Assembly debates PUP statement on classroom climate

The proposal, born in part of faculty complaints over poor classroom conditions (see Pg. 4, 2014, University Times), failed on March 17’s 9-16 Assembly vote, with 8 abstentions. Weiss said, “I had hoped that maybe people would have creative solutions to problems, instead of just throwing these problems on the floor.”

Pitt, CMU, UPMC join forces to use health care “big data”

The heads of Pitt, Carnegie Mellon University and UPMC announced a new Pittsburgh Health Data Alliance (http://www.healthdataalliance.com) on March 17 that, they said, will use big data to create everything from better detection of disease outbreaks to commercial applications for data use in health care.

Digitally collected health data will fuel the work of the alliance, which will pair the efforts of Pitt’s Center for Commercial Applications of Healthcare Data, under Michael Breslau, chair of the Department of Biomedical Informatics, and CMU’s Center for Machine Learning and Health, headed by Eric Sudderth in the Department of Machine Learning.

Pitt chancellor Patrick Gallagher called the alliance “a partnership where the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. We are creating a community that can accomplish things that no institution can do alone.”

“Together, we will create the next generation of health care, the next generation of informatics technology and the next generation of Pittsburgh.”

The new alliance, added CMU President Subra Suresh, has the potential to improve patient care, increase people’s personal control over their health care decisions and reduce costs for health care providers and consumers because of earlier disease detection and treatment. It should also create new companies, add new jobs and attract new talent to the region.

UPMC will contribute $10 million-$20 million a year for the alliance’s initial five-six years, said Rovens. Suresh said it’s work will involve “dozens and dozens of faculty and students from different parts of campus[es] who will work together,” for projects that eventually involves “hundreds of people from across institutions, both locally and globally.”

The project was praised by Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto, who called it “ed/meds 2.0. This is ed/meds on steroids. … I can’t wait to see what happens next.”

Gallagher noted that doctors today work mostly with data from patients’ regular visits to their offices, which take place once disease symptoms have become evident. It does not include “the full mix of data” being gathered digitally that might work preventively.

“The idea of this being a kind of moon shot for health care data is legitimate,” concluded Rovens, when asked whether it was fair to compare the alliance to another large collaborative effort, the Manhattan Project to build the country’s first atomic bomb.

However, he added, “I will be very disappointed … if five years from now the project looks anything like it does now because we have not been as creative, as innovative and, if you’ll forgive the term, as expansive as we need to be.”

—Marty Levine
Drug Take-Back Day nets 450 lbs. of medications

By Justin Sorensen

Drug Take-Back Day at the University Pharmacy in the Student Union and at several community pharmacies across the University campus. The event was successful, with over 200 pounds of medications collected. This is an important service to our community and is a great way to promote public health and safety.

Group wants Pint to divest of fossil fuels

By Justin Sorensen

Pint, a university affiliate, is considering divestment from fossil fuels. This decision is important for the future of our planet and is a necessary step towards sustainability.

Leading class discussions

By Justin Sorensen

In the classroom, it is important to discuss topics that are relevant to the students. This can be achieved by creating a safe and inclusive learning environment.

Enthusiasm discussion skills

Enthusiasm is an important skill that students should develop. This includes being able to express their thoughts and ideas effectively.

Plan ahead

Before starting any project, it is important to plan ahead. This includes setting goals, creating a timeline, and identifying potential challenges.

Provide practical

Students should be encouraged to provide practical solutions to problems. This can be achieved by giving them opportunities to work in groups.

Managing discussions

Managing discussions in class is important to ensure that all students are engaged. This includes setting clear expectations and providing feedback.

University Times

Letters policy

Letters should be submitted at least one week prior to publication. Letters will be published as space permits. Letters may be edited for length or clarity.

Ken Service, vice chancellor for communications, says: We understand our students' concerns about climate change, but the entire issue of our nation's dependence on fossil fuels is a complex one, involving many interrelated issues. It is far from clear how divestiture would affect this matter.

University Times

Letters to the editor should be at least 250 words, and we reserve the right to edit and publish them as space permits.

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Nursing places 5th in U.S. News ranking of graduate schools
Results mixed for other programs

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Stephen M. Ferber, assistant director for Human Resources, told SAC the system is "99 percent working. ... We still have a few people, however, who is designated as the official supervisor versus who is asked to approve time cards — and with the timely student comple-
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"This is our semester to work all the kinks out of the process," he said, and to try to get rid of some of the paper forms that remain. "I don't want to have paper on-
boarding of students," he said. "I don't want to have things going up and down Fifth Avenue.

HR plans to publicize this new use of PRISM TRKS more widely in the fall, and to continue to refine its features.

In other SAC news:

• SAC President Rich Colwell characterized Pitt Day in Harrisburgh on March 4 as successful, even though the weather for Pitt faculty, staff and other community members were two and a half hours behind schedule for this annual lobbying event due to traffic caused by an accident on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Colwell said he thought more staff members did not attend. "It's the time of the year," volunteered one SAC member. "If it were in the spring, it would be a lot easier to get time off, she said. "I have problems even coming to meetings," volunteer, Pitt faculty member. "It's the time of the year," volunteered one SAC member. "If it were in the spring, it would be a lot easier to get time off, she said. "I have problems even coming to meetings," volunteer, Pitt faculty member.

MARCH 5, 2015

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MARCH 5, 2015
Earth Hour spreads message about light pollution

CHANCELLOR’S AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION AWARD 2015

Nominations are being solicited for this University-wide award that recognizes a University department, program area, or individual that has made a significant contribution to expanding diversity and inclusion at Pitt. Among the factors to be considered in the selection process are:

- Innovative approaches to increasing diversity within the University community in areas such as recruitment, retention, promotion, academic, and other programming and business activities or enterprises, and
- A consistent record of commitment and success in affirmative action efforts, diversity and inclusion programs and related initiatives within the University community. Greater consideration will be given to those nominations that include multiple years of documented advancements for the reviewing committee to consider.

Nominations can be made by individuals, groups, students or alumni. Self-nominations are also allowed. Please submit nominations to the Office of Affirmative Action, Diversity, and Inclusion, 300 Craig Hall, or before April 9, 2015. The nomination should include:

- The name, address, and phone number of the program area who or individual being nominated;
- The name, address, and phone number of the nominator;
- A three- to five-page description of the program, initiative, effort, or individual contribution that warrants recognition for advancing affirmative action, diversity, and inclusion; and
- A supplemental dossier that includes illustrations, supportive information, and other relevant documentation on the impact of the department, program area, or individual being nominated for this award.

For more information, contact the Office of Affirmative Action, Diversity, and Inclusion, 300 Craig Hall, (412) 648-7860.

University of Pittsburgh
Majors in the Pitts
burgh region — African Americans, Asians and Hispanics — hold only 11 percent of jobs here, the lowest among the 15 comparable American metro regions against which Pittsburgh was benchmarked in a new report from the Workforce Diversity Indicators Initiative.

That’s less than half the average of 25 percent, and this lack of employment diversity may hurt Pittsburgh when it comes to attracting new companies and holding on to new minority families, the report concluded. Pouring adversely affect a region that is already "the whitest of our benchmark regions — unusually white," at 86.4 percent of the region’s population, said Douglas Henck, director of Pittsburgh Today, which led the report’s rollout on March 5 at the University Club.

The region’s largest minority group, African Americans, are 8.2 percent of the region’s population.

The initiative, led by Vibrant Pittsburgh, includes the University Center for Social and Urban Research and the Workforce Diversity Institute for Racism and Social Problems in Pitt’s School of Social Work.

The report, "Behind the Times: The Limited Role of Minorities in the Greater Pittsburgh Workforce," benchmarks Pittsburgh against Atlanta, Richmond, Charlotte, Cleveland, Baltimore, Detroit, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Minneapolis and Denver. Available online at http://www.pittsburgh.org/workforcediversity.html, it found:

- White non-Hispanics hold 89 percent of the jobs in the Pittsburgh metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). African Americans have 7 percent. Hispanics and Asians hold 2 percent each, and the remaining 1 percent of jobs are held by people in other categories.

- Pittsburgh’s MSA ranks second in pay for all minority workers, with average monthly wages for minorities at $2,984 and for whites at $4,047. Following only Detroit, which pays $4,038 to minorities and $4,700 to whites. The average for the 15 regions is $3,997 for minorities and $4,694 for whites. At the bottom of the list is Kansas City, with $3,162 for minorities and $4,067 for whites.

- However, Pittsburgh’s MSA is fourth from the bottom for African-American worker income, paying average monthly wages of $2,660 for blacks and $4,047 for whites. Baltimore leads the list, with $3,147 for blacks and $5,020 for whites, while St. Louis trails farthest behind, with $2,395 for blacks and $3,384 for whites.

- For Hispanic/Latino and Asian workers income, the Pittsburgh MSA tops both lists, with its relatively small minority population of Hispanics/Latinos and Asians earning average monthly incomes of $3,661 and $26,737, respectively.

- Minorities gained only 2 percent more jobs in the Pittsburgh MSA from 2002 through 2013. Atlanta’s minority jobs growth was largest over the same period, at 7 percent, while minorities in Cincinnati and Denver lost 1 percent of jobs during that time.

- The differences in the kinds of jobs minorities hold compared to whites, and the wages paid in those industries, are "significant" throughout America but especially in the Pittsburgh MSA, says the report.

- In Pittsburgh, minorities hold 20 percent of jobs in the administration and support services sector, which encompasses employment in everything from marketing to security and cleaning/maintenance. In this sector, they have an average monthly income of $1,442 a month, which is almost the lowest among all industries. The lowest average income ($1,442 a month) is for minority workers in the accommodation and food service industry, which has the second-highest percentage of minority workers in the Pittsburgh region — 16 percent.

- Minority workers are paid best in health care and the social assistance sectors, at $4,500 a month, topping white coworkers, and hold 14 percent of the jobs there. Minority workers in the mining, oil and gas industries make an average of more than $8,300 a month, but hold only 5 percent of the jobs in those industries — their representation locally.

- Almost 18 percent of African Americans in the Pittsburgh region "say they often or always have trouble paying monthly bills for basic needs, such as housing and utilities — more than twice the leadership rate for residents of other cases report. African Americans in the Pittsburgh metro region are much less likely to own a home. And they are more likely to ship a doctor visit in the past year because they couldn’t afford it and to live in neighborhoods they consider to be less safe than others."

- While the region’s foreign-born residents are among the most highly educated in the nation, they represent only 3.8 percent of the local population, compared to almost 13 percent of the U.S.

- "We have the jobs," he added, estimating that the city will require 140,000 workers in the coming years just to replace the 55- to 65-year-olds who are retiring. Imagine Pittsburgh, the city’s job board, currently is advertising 25,000 jobs.

- But James Fixxell, vice president for market research and analysis at the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance, remarked that it is increasingly hard to find work-

ers with the right skills — so it’s important for us to attract more diverse populations to help fill in the population gap.

- Diversity begets diversity, Harrison said; thus, Pittsburgh needs to make more visible the diversity we do have.

- "A well-timed factor," said Krofchick, "is the presence of the millennial workers, which is increasing the diversity of the workforce.

- "We need to be honest with who can succeed here... We’re struggling with upward mobility," making it even more necessary for higher-wage industries to create pathways for minorities to succeed.

The cost of living is also relatively low, he added. Does this matter as much for minority groups asked Henck.

- "It’s a matter of factors," said Krofchick. "But, long-term, it’s the issue, if we’re to be able to make it here professionally.

- If jobs are concentrated in industries without much growth or advancement potential, "there might not be an awareness of other types of jobs available through the Pittsburgh region," said Cindrella Guzick, a sociologist with RAND Corp.

- However, she added, "I’m hopeful that this report... can be a catalyst not only for the region’s employers... but for people living here, and of course people outside the region, to say, This is a situation I can take advantage of." — Mary Levine

CONFERENCES

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MARCH 5, 2015

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State audit prompts changes

Changes are being made at the University in response to a state performance audit that found that Pitt:

- Did not adequately ensure that employees of sports and academic camps who had direct contact with minors had obtained required background checks and clearances.
- Had inadequate controls over procurement card (P-card) transactions.
- Did not adequately justify a direct-contract award and did not always document that the prices paid for directed or single-source contracts were fair and reasonable.

The state’s audit, which covered fiscal years 2010-13, also found that:

- The University is in compliance with National Collegiate Athletic Association policies regarding student-athletes’ eligibility and financial aid, and
- Pitt departments implemented internal auditors’ recommendations in a timely way.

The state auditor reported that they were unable to evaluate Pitt’s policy on whistleblowing or reporting suspected misconduct because the University refused to permit auditors to review the investigations and resolutions for any of the 53 cases made to the AlertLine in fiscal years 2011-13.

According to the report, an April 8, 2014, letter to auditors from Pitt’s Office of General Counsel stated: “It was never contemplated or communicated to employees that the confidential information contained in their anonymous calls would be shared with outsiders in circumstances such as this.”

The auditors, who sought to determine whether reports to Pitt’s AlertLine reporting system were properly categorized, prioritized, investigated and resolved, stated: “Due to this scope limitation, we were prohibited in our ability to review the effectiveness of the AlertLine.”

State Auditor General Eugene DePasquale presented the audit results in a March 5 media conference on campus.

The full audit report is available online at www.PAShares.com.

Youth camps

With regard to ensuring the safety of minors on campus, “We found no evidence of any child being in any danger,” DePasquale said.

The report said that the University did not develop a plan to address the issue of minors until after the audit.

The audit found that prior to January 2012, Pitt “exercised no oversight and did not have policies in place” to require coaches to get background checks for camp employees and volunteers who would have contact with minors.

Beginning in summer 2012, Pitt started issuing special event contracts that required coaches to obtain the checks for employees and volunteers, but “the University did not ensure that the background checks were obtained,” according to the report.

In 2013, Pitt established a policy requiring the background checks for any employee, volunteer or student who had significant likelihood of having direct contact with minors.

New, amid new laws to protect minors in higher education, new laws have the checks and the University is reviewing background check requirements for current employees. (See Jan. 27 University Times.)

“The University took the leadership well before today” to take action on the auditors’ findings, DePasquale said, commending University leaders for their willingness to make changes even before the report was finalized.

P-card use

Auditors selected 25 procurement cards from 510 cards that logged more than $5,000 in purchases in FY13 and reviewed 208 transactions from those 25 cards to determine whether they conformed with Pitt’s policies.

They found that 28 percent of the purchases reviewed “violated” P-card policies.

Among the findings:

- Eight cardholders made 18 purchases of items from suppliers that were not University-wide contracted vendors, although the items were available on University contracts. According to the report, some cardholders charged items at three to five times their purchase price this way, but procurement instructors direct cardholders to contact the controller’s office if they are uncertain about purchasing.

- Five cardholders split 24 purchases into multiple transactions to avoid card limits, including one who split a $13,379 purchase to evade a $2,000 transaction limit. Another cardholder returned a $11,500 purchase after an internal audit review, the report stated.

- Pitt’s card policy requires a minimum of three bids from qualified suppliers for all purchases over $5,000.

- One cardholder made six purchases for personal use between Dec. 12, 2012, and Feb. 14, 2013, totaling $2,642. The individual was terminated after internal auditors uncovered the fraud. (Additional review showed that employee had made 57 other personal purchases from July 8, 2011, through Feb. 14, 2013, totaling $16,585.)

- Three cardholders didn’t maintain records for 11 purchases totaling $3,825. One cardholder used the card to buy items for departmental holiday party, although P-cards may not be used for entertainment expenses.

- Two cardholders’ supervisors didn’t independently review the transactions and reconcile card activity. In part, this enabled the employee who made personal purchases on her P-card to do so undetected for 50 months, and enabled the split of the $13,379 purchase by another.

In its response, included in the report, Pitt stated that P-card users and reviewers are being retained.

Improved access to transaction data is making review easier and new processes are being tested.

The University noted that P-card purchases average $271, and account for about 1 percent of Pitt’s total annual expenses.

Contract compliance

Auditors’ review of a subset of professional service contracts of more than $100,000 found no conflicts of interest by purchasers.

However, the University didn’t always ensure that the prices paid were fair and reasonable and documentation wasn’t always complete for contracts that weren’t competitively bid, the report stated.

In part, auditors recommended the University adhere to its competitive bidding policy to encourage competition for the University’s businesses and to ensure goods and services are obtained at the best cost.

In addition, a comparison of invoices and contracts found that 27 invoices undercharged P$2,898. The overpayments occurred when a contact monitor approved payments without comparing the contracted rate with the invoice. The overpayment has been recovered, the report stated.

DePasquale commended University leaders for their willingness to implement changes. “I appreciate they agree with the areas that we do think they need to strengthen their internal controls,” he said, adding that his department continues to monitor Pitt’s compliance in its next audit.

—Kimberly K. Barlow
You are invited!
Free Event

Spring Supplier Show
Celebrating Diversity & Sustainability

Thursday, April 02, 2015
10:30 AM - 2:30 PM
Soldiers & Sailors Ballroom

See www.cfo.pitt.edu/pexpress/divsus for Details

Special thanks to all participating suppliers and departments:

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BioExpress               Pitt: EH&S              Scott Electric Company
CDW-G                    Pitt: CSSD              Sigma-Aldrich
Dell, Inc.                Pitt: Dietrich School Stockroom South Coast Paper
Don’s Appliances         Pitt: Dining - Sodexo   Supra Office Solutions
Fisher Scientific        Pitt: Facilities Management VWR International
Franklin Interiors / Steelcase Pitt: Surplus Property Waters Corporation
Kimberly Clark           Pitt: University Times Workscape, Inc.
Almost 300 staff, faculty, students, alumni and friends of the University from the five campuses registered to attend the annual Pitt Day in Harrisburg March 4.

Right, top: State Rep. Mike Reese speaks with some of the Pitt contingent. Reese represents parts of Somerset and Westmoreland counties.

Right, center: State Sen. Camera Bartolotta, who took office in January, meets with members of the Pitt group. Bartolotta represents Greene County and parts of Beaver and Washington counties.

Left, center and bottom: Chancellor Patrick Gallagher and Paul Supowitz, vice chancellor for community and governmental relations, address Pitt volunteers in the Capitol's rotunda.

Photos by Aimee Obidzinski/CIDDE
RESEARCH NOTES

Healing cirrhotic liver disease could be possible

It is possible to heal cirrhotic liver disease by rebooting the genes that control liver cell function, according to researchers at the School of Medicine and Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of the University of Pittsburgh. In animals, the game-changing strategy, described online in the Journal of Hepatology, potentially could treat patients who are too sick for liver transplantation and reduce the need for transplants.

The project grew out of the observation that not everyone who develops cirrhosis, or scarring of the liver, progresses to liver failure and life-threatening complications.

Said Iris Fox, professor of surgery in the school and director of the Center for Innovatory Regenerative Therapeutics at the school and McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine: “Even with the large number of patients who develop cirrhosis, there should be enough cells left to carry out the necessary functions.”

So when the liver fails, it is the liver cells themselves that aren’t working properly. They can’t demonstrate what has caused the problem and, more importantly, what needs to be repaired.

His team developed a rat model of liver disease that mimics the human condition and progresses to organ failure. In previous work, they found that liver cells taken from animals with cirrhosis but no liver failure immediately function properly when transplanted into another animal. But cells transplanted from animals with both cirrhosis and liver failure did not function normally at first, indicating that both the liver cells and the liver environment were damaged.

The researchers then compared the genes in the liver cells of the two groups of cirrhotic rats and found unusually low activity levels of a gene that controls proteins that play a central role in liver cell function, the most important being a factor called HNF4.

In the new paper, they showed that restoring production of HNF4 by gene therapy reboots the liver cells to normal function. The team then showed this in lab tests and then in rats with liver failure.

These results are pleasing to see that the animals got better almost immediately. Remarkably, the tests indicated that it should be possible to grow new liver cells, regeneration or growth of new liver cells that caused improvement. Instead, the diseased cells had healed,” Fox said.

HNF4 gene therapy provided unique insight into the causes of liver failure and has significant potential for human therapy, but the researchers are looking for other gene targets to develop simpler therapies, such as drugs that block the pathways that cause the disease.

The team also is confirming its results with human liver cells.

Pitt co-investigators include Alejandro Soto-Gutierrez, Joseph Locker and Wang’s team at Pitt, a Diesel researchers developed computer models that show the mechanical behavior of the tunneling nanomaterial at the atomic level. This modeling allowed the team to see the physical factors at play during the mechanical behavior of the tunneling nanomaterial.

Georgia Tech researchers conducted advanced computer simulations using molecular dynamics to study deformation processes in 3-D.

The tunneling mechanism, said Mao, contrasts with the conventional wisdom of dislocation-controlled plasticity in nanomaterials. The researchers also studied the atomic-level deformation mechanisms in tungsten nanotubes, which are made of tungsten nanotubes.

The tunneling mechanism has been observed in naturally occurring dislocations in tungsten nanotubes, which are made of tungsten nanotubes.

Workplace lifestyle intervention program improves health

A workplace-based healthy lifestyle intervention program developed by the Graduate School of Public Health significantly reduced risk factors for diabetes and heart disease, according to a new study published in the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine.

The program was well received by participants at Bayer Corp., who lost weight and increased the amount of physical activity they got each day, when compared with a control group in the study. Said lead author M. Kaye Kraner, public health faculty member in the Department of Epidemiology and director of the school’s Diabetes Prevention Support Center: “Health care expenditures associated with diabetes are spiraling, creating widespread concern, particularly for employers who worry about employee health and productivity.

This leads to an interest in workplace health promotion. However, there are very few evidence-based programs that actually demonstrate improvement in employee health. This study found that such programs not only improve health, but also that employees really like it.”

The demonstration program is based on the U.S. Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP), a national study that found people at risk for diabetes who lost a modest amount of weight through diet and exercise sharply reduced their chances of developing diabetes, outperforming people who took a diabetes drug instead.

Kraner and colleagues built on the DPP to create the Group Lifestyle Balance (GLB) program, which adapts the findings into practice.

The program is divided into 22 lessons over a one-year period and aimed at helping people make lifestyle changes to improve health. The sessions can be done as a group with a lifestyle coach or through a DVD coupled with brief written/handout or email consultations with the lifestyle coach. The option of the DVD with a lifestyle coach support not only served as the main intervention option for those employees who traveled or who did not want to participate in the program in a group setting, but also offered a replacement for employees who chose to participate via group setting but found it less than an occasional session.

DOES YOUR CHILD SHOP AT CONVENIENCE STORES?

The RAND Corporation, in Pittsburgh, is conducting a research study to learn about children, ages 11-17, purchase at convenience stores.

Participation requires one 20-minute phone interview and one 90-minute visit to the RAND study center. Children who complete the study will be compensated for their time and effort with $50 in gift certificates.

Parking and travel compensation will be provided.

If you are interested and want to learn more about the study, please call 412-802-4980 or email c-storestudy@rand.org.

OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS, EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS

MARCH 5, 2015
endothelium, which is the lining of blood vessels. Endothelial dysfunction was measured by assessing flow-mediated dilation (FMD), a noninvasive ultrasound gauge of how well the vessel dilates in response to pressure on the wall of the blood vessel. In one study of 189 healthy women approaching or in menopause, the researchers found those who had hot flashes before age 52 were more likely to have lower FMD values, suggesting adverse endothelial changes. Similarly, in a second study of 104 postmenopausal women with signs of heart disease, those who reported first having their hot flashes or at age 42 were more likely to have lower FMD values.

“More work needs to be done to confirm our findings and to understand the reasons why early hot flashes are associated with endothelial dysfunction,” Thurston said. “But these findings may provide potential targets for early prevention.”

In 2009, Hillman and colleagues analyzed core samples from Lake Erhai in the Yunnan province in southwestern China. The site had been under the influence of proximity to Kublai Khan’s famed silver mines. Khan was the grandson of Genghis Khan and founder of the Yuan Dynasty — and the area where ancient bronze surfactants had been found. The researchers found that lead pollution in Lake Erhai peaked at 1 microgram per gram of sediment in 1300 AD before declining to around 30 micrograms per gram in 1420 AD. Peak pollution levels were three to four times higher than those generated by modern industrial methods, Hillman says.

“Notably, the concentrations of lead approach levels at which harmful effects may be observed in aquatic organisms,” Hillman noted. “The persistence of this lead pollution over time created an environmental legacy that likely contributed to health issues in modern-day sediment quality. We went back in 2012 to confirm how widespread this pollution was,” she continued. “Many studies have documented lead and pollution from early metalworking, but this study is the first to show that pollution was in the sediments.”

And her findings, she said, may have practical use today: “The (metallurgical) processes would have volatilized heavy metals and spread throughout the landscape,” not just Lake Erhai, which could have implications for agriculture since, as recent reports suggest, as much as one-sixth of China’s arable land is affected by excessive accumulation of heavy metals.

Women requesting PFA orders see decreased earnings

“Why doesn’t she just leave?” is a common question about women in relationships that are physically and/or emotionally violent. Economic independence clearly is part of the story — many women lack the financial means to leave and find themselves trapped by both poverty and abuse. Women who choose to attempt to escape the abuse, some opt to petition a judge for a civil restraining order, also called a Protection Order (PFA) which limits a perpetrator’s access to a abusive partner. However, these legal actions come with costs.

“Women who experience hot flashes and night sweats during menopause. Early onset of hot flashes is associated with heart disease so that we can target these women for early prevention.”

10

UNIVERSITY TIMES

RESEARCH NOTES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Early onset of hot flashes could predict heart disease

Women who experience hot flashes in early menopause are more likely to have markers of blood vessel dysfunction, which could indicate a higher risk for the development of heart disease, according to a Pitt researcher. Findings were presented at the American College of Cardiology’s annual scientific session and expo.

Up to 70 percent of women experience hot flashes and night sweats during menopause.

Said Rebecca Thurston of psychiatry: “We used to think these were just annoying symptoms that many women just tried to endure. However, our research is now suggesting that for some women, hot flashes might indicate adverse changes in the blood vessels during midlife that might not be medically benign over time.”

Thurston’s research indicates that early onset of hot flashes during midlife that might not be medically benign over time.

“It is interesting to see that early onset of hot flashes is associated with coronary artery disease and that these women may be more likely to have lower FMD values,” said Mark Abbott.

In 2009, Hillman and colleagues analyzed core samples from Lake Erhai in the Yunnan province in southwestern China. The site had been under the influence of proximity to Kublai Khan’s famed silver mines — Khan was the grandson of Genghis Khan and founder of the Yuan Dynasty — and the area where ancient bronze surfactants had been found.

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Women requesting PFA orders see decreased earnings

“Why doesn’t she just leave?” is a common question about women in relationships that are physically and/or emotionally violent. Economic independence clearly is part of the story — many women lack the financial means to leave and find themselves trapped by both poverty and abuse. Women who choose to attempt to escape the abuse, some opt to petition a judge for a civil restraining order, also called a Protection Order (PFA) which limits a perpetrator’s access to a abusive partner. However, these legal actions come with costs.

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“We cannot offer women a restraining order and then walk away. We need to offer women other forms of support, especially economic ones, during this unstable time.”

The researchers say the study is just a first step toward unpacking the costs of women’s efforts to end abuse. They say the economic loss women experience when petitioning for a PFA is a call to researchers, advocates and policymakers to develop strategies to enhance women’s safety, solvency and economic stability.

Hormone-altering chemical in pregnancy influences sex development

Exposure to hormone-altering chemicals, called phthalates, which are found in many plastics, foods and personal care products — early in pregnancy is associated with a disruption in an essential sex hormone pathway that likely affects the masculinization of male genitals in the baby, according to a study of female-to-male transgender adults from the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health.

The findings, presented at the Society’s annual meeting, focus on the role of the placenta in responding to these hormones at key pregnancy stages. These results suggest that there may be reason to further study routine clinical testing earlier in pregnancy to check for the effects of chemicals that disrupt sex hormone interactions to help guide potential interventions to protect the health of the baby.
Supplemental oxygen can make tumors shrink

A method of profoundly enhancing some cancer treatments could be right under our noses. A study co-authored by School of Medicine researcher has shown in an animal model that breathing air with a higher-than-normal concentration of oxygen can alter certain metabolic pathways to allow chemotherapy and immunotherapy to shrink tumors more effectively.

The blood supply of a tumor often does not match the pace of the cancer’s growth, which leads to areas that are ischemic, or oxygen deprived. That causes the tumor cells to make adenosine, a molecule that not only promotes blood flow, but also binds to a receptor on killer T-cells and essentially puts them to sleep. In effect, adenosine acts as a shield against immune system cells that otherwise would attack the cancer.

Said Edwin Jackson, pharmacology and chemical biology faculty member and co-author of a paper published online in Science Translational Medicine: “We realized if we could find a way to block the increase in adenosine, we might be able to help the immune system respond to the tumor to make anticancer therapies more effective. This study shows that simply breathing more oxygen can accomplish that aim, which could lead to an amazing breakthrough in cancer treatment.”

The study team, led by a colleague from the New England Institute for Polymers and Tissue Protec-
tion Institute at Northeastern University, exposed mice with lung tumors to respiratory hyperoxia at levels of 40-60 percent oxygen, comparable to what patients might receive in the hospital. Another group of mice breathed air, which is approximately 21 percent oxygen. Tumors in mice that received supplemental oxygen shrunk — some regressed completely — and the animals were more likely to survive than those on room air.

The team hopes to see clinical trials of respiratory hyperoxia in combination with immunotherapies to see whether it can help cancer patients. They also noted that the effects might be stronger in combination with another agent that blocks the receptor where adenosine binds to inhibit the immune cells.

For Jackson, the discovery is personally fulfilling. Fourteen years ago, his older brother, James F. Jackson, died at 57 of terminal cell lung cancer. In 1986, James had received the National Science Foundation Presidential Faculty Fellowship in Excellence in Science Teaching. “Jim was my childhood mentor and a role model for me today,” Edwin Jackson said. “His three years of treatment was an emotional and frustrating time for me because we didn’t have the right tools to help him. I started doing cancer research because of that experience, and I hope these results will one day prevent suffering and loss for other families.”

Other study investigators included researchers from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School and the University of Miami.

The project was funded by the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences.

Medicare could save $150 million on Part D plans

Using an intelligent, rather than random, method for assigning Medicare patients to Part D prescription drug coverage plans could save Medicare $150 million annually, a Graduate School of Public Health analysis showed.

The results are reported in the journal Health Affairs and build upon an earlier study finding that Medicare could have saved more than $5 billion in its Part D low-income subsidy program. It had used intelligent assignment among all beneficiaries who received a subsidy.

Medicare Part D provides prescription drug coverage assistance to people enrolled in Medicare who have incomes below 150 percent of the federal poverty level. Since 2006, the government randomly has assigned low-income enrollees to standalone Part D plans, based upon the region in which they live.

Said lead author Yuting Zhang, a health economist member in the Department of Health Policy and Management: “If the government pilots intelligent assignment of Medicare Part D beneficiaries, people with schizophrenia would be an ideal group to start with. The majority of these patients are already randomly assigned to Part D plans. They spend considerably more on medication than the general Medicare population, but most of their drug spending is subsidized by the government, and these patients often have a difficult time selecting ideal plans themselves.”

Zhang and her team obtained data on nearly 120,000 beneficiaries with schizophrenia and developed a computer algorithm to intelligently assign them to plans available in their regions based on their medication needs.

Intelligent assignment trans-

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"Our study is the first to look at room air as a phthalate exposure in pregnancy, said Adibi. "There is growing societal concern over pediatric disorders that have a basis in the fetal period and which may be more common in one sex or population, such as autism, attention deficit disorder, obesity, asthma and infertility. It is important to find out if chemicals in our food or environment might influence these conditions."

This research in the study were enrolled at prenatal clinics in California, Washington, Min-
nesota, and New York. As future studies will enroll women in the earliest stages of pregnancy at high risk of exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals, the prerequisites might be able to help the immune system to reject the cancer. But the increase in adenosine, we suffers for a low-income subsidy for their Part D prescription drug, meaning they pay little or no premium for their Part D plan and have only nominal copayments.

Although Medicare beneficia-
ties are allowed to select a plan other than the one to which they were randomly assigned, there is little financial reason for people with schizophrenia to do so.

"This situation highlights why it would be beneficial for the government to use intel-
ligent assignment," said Zhang. "We recommend that Medicare use intelligent assignment as the default approach for all benefi-
ciaries with schizophrenia who receive a low-income subsidy, and consider it as an option for all Part D beneficiaries, regardless of their income."

Additional authors on this research were Seo Hyon Baik of public health and a colleague at the University of Rochester.

This research was supported by National Institute of Mental Health and the Agency for Health-
care Research and Quality.

Grant fosters research careers

The University Honors Col-
lege has received a three-year $150,000 grant from the Beckman Foundation to support the train-
ing of six undergraduate students with cancer interests in scientific research.

The first cohort of Beckman scholars will be supported from May 2015 through July 2016, including 10 summer weeks on both sides of the coming academic year.

Each scholar receives $18,200 in stipend and $2,800 in supply and travel money. Faculty mentors will receive $5,000 to undertake work associated with the scholar’s research experience: traveling to scientific meetings, purchasing scientific supplies and paying publication fees. During the second summer, the scholars will also attend the national Beckman research symposium where they will present their research work.

Edward M. Stricker — dean of the honors college, Bernice L. & Morton S. Lernter Chair and distin-
guished University professor of neuroscience — is the program director of the current award.

Co-directors are Harvey Boro-
vera, a bioengineering faculty member in the Swanson school, and Jeff Brodsky, Avicoin chair of biological sciences in the Dietrich school. The 15 faculty mentors are:

• From the Dietrich school, in biological sciences: Tia-Lynn Ashman, Jeff Brodsky and Graham Hatfull; and in chem-
istry: Alexander Deiters, Sunil Saxena and Peter Wipf.

• From the Swanson school, in bioengineering: Lance A. Davidson, Steven R. Little and Sanjeev Shroff.

• From the School of Medi-
cine, in neurosciences: Stephen Merney, Linda Rinaman and Alan Sved.

• With joint appointments: David A. Lewis (psychiatry and neuroscience), Michael A. Lotze (surgery and bioengineering) and William R. Wagner (nursing, bioengineering and chemical engineering).

Pitt has received this grant several times in the past, beginning in 1998.

Compiled by Marty Levine
Rebecca Bagley, former president and CEO of NoTech, has been appointed to the new position of vice chancellor for economic partnerships. Bagley will be responsible for coordinating and expanding the University’s efforts in economic development.

Bagley will work with senior leadership to develop a strategic plan for the University in economic development. She will also develop and oversee public and private partnerships that connect and advance the University and have regional and national impact. Another key aspect of her position will be interacting with government, community leadership and the business community on matters pertaining to economic development.

At Cleveland-based NoTech, Bagley led a technology-focused organization that worked to strengthen northeast Ohio’s economic vitality by accelerating the pace of innovation in the region.

Isreal Brain Technologies, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to advance Israel's neurotechnology industry by accelerating neuro-innovation and fostering international collaboration, has awarded the annual prize to researchers in the field of theoretical mathematics in neuroscience. The $100,000 prize recognizes researchers who have significantly advanced the understanding of the neural mechanisms of perception, behavior and thought through the application of mathematical analysis and theoretical modeling.

Michael Ringier has been hired as senior director for federal relations in the Office of Community and Governmental Relations. Ringier, a Pitt alumnus, most recently was a majority chief and staff director for the U.S. House of Representatives appropriations committee.

Carrie Kovacs, molecular biology information specialist in the Health Sciences Library System, was elected chair designate of the Medical Library Association’s continuing education committee and was appointed to the joint planning committee for the 2016 Medical Library Association/Canadian Health Library Association/International Clinical Librarian Conference as coordinator of the Lightning Talks.

Denise Chisholm, faculty member in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences’ Department of Occupational Therapy, has been elected as a director to the board of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). The board is responsible for the strategic direction and budget of AOTA, and focuses on long-term goals and initiatives that will advance occupational therapy.

Chisholm’s term ran from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2018.

Jenny Johnson, a lecturer in the Department of English, has been awarded the 2015 Whiting Award for poetry from the Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation.

Johnson was named for her literary accomplishments and the promise of great work to come, the Whiting Award is given annually to 10 writers in the categories of drama, fiction, nonfiction and poetry. It carries a prize of $50,000.

Johnson is the author of the forthcoming poetry collection “In Full Velvet.” Her work has been published in The Best American Poetry 2012, the Los Angeles Review of Books Quarterly, Thrush, Plume & Gander, Queen Poetry & Poetics and Best New Poets of 2008.

Join us on Tuesday, March 31st at 7:00pm

The University Store on Fifth
www.pittuniversitystore.com
4000 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 • 412.648.1455

How to Be Drawn
TERRANCE HAYES
Author of LIGHTHEART, Winner of the National Book Award

Join us on Tuesday, March 31st at 7:00pm

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24th Annual Medical Ethics Update: End-of-Life Decisions

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH CENTER FOR BIOETHICS AND HEALTH LAW

The CRUZAN CASE 25 YEARS LATER: ITS LEGACY AND ITS FUTURE

Keynote Speaker
"When Doctors Can't or Don't Say No"

BARRON LERNER, MD, PhD
Author of "The Good Doctor: A Father, a Son, and the Evolution of Ethics in Medicine," Professor of Medicine and Population Health, Division of General Medicine and Medical Ethics, New York University-Langone Medical Center

Friday, March 27, 2015
8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Scaife Hall
11th Floor Conference Center

Continuing education credit will be offered for law, social work and nursing. This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 credits. For further information and registration go to https://events.umm.edu/medethicscourse

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University Senate structure exchange

Assembly debates classroom climate statement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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Lisa M. Grandinetti, derma-

tologist and professor in the

School of Medicine and director of

its residency program, died on

Feb. 19, 2015. She was 50.

Grandinetti earned a bachelor

of science degree in biology at

Muhlenberg College in 1998, a

master of medical science degree

at Drexel University in 2000, and

her MD from Drexel University

College of Medicine in 2004. At

Drexel, she received awards for

educating the public about her

work, high character and creativ-

ity in her profession and for

making significant contributions to

alumni-student relations.

She served her internship in

Cleveland Clinic’s Department of

Internal Medicine 2004-05 and

her residency there in the

Department of Dermatology

2005-08, where she was chief

resident. She began her academic

career as an instructor in dermatology at

the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Min-

nesota, before coming to Pitt in

2009. Here she created a multidis-

iplinary clinic at the Pittsburgh

Center for the Study of those with gastrointestinal-related

skin diseases.

Grandinetti was a member of the

International Society of

Dermatology, Medical Dermatology

Society, Women’s Dermatologic

Society and the American

Medical Association.

She had published in the Journal of

Dermatology, Pathology and elsewhere,

and had contributed numerous book

chapters and review articles.

She had contributed to studies on

liver adenocarcinoma last fall, she

raised more than $30,000 for the

LUNGevity Foundation.

Grandinetti is survived by husband

Jason Swoger, who is a professor of

obstetrics and gynecology at the

University of Pittsburgh; daughter

Stella; sister Gina Grandinetti, of

Cleveland; Peter and Martha Grandinetti.

—Marty Levine

Assembly discusses classroom climate statement

“We decided to simply forgo

forwarding that issue,” he told the

Assembly.

A comment form and links
to the full draft resolutions and

updated background information

on the proposed standing com-

mittee reorganization are posted

under the “possible reorganiza-

tion of the Senate committees”
tab at univenenate.pitt.edu.

Sound off on single sign-ons

The Senate is soliciting faculty

comments on the availability of

single-sign-on (SSO) access via

my.pitt.edu portal to retire-

ment account and UPMC health

information.

Who is SSO convenient —

users can access this additional

information without entering

another username and password

— sharing a password or leaving

a computer unattended has the

potential to put sensitive data in

the wrong hands, he said.

He added, “I think it’s our

job, as colleagues, to look out

for one another and to care about

each other. We have to be aware of

these things and act on them.”

—Kimberly K. Barlow
Thursday 19

**Medical Grand Rounds**

"Medical Education History: A Comparison of the Japanese & US Medical Experiences," Brian Heit; west wing, UPMC Shadyside, 8 am (7-426)

**Molecular Biophysics/Structural Biology Colloquium**

"Factors Modulating the Interaction of Huntington With Lipid Membranes," Liliang Shao, NYU/611 BST, 11 am

**Epidemiology Seminar**

"Life in the Day: Stories of No More Epidemic of Corona Heart Disease in the United States," Alisa Selkowitz, 115 Cedars, noon (jschmiede@pitt.edu)

**SAC Employee Discount Program Seminar**

WPU holdsman, noon (register: www.sac.pitt.edu/event/brown-bag-employee-discount-program)

**UHC Grad School 411 Session**

O'Hara dining rm., noon (ages pis@gmail.com)

**Author Meet & Greet**

Ellen Robin; U Store on 5th, noon

**Senate preliminary Session/Strategic Planning Town Hall**

Alumni Commons Ballroom, 1-3 pm (www.pitt.edu/strategicplan)

**CIDDIE TA Services Workshop**

"Dealing With Difficult Situations in the Classroom Part 1," 115 Miami, 2 pm (www.ciddie.pitt.edu/workshops)

**Senate Finance Committee**

153 Benedum, 3 pm

**CNBC Colloquium**

"New Technologies: Rewarded-Guided Decision-making," Matthew Rouns, U of MI, 6:14 BST, 4 pm (ispk@pitt.edu)

**Geology / Planetary Science Colloquium**

Terry Engelder, PSI; 11 Thaw, 4 pm

**Chemistry Colloquium**

"The Second Step: Developing a Business Month Lecture" Bradford Campus Women's History Month; "Pray the Devil Back to Hell"; A115

**Design/Biostatistics/Epidemiology Seminar**

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Road to Achieving an AIDS-free Generation," Akira Gale, west wing, UPMC Shadyside, 8 am (7-315)

**GSPHA Philosophy Laboratory**

"Non-profit Capitalization: Taking the Plunge Together," O'Hara Ballroom, 8:30-11 am (register: https://gspa.pwsa.org/events/non-profit-capitalization-taking-the-plunge-together)

**Faculty & Staff Development Program**

"Introduction to the Office of International Services & Basic Concepts of Immigration Law," Claire Moley & Melissa Reinert; 342 Craig, 9-11 am (www.chp.pitt.edu/training/development/society-nt)

**HSLS Workshop**

"Paintless Publics," Charles Wessel; Falk Library classroom, 1 pm (chwil@gmail.com)

**Computer Science End-of-Life Decisions**

"The Crusoe Case 25 Years Later: Its Legacy & Its Future," Baron Lerner; Schaeffer 116, 8:30-4:30 pm (register: https://cces.acmp.com/jplf.org/)

**HSLS Workshop**

"Philosophy of Science Talk**

"Blackboard: Using the Grade Management System to Achieve an AIDS-free Generation," Claire Moley, west wing, UPMC Shadyside, 8 am (7-315)

**Friday 27**

**Bioethics & Health Law Medical Ethics Update: End-of-Life Decisions**

"The Crusoe Case 25 Years Later: Its Legacy & Its Future," Baron Lerner; Schaeffer 116, 8:30-4:30 pm (register: https://cces.acmp.com/jplf.org/)

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**HSLS Workshop**

"Philosophy of Science Talk"
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Music Lecture
“The Passion in Print: Musical Taxonomies & the 1st Death of Afflatus: The Case of Good Friday, 1543,” 12:30 pm
French & Italian Film
“Les Enfants du Feu,” 7:30 pm

Saturday 28
IS Preservation Fair
“Preserving Family Treasures,” Carnegie Music Hall, 10 am-4 pm. (www.psmuseum.org/events/mem/12/18/is- pires/good-neighbor-day/index.html)
Literary Reading
Lauren Genoff ’04, Hara Hallman, 6 pm. Men’s Glee Club Concert
1st Baptist Church of Pgh., 539 N. Bigelow St, 6 pm. (www.psmuseum.org/events/mem/12/18/is-pires/good-neighbor-day/index.html)
Pitt Be a Good Neighbor Day
Various locations, 10 am-2 pm. (register: www.studentactivities.pitt.edu/pitrserves/good-neighbor-day/index.html)

Sunday 29
Isound Book Performance
Bellevue at pitt., 8:30 pm

Monday 30
CIDDGE Workshops
“Teaching a 6-Week Course,” 1 pm; "Developing a Teaching Portfolio," Part 2-2 p.m. (www.ciddge.pitt.edu)
Classics Lecture
"Divine Supervision Required: Protecting the Icon in Classical & Hellenistic Sicily," Randall Souza, Diacapol, 7:30 pm, 4400.
GSWS/Sustainability/Latin American Studies Lecture
"Who Gender Matters to Sustainability: Engaging the Public in a Meaningful Conversation," Maria Cruz Torres, AU/HSLS, 154LM, 4 pm

Tuesday 31
Faculty & Staff Development Program
"Problem Solving Skills for the Workplace," Mark Bundall, 342 Craig, 9 am-noon (www.hr.pitt.edu/training-development/faculty-st)
CIDDGE Workshop
"Teaching With PowerPoint," 815 Alumni, 11 am (register: www.ciddge.pitt.edu/hsls)
MMR Seminar
Basic & Translational Research Seminar
“In Situ Analysis of DNA Damage Response at Genome-Site Specific Loops,” Satoshi Nakajima, Hillman Cancer Ctr. Cooper conf. et al. D, noon (tsgsc@pitt.edu)
Philosophy of Science Talk
"Can a Good Experiment Fail?" Allan Franklin, U of CO, 1218 CL, 1:00 pm (6-1052)
Sara Fine Inst. Lecture
"The Social Life of DNA in the Era of Big Data," Miranda Nelson, Columbus; UClub hallman, A, 3 pm

Pharmacology & Chemical Biology Seminar
"Axonal Transport, Autophagy & Neurodegeneration: Why Neurons Require Molecular Motors," Erika Holzhauer, Pgh., 1591 BST, 3:30 pm

April
Wednesday 1
Bookable Edit Booth
Hillman Library Cup & Chazzel Cafe, 10-3 am. (www.pitt.edu/sites/edi-bookable.html)
Faculty & Staff Development Program
"Workplace Bullying," Paula Davis & Carol Mohamed, 324 Craig, 12:30-2 pm. (www.hr.pitt.edu/training-development/faculty-st)
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Lecture
"Cancer Pain Management," Scott Brunollini, G10 Va, 4 pm

Thursday 2
Faculty & Staff Development Program
"Conflict of Interest Management," David Whitney, Kirkys Mlyndin, Benjamin West & Lisa Schoson, 324 Craig, 9-11 am (www.hr.pitt.edu/training-development/faculty-st)
Spring Supplier Show
"Celebrating Diversity & Sustainability," Solders & Sailors hallman, 10:30-3:30 am. (www.pitt.edu/express/divus/)
Molecular/Cellular Biology/Structural Biology Seminar
Jin Quo, 6014 BST, 11 am
CIDDGE Workshop
"Destination Diversity With Sue Rabin," UClub conf. rm. A, 11 am (www.ciddge.pitt.edu/workshops)
Epidemiology Seminar
"Lower Extremity Atherosclerosis & Pre-clinical Peripheral Artery Disease," Christina Wasse; A111 Crtbr, noon (jcauley@edc.pitt.edu)
HSLS Workshop
"Paediatric PubMed," Pat Weiss; Falk Library clasr, 1, 4 pm (www.pitt.edu/schools/hsls/workshops)

Defenses
Education/Instruction & Learnings
"Teaching Paraprofessionals to Implement Social Communication Intervention for Young Children With ASD," Mia Murdock, March 19, 1551 PSC, 10 am

HSLS Workshop
"Paediatric PubMed," Pat Weiss; Falk Library clasr, 1, 4 pm (www.pitt.edu/schools/hsls/workshops)

Pitt Police Self-Defense Class
"How to be Drawn," Tarrance Hayes, English; U Store on 5th, 7 pm (www.tarrancehayes.com)

A&S/Biology
"The Community-Wide Consequences of Intoxicated Resistance to Non-Targeted Organisms," Randall Bends; April 2, A215H Langley, 11 am
A&S/Biology
"A New Method for the Orthogonal Labeling & Purification of Traposomal Conduit Protein While Inside of the Host Cell," Gregory Tier; April; 2, A215H Langley, 1 pm

Theatre
Bradford Campus Production
"Lear," Blaisdell Studio Theatre, UPG, Apr-2 4-7:30 pm, April 3 at 9:40 pm (8-362.5137)
Greensburg Campus Production
"Chemical Imbalance: A Jekyll & Hyde Play," Ferguson Theater, UPG, Mar 26-27 at 7:30 pm, Mar 29 at 2 pm

Exhibits
FHA Exhibit
"Exhibition: 3 Documents, 5, Harald Szeemann, the Arton;" FHA Gallery, through March 31, 9:30-11 am, 1 pm-4 pm (www.uahs.pitt.edu/news/events/exhibition3-documenta-5-harald-szeemann-artist)
A&S/Music
"Tradie Harmony & Repetition in Philip Glass’ “The Coat,”" Max J. Adorne; March 26, 11:30 AM, 11:30 am
Public Health/Behavioral & Community Health Sciences Lectures
"Exploring Lesbian Health Disparities: Social & Structural Predictons of Adiposity & Metabolic Synrome,” Suzanne Kinsky; March 26, 2-7 pm, 2 pm
A&S/Geology & Planetary Science
"Lake Sediment Records Examining the Spatial & Temporal Connexions of Human Activity & Climate Change in Southwestern China," Aubrey Hillman; March 27, 214 SCB, 9:40 am
A&S/Biology
"Going Against the Flow: Alk1 Is Required for Directed Endothelial Cell Migration & AVM Prevention," Elizabeth Reinhut; March 27, 419H Langley, 2 pm
A&S/Biology
"Improving Secondary Teachers’ Feedback," Jarrell Wright; March 31, 602 CL, 11 am
A&S/Computer Science
"Anxiety Symptoms, Anxiolytic Intervention: Impact on Long-term Sequencings of Insecticide Resistance in Plasmodium falciparum While Inside of the Host Cell,;" Gabriel Sip; April 2, A215H Langley, 1 pm

Barnes Library Exhibit
"Girls Get in for Free," Samantha; May Meolocation; 4th fl Barn, through April 11, M-Th 7-9 am, Sun 10 am-6 pm, F 7-7 am-10 am, Sat 10 am-6 pm (8-1756)
A&S/Biology
"The Community-Wide Consequences of Intoxicated Resistance to Non-Targeted Organisms," Randall Bends; April 2, A215H Langley, 11 am
A&S/Biology
"A New Method for the Orthogonal Labeling & Purification of Traposomal Conduit Protein While Inside of the Host Cell," Gregory Tier; April; 2, A215H Langley, 1 pm

Deadlines
NIH/Egriculture Research Equipmment Submissions Due: March 24. (gr@pitt.edu)
Fall 2015 Community-Based Research Fellowships Application deadline is April 3. (www.hemonegoncology.pitt.edu/cmmunity-based-research-fellowships)
Annual Conflict of Interest Disclosures Deadline is April 15. (www.coi.pitt.edu)

Event Deadline
The next issue of the University Times will include University & on-campus events of April 2-16. Information for events during that period must be received by 5 pm on March 26. Send information to mail@pitt.edu

The exhibit “Both-ful Art & Artifacts” runs through March 31 at Falk Library.
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Thursday, April 2

Also next issue: Senate presidential candidate Q&A

University Senate presidential candidates Alexandre Vieira and Frank Wilson respond to questions posed by the University Times.