and Saturday a month, with students taking two courses per semester for four semesters.

The University of West Virginia's College of Engineering has received $100,000 from the Pittsburgh-based Procter & Gamble Corp. to give engineering students the opportunity to learn about industry needs and to develop ideas and products in the Lubrizol Innovation Laboratory in Benedum Hall. Due in part to funds secured to accelerate the program as sophomores.

Pitt-Greensburg is collaborating with the University of Zambia, through a partnership with the Centre for Coherence at Scale (C4S2) at University of Pittsburgh. The committee was formed in 2012 by the National Library of Medicine's National Institutes of Health and Vanderbilt University to establish a new doctorate program in the early childhood education major and environment major.

Pitt-Greensburg has two new majors: A BS degree in public policy that prepares students in various areas of public service, including early childhood education major and secondary education major and prepares students for certification as public school Spanish teachers.

The School of Education is offering two new certificates of advanced study: one in educational information systems (SAIS) and big data analytics. The certificates are available at the post-baccalaureate level. These programs will begin to be offered online for the SAIS certificate in spring 2015.

The Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences has established a new doctoral fellowship program for infor- matics and computer science students who are working on digital projects designed to enhance scholarly productivity and enrich teaching. The $726,000 award will support the work of the Committee on Coherence at Scale with independent dissertation research. The committee was formed in 2012 by the Council on Library and Information Resources and Vanderbilt University to examine emerging national-scale digital projects and their potential to help transform higher education in terms of scholarly productivity, teaching, cost-efficiency and sustainability.

A four-year, $1.2 million partnership between the Swanson School of Engineering at the University of Pittsburgh and the Lubrizol Corp. will give engineering students the opportunity to learn about industry needs and to develop ideas and products in the Lubrizol Innovation Laboratory in Benedum Hall. Due in part to funds secured to accelerate the program as sophomores.

Pittsburgh is home to some of the top medical schools and hospitals in the world, including the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), Allegheny General Hospital, and UPMC Presbyterian. The university is also home to the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI), which conducts research and provides care for patients with cancer.

One new feature of the website is the ability to request and accept each other, and to upload videos, photos, and other content to the site. This feature will allow students to easily share information and communicate with others. It also provides a platform for students to showcase their work and achievements.

Additionally, the website features a new section on sustainability, which highlights the university's efforts to reduce its environmental impact. This includes initiatives such as recycling, reducing energy consumption, and using renewable energy sources.

The university has also added new resources for students interested in the arts and humanities. This includes a new online directory of artists and cultural organizations, as well as a new feature that allows students to create and share their own artworks.

Pitt-Greensburg has two new majors: A BS degree in psychology that focuses on the starting point of understanding human behavior; and a MS degree in education that focuses on teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL). The university has also added two new minors: a minor in digital communication and a minor in social justice studies.

The university is also offering a new program in environmental science, which will be available online. This program will focus on the interaction between humans and the environment, and will cover topics such as climate change, pollution, and sustainability.

Pitt-Greensburg has also added a new program in health informatics, which will focus on the use of technology to improve healthcare delivery. This program will be available online and will be offered in partnership with the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

Additionally, the university is offering a new program in cybersecurity, which will focus on the protection of information systems from cyber threats. This program will be available online and will be offered in partnership with the University of Pittsburgh School of Engineering.

The university has also added two new minors: a minor in digital communication and a minor in social justice studies. These programs will provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in a variety of careers.
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OVER 100 BOOTHS FEATURING:
jewelry • ceramics • glass • wood
metal • fiber • paper • mixed media
leather • 2-D art

PLUS:
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Touchstone Center for Crafts
wood turning by Turners Anonymous

Entertainment
Cello Fury • Celtic Indian Arvel Bird
Dan Baker Trio • Lovebette
Jenny Wilson Trio • Matt Miskie
Ruby Red and the Dirty Devils

Children’s Activities
Face Painting • Zoo Animals
Crafts from the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts
Music from Calliope:
The Pittsburgh Folk Music Society

Food
BRGR • Cindy Munchies
Ellie’s Hawaiian Shave Ice
La Scola Italian Ice • PGH Crepes
Pitland Inc • Randita’s Grill
Sand Hill Berries • Taste of the Wild
The Burgh Bite Cart
Wood Fired Flat Breads

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