Faculty now have new options for assigning IP rights

S

alaries for Pittsburgh campus professors and instructors gained ground in an annual ranking of faculty pay at the 34 public Association of American Universities (AAU) institutions. Pittsburgh campus associate and assistant professors’ average salaries fell in the ranking and 8one remained last in the 2013-14 peer group analysis prepared by Pitt’s Institutional Research Office. Librarians’ salaries continued to climb in relation to their peers at AAU/Association of Research Libraries (ARL) schools, according to the report presented Oct. 17 tothe University Senate budget policies committee (BPC).

The annual faculty salary report is based on data from the Association of American University Professors (AAUP) 2013-14 economic status of the profession report (www.aau.org/reports-publications/2013-14salarysurvey). Librarians’ salaries are based on the ARL annual salary survey. Robert Goga of Institutional Research told BPC that some faculty now have new options for assigning IP rights.
The Legacy of Jerry Cochran
During the earlier years of his career, Jerry Cochran made his mark at two of our nation’s most advanced schools of the Health Sciences — medicine and pharmacy. He was the intern dean of the School of Pharmacy and I was the intern dean of the School of Medicine. Because our two schools were revered as being among the finest, we naturally became increasingly important to the University. In fact, when he and I first met in 1964, he was the intern dean of the School of Pharmacy and I was the intern dean of the School of Medicine. Our professional paths had crossed, and our students were well aware of what they had gained by our presence and our desire to make a contribution to our country’s health. As we struggled to provide quality education, we worked together to ensure the best for our students.

My working relationship with Jerry was one of mutual respect and admiration. He was a man of integrity, who always put the needs of his students first. He had a strong work ethic and was dedicated to his profession. His leadership and dedication set a high standard for all of us who had the privilege of working with him.

I am proud to have been a part of the legacy that Jerry Cochran left behind. His contributions to the University of Cincinnati will be remembered for generations to come. He will be missed, but his legacy will continue to inspire us all. Thank you, Jerry, for your service and dedication to the University of Cincinnati.

Mark A. Nordenberg
Chancellor Emeritus
University of Cincinnati
The Oct. 20 open forum brought more than 50 people to the William Pitt Union lower lounge to offer their input on the search panel of committee members as the search commences.

“I’ve been at every major library in the United States, and in every one of their librarian retires,” Sbragia said, “but I’m optimistic because we have a lot to offer. We have a very good library system; we have very good faculty and staff, and we have a very good city to live in. I am very optimistic that we can find the next good person to take over from Rush.”

Boston-based search firm Isaacson, Miller has been engaged to assist in the search. Beverly Brady, a senior associate with the firm, sat alongside the committee to hear what was on attendees’ minds.

Brady said she visited campuses last summer to meet with the current, potential and retired. “That’s helpful for me to be able to tell potential candidates what it’s like here,” she said. She returned just a few weeks ago to meet the search committee members.

Sbragia said that after a pool of candidates is identified, the committee will narrow the field to about 10 who will be interviewed briefly in person or via Skype. Of those first-round candidates, perhaps a half-dozen will be invited to campus for a longer visit that will include a public presentation.

Brady estimated that initial interviews will be held January with shortlisted finalists visiting campus in February. A list of top candidates will be presented to Provost Patria E. Beeson for her decision.

“I would like the new library director to work closely with our current University librarian and director of the Library System’s preservation effort,” said Rush G. Miller, Hillman University Librarian and director of ULS, who will retire Dec. 31 after two decades.

Sbragia quoted a report about the selection of the next library director as the one of the most challenging and critical choices the University will make in its “new era” under a new chancellor, Sbragia, chair of the ULS director search committee, vowed, “We will do everything we can to find and bring to campus the best candidates that we can attract.”

The search committee is looking for a successor to Rush G. Miller, Hillman University Librarian and director of ULS, who will retire Dec. 31 after two decades.

Isaacson, Miller is a regional and international search firm that has been retained by the University Administration to conduct the search for a successor to Rush G. Miller, Hillman University Librarian and director of ULS, who will retire Dec. 31 after two decades.

Author: Kimberly K. Barlow, 2014-15 University Campaign donor.

**What they give**

Through the Faculty and Staff Campaign, University faculty and staff can help Pitt thrive by contributing to any of more than 2,000 scholarships, fellowship and professorship funds. Funds in all dedication level categories, from $1,000 or more are recognized through the Chancellor’s Circle program.

Anneually, nearly 3,000 Pitt employee take part in the campaign, from every part of the University. Their backgrounds, and reasons for giving, are as diverse as the Pitt community.

In this productive feature, the University Times is profiling Faculty and Staff Campaign donors.

Jeff Brodsky, Avinoff Chair of Biological Sciences at the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, has been contributing to Pitt’s Faculty and Staff Campaign for so long that he’s lost track of how many times he’s donated.

All he knows is that he’s been doing it for most of his 20 years at the University — and that the University Library System’s general fund is his fund of choice.

“I love my wife and I feel very strongly about the importance of having a terrific library system, which is what Pitt has,” Brodsky says.

In a word, of course, that

Je|ff Brodsky is a designer of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh system. “I’m a frequent user of the library system here,” he says. But he also has observed how often the library has been an aid to the graduate students who work there.

“I find that libraries were very unique places where many of the students could be found,” Brodsky says. “And I think it’s nice to go right on contributing to that.

For more information on the Faculty and Staff Campaign, go to www.giveto.pitt.edu/facstaffcampaign or contact Marty Levine.
New director plans updates for financial aid office

Three months into the job, Randall L. Mccready, Pitt’s first director of financial aid in at least 30 years, has discovered his department is using procedures other institutions have discarded a decade ago, such as manual data entry and paper aid acceptance letters.

He and boss Marc Harding, chief enrollment officer in the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid (OAF), told the Oct. 20 meeting of the University Senate’s admissions and student aid committee that they want to fix the structure of the department, streamline its processes, and possibly change the job descriptions of all 17 employees who report to McCready — and that the financial aid department ideally should double in size.

“We need to evaluate everything in the office,” Harding said, down to the paper and financial aid and financial aid reception desk on the first floor of Alumni Hall. There, prospective students and their parents, hopeful in their shiny faces, read up waiting next to a third-year student who spars about financial aid.

Combining the admissions and financial aid offices decades ago once led to efficiencies, Harding allowed.

“Some good things were happening — but it needed more attention. It’s a huge, huge operation. You need someone to have his or her arms around the enterprise.”

Harding introduced McCready to the group, noting his local origins — a Blair County native, McCready has bachelor’s and master’s degrees from California University of Pennsylvania — and his experience in financial aid offices at Kent State, Marquette and most recently the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Kenosha.

McCready has helped install PeopleSoft software from the college’s inception, he said: “I know what a very successful operation can do and how you get the pieces together. These are very simple changes that can be made to improve our processes that elevate our work product status institution to where the rest of the world is today. If I get the system in place and get the right people, we can run like unbridled horses out onto the prairie.”

Automating manual procedures also will lead to improved response times from Pitt to students and parents, Harding added.

Separating financial aid from admissions also will help people understand his office’s impact and reach, McCready said: “Historically when you have financial aid embedded in an admissions office, people believe that it is just about the new student. Financial aid touches all parts of the student lifecycle, even beyond graduation.”

An institution of Pitt’s size optimally would have 35 financial aid professionals, McCready said, adding: “I’m not going to hire people for the sake of hiring them. I need to get the right structure.”

Under the previous OAF administration, he said, “everyone was pretty much told what they were supposed to do.” He plans to give employees more opportunities to take charge of more tasks.

If staff members are worried about their future, he said, they’re nervous because they haven’t been empowered to do the things they really can do.

Asked by committee members how faculty might have an influence on the manner in which school-specific scholarships are distributed and tracked, McCready cautioned that the decisions making there still is top-down.

“We have a lot of institutional dollars that a lot of people have an interest in,” he said. “So a lot of people have to be at the table. You want to strategically target it so you are making the most of the dollars, for the best revenue of the University.”

Juan M. Mantleda, vice provost for undergraduate studies and a chancellor’s liaison to the committee, noted: “The big decisions at the highest level are made by the provost,” with input from deans and other administrators. Federal law and state rules govern much of how financial aid is distributed: “You have very little room to move,” apart from scholarships funded by individuals or institutional donors, which often come with specific restrictions too.

McCready suggested that such scholarships should be tracked centrally. “It’s not a matter of shifting who is making the decision, but how it is supported,” he said, so the University can have a better tally of how many National Merit Scholars it has, for instance.

Noting that his own research work had come at a regional campus, he called for increased relations among financial aid offices in Pittsburgh and at the regional campus: “We are one University system. We need to look the same. We need to feel the same.”

—Mary Levine

Staff, faculty say thanks, in stone

“It’s a kind of ominous feeling when you see your name etched in granite with dates after it,” Chancellor Patrick Gallagher quipped to his predecessor at the dedication of a pair of benches outside the chancellor’s office window.

About 50 people — joined by one curios raptor who eyed the guests from a low-hanging tree branch — gathered Oct. 15 outside the Cathedral of Learning for the lighted, Alumni-infused ceremony to dedicate the bench plaza, given by the University Senate and Staff Association Council (SAC) in honor of Mark A. Nordenberg, chancellor emeritus, and his wife, Nikky Fizuno Nordenberg.

SAC President Rich Colwell, joined by Senate President Michael Spring, said: “No matter what we do, we could never thank Mark for all the work he’s done and how he’s progressed the University to where it is.”

Gallagher said: “It’s worth noting that the names of the benches are very deep. In fact so deep that we hit a main power line on the campus,” referring to a July 23 subcontractor mistake that interrupted power to 10 campus buildings, leaving some darkened for multiple days.

“I know when Mark set about deciding what he wanted to do with his professional life after serving at Pitt’s chancellor for 19 years, he had a lot of choices before him. That could have included a return to private practice — maybe even come up calling with one position on the judiciary. So we have at Pitt we fortunate that you chose instead to stay here and continue your career in academia here at the University of Pittsburgh.”

“While it may not be a seat on the Supreme Court, we are very pleased that today Pitt is dedicating to Mark and Nikky a seat on the benches,” Gallagher said. “I spent a lot of hours going out that window,” Chancellor Emeritus Nordenberg admitted.

“Mark and Nikky are two people who did more to advance a sense of warmth and friendliness in the community,” B. G. F. Kopp wrote in his obituary. “He had the samequired in stone here as a contributor to the progress that has been made for the last 19 years, and to the tone of the relationships that came to characterize the University, really is very appropriate, and it means a lot to me.”

Nordenberg said the benches outside his former office offer a great view of one of the crs

Joining Nikki and Mark Nordenberg, center, at the dedication of the benches plaza Oct. 15 were, from left, Provost Patricia Beeson; President Rich Colwell; Provost Emeritus James Mahler and University Senate President Michael Spring.

Nordenberg said, “so about every hour and a half there’s a new happy wedding couple or the steps of Heinz Chapel getting on with their new lives.”

“And so, everyone who sits on these benches as time goes on is going to really have a chance to experience life within the University, in all of its richness,” he said.

—Kimberley K. Barlow
Cybersecurity: problems solutions
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
what we can do about it.

Only this year did they begin using the criminal justice system as a tool, said, initially against members of China’s army intelligence unit, which hacked into Pittsburgh-based companies to steal sensitive commercial information to benefit competitors in China. “This charge, which was brought this May, was the first time ever the government used the criminal justice system to challenge this behavior,” Hickton said. “We’re ultimately going to bring them to justice and we’re committed to bringing them to justice here.

Although this hacking has stopped since the charges were brought, “That doesn’t mean that the problem of computer intrusions by nation-states is over.”

In June, federal law enforce­ment officials “put the notori­ous computer hacker in the world,” Russian Eugeny Bogachev, author of the Zeus malware and its third-generation variant GameOver Zeus as well as the CryptoLocker ransomware.

“We both used the criminal indictment of Bogachev as well as an injunction from the court on a civil complaint, and we took down GameOver Zeus and CryptoLocker,” he said. “Our indictment against Bogachev has been lodged and we’re using every legal and diplomatic means to bring him to justice.”

“We are definitely at risk if we don’t take steps to protect our critical infrastructure,” Hickton said, citing the Stuxnet worm, which attacks industrial control systems, as another danger. “A motivated and capable hacker can attack the industrial control system remotely,” disrupting one or more manufacturing plants.

Cyberattacks represent the greatest threat to security no matter what the criminal actor’s intent, Hickton asserted.

“The Internet is today’s high­way. It is a pathway for almost any man­ner and measure of crime that we deal with. It’s relevant in every case we handle today and I think it will be central to every case we handle tomorrow,” he said.

The hacker threat

“Right now we’re seeing attackers flooding in from all types of demographics,” with attacks coming from hackers, state­ sponsored or government entities, or organized crime operations, saidcomputer security consul­tant and hacking expert Dave Kennedy.

“There are a lot of things hackers are doing after because it’s profitable for them. They can’t even be made fraudulently.

When it comes to protecting your Social Security number, “It’s already out there,” he said. “It’s just a matter of whether or not it’s being used fraudulently.”

With the advent of electronic medical records, hackers now see the targeting lucrative personal health information (PHI), stealing thou­sands or hundreds of thousands of records at a time, to sell for use in fraudulent activity.

Hackers are zeroing in on the United States when it comes to stealing credit card information because most cards here still use unencrypted magnetic stripe tech­nology while other nations have moved to more secure European Mastercard Visa (EMV) smart card technology.

The U.S. transition to the more secure chip cards is expected by 2015. “Until we move to that, we’re going to see large breaches here,” he said, recommending Apple Pay or Google Wallet as alternatives to credit cards.

Hacking isn’t hard. “It’s not the sophisticated crazy stuff we have to deal with anymore. You Google ‘how to hack into some­body’s computer’ and the first three results will tell you how to do it,” Kennedy said.

“It’s crazy how fast you can break into someone’s computer,” even if they’ve taken security measures. In a segment on the Katie Couric show, Kennedy demonstrated how he created a realistic-looking but malicious website then sent the link in an email to his “victim” who had agreed to the security test.

As he expected, the unthink­ingly clicked on the link, which he then accessed to hack his computer. He enabled his browser, he said, and shared the facts of what was going on at her home. He also was able to view his family’s banking and medical records and other personal information.

“It took me 10 minutes.”

The most common attacks target you, the user. “You are the easiest way for me to break into an organization, because human beings make errors,” he said. When attempting to hack an organization, he said, “it’s very easy for me to generalize something and send it to everybody in this organization to do,” perhaps sending a link to a bogus site that purports to come from the company’s benefits department.

Companies have firewalls and intrusion detection systems. “Why do people have firewalls or intrusion detection systems. ‘Why do people have firewalls or intrusion detection systems.’

When I can just go over all of that and hack in.” And, once one member’s PC is infected, a hacker will use it as an entry to other systems on the network, he said.

One person can be the downfall of an entire company,” he said, adding that the Target breach affecting 40 million credit and debit cards stemmed from a third­party HVAC system company that was hacked. “It’s that easy.”

Social engineering factors into targeted attacks, he said. If a hacker’s attempt appears believable, “not setting off a reason for distrust, it’s likely to succeed. “As a hacker I can manipulate the ways that you behave on a regular basis. That’s what we do, because we know how you think.”

Avoiding phoys

People often avoid reporting suspicious-looking emails for fear of appearing dumb. “It doesn’t look right, you’re not going to get targeted,” he urged. Send a simple email: “Is this legit?” to your IT help team. “People will respond.”

Look at the sender of the email. Is the message coming from a legitimate email address?

• If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Don’t believe that your friend is trapped in a foreign country and needs you to wire him $500.

• When you hover over a link and click on it, make sure you’re actually at that website. Look at the top of the URL. It only takes a second to look up to ensure you’re at the site you intended. Think before you click,” he said, acknowledging that’s easier said than done.

Software advice

Antivirus software catches only 2-4 percent of viruses, and an estimated 1.5 million viruses are created per day, Kennedy said.

“Recall that computer viruses are a growing threat. Research by the Antivirus Alliance, a coalition of antivirus companies, found that 30% of the world’s personal computers can be infected with viruses. One victim in ten computers infected with viruses are infected with dangerous viruses.”

What we need is a computer that doesn’t display a virus message even if it is infected. “We need to do this,” he said. “The most important thing we can do is educate our users.”

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ALZHEIMER’S: What can you do to prevent it?

New cases of Alzheimer’s disease in America are diagnosed at a rate of one per minute. In every 10 people over age 65, one is affected by this incurable condition, and half of people over age 85 will have Alzheimer’s.

If Alzheimer’s disease can’t be cured, can it be prevented?

Joseph Maroon, clinical professor of neurosurgical surgery, says in many cases, it can.

“You’re not getting dementia as a risk factor, ‘that’s one thing we really can’t do much about,’ he said. However, he notes that “a history of cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure, history of mild to moderate abdominal obesity, or traumatic brain injury (TBI) can be minimized,” he said in an Oct. 15 talk at the Mayo Clinic’s Translational Center, part of the Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center’s Alzheimer’s Awareness Seminar series. Studies have found some genetic risk factors for Alzheimer’s disease, but genetic causes only underlie about 5 percent of cases diagnosed in the United States.

So, for the 95 percent of patients who are not going to acquire Alzheimer’s disease through genetic causes, how can it be prevented?

“The critical thing to realize is you have a choice as well as in environment and how we manage stress,” Maroon said.

Maroon noted that some research has shown that patients who have been treated for impotence due to diabetes have lower incidence of Alzheimer’s disease. However, long-term use of impotence remedies is needed for the risk to decrease. “It’s not innocuous,” he noted.

Diet

“A person who eats a typical fast-food meal — Big Mac, a soda made of high-fructose corn syrup and a bag of fries — is actually in salt — is consuming food that will be turned into inflammatory mediators when these compounds go throughout our bodies and then enter the cells and tell the cells to be inflammatory,” Maroon said. “Some of these proteins are very inflammatory.”

Maroon said, “If we’re lucky, it tells our genes on our chromosomes through various transcription factors to make inflammatory molecules, which cause these inflammatory processes.

Conversely, with a calorie-restricted diet, a Mediterranean diet, high consumption of polyunsaturated fats (such as found in fish and many vegetables), and appropriate nutritional supplements, “the transcription factors tell our genes to make proteins that are anti-inflammatory. So it reduces the plaque in our arteries, and probably also in our brains and heart to some extent, in the flexibility of our joints,” he said.

Excessive carbohydrates may be harmful in the long run. “Sugar, probably the biggest poison in our diet. Most of the diseases we are treated for are related to excessive carbohydrates,” he said.

So what is brain food? Eating a diet rich in complex carbohydrates, fish, vegetables, fruits, and nuts “all activate our genes to create problems,” and should be avoided, Maroon said.

Lead exposure in children may contribute to the later development of Alzheimer’s disease. Smokers have a 45 percent greater risk of developing dementia than those who do not smoke, Maroon said. “And 14 percent of all Alzheimer’s cases are potentially attributed to smoking.”

Exposure to radiation through X-rays and CT scans should not be taken lightly, Maroon said, urging patients to ask questions before undergoing CT scans.

Maroon urged extra caution with children.

“Tell us in our concurrence clinic 10,000 new patients a year with cerebrovascular, primarily from smoking.”

Many of these are children who have lost their head in a fall from a vending machine, a skateboard.

Typically, the first test recommended in the emergency room is a CT scan.

“One CT scan of the brain is equivalent to taking 200 chest X-rays and directing that radiation to the brain,” Maroon said.

We know that children who are exposed to high doses of radiation as a baby have a higher incidence of malignant brain tumors later on,” he said. Undergoing a diagnostic procedure, patients should ask what difference it would make in their treatment. “If it’s needed, by all means, there’s nothing better. But you really need to question it and be told.”

Emotional factors

Emotional health is one of the factors that most people don’t consider, Maroon said. “Religion, relationships, loneliness, isolation are extremely important.”

Stress, worldly family turmoil can have a negative effect.

“People who are under excessive stress literally destroy their brain cells. We know this,” he said.

People who are under chronic stress make an excessive amount of cortisol, which is a stress hormone. Cortisol is death chronically going to the hippocampus, in the temporal lobe, which serves memory, which is the first area that gets destroyed in Alzheimer’s disease.”

Maroon pointed out that the areas high for numbers of connections among them — Okinawa, Japan, the Mediterranean island of Sardinia, Nicoya, Costa Rica, and Louis Land, Canada (which has a large Seventh-day Adventist population) — have in common such factors as prayer and relationships, exercise and hard work, a good diet and relatively clean environment. “They don’t smoke. If they drink, it’s in moderation and it’s usually wine, not hard liquors, and they live the longest.”

They also have the lowest incidence of cardiovascular diseases, Alzheimer’s disease and other diseases of aging, Maroon said.

Injury

What about traumatic brain injury? Marano, who is the team neurosurgeon for the Pittsburgh Steelers, noted the high-profile cases of NFL players Jovan Seau, Mike Webster, Tony Long and Justin Stzezczak, whose deaths were linked to brain damage attributed to their football careers, and the recent criticism of University of Michigan coaches who in a game last month against Minnesota allowed quarterback Shane Morris to return to the field after he suffered a concussion.

“Cleartryon can have cognitive impairment if you get hit in the head, or have a bad car accident or fall. And these are the major causes in the older patients,” Maroon said.

Severe head injury can result in neurodegeneration and Alzheimer’s-like syndromes and conditions remain, he admitted. But the fear of developing chronic traumatic encephalopathy after a single concussion is “overstated,” based on a review of the literature back to the 1950s, he said. “Millions and millions of kids have played football and have had no connection with developing neurodegeneration of their brain,” he said.

“Chronic traumatic encephalopathy in athletes is not Alzheimer’s disease. There are unique changes that occur in the brain that are actually different from Alzheimer’s,” he said, adding that the link between Alzheimer’s and traumatic brain injury is extremely complex.

“The best thing: Don’t get hit in the head.”

—Kimberly K. Barlow

Trying to prevent Alzheimer’s? Diet is one of the factors that can help. Says Joseph Maroon, who advocates avoiding junk food, excessive carbohydrates, nuts and fried fish, and food high in sugars like sweets, plus foods like red raspberries, blueberries and strawberries.
Faculty, staff need to know students’ rights

“Thank you for your support in navigating those challenging times.”

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Under FERPA, the University also must keep a record of requests for each student’s record, although Matthey says Pitt has not been asked to produce this tally in her two years as registrar. FERPA applies not only to U.S. citizens but to foriegn-born students as well. Matthey’s office does get many requests for information on international students, particularly from organizations or government agencies sponsoring these students. There is a special form students must sign to consent to such requests.

The University is required to inform students annually of their FERPA rights, which are often done by advertising in The Pitt News. If a student wishes to allow his/her record to be disclosed voluntarily to a specific third-party, the student must indicate that in writing. A parent, guardian or other designee may come in to examine a student’s records, but only if the University has a signed letter on file authorizing such a move.

“Anybody can walk in with a piece of paper and say, ‘I have a release,’” Matthey cautioned. “I want to make sure they understand what they are doing.”

Pitt faculty and staff with questions about FERPA should contact the Registrar’s office at 412/624-7600 or the Office of General Counsel at 412/624-3674. Information about FERPA is also housed on the websites of each office.

—Murry Levine
Law enforcement’s war on drugs has turned black men and black neighborhoods into too-frequent targets for arrest today, said ethnographer Alice Goffman, a sociology faculty member at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, in an interview held here on Oct. 8 as part of the Binghamon Ingram and Rooney PC screening of the film “On the Run: Fugitive Life in an American City.” In introducing her lecture, sociology faculty member Waverly Duck called her work “one of the most important ethnographic studies to come on the scene for many years.”

The book, begun, Goffman said, as a freshman at the University of Pennsylvania, where she befriended local residents, was shaped after she was asked to tutor the grandchildren of one local resident: her boss at the time. When she left Princeton, she returned to Philadelphia to study its law enforcement, which had worked. The-peace kind of policing, she said, was living in Sixth Street and had been a “laissez-faire, keeping-crack-addiction. Linda eventually gave birth to three sons with three different fathers.

In addition to new residents, the 1980s brought new “toughness” in the house. She was handcuffed and dragged into the situation.

Reggie had returned home to leave before the raid. When it came, at 4 a.m., he refused to go to a hospital for fear of “white discomfort … They figured that white people were going to come and black people as full citizens without a fight.”

Chuck was arrested for agitated assault after a minor school fight in his senior year of high school; a classmate had called over with Tim in the car, informing him that their car had been stolen in California. Him and begged Reggie to turn himself over with Tim in the car, informing him that their car had been stolen in California. Him and begged Reggie to turn himself in. The father threatened to kick his grandson out of their home if he saw him up making trouble. He thought they were a lot of similar crimes in Sixth Street, police command. That is “very different than what they experience.”

New laws in the 1980s created at least 50 new federal crimes and increased sentences for everything from drugs to gambling and vagrancy. More federal money went to local police, who instead of patrolling on foot began to stick to their cars, using high-tech surveillance to track arrest warrants. From 1960-2000, Goffman reported, the number of people in jail during their lifetime complained. The arrest of Chuck Taylor following a minor school fight was an example of this.

As she observed in Philadelphia, if a wanted individual is not found, police “threaten families and arrest with warrant arrest warrants. From 1960-2000, Goffman reported, the number of people in jail during their lifetime complained. The arrest of Chuck Taylor following a minor school fight was an example of this.

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Is It Depression or Just the Blues?

Everyone gets the blues. It really isn’t a big deal to feel sad or lonely on occasion, or to want to be by yourself. And certainly feelings of grief affect everyone at some time. Lacking the energy to be active can happen to anyone as well.

But sometimes what people are quick to dismiss as merely “a case of the blues” can be a sign of something more serious.

Depression — which affects an estimated 18 million Americans each year, the majority of them women — can start out looking and feeling like the blues, but is a much more serious condition.

When people just have the blues, they can usually bounce back in a day or two and get on with their lives. But major depression is an illness that keeps people from bouncing back and overcoming feelings of sadness. Treatment with both medication and counseling has been shown to have the best outcome for recovery.

Women are more prone to depression, as are the elderly and anyone with a chronic physical or mental illness, including thyroid disease, headaches, chronic pain and stroke. Certain medications, including those prescribed for asthma, high blood pressure, arthritis, high cholesterol and heart problems, also can cause depression.

Having five or more of the following symptoms for most of the day, almost every day for two weeks or more, may be a sign that you have some kind of depression. At that point, it is important that you see your doctor about getting help so that you can start feeling better.

There is no blood or diagnostic test for depression. Your doctor will assess your symptoms and will ask you about your medical history. A physical exam and other tests can help rule out other causes.

Here Are Some Signs Of Depression:

- Persistent sadness, anxiety, and/or emptiness
- Loss of interest in activities you once enjoyed
- Crying spells
- Excessive feelings of guilt or self-blame
- Irritability
- Significant weight loss
- Inability to sleep, or excessive sleeping
- Feelings of hopelessness and/or worthlessness
- Decreased motivation
- Decreased concentration
- Decreased energy
- Decreased or increased appetite
- Recurrent thoughts of death or suicide

Health Coaching

UPMC Health Plan health coaches can provide support, guidance and resources that will lay the foundation for long-term success. If you have trouble coping with stress, anxiety or depression, call a coach for completely confidential one-on-one support over the phone.

Health coaching is FREE for University of Pittsburgh faculty and staff members who have University-sponsored UPMC Health Plan coverage — it’s also free for their covered spouses/partners and adult dependents. Call 1-866/778-6573 for more information. Hours of operation are 7 am-8 pm Monday-Friday, and 8 am-3 pm on Saturday.

LifeSolutions

LifeSolutions provides a broad range of services to help all faculty, staff and their household members balance their work life and home life, including face-to-face or telephone assessment and support for depression, anxiety and other behavioral health concerns. The services are provided at no cost to you. Call 1-866/647-3432 for more information and speak to a LifeSolutions care manager.

Beating the Blues

Have you ever thought you’d like to hood your mood, feel more confident or feel less stressed and anxious? By learning some very useful skills through the Blues (5’s) you can actually change the way you feel about — and react to — the things that you may now find overwhelming or stressful. This eight-week online self-help program is available to all faculty and staff and their household members over the age of 18.

For more information on enrolling in the Beating the Blues 5’s program, call 1-888/770-8762.

For more information on enrolling in the Beating the Blues 5’s program, call 1-888/770-8762.

Medical Insurance Coverage While Away from Home

Pensions covered by a University of Pittsburgh medical plan are covered 100 percent for urgent medical care and emergency services when traveling outside of the UPMC Health Plan service area.

UPMC HEALTH PLAN

PAID ADVERTISEMENT
### ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Institution</th>
<th>No. of Full-time Faculty</th>
<th>Average Salary</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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### UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

<table>
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<th>Name of Institution</th>
<th>No. of Full-time Faculty</th>
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**Footnote:**
1. Revised salary data for these institutions was published by the AUP in the July-August 2014 issue of Academe. Data in this table utilizes the revised salary data not the originally published salary data in the March-April 2014 issue of Academe.

2. Rutgers University-Includes faculty members previously part of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Data are not comparable with prior years.

Facility Salaries up, down in 2013-14 comparison

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Institutions’ data was revised following the original AAUP report published in the March/April issue of Academe. The peer group was revised to include more schools, including larger institutions, and to increase the sample size. Medical school faculty are excluded. Salaries are converted to a nine-month base (with a factor of 0.81815 for 12-month values).

Lecturers

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Average Faculty Salaries (in $1,000) and Ranking at Public AAU Institutions, 2013-14

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Name of Institution</th>
<th>Full-time Professor</th>
<th>Average Salary</th>
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<td>University of Missouri-Columbia</td>
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<td>65.5</td>
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Esophagus stem cells discovered here

Despite previous indications to the contrary, the esophagus does have its own pool of stem cells, researchers from the School of Medicine reported in an animal study published online in Cell Reports. The findings could lead to new insights into the development and treatment of esophageal cancers and the precancerous condition known as Barrett’s esophagus.

According to the American Cancer Society, more than 18,000 people will be diagnosed with esophageal cancer in the U.S. this year and almost 15,200 people will die from it. In Barrett’s esophagus, the lining of the esophagus changes for unknown reasons to resemble that of the intestine, though gastro-esophageal reflux disease or GERD is a risk factor for its development.

Said senior investigator, Eric Lagasse, pathology faculty member and director of the Cancer Stem Cell Center at the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine: “The esophageal lining must renew regularly as cells slough off into the gastrointestinal tract. To do that, cells in the deeper layers of the esophagus divide about twice a week to produce daughter cells that become the specialized cells of the lining. Until now, we haven’t been able to determine whether all the cells in the deeper layers are the same or if there is a subpopulation of stem cells there.”

The research team grew pieces of “organoids” of esophageal tissue from mouse samples, and then conducted experiments to identify and track the different cells in the basal layer of the tissue. They found a small population of cells that divide more slowly, are more primitive, can generate specialized or differentiated cells and have the ability to self-renew, which is a defining trait of stem cells.

“It was thought that there were no stem cells in the esophagus because all the cells were dividing rather than resting or quiescent, which is more typical of stem cells,” Lagasse noted. “Our findings reveal that these indeed are esophageal stem cells, and rather than being quiescent, they divide slowly compared to the rest of the deeper layer cells.”

In future work, the researchers will examine human esophageal tissues for evidence of stem cell dysfunction in Barrett’s esophagus disease.

“Some scientists have speculated that abnormalities of esophageal stem cells could be the origin of the tissue changes that occur in Barrett’s disease,” Lagasse said. “Our current and future studies could make it possible to test this longstanding hypothesis.”

Co-investigators were pathology faculty Aaron DeWard and Julie Cramer.

The research was funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the McGowan Institute and the pathology department’s postdoctoral research training program.

Grant creates biodegradable implants, also school programs

Researchers have received another $1.5 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to continue a combined multi-university, private industry effort to develop implantable medical devices made from bio-degradable metals.

Body-degradable metals — usually magnesium-based — are not new, having been considered originally in the late 19th century. But, said William Wagner, director of the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine and faculty member in surgery and in the Swanson School of Engineering’s bioengineering and chemical engineering departments: “The question comes when you start to design medical devices for a specific application and a clinical partner says, ‘We want that to be gone in a month, or a month and a half, or we want that to be gone for a three years.’ Then you have to figure out how to meet those specifications, he said.

The Pitt team as well as collaborators at the University of Cincinnati and North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University are creating new alloys and manufacturing processes that suit clinical demands.

The consortium seeks to design devices that can adapt to changes in a patient’s body and dissolve once healing has occurred, reducing the follow-up procedures and potential complications of major orthopedic, cardiovascular and neurovascular procedures and spurring patients to return for follow-up visits. Wagner, a veteran of both military and civilian trauma, recalled situations where endotracheal tubes are inadvertently left in place, patients wake up needing ventilators, and the patient’s health worsens as a result.

Conversely, magnesium or magnesium-based biomedical devices can help the body recover faster by dissolving in patients’ bodies, reducing the need for additional surgery. Potential applications include but are not limited to orthopedic and neurosurgical applications, Wagner said.

The project, Wagner said, is at an unprecedented stage, as it is the first to commercialize biodegradable parts, previously used only for research.

Dental medicine to study cancer’s spread to bones

With a $2 million, five-year grant from the National Cancer Institute (NCI), researchers at the School of Dental Medicine will examine molecular mechanisms that allow certain cancers, particularly multiple myeloma, to spread to the bone. The project could lead to new interventions to prevent such metastases and perhaps slow down primary tumor growth.

As Hongqiao Ouyang, the project’s principal investigator, faculty member in molecular dentistry/comprehensive care and oral biology and a member of the Pittsburgh Cancer Consortium, Regeneration, noted, almost 30 percent of multiple myeloma patients are diagnosed after going CONTINUED ON PAGE 13
RESEARCH NOTES
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

to the dentist with very pain or suspicious lesions in the oral cavity. Multiple myelomas is a cancer of plasma cells that begins in the bone marrow, producing cells that eat away the bone. Even with treatment, the bone lesions rarely heal.

“This bone destruction is a significant cause of pain and mortality in this disease,” said Ouyang, an endodontist and bone biologist. “A better understanding of the molecular pathways that underlie this process could lead us to novel targets for treatment.”

Bone marrow stromal cells (BMSCs) reside in the bone marrow and with appropriate stimulation can give rise to bone-forming cells called osteoblasts, fat cells and other cells. In multiple myelomas, BMSCs produce growth factors and inflammatory proteins that boost tumor cells and activate osteoclasts, which are cells that break down bone while osteoblasts rebuild it as part of normal metabolism. In cancer, osteoclast activation makes holes in the bone that do not heal.

Ouyang’s team has found that the BMSCs in multiple myeloma patients, unlike those in healthy people, produce much more X-box binding protein (XBP1s), a molecule that has been shown in other tissues to regulate the production of inflammatory proteins. Their lab experiments showed that inducing BMSCs in the oral cavity XBP1s leads to changes in the bone microenvironment that support growth of multiple myeloma cells and osteoclast formation. Conversely, knocking out XBP1 production in multiple myeloma patient BMSCs corrected the genetic abnormalities.

For the newly funded project, the team will determine the molecular mechanisms of the stromal XBP1 signaling in altering the bone microenvironment to favor multiple myeloma growth and bone destruction, as well as employ pharmacologic and genetic strategies to express this molecule as a proof-of-concept for approaches to treat multiple myeloma bone disease.

“This could be helpful not only in treatment of multiple myeloma, but also in other cancers that spread to bone, such as breast, prostate and lung cancers, since BMSCs play a similar role in supporting tumor cell growth in these neoplastic diseases as well,” Ouyang said.

$11 million grant from NIH establishes big data center

NIH has awarded Pitt an $11 million, four-year grant to lead a Big Data to Knowledge Center of Excellence, an initiative that will help scientists capitalize on huge amounts of available data and to make data science a more prominent component of biomedical research.

Noted Gregory Cooper, vice chair of the Department of Biomedical Informatics in medicine and director of the new Center for Causal Modeling and Discovery, “Aim of ‘science of science’ focuses on understanding the ‘why’ or ‘how’ in nature, and now the biomedical community faces new challenges within genomes and proteomes and other data, or what is now known as big data.”

“Individual biomedical researchers now have the technology to generate an enormous quantity and diversity of data,” said Cooper. “Adequately analyzing these data to discover new biomedical knowledge remains a major challenge, however. Our goal is to make it much easier for researchers to analyze big data to discover causal relationships in biomedical.”

The Pitt Center for Causal Modeling and Discovery will be part of a national team addressing the challenges of big data in medicine.

According to center co-director Jeremy Berg, associate senior vice chancellor for science strategy and planning in the Health Sciences and director of the Institute for Personalized Medicine, researchers now have access to a tremendous amount of information from electronic health records, digital images and molecular analyses of genes, proteins and metabolites.

“The good news is that we have so much data. But the bad news is that we have so much data,” said Berg. “Our challenge is to find strategies that enable us to sort through all this collected information efficiently and effectively to find meaningful relationships that lead us to new insights in health and disease.”

A collaboration of researchers at Pitt, Carnegie Mellon, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center and Yale, the new center will develop and disseminate tools that can find causal links in very large and complex biomedical data.

The center includes a team that will develop and implement causal modeling and discovery algorithms, or processes, to support the data analyses of three separate investigative groups, each focusing on a distinct biomedical problem whose answers lies in a sea of data cell signals that drive the development of cancer; the molecular basis of lung disease susceptibility and severity; and the functional connections within the human brain (the “connectome”).

Each project will act as a test bed for the development, rigorous testing and refinement of analytic tools. When successful, these algorithms and software likely can be applied to other biomedical research questions. The center will provide the open-source software that scientists all over the world can use with their own datasets to uncover causal biomedical relationships. Their feedback will further enhance the algorithms and software.

Said center co-director Jett Babbie, Distinguished Professor and IR Vinet Chair, Department of Computational and Systems Biology in medicine: “The center also will be a training ground for the next generation of data scientists who will advance and accelerate the development and broader use of big data science models and methods. We will create new educational materials as well as workshops and online modules to facilitate the use of causal modeling and discovery algorithms by the broader scientific community and to enable efficient translation of knowledge between basic biological and applied biomedical sciences.”

Other collaborators include the California Institute of Technology, Rutgers, the University of Czter and the University of North Carolina.

GI scope sterilization proves better than disinfection; program for hand hygiene boosts compliance

National guidelines for the cleaning of certain gastrointestinal (GI) scopes are likely to be updated due to findings from a Pitt/UPMC infection prevention team. The research and updated disinfection techniques was presented at ID Week 2014, an annual meeting of health professionals in infection disease fields, by senior author Carlene Muto, medicine faculty member and UPMC Health System director of infection prevention at UPMC Presbyterian Hospital.

Said Muto: “We are confident that the change from distillation to sterilization of GI scopes is necessary in preventing nosocomial infections.”

After tracking and monitoring an uptick in antibiotic-resistant

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Bellet Teaching Awards Call for Nominations

From October 1 through October 31, 2014, the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences will accept nominations for the 2015 Tina & David Bellet Teaching Excellence Awards. These annual awards recognize extraordinary achievement and innovation in undergraduate teaching. Winners receive a one time stipend of $5,000.

Eligibility Requirements
• Must be a Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences faculty member with a regular full-time appointment who teaches undergraduate students
• Must have taught for at least three years on the Pittsburgh campus
• Must receive three or more nominations

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

Faculty and students may submit nomination letters to Dietrich School Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies John A. Twining at asundergrad@as.pitt.edu or 140 Thackeray Hall.

For more information, contact Carol Lynch at clynch@pitt.edu or visit our Web site at www.as.pitt.edu/teaching/bellet.

The DIETRICH School of Arts & Sciences

2014 Bellet Award Winner Charlie Jones, Department of Geology and Planetary Science
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

infectious in 2012 in patients who had undergone an endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatoscopy (ERCP) procedure with flexible endoscope scopes, UPMMC began investigating the devices, which are equipped with an "encrusted channel" used to deflect accessory passageways through the biopsy channel and assist clinicians in examining a patient's gastrointestinal tract. The endoscope channel is most commonly found on ERCP and endoscopic ultrasonic scopes.

UPMMC took the scopes out of service, notified the manufacturer, and began an investigation into the disinfecting process that takes place between each use. When it was ultimately determined that the normal processes failed to eliminate all bacteria, UPMMC switched to a swab sterilization using ethylene oxide to ensure proper disinfection of the scopes.

"Throughout UPMMC, no additional health-care-associated infections have been linked to scopes since switching to sterilization," said Muto.

Approximately 11 million gastrointestinal endoscopies are performed annually in the U.S. and contaminated scopes have been linked to more hospital-acquired infections than any other type of medical device.

Muto also presented findings about an initiative called Just Culture begin in June 2012 at UPMMC Presbyterian. Their infection-prevention team has improved hand washing and sanitary compliance to nearly 100 percent among clinical staff through accountability and educational measures. In a separate effort at UPMMC Mercy, rates of a deadly infection were reduced by educating patients about hand hygiene.

"Hand hygiene compliance in health-care facilities nationwide is not satisfactory, yet it is the single most important way to prevent infections," said Muto.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. hospital patients contract an estimated 725,000 infections each year.

Throughout this coordinated program that includes education, videos, and interactive newsletters, posters and verbal reminders, health-care personnel are held accountable for conscious disregard of patient safety, including hand hygiene. They are not held accountable for system failures. Staff who fail to wash or sanitize their hands are warned and may progress through disciplinary action for continual disregard for hand hygiene.

Within four months of launching the Just Culture initiative, hand hygiene compliance rates at UPMMC Presbyterian increased from 70 percent to 99 percent. Since then, the new procedures have been maintained with improvement in the education and the cultural shift to accountability.

Joe Kramer, infection prevention coordinator at UPMMC Presbyterian, said lead author Ashley Querry, infection prevention coordinator at UPMMC Presbyterian, said: "Hand hygiene can be accomplished with educational campaigns, but we’ve found that these gains can only be sustained when a health system makes it unacceptable to be lax on hand-washing." At UPMMC Mercy, infection prevention officials led another study to determine the effectiveness of efforts to encourage hand hygiene among patients.

Prepackaged alcohol wipes were made available at patient bedsides and health-care staff reminded, assisted and encouraged patients to use the wipes.

Rates of C. difficile, an antibiotic-resistant bacteria that causes inflammation of the colon and can be deadly, fell significantly after the patient encouragement program was implemented.

NSF funds project at University computer infrastructure for research

Pitt has been awarded nearly $300,000 from NSF for a project to improve the University's computer infrastructure for research initiatives.

The venture will enhance Pitt's connectivity to major national research and education networks. Additional bandwidth and capacity to computational resources, science centers and advanced networking. The project also will improve the campus connectivity to the University data center that hosts high-performance computing resources, which are used by researchers for sophisticated simulation, modeling and data analysis.

"Cooperating Services and Systems Development will work with teams within the University and other NSF-funded organizations to design and implement a Science DMZ, which is a substractical designed by the Department of Energy for data-intensive science. This will improve the secure movement of scientific data among researchers collaborating on local, national and international projects," said Jinx Walton, chief information officer for the University's Division of Scientific and Technical Resources.

Research projects that will benefit from the upgrade include the Pittsburgh Genome Repository, the massively parallel simulations of turbulent flows conducted by the Laboratory for Computational Fluid Dynamics and the Department of Physics and Astronomy's Tier-3 computers and data analysis in preparation for the anticipated Large Hadron Collider run in 2015.

In addition to stronger networking connections to Pitt's University Data Center, the project will upgrade Pitt's connection to the Three Rivers Optical Exchange from 10 Gbps (gigabits per second) to 10 Gbps and will provide additional bandwidth and capacity to the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center and to research and education networks, including Internet2, the Energy Sciences Network (ESNet) and the Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment (XSEDE).

Internet2, which operates the nation's fastest research and education network, is a member-owned advanced technology community founded by the nation's leading higher-education organizations. Internet2 serves as the backbone infrastructure to ESNet and XSEDE.

DOD awards fund research into whole-eye transplantation

Medicine researchers have been awarded $1.25 million from the Defense Department (DOD) to fund two projects that aim to establish the groundwork for the nation's first whole-eye transplantation program.

Offered through the DOD's continuous, open competition for projects that could be converted to military use if successfully completed.

Nominate an outstanding advisor for the Amptco-Pittsburgh Prize

The University Times column "Research Notes" is being awarded to Pitt researchers and on findings arising from University research.

We welcome submissions from all areas of the University. Submit information via email to: univtimes@pitt.edu, or fax to: 412-624-4579. For submission guidelines, visit: www.univtimes.pitt.edu/pugc_jd_0607.pdf

From October 1 through October 31, 2014, the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences will accept nominations for the Amptco-Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Advising. This annual award recognizes outstanding faculty academic advising of Dietrich School undergraduate students. The winner receives a one-time cash award of $4,000.

Eligibility

Must be a Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences faculty member with a regular full-time appointment.

Must have been a departmental advisor for at least three years on the Pittsburgh campus.

Must receive nominations from the department chair and from two or more current or former undergraduate advisees.

Nominations

Faculty and students may submit nomination letters to Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies John A. Twyngham at 140 Thrackley Hall.

A letter from the chair of the department is required explaining the advising model used, the perspective on the nominees advising approach and caseload, and how the faculty member has demonstrated excellence in academic advising.

A letter from at least two current or former undergraduate advisees is required describing how the faculty member's advice impacted the academic and career goals of the advisees.

Selection

The prize winner will be selected by the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Council and announced in the spring of 2015.

For more information, contact Z Taylor at ehit@pitt.edu or visit: www.as.pitt.edu/teaching/amptco-pittsburgh-prize.
SAC officers meet with chancellor

Staff Association Council (SAC) officers have had their say on the financial future of the university. Patrick Gallagher, President Rich Colwell reported at SAC’s Oct. 15 meeting. Although the meeting with the chancellor was confidential, Colwell said that based on the conversations, the overall University governance is going to work out at the University.

In other news:

- SAC officers and 10 new members who had participated in SAC’s orientation the previous week;
- Samuel H. Stephen, community resources coordinator, Athletics;
- Matthew R. Richardson, coordinator of fastpitch women’s soccer, Athletics;
- MaryAnn F. Shaughnessy, administrative assistant to the dean, Katz Graduate School of Business; and
- Daniel M. Coughlin, administrative assistant to the chancellor, Office of the University Registrar;
- Barbara K. Stolar, administrator, Office of Child Development, School of Education; and
- Karol Zmoch, neurologist, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

Grant will refine quantitative biology pedagogy nationally

Math is increasing in importance to understanding and investigating the world of biology because quantitative biology, computational biology and computer-based modeling approaches have emerged as important modes of inquiry.

But, said Samuel Donovan, a biology lecturer for the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, today’s biology students may not keep pace with developments in the field. In order to help bridge the divide and make sure that undergraduate students nationwide are prepared to engage with modern biology, Donovan and colleagues at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and The Pennsylvania State University recently awarded a $2.9 million grant from NSF to establish the Quantitative Undergraduate Biology Education and Synthesis (QUBES) project.

“Faculty development is key to improving undergraduate biology education,” said Donovan, principal investigator of the grant. “Biology is very dynamic right now, and faculty want to deliver the most up-to-date knowledge and the best research to students.”

Donovan said that “the way research is designed today, you can see a supercomputer on your laptop, and we need to help teachers take advantage of these resources and use them effectively.”

At the end of the grant, Donovan hopes that the project will have helped to change the culture of undergraduate biology education so that what goes on in the classroom more closely reflects the work that scientists do.

Compiled by Mary Levine

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Compiled by Mary Levine
Record number of Pitt patents awarded

Pitt innovations were awarded a record number of 74 patents in fiscal year 2014, up 45 percent from 51 in FY13. And more innovations are in the pipeline: 88 applications were submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office during FY14, according to the Innovation Institute’s FY14 annual report.

Disclosure increases
Invention disclosures, the first step in commercializing an innovation, were up 7.9 percent over FY13. More than 540 faculty, staff and students were involved in the 274 invention disclosures filed in FY14. Nearly one-third of the 318 innovations were student or postdoc disclosures.

Revenue
A $39.6 million patent infringement settlement from Vincor Medical Systems (see Aug. 30, 2012, University Times) boosted revenue from the University’s commercialization activities in FY14. The $41.8 million bottom line included $4.3 million in other licensing revenue and $2 million in patent expense reimbursements.

Licensing/options
A total of 180 disclosures/options for Pitt innovations were generated in FY14, down slightly from 155 a year ago.

The total includes six startups:
• Diamond Kinetics
• Engineering and materials science faculty member William “Buddy” Clark, with a University of Michigan collaborator, developed a motion-analytics device that can help baseball players improve their swing and find the right bat.

The company’s SwingTracker product allows users to view their swing and motion data and compare their swings against other players. Its BatFitter product helps players determine the optimal bat size.

• Nanovision Diagnostics

This startup is focused on better diagnosing cancer cells using a phase-microcoprocessed optical system developed by faculty members Yang Liu of bioengineering and medicine and Randall Brand of medicine. The system can map cell architecture in 3-D and enable changes in the cell to be measured at nanoscale, aiding early diagnosis.

• Pediogluces

This startup uses peptides discovered by Ronald Montelione, faculty in microbiology and molecular genetics, and postdoc Jonathan Stedlock to kill antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

• Soligenon Medical

This startup is based on an injectable silk scaffold material that can be used to restore volume and regenerate soft tissue defects.

Kacey Maas and J. Peter Rubin, faculty in plastic surgery, developed the material in collaboration with researchers from Tufts.

• Ubicure

This startup centers on a mobile app that helps clinicians communicate in real-time with one another, to share images of wounds as a means of helping them self-manage their care.

• Xelus, Inc.

This startup, with a faculty member in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, developed a telehealth system for families in collaboration with a team of researchers in Australia.

A PhD candidate in rehabilitation science and technology; Western Oncology

This startup has licensed cancer therapies developed by Stephen Thorin, a faculty member in surgery and immunology. The therapy uses genetically engineered viruses to attack cancer cells while delivering therapeutic agents.

The Innovation Institute (www.innovation.pitt.edu) was formed in 2013 by merging the University’s Office of Technology Management, the Office of Enterprise Development and the Institute for Entrepreneurship.

— Kimberly B. Barlow

Report documents local schools’ contributions to city and region

Pitt and the nine other colleges and universitites that comprise the Pittsburgh Council on Higher Education (PCHE) generated an overall economic impact of $8.99 billion and supported more than 70,000 jobs in the City of Pittsburgh in fiscal year 2012-13, according to a report prepared in collaboration with Fourth Economy, a national economic development consulting firm.

This overall economic impact is the output generated by the institutions’ direct expenditures such as operations, construction projects, student and visitor spending, research, federal financial aid and other contributions.

The report points out that while PCHE members are largely exempt from paying property taxes, they do pay taxes on properties that are indirectly supported by their institutions’ missions. Property taxes paid in FY2012-13 totaled more than $1 million. In addition, PCHE members collectively paid $189.5 million in employee wage tax and $4.1 million in packing out tax to the city, placing them among the city’s largest layers of state and packing taxes.

PCHE members also dedicated resources to supporting the launch of new businesses and organizations within the City of Pittsburgh. Since 2005, PCHE members have launched 163 startup businesses, an average of 15 per year.

The report also cites the fact that PCHE institutions contribute $37.3 million annually in community services and an additional $26.3 million in direct public safety services and support. In addition to Pitt, PCHE members are Carnegie Mellon University, Chatham, Community College of Allegheny County, Duquesne, La Roche, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Point Park and Robert Morris.
Telecommunications technician Richard J. Pofi “was your go-to guy,” said volleyball Hall of Fame member and Pitt Athletics representative; Andrew Stephen, assistant professor, and Vanitha Murrell, associate professor and associate dean, CBA; Courtney Harris and CBA Board of Visitors and member of the University’s Board of Trustees, Swaminathan, professor. Delaney for his action on the issue. The provost said that the extended Faculty Assembly on Oct. 23 will begin in December 1995. Nearly 19-year Pitt career, which was his responsibility for the administration of the University’s intellectual property, calling initiatives such as the Innovation Institute and a focus on entrepreneurship “critical to the University’s effort to provide insight on issues that the executive committee, which includes committee chairs, met for this month to review accomplishments and goals. Among the items discussed was ensuring that faculty have an opportunity to provide timely input on University issues. “If our responsibility to speak up and advise the administration on any matter of University-wide significance,” says Spring. “Sometimes these matters don’t reach the executive committee or the relevant standing committees soon enough for us to provide feedback. We’re trying to figure out ways that we can inform the chancellor and provost and the deans when it might be good to share something with Faculty Assembly or Staff Association Council to get some feedback,” he says. “We want to look to find ways to make sure the appropriate faculty are involved in issues at a stage where we can provide the appropriate feedback in a formative way so as to help the process.” Also in his report, Spring announced: • Documents related to research data management — the topic of today’s (Oct. 25) Senate plenary session — are posted under the “initiatives” tab at university.pitt.edu as part of Pitt’s efforts to provide information on issues that the body is addressing. • The chancellor has appointed Jerome Coleman, executive vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, to a term as a member of the University council, has replaced Jerome Coleman, executive vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, to a term as a member of the University council, has replaced Jerome Coleman, executive vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, to a term as a member of the University council, has replaced Jerome Coleman, executive vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, to a term as a member of the University council, has replaced Jerome Colema
Thursday 30

Faculty & Staff Development Programs
"Moving From Supervision to Leadership: People Skills for a Productive Workplace," Debra Monster, 342 Craig, 9 am-noon (www.bit.pitt.edu/sdfp);

Caffeine & Chocolate Seminar
"Quality of Life in Patients With Advanced AIDS," 7-9 pm (www.bit.pitt.edu/candiani);

Friday 31

Friday 4

Faculty & Staff Development Programs
"Getting Started as a New Leader," Mark Beekley, 342 Craig, 12:30 pm (www.bit.pitt.edu/sdfp);

"Navigating the University Library System," Leslie Hibb, Hillman lower level, 9-11 am (www.bit.pitt.edu/sdfp);
The University Times announces the following events for the week:

**Thursday 23**

- **Pet Shop Clinic**
  - 11 am to 1 pm
  - Various locations (TBA)

- **Epistemology Seminar**
  - 4 pm
  - Various locations (TBA)

- **ADIRC Lecture**
  - 4 pm
  - Various locations (TBA)

**Friday 24**

- **Psychology Lecture**
  - 4 pm
  - Various locations (TBA)

- **AntitrustGoerkeColloq.**
  - 4 pm
  - Various locations (TBA)

- **StepAPRIKA Performance**
  - 7 pm
  - Various locations (TBA)

**Sunday 26**

- **Ecological Service**
  - 11 am
  - Various locations (TBA)

**Thursday 28**

- **Salk Centennial Symposium**
  - 9 pm
  - Various locations (TBA)

**Wednesday 29**

- **Medical Grand Rounds**
  - 11 am
  - Various locations (TBA)

**Saturday 30**

- **HLSL Workshop**
  - 9 am
  - Various locations (TBA)

**Friday 5**

- **HAA Lecture**
  - 4 pm
  - Various locations (TBA)

- **StepAPRIKA Performance**
  - 7 pm
  - Various locations (TBA)

**Monday 6**

- **StepAPRIKA Performance**
  - 7 pm
  - Various locations (TBA)

**Tuesday 7**

- **Salk Centennial Symposium**
  - 9 pm
  - Various locations (TBA)

**Wednesday 8**

- **Medical Grand Rounds**
  - 11 am
  - Various locations (TBA)