Report on Pitt-CMU libraries delayed

Pitt and Carnegie Mellon still are exploring potential collaborations between their library systems, although a final report, originally due in June, has been delayed until this fall. (University Times, Dec. 4, 2016.) According to Dean Ronald Larsen of the School of Information Sciences, who chairs the review committee with CMU Dean of University Libraries Keith Webster, the group has been meeting through the spring and summer “to identify opportunities of mutual benefit to enhance collections and services to our students and staff.” Larsen said in the spring Pitt and CMU librarians held an interactive ideas workshop led by Sheila Corrall, an School faculty member, and surveyed faculty on both campuses.

The committee has shared its interim findings with both universities’ provosts, Larsen said. The focus thus far has been on “those areas where collaboration holds the potential for expanding access to scholarly resources (for example, jointly licensing some electronic collections and expanding the breadth of physical collections by sharing acquisition priorities) and where economies of scale accrue from joint investment (for example, shared off-site storage),” Larsen said in a written letter.

Back to school

State budget, appropriation still on hold

Time’s almost up to break down as fall term classes begin. Allan Zacchetti teaches his Introduction to Psychology course in one of the newly-renovated Lawrence Hall auditoriums. For a look at where “Whirlin’ Willie” sits, see section 2 of this issue.

Education dean plans to step down

Chancellor Patrick Gallagher said: “Dean Lesgold has served to further strengthen the University’s School of Education. His dedication to helping produce educators prepared to impact the lives of children at all educational levels in all types of neighborhoods as well as supporting innovative research within the school, has made a positive impact both in our area and nationwide.”

Lesgold also was instrumental in expanding collaborations between the School of Education and the Learning Research and Development Center (LRDC), creating the Center for Urban Education, and developing centers on healthy lifestyle and motivation, engagement and persistence.

Provost Patricia E. Beeson said: “Dean’s leadership of Pitt’s School of Education has been transformative. His ability to think broadly about research has helped establish the School of Education as an important resource for collaborative work at the University, and his commitment to promoting academic work into initiatives that contribute to local and global communities has demonstrated the tremendous impact that universities can have on the world around them.”

Lesgold received his PhD in psychology from Stanford in 1971, then joined Pitt’s psychology faculty. He served as LRDC associate director 1986-97 and as executive associate director 1997-2000. A search committee will be formed to identify Lesgold’s successor.

The new University Counseling Center director discusses how to meet the growing mental health needs of students... Pitt has tied its first full-time Title IX coordinator...
New director heads counseling center

The University Counseling Center’s new leader, Ed Michaels, sees “opportunities to make a big impact by instituting new practices to promote student health, well-being and success,” he says. Michaels says, “We’re very interested in exploring new avenues to support our community at all levels — what students may be going through that may not be apparent on the surface — so we’re looking for students that may be stressed or struggling, and that you can connect at Pitt without them knowing you may need.”

He started at Pitt June 15 in the counseling center’s office on the second floor of Nordberg Hall, following 25 years of administering similar departments at Northwestern University, DePaul University, the University of Toledo and Cleveland State University.

He earned a BS in psychology from Loyola University in Chicago and his MA and PhD in psychology from Northwestern.

He has been a licensed clinical psychologist for 37 years.

“I’ve been a lot of different universities,” Michaels says. “Long before I came here I was familiar with the operation. Pitt has a wonderful reputation for having a lot of dedication to student welfare.

“I was very impressed when I came here for an interview. He adds, “This is an organization that’s values-driven and that respects people’s belief in their institutions. You don’t always find that. A lot of universities, they steer a wide berth from that.”

One of his top priorities for students will be reducing the stigma often associated with seeking help: “Just the way you may call a plumber when your sink is backed up, you seek out experts when you have a psychological challenge.”

The campus also stresses to students’ lives, since arrival already being repair.

“This isn’t just starting at the age of 18,” Michaels says. “Some of them have had bigger changes than others and they know that once they get there they are inherent stresses of being a college student.”

At other institutions he has increased awareness of mental health trends that show more students are accessing more counseling services because of school stress and severe difficulties. Students’ top problems are anxiety and stress, often caused by qualifying academic issues, peers and family relations and poor jobs on the side. Their 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. is perception, followed by relationship difficulties, having trouble connecting with people and frequently being isolated.

The most recent Pitt counseling center statistics show that during the last two completed academic years, 2,500-3,000 students were seen each year for 14,000-15,000 visits, including 500-750 group appointments. In 2019, the National Survey of College Counseling Centers, which was released as a 2018 study and was overseen by Robert P. Gallagher, a former Pitt counseling center director.

Of the 3.5 million students in 275 centers surveyed, 11 percent sought counseling and 30 percent attended workshops and presentations on counseling center topics.

Of those seen by center staff, 14 percent were referred for psychiatry evaluation and 26 percent were already on psychiatric medication. Common specific problems are on the increase, according to the survey: at least 30 percent of contact cases involving immediate responses in 60 percent of centers; psychiatric medication assessment among 20 percent of centers; clinical depression in 58 percent of centers; learning disabilities in 47 percent of centers; and sexual assault on campus in 43 percent of centers.

Those surveyed also reported that 52 percent of their clients have severe psychological problems. Ninety percent cited anxiety, depression and stress and 44 percent cited anxiety (in 2013), while 8 percent “have impairment to various they cannot perform their daily tasks.” They can do so with extensive psychological psychological help.” Forty-four percent of center clients reported they have experienced severe distress (such as depression, anxiety, panic attacks or suicidal thoughts), but can be treated on campus, according to the survey.

When talking to the centers at larger schools tend to have more cases. 95 percent have serious problems, with half successfully treated on campus and 9 percent that the other extreme needing to leave school for treatment.

There were 125 student suicides on campus last year. Among the reasons was the course, because 61 percent had been depressed, 21 percent were sleeping in 51 percent had academic issues, 9 percent had legal concerns and 15 percent had personal concerns.

School counseling centers at larger institutions around the country have done a great job of solutions to the increase in student need.

Providing a safe classroom climate

Students learn better when they feel comfortable, or safe, in class. Research shows that negative emotions, such as fear or anxiety interfere with the brain’s processing of information. As instructors integrate new resources and are aware of the importance of classroom, it is especially important to create a safe learning environment where all students feel a sense of acceptance and belonging.

How can you ensure that you have a safe classroom climate? A safe classroom climate is one where students feel comfortable when they talk to you, and you talk to them. They feel comfortable knowing that you will respect their opinions and views.

One way to achieve this is to establish classroom expectations at the beginning of the semester. These expectations should be clear and reasonable, and they should be consistently enforced.

Another way to establish a safe classroom climate is to create a supportive learning environment. This can be done by creating a safe space for students to express their opinions and feelings, and by creating a supportive learning community in which students feel comfortable expressing their ideas.

Finally, it is important to remember that a safe classroom climate is not just about the physical environment, but also about the social and emotional environment. All students should feel safe and supported when they enter your classroom, regardless of their background or experiences.

Students feel safe in your classroom when:

- They feel respected and valued.
- They feel heard and understood.
- They feel safe to express their ideas.
- They feel safe to ask questions.
- They feel safe to make mistakes.

In conclusion, providing a safe classroom climate is essential for student success. By establishing clear expectations, creating a supportive learning environment, and remembering that a safe classroom climate is about more than just the physical environment, you can create a space where all students feel safe and supported.

For more information, please contact the University Counseling Center at 412-648-7900 or visit their website at https://counseling.pitt.edu.
The Senate has elected its first president from the regionals. The UPG professor discusses how that will impact his presidency and the issues he sees in the year ahead.

For the first time in University Senate history, a regional campus faculty member will preside when Faculty Assembly convenes next Tuesday for its first meeting of the 2015-16 academic year. Frank Wilson, an assistant professor of sociology and criminal justice at Pitt-Greensburg, began his one-year term as University Senate president July 1.

Plain spoken and passionate about undergraduate education, Wilson, a past-president of the UPG faculty senate, is an unapologetic advocate for the sometimes under-recognized role Pitt's regional campuses play as part of a major research university.

He sat down with University Times staff writer Kimberly K. Barlow in mid-August to talk about the issues facing the Senate and his agenda for the year ahead.

UNIVERSITY TIMES: How will you overcome the challenges of balancing your Senate duties with your responsibilities as a faculty member on the Pitt-Greensburg campus?

WILSON: One of the reasons why I've been able to be so involved in the Senate is because I live here in Pittsburgh. It allows me to go to Greensburg in the morning and then come back and do it, so it's pretty easy. It's pretty stimulating. And I know that I'm not out there by myself.

How significant is it that Pitt faculty elected a non-tenure-stream faculty member as president?

I'm not the first. Nick Bircher (president 2003-05) of the School of Medicine was non-tenure stream. I know that actually represent a majority of the faculty — 60 percent of full-time faculty are non-tenure stream. I think that's kind of significant that I ended up being Senate president at a moment like this. It gives me the chance to remind people that it's University from top to bottom and if it's going to be world class it needs to be strong all the way through.

I hope that's encouraging to these folks and that it makes them more interested in being involved in other aspects of the University.

Your path in academia hasn't been typical either. I'd graduated in 1972 (with a degree in sociology) from UC-San Diego and had a small but growing landscaping business. I turned 40 in 1989 and began to ponder: “What if I'd gone to graduate school?” I thought what I really wanted to do was to teach. I decided to scale my business back and got into a master's program at San Diego State. It was less than a mile from my house and the afternoon and evening classes made it easy to start taking classes.

After the first year I got to teach into sociology classes. You don't really know until you actually get into the classroom and do it, and I discovered that I really did like it. So, in 1992, I wanted to teach with my master's degree, but when it was time to get a job, there was a hiring freeze. So I looked again at graduate schools.

That's what brought you to Pittsburgh?

I had friends who'd come out here. It was a really hopping department with graduate students from all over the world — it had international flavor, and really smart young people. Pitt was going to let me come in as a teaching fellow, not as a TA, so I could teach right away.

My wife, who is a ceramic artist, got established in the arts community here right away. But I felt guilty about ripping the family out of San Diego. My oldest son had just started high school and we had two younger children.

Instead of doing what most graduate students do, which is go to conferences and try to get publications in journals, in addition to teaching a class at Pitt I started teaching part-time everywhere I could — Duquesne, LaRoche, Chatham, Waynesburg.

In 1996 I started on the job market. We never sold our home in San Diego. We always intended to go back. I was making the final cut for a lot of jobs on the West Coast, but coming in second. In 1998 there was a failed search at UPG for a criminal justice position, so the VP of academic affairs wanted to hire a visiting full-time person. I taught criminal justice the first year in the visitor spot. The next year I got hired for half sociology and half criminal justice.

And you've remained at UPG ever since.

I fell in love with that place. It was at a moment when our enrollments were going up; they were hiring new people; there were new programs being put in place. And it was a good group of faculty all pumped up. I was just thrilled to be there. Soon after, the Academic Village, which is a residential learning community, started and I became part of that. Initially it was four villages, by discipline, and I became director of the behavioral science village. Later it became a single village and became director.

I would say it's teaching outside the classroom — it's really a cool thing. And I've been teaching more and more sociology, although I still do criminal justice cross-listed courses.

How did you become involved in the Senate?

In 2005 there was a question about salary benchmarking for regional faculty. That was not a pleasant experience. I became involved in the faculty senate at Pitt-Greensburg, and University-wide. I've been involved in the Senate ever since. (Initially) I was cynical about University Senate. I thought it was kind of a joke or a rubber stamp. I wasn't convinced.

Nick Bircher was president at the time. He took (regional campus faculty) seriously. I realized whatever I thought about the Senate, it was the way we were supposed to do business. And so I became involved.

I've known all the Senate presidents since Nick: They're all really good people. And they've all tried to move things forward. They're not just token advisors, rubber stamping stuff, but actively engaging the administration over serious issues.

Even when it wasn't so pleasant with that benchmarking issue, I made contact with other faculty from the regional campus.
Do you see this happening?

We do want some encourages on part of what came out of the non-tenure-stream work. It's playing out on my campus right now. We've almost finished rewriting our tenure and promotion document. We've expanded to begin what counts as professional development.

When we complete our rewrite of the standard and we send it to the Provost and the appropriate committees. Whether or not these things are being endorsed by the chancellor, being endorsed by the provost, it changes.

How can you raise the regional campuses' profile?

Some predecessors made it a point to invite the Senate presidents from the regional campuses to Oakland for lunch meetings. And the campuses have been active participants at Faculty Assembly meetings. I'd like to have at least once this year.

There will never be a doubt that there's something special (a regional campus), that these campuses really do have in it his report, I'm going to say it in mine. So far the new chancellor has been mentioned in the regional campuses, so I may not have to do much there.

I want to maintain a continuing presence in both directions. And the first way is to try to bring the regionals to the table ... and to get some recognition that I think that kind of thing. I never had any plans to run for this office.

What's your agenda as president?

Now that I'm in this position, I think I have an obligation to make sure that people are reminded that there are regional campuses and we're pretty important to the University.

Graduate teaching is pretty important and sometimes it seems to be relegated to the lesser status because we like to get excited about these top-level achievements and big research stuff.

Don't get me wrong — that's part of the reason why I like to be part of Pitt, because it's a major research university.

I'm just hoping to remind people that there are other parts of the University: That the regional campuses are a key part of the undergraduate education, and we do an awful lot of really innovative things. So I would just like to be the president who calls attention to that more than it has been, it's very easy to try to make the parts to be connected.

How will you make that happen?

We're in the midst of that now and I didn't start it.

The Senate formed an ad hoc committee to look into these issues surrounding full-time non-tenure-stream faculty. The committee included a variety of people from different schools — tenured, non-tenured. There was a department chair. We had active participation from the Provost's office, HR.

When we all got in the same place, the very first thing that happened is that we all had our eyes opened. We realized that there are different experiences all over the place. We don't want one-size-fits-all, but we'd like to be aware of all the different flavors and strengths.

The more you know about what's going on in the other places, the more you can appreciate the University, I think.

And it becomes less and less likely that when you meet faculty in Oakland and they find out you work at Johnstown or Greensburg or Bradford, they say, “I didn't know we had a campus there” or “Do you give four-year degrees out there?”

We have a major medical school. We've got a beginning engineering school. But we also have some really interesting under-graduate-only campuses that are fulfilling different kinds of roles.

Once we realize what's out there and start to work together as faculty on these, there's a lot of ways you can connect.

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puses. The near thing about Pitt, and the thing that allowed me to really appreciate it more, was being involved in the Senate. You're interacting with people from all over the place and you see all of these schools are different within the same University. It's not exactly one size fits all.

I wanted to be involved. I never expected it would be more than committee work or that kind of thing. I never had any plans to run for this office.

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We can't all come up with an invention that makes money or some lifesaving kind of research in the medical school or write books that make important points that people actually read. It's not that simple. I like Pitt because I interact with those people.

The fact is: There are smart people who are teaching undergraduates at Pitt who, in a different situation, a different moment in time, would be every bit as enabled as some of the people who have managed to reach that status. And Pitt has a lot of them.

We can make that more evident. When that happens, better is easy. The superstars are better. Those of us who are teaching undergraduates on the regional campuses are better.

What drives you in your work?

I realize I'm atypical. I decided it was not important to me to try to get published in journals and write esoteric stuff. ... What I think I can do at Pitt that adds value is to teach and do this other kind of work. I used to get upset and frustrated about bureaucracy and administration. ... but every time I walked into a classroom it was like I forget all about that. I was engaging in the thing that I think is really stimulating, which it is: How do you get the light bulb to go on?

How do you get through how? How do I make them understand that any aspect of sociology is important? It's one thing if you've got all the advanced kids who were in the top 5 percent of their high school class. But when you walk in and you're all honestly only 10 percent of the people want to be in your class, that's a different kind of teaching challenge.

If we can figure out how to get through to people like that and turn them on, then they can answer the question about college: What does it cost?

I think if we focus as much on that as we focus on some other things that people spend their time doing we might come up with a different way of looking at things.

A major issue that I think is really stimulating is that I think if we focus as much on that as we focus on the strategic planning process, that fits right into我が志向である。例として、大学の教育プログラムを考慮すると、これは単なる会議ではありえない。それに加えて、地域の大学がさまざまな視点をもつため、地域の大学を視点として考える必要がある。そこに認知を高めることで、地域の大学が重要な役割を果たすことができる。
**Combined program in business & pharmacy said to be 1st in U.S.**

**Plans underway for Latino/Latina affinity group**

**New director heads counseling center**

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**Combined program in business & pharmacy said to be 1st in U.S.**

Vanscoy also is chair and CEO of FX Specialty Pharmacy, a company created by Pitt graduates in partnership with the University. The company will provide some faculty for the MSPBA program, and serve as a local training site for MSPBA students.

Faculty for the program also will be drawn from both schools as well as from local industry executives and working pharmacist students, beginning with those of MSPBA partner CVS, and other companies such as Rite Aid, Giant Eagle, DMC Health, Walgreens, UPMC Health Plan and Amergin. Larry Merker, president and chief executive officer of CVS Health and chairman of the pharmacy school's executive steering board, will be a faculty member for the program.

The 36-credit program will offer 18 credits from Katz and 12 from pharmacy, with the remaining six from either the community or specialty pharmacy track.

"Just like everything in business, it is a risk," Vanscoy says. But, he adds, the idea was "Let's create something that is more alive in the world today."

The MSPBA program, he concludes, "is a program that's born out of need and is born combining professional programs with the aim of rising further in the business."

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**Plans underway for Latino/Latina affinity group**

Gordon Vanscoy, associate dean of business innovation in the Katz school and faculty member in pharmacy and therapeutics, says that specialty pharmacy is the fastest growing pharmacy area today.

It focuses on high-cost, high-risk pharmacy practice, centering on newly developed treatments for such illnesses as cancer, cystic fibrosis and rheumatoid arthritis. These specialty pharmacies often dispense orphan drugs without pharmaceutical company backing, requiring government research support and resulting in medi- cations that are very expensive and whose use by patients may be complicated. Such drugs also may have many restrictions from insurance companies surrounding their use. Fifty percent of health care spending may soon be in this domain, Vanscoy says. "A lot of the drugs in the FDA pipeline are specialty drugs," which require an "unbelievable amount of research to get on the market."

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**New director heads counseling center**

Kimberly K. Barlow/University Times

**Melanie Weiser Krugel** has taken upon herself to find out and has planned a lunch meeting tomorrow, Sept. 4, for anyone who is interested in such a group.

"When I found they didn't have one here, I was really, really surprised," said Krugel, who joined the Pitt staff a year ago as assistant director of student recruitment in the Katz Graduate School of Business MBA admissions office.

Krugel, who identifies as Jewish, said she brought expertise in social capital building and programming at Katz school in conjunction with other campus groups.

Krugel connected with Pitt's Office of Affirmative Action, Diversity and Community Engagement diversity specialist Warren McCoy who encouraged her to reach out to the University community. Krugel said she was "bowled over" by the commitment of an email list, in mid-August to gauge whether there was sufficient interest to form and sustain a group.

According to the most recent Pitt Fact Book figures, 235 Pitt employees identify as Hispanic or Latina. Krugel's message, sent via Read Green to Pitt faculty and staff on all campuses, generated more than 280 responses, with the majority of responders stating they were interested in being active in such a group.

Not all who replied identified as Hispanic or Latina themselves, Krugel said. Some have married into the community and want to support their spouse or enhance cultural ties for their children. Others are interested in being allies, Krugel said. Encouraged by the "incredible response," Krugel has scheduled a lunchtime brainstorming session to make connections and share ideas for the group's purpose and direction.

She envisions the group as a "native-born" for the campus community: providing a platform for issues facing the Hispanic and Latina/Latina community; organizing professional development and cultural programming; hosting social events; and serving as a home base for Hispanic and Latina/Latina faculty and staff. "Somewhere to meet people who are like you — or not like you — and create relationships," she said.

The lunch meeting is set for L2-130 r.m. Sept. 4, in 104 Mersee Hall. Participants may bring their own lunch, RSVP by emailing mkrugu@pitt.edu.

The session will include informal introductions "to hear who's in the room, where they're from, why they're interested," Krugel said. "Then brainstorming on such things as what we'd like to be called; what we'd like to stand for; and to plan where and when to meet next," she said. She hopes the 50-seat classroom she's reserved for the initial gathering will be too small to hold the number of people who eventually will be actively involved.

Krugel said she expects to leave the lunch session with action items, including finding volunteers to develop a web page and social media accounts to more broadly promote the group.

"I want the vision to come from the community," she said. "I don't want to do everything myself; I want this to belong to the community."

That doesn't stop Krugel from aiming bigger. She envisions connecting with similar groups at other universities and in the local Hispanic community and sees the potential to someday create a Pitt-based group for Hispanic and Latina/Latina alumni. She hopes, too, that others will reach out to similar groups here at Pitt. "If we can start this group and get it flourishing, it could inspire other affinity groups."

Beyond serving as a resource for current employees, they have huge recruitment and retention value as an amenity to attract and retain new faculty," she said.

Pitt currently has only one affinity group for faculty and staff, but the student and alumni programs formed in 1960 for African-American employees of the University.

McCoy said the first individual to approach his office seeking to establish a new affinity group adding, "We are totally supporting their endeavors." McCoy said his office is reaching out to others to develop a structure for such affinity groups. "We need more, more, more. These are incredible groups," he said, noting that they not only enhance connectedness among employees, but also can be a resource for mentoring and other support.

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**New director heads counseling center**

**Melanie Weiser Krugel**
One on one
Frank Wilson

Continued from page 4
this coming year along those lines. I don't think we're going to resolve anything in that short a time, but I don't think it's a case of them batal incite and open battle between the administration and the faculty.

What tone is being set?
The administration, whether it's the chancellor and his folks or the provost and her people, are open. They're taking the initiative to make sure they're at an open line of communication. I'm feeling comfortable to go to them when I see issues when I want to question what seems to be a unilateral decision.

The faculty shouldn't be running the University. I don't think we should be micromanaging. But what bothers faculty most is when we feel like just out of the blue something is being imposed without any input.

Sometimes we're wrong because we don't recognize that it's an issue. But sometimes we're right because it was just a unilateral decision. Because the administration has the power, they can do it.

I think that often has negative consequences. It may not even be the substance of whatever the directive involved. It's the way that it's a top-down deal. I think since I'm so aware of that, I really would like to play a part in changing that. I would like to see less knee-jerk and I want to be able to encourage the administration to give head-up.

It's not like we have to be involved in every little thing. But when you have major policy changes and decisions - the example would have been (the proposed suspension or elimination of the) three graduate programs in arts and sciences. It's understandable you'd get a response to that. My role is to try to make sure we don't have too many of those if possible.

How can you facilitate that?
I want it to be an example of how things can work. That sounds pretty glib. That's what is motivating me so I'm going to try to act accordingly.

I would like the story to be everything, the faculty and administration at Pits on the Senate to deal with it. I have been involved in a faculty committee on the evaluation of tenured faculty - generated by the faculty, the people. I would think it makes sense, not just on the faculty and administration, but on the faculty.

And for us to come up with creative solutions where you can say at the end of it, you know, the administration listened to what we were saying and they adapted and the faculty was responsible.

I want to be part of that story. I can help set an agenda. I can be a player in the process. I don't want to jeopardize that. I don't want to be the faculty Senate president that pissed off the administration so much that they quit dealing with the Senate.

I want them to feel like they can expand their version of shared governance.

I'd like to get some of my colleagues who seem to be upset to let us a little bit and have the discussion. If we're all past some of the process it will be elevated. If our position is recognized, if our arguments are heard, if we are treated respectfully, even if we don't get what we are arguing for, what does remain is that we feel like we got a fair hearing. That makes a big difference.

I have had contract issues. Because I care about the place, I offer critiques about the way we do things, mostly on my own campus. I have never felt reluctant to make those statements. I've been involved in. I have just been a fair hearing. I usually lose the argument... but I've always thought if I got a fair hearing that all I could ask for then whatever the final decision, I will give 100 percent.

What is at the top of the Senate agenda, is we start the new academic year?
I'm anxious to get the report from the ad hoc committee on the evaluation of tenured faculty - generated by the faculty, the people. I would think it makes sense, not just on the faculty but also on the administration.

Another is the Senate's new research committee. These are areas all over about research. Part of the problem is the outside forces. Part of the problem is our little internal research. I think those kinds of issues will emerge this academic year.

It's the intellectual property rights issue that flared up last year is still a serious thing, and more to because of the increased emphasis on commercialization that provoked an initial knee-jerk reaction.

Those things haven't been away.

We need to move forward with those discussions. I'll have the coming year. My job is to make sure that we do in an orderly way.

What would you like to be different?
What I was disappointed in a few times in the past couple of years is how we seem to go on ranting about certain aspects of otherwise important issues. I want to deal with the important issues in a substantive way.

Is there a plan for bringing that about?
Our plenary is going to be on the meaning of academic freedom. It starts with what we already had the (tenure and academic freedom) committee subcommittee.

Fall 2015 Student Opinion of Teaching Surveys will take place from November 23 to December 13

Go to www.cidee.pitt.edu/omet for information about:
• Requesting a survey
• Asking students for feedback
• Using class time for students to complete surveys

Students are more likely to respond if they know it’s important to you.

412-624-6410 • omet@pitt.edu

Why they give

Through the Faculty and Staff Campaign, University employees can help Pitt thrive by contributing to any of more than 2,000 scholarship, fellowship and professorship funds. Payroll deductions are available.

Annually, nearly 3,000 Pitt employees take part in the campaign, from every part of the University, and reasons for giving, are diverse as the Pitt community. The University Times is profiling some Faculty and Staff Campaign donors.

—Marty Levine

E. Jeffrey Linnan and his wife created the Linnan Family Endowed Fund two years ago to support doctoral students at the Katz Graduate School of Business, where he is associate dean for research and faculty, the Alberd Wexler Fray Professor of Marketing and a faculty member in business administration.

The fund provides a fellowship of $500 (for each recipient) “to a top graduate student for a specific project,” he calls it. “We hope to get that over the years.”

Although it’s to early to see how such a career kick-starter eventually will help, the Linnans have seen early results.

Last year, a recipient conducted research on helping consumers decide which food choices, looking at the effect of putting simple nutritional information at vapers market store checkout. One group of candy bars now has decided to incorporate the idea in its stores on a trial basis. Linnan has been supporting the Seldin School of Medicine for Pitt the past 11 years; he has made gifts to his school, the Alzheimer’s Disease Research Fund and UPMC Community Care Fund, along with purchasing football and basketball season tickets.

“It’s also been pretty fun to be involved here in academia, so we wanted to give back,” he says of his efforts to aid academia at Pitt. “We’re in a position in our lives where we have a little money to give back.”
WELCOME BACK to the Institution-Wide Strategic Plan

OPEN TO THE ENTIRE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Program: Update on progress made on plan development since the Spring Senate Plenary on strategic planning; and a description of the implementation stage of the planning process, including plans for continuing engagement with the University community.

Monday, September 14
3 to 4 p.m.
Connolly Ballroom
Alumni Hall
Plans expand for bike-friendlier Oakland

Contractors are to begin marking new bike lanes in Oakland later this month, City of Pittsburgh bicycle-pedestrian coordinator Kristin Saunders told the University Times.

As part of the city's bike network plan to expand bicycle infrastructure, the plan for Oakland includes the extension of the protected bike lane on Schenley Drive, new bike lanes on O'Hara Street, Bigelow Boulevard and Bayard Street, plus shared lane markings on Atwood, Bayard, Bouquet, DeSoto and Louisa streets, Collart and Meyran avenues, and between Schenley Drive and Bouquet Street via the plaza between Powsar Hall and Hillman Library.

For information on how you can be a mentor in the First Experiences in Research program, contact Patrick Mullen, Office of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity, at 412-624-9150 or pjmu57@pitt.edu. To submit projects, visit asundergrad.pitt.edu/our/re-faculty-project-submissions.
Pitt hires 1st full-time Title IX coordinator

Catherine "Katie" Pope, formerly Title IX coordinator at Allegheny College, succeeds Carol W. Mohamed, former director of diversity and inclusion and also Title IX coordinator, who retired in June.

Federal Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits gender-based discrimination in all programs and activities in American institutions of higher education. This includes, but are not limited to, admissions, athletics, employment, financial aid, grievance procedures, housing, in-kind services, and recruitment.

Pope will focus on furthering the University's commitment to preventing and addressing sexual misconduct, serving as a central resource for the University community on all issues related to Title IX and play a key role in Pitt's efforts to build and sustain a safe, gender-equitable campus climate for all members of the University community, according to a release announcing her appointment.

Pamela Connolly, associate vice chancellor for diversity and inclusion, said, "As Title IX coordinator, Katie Pope will design and implement strategic initiatives aimed at reinforcing the University's commitment to fostering a safe, healthy and respectful environment for all students, faculty and staff."

Pope has broad experience in sexual-violence and sexual-harassment compliance education and training, with a specialized background in Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

Prior to working at Allegheny, Pope was deputy coordinator at Purdue University and the executive director of the Assault Care Center Extravagant Shelter and Support, a domestic-violence and sexual-assault shelter and outreach agency in Ames, Iowa. At the center she managed fundraising, grant oversight and community volunteering initiatives.

She also has worked in fundraising and development for nonprofit organizations and higher-education institutions, including Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, the University of Minnesota in St. Louis, and the Margaret Souto Women's Center in Ames.

Pope earned a bachelor's in English from the University of Dayton in 1995, a master's in interpersonal and organizational communication from Indiana University in 1999 and a master's in intercultural communication studies from Iowa State University in 2005.

Pitt's Title IX office is housed within the newly established Office of Diversity and Inclusion. The office provides leadership, resources, coordinates and oversees Pitt's voluntary diversity initiatives as well as ensuring equal opportunity and compliance with related governmental requirements.

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Drug take-back collection set for Sept. 11

Do you have a drawer or medicine cabinet full of pills you no longer use? Bring them to the University Pharmacy's drug take-back day, which will be held 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 11 in Nordenburg Hall. The event is open to members of the University community and to the public.

The proper disposal of unused, expired and unwanted medications prevents drug overdoes, illicit use of medications and water pollution.

Justin Saver, a Pitt pharmacy graduate student who is coordinating the collection, said, "Drug abuse has reached epic proportions across the United States. In the Pittsburgh metropolitan area, rates of abuse and overdose have been on the rise in the last few years."

But he noted that prescription pain pills are not the only medications being abused. He described a recent case called "pharm parties," where adolescents and teens who have accessed family medicine chests for prescription and non-prescription drugs combine the drugs into a pill. Those in attendance help themselves to the assortment, often without knowing what they are taking, Saver said.

Items that will be accepted at the University Pharmacy collection include prescription medications, nonprescription liquids, over-the-counter medications, vitamins, supplements, Epipens, injectables, creams, gels, ointments and pet medications.

Items that will not be accepted include needles, syringes, diabetic lancets/test strips, inhalers, IV bags, thermometers and chemotherapy medications.

The event is sponsored by Student Affairs, the Pitt Police, the School of Pharmacy and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

For more information, email Justin.Saver@pitt.edu.

UPMC also is participating in drug take-back day on Sept. 11, but its hours will be 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Among the UPMC collection sites are Falk Pharmacy, Magee-Women's Hospital, UPMC Hillman Cancer Center, ground-floor pharmacy, UPMC Presbyterian pharmacy and Children's Hospital outpatient pharmacy.

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Report on Pitt-CMU libraries is delayed

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 statement: "The committee is also exploring the potential value of collaboration in areas of managing importance, such as research data management."

During the Pitt-CMU library talks, the search to replace University Librarian System head Rob Miller, who retired Dec. 31, was suspended, as was the CMC tool for a director of collections and information access services for its libraries. Penn Broady is listed on the ULS website as interim director.

-- Mary Levine

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Plans to build two hotels in Oakland were approved this week by the City of Pittsburgh Planning Commission.

At a Sept. 1 meeting, the commission approved construction of a Hotel Indigo at the Pittsburgh Technology Center in South Oakland and a 10-story Residence Inn Marriott Hotel on Forbes Avenue near Heinz Field.

At the Hotel Indigo project, above, would commence construction in February 2016 with occupancy a year later. Planning documents show the six-story building will include 108 rooms, meeting space and a restaurant.

The Pittsburgh Technology Center, located off Second Avenue, is home to multiple University departments in the Braddock Hall I and II buildings.

The Residence Inn Marriott Hotel would be built at 3333 Forbes Ave., next to the skyVUE apartment development under construction on the former site of the Allegheny County Health Department. The planned opening would be in December 2016.

The $18 million, 10-story hotel would include 144 guest rooms, a pool and fitness room. Planning documents indicate developers will seek LEED Silver certification for the project.
Stillbirth may be obesity related

Obese women are nearly twice as likely as their thinner counterparts to have stillborn babies for several specific, potentially preventable medical conditions, according to a study from the University of California, San Francisco Graduate School of Public Health.

Placental diseases and hypertensive disorders were the most common causes of stillbirth among obese women. The study was published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition. The research was supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Lead author Lisa Bodnar, member in the Department of Epidemiology: “We’ve known for some time that obese women are more likely to have stillbirths, but this is one of the first and most comprehensive efforts to look at the entire spectrum of what we hope that this work can be used for. We hope that this research can be used as a basis for future efforts to look at whether obesity is likely responsible for stillbirths in high-income countries. The U.S. is among those with the highest rates in the world. It’s very likely that obesity is likely responsible for more stillbirths in high-income countries than other risk factors, such as smoking or advanced maternal age.”

Bodnar and her colleagues examined records from 658 stillbirths worldwide and, of high-income countries, the U.S. is among those with the highest rates of maternal obesity. With this work, they hope that this can be used as part of an effort to look at whether obesity is likely responsible for more stillbirths in high-income countries than other risk factors, such as smoking or advanced maternal age.

Social-media obesity: biz impact varies

A longer point in Louisville gave day-after-Day 16 of every four rounds check-in a review of  four city for every first-time visitor review submitted on Yelp. The analysis of  social-media networks should provide a win-win situation for promotion through the mechanism. Savings by using the mobile app, while the business owner saves the cost of  an inexpensive means of  advertisement. A simple scenario in which obesity is likely to affect a business owner can be used to guide prevention efforts at a societal level,” she added. “If we can reduce pregnancy weight, obesity by even a small amount, through environmental or policy changes, we could significantly reduce the burden of stillbirth.”

Annually there are 3.2 million stillbirths worldwide and, of high-income countries, the U.S. is among those with the highest rates of maternal obesity. With this work, they hope that this can be used as part of an effort to look at whether obesity is likely responsible for more stillbirths in high-income countries than other risk factors, such as smoking or advanced maternal age.

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• Pre-pregnancy obesity, as well as the existing population of the establishment, which, for the purposes of the study, was determined by the percent of  the establishment, which, for the purposes of the study, was determined by the percent of children’s body mass index. This is likely to affect a business owner can be used to guide prevention efforts at a societal level,” she added. “If we can reduce pregnancy weight, obesity by even a small amount, through environmental or policy changes, we could significantly reduce the burden of stillbirth.”

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RESEARCH NOTES
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Computer science faculty gain grants

Faculty in the Department of Computer Science in the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences have been awarded the following grants:
- Daniel Mose and Bruce Childefors: From the NSF, $499,515 to carry out research in artificial evaluation and building community software.
- Panos Chrysanthis and Alex Labrinidis: A Macaro Centre for Sustainable Innovation 2015 Research Seed Grant.

Renewable energy catalyst study funded

To further his research in renewable energy catalysts, the American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund recently awarded a doctoral new investigator award to John A. Keith, faculty member and Richard King Mellon Faculty Fellow in Energy in the Swanson school's Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering. The two-year, $10,000 grant, "Uncovering Heterocycle-Bridged Hydrogen Transfer Mechanisms for Energetically Efficient Fuel and Petrochemical Production," will enable Keith to study design principles for renewable energy catalysts that efficiently convert CO₂ into fuels and chemicals.

In particular, the funding will support Keith's computational modeling research at the Center for Simulation and Modeling to better understand how molecules and materials can catalyze chemical reactions.

3-D printing projects in Swanson funded

Two Pitt research projects to improve design development for structures in additive manufacturing (AM), or 3-D printing, were among nine contracts funded by America Makes, the National Additive Manufacturing Innovation Institute. The two projects, directed by faculty in the Swanson school, will receive more than $7.1 million.

Principal investigator for "Integrated Design Tool Development for High Potential AM Applications" is Albert To, faculty member in mechanical engineering and materials science, in conjunction with Arcotechs, ANSYS, EOS of North America, ExOne, Honeywell, Maccs Machinery, Materials Sciences Corp, RTI International Metals (Akron Titanium & Engineering Products), United Technologies Research Center and the US Army Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center. This $961,112 contract supports an extension of research To previously undertook with a grant from America Makes.

M. Ravi Shankar, faculty member in industrial engineering, is principal investigator of "Microwave-Driven Functional Support Structures for Metal Alloy Feedstocks." Collaborators on the $803,956 contract include ITAMCO, Johnson & Johnson, and the University of Notre Dame.

PGP fellows funds, chem poster session

The PPG Industries Foundation has donated $100,000 for programs in the Swanson school and the chemistry department of the Dietrich school. The funding supports PPG summer undergraduate research fellows in the Swanson school, two PPG Industries Foundation graduate fellows in civil and environmental engineering and the annual undergraduate chemistry laboratory poster session.

Bioengineering grants awarded

Faculty members in the Swanson school's Department of Bioengineering have earned a variety of grants:
- Tracy Cai received $418,615 to support from NIH's National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for "Inhibition of Neuronal Electrode-mediated Inflammation and Neuronal Cell Death." Co-investigators are Robert Friedlander, Takashi Kozai and Alberto Vazquez; consultants/collaborators are Diane Carlisle and Simon Watkins.
- Fatima Syed-Picard received a $110,195 grant from NIH's National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research for "Scaffold-Free Tissue Engineering: Using Principles From Developmental Biology to Support Craniofacial Regeneration." She will be conducting part of the research under the mentorship of Lance Davidson, her Pathway to Independence Award, according to NIH, is "designed to facilitate a timely transition from a mentored postdoctoral research position to a stable independent research position with independent NIH or other independent research support at an earlier stage than is currently the norm.
- Primary investigator Steven Abramowitch and co-principal investigator Spandan Maiti received a $250,000 NSF collaborative research grant for "Impact of Pregnancy on the Mechanics of Vaginal Tissue." David Vorp received a $439,225 NIH grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) for "Outside In Reparative Therapy for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms." Co-investigators are Justin Weinbaum, with co-PIs from Vanderbilt University.
- Youlong Wang received a $399,989 grant from NHLBI for "Computational Model Driven Design of Tissue Engineered Vascular Grafts." Co-PIs from Yale and Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus.
- Gelsy Torres-Oviedo received a $331,000 scientist development grant (SDG) from the American Heart Association for "Understanding Patient-Specific Deficits Causing Step Asynchrony Post-Stroke: A Step Toward Personalizing Rehabilitation.

Subhasish Perera is a consultant. SDG grants are meant "to support highly promising beginning scientists in their progress toward independence." She also received a $330,610 NSF grant for "The Role of Nastical Movements on the Generalization of Movement Learning," with a consultant from Johns Hopkins University.

Heart disease fibrosis targeted

Bernard Kilin, pediatrics faculty member in the School of Medicine and scientist at the Richard King Mellon Foundation Institute for Pediatric Research at Children's Hospital, was awarded a $300,000 grant from the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Foundation's Fund for Genomic Discovery.

Said Kilin, "This funding will allow my team to enter the field of fibrosis research, a new area of investigation for my lab. I was successful, this project will provide a broadly applicable molecular genomic blueprint for the field of cardiovascular development and for developing new drugs to reduce fibrosis in heart disease." Kilin will team with Dennis Kostka, faculty member in the Department of Developmental Biology, who will offer his expertise on the computational aspects of the research.

Kilin, also the director of research at Children's Heart Institute, has been focused on the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12
More dispensaries = more pot-related hospitalizations

People who live in areas of California with a higher density of marijuana dispensaries experience a greater number of hospitalizations due to marijuana use and dependence, a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association Internal Medicine.

More dispensaries are associated with marijuana use and sale is likely to create regulations to guide their location and density, said Mair. “It could be a combination of both factors.”

People who live in areas with more dispensaries, the study found, had a significantly higher likelihood of being hospitalized for marijuana abuse and dependence. A similar study in Oregon showed that increases in availability were associated with increases in hospitalizations.

Hospitalizations with marijuana abuse or dependence codes increased from 4,897 in 2001-02 to 6,701 in 2012. More than 85 percent of marijuana-related hospitalizations were for patients under age 40. Eight percent were secondary codes, meaning the person was primarily hospitalized for something other than marijuana.

“Clearly, as the number of marijuana dispensaries increases, the number of hospitalizations also increases,” said Mair.

In addition, the study found that a higher density of marijuana dispensaries was associated with more acute marijuana-related hospitalizations, such as drug overdose, intoxication, and other medical complications.

“More dispensaries = more pot-related hospitalizations

The NIH-funded research, published in Drug and Alcohol Dependence, found that increased availability of marijuana was associated with increases in hospitalizations for marijuana abuse and dependence.

In 2012, the most recent years of data available, hospitalizations due to marijuana abuse and dependence were more than 68,408. More than 85 percent of hospitalizations were for patients under age 40, compared with 82 percent in 2001-02.

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The study was a follow-up of a previous study by Mair and her colleagues, which found that more dispensaries were associated with more hospitalizations for marijuana-related conditions.

The study also found that more dispensaries were associated with more marijuana-related hospitalizations, particularly for patients under age 40.

In addition, the study found that the density of marijuana dispensaries was associated with more hospitalizations for marijuana abuse and dependence.

The study was funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Cilia motion can diagnose disease

The study was conducted by Chakra Chennubhotla, assistant professor of chemical and biological engineering, and colleagues at the University of Pittsburgh.

The researchers developed a computational model that can accurately predict ciliary motion, which is important for many cellular functions.

The computational model was able to predict ciliary motion with high accuracy, which could be useful for diagnosing diseases that affect cilia.

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R E S E A R C H  N O T E S
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12
have examined the biocidal mo- lecules in broccoli and how they may help people with dysentery as pollutants.
Significant that: "Pollution is a global problem and it effects are seen most often among the elderly, poor and underdeveloped. We need effective and affordable interventions, and using food- based chemicals is a cheaper and the ideal way to address this.'
He and his team will focus on identifying molecules in broccoli to play a role in detoxification, identify and validate biomarkers of the metabolic disease, and examine the molecular consequences of its chronic activation.

Childhood cancer research funded
Edward V. Prochownik, Paul G. C. Godley Professor of Pediatrics in the School of Medicine and director of oncology research at Children's Hospital, has received a grant of $100,000 from the St. Baldrick's Foundation for childhood leukemia.
The award to Prochownik, who also is a faculty member in molecular and cell biology, and Altobellis, is one of 70 grants totaling more than $31 million nationally and internationally. Prochownik and his team will explore the implications of new observations on cancer cell growth.
"Prochownik: Cancer cells must alter their metabolism to preserve energy for their survival. How metabolic building blocks needed to support their rapid division. We hope to find metabolic changes, key means by which the cell can control these changes. Contin- uation and extending these findings as we propose to do could provide novel and specific ways to interfere with this process and thus inhibit tumor growth while minimizing long-term side effects.'
Over the past decade, Pro- chownik and his research team have developed a model of hepato- bilio-pancreatic ductal liver childhood cancer, which in advanced stages is difficult to treat and characterized by the dual challenge that can cause long-term toxicities.
We have discovered that the mitochondria leaves the hepatoblastoma cells appear to be reprogrammed to allow them to function at maximal capacity and thus provide large amounts of energy and metabolic build- ing blocks needed by the rapidly growing and dividing cancer cells," explained Prochownik. "We are hopeful that the work at this level can be translated into new and specific ways of treating these cancers and the same time reducing toxicity.'

Treatment guidelines established for twoPermissions
A monoclonal twin preg- nancy, in which identical twins share one placenta, faces unique challenges for traditional monitoring of the health and life of both babies, requiring increased under- standing of treatment techniques for the mother. Now, in work led by Robert Emery, faculty members in pediatrics, psychology, and reproductive science and a maternal-fetal medicine surgeon with Mage-Women's Hospital, the National Institute of Health's Cancer Therapy Network has published evidence-based and consensus-driven guidelines for the management of such pregnancies in the journal Obstetrics and Gynecology.
"said Emery, the paper's lead author: "Identical twin pregnan- ces are one of the most challenging complications a maternal-fetal medicine specialist can face, owing to the complexity and interventional, we can improve pregnancy outcomes. We hope these guidelines will help obstetric practitioners understand some of the complexities that can affect the development of identi- cal twins sharing one placenta. These guidelines also should help with patient counseling, including when a woman experiencing a complication should be referred to a treatment center and how to co-manage her care when she returns after treatment.'
"The North American Fetal Therapy Network is a consortium of 30 medical institutions across the U.S. and Canada, each with established expertise in fetal therapy and complex fetal disorders. For the purposes of this paper, we identified nine disorders to high- light, including:
"- Twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome, a disease of the placenta in which blood goes disproportionately from one twin to the other through connecting blood vessels within the shared placenta. One twin receives much blood, overloading its or her cardiovascular system while the other receives too little and develops low blood volume. Left untreated, this condition almost always fatal for both twins.
- Selective growth restriction, when a disproportionate share of the placenta causes inad- equate nutrition and consequently severe growth restriction in the twins. Increasingly, selective growth restriction is being recognized as an independent and distinct monochorionic twin pregnancies because it is frequently is associated with placental insufficiency and poor neurological outcomes.
- Twin anemia polycythemia sequence, a form of twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome charac- terized by chronic, slow blood transfusion between the twins, which is believed to develop due to very small caliber artery-to-artery vessels that develop between the twins. One twin becomes severely anemic while the other has too many red blood cells (polycythe- mia), resulting in severe problems for both.
- Center for Medical Innovation funds biomedical devices
The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) of the National Institutes of Health awarded a total of $5 million in grants to six institutions that will support the development of biomedical devices to improve health and extend the life of patients.
A combination of Q-type and C-engineing is required to design device that will be directed at the individual patient's clinical and instrumental levels simultaneously.
"Charon-Prochownik is a magnificent model for diabetes treatment for pediatric diabetes clinic medical care specialist.
"Park wins research development award
Nursing faculty member Mary Park has received a $250,000 Mentored Research Scientist Development Award from the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), a Family-Centered Care of Older Adults With Multiple Chronic Conditions.
"The goal of the NIH research career development program is to help ensure that a diverse pool of highly trained scientists is available in appropriate scientific disciplines to address the nation's biomedical, behavioral and clinical research needs.
"Park's current goals are to improve the quality of care for older adults with multiple medi- cations by using a multidisciplinary team, and become an independent researcher with expertise in innovative research methodologies in combating the issue of fall reduction. In real-world health care settings. Conventional depres- sion- and falls-reduction interventions for older adults are a scarce public health problem. As an important companion to the care-related activities, families already are involved in the study of various aspects of self-management of chronic disease in older adults. Such informa- tion gathering activities currently are currently in a research and development system, which potentially creates redundant or misaligned effects.
"Park's research may help families and family dyads to examine the feasibility and acceptability of PACE-PA, a theory-driven, multi- component, technology-assisted interdisciplinary team-based care model that systematically involves family in chronic disease care and treatment. It aims to optimize the health status of family members through enhanced self- ability to self-manage chronic disease.
"Films instead of pills for women's health
Lisa C. Rohan, faculty member in the pharmacological sciences department of School of Pharmacy, was awarded a grant from the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) National Center for Research Resources (NCRR) to conduct a study of the effects of two supplements: vitamins C and E, and fish oil on cognitive function and mood.
Monitoring HIV drug resistance in Africa
Infectious disease researchers from the School of Medicine are leading a five-year, $5 million ini- tiative to monitor drug resistance during the rollout of HIV preven- tion drugs in sub-Saharan Africa. The project is funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) as part of the school's Division of Infectious Diseases to conduct laboratory research and provide the scientific and technical guidance to mitigate the problem of drug resistance.
"I am excited that we can now take a practical step toward reducing drug resistance among the large-scale deployment of antiretroviral treatment in Africa. This project will help us understand and mitigate the problem of drug resistance that we are facing today.
"To help reduce the problem of drug resistance among high-income countries, we need to continue to develop new drugs that are effective and safe.
"RESULTS OF THE PITCH-NURSE TRIAL Continued on PAGE 14
"SEPT EMBER 3, 2015
Ancient DNA proteins affect tumor development

While the beneficial use of beer-bread-making, researchers at the School of Medicine have uncovered the mechanism by which ancient proteins repair DNA damage and how their dysfunction could lead to the development of tumors.

Their findings, published in the journal Cell, have uncovered the mechanism that aims to improve the instruction and social-emotional skill training. According to this study, conducted by a School of Education faculty member and published in the Society for Prevention Research's journal Prevention Science, this study found that students who were trained in the Social-emotional skills were more likely to implement new social-emotional interventions than those who were not.

Fat around heart in menopause risky

Late- and post-menopausal women have significantly greater volumes of abdominal and visceral fat — a risk factor for heart disease — than their pre-menopausal counterparts, according to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health study has shown for the first time.

In the study, published in The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism, likely can be attributed to changing hormone dynamics & Metabolism, likely can be attributed to changing hormone dynamics.

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RESEARCH NOTES
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

There's more to Homo & sapiens

Science is just a system of categorization, but the human fossil record — including the genus Homo and species sapiens — is rather poorly categorized, contends Jeffrey Schwartz, faculty member in anthropology and the history and philosophy of science. This has led to a narrow view of a more complex and expansive evolutionary history than most anthropologists recognize, he believes.

In Science as August, Schwartz argues that “the boundaries of both the species and the genus remain as fuzzy as ever, new fossils having been haphazardly assigned to species of Homo, with minimal attention to morphology.”

The form and structure of hominid (a group consisting of modern humans, extinct human species and all our immediate ancestors) fossils are still often ignored in defense to tradition over objectivity, he adds.

As an example, Schwartz cites Jonathan and Mary Leaky's 1960 discovery of 1.8-million-year-old fossils in Tanzania's Olduvai Gorge. When the pair published their findings in 1964, they claimed the fossils represented a new species, Homo habilis.

"There was scant morphological justification for including any of this very ancient material in Homo," Schwartz writes. "Indeed, the main motivation appears to have been the Leakeys' desire to identify this hominid as the maker of the simple stone tools found in the lower layers of the gorge."

According to Schwartz, including these fossils in Homo, when their age and appearance dictates otherwise, "so broadened the morphological range of the genus that other hominids from other sites could be shoehorned into it almost without regard to their physical appearance. As a result, the largely unexamined definition of Homo became even murkier."

To ultimately understand what is Homo and what is not, Schwartz contends, anthropologists must approach their science in a more systematic fashion in order to truly understand the evolutionary past that led to the human of today.

"If we want to be objective, we shall almost certainly have to scrap the iconic list of (genres and species) names in which hominid fossil specimens have historically been trapped and start from the beginning," he says.

Preventative tinnitus drugs identified

Researchers have identified in an animal model the molecular mechanisms behind resilience to noise-induced tinnitus and a possible drug therapy that could reduce susceptibility to this chronic and sometimes debilitating condition. The findings by a team from the School of Medicine were published in ELife.

Tinnitus is typically induced by exposure to loud noises and causes whistling, clicking, roaring and other phantom sounds. It is estimated that 5-15 percent of Americans suffer from tinnitus, said Thanas Tsoumopoulos, a member of the auditory research group in the Department of Otolaryngology, where he also holds the auditory physiology endowed chair.

The study results build on previous research in mouse models demonstrating that tinnitus is associated with hyperactivity of dorsal cochlear nucleus (DCN) cells, which fire impulses even when there is no actual sound to perceive.

The team’s work has shown that this hyperactivity is caused by a reduction in tiny channels, called KCNQ channels, through which potassium ions travel in and out of the cell. Based on this finding, KCNQ channel activators have emerged as clinical candidates for preventing the development of tinnitus.

"We have already developed novel activators of KCNQ2/3 channels," Tsoumopoulos said, adding that the next step, in collaboration with Peter Wijg, a faculty member in chemistry, is to develop specific blockers of KCNQ channels.

Co-authors of the paper were Shuang Li, and Bopanna I. Kalappa.

The project was funded by the Department of Defense peer-reviewed medical research program and the joint-waif for medical research program, and by NIH.

—Compiled by Mary Levine

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The University of Pittsburgh
Chancellor's Distinguished Research, Public Service and Teaching Awards

Office of the Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor

September 3, 2015

Dear Colleagues:

This year, the University of Pittsburgh will once again present the Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching, Research, and Public Service Awards to accomplished members of the University’s faculty. These awards are designed to highlight exemplary teaching, research, and public service achievements.

I encourage you to nominate outstanding members of the University’s faculty for these awards. Please note the nomination deadline for each award:

- Nominations for the Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Awards should be sent electronically to Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Development, and Diversity, Laurie Kirsch (kirschl@pitt.edu). The closing date for letters of nomination is Friday, October 16, 2015. Please see the provost’s website for forms and guidelines.
- Nominations for the Chancellor’s Distinguished Research Awards should be sent electronically to Vice Provost for Research, Mark S. Reifler (reiflerm@pitt.edu). The closing date for letters of nomination is Friday, October 16, 2015. Please see the provost’s website for forms and guidelines.
- Nominations for the Chancellor’s Distinguished Public Service Awards should be sent electronically to Interim Vice Provost for Research Conduct and Compliance, George Huber (ghuber@pitt.edu). The closing date for letters of nomination is Friday, October 16, 2015. Please see the provost’s website for guidelines.

Should you have any questions on how to proceed, please call Laurie Kirsch, Mark Reifler, or George Huber as appropriate. In preparing your nominations, you also may wish to (but need not) call the help of the Office of the Dean in your school. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Patricia E. Benson
A memorial service will be held Friday, Sept. 4, at 4 p.m. in 501 Cathedral of Learning for English department lecturer Elizabeth Wylie-Ernst, who died July 15, 2015. She was 55.

Until her passing during the spring 2015 semester, Wylie-Ernst had been teaching German classes on reading and writing, major cultural periods, European folktales, pionierists, German media, professional German, the teaching of German and other aspects of language education.

She had served the department in many capacities: director of language studies and undergraduate studies, TA/FT coordinator, German club faculty liaison, representative to the college in high school program and others.

"She was very heavy administratively load in this department and did it without complaint," said John Lyon, the department chair and director of graduate studies.

"She was always asking what else she could do. In fact, he recalls, when another language department faculty member was unable to conduct the pre-seminar introduction to teaching for graduate students about to become TAs, Wylie-Ernst stepped in.

She taught courses with high enrollments, which normally get the most enthusiastic online reviews, although her classes did, Lyon pointed out. "It had a very loyal following among undergraduate students," he said. And, he added, "she would go out of her way to make personal connections to new students."

Wylie-Ernst was a Students' Choice award nominee 2008-13, earning the Provost's Award for Excellence 2007-08, voted among the best-liked instructors in a resident assistant poll 2001-02 and named to the Student Governing Board's faculty honor roll 2000-01.

Traveling to Germany as a child, she knew early on that she wanted to become a "teacher and promoter of her language and culture," Wylie-Ernst wrote in a profile on her department's website. "After several exchange programs and periods of living abroad, I have achieved what I set out to do: Not only am I able to share my enthusiasm for German with my undergraduates, but as the director of language studies I am able to share my teaching experiences, works in progress, and materials and research with my graduate student instructors and with colleagues from around the world."

She received all her degrees from Pitt: a BA in German and French and an MA and PhD in Ger. She was a German department TA 1988-90 and a fellow 1991-96, which included an exchange program fellowship to Heidelberg University in Bonn, 1994-95. During her studies she also was a translator for several publishers and a reporter for the Pitt News.

She was nominated for the Beloit Award at the District's School of Arts and Sciences in 2003 and elected to the University Senate and student affairs committee in 2006.

She also served on many search, curriculum advisory, course revision, outcomes assessment and budget committees for her department. Wylie-Ernst contributed scholarship to Tadeusz's Law first-year German textbook, to be published this year, and to the Yale Encyclopedia of Motifs in 2004, and started working as a reviewer for Foreign Language Annals in 2008. She presented at many language and teaching conferences and was a member of the Modern Language Association, the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, the American Association of Teachers of German and other professional societies.

"She was a role model for a lot of the students," says former colleague Claire Schukin, a department lecturer.

That included Melissa Boby, a double major in German and chemistry, who had many occasions to seek Wylie-Ernst's advice.

"Someone who spent any time in the German department could tell how much she cared and how very much she was invested in the course accepted a position as training manager for On-Line Systems, Inc., looking to make a career change, Cadigan joined the Pittsburgh staff in 1979. She held a number of positions, including serving as director of instruction and staff development programs in the Office of Human Resources, executive director of the Department of Psychiatry and administrative manager at the Center for Biotechnology and Biomedical Engineering.

In 2004, she joined the Office of Institutional Advancement as executive assistant to Vice Chancellor Albert Newell. She remembers "an intelligent, bright and friendly colleague and friend to many." Her devotion to the University of Pittsburgh extended beyond her employment. After retirement, Cadigan worked briefly for Carnegie Mellon University before returning to Pitt as part of All-Pitt Proms, where her assignments included serving in the Office of the Secretary and the Office of the Chancellor. She also returned to the Office of Institutional Advancement as a volunteer.

A longtime resident of Shadyside, Cadigan walked to campus every day.

She was known for her wide variety of interests and people in the Office of the Secretary, Linda Santa Cruz, recalled that "Ellie was always smiling at the University and brought a smile to everyone's face. She made everyone feel welcome and important.

Cadigan also was known for her love of animals and supported many of the region's animal shelters. In addition, she opened her home and heart to a number of rescued animals. The last in this line of pets was Oscar, a stray cat who wandered into her home years ago. True to her selfless nature, when Cadigan was hospitalized, one of her friends suspected that the reason was that Oscar would find a new home, and he was quickly taken in by one of her devoted friends.

Cadigan earned her bachelor's degree in English from Westminster College and her master's degree in English literature from Duquesne University.

In 1977, she was elected to the board of the Pittsburgh 1787 Society and belonged to a number of professional organizations for her future, helping the American Society for Training and Development, the College and University Personnel Association, the Pittsburgh Personnel Association and the Executive Women's Council of Pittsburgh.

Cadigan is survived by her husband David and his wife Dianna and their two children, Elizabeth and Douglas, and her cats Grace and Charlotte.

Acknowledgements of memorial contributions should be sent to either the Pittsburgh YMCA, 1737 Rocksdale Road, Butler 16002.

-Submitted by Kim Honath

(Editors note: Mira Faren and Karen Whitehead also contributed to this article.)
Klaus Bron

Klaus M. Bron, a professor of radiology who died July 23, 2015, at 86, not only was a leader in his field but "he was a Renaissance man. You weren't rushing back to the angle[graph]." Born in 1929, Bron's family fled the Nazis. He earned his AB in 1951 from New York University and his MD from New York University School of Medicine in 1955. He interned at New York Hospital and then was a resident in radiology at the Presbyterian Hospital, where he was a captain in the U.S. Air Force. He began his teaching career as an associate professor in 1961-62.

Joining the Pitt School of Medicine in 1964 as an assistant professor of radiology, he rose to associate professor in 1969, when he was tenured, and professor in 1975. He held a secondary appointment as professor of surgery in 1994. He was named a University Distinguished Emeritus upon his retirement.

At what was then known as the Presbyterian University Hospital, he was director of vascular and interventional radiology 1964-88, of the Organ Transplantation Division 1961-86 and its medical director 1985-89. He was editor in journals and books, he received a variety of grants from the National Institutes of Health, especially the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, as well as the Food and Drug Administration and other agencies. He served on University search committees and those concern-

The American Statistical Asso-
ciation (ASA) presented the
Association's Founders Awards to Sally Mortell, a faculty member of Biostatistics at the Graduate School of Public Health.
Information that you should bring with you when attending an on-campus flu shot clinic

You will need to bring your University ID card and your UPMC Health Plan insurance card with you to the on-campus flu shot clinic. Upon presenting both cards, you will then need to complete an “Intake and Consent Form” prior to receiving your flu shot.

If you do not carry the University’s medical insurance, you can still obtain a flu shot on campus, though you must pay cash at the time of service. We expect the price of the flu shot to be slightly higher than last year. Last year’s price was $25 if you were paying for the flu shot out-of-pocket. Individuals who participate in the Panther Advocate plan can receive $25 in HRA credits for obtaining a flu shot.

Can’t make it to an on-campus flu shot clinic?

UPMC Health Plan members also may obtain a flu shot from a participating provider at no out-of-pocket cost. If plan members obtain a flu shot at a clinic or pharmacy that does not participate with UPMC Health Plan, then they will need to pay for the flu shot at the time of service and file a claim for reimbursement. Reimbursement forms can be downloaded from UPMC Health Plan’s website at www.upmchealthplan.com, under “Commonly Used Forms” at the bottom of the page.

Out-of-Area Coverage for Dependent Children

All dependent members up to age 26 who live or attend school outside of western Pennsylvania will be covered at the highest level of benefits for eligible services when they use providers who participate in UPMC Health Plan’s national network through Private Healthcare Systems (PHCS) or Medical Mutual of Ohio (MMO), or obtain services at a student health center. This applies to all University of Pittsburgh group plans offered to faculty and staff. Note that certain services require prior authorization, and those requirements will remain in force.

Persons 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, even if the provider is not participating with one of these networks. For more information, please visit http://hp.pitt.edu/benefits/medical-plans.

Importance of Children’s Annual Eye Exam

Back to school! With school just beginning to welcome students back, your child’s annual eye exam should be a part of their back to school checklist. Vision is one of the most important factors in learning and development. Nearly 80% of a child’s learning is acquired through his or her visual system, making it the cornerstone for a successful school year.

Studies show that 1 in 4 children has a vision problem. Staying proactive in helping your child develop, and remember that one of the most important tools for success in school is healthy eyesight! Here are a few tips from Davis Vision:

• Children should have their first eye exam when they are 3 years old. Take notice if your child is squinting and blinking frequently, as it could be a signal that something is wrong. Even a small deviation in prescription can cause headaches and eye fatigue.

• Doctors recommend that children take frequent breaks while using electronic devices. Set a timer and instruct them to stop looking at the screen every 20 minutes and focus on an object 20 feet away for 20 seconds.

• If your child needs glasses, ask about scratch-resistant, antireflective coatings and polycarbonate lenses when making a purchase. These lenses will help prevent breakage and unnecessary wear.

Davis Vision serves as the insurance carrier for the University’s vision plans. Davis is one of the nation’s largest vision-care providers, with a network of more than 30,000 ophthalmologists and optometrists. Two vision plan options are offered at Pitt; both provide great value at affordable prices. Both of the plans cover annual comprehensive eye examinations. Eyeglass lenses and frames or contact lenses may be covered in full or an allowance may apply depending on your tier level.

UPMC HEALTH PLAN

P.A.D. ADVERTISEMENT
Friday, October 9, 2015
12:00–1:00 pm, Student Union Ballroom

Free exhibit at Fulk Library
through October 10
www.hrsa.pitt.edu/dna-to-beer

Earn 2 credits — 3, 6, or 9...


Tuesday, October 6, 2015
12:00–1:00 pm, Student Union Ballroom

Free exhibit at Fulk Library
through October 10
www.hrsa.pitt.edu/dna-to-beer

Earn 2 credits — 3, 6, or 9...

For more information visit www.library.pitt.edu/2015fallclassifications

Use Table 1 below to search for courses that count toward the Hess, Psychology, Business, or Religious Studies major.

For credit, see your advisor.

Table 1: Hess, Psychology, Business, and Religious Studies Credits

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<td>REL 802</td>
<td>Advanced Religion</td>
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September

Thursday 3
HSLS Workshop
"Painless Publishing." Jill Foutz, Falk Library classroom 1, 9 am (ec27@pitt.edu).

Women’s Cancer Research Colloq.
"3rd Dimension: Missing Link in the Tomato Microenvironment." Shilpa Saur, MPIF 71st & 8th Ave., 10am. (UPL Haltermann)

"Party on the Plaza," 3rd登陆数字: 3am, Saturday, 3pm.
CDICE workshop on "Diseases of the Reproductive Tract: 815 Alumni, 2 pm (register: cibledd@pitt.edu/workshops).

"Encouraging Student Participation", 815 Alumni, 2 pm (register: cibledd@pitt.edu/workshops).

CTSI Workshop

Chemistry Seminars
"Nanoscience & Self-Assembled Systems for Improved Characterization & Mass Spectrometry," Susan Zhang, Chemistry 3, 2:30 pm (organochemistry@pitt.edu).
"Organic Electronic Polymers & Small Molecules Synthesis," Xiao Cao, Carnegie, 4 pm, 100 Cheneau.

Geology & Planetary Science Colloquium
"Introductory of the Faculty and Staff" as the Department of Geology & Planetary Science," 11 Thu., 3:30 pm (www.geology.pitt.edu/cevents/feb20-15-sclioeasquo-seq).

Friday 4
SDBC Workshop
"The 1st Step Methods of Staining a Small Animal," 7:30-10 am (register: www.sudb.pitt.edu/). 

CDICE Workshops
"Applying FACS in Research," 815 Alumni, 10 am, "Introduction to Blackboard," 815 Alumni, 10 am, "What’s New in Blackboard," 815 Alumni, 2 pm, "Effective Teaching With & Without PowerPoint," 815 Alumni, 2 pm (register: cibledd@pitt.edu/workshops).

Biology (TPP) "life science lounge noon-2 pm (also Sept. 9, 4-7:00).

Basic & Translational Research Seminar
"Impact of UPS: From Knooping Development to Tumorigenesis," Wong, Human Cancer Ctr, Cooper conf. on Fri, noon (myeg@pitt.edu).

CDICE Workshop
"Introduction to Blackboard," 815 Alumni, 2 pm (register: cibledd@pitt.edu/workshops).

Faculty Assembly Events
New member orientation, noon, meeting, 3 pm, 2700 Forbes
Community Relations Oudland Block Party
"A Good Neighborhood," 234 N Oudland, 3-7:30 pm (www.pitt.edu).

Monday 7
University /Heinz at University Park 1, 7 pm.

September 2014 calendar includes Pitt-sponsored events as well as non-Pitt events held on a Pitt campus. Information submitted for the calendar should identify the type of event, such as lecture or concert, and the program's specific title, sponsor, location and time. The name and number of a contact person should be included. Information should be sent by email to: utcal@pitt.edu.

Friday 8
GI Lecture
"Pathogen-Host Synergism, What Can We Do?" Richard Warbelow, Perley MD, 7-9 pm (www.pitt.edu)

Biology (TPP) "life science lounge noon-2 pm (also Sept. 9, 4-7:00).

Psychiatry Lecture
"Facial EMG: Emotions Processing in Irresistible Youth: Implications for Neurocognitive Integrated Treatments," Joel Soodak, NIMH, 6:30 PM, 815 Alumni, noon (jmyeg@pitt.edu).

CDICE Workshop
"Introduction to Blackboard," 815 Alumni, 2 pm (register: cibledd@pitt.edu/workshops).

Faculty Assembly Events
New member orientation, noon, meeting, 3 pm, 2700 Forbes
Community Relations Oudland Block Party
"A Good Neighborhood," 234 N Oudland, 3-7:30 pm (www.pitt.edu).

Wednesday 9
SAC McG.
101 McGowan, noon.

Psychology/Systems Lecture
"Hypothesis About the Origin of Topophobia: From the 1500’s to the Present," Maria Hume Johnson, Nursing, Social Sciences lecture on Fri, noon (9-10).

FPG inst. for Neurodegenerative Disease Blauthion Lecture

HSLS Workshop
"Library Mapping: Infodigest, Molecular, 10-10:45 am (room 3000).

Biology Lecture
"Bacterial Energy Transport & Generation," 815 Alumni, 2 pm (register: cibledd@pitt.edu/workshops).

"Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Lectures" (www.universityofpittsburgh.edu/)

CDICE Workshops
"Copyright & Fair Use: Right Education," 815 Alumni, 2 pm, "Facilitating Classroom Discussions," 815 Alumni, 2 pm, "Using Blackboard to Engage Your Students: Communications & Collaboration," 815 Alumni, 2 pm (register: cibledd@pitt.edu/workshops).

"Painless Publishing," Mary Louise Keating, Falk Library, 10am.

Psychiatry Lecture
"Mapping the Neural Circuitry Substrate for Cognitive Dysfunctions in Schizophrenia," David Lewis, TPPSC, noon (jmyeg@pitt.edu).

CU for Philosophy of Science Lecture
"Cause, Explanation, and "Specific" Evidence," Katie Struss, Louisiana State University of, 170 CL, 3:45 pm (4-10).

Exhibit Opening Reception
"Polite," Beno Library gallery, 5 pm.

Sunday 13
Concert
"Ooga Boogie," Jeneff Bican, Heinz Chapel, 7 pm (www.beethoven.pitt.edu).

Monday 14
Institutional-Wide Strategic Planning Meeting
"Counseling and Advisory," 3 pm, 101 McGowan, 3 pm (counseling@pitt.edu).

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What's NEW at PITT?

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

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

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

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

Arts and Sciences

Felix Germain comes to the Department of Africana Studies as an assistant professor from a faculty position at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte.

He completed his PhD in African diaspora studies at the University of California-Berkeley in 2007. His research focuses on racism and social inequality in France and the United States, Caribbean migration to France and the U.S., labor relations and community organizations in the U.S. and France, contemporary Caribbean societies and gender relations.

Corinne Richards-Zawacki joins the Department of Biological Sciences as an associate professor from a faculty position in Tulane University’s Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

She succeeds Rick Relyea as director of the Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology. Relyea left Pitt last year.

Richards-Zawacki earned her PhD in ecology and evolutionary biology from the University of Michigan. She uses amphibians as model systems.

Calum Matheson and Paul Johnson join the Department of Communication as assistant professors of public deliberation and civic life.

Matheson, whose PhD is from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, will lead the William Pitt Debating Union. Johnson, who completed his PhD at the University of Iowa, had been a non-tenure-stream lecturer and associate director of the debating union.

Lynn Clarke is director of speaking in the disciplines and director of public speaking. Her PhD is from Northwestern.

Eric English is a visiting lecturer and associate director of the William Pitt Debating Union. He earned his PhD at Pitt.

The Department of Economics welcomes David Huffman and Sofia Moroni.

Huffman, a full professor, received his PhD from Berkeley. He is joining the department from Oxford and has previously held positions at IZA in Bonn and at Swarthmore College. He will direct the University’s Experimental Economics Laboratory.

Huffman’s research lies in the areas of behavioral and labor economics. He will teach a graduate course in Behavioral and Experimental Labor Economics and undergraduate courses in Intermediate...
Microeconomics. Moroni, an assistant professor, received her PhD in economics from Stanford University. Her main field is theoretical microeconomics, with an emphasis on game theory and contract theory.

Benjamin Miller and Julian Gill-Peterson have joined the English department as assistant professors. Miller, faculty member in composition with a dual appointment in philosophy and linguistics, earned his PhD at City University of New York and holds a bachelor's degree in Near Eastern languages and civilizations from Harvard and an MFA in poetry from Columbia. Gill-Peterson, who recently received his PhD from Rutgers, is a faculty member in 19th and 20th-century literature. His research focuses on gender studies, and he will bring expertise in queer theory to the children's literature and childhood studies program.

Erin Peters, a lecturer in curatorial studies, occupies a new joint appointment based half-time in the Department of History of Art and Architecture and half-time in Carnegie's departments of Pitt. She earned her PhD in art history at the University of Illinois, with a specialization in Egyptian art. She spent two years as a research scholar in the Department of Egyptian Art and in the Medhalab Project at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Peters will teach one course a year in Pitt's museum studies program. As part of her curatorial role at the Carnegie Museums, she will mentor interns while forging a new initiative to bridge the collections of the Carnegie Museum of Art, the Carnegie Mellon Museum of Natural History and the Andy Warhol Museum.

Adriana Kovashka has joined the computer science department as an assistant professor. Her PhD is from the University of Texas-Austin. Her primary research area is computer vision, with overlap in machine learning, information retrieval, crowdsourcing and natural language processing.

Nick Farnan, who earned his BS and PhD in computer science from Stanford, is a lecturer in the department. He had been a visiting lecturer and is the college in high school program liaison for the department.

Diego Holstein replaces Patrick Maisey, who retired as director of the Center. Manning stepped down last month.

Raja Adal, a PhD candidate at Cornell, joins the Department of Statistics as an assistant professor. His research focuses on the introduction of art and music education in early 20th-century Egypt and Japan.

Lucas Mentch, a PhD candidate at Cornell, joins the Department of Statistics as an assistant professor. His research focuses on statistical learning theory (machine learning), nonparametric statistics, statistical computing and mathematical statistics.

Joining the music department faculty are assistant professors Shalini Ayyagari of ethnomusicology and Michael Heller and Aaron Johnson, both of jazz studies. Ayyagari specializes in the music of South Asia. Her PhD is from the University of California-Berkeley. Her research has explored cross-cultural and intercultural dialogues between Asian regional music, subaltern studies, development studies and cultural tourism studies. She also teaches, publishes and conducts research on Bollywood film music. In addition, Ayyagari is a tabla, violin and Hindustani gazal player.

Heller, most recently a lecturer at the University of Massachusetts-Boston and a visiting lecturer, studies the history of organized jazz festivals, the cultural history of the 1960s and 1970s New York loft scene, archival practices of jazz musicians, improvisation as social practice, sound studies and sensory ecology.

He is currently working on a oral history project with jazz musicians in New York, and works with the Society for Ethnomusicology's special-interest group on historical ethnomusicology.

Heller also is a saxophonist, composer and ensemble director. His PhD is from Harvard.

Johnson completed a degree in musicology at Columbia in 2014 after a career as an electrical engineer with Telcordia and a jazz performer in New York.

Johnson has theoretical expertise in critical race theory. His research focuses on music and media in jazz.

He will teach seminars on topics in jazz as well as improvisation, arranging and orchestration. He also will offer new undergraduate courses in jazz addressing issues such as race and ethnicity, media and cultural politics.

Johnson comes to Pitt from Bates College, where he was a visiting assistant professor.

In the College of General Studies, Boryana Dobroeva has been named director of academic programs. She will be responsible for the development, management and assessment of the college’s academic programs and instructional curricula.

Dobroeva comes to Pitt from Northwestern University in Orange City, Iowa, where she most recently served as director of global education.

She holds an MA and PhD in German studies from Pitt in addition to an MA in German philology from the University of Shumen, Bulgaria.

Stefan Henrichs is veterans' benefits coordinator and Leah Albert is outreach coordinator for the Office of Veterans Services, College of General Studies. Fernandez, formerly department chair of the Air Force ROTC program at the University, recently retired from the United States Air Force as a lieutenant colonel. In his new position, Hernandez will be responsible for the development and management of educational benefits for student veterans at Pitt.

A graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, he earned a master's degree in security studies from the Naval Postgraduate School, and in computer science and information management from Webster University.

Albert comes to Pitt from Chatham University where she was the transfer admissions counselor. She holds an MA in higher education from Geneva College. In her new position, Albert will be reaching out to prospective military-affiliated students and assisting them in their transition to the University.

In the Department of Philosophy: Jennifer Whitehouse has rejoined the department as a professor of philosophy. Whitehouse taught at Pitt 1986-97, and has taught at Harvard, Cornell and the University of Toronto. She works in ancient philosophy — primarily Aristotle and Plato — and in ethics and in philosophy of mind. Her PhD is from Cornell.

New assistant professors are J. Dmitri Gallow, Joaquin Jodns and Karina Shumner.

Gallow earned his PhD at the University of Michigan. His work in metaphysics and the philosophy of science focuses on causation, counterfactuals, chance and the relations between them. In epistemology, he is interested in the rational norms governing partial belief states and their relationship to the kinds of rational norms that govern full belief states. He will offer a symbolic logic course and a graduate seminar in epistemology this fall.

Shumner, whose PhD is from New York University, works primarily in metaphysics and has interests in philosophy of science and epistemology. She will offer Concepts of Human Nature this term.

Also returning to the department is Thomas Berry, who earned his PhD here in 1998. Berry has been appointed a senior lecturer and director of undergraduate studies. He most recently taught at the University of Toronto and also was a faculty member at Cornell. Berry's areas of research are modern philosophy and social and political philosophy. He will offer Philosophy and Public Issues this fall.

In the Department of Political Science as assistant professors are Michael Akin and Michael MacKenzie.

Akin holds a PhD from New York University. Previously, he obtained a licence in international relations from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, Switzerland, and an MA in political economy from the University of Essex (UK). He spent the 2014-15 academic year as a fellow at the Christopher H. Browne Center for International Politics at Penn and has been a visiting scientist at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research in Germany.

His work focuses on international and comparative political economy, in particular on understanding why some countries are able to reduce their vulnerability to major risks such as financial crises or environmental catastrophes.

MacKenzie holds a PhD in political science from the University of British Columbia and a master's degree in political science and social statistics from McGill University.

In 2006-07 he worked as a policy analyst and facilitator with the Ontario Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform. Before coming to Pitt he was a Democracy Fellow and post-doctoral researcher at the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard. His research interests include democratic theory, intergenerational relations, deliberation, political representation, institutional design and public engagement. Much of his work focuses on the political theory of intergenerational relations and the challenges of making long-term decisions in democratic systems.

Marc Coutanche and Karina Schumann join the Department of Psychology as assistant professors. Coutanche, also a research scientist at the Learning Research and Development Center, specializes in neuroscience, neuroimaging and
memory. His research is at the intersection of cognitive neuroscience and cognitive psychology. Coutanche investigates how connections — at the cognitive and neural levels — form within memory networks. He earned his PhD at Penn and most recently was a postdoctoral fellow at Stanford.

Schuman’s research focuses on the psychology of conflict resolution and factors that help people build bridges and connect with one another, particularly under challenging circumstances. She completed her PhD in social psychology at the University of Waterloo and most recently was a postdoctoral fellow at Stanford.

Former visiting lecturer Jennifer Cousins has been named a lecturer in the department. Cousins earned her PhD in educational psychology from the University of Arizona and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in child and adolescent psychology of Arizona and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in child and adolescent psychology at Pitt. She will teach undergraduate courses including Introduction to Psychology, Research Methods and Evolutionary Psychology.

The Department of Religious Studies welcomes Jeanette Jouili, assistant professor of contemporary/modern Islam, and Benjamin Gordon, Perlove lecturer of classical Judaism and the ancient Near East. Jouili authored “Pious Practice and Secular Constraints: Women in the Islamic Revival in Europe.” Most recently a visiting assistant professor at the College of Charleston, Jouili previously held postdoctoral fellowships at Leiden, Amsterdam and Duke universities and was a Society for the Humanities Fellow at Cornell. Her PhD is from École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris. Jouili’s research and teaching interests include the anthropology of religion, Islam, Muslim diasporas, secular governance, pluralism, neoliberalism, subjectivity, ethics, gender and popular culture. Her main geographical areas are Western Europe and North Africa.

Gordon holds a PhD from Duke University, where he was the Lerner-Perilman Postdoctoral Fellow in the Center for Jewish Studies for the past two years. Trained as a rabbinist and archaeologist with extensive textual and excavation experience, Gordon’s areas of specialization include the Jewish priesthood and temple cult, early history of Jewish architecture, Syro-Palestinian archaeology, the role of religion in ancient land management systems and religion and material culture and ecology. Gordon also will coordinate the Jewish studies certificate program.

Tarun Banerjee joins the Department of Sociology as an assistant professor. He earned his PhD in sociology at Stony Brook University this year, completing a dissertation on “Business Unity and the Collective Action of Large Corporations Faced With Protest in the U.S., 2005-10.” He will teach courses in quantitative methods, social movements and organizations, among other topics.

Nancy Allen has been named director of the Advising Center in the Dietrich School Office of Undergraduate Studies. She most recently was assistant dean in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Villanova; director of the Pre-Major Academic Advising Center at West Chester University; and associate dean of the college and dean of continuing education at Arcadia University, in addition to other professional positions and consulting roles.

Allen earned all of her degrees in English: a bachelor’s from Bucknell; an MA from Duquesne; and a PhD from New York University.

Joining the tenured/tenure-stream faculty as assistant professors in the Dietrich school are:

Miler Lee of biological sciences, whose PhD is from Penn’s School of Medicine; Seth Childers of chemistry, whose PhD is from Emory; Eitan Shelef of geology and planetary science, whose PhD is from Stanford; James Picket of history, a PhD candidate at Princeton; Brian Batell of physics and astronomy, whose PhD is from the University of Minnesota; Michael Hatridge of physics and astronomy, whose PhD is from UC Berkeley, and Jennifer Silk of psychology, whose PhD is from Temple.

Non-tenure stream faculty in the Dietrich school include:

— In biological sciences, lecturer 2

Suzanna Gribole, whose PhD is from the University of Utah; lecturers Erica McGreavy and Kathryn Gardner, and laboratory instructors Kim Payne and Jessica Robertson. McGreavy, Payne and Robertson hold PhDs from Pitt; Gardner earned hers at the University of North Carolina.

— In English, clinical assistant professor Matthew Lavin, whose PhD is from the University of Iowa.

— In Hispanic languages and literatures, lecturer Dolores Lima, whose PhD is from the University of Maryland.

— In history of art and architecture, lecturer Isabelle Chartier, who holds an MA from Université de Montréal.

— In linguistics, assistant instructors Gretchen Aiyangar, whose MA is from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Kenneth DeHaan, whose MS is from Rochester Institute of Technology.

— In physics and astronomy, lab instructor Istvan Danko, whose PhD is from Vanderbilt.

— In psychology, lecturer Jennifer Cousins, whose PhD is from the University of Arizona.

— In theatre arts, lecturer Robert Frankenberry, whose master’s degree is from Carnegie Mellon.

New chairs and program directors in the Dietrich school are:

Kathleen Musante, chair, anthropology; Courtney Weikle-Mills, director of the children’s literature program; Jacques Bromberg, acting chair, classics; Tatie Znati, chair, computer science; Lise Vesterhund, chair, economics; Randall Halle, chair, German; Deane Root, chair, music; Robert Bateman, chair, philosophy; and Adam Leibovich, chair, physics and astronomy.

Bradford

Five Pitt-Bradford staff members were promoted this summer to help lead UPB’s newly established Office of Enrollment...
Management. James Baldwin, formerly assistant dean of academic affairs, registrar and director of Science in Motion, assumed responsibility for the new office as its vice president of enrollment management.

Alec Nazemiet, director of admissions, and Melissa Ibaruz, director of financial aid, both were promoted to associate vice president of enrollment management. Bob Dilks, director of nontraditional student recruitment, was promoted to assistant vice president of enrollment management. And Christina Marrone, previously associate registrar and assistant director of enrollment services, was promoted to registrar and director of enrollment services.

Darnell Barksdale and Ryan Coll are assistant directors in residential life and housing at UB. Barksdale comes to Pitt-Bradford from Jackson State University, where he was residence life coordinator and assisted with intramural sports. Coll’s most recent collegiate experience was as a hall director at Western Wyoming Community College.

There have been changes in UB’s athletic staff. Brett Butler, head men’s baseball coach and assistant athletic director, has been named interim athletic director following the resignation last month of Lori Mazza.

Two new coaches will be on the sidelines of UB women’s sports this academic year. Sean Brown, basketball head coach, and Tracee L. Powell, volleyball head coach, both bring winning experience.

Business

Assistant women’s volleyball coach Tom Roof will take over the duties of head coach this fall after former head volleyball coach Tina Phillips resigned to focus on coaching softball and fulfilling her role as assistant athletic director. Roof has helped coach the Panthers for six years.

In July, Pitt-Bradford named former YES Network correspondent Josh Horton as its new sports information director. Horton comes to Pitt-Bradford from Misericordia University, where he was the assistant sports information director.

Ryan K. Sowers is Pitt-Bradford’s new assistant director for annual giving. A 2015 graduate of Bowling Green State University, Sowers was an intern with Bowling Green’s corporate and foundation relations department. He raised more than $40,000 over two years while serving as chair of the university’s first undergraduate capital campaign.

On the academic side, Melissa Odogor is its new laboratory administrator, teaching general chemistry, general chemistry labs, science education courses and introductory math.

Full-time faculty members are Claudio DiMarco, assistant professor of mathematics and director of the mathematics learning center; Ovidia D. Frantescu, assistant professor of petroleum technology and director of the petroleum technology program; Joshua B. Grofman, assistant professor of music; Tracee L. Howell, assistant professor of English, director of the composition program and director of the writing center; Shelley A. Jack, visiting assistant professor of marketing; Shelly R. Klinek, assistant professor of health and physical education and director of the health and physical education program; Catherine A. Kula, visiting instructor and assistant director of the writing center; Sarah A. Lonzi, visiting instructor of exercise science; Duane E. Mitchell, assistant professor of business management; and Terry L. Stanley, visiting instructor of education.

New in the Department of Dental Hygiene are clinical instructor Elizabeth Lillian and clinical assistant professor Alicia Wicks.

New in the Department of Dental Medicine are assistant professors in oral biology T. Jayaraman and Elizabeth Leslie.

Assistant professors in oral biology Edward Adlesic has joined the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery as a clinical assistant professor.

New faculty in orthodontics are Harrison J. Lins, assistant professor, and Lei Wang, visiting professor.

Jeffrey Bono has been named a clinical instructor and Danielle M. Cooper and Katelyn Woods are new adjunct assistant professors in pediatric dentistry.

Sarmad Bakuri is a new clinical assistant professor and Satish Kumar is a new assistant professor in periodontics.

Prosthodontics welcomes Troy Eans and Mara Mangini, clinical assistant professors.

The Department of Restorative Dentistry Comprehensive Care has added clinical assistant professors Andrew Chang, Maurice Lewis and Gregory Severson.

Assistant professors Sarah Graffon and Keith Richmond, and clinical assistants Alison Koop, Janel Marcelino and Jacqueline Scott.

Disability Resources and Services

Leigh Colley was appointed director effective July 1. Colley had been the interim director since last October, and was coordinator of services prior to that. She earned her BA in psychology at the University of Western Ontario and a Master of Education in Counseling from Pitt.

Education

Gretchen Givens Genereux is the community partnership fellow-in-residence at the Center for Urban Education. She is taking a yearlong leave of absence from Duquesne University, where she is a faculty member in the Department of Educational Foundations and Leadership and director of the University Council for Educational Administration Center for Educational Leadership and Social Justice, housed at Duquesne.

Cara Bliss, visiting clinical instructor and coordinator of the MS program in applied developmental psychology, and Brian Galla, assistant professor in motivation, have joined the faculty in the Department of Psychology in Education. Bliss, a nationally certified school psychologist, has research interests in school-based mental health, social and emotional learning, implementation science, cross-cultural implementation of evidence-based programs and optimizing specially designed programming for students with emotional and behavioral disorders.

Galla, also a research scientist at the Learning and Research Development Center, holds a PhD in educational psychology from UCLA and degrees from Notre Dame and Syracuse. He most recently was a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Psychology at Penn.

Galla’s laboratory and classroom field research aims to identify noncognitive factors that support academic achievement and positive youth development. He focuses in particular on the study of self-control and has a strong interest in mindfulness-based approaches to enhancing self-control and their potential to improve both health and academic achievement.

Byeong-Young Cho and Elizabeth Hufnagel have joined the Department of Instructional and Learning. Cho, an assistant professor of literary and English language arts and a research scientist at the Learning Research and Development Center, most recently was an assistant professor at Iowa State. Cho previously taught language and literature in secondary schools in Seoul, South Korea. His PhD in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis on reading education is from the University of Maryland. Cho’s research interests focus on text comprehension and new literacies, reading engagement, reading assessment and disciplinary reading. Cho has expertise in reading comprehension and multiple-text comprehension. His research focuses on the ‘literacy’ of ‘comprehension’ and the role of online reading materials in reading strategies and conceptualization and assessing higher-order thinking in reading.
Hufnagel, an assistant professor of science education, earned her PhD in curricular and instruction, science education, at Penn State in 2014 and has been a visiting assistant professor at Pitt for the last year. She has high interest in teacher and a professional development instructor at the Urban Ecology Institute, both in Madison, Wisconsin. Hufnagel was an AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps member and works in the Madison area. Her current research centers on the intersection between emotions and learning about environmental science topics using discourse analysis.

Christopher Kline, a former faculty member in the School of Medicine’s Department of Psychiatry, has joined the Department of Health and Physical Activity as an assistant professor. With a PhD in exercise science from the University of North Carolina, Kline focuses his research on bridging the fields of exercise science and sleep medicine, specifically the bidirectional relationship between physical activity and sleep, the cardiometabolic health consequences of poor sleep and how sleep can enable or impair an important pathway through which physical activity improves health.

Tessa McCarthy is an assistant professor joining the Department of Instruction and Learning in the vision studies program from North Carolina Central University. She graduated from Vanderbilt with a PhD in special education with an emphasis on vision and visual impairment and has a decade’s experience as an instructor and consultant in orientation and mobility and visual impairments.

Jill Perry, executive director of the Carnegie Project on the Educational Doctorate, is joining Pitt’s education faculty as a non-tenure-stream associate professor. Perry’s PhD in international education policy is from the University of Maryland. Her research focuses on professional development in schools, organizational change in higher education, teacher professionalization and national/international education. She specializes in research and innovation advisory board of the International Higher Education Teaching and Learning Association.

Engineering
In the Department of Bioengineering, new faculty are Takashi Koizumi, assistant professor, and Fatima Syed-Picard, visiting research assistant professor. Koizumi received his PhD in biomedical engineering from the University of Michigan. His research focuses on understanding the biological tissue response to implantable technologies, especially in the cortex. Koizumi’s research employs in vivo multi-photon microscopy, functionally evoked electrophysiology, post-mortem multi-channel immunohistochemistry, impedance spectroscopy, device design and emerging biomaterials. He has invented several devices that led to two patents, three pending patents and a startup company. Syed-Picard is investigating mechanisms driving how different biologically inspired constructs and developing methods to manipulate tissue patterning to generate permissive environments for regenerative therapy. She received an NIH Pathway to Independence Award to use principles of development to design novel craniofacial regeneration. Her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in materials science and engineering are from North Carolina. She was an intramural research training fellow at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research before coming to Pitt, where she completed her PhD in bioengineering in 2013 as an NIH postdoctoral fellow. She was awarded the Individual National Research Service Award. Her graduate research focused on stem cell biology and scale-up-free approaches for craniofacial tissue engineering. Syed-Picard was a postdoctoral fellow in Projects in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Delaware and a postdoctoral fellow in orthodontic dental stem cells for regenerative surgery.

In the Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, new assistant professors are Susan Fullerton and Jason Shookhover. Fullerton earned her bachelor of science and PhD in chemical engineering from Penn State. Her research focuses on the development of materials for low-power electronics and next-generation batteries. She is a co-PI in the Center for Low Energy Systems Technology, which aims to develop low-power transistors and memory using 2-D materials that are only one atom or molecule thick. Fullerton uses polymer electrolytes to enable the exploration of new regimes of transport in the 2-D materials, with the goal of developing a transistor with an operating voltage lower than the traditional complementary metal oxide semiconductor. She also uses electrolytes for the development of a 2-D flash memory that would shrink memory to the ultimate limit of scaling. Fullerton and her co-PI, Alan Seabaugh, are working on using current control electron transport in graphene—a single layer of carbon atoms. Fullerton earned her bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from the University of Florida and his PhD in chemical engineering from the University of California-Santa Barbara. He comes to Pitt from the University of Tokyo, where he was a project assistant professor and computations group team leader and head of the systems biology research unit within the Kawasaki virology unit.

He previously was a research associate with the Japanese National Institute of Health’s ERATO Infection-Induced Host Responses Project, and visiting researcher at the Systems Biology Institute. He has published two patents in Japan.

In the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, John T. Sebastian is the McKearney director of the construction management program, and Leanne Gilbertson, Carla Ng and David Sanchez are new assistant professors. Sebastian is president of a management consulting firm, Sebastian Consulting Solutions, LLC. He has more than 35 years of experience in the construction industry, ranging across a wide array of market segments from hotels and resorts to education, retail, aviation, multi-family, courthouses, correctional facilities, energy, highways, bridges, industrial and health care. He has included design-build, design assist, general construction and construction management delivery methods for both public and private clients.

He earned his BS in civil engineering and MBA at Pitt. He earned a doctorate and a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Hamilton College and spent several years as a secondary school teacher before earning his PhD in environmental engineering at Yale. She completed postdoctoral research in Yale’s Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and the Center for Green Chemistry and Green Engineering.

Her doctoral research identified underlying material properties that govern carbon nanotube cytotoxicity serving as a foundation for the development of safer nanomaterial design guidelines. Gilbertson’s ongoing research aims to inform sustainable design of emerging materials and products to ensure that the realization of novel technologies offer improved functional performance and are inherently safer. Ng, who will join the department in spring, earned her PhD in chemical engineering at Northwestern, where she was part of a team that modeled the bioaccumulation of legacy contaminants in Great Lakes food webs heavily altered by chemical pollution, species invasions and ongoing climate change.

Her postdoctoral appointment at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich focused on investigating the hazardous properties of industrial chemicals and their transformation products. She later was promoted to senior scientist, leading her own research team in projects investigating pesticide fate in tropical environments and the unique bioaccumulation behavior of perfluorinated alkyl acids.

Ng’s research interests are organized around the intersection of chemistry and biology: the development of mechanistic models for chemical fate in organisms, with a focus on emerging contaminants; understanding the links between ecological structures and socioeconomic systems and their influence on chemical fate; and investigating how key drivers of chemical fate affect the resilience of ecosystems— including human populations— to multiple anthropogenic pressures.

Sánchez, who also is assistant director of education and outreach for the Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation, directs the design labs that focus on using sustainable design concepts to address energy and water grand challenges.

His current projects include renewable electrode materials for microbial fuel cells and the Electros-Fenton process; improving the energy efficiency of rectifying aquaponic systems; exploring the use of rapid prototyping for environmental sensing; and developing embeddable design innovation into engineering curriculums. He is a director for Pitt’s Design EXPO and a variety of the Mascaro center’s sustainability programs including the Manchester Academic Charter School “green week” and the teach the teacher program.

In the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, new assistant professor Samuel Dickerson received his BS in computer engineering and his master’s and PhD degrees in electrical engineering, all from Pitt. Dickerson’s research interests lie in the area of electronics, circuits and embedded systems and, in particular, technologies in those areas that have biomedical applications. He has expertise in the design and simulation of mixed-signal integrated circuits and systems that incorporate the use of both digital and analog electronics, as well as optics, microfluidics and devices that interface with the biological world. Dickerson was co-founder and president of Nanophotronics LLC, where he led the research and development of a novel dielectric-based lab-on-chip technology for rapidly detecting drug-resistant bacteria strains.

In the Department of Industrial Engineering, new assistant professors are Hoda Bidkhori and Bo Zeng. Bidkhori, who holds a PhD in applied mathematics from MIT, comes to Pitt from the operations research and statistics group at MIT’s Sloan School of Management, where she was a lecturer and postdoctoral associate. Her research focuses on decision-making under uncertainty and the development and implementation of robust and computationally tractable solutions for problems arising in manufacturing, logistics and business analytics.

Zeng, who comes from the University of South Florida, received his PhD from Purdue with a focus on operations research. His research interests include the development of solution methodologies for mixed integer programs (MIPs), stochastic and robust optimization, multivel MIPs and sequential games, as well as their applications in energy systems, infrastructure systems, health care and bioinformatics.

In the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, new
What's new

**Greensburg**

Pitt-Greensburg Staff Association president Matt Zidek and secretary Sherri Moors will continue in their offices for 2015-16. New members are vice president Bob Smith and treasurer Linda Soltis.

Zidek is the assistant director of admissions for transfer and continuing education. In 2009, Zidek joined the office of the Naval Civil Engineer Corps, Bernotas led facility organizations across the United States.

Soltis is a new faculty member in the School of Information Sciences, where she was a professor in the School of Information Sciences and the School of Computer Science and Mathematics at the University of Pittsburgh.

**Johnstown**

New faculty at Pitt-Johnstown include: Marissa Brainard, laboratory instructor in biology; John Byrne, assistant professor, business management; Laura Dietz, assistant professor, psychology; Christopher Galahay, instructor, electrical engineering; Elizabeth Harkins, assistant professor, special education; Shawna Ingalls, assistant professor, criminal justice administration and criminology; Mehedi Kafaeklian, assistant professor, civil engineering; Ben Lu, instructor, chemistry; Curtis Pierce, instructor, respiratory care and director of clinical education; and Michael Stoneham, associate professor of English and division head of Humanities.

**Pharmacy**

The school's new chair of the Department of Pharmacology is Howard B. Gutstein, who comes to Pitt from the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, where he was a professor in the Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Management, with a secondary appointment in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Gutstein's research interests involve developing novel analytical methods and technologies to identify proteomic biomarkers, signaling mechanisms and epigenetic changes relevant to addiction, opioid tolerance and cancer pain. Gutstein earned his MD at Johns Hopkins University.

**Pharmacy**

Faculty joining the School of Pharmacy include: — Christian A. Fernandez, a new assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. He earned his PhD in pharmacology at the University of Iowa. His research focuses on identifying patients who may be genetically predisposed to developing an immune response to a drug, on identifying therapeutic means of blocking immune responses, and on developing a laboratory test that can identify asparaginase-sensitive patients prior to their next course of treatment.

— Thao Nguyen, a new assistant professor of oncology in the Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics. She is a graduate of Philadelphia College of Pharmacy at...
University of the Sciences. She went on to complete her PGY1 residency at Lancaster General Hospital and subsequent PGY2 specializing in oncology at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. Her professional interests include global oncology research in personalized medicine, targeted immunotherapy and genetic variations in different ethnic groups and the subsequent responses to therapy.

Amanda Korenoski was appointed assistant professor and director of the Pittsburgh Poison Center at UPMC. She earned a doctorate in pharmacy and a master's in health administration, both from Pitt. She completed two post-graduate residency years at UPMC, focusing on pharmacy practice and health system pharmacy administration and recently completed a critical care residency at UPMC Presbyterian Hospital.

Terence F. McGuire was named scientific administrator and research assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacological Sciences. He holds a BS in chemistry and a PhD in biochemistry from Pitt. McGuire was a post-doctoral fellow in the laboratory of Suid Sehti, where he investigated signaling pathways in normal and cancer cells and was trained in rational drug design of anti-cancer agents. He then joined the School of Medicine faculty, initially in pharmacology and subsequently in pediatrics. McGuire is assisting associate dean for research innovation and professor Xiang-Qun (Sean) Xie in developing the Computational Chemical Genomics Center.

James Stevenson was named assistant professor of pharmacogenomics in the Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics. He completed a pharmacogenomics and psychopharmacology fellowship at the University of Illinois-Chicago. His primary research interest is in identifying genetic predictors of medication response, with a focus on psychotropic medications. He earned his PharmD from the University of Michigan and completed a pharmacy practice residency and master's degree in clinical and translational science at Illinois-Chicago.

Public and International Affairs

Paul Nelson, former director of GSPIA’s international development program, has been named the school's associate dean. Before joining the University in 1998 he worked as a policy analyst for several non-governmental organizations (NGOs). His publications focus on NGOs, transparency in international organizations, the World Bank, the Millennium Development Goals, and human rights and development. His current research, “Religious Institutions and Voices in International Development,” is funded by the Henry Luce Foundation.

Nelson earned his PhD in development studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Social Work

James Huguley has become an assistant professor at the Center on Race and Social Problems. Huguley came to the school in 2013 as a postdoctoral fellow. He earned his bachelor's degree in English-secondary education from Providence College, a master's in risk and prevention and a doctorate in human development and psychology from Harvard. His research focuses on school-based interventions that promote positive academic and mental health outcomes for African-American youth.

Social work alumnus Melvin Cherry Jr., formerly an academic specialist in the Dietrich school’s Academic Resource Center, has joined social work as field coordinator for more than 100 master's and bachelor's degree students.

Rosalyn Christ has joined the social work staff as a finance administrator. She will oversee the school's daily, short-term, long-term and research-related accounting and financial operations. She has been employed at Pitt since 2001, working with grants and other fiscal matters.

Penelope Miller has been named coordinator of the Center on Race and Social Problems. Miller is responsible for the center's events management, website/communications management, project management and program development. She has held adjunct faculty appointments at Pitt and Community College of Allegheny County.

W. Randy Rice, a former project director for ReCare Workforce Services, has been named director of administration. He will manage and provide leadership for the center's administrative, financial and operational functions. He holds a BA in psychology from the University of Charleston and an MS in health administration from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Titusville

Patricia McClain was named interim director of UPT's nursing program July 1, following the retirement of Louise Schwanenhauer. McClain has been an instructor of nursing at UPT since 2013. A registered nurse, she received a bachelor's degree in nursing from Clarion University and a master's degree from Carlow University.

Elizabeth Flickner will start the fall term as a full-time visiting instructor of nursing. She has taught as an adjunct at UPT since 2013. A registered nurse, Flickner received her bachelor's degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a master's in nursing from Robert Morris University.

Jeffrey Dories is a full-time visiting assistant professor of English at Pitt-Titusville. Dories received his bachelor's degree from Canisius College, a master's degree from Buffalo State and a PhD from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

University Center for International Studies

John Frechione, associate director of the Center for Latin American Studies, will retire Sept. 30. He joined CLAS more than 30 years ago as assistant director of communications, and was acting director in 1998. He is the second-longest serving associate director of a UCIS area-studies center.

University Library System

New ULS staff include Kelly Bradish, reference/public services librarian at Pitt-Greensburg; Zachary Brolt, reference/public services librarian at Pitt-Bradford; Matt Burton and Nora Mattern, postdoctoral researchers in Digital Scholarship Services; Amanda Miller, public services librarian at UPG; and Ryan Splenda, reference/public services librarian in the business library.
Clapp Hall, part of the Life Sciences Complex, opened in 1956. It houses a significant share of the Department of Biological Sciences’ research programs and the bulk of its instructional laboratories. All mechanical, electrical, plumbing, telecommunication systems, floor finishes, ceilings and light fixtures were replaced and a fire suppression system was installed. Existing instructional and research laboratories, laboratory support spaces, classrooms, conference and seminar rooms and offices were reconfigured and upgraded with new casework, fume hoods, furnishings, energy-efficient lighting and water-saving fixtures.

The building’s elevator and restrooms were modernized to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). Outside, doors and windows were replaced. The exterior is being cleaned and repainted and improvements to the parapets are planned, to allow for a new roof. Work is expected to continue through next summer. The University hopes to receive LEED Gold certification for the renovation.

The 13th floor of Chevron Science Center has been converted into a ballroom laboratory in support of the chemistry department’s expanding bio-organic research initiatives. Facilities for synthetic organic chemistry and chemical molecular biology research were designed in cooperation with faculty members Alex Deiters and Kabirul Islam and built to accommodate their research groups.

The renovation includes the replacement of obsolete heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, temperature controls and light fixtures. New energy-efficient fume hoods, flexible modern casework and lighting fixtures have been incorporated into the project. The exhaust and plumbing systems also were upgraded to meet current design standards and codes. The renovation addressed ADA requirements. Consistent with renovations on other floors in Chevron, the new design reclaimed unused circulation space as office work stations for graduate student researchers and postdoctoral collaborators. By incorporating the former central corridor into the ballroom laboratory design, the new lab space provides an extra 1,000 net square feet that will accommodate an increased number of graduate students and other research personnel.
The project includes a new environmental research lab, a biological instrumentation room, and an electron microscopy room that will be shared by other departmental research teams. The renovated elevator lobby will provide breakout space for the floor’s researchers.

Approximately 6,657 square feet of lab space on the first floor of Eberly Hall’s west wing was renovated to create a sensor testing laboratory for chemistry faculty member Alexander Star’s carbon nanomaterials research program. The project converted and enlarged existing lab space and provided new laboratory controls, flexible laboratory furnishings, fixtures and equipment, including fume hoods, gas cabinets, biosafety cabinets, a microscope alcove and a variety of spectrometers.

The renovation included replacement of room finishes, lighting, ventilation and air conditioning.

Star’s research group also occupies a wet lab in the east wing of Eberly Hall. The current project doubled the laboratory space for his research group, allowing expanded research on synthesis, characterization and chemical modification of carbon-based nanomaterials and other nanomaterials. The existing student office space was renovated to create a large conference room with modern media infrastructure.

A condensed matter research lab in Old Engineering Hall has been completed in time for Michael Hatridge’s arrival in the Department of Physics and Astronomy. The lab space provides accommodations for four dilution refrigerators with acoustically controlled pump room, a central control room/group room; a prefabricated soft wall clean room, a fume hood and storage space.

Specialty laboratory lighting was installed throughout the Hatridge labs, including non-magnetic LED fixtures in the dilution refrigerator areas.

Bradford

Pitt-Bradford’s nursing simulation lab was renovated to provide additional space and to facilitate more realistic and complex simulations. The lab will allow faculty to observe students from outside the “patient” room and to speak for the “patient.” Students and faculty will have more room to maneuver around the computer-programmable mannequins serving as patients. Recording technology will allow faculty members to make notes about students’ performances, then review the recordings with the students, or broadcast them to a larger group of students outside the lab.

Dental Medicine

A new patient entrance for the Center for Patients With Special Needs has been built off Sutherland Drive.

Engineering

The 11th and 12th floors of Benedum Hall are the most recent projects completed in the building’s ongoing restoration. The 12th floor is the new home of the Swanson School of Engineering’s Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, including the RFID Center for Excellence and the GSI Bar Code Testing Lab. The 11th floor includes laboratory space and faculty and graduate student offices. The only floor still under renovation is the 10th floor, which will house the Department of Industrial Engineering.

Facilities Management

Renevations of two auditoriums (one 570-seat and one 340-seat) are complete in Lawrence Hall, along with an updated lobby with fresh finishes and seating. In addition, there are three new classrooms on the second floor above the auditoriums, each with more than 50 seats, and upgraded technology.

The William Pitt Union porch area has a new foundation, floor slab, tile and railings and a restored canopy. A handicapped ramp provides access directly from the porch to the sidewalk and patio.

The Athletic Walk on the Cathedral of Learning lawn has been renovated to replace cracked stones and improve drainage. The lawn itself will be replaced next year with turf that will better withstand heavy traffic.

The circular stair between the Petersen Events Center’s event level and lawn is being replaced.

Salk Pavilion, the research tower and atrium for School of Dental Medicine and the School of Pharmacy, now is open. The new facility will have a formal ribbon cutting ceremony at 2 p.m. Sept. 15.

This expansion provides an additional 23,000 square feet of space for pharmacy and dental labs, offices, conference rooms and the RoPresso coffee bar. A commons room, which features the historic Virgil Cantini mural “Aerial Scape, skyscape,” ties Salk Hall’s fourth floor into the new building.

The plaza deck and planters at the Barco Law Building have been replaced by an activity terrace featuring walkways, seating areas, gathering spaces, lawns and plantings. The terrace, one of the major green roofs on campus, can accommodate gatherings of up to 250 people.

Renoations to the entrance of Craig Hall include new doors, a handicapped ramp, exterior soft lighting and ceiling.

Security gates being installed at the north end of Sutherland Drive will close the roadway to vehicular traffic. Only authorized vehicles will be permitted to enter the turnaround area adjacent to the special-needs dental clinic entrance.

UPMC is demolishing the remaining section of the former Children’s Hospital. The project is scheduled for completion in summer 2017.

Housing, Food Services and Panther Central

The Department of Housing, Food Services and Panther Central recently gained complete maintenance control of both Forbes Craig and Centre Plaza, formerly managed by the Department of Property Management.

Improvements in Lothrop Hall include air conditioning in the fitness center and a complete renovation of the laundry room, featuring new washers and dryers, a 42-inch television, carpeting and shelving.

Construction of a Starbucks in the Fifth Avenue storefront on the ground floor of Amos Hall is underway and expected to be completed by spring.

Above: Part of the Swanson School of Engineering’s RFID Center for Excellence, which was set up by the late Swanson faculty member Marlin Mickle.

Below: UPMC is demolishing the remaining section of the former Children’s Hospital.
What’s new

Forbes Hall, home to the First Year Student Engineering Living Learning Community, has an improved front entrance and second-floor common areas with ceramic tile and flooring, as well as wall decor featuring engineering alumni.

Panther Central, established in Litchfield Towers in 2001, received its first facelift last spring. The new office layout is more conducive to assisting customers.

Information Sciences
The Bits’n Bytes cafe has opened in the Information Sciences building lobby, offering a place to grab soup, sandwiches, coffee and other items.

Institutional Advancement
In May, the Office of Institutional Advancement’s annual giving and communications teams relocated to office space in Webster Hall, suites 108, 114 and 145.

Johnstown
The Pitt-Johnstown Book Center operation was overhauled through a partnership with Follett to maximize services to students and reduce costs. The store layout was updated and new merchandise was added. The new Book Center opened in June with an expanded inventory of book rentals, a best-price promise on textbooks and a full-service e-commerce site, www.bkstr.com/johnstownbookstore/home.

The UPJ Student Union dining hall got new furniture and carpeting over the summer. A retail dining venue, Freshens, was added to the Tuck Shop and Somerset Trust Company constructed a bank branch on the Student Union’s second floor. Somerset Trust also began providing ATM services to campus this summer, with machines installed in the Student Union and Living-Learning Center.

A yearlong interior renovation of Highland Townhouses was completed this summer. The project included updating all finishes, appliances, furniture, lighting and windows. Townhouse renovations continue. Updates to units in Timberline begin this month.

Bathrooms in Hawthorn Lodge were updated with new fixtures, paint and shower surrounds.

Substantial interior renovations for biology and pre-medical sciences are complete. The $1.9 million project involved the renovation of 5,720 square feet of space in Krebs Hall, creating five new teaching and research laboratories.

Medicine
In August 2015, the Republic of Kazakhstan’s Nazarbayev University welcomed the first class of students to Nazarbayev University School of Medicine.

Top: The commons room of Salk Pavilion features Virgil Cantini’s “Aerial Scape, Skyscape.”
Left: The Athletic Walk on the Cathedral of Learning lawn has been repaired.
Above: Work is expected to continue through next summer on the exterior of Clapp Hall.
PLACES

(NUSOM), with Massimo Pignatelli, a Pitt adjunct faculty member in pathology, as its founding dean.

Since 2013, Pitt faculty and staff have assisted NUSOM as it institutes a U.S.-style medical curriculum. Under the partnership, Pitt's medical faculty have helped to design and develop teaching facilities, plan organizational and administrative details and develop courses, syllabi and clinical experiences with the participation of physician-educators from hospitals in Kazakhstan.

Public Health

The seventh floor of the Graduate School of Public Health’s Crabtree Hall has been remodeled to accommodate the new Office of Health Survey Research (OHSR) call center, which is housed in the Evaluation Institute of Public Health in the Department of Behavioral Community Health Sciences. It has state-of-the-art survey systems, 15 interviewer stations, two supervisor stations and several administrative offices and employs approximately 30 staff, students and temporary employees, conducting telephone, web and mail surveys for local, state and federal health-related research projects seven days a week.

The OHSR is used to collect approximately 20,000 telephone interviews yearly on projects ranging from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System to the Allegheny County Health Survey and the Healthy Allegheny Teen Survey.

Titusville

Sinks, faucets, mirrors and expanded bathroom counters have been installed in five student bathrooms in Spruce Hall residence hall.

University Honors College

Honors student housing has moved to Pennsylvania Hall. The move, which affects approximately 210 sophomore and junior students, will facilitate UHC programming with the approximately 400 freshmen honors students living in nearby Sutherland West residence hall.

University Library System

G49 Hillman, formerly home to the department, is reopening as the Digital Scholarship Commons.

The space includes staff offices for Digital Scholarship Services, consultation spaces, flexible workshop and lecture space, a Data Fitness Center computer lab with scheduled expert hours, a Digital Stewardship Lab, and event and exhibition space. The Digital Scholarship Commons is open during regular library hours and includes 40 open-lounge seating spaces inside and 20 additional spaces just outside the room.

The microforms department has moved from G49 to G20 Hillman and Stark Media Services has moved from G20 to G22 Hillman.

A unisex bathroom will be installed on Hillman’s ground floor.

G7 Hillman has been converted to four reservable high-tech group study rooms and four existing group study rooms have been technology-enabled. Across the library, an additional 61 electrical outlets and six standalone mobile device-charging stations have been installed.

The business library is temporarily closed for renovations. Access to the collection and reserve material is available in Hillman Library.
Arts and Sciences

The Department of English has developed four graduate focal areas in the literature program. Grounded in literature’s long history with the history of writing and print and the cultural value of art, the graduate focal areas prepare MA and PhD students to examine literature’s life across media and language’s activity in the world. The focal areas are designed to be broad enough to accommodate a range of scholarly projects but specific enough to offer direct support for those projects through coursework, programming, and intellectual community.

They are:

— Children’s Literature and Childhood Studies: This curriculum offers training in historical and archival literary studies as well as support, and in beyond the English department, for interdisciplinary projects about children’s literature, media and print.

— Genealogies of Modernity, Medieval and Early Modern: Spanning the medieval and modern eras, this focal area supports inquiries into religion and secularism, ethics, gender and sexuality and media relations to having the “age of reform” (roughly 1300-1650).

— Media and Material Practices: This area examines materiality and visual representation, and focuses on social networks, race, class, and geopolitics, it investigates the relationships between aesthetics and power.

— Race, Poetics, Empire: This area examines imperial and racial politics and explores modern cultural forms. Developing innovative approaches to the study of literature, race, class, and culture, it aims to inform the study of both new and old media.

Athletics

Sports

A new Pitt Gameday LIVE app is available for Apple and Android devices. The app covers each of the Panthers’ 19 teams and provides news, live audio and video, calendars, live stats and more.

The Pitt Panthers are launching a new website this month, inspired to offer direct support for those projects through coursework, programming, and intellectual community.

Athletics has formed a Panther Fans Experience committee, which held its first meeting Aug. 31. The group was formed to provide insight and feedback to Athletics, focusing on the Pitt game day experience, customer service, ticketing, donor support and fan communications.

Among the 22 inaugural members of the committee are John Wilds, assistant vice chancellor for Community Relations; staff members Lauren DelSignore of the University Honors College, Chris Gates of the Center for Instructional Design and Distance Education, Lisa Pilewski of the Office of Clinical Research, Health Sciences, and Pitt students Casey Darin and Jai-W. Hayes-Jackson.

According to athletics director Scott Barnes, more than 800 individuals applied to serve on the committee, which will convene quarterly. Members serve a two-year term. The full committee roster is posted at www.pittsburghpanthers.com/or/fanscommittee.html.

Bradford

UPB partnered with Presto Sports to launch a new online website in April. Athletics.pittsburghpanthers.org features large photos, integrated statistics and an easy-to-use calendar.

Two scholarships have been established to honor the memory of Bernard G. Meyer, who taught criminal justice at Pitt-Bradford from 1996 until shortly before his death in 2014. The Bernard G. Meyer Memorial Scholarship, endowed by an anonymous UPB faculty member, will be awarded annually to first-generation Pitt-Bradford student from Meyer’s native Ell County. To donate to the fund, visit www.giveliptopinhonor.

In addition, the Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Justice Educators, of which Meyer was a past president, will award its first annual Bernie Meyer Student Scholarship Award.

Business

The undergraduate College of Business Administration (CBA) is celebrating the 20th anniversary of its first class of admitted students. From an initial class of 55 students, the CBA program has grown to an enrollment of more than 2,100 students, making it the third-largest school by enrollment at the University.

The yearly celebration aims to encourage and commit our students to the association with the school. Planned events include associate dean roundtables and the 20 for 20 webinar series. Visit www.cba.pitt.edu/20 for more information.

CBA is now offering a certificate in innovation and entrepreneurship. Students will learn the fundamentals of innovation, creative thinking, product development and commercialization.

The Katz Graduate School of Business will offer three new master’s degree programs this fall: the MS in customer insights; the MS in finance; and the MS in supply chain management. The nine-month programs are designed to provide students from all academic backgrounds and all experience levels with transferable skills in in-demand business fields.

Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education

CIDEDE continues to work with Course- ers to offer Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). The five courses developed in 2013 have had a total enrollment of over 340,000 students worldwide. Two new MOOCs have been developed this past year: Epidemics, Pandemics and Outbreaks, led by faculty from the School of Law; the Graduate School of Public Health and the School of Medicine, and Disability Awareness and Support, led by faculty from the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences.

The University of Pittsburgh Testing Center earned recognition as a certified test center through the National College Testing Association. Fewer than 100 testing centers around the country have received this distinction. Additionally, the center is now a Castle Worldwide Testing Center, offering professional certification and licensure examinations to Pitt students and residents of the tri-state area.

CIDEDE and Computing Services and Systems Development upgraded Blackboard in May to provide additional features, including student preview, course copy, achievements and integrations with Turnitin and Lynda.com.

Panopto has replaced the Kaltura video hosting and streaming service, which will be phased out by Nov. 1. Panopto does everything Kaltura does and more, but with a more reasonable fee structure. Educational Technology Services will help instructors migrate any Kaltura content they wish to continue using.

Chancellor’s Office

A new Office of the Chancellor web page, www.chancellor.pitt.edu, was launched in August. And now you can follow Chancellor Patrick Gallagher on Twitter @PittChancellor.

Community and Governmental Relations

A grant from the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board has made possible an additional “Be A Good Neighbor” block party in Central Oakland. Community Relations organizes the neighborhood block parties to provide students and long-term residents with an opportunity to get to know each other and build relationships. Faculty and staff are invited to attend any or all of the block parties.

The four events will be held 5:30-7:30 p.m.:

— Sept. 8, North Oakland, at 234 North Dithridge Street, between Bayard and Centre avenues.

— Sept. 9, OaklandSouth and South Oakland, at Niagara Parklet, 354 Craft Ave.

— Sept. 22, serving the Oakland Square, Davidson and Parkview sections of Central Oakland, at the Oakland Square Parklet, 1 Oakland Square.

— Sept. 30, serving the Central Oakland streets nearer Forbes Avenue, at Oakland Career Center, 294 Sampel Street.

Computing Services and Systems Development

CSSD has begun to provide unlimited Box storage space for all 40,000 faculty, staff and students who use the secure cloud storage.

A beta version of a new My Pitt, optimized for display on mobile devices, will be made available later this fall for review and feedback. The new My Pitt will allow users to easily find and access University services through a powerful search and filter capability and provide ratings and reviews directly to service owners.

A new PeopleSoft Mobile allows faculty and staff to view class rosters, enter grades and view advisories from a smartphone or tablet. Weekly schedules will display in a streamlined, easier-to-use format.
read design. Students will be able to use the new PeopleSoft Mobile to search for courses, and add drop classes, check class schedules, access their planner and view grades. PeopleSoft Mobile is available in the Pitt App Store.

The new Pitt App store includes apps identified as useful to the Pitt experience, such as PeopleSoft Mobile, Box, Pitt LiveWire Gaming, OverDrive and more. Schools can use the Pitt App Store to deliver school-specific apps.

All five Pitt campuses have new 10 Gbps connectivity, providing higher bandwidth speed for research and education. The new connections also provide redundancy. Connectivity to the Internet for students, staff and faculty has been increased 127 percent.

Microsoft SharePoint Online now is available to Pitt faculty, staff and students at no cost. This cloud-based service is best known as a collaborative online space for sharing documents and other information. But SharePoint Online has a broad range of tools. Because it’s part of the Office 365 suite, users can create and edit Office products like Word, Excel, PowerPoint and more in the cloud.

Dental Medicine

The school is the recipient of a $1.57 million Title VII grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which provides support to pediatric dental residences. The funding will expand the current residency programs to include two new program tracks specializing in the care of patients in underserved rural settings and special needs populations in underserved regions of western Pennsylvania, specifically in northern Appalachia. It is the second HRSA grant received by the school. The grants will be used to expand the residency program, which currently has a two-year track and recently added a three-year program.

CEREC is a high tech digital imaging computer, the CEREC Omnicam and comprehensive CEREC MCXI milling machine, for use in the Department of Prosthodontics.

The Omnicam is an intraoral optical device that captures a continuous digital video impression scan at 18 images per second. It is inserted directly into the patient’s mouth without any need for specific preparation. Proprietary software translates the scans into precise, virtual, 3-D models in natural color that are used to propose customized ceramic restorations for the patient.

The milling machine fabricates all-ceramic restorations using a digital feed from the Omnicam station. In roughly 12 minutes, the milling machine can carve a simple crown restoration from a block of solid porcelain. In addition to crowns, inlays and onlays, the MCXI is able to mill fixed bridges, veneers, implant abutments and implant crowns. Residents and students will be trained to use the equipment, which makes possible the use of CEREC for the patient.

Dental medicine has established a new clinical department, the Department of Endodontics, previously part of the Department of Restorative and Comprehensive Care. Herb Ray Jr. is the new department chair.

Education

The Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate (CPED) moved its headquarters to Pitt effective Sept. 1. CPED executive director Jill A. Perry has been appointed as a non-tenure-track faculty member in the School of Education, where she will continue her leadership duties. CPED is a consortium of over 80 colleges and schools of education in the U.S., Canada and New Zealand that have committed resources to work together to undertake a critical examination of the doctorate in education (Ed.D.) through dialogue, experimentation, critical feedback and evaluation.

The Health and Physical Activity Department is instituting “Be Pitt Ambassadors” to focus on relationships and interactions to Pitt divisions, departments and schools.

The Center for Urban Education’s biannual lecture series event is set for 4:30 p.m. Oct. 22 at the University Club. This year’s theme of the Counseling and Educational Psychology in the School of Education at Indiana University—Bloomington, will be “You Can’t Teach What You Don’t Look At: Acknowledging Race in Addressing Disproportionality.” A series of national reports has highlighted inequities in school discipline. The presentation will use the recent work of the Discipline-Disparities Research-to-Practice Collaborative to outline the current status of research and the need to abandon “race-neutral” policies and challenge inequity in school discipline.

Engineering

The Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering dedicated a new 10-year-old computer in honor of the 25-year history of the department.

The RFID Center of Excellence’s Industry Influence (G13) Center will be dedicated to the memory of Martin Mickle, one of its founding organizers and a passionate advocate for IoT.

The department’s professor of advanced research in electrical engineering, died April in 2016. The school’s Week of Swanson School of Engineering’s renovated RFID center and the G13—Hendrickson Center—Test Lab will follow. Registration is free to the first 75 persons who register by email to esa@pitt.edu or cmu7@pitt.edu.

The 2013 electric power industry conference is slated for Nov. 16 and Nov. 17 at the University Club. This year’s theme is “Reimagining Our Energy Future: Building Up Our 10 Years of Public/Private Collaborations.” A day will be held Sept. 22, 1-5 p.m. Tours of the Swanson School of Engineering’s renovated RFID center and the G13—Hendrickson Center—Test Lab will follow. Registration is free to Pitt faculty, students and staff at engineering.pitt.edu/eipc.

The Coulter Translational Research Program (CTR) of CBET, consists of 14 departments, and 20 centers, including the School of Engineering, and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and the Department of Biomedical Engineering, in joint funds three projects at $100,000 each.

—ContegoDerm, a Topical Treatment for Radiation Dermatitis, led by Peter Wipf and Louis Falo Jr.

—Ligamend, a Novel Device for Regeneration of Torn ACL, led by Savio Woo and Patrick McMahon, with Katie Farrar, and

—A New Cylindrical, Long-Term Non-Invasive Glaucoma Treatment, led by Morgan Fedorchak and Ian Conner.

The 11th theme of this year’s Coulter Translational Research activity will be focused on the development of biopolymers for drug delivery and targeted release. The project will be directed by Dr. Martin J. Panis, director of the Coulter Translational Research Program, and will be led by Professor Michael G. Prior, director of the School of Engineering’s Department of Biomedical Engineering.

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writing with the knowledge, skills and tools needed to create their own personal brand, market themselves and find employment while they are working toward their eventual full-time career in the arts.

The program helps students to develop business skills to complement their artistic talent and reinforces the campus commitment to provide specific support for student career aspirations as part of Pitt-Greensburg’s concept of a 21st-century liberal arts education.

Students take courses in financial accounting, project management, advertising strategy and practice and business writing, and pursue a communication internship or theatre practicum.

A new course, Arts Entrepreneurship, focuses on personal branding as a means for Arts-E students to bring their skills to bear on planning for their own careers. It also provides necessary background on fundraising in the arts.

A new digital studies certificate program will give students experience in digital research methods and digital presentations and provide them a digital portfolio of projects to share with potential employers and graduate programs.

Students will develop their skills in learning information literacy and critically evaluating digital resources; investigating research questions using digital resources and methods; visualizing complex information in digital formats; and designing and methods; visualizing complex information in digital formats; and designing and presenting accessible digital resources.

Core courses in the program ensure that students gain experience with digital research methods and effective presentation in digital media forms. Students will design and produce websites, sound essays, short films, digital narratives, blogs, online editions and other multi-tiered forms. The program primarily serves students who major in disciplines within the humanities and social sciences.

Serving on the initial steering committee for the certificate are Sayre Greenfield, Humanities Division chair; Elisa Beshore-Bondar and Lorti Jäkel of English, and John Prellwitz of communication. Greenfield also will be the certificate coordinator.

A kickoff event in Village Hall is set for Sept. 16 to launch Greensburg Experience More, a structured, co-curricular program designed to complement students’ classroom learning. Participating students will engage in structured professional and personal skill development across five core components: leadership development; service; career development; cultural awareness and appreciation; and Pitt-Greensburg pride and traditions.

Expanded wireless network coverage and upgrades to fiber-optic networking components, copper network cables in buildings and networking hardware are all part of UPG’s network re-imagination project. This summer, the campus network demarcation point was relocated from McKenna Hall to Cassell Hall.

Pitt-Greensburg was included in Money Magazine’s list of colleges and universities that “turn out graduates with the most manageable debt.” UPG was among 604 colleges to make the cut for the 2014-15 academic year.

UPG’s regular full-time staff now can participate in a flextime schedule with the approval of their supervisors. Excluded from the policy are union personnel, police officers and library personnel. The pilot program will be reviewed periodically to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the campus. The policy is expected to help employees balance work and family, and provide departments with an opportunity for additional customer service by offering longer hours of operation.

The Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) awarded Pitt-Greensburg’s SOPA Hoops Saturday its Gold Award for Community Service in the category of one-time event for the 2014-15 academic year. The event, which features an exhibition game for Special Olympics athletes during the halftime of a men’s and women’s basketball doubleheader, raises money for the local chapter of Special Olympics and brings together more than 80 volunteers and student-athletes.

Erin Eaton, head women’s basketball coach, and Tony Bertich, athletic director, orchestrated the event that also is supported by the UPG student athletic advisory committee and the Student Pennsylvania State Education Association members.

AMCC recognized the UPG women’s tennis team with a 2014-15 Peak Performer Award. Pitt-Greensburg was one of nine schools to receive the honor, which is based on combined academic performance and athletic accomplishment. The Boebeats posted a 3.57 combined GPA, placing them second among all the teams receiving the award. They also posted a 6-2 conference record, advancing as far as the AMCC championship semifinals.

Health Sciences Library System

A glass mosaic pillar depicting the Cathedral of Learning now graces the Falk Library entryway in Seif Hall. Local artist Davina Davis created the four-sided illuminated pillar in response to a call for glass artists for Phipps Conservatory’s 2013 summer flower show. The pillar can be viewed during regular library hours.

On display through Oct. 10, in the Health Sciences Library System’s Falk Library is the National Library of Medicine’s exhibit, “From DNA to Beer: Harnessing Nature in Medicine and Industry.” The traveling exhibit highlights medical discoveries and developments related to DNA and microorganisms and is designed to promote understanding of the relationship among microbes, technology and science and medicine.

In conjunction with the exhibit, Adam Davis of Duquesne University’s history department and Community College of Allegheny County’s biology department will lecture Sept. 17 on “Background to the Discovery of DNA” and Jamie Johnston of Pitt’s Department of Medicine will speak Oct. 8 on “Erythropoietin: A Case History — The Promise and Perils of Harnessing Nature.” The talks take place at 6 p.m. in 1105 Seif Hall. Details are posted at www.hsls.pitt.edu/dna-to-beer.

Housing, Food Services and Panther Central

The department is growing. Three new positions — communications and brand development coordinator; assistant manager of maintenance and operations; and assistant housekeeping director — were created recently to better serve students and the Pitt community.

Housing has placed single-stream recycling receptacles in all bedrooms and apartment-style kitchens in campus residence halls and is more clearly labeling landfill/recycling rooms in each building to encourage recycling among students who live on campus.

Human Resources

Pitt has automated the student recruiting process and launched a central place for students to look for a student employment position as a collaborative effort among Student Affairs, Human Resources, Financial Aid, Payroll and Financial Information Systems. Through the new system Pitt has received over 14,000 online applications and hired more than 1,300 students.

Johnstown

Pitt-Johnstown has received approval to launch an engineering program that would culminate in the Bachelor of Science in Engineering (BSE). In addition to transitioning current engineering technology programs to engineering programs, UPJ will launch a program in chemical engineering in fall 2016.

The core curriculum of the new BSE program at Pitt-Johnstown virtually is identical to the Swanson School of Engineering curriculum on the Pittsburgh campus and will help meet the demand for engineering education by providing more engineering slots at UPJ.

Pitt-Johnstown hosted a Makers Premier and PittTch Fest in partnership with Showcase for Commerce to promote the maker movement and entrepreneurship in rural Pennsylvania.

Makers Premier featured 22 booths comprised of artisans, students and crafters who made use of recycled, reclaimed and
re purposed items. Additionally, area high school students presented their projects on robotics and DIY. PITT-TECH Fest was a “Shark Tank”-style competition for entrepreneurs and creators who wanted to modify, reuse and refashion busi- ness. Seventeen teams pitched to a lineup of entrepreneurs, investors and business leaders who donated more than $11,000 in investment capital and startup consulting services.

Pitt-Johnstown will introduce a third special donor society on Sept. 24. The inaugural induction ceremony and reception of the Bridge to the Future Society will recognize individuals with lifetime giving to Pitt-Johnstown of $1,000-$9,999.

An inaugural dinner and induction ceremony of the 1927 Cornerstone Society took place in May, recognizing 57 individu- als and institutions with lifetime giving to Pitt-Johnstown of at least $50,000.

Among them, four donors with lifetime giving totaling $1 million or more received the Gold Medal Award. Recipients were Frank J. and Sylvia T. Pasquerilla (honored posthumously), Mark E. Pasquerilla, the Robert M. Smith family and Somerset Trust Company.

PITT's second special donor society was introduced on July 17. The inaugural dinner and induction ceremony of the Pillars of Excellence Society recognized 147 indi- viduals and institutions with lifetime giving to Pitt-Johnstown of $10,000-$49,999.

UPY launched the inaugural Robert M. Smith Academy with a RealWorld college readiness program for local high school students.

The cohort of top-performing rising high school seniors participated in a free three-day residential college experience at UPY this summer. On campus, students learned about the college application pro- cess and financial aid opportunities, partici- pated in a community service project and team-building activities, built leadership and communication skills, focused on values and ethics, and explored making informed career opportunities and created goals and personal action plans for their futures. As the first year concludes, students who cannot afford conventional lawyers’ hourly rates.

The Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program (BPP) will foster and expand the top four-year universities in the region for the institution’s impact on mid-career earnings of graduates. The report indicated that UPY graduates enjoy average mid-career earnings 17.6 percent higher than expected, given a student’s characteristics and the type of institution.

The report attributes UPY’s high ranking to its focus on natural sciences, engineering technology, business and nursing (STEM fields); UPY graduates’ 95.8 percent loan repayment rate; and what the report refers to as non-measurable “X-factors” that contribute to student success.

For the 11th consecutive year, The Princeton Review has named Pitt-John-stown “Best College in the Northeast.”

Law
The school has established an Energy Law and Policy Institute in partnership with the University’s Center for Energy, the Swanson School of Engineering, the Katz Graduate School of Business, the Gradu- ate School of Public Health, the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs

The Pitt Legal Services Incubator is set to open in January. Each year the pro- gram will provide office space, technology support and training and mentoring pro- grams to six-eight recent Pitt law graduates who will be developing solo or small-firm practices to provide legal services to under- served communities.

Law professor Thomas Ross will be the program’s inaugural faculty director.

At full occupancy, this two-year program will provide a professional home for 12-16 new lawyers. The incubator attorneys will benefit from one-on-one mentoring rela- tionships with experienced practitioners.

The program also will provide training in the relevant areas of law and in the busi- ness aspects of developing and growing a successful solo or small firm legal practice.

The program will use an American Bar Association grant to fund the hiring of an Innovation Fellow, who, in partnership with the law school’s Innovation Practice Institute, will identify and develop ways to deliver services to clients whose incomes are above the cutoff for free legal assist- ance from legal-services agencies but who cannot afford conventional lawyers’ hourly rates.

Learning Research and Development Center
LRC DC is one of more than 200 organi- zations in Remake Learning, a network of organizations working together to inspire lifelong learning. The Sprout Fund pre- miered the first Remake Learning Playbook, a field guide for building and sustaining similar collaborative networks, based on the organizations’ work.

Medicine
The school has purchased a half-dozen new ultrasound machines to provide students the opportunity to participate in a given activity to explore concurrent with their anatomy and physical examination courses. Second-year students can take a course alongside many of their organ-system courses. Third- and fourth-year students can use an ultrasound device to augment a clinical rotation.

The school’s curriculum now will include exposure to the concept of social and population medicine. This field of study focuses on understanding how social and economic conditions impact health, disease and the practice of medicine and how the role of physicians in which this under- standing can lead to a healthier society.

The existing second-year population health course is being expanded significantly to cover these areas.

The school’s PhD program in inte- grative molecular biology has been updated to reflect the rising importance of integrative systems biology, in which understanding the complex pathways and the dynam- ics of cellular and organismal function. ISB students operate at the interface between basic benchtop biology, computational analysis of big data sets and the emergence of 21st-century clinical translational. One of the highlights of the revamped program is that students can graduate with a PhD in as few as four years.

In a traditional integrative studies graduate program, students begin by reviewing basic biology and completing other required courses. For as much as the entire first year, students take part in extended laboratory rotations, exposing them to multiple disciplines and potential mentors before deciding on a research project. Now, first-year ISB students take Approaches in Systems Biology, a core course that teaches students how to attack complex problems using integrated, multi- disciplinary approaches. Early in that first year, students also begin six-week rotations through research labs, which translates to a more rapid progression to their disserta- tion research and, ultimately, to the PhD.

The ISB curriculum allows students to tailor their education by choosing from dozens of electives in courses that reflect the full range of research at the School of Medicine. Elective courses include Developmental Neurobiology, Viral Patho- genesis, Molecular Pharmacology and Historical Perspectives in Neuroscience.

On Oct. 8, the University of Pittsburgh Brain Institute (UPBI) will host its inaugu- ral Brain Day (www.braininstitute.pitt. edu/brain-day-2015), a scientific sympo- sium held in conjunction with Pitt’s annual celebration of science and technology; Science 2015 — Unleashed!

Brain Day aims to educate the neurosci- ence community about UPBI’s neurosci- ence research teams, provide an oppor- tunity to meet members of the institute and explore research partnerships that will lead to the development of new ways to treat brain diseases and disorders. Activities will begin at Alumni Hall with a Science 2015 session on neuroscience, followed by the Dickson Prize in Medicine Lecture by Karl Deisseroth of Stanford. The afternoon program includes an advocacy luncheon with hosted discussions by neuroscience and disease-specific experts, opportunities to explore partnerships and tours of Pitt laboratories and facilities.

Nursing
The School of Nursing is partnering with GetWellNetwork’s O’Neil Center to create a nurse scholars fellowship pro- gram. It will provide nursing PhD students with an opportunity to collaborate with O’Neil Center leaders, clinical experts and researchers in the field of patient-family engagement. Up to two doctoral candidates will be selected annually to participate in this one-year fellowship, which will include mentoring by Pitt nursing faculty and O’Neil Center researchers, as well as completion of a scholarly project in a real- world setting. The fellowship will advance knowledge and understanding of the relation- ships between patient engagement and outcomes, translating patient engagement theory into health care management and the development and impact of patient- facing technology. Pitt mentors for the program are faculty members Annette De Vito Dabbis and Heidi Donovan.

Pitt Alumni Association
The Pitt Alumni Association hosted a six-city, three-week tour, “Pitt on the Prowl” (www.alumni.pitt.edu/news- events/photo-galleries), in Washington, D.C.; Philadelphia; New York; Ft. Lauderdale; Atlanta; and Pittsburgh to introduce new head football coach Pat Narduzzi to alumni and fans. More than 1,000 alumni participated in the events and had an opportunity to meet Narduzzi and have their photo taken with him.

Provost’s Office
Pitt Year of the Humanities website is live at www.humanities.pitt.edu. A kick- off celebration is set for 4 p.m. Sept. 22 in the O’Hara Student Center ballroom.

Social Work

Because systems of care are changing rapidly and social workers are playing an essential and increasingly valued role on interdisciplinary health care teams, the School of Social Work has launched two fellowships: The Ida Mudal Cannon Fellowships in Integrative Healthcare and the Juanita C. Evans fellowship program.

The federally funded Cannon fellowship will support 31 students with $10,000 stipends during academic year 2015-16 to complete second-year field placements in approved integrated health care settings. The Evans fellowship, for joint degree public health/social work students who have a community, organization and social action concentration in social work, is part of a Health Resources and Services Administration-funded leadership in public health social work education program. Ten Evans fellows will be awarded $10,000 stipends during their concentration field placement year.

In response to Pennsylvania’s Act 31, which requires training in recognizing and reporting child abuse for all professionals in the state who regularly come in contact with children, the school’s Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center has developed a three-hour training program, “Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse: Mandated and Permissive Reporting in Pennsylvania.” To be found at www.reportsabusepa.pitt.edu.

The Center for Russian and East European Studies (REUES) received two new U.S. Department of Defense-funded Project GO grants for 2015-16, totaling nearly $500,000. These grants will continue intensive summer Russian course offerings for nationally recruited ROTC students at the 1st-3rd year levels while adding several program components: academic year online language support courses for ROTC students who completed a summer program, plus a 4th-year study-abroad course in summer 2016 featuring homestays and internship or volunteer placements with local organizations in Nara, Estonia.

REUES’s National Endowment for the Humanities-funded “Bridging Cultures at Community Colleges” project with the Community College of Beaver County (CCBC) will enter its second phase in 2015-16. The 15 CCBC faculty participants will attend a monthly speaker series featuring videoconferences with faculty from REUES’s partner universities in Eastern Europe, as well as U.S. embassy-organized discussions with groups of citizens from countries such as Serbia and Bosnia. The CCBC faculty then will develop original course modules focusing on East European cultures.

New deadlines for Study Abroad are Sept. 25 for spring semester programs; Nov. 6 for spring break programs; and Jan. 15 for summer and fall 2016 semester programs.

Department of Anthropology faculty members Andrew Strathern and Pamela J. Stewart will lead Pitt in the Pacific, a study-abroad program being offered for the first time next spring. Partnering with the University of Otago, the program will leverage Strathern and Stewart’s expertise on the Pacific region while students study topics including Pacific history and culture, peace and conflict; and medicine, ritual and environmental change in New Zealand, Samoa and the Cook Islands.

Introduction to Study Abroad is a new one-credit, spring-semester course that helps students maximize their study abroad experience. Students will gain pre-departure knowledge of cultural values and diversity, the role of the individual in the global community, and how studying abroad can further academic progress and personal development.

Sarah Wagner, director of the Vira I. Heinz program for women in global leadership, will teach the course.

University Honors College

The first two of six Beckman Scholars began their research this summer under a three-year Beckman Scholars Program Award granted to the University in February by the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation. The program, overseen by UHC, is designed to help prepare undergraduate students for graduate-level study and careers in the life sciences.

Beckman scholars conduct independent research projects under the guidance of one of 15 approved faculty mentors from the Department of Bioengineering in the Swanson School of Engineering or from the biological sciences, chemistry or neuroscience departments in the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences.

University Library System

ULS and the Health Sciences Library System are managing a University-wide initiative to encourage researchers to sign up for ORCID ID.

An ORCID iD number is a unique and persistent identifier that can help make a researcher’s scholarship easier to find and attribute. For details visit ocreid.pitt.edu.

A trio of sculptures, collectively titled “Friends,” has been installed on the first floor of Hillman Library. The works, from New York-based artist Jeffrey Maron, were a gift to the library from the Hillman Foundation and family.

Twenty-five new block-power charger portable batteries are available for check-out at Hillman Library.

ULS will offer workshops on the following topics:

- Introduction to Tableau: A Data Visualization Tool for Non-CS Researchers and Students.
- Introduction to OpenRefine.
- Bibliometrics, altmetrics and social networks to support your research career development.
- The Open Movement in Higher Education.
- Replication and reproducibility.
- Spatial Analysis.
- Personal Digital Archiving: A Primer.
- Using EndNote and Mendeley to build bibliographies.
- Academic Integrity @ Pitt Workshops Series for International Graduate Students.

For details, visit www.library.pitt.edu/classes-workshops.

ULS is planning separate events at Hillman Library for faculty, graduate students and undergraduates to discuss the library system’s many tools and services in support of teaching, learning and research, and to learn what the University community needs and wants from Pitt’s libraries.

The “Hillman AltFest: Party on the Plaza” for undergraduates is set for 11 a.m.-3 p.m. today, Sept. 3, on the plaza.

“Graduate Students Pints & Pies” is set for 4-7 p.m. Sept. 3 and 15 and 29 Hillman.

For faculty, “Join the Library for Wine, Cheese and Conversation” is set for 4:30-7 p.m. Sept. 29 in the Thornburgh Room on the library’s first floor (RSVP to jerin@pitt.edu.)

ULS has bibliometrics tools and services that help researchers manage their research personas, identify sources of citations, interpret metrics and tell the story of the impact of their research. Contact Berenika Webster, head of the ULS Strategic Assessment unit, at bwester@pitt.edu.

ULS has created a Digital Scholarship Commons space in G49 Hillman Library. The commons houses ULS’s digital scholarship service department, which offers support, technology and expertise around research data management; the use of digital tools and methods for scholarship; the process of acquiring, cleaning, shaping and describing data; digitization and the creation and use of digital objects; geographic information systems; digital and web-based scholarly communication and digital stewardship—the curation and preservation of digital content.

ULS has purchased additional self-service scanners for each floor of Hillman Library and one each for the engineering and business libraries.