Faculty unionization effort underway

After nearly two decades, a new attempt to unionize Pitt faculty is underway.

English faculty member Robin Clarke revealed last week that a Pitt faculty unionizing committee is working in conjunction with the University Senate and the Pitt faculty organizing committee to organize full- and part-time faculty on all Pitt campuses.

Since the start of the full term, organizers have spoken with several hundred Pitt faculty members to gauge their needs and hear their concerns, said United Steelworkers Academic Workers Association organizer Karen Carey. “We’re trying to figure out what works for them and what works for them,” she said. “Faculty understand best how the University works and how it should work.”

The most recent attempt to unionize Pitt faculty was suspended in 1996 before the United Faculty organizers failed to collect union authorization cards from a majority of Pitt faculty. (See April 25, 1996, University Times.) Other faculty unionization efforts here failed in 1991 and 1976.

Carey said the current effort remains exploratory in nature with the goal of obtaining union authorization cards that would precede a petition to the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board (PLRB) for an election.

“We’re not ready to have people sign cards. This campaign will take as long as it needs,” he said. While PLRB would require a majority of the faculty to file authorization cards, Carey said the committee with unanimity without support from “an overwhelming majority.” Pitt employs 5,271 full-time faculty members, according to the 2015 Pitt Fact Book.

Service, Pitt’s vice chancellor for communications, had no comment on the organizing activities. “The administration has not been approached by anybody in any official capacity about faculty unionization,” he told the University Times.

Organizers have not publicly sought support from the University Senate, which advises the administration on matters of University-wide concern.

Clarke’s announcement, origi-

nally intended to coincide with the October 26-30 Campus Equity Week, came instead on Oct. 22 as Clarke accepted one of the University’s 2015 Iris Marion Young Awards for Political Engagement.

“He knew well be in a room with a lot of activists and people who’d be especially interested in faculty unionization,” she said. Clark explained. “It seemed right to share that piece of it that all

Emeritus status extended to non-tenure-stream faculty

E chosing the Faculty Assembly’s Oct. 6 action (see Oct. 15 University Times, Senate Council on Oct. 14 approved a plan that extends the same non-tenure-stream faculty emeritus status to eligible for emeritus status upon retirement.

“Because of the long term service of faculty outside the tenure stream, in many ways much more than the University, it is proposed that, upon recommendation of the academic unit and approval by the provost, professors, associate professors or faculty with senior titles within the non-tenure-stream ranks who retire be granted emeritus/emerita status, provided that they have honorable service for 15 years or more,” Zullo said.

The proposal, which originated with Provost Patricia E. Beeson and was approved in September by the Council of Deans, is designed to create a new section on emeritus/emerita status. Currently, the honor is granted to tenured faculty, but limited to “exceptional cases” for non-tenure-stream faculty.

University Senate Vice President Irene Friesez said the proposal would return to Faculty Assembly for approval due to some minor changes in the original wording. — Kimberly B. Barlow

University converts to single-stream recycling

In an effort to improve waste diversion by 30 percent over the next five years, the University is instituting single-stream recycling across all campuses.

That means there’s no need to separate non-hazardous recyclable waste for glass, aluminum, paper and cardboard — they now can be placed in any recycling container, according to the University’s communications manager.

“Our hope is that the simplification process will make the decision to recycle automatic among the campus community,” said Laura Zullo, Facilities Management’s senior manager of energy initiatives.

The single-stream recycling effort is part of a new five-year agreement with its longtime contractor Republic Services, the University’s contracted recyclables will be hauled to a Neville Island sorting facility, said Zullo.

The University has been considering single-stream recycling for some time, and took advantage of the timing of a new contract to implement the changes, she said.

The goal of a 7 percent improvement in waste diversion in each of the next five years is expected to cut hauling costs and landfill fees.

“Convenience is another ben- efit,” Zullo said. “We are striving to make the program easier to use and more accessible. Faculty, staff and students will no longer need to look for separate containers for their recyclable materials.”

To make the plan more vis- ible, Facilities Management created more standardization of campus trash and recycling containers are in the works, she said. Posters have been developed to remind campus users that recyclables now can all go in one container, and a website will be created; it was not yet live as of this University Times press time.

Committees seek input in searches for education dean and ULS director...

Faculty salaries rank higher in cost-of-living comparison...

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Budget update

As the University Times went to press on Wednesday, the state Senate was poised to attempt to override Gov. Tom Wolf’s Sept. 29 veto of his $13.2 billion stopgap funding package. Republican hold the Senate by a 30-19 margin, which is a majority to override the veto. If the override succeeds, it would move next to the House.

The proposal would release some funding for school districts and municipalities affected by the budget impasse that has continued since the July 1 start of the state’s fiscal year.

Pitt’s state funding, the bulk of which is provided through the non-preferred appropriation separate from the state budget bill, remains in limbo.

University of Pittsburgh
University renews search for head of library system

The University Library System is "beginning again" in its search for a new dean, after the search co-chair and head librarian, Alberta Shraga, told more than 30 people assembled at the William Pitt Union ballroom Oct. 16 for a public forum on the search to replace Body, Hillman Library's 60th incumbent. "If we don't turn this around," Body said, "if we don't move forward, if we don't bring new leadership to the table, if we don't make a change, this is not going to work.

The search was begun in late 2014 but then postponed shortly thereafter while Pitt and Carnegie Mellon University library officials discussed potential collaborations. "Any applicant that's worth his or her salt is going to want to know specifics about that," Paul Kohlsberg, assistant university librarian, told the committee.

Indeed the job description, posted on the website of the committee's search firm, Janese M. Miller, notes that Pitt and CMU's "juxtaposed areas of collaboration include extended library hours, the exchange of book and periodical borrowing privileges among libraries as faculty and students have access to more than one library at once, and more options for students to look at books and periodicals online." The job description also notes that the position is responsible for "developing and implementing strategic plans to support learning, teaching and student success.

Correction

David Delong is Pitt's executive vice provost. An incorrect title appeared at the Oct. 15 University Times.

Motivating your students to learn

We instructors tend to be engrossed when our students enjoy learning. However, our enthusiasm is not always shared by the majority of students who come to class prepared, focused on their mobile devices in class and even stop attending altogether. Some students don't seem to have any interest in what we're teaching.

Motivation is a critical requirement for meaningful, lasting learning. While extrinsic rewards in the form of grades are often used to push students to perform, these forms of motivation have limited power. Students quickly lose interest in a course if the incentives are not enough or if they must sacrifice too many other activities to meet them. Even successful students who view a course as a "dumb" question.

Share enthusiasm! Student interest in the subject and enthusiasm is one of the most motivating factors in their learning.

- Encourage students to participate in class discussions and engage them to learn at superficial levels and even average levels of comprehension toward the instructor as the figure who has all of the power.

- On the other hand, when students are intrinsically motivated, the striving for higher grades is internal and not just a function of the instructor's ability to motivate students to learn, and the learning is deeper and more likely to be retained and not just for the test.

- Provide opportunities for students to engage in meaningful, open-ended projects that help them see the relevance of learning for their own lives.

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Faculty offers others input
into candidate selection needed
by next education dean

Four faculty members on the School of Education dean search panel were elected July 14 to sit with the graduate-student member chosen by students, and additional appointments were made by the provost.

The search committee's charge to faculty and students in the school is to "contribute to the campaign for the University for the next dean in such a way that candidates will be attracted and informed," said C. DiAnne Colbert, referring to the all-white group at the head of the room. The committee's three absent members also are white.

“We need to look at urban education, including students of color, as well as the country’s growing population of students with disabilities,” said Colbert, a distinguished University professor of psychology and director of the University Learning Research and Development Center, agreed that we “certainly need a strong emphasis in the teacher training” in making diversity work in the classroom.

Chair Charles A. Perfetti, distinguished University professor of psychology and director of the Learning Research and Development Center, called for more emphasis on the social aspects of diversity in city schools — “and how we close that academic gap we’re always talking about” between black and white students in grades K-12.

“Many of our superintendents and the leadership of the school districts of southwestern Pennsylvania are graduates of the School of Education and that can be both helpful and not so helpful,” he added. “We’re doing potentially some intellectual inbreeding. It doesn’t mean we’re not doing the fact that we have some diverse populations growing in the area,” he added.

Perfetti, who served on the committee, distinguished University professor of psychology and director of the Learning Research and Development Center, called for more emphasis on the social aspects of diversity in city schools — “and how we close that academic gap we’re always talking about” between black and white students in grades K-12.

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Faculty salaries rank higher in cost-of-living comparison

Pitt faculty salaries rank higher in comparison with their counterparts at Association of American Universities (AAU) public institutions. However, the cost of living in Pittsburgh is also higher.

An annual survey that factors the cost of living into the University’s annual AAU peer group comparisons (see Oct. 7 University Times) showed that the average salary for professors on the Pitt campus rose to No. 11, up from No. 16, among the 34 peer institutions.

Pay for associate professors moved to No. 12, up from No. 17; and assistant professors ranked No. 14, up from No. 26.

Instructors and lecturers remained near the bottom of the salary comparison, but moved to No. 27, up from No. 29 among the 34 schools that reported salaries for faculty at those ranks.

The average salary ranked No. 3 in the cost-of-living adjusted comparison, using only the 8 among the 16 schools that provided data.

The adjusted ranking uses Council for Research and Policy on the University’s cost-of-living index data in its comparison of Pittsburgh campus faculty salaries.

In Oct. 16 presentation to the University Senate’s budget policy committee (BPC), Amanda Brodick of the Provost’s Office noted that the cost of living in Pittsburgh is in the middle of the peer group this year, tied with Florida and the State University of New York-Buffalo.

In last year’s comparison, only seven of the peer schools (Purdue, Boston, Northeastern, Arizona, the AE&M, Indiana, Kansas and Iowa) were located in areas with a cost of living lower than Pittsburgh’s. (See Dec. 4, 2014, University Times.) In the current comparison, the average cost-of-living index was provided by the University of North Carolina, Penn State, Temple, Texas, Michigan, Iowa State and Arizona, to place 14 peers in areas where the cost of living is lower than in Pittsburgh.

Salaries at UPB, UPG and UJR: Average salaries for faculty on Pitt’s Bradford, Greensburg and Johnstown campuses also rose in comparison with a subset of peers drawn from among 21 Carnegie Foundation Category III institutions in the three Association of American University Professors regions that border Pennsylvania.

Faculty pay at Pitt-Titusville, a Carnegie Category III institution, was not included in the report because of the lack of cost of living data for the regions peers. The Pitt’s Region 8 (Spendav’s Region 6) which provides estimates for rural and suburban areas.

Bradford’s cost of living (which is higher than Johnstown’s and lower than Greensburg) was used as a baseline for comparison. Four sets of 21 comparison campuses — one for each faculty rank — were selected by ranking the institutions’ average salary from lowest to highest, selecting the lowest salary and those at every fifth percentile between 0 and 100. The resulting sample included 72 unique comparison schools.

Average salaries for professors at Pitt’s IIB regional campuses moved to No. 6, up from No. 37 among the 73 institutions in the unranked listings. Associate professors moved to No. 18, up from No. 38. And lecture instructors moved to No. 6, up from No. 21 among 52 schools with faculty at that rank.

The full report can be seen at www.unitimes.pitt.edu/2015/bpcreport2015.pdf.

In other business:

• The Senate committee met twice, session to hear a preliminary report by the Provost’s office on part-time faculty salaries.

• BPC has canceled its November meeting and moved its December meeting to 7 p.m., Dec. 4 in 1817 Cathedral of Learning.

— Kimberly K. Barlow

Summary of Rank, Range, Spread, and Comparison to Median

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Spread</th>
<th>Comparison to Median</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh Campus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>16/34</td>
<td>11/34</td>
<td>$122-181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>17/34</td>
<td>12/34</td>
<td>$81-118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>26/34</td>
<td>14/34</td>
<td>$68-103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecturers &amp; instructors</td>
<td>29/31</td>
<td>27/31</td>
<td>$45-97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Librarians</td>
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<td>3/34</td>
<td>$60-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Campuses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor</td>
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<td>17/36</td>
<td>$50-154</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>29/37</td>
<td>13/37</td>
<td>$43-111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>28/37</td>
<td>18/37</td>
<td>$39-84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecturers &amp; instructors</td>
<td>21/52</td>
<td>6/52</td>
<td>$20-110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Values in thousands.

New Senate research committee defining its role

The University Senate’s new research committee is continuing to define its scope, mission and its interactions with other University committees — including counterparts in the Senate as well as the University Research Council and the Provost’s policy review committee.

The committee, instituted in May as part of a Senate standing committee reorganization (see April 20 University Times), began meetings in August and is selecting the committee’s leadership.

Despite differences on the committee’s charge, the Senate research committee does not plan to review an updated draft mission statement at its November meeting.

At the committee’s Oct. 23 meeting, Michael Spring, immediate past president and Senate executive council liaison to the research committee, noted that the charge is flexible and the research committee’s charge can be focused on matters related to research.

Spring urged the committee to ensure that has an early opportunity to review proposed policies that would affect faculty, citing a pair of recent administrative “debacles” that raised widespread faculty ire: A proposal to require faculty to sign intellectual property rights agreements and a proposal to require the University to register its trademarks when traveling abroad on University business (see June 14 University Times).

Difficulties could have been avoided had a Senate committee been able to provide the faculty perspective on potentially problematic aspects before the policies were presented to the faculty at large, Spring said.

“I don’t think there’s any animosity, but I think there’s sometimes a strong sense of not trusting the University’s interest in these issues,” Spring said.

The University’s administration, Spring said, “has a lot of shared concerns,” and that faculty members are “listening to what the administration and others have to say.”

The committee’s charge is a “starting point,” Spring said, “but it will be important that the committee, in developing this charge, be in conversation with faculty.”

According to Sprin, the committee does not have the resources to conduct a survey of faculty sentiment on the issues.

“While the committee won’t be able to conduct a survey, we expect the committee to work with the administration to make progress on these matters,” Spring said.

The research committee’s next meeting is set for 1 p.m., Nov. 20 in 156 Cathedral of Learning.

— Kimberly K. Barlow

Faculty unionization effort underway

While they’re still in malleable form, the subcommittee chairs will be invited to an upcoming research committee meeting to discuss their work.

The research committee’s next meeting is set for 1 p.m., Nov. 20 in 156 Cathedral of Learning.

— Kimberly K. Barlow
Trustees endorse Pitt strategic plan

Pitt’s regional campuses were in the spotlight at the University’s Board of Trustees meeting this week as the board voted to increase their student enrollment. The board was part of a 20-vote resolution affirming its support of the plan's implementation, which includes the expansion of the University’s regional campuses. The board said it was important that the campus’s academic and administrative leadership continue to work towards reaching their goals. “It’s very important that the board, its committee and the administration continue to work on this plan to achieve the university’s goals,” said board member Evan Turk. “It is the best way to ensure that all members of the University community are well represented and supported.”

The board also expressed its support for the University’s strategic plan for Pitt's regional campuses. “We support the University’s strategic plan for the future development of our regional campuses and we are committed to ensuring the success of our regional campuses,” said board member Evan Turk. “The University is well-positioned to provide a high-quality education to students across the region and we are committed to supporting that mission.”

Board honors Rosborough

Pitt’s Board of Trustees honored Mary Lou Rosborough, the board’s executive associate secretary, with a resolution of respect and gratitude in recognition of her 44 years of service as a member of the board. Rosborough was recognized for her extraordinary service and for her dedication to Pitt and the University community. “Mary Lou has been a vital member of our board and has made significant contributions to the success of the University,” said board member Evan Turk. “She has been a leader and an advocate for Pitt and the University community and we are grateful for her service.”

Rosborough was appointed to the board in 1971 and has served as a member for over 40 years. “Mary Lou has been a tireless advocate for the University and has been a valuable asset to the board,” said board member Evan Turk. “Her dedication to Pitt and the University community is unparalleled and we are grateful for her service.”

From left: Evan Turk, Mary Lou Rosborough and Chancellor Patrick Gallagher.

Pitt is reviewing safety on campus

The University is revisiting its own policies and practices as a result of evidence suggesting that more aggressive measures are needed. Chancellor Patrick Gallagher responded to three recent incidents involving on-campus violence. Gallagher said that the University has taken steps to improve its response to violence incidents and is working to improve its safety protocols. “We take these incidents very seriously and we are committed to improving our response to violence incidents,” said Gallagher. “We will continue to work with our law enforcement partners to improve our safety protocols and to ensure that our students and faculty are safe.”

The University is also reviewing its policies and practices regarding the use of pepper spray. Gallagher said that the University is committed to improving its policies and practices regarding the use of pepper spray. “We take the safety of our students and faculty very seriously and we are committed to improving our policies and practices regarding the use of pepper spray,” said Gallagher. “We will continue to work with our law enforcement partners to improve our policies and practices regarding the use of pepper spray.”

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Committee discusses Oakland transit woes

E ver-present frustrations with parking, coupled with Greenfield Bridge detours and new service changes are causing confusion for drivers and cyclists alike to a wide-ranging discussion on Oakland's many transit issues in a recent meeting of the University Senate community relations committee (CRC).

"We have a lot of surrounding construction projects that are going to make it even more challenging to get into Oakland and often areas," said Maris Rainey, executive director of Oakland Transportation Management Association (OTMA), suggesting that the time may be ripe to remind Pitt employees of their transportation options.

At the committee's Oct. 20 meeting, CRC co-chair Pamela Toto noted that the Senate's expanded executive committee held earlier in the week discussed whether additional parking for faculty and staff might be available in light of lengthy waitlists.

Committee members Ward Wilson, executive director of the Oakland Planning and Development Corp. (OPDC), said that parking capacity at Oakland and the surrounding community is an perennial issues in Oakland, but more parking isn't the answer.

"It's always a hot-button issue and it's always a problem. And the answer is never to have more parking," she said, labeling it a "short-sighted way of looking at mobility." More parking means more traffic on the streets, which makes getting to the parking areas more difficult. "So it's a never-ending solution," she maintained.

Although new Pitt employees receive information on commuting alternatives during orientation, it's often forgotten, Toto said.

"I think people have to get exposed to it," said community relations director Kanu Shani, acknowledging that it took a cut budget to prompt him to use public transit to get to campus. "When I rode the bus, I thought, 'What am I doing living from Moonmere every day?' and I took the bus for two years after that," she said.

"I think we've never asked our faculty and staff who ride the bus to other faculty and staff," said Shani. "Maybe this is the time we ask.

Alternatives to driving

Rainey noted that commuting alternatives include ridesharing, registered carpools, vanpool, Port Authority Transit and Pitt shuttle buses, adding that carpool and vanpool users are eligible to use the guaranteed ride home program, in case of an emergency, need to get home outside their normal travel schedule.

In addition, OTMA's Oakland Smart Commute program [http://oaklandsmartcommute.com/commuters/community-profiles] offers a ride-matching service. Users fill out a commuter profile and receive recommendations for transit, carpool, vanpool, and, in some cases, bicycle alternatives that match their commuting behavior, Rainey said.

Rainey noted that OTMA has updated its Oakland multi-modal resources map to include Pittsburgh bike share stations. The map is available online as part of OTMA's 2014-15 annual report [http://oakland-pgh.org/annual-reports] and questions may be directed to the OTMA office at 412-685-4005.

OTMA advised that the Port Authority's P3 East Busway line is an option for on-campus and off-campus community to Oakland.

"It only goes through Oakland and onto the busway. You're not going to find a whole lot of traffic on the busway," Rainey said. "People can park up here, take a transfer," Rainey said. "You can park along the East Busway and ride into Oakland," she said, adding that about $250-$260 a month is a reasonable price to pay on the P3 route. "The East Busway is actually a lot cheaper than you think it is," Rainey said. "You can get directly from Oakland to the East Busway in about 10 minutes.

OPDC's Wilkonson suggested that the committee explore ways to encourage University employees to live in Oakland. "It would help the Oakland community," she said. "And if this committee could get involved in promoting Oakland as a place to live, then your transportation issues are pretty much solved for you. You can walk to work.

OPDC currently has two homes for sale to owner-occupants, she said. "We'd love to be able to partner more with the University, encouraging house ownership in the neighborhood.

Wilkonson noted that many people are cycling and increasing numbers of people don't want to drive.

Rainey agreed. "There is a population that is moving into the area that are just don't want to have cars. They want to use a more robust public transportation system - whether it's a bus, whether it's the ability to access a train or walk or bike, or use services like Uber or Lyft - in place of a personal vehicle."

Bike lane challenges

Several committee members expressed concern that the addition of bike lanes on O'Hara Street, Bigelow Boulevard and Bayard Street has turned the roadway into a shabby course for motorists. "There is a lot of confusion right now with how many different striped lanes we have in one street," Rainey acknowledged.

The area near Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic has two travel lanes for cars, flanked by bike lanes, plus a parking lane.

Motorists use the bicycle lanes as turning lanes, and cyclists are confused as well, unaware that each bike lane is intended for a single direction of travel.

"There's a learning curve," Rainey said, adding that a lack of signage makes it harder for travelers to know which lane they should use.

Pitt's paved bike lanes and facilities, such as the green bike bike boulevard markings, such as those that have appeared at the intersection of Bayard and Craig streets. Bike lanes create a visible space for cyclists to wait at a red light, enabling them to more easily turn left at an intersection and helping prevent collisions with cars turning right. Drivers are supposed to stop behind the green area, not in the bike box, when the traffic light is red.

"That whole corridor will be and will continue to be a major area of conversation regarding the multimodal cores of the city," Rainey said.

"The plan right now is to have a conversation with the mayor and the director of city planning to reiterate the challenges and conclusion that's happening in that corridor before it becomes a cityside issue."

Greenfield Bridge detours

Rainey noted that OTMA will continue to work with the Greenfield Bridge replacement project.

"The crumbling bridge over the Parkway East was closed with a farewell party on Oct. 17. The structure is scheduled for implosion Dec. 29 or 29 to make way for a new steel bridge that will retain much of the decorative elements of the 1930s-era original," Rainey said.

Traffic is being detoured via the Parkway by way of Panther Hollow Road, the Boulevard of the Allies and Bates Street. Detours will remain in place until the bridge replacement project is completed in spring 2017.

The work also will necessitate three Parkway closures, including a weekend closure surrounding the implosion. Outbound Parkway traffic will be forced to exit at Forbes Avenue and inbound traffic to exit at Wabash Street.

Project information, including maps and information on detours, is posted at [http://greenfieldbridge.otmagp.org][1].

[1] Kimberly B. Barkow

[1] Kimberly B. Barkow
Title IX office works to raise awareness

Pitt's Title IX office is working to raise awareness among University employees and graduate students in response to the Association of American Universities (AAU) campus climate survey of student attitudes and experiences regarding sexual violence and harassment.

"Everybody assumes that when we're talking about Title IX, we're talking about rape, sex assault, stalking, domestic violence, intimate partner violence," Pitt Title IX coordinator Katie Pope told the University Senate student admissions, aid and affairs committee as a recent presentation.

"We're also talking about sexual harassment. One of the things that we saw in particular with the AAU survey is that sexual harassment is often very much underreported," Pope said. " Folks may not know that they can report it, or don't know how to respond to it."

Pope noted how attention to these issues in orientation and first-year experience activities has raised awareness among incoming undergraduates over the past two years, saying "there's much more we can continue to do" as part of the University's focus on reporting and responses, she said.

Pope noted that the University has convened a sexual assault task force to respond to the AAU survey, using the Pitt data "to improve what's already happening and put more groundwork here on campus."

Subcommittees are examining ways to include males in prevention and reporting processes, how best to educate faculty and staff, and a "mini-year reboot," in response to the unexpected finding that juniors reported the second-highest incidence, she said.

Pope encouraged members of the community who are interested as serving on the task force to contact her.

Pitt Connolly, associate vice chancellor for diversity and inclusion, who oversees the Title IX office, said that although incoming undergraduates are more aware that sexual violence and harassment fall under Title IX's prohibition on gender-based discrimination, graduate students are behind the learning curve.

"And for faculty and staff, it's a real mindset change," she said that Title IX historically had been associated with women's access to athletic programming.

"In the last two months, our top priorities are going to be developing trainings. Pitt-specific training to (employee and grad student) populations," Pope added. "We'd love to see, starting this fall, a robust training for employees, and perhaps for students as well."

Connolly said many faculty and staff already have completed an online training module on preventing discrimination and sexual violence (available under the "education" tab on www.diversity.pitt.edu). "I really recommend taking it if you haven't," she said.

Pope said anyone on campus can make a report to the Title IX office, adding that "responsible employee" expectations apply to faculty and staff. "When an incident of sexual violence or sexual misconduct is reported to you, a responsible employee of the University, it's expected that will be shared with the Title IX office. (See www.pitt.edu/academic-affairs/faculty-staff-guide.)"

Pope noted that the release of the AAU survey (www.pitt.edu/aau-survey) has prompted inquiries to her office over how the reporting processes work. "It has increased the conversation," she acknowledged.

Connolly agreed, adding that the issues being raised — particularly with regard to harassment — dovetail with diversity and inclusion.

"It's making people take a step back and look at how we interact with each other," she said.

"That's been a big reaction, that I think the harassment data was surprising. People may complain of a politically correct culture, but the AAU climate survey does not support that." Q

In other business at the student admissions, aid and affairs committee's Oct. 15 meeting.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Events addressing sexual violence and related issues are scheduled in the coming weeks.

- The Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Gender and Violence: Covering Barriers and Bridging Divides series will feature "Global/Local: Confronting Issues of Gender and Violence in Global and Local Contexts," at 12:30 p.m. Nov. 2 in the Bursch Law Building Alcoa Room.
- Valerie Oosterweld of Western New School in Owest will present the global perspective, speaking on "Gendered Causes Against Humanity."

Presenting the local perspective will be Pamela W. Connolly, associate vice chancellor for diversity and inclusion, and Katie Pope, Title IX coordinator, speaking on "Sexual Assault and Misconduct: Campus Climate and Response."

- Lucas Gotti, Department of Child and Youth Studies at Pitt, will present "Affective Atmosphere and Domestic Violence" at 4 p.m. Nov. 5 in Aldridge Hall.

- School of Learning, drawing on data from two qualitative studies on masculinity and domestic violence in Sweden, will address the relationship between space, affect and violence.


- Pitt, in conjunction with the Pittsburgh Council on Higher Education, will host a daylong conference, "Reducing Dangerous and Undergraduate Drinking: Innovative Strategies for the Millennial Generation," to foster discussion between experts and faculty, staff and administrators from area universities.

The event, set for 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 10 in the William Pitt Union, will focus on prevention and education, health and wellness, strategies for addressing alcohol consumption and sexual violence, support for special populations and effective community partnerships.

Keynote speakers are:
- Elizabeth Milhous, chief of adolescent medicine at Children's Hospital and faculty member in pediatrics in the School of Medicine, who will speak on college health center interventions.

Her presentation will introduce a study of a brief harm-reduction counseling intervention to reduce sexual violence among students.

- Brian Soffetello, faculty member in emergency medicine, and Dan Taplos, CEO and founder of the population healthcare informatics company Healthstat, who will discuss a text-message binge drinking prevention program for college students.

For a full list of sessions and details on registration, visit www.pitt.edu/reducing-dangerous-and-undergraduate-drinking-innovative-strategies-millennial-generation.

- The Theatre Arts Department will present "Good Kids" Nov. 11-22 in the Heymann Theater. Set in a Midwest high school and inspired by current events, the play explores the aftermath of a sex crime and its covers-up.

Performances are Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Admission is free to Pitt students; $5 for other students; $12.50 for adults.

For reservations and information visit www.play.pitt.edu/content/good-kids.

- The Women's Center and Student Affairs: Pittsburgh will conduct a training session on domestic violence issues, in conjunction with Pitt's Office of Diversity and Inclusion, 1-3 p.m. Nov. 13 in 342 Craig Hall.

Topics will include confidentiality, the impact of domestic violence, safety planning, active listening, crisis intervention and the legal system as it pertains to domestic violence.

RSVP to 6-7861 by Nov. 9.

- The award-winning 2011 documentary on sexual assault in the U.S. military, "The Invisible War," will be screened at 11 a.m. Nov. 14 in Bursch Alcoa Room. Discussion with attorney Susan Burke, who is featured in the film, will follow at noon.

Information: www.gws.pitt.edu/events/invisible-war-documentary-screening-discussion-and-reception.

- Noël Busch-Armendariz will present the Social School of Raymond R. Webb II Lecture at noon Nov. 17 in 2017 Cathedral of Learning.

Busch-Armendariz, associate dean for research and director of the Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault at the University of Texas-Austin, will present "Are Children and Women Safe for Sale: Yes and It's $150 Billion Industry."

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Shady Side students know they can count on our faculty to be there when they need them. Because they're not just dedicated teachers — they are mentors, advisors and coaches who come to school early, stay late, share in students' successes and offer support.

So even five or 10 years later, our students still show up after class. Because what they learn here prepares them not just for college, but to shine brighter in all that they do.

Fall Open Houses October 29 — November 7. RSVP online at www.shadysideacademy.org/VisitUs
“This is not a book only about heroin,” says Sam Quinones, who will speak on campus Nov. 10 about his nonfiction book “Dreamland,” which was chosen for this year’s Public Health’s One Book, One Community program for 2015.

“Dreamland” was chosen as part of the Graduate School of Public Health’s One Book, One Community program for 2015, which focuses the school on a discussion between the university and the larger community. “Dreamland” chronicles the boom in opioid addiction in the United States, starting in the 1990s, when the pharmaceutical companies led the charge to introduce new levels of painkillers into the market. The book was chosen to start a national conversation on opioids and how the American health-care system became addicted to promoting new pain medications and then in the U.S., running their heroin ring was busted in Beaver County.

It was a small-business model led by the mafioso and what that has done to law enforcement who fought them; cells to new towns and the law allowed buyers a new level of comfort and sellers a new level of privacy.

Even law enforcement agencies are realizing that addicts need treatment, and that jail is hardly the solution to their plight. As Qui- nones writes in his book: “Treatment has always been more effective and cheaper than prison for true drug addicts. What’s changed ... is that no longer are most of the accused African-American inner-city crack users and dealers. Most of the new ... junkies come from the white middle and upper-middle classes” and from neighborhoods and public health budgets.

“Law enforcement is increas- ingly asking, ‘What can we do, and what can we do?’” he says. “It’s not reason- able to say the private sector can create thousands of addicts and the police departments better do something about this. The police and the courts don’t have the time, they have some gay standing in the ocean trying to hold back the tide.”

What can physicians do? And what can we do?

“Every school will do their part, and we’re doing and maybe we can bring some parts together.”

“Accountability is a wonderful part of our political and social culture, and it’s broken down,” he added. “We want everybody else to be accountable. We need to stop eating junk food. We need to stop smoking. And we need to stop demanding that doctors fix us, as if we had no role in the process.”

Quinones’ Nov. 10 lecture will be held 3-4:30 p.m. in the University’s Clubball room A. It is open to the public.

—Marvy Levine

Title IX office works to raise awareness of what law covers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

• Members heard a plea for clarification on Pitt’s policies regarding undergraduate student volunteers in University laborato- ries by psychology faculty member Hybby Streng, who oversees the department’s experiential learn- ing placements. Some faculty find students are discouraged from volunteering in labs, she said, in favor of paid or for-credit opportuni- ties only.

• In response to issues raised recently at Senate Council by Graduate and Professional Stu- dent Government (GPSG) Presi- dent Joseph Kozak, committee co-chair Robert Kear said the committee will look into reports that some graduate students feel disconnected from the University.

Kear said she has been in communication with Alberta Sbragia, vice provost for graduate studies, and hopes to invite her to an upcoming meeting. She also plans to raise the issue at last week’s Senate expanded executive committee meeting.

“Accountability in the system may alleviate some issues,” she said.

• Committee co-chair Cho Cheo Lin commented that despite many graduate student services here, options and students are not con- nected — and how do we make the connection?“David Gau added that GPSG represen- tative to the committee, said that although student life program- ming is open to all students, ‘I think a lot of graduate students don’t understand that,’” adding that many attend GPSG events, or school-based events.

Gau added that GPSG is working to fight decentralization in the graduate schools. A lot of schools are doing duplicate things, she said, noting that one area of overlap, for example, is in career development events.

“Grad students all do their own career development thing and the feedback we get is ‘it’s not a lot of people showing up.’ We also find out that 10 of the 14 schools are doing the same event and they’re the same speakers. We’re really trying to get everyone talk- ing, to start, so we all know what we’re doing and maybe we can share resources,” she said. “The system is decentralized. We need to work together and bring some parts together.”

The committee’s next meeting is set for 4 p.m. Nov. 19 in 227 Hillman Library.

—Kimberly B. Barlow
Family Matters
An unconventional discussion about saving for college, home ownership, retirement and your financial lifetime.

HOSTED BY DAVID GREENE, HOST OF NPR’S MORNING EDITION

Co-hosted by
Yuki Noguchi, NPR Business Desk Correspondent

With Louis Barajas, Chief Wealth and Business Manager at LAB Financial Life Solutions

And Saundra Davis, an adjunct professor in the Personal Financial Planning program at Golden Gate University.

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Assistant Professor in Literature with Specialty in Digital Literary Media

Pending budgetary approval, the Department of English at the University of Pittsburgh invites applications for an anticipated tenure-track assistant professor in literature with a specialty in digital literary media, to begin August 2016. We seek candidates who can teach at both graduate and undergraduate levels as well as contribute to our recently redesigned PhD program. We are interested in candidates whose research interests speak to one or more of the following themes: new digital literary genres and platforms; gaming studies; immersive fictions; digitally enhanced or shaped narratives; remediation; or participatory literacies. Applicants with significant interests in digital pedagogy, or exploring theories in environmental, gender/sexuality, or performance studies, are particularly encouraged to apply. Competitive salary and benefits package.

In order to ensure full consideration, applications must be received by November 9, 2015. Please contact Ben Simmons (bens87@pitt.edu) at 412-624-6509 for further information.

To apply, please visit http://apply.interfolio.com/32022.

Assistant Professor in Literature with Specialty in American Ethnic, Minority, or Indigenous Literature

Pending budgetary approval, the Department of English at the University of Pittsburgh invites applications for an anticipated tenure-track assistant professor in literature with a specialty in American ethnic, minority, or indigenous literature, to begin August 2016. We seek candidates who can teach at both graduate and undergraduate levels as well as contribute to our recently redesigned PhD program. Applications are invited from candidates with research interests in Asian American, Native American, or Latino/o Chicano/o literature. Our department has been building programs and faculty in African-American literature, African-American traditions of poetry writing, and Latino/o fiction writing. We seek to complement these growing strengths by adding to existing Literature Program faculty research and teaching interests.

In order to ensure full consideration, applications must be received by November 9, 2015. Please contact Ben Simmons (bens87@pitt.edu) at 412-624-6509 for further information.

To apply, please visit http://apply.interfolio.com/32019.

Assistant Professor in Writing with Specialty in Digital Storytelling

Pending budgetary approval, the Department of English at the University of Pittsburgh invites applications for an anticipated tenure-track assistant professor in writing with a specialty in digital storytelling, to begin August 2016. PhD or MFA preferred, along with teaching experience, and a substantial digital portfolio of multimedia publications in audio or video storytelling, longform narrative journalism, digital poetics, graphic novels, or experimental digital forms. The successful candidate will be expected to carry a 2/2 teaching load of undergraduate and graduate workshops, to participate actively in the development of a burgeoning new-media component in one of the oldest Writing Programs in the country; and to maintain a robust record of digital creative work. We welcome candidates whose work traverses platforms, straddles both legacy and new-media in form, expression, and distribution, and connects with emerging digital strengths in our literature, composition, and film programs. Competitive salary and benefits package.

In order to ensure full consideration, applications must be received by November 9, 2015. Please contact Ben Simmons (bens87@pitt.edu) at 412-624-6509 for further information.

To apply, please visit http://apply.interfolio.com/32023.

The University of Pittsburgh is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer. Women, members of minority groups under-represented in academia, veterans, and the disabled are especially encouraged to apply.
Emergency pediatric CT scanning varies

Emergency departments vary widely when it comes to ordering CT scans for children who come in with injuries, according to a study conducted by the School of Medicine and Children’s Hospital. The findings, published in the Journal of Pediatrics, suggest that improvement in decision making about imaging and establishing best practice guidelines may help reduce exposure to unnecessary radiation and contain costs.

Concern has grown that patients may be exposed to harmful levels of radiation from CT scans, noted lead investigator and Children’s emergency room physician Jennifer Marin, faculty member in pediatrics and emergency medicine in the School of Medicine.

Sad Marin: "Injuries are the leading cause of death in children and CT is the most accurate method we currently have available to diagnose many of these injuries. We wanted to evaluate if and to what degree CT use varied for injured children seen in the emergency department. We found there was no correlation between the severity of injury and when a CT was performed."

The team looked back at 1,000 cases of injured children treated at 14 emergency departments between November 2010 and February 2013. More than 98 percent had minor injuries and were discharged to home.

Doctors were more likely to order CT scans for intracranial injuries and skull and spine fractures, the researchers found. Of those visits in which a CT was performed, 28 percent were associated with more than one CT, 8 percent were associated with more than two CTs and, in some cases, up to 7 CT scans were performed.

"Emergency rooms vary widely in their use of CT scanning with some more likely to perform CT scanning than others," Marin said. "Additionally, some are more likely to use specific types of CTs, such as cervical spine and chest CTs, which is noteworthy given the radiation dose and radiation sensitiveness areas like the pediatric thyroid and breast being exposed." She emphasized the study was not designed to look at patient outcomes or the appropriateness of CT use.

The team included Pitt faculty Li Wang and Daniel G. Winger and a researcher from Boston Children’s Hospital.

The effort was funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Novel computational method screens nanoparticles

Researchers at the Swanson School of Engineering have developed a novel methodology that can screen nanoparticles of different sizes and shapes as potential industrial catalysts with the use of computers. The study, "Catalyst Design Based on Morphology- and Environment-Dependent Adsorption on Metal Nanoparticles," will be featured in ACS Catalysis, an American Chemical Society journal.

Giannis Mparmpakis, chemical and petroleum engineering faculty member, said: "We tested our methodology on a problem that has been troubling researchers for more than three decades now. Although bulk gold does not corrode, which is why we see it as jewelry, gold nanoparticles are exceptionally good oxidation catalysts. Our work demonstrated that the experimentally observed carbon monoxide oxidation activity correlates with the calculated average adsorption strength of CO on the nanoparticle surfaces. Both the CO adsorption and the CO oxidation activity increase with decreasing nanoparticle size."

Mparmpakis led the team at the Computer-Aided Nano Energy Lab (CANELA) with graduate students. Patients included Michael Taylor and Natalie Austin, in collaboration with a chemical engineering professor at Carnegie Mellon University.

Using theory and computational methods, the researchers at CANELA investigate the physicochemical properties of nanoparticles with experimental applications in diverse nanotechnological areas, ranging from green energy and storage to materials engineering and catalysis. Major research areas focus on nanocatalysis, biomass conversion and nanoparticle growth.

The team’s computational results reproduced the CO oxidation activity trends of 45 individual experiments on gold nanoparticles, and the team concluded that despite the changes to nanoparticle surface shape caused by the chemical environment, changes in size have a much greater impact on the overall reactivity of the nanoparticles.

Engineers now will be able to screen the adsorption performance of nanoparticles of different morphologies with the use of computer algorithms designed to reduce material cost, target catalytic activity, and develop and test industrial applications. Computational approaches like this one advance nanomaterials discovery and development through the use of time-consuming and costly experiments.

In the past, researchers focused on the type of metal being tested as the main variable in catalytic screening, said Mparmpakis. However, placing metal nanoparticles in a chemical environment can have the greatest effect on their morphology.

"Nanoparticles in a chemical environment exhibit a full range of sizes and shapes," said Mparmpakis. Finding a universal model to describe the chemical behavior of all the surface sites on nanoparticles is a very challenging task. We achieved this by digging into the physics of the adsorbate-nanoparticle interactions and developing models that can capture this multi-site adsorption behavior.

2 cancer studies presented

Patients with an early-stage, indolent form of lymphoma increasingly are being given no treatment, chemotherapy or targeted drug therapies despite strong clinical evidence that shows radiation therapy can have better outcomes, according to a study by School of Medicine researchers that was presented at the annual meeting of the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO).

Guidelines from the National Comprehensive Cancer Network and the European Society for Medical Oncology both list radiation therapy as the preferred treatment for low-grade follicular lymphoma, which is a common type of non-Hodgkin lymphoma that grows slowly. It is most likely to occur in people age 60 and older.

Radiation therapy is the use of high-energy X-rays to treat cancer, and was the first curative therapy for lymphoma. Radiation therapy has a long history as the preferred treatment in early-stage follicular lymphoma; however, despite strong supporting evidence, it has been replaced by alternative management strategies including observation without initial treatment and novel systemic therapies.

Said Austin Vargo, a radiation oncology resident at UPMC CancerCenter, partner with the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, and lead author of the study: "Our study highlights the

Nominate an Outstanding Advisor for the Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize

From October 1 through October 31, 2015, the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences will accept nominations for the Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Advising. This annual award recognizes outstanding faculty academic advising of Dietrich School undergraduate students. The winner receives a one-time cash award of $4,000.

Eligibility

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

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

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

Nominations

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

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

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

Selection

The prize winner will be selected by the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Council and will be announced in spring 2016.

For more information, contact

Z Taylor at ethzpitt.edu or visit as.pitt.edu/teaching/ampco-pittsburgh-prize.
increasing optimism of radiation therapy in non-Hodgkin lymphoma and its associated negative effect on overall survival in this disease. This trend is likely toward the omission of radiation therapy is despite proven efficacy and, in some cases, a reduction in the risk of side effects. More patients should be offered this effective yet underused treatment.

Researchers analyzed patterns of care and survival outcomes for 35,961 patients diagnosed with early-stage follicular lymphoma as listed on the national cancer data base. The study found that the use of radiation therapy in these patients decreased from 37 percent in 1999 to 24 percent in 2012 while those increases in the use of single-agent chemotherapeutic agents and targeted agents to treat lymphoma and treatment. Patients who received radiation therapy had five-year and 10-year survival rates of 81 percent and 68 percent, respectively;

those who did not have radiation therapy had rates of 74 percent and 54 percent. Said Dwight E. Heron, fac- ulty member in the Department of Radiation Oncology, Otolar- yngology and Head and Neck Surgery and director of radiation therapy services, UPAMC CancerCenter: “Survival with radiation therapy in these cases is higher and we think that an evidence-based approach should be used more often in the evaluation of treatment for their patients.”

Collaborators on the study were Pitt faculty members Brant S. Gill, Gounoumpa K. Balasubramanian and Soshib Berwai.

Another study at the University of Pittsburgh and Stanford University showed that an increase in the use of radiation therapy for breast cancer has been associated with a decrease in breast cancer mortality. The study showed that the use of radiation therapy in breast cancer patients has decreased from 58 percent in 2000 to 44 percent in 2014, which is consistent with other reports.

DEAN, SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND REHABILITATION SCIENCES

The University of Pittsburgh invites applications and nominations for the Dean of the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SORS). Since its founding in 1969, the School has been a key leader in the development and administration of the Rehabilitation Sciences discipline. Today, SORS has over 20 degree programs, unparalleled research activity, clinical education programs with excellent student#undef.$shareLink = http://www.imssearch.com/5552.$shareTitle = The University Times News Research Notes column on findings arising from University research. We welcome submissions from all areas of the University. Submission information via e-mail to utimes@ pitt.edu, by fax at 412/624-4579 or by campus mail to 308 Bellefield Hall.

For submission guidelines, visit www.utimes.pitt.edu/page_id_6807.

2003 to 2014. During that time, the rate for a course with a single treatment rose from 7.6 percent to 15.8 percent. The rate for multiple treatments with 10 treatments or more was 7.8 percent.

In this study we have seen that the number of courses with multiple treatments decreased from 18.6 percent to 9.7 percent during the same time. By 2014, the study found that more than 90 percent of courses were delivered with fewer than 10 treatments.

“Science and medical practice have been relatively slow to adapt their evidence-based practice on cancer care,” said the researchers. “There is a need to incorporate current evidence into clinical practice guidelines and to develop new strategies for improving the delivery of radiation therapy.”

UPMC CancerCenter first began using the new technique in 2003. In 2014, the program was modified based on clinical evidence to encourage radiation therapy courses with single treatment, while those courses with 10 treatments or more were considered off path.

Researchers found that 12,678 unique courses of radiation therapy were delivered from 2003 to 2014.

The University Times News Research Notes column on findings arising from University research. We welcome submissions from all areas of the University. Submission information via e-mail to utimes@pitt.edu, by fax at 412/624-4579 or by campus mail to 308 Bellefield Hall.

For submission guidelines, visit www.utimes.pitt.edu/page_id_6807.

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The University Times News Research Notes column on findings arising from University research. We welcome submissions from all areas of the University. Submission information via e-mail to utimes@pitt.edu, by fax at 412/624-4579 or by campus mail to 308 Bellefield Hall.

For submission guidelines, visit www.utimes.pitt.edu/page_id_6807.

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RESEARCH NOTES
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

igator, Ken Stahl, director of the Center for LGBT Health Research as well as faculty member and director of both behavioral and community health sciences and infection diseases and microbiology: “We celebrate that medica-
tions now exist to enable people with HIV to live well into old age. But we also need to recognize that the health complications that come with aging—both mental and physical—are compounded when you’re living with HIV. It is critical that we develop research-based programs to support HIV-positive people as they age.”

The project will regularly survey 1,800 HIV-positive and -negative men participating in the multicity AIDS cohort study, an ongoing research study that has enrolled thousands of men in Baltimore, Chicago, Pittsburgh and Los Angeles over the past 30 years to participate in research on HIV/AIDS.

The study aims to tease out why some gay and bisexual men remain healthy well into later life, even with multiple risk factors for conditions such as depression and substance abuse. The research team then will determine strategies that could help all gay and bisexual men adopt healthier lifestyles—whether it’s strong friendships, positive family ties, good coping skills or something else—that will give them a better shot at healthy aging, particularly when living with HIV.

The research team also will look at whether changing rates of resiliencies over time are associated with changes in substance use and other psychosocial health problems, as well as HIV-related health outcomes and medication adherence.

“Aging can be hard even when you have very few health risks,” said Stahl. “A gay man who came of age in a much less accepting era and is positive for HIV has the odds stacked against him. He’s at greater risk for depression and substance abuse; he might not have prepared for retirement because he didn’t expect to live to reach it, and he may eventually need long-term care because he’s at greater risk for complications from diabetes and heart disease. And yet these are men facing all these risks who are defying the odds and leading healthy, happy lives. We could—and should—all learn from them.”

Additional PTT investigators on this project are James Egan, Mack Friedman and Dan Siconolfi. A researcher from Georgetown University also is participating.

—Compiled by Mary Levine

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Consider investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. Go to tiaa-cref.org for product and fund prospectuses that contain this and other information. Read carefully before investing. TIAA-CREF funds are subject to market and other risk factors.
Bellet Teaching Awards Call for Nominations

From October 1 through October 31, 2015, the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences will accept nominations for the 2016 Tina & David Bellet Teaching Excellence Awards. These annual awards recognize extraordinary achievement and innovation in undergraduate teaching. Winners receive a onetime stipend of $6,000.

Eligibility Requirements

Must be a Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences faculty member with a regular full-time appointment who undergrades teaching students

Must have taught for at least three years on the Pittsburgh campus

Must receive three or more nominations

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

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

For more information, contact Carol Lynch at clynch@pitt.edu or visit our Web site at as.pitt.edu/teaching/bellet.
the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition at Children’s Hospital.

The award was presented at the annual meeting of the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (NASPGHAN) in Washington, D.C. The award recognizes an outstanding clinician, educator and scientist who has made significant contributions to the field of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition. Squares is the principal investigator for the multicenter, nation-wide National Institutes of Health-sponsored pediatric acute liver failure study group, the site principal investigator for the Childhood Liver Disease Research Network, and was the principal investigator for the Pediatric Intestinal Failure Consortium.

Squares served as chair of the AAP Section on Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition and was the founding executive member of NASPGHAN.

Phil Brooks, an entrepreneur and business consultant with 30-plus years of experience in management, strategy, information technology, life sciences and entertainment, has joined the Innovation Institute as a full-time executive in residence. In this role, Brooks will mentor faculty and students seeking to commercialize their innovations by working with strategy planning, grant writing support, competitive analysis, market research and finance.

Brooks has served in a variety of roles with university-based spinoffs at Pitt, Carnegie Mellon and Lehigh, including serving as CEO and COO of two start-up companies.

For the past 17 years, Brooks has co-owned Brooks Consulting LLC, a management consulting firm. Prior to this, he owned a public relations firm focused on the high tech sector and also served as a director of a large accounting firm. He has a BS in biology and MS in pharmacology, as well as MBA.

Brooks currently chairs the growth and innovation council and is a member of the screening committee for Blue Tree Allied Angels, a Pittsburgh-based early-stage investor network.

Law professor emeritus Stella Sunstank has received the 2015 Outstanding Pro Bono Award from the Pro Bono Center of the Allegheny County Bar Association. This award honors law students who contribute to providing free legal services to low-income residents of Allegheny County.

Sunstank received her law degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and has volunteered with the Legal Aid Society of Western Pennsylvania on behalf of the firm’s pro bono program. She has been the recipient of numerous honors and awards for her work in the field of law, including the Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year Award from the Pittsburgh Legal Services.

The research of neuroscience faculty member Yan Dong in the Doherty School of Arts and Sciences, showing how drugs such as cocaine can hijack the brain’s circuitry, leading to addiction, has earned him the Society for Neuroscience’s Jacob J. Wienerk Award. Dong received the $25,000 award at the society’s annual meeting.

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Office of Measurement and Evaluation of Teaching OMET Center for Instructional Development & Distance Education
Friends were received Oct. 25 in Pitt-Bradford’s McDowell Sport and Fitness Center at a memorial service for longtime UPB facilities worker Jeff Armstrong, who died suddenly at his home in Bradford on Oct. 22, 2015.

Armstrong, 60, had been employed at Pitt-Bradford for 41 years. He was among the longest serving UPB staff.

During UPB’s 50th anniversary celebration in 2013, he was tapped to join a panel of UPB long-timers who shared tales and recollections of campus history.

A Bradford native, Armstrong’s connections to Bradford date back to his teen years, when he mowed lawns for Donald Swarts, the campus’s first facilities worker.

Many of those former students remember Armstrong as a gentle giant, one who treated everyone with dignity and respect, he said. He was always steady, laughable and trustworthy, he said, what he said he was going to do.

"He was reliable. The people who came — made a great dad."

Pete Buchheit, UPB director of facilities management at UPB, said Armstrong loved the outdoors and “had a particular interest in the quality of the environment around the campus,” and dedication to the campus community.

"This was Jeff’s second home,” said Buchheit.

"Jeff will be missed. He was an integral member of the campus family. He took great pride in his work and was an exceptional employee. Many of us will miss him."

"He was one of those people who were always there, ready to go. You never had to call him at 2 a.m. for snow removal. He was there," Buchheit said.

"He always got the most out of our student workers," Buchheit said.

"Funny and good-natured, Armstrong got students to work side-by-side with him, sharing his strong work ethic that centered on getting a job done and done right," Buchheit said. "He made them good people."

Many of those former students attended the memorial, with one commenting that he’d learned more about life from Armstrong than he had in the course of his formal education on campus, Buchheit recounted.

Buchheit, who worked with Armstrong for 37 years, said Armstrong's death has devastated his department “family” of a dozen co-workers. “It’s a shock that’s going to take a long time for all of us to recover from,” he said. "We just all want to find out what Jeff did and what he knew.

Armstrong is survived by his wife, Harriet, who was married in the campus's chapel in 1974. His work included snow removal, set-ups for events including commencement and the Pitt varsity marching band's annual camp at UPB, garden maintenance and other grounds work at the campus and president’s residence.

James Evans, UPB vice president of administration and policy studies from the School of Education in 2003. She had done administrative work, he notes, but “she brought a lot of great things to the center. She quickly clicked, and she had a position appropriate to her skill level, which was quite high. She was a tremendously adaptive person who was nonetheless able to hold onto her core and her personal values. She had a tremendous sense of empathy for what mattered professionally and personally. It is still rare to find somebody who can maintain the intellectual side and is still an adaptive person. It really rounded out our team.”

Evens designed a course on global energy that was held for the first time in May and began with an examination of local energy developments in Pennsylvania. Her students traveled to Washington County to see the impact of shale gas-drilling on communities, then to Washington, D.C., to study U.S. policies’ effects, then on to see firsthand Moscow’s global energy networks and the situation in Bulgaria, a country caught between two energy giants.

The course, Konitzer says, “was interdisciplinary, it worked with so many schools, it got us out into the community, and it got us out into the world.”

Hicks had been critical of some parts of shale development, he recalls. During the class’s Washington, D.C. stop, “we got a tour of a local energy company,” she went out there extremely skeptical. She came back skeptical—but clearly struggled with her point of view. She do see some of the positive economic impact. She came back with what Susan always sought, which was a more complex picture of reality.”

Prior to working for Pitt, Hicks participated in international programs in Russia, Mongolia and Peru. She was a resident director for the American Council for National Education, supervising several groups of American students in Russia, and teaching classes on transnationalism and society, the history of indigenous peoples and the anthropology of Eurasia.

Of her recollections of Hicks, Konitzer says, “made her a tremendously effective facilitator for the study-abroad program. She was also running Pitt’s global village living-learning community.”

In addition to cycling, she participated in camping and hiking, as well as social causes that were important to her.

“She was not only active but she was an activist,” he says. “People talked to her and they felt a connection immediately. She would work with people from all walks of life.”

A memorial service was held Oct. 25 at the Greensburg campus for the campus’s first director of the Greensburg Cancer Research Foundation (JDRF) One Walk, which brings hundreds of students and faculty to Pitt-Greensburg’s campus.

Root also directs the outdoor adventure and community service living community, and advises the Circle K Club and the campus chapter for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). Root is UPG’s employee
cordinator for the United Way campaign.

This spring, he received the Chancellor’s Award for Staff Excellence in Service to the University and to the Community. He also received the 2014 President’s Employee Service Award for Staff at Pitt-Greensburg.

Lynn Coghil, director of the MSW program in the School of Social Work, has been named National Social Worker of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers.

Hicks is survived by her parents, Mark and Mary Beth and Kelvin Mohr; sister and brother-in-law Mary Beth and Kelvin Mohr; brother Mark Armstrong; and grandparents in Hicks and Patti Armstrong.

—Kimberly K. Barlow
Thursday 5
Faculty/Staff Development Workshop
"Mythos: Understanding Your Personality in the Workplace," Manfred Eibl, PhD, 9:30 am; "Practicing the Art of Leadership," Robert T. Johnson, 1:45 pm; "The Art of Persuasion," Saul Kripke, 4:00 pm.

ULS Auditors Day Display/Lecture
Exhibits, Hillman 3rd fl., 9 am-4:45 pm; lecture, Alex Sperkre, 3rd Story Books, Amy Knapp, Hillman 3rd fl., 10 am.

CDIDE Workshop
"Dealing with Difficult Situations in the Classroom," 813 Almon, 10 am (www.cidle.pitt.edu/worksheets).
Saturday 7
Singing term open enrollment begins.

Nationality Rooms Decorating Day
1st, 2nd, 3rd Fl., 11 am-5 pm
Beardford Campus Open House
12:30 pm, UPS (register: www.sha.pitt.edu/visit.aspx)

Jazz Seminar Lecture
“How to Prepare for a Career in the Music Industry,” January Owens, 10 am; “Signatures & Beginnings: Stories From the Jazz Walk,” Kenny Bacon, noon; FPA and Football.

WSC: Notor Dance; Hebrew Field, noon
Jazz Seminar Concert
Carnegie Music Hall, 7:30 pm

Sunday 8
Publications ’18
Celebrating 75 years of the Polish & Lithuanian Nationality Rose, GL, Commons Room, 10 am; noon, 5 pm
Concert
Campus Ensemble, Heinz Chapel, 7 pm

Monday 9
Flu Shot Clinic
2:30, 11 am-1 pm
CIDDIE Workshop
“Getting Started in the Classroom,” 8:15, 11 am (www.ciddie.pitt.edu)

Tuesday 10
Reducing Dangerous & Under-

ing Drinking Cost
“Innovative Strategies for the Millennials Generation,” TPI, 8-10:30 am (register: www.
pitt.edu/2015/leveragechoice.com)
Faculty/Staff Development Workshops
“Working With Style — Official University Style, That Is,” South Jordan Rosenhouse, 3:45 pm, 6:30 pm (www.heinemann.pitt.edu/events)

Wednesday 11
Clinical Oncology/Hematology Grand Rounds
“Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation: Break in Disease States,” Warren Shidham, Hershey Cancer Ctr., Campus Conf. rm. 8 A 1 C, 8 am (collbr@pitt.
upmc.edu)

Faculty/Staff Development Workshops
“Developing Your Career at the U of Pgh,” Stanley Miller, Beacon, 1600 Forbes, noon-11:30 am; “Public Speaking in a Nutshell,” Michael Bannor, 324 Clark, 9 am-noon (register: www.hec.pitt.edu/training-
development/faculty-staff)

Johnson Inst. Lecture
“60IPFCS Combats Gender Inequality & Extreme Poverty in Urban Slums by Linking Trustee

SAG Mag.
102 Birchfield, noon
Senate Council Meeting
2700 Forbes, 1 pm
Year of the Humanities Work-
shop
“Writing Intellectual Biographies: Bringing Thinkers & Their Ideas to Life,” Laura Snyder, St. John’s U, 605 CL, 1 pm (www.humanities.pitt.edu/events)

Elliott Seminar: "The Curious Disappearance of Civic Inflammation in the Age of the Internet,” Dana Louise Piers, Washington Post/ U of MD Connolly Ballroom, Alumni, 7:30 pm

Thursday 12
Faculty/Staff Development Workshops
“Title IX Understanding: Compliance at the U of Pgh,” Kirty Repski, 342 Clark, 9-11 am, “Resume Writing & Covers Letters,” Mark Bushnell, 342 Clark, noon-1:30 pm (register: www.hec.pitt.edu/training-development/faculty-staff)

Alzheimer Disease Research Ctr. Seminar
“Serial Determinants of Cognitive Health & Perceived Support Needs of Bed-Bound Adults Living With MCI & Early-Stage Alzheimer Disease,” Meghan Marine, ADRC conf. rm. 5415 Montefiore, noon

Nordorden Lecture in Law, Medicine & Psychiatry
“Ethics in Reproductive Medicine: What’s Old, What’s New, What’s Butterworth & What’s Sky?” Nancy King, Wake Forest, Brookland, 12:30 pm

Humanities Ctr. Lectures
“Harvey in English Culture: Raymond Willard’s Culture & Society Revised,” 12:30 pm, “Mencenizing Up: University & Accountancy,” 5 pm, Stefan Collins, Cambridge, 5:30 CL (www.humanities.pitt.edu/events)

Sleep Medicine Inst. Research Day
Kleiman, David Kupfer, psychiatry, UCh, 1-5 pm (register: www.sleepdia
upmc.edu)
CALENDAR
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14
Chemistry Seminar
“The Influence of Surface Chemistry on the Electrochemistry of Metallic Electrodes,” Ben Lin, PSI, 150 Chem, 2-30 pm (chemunt@pitt.edu).
Geology/Planetary Science Colloquium
“Spectral, Thermophysical and Geologic Characteristics of Late Stage Halite-Dissolving Fracture Deposits on Mars,” Tim Grotz, SUNY-Stony Brook, 11:45, 2-5 pm.

Defenses
AlSi/ Biological Sciences
Laughrin, noon.
Education/Instruct and Learning
“Teaching the Natural History of Bacteria in the Classroom,” students’ Thinking Award and High-lying Levels during Lessons/Planning Students’ Implementation of the Teaching During Instruction,” Scott Ledbetter, Oct. 20, 11:45 AM, noon.
Chemistry
“The Use of Graphene & its Derivatives in Chemical and Biological Sensing,” Gregory Mosquera, Oct. 20, 3:07 PM.
Medicine/Cellular & Molecular Pathology
SHRS/Sports Medicine & Nutrition
“The Effect of Jump Distance on Biomechanical Risk Factors for ACL Injury during Landing and Their Relationship With Spermatic Characteristics at the Knee,” Natalie Haseem, Nov. 2, 4:05 PM, Fer. 10, 1 pm.
Engineering/Electrical and Computer Engineering
“Transformer Faults in Multiple Reactive Wireless Power Transmission System Analysis & Design,” Hae Wang, Nov. 3, 3:00 PM, Forbes Ave., 3:00, 2 pm.

AlSi/Physics & Astronomy
“Quantum Transport in Semiconducting Nanostructures,” Shitong Liu, Nov. 4, 4:15 PM, noon.
AlSi/Hispanic Languages & Literatures
“Concepcion and Literature of the Carabobo: Two centuries in the age of revolution 1930-1990,” Guadalupe Aguado, November 19, 153 CL, 2-4 pm.
AlSi/Cellular & Molecular Pathology

Theatre
Pitt Stage Productions
“Wine by the Spoonful,” Henry Heyman Theater, through Nov. 1, 12:00-8:00 PM, 2:00-5:00 PM, (pitt.edu/arts/coal/curtain/3-spoonful);
“Good Kids,” Henry Heyman Theater, Nov. 11-22, 12:00-8:00 PM, 2:00-5:00 PM, (pitt.edu/arts/coal/curtain/ good-kids);
“A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” Charity Randell Theatre, Nov. 12-22, 12:00-8:00 PM, 2:00-5:00 PM, (pitt.edu/arts/coal/ curtain/midsummer-night’s-dream).

Exhibits
Bowen Library
“Portraits,” by Jennifer Kohl, through Nov. 6, M-T-Th, 6:00-10:00 PM, F, S, T, 6:00-8:00 PM, S, 10:00-8:00 PM.
Woodward Library
“New Currents,” Lila J. Lassell, Nov. 6-12, M-F, 8:00-9:00 PM.

Equalization of Sexual Dimorphism in Monkeys and Their Relationship with Spermatic Characteristics at the Knee,” Natalie Haseem, Nov. 2, 4:05 PM, Fer. 10, 1 pm.
Engineering/Electrical and Computer Engineering
“Transformer Faults in Multiple Reactive Wireless Power Transmission System Analysis & Design,” Hae Wang, Nov. 3, 3:00 PM, Forbes Ave., 3:00, 2 pm.

AlSi/Physics & Astronomy
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“Concepcion and Literature of the Carabobo: Two centuries in the age of revolution 1930-1990,” Guadalupe Aguado, November 19, 153 CL, 2-4 pm.
AlSi/Cellular & Molecular Pathology

Electives
Nancy M. King, JD
PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES & HEALTH POLICY
WAKE FOREST INSTITUTE FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE
WAKE FOREST SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
CO-DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY, HEALTH & SOCIETY AND GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN BIOTECHNOLOGY
WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

ETHICS IN REGENERATIVE MEDICINE: WHAT’S OLD, WHAT’S NEW, WHAT’S BORROWED, AND WHAT’S BLUE SKY?
Thursday, November 12, 2015
12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
Barco Law Building
Courtyard - Ground Floor
3300 Health Sciences Drive - Oakland

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Pitt Law

Open to the Public

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE SET FOR NOVEMBER

The University’s annual winter apparel drive began Sunday and continues through the month of November.

New hats, gloves, scarves and socks are being collected for individuals in need as local shelters, and to be distributed at the annual Christmas Day at Pitt event, said Kaunun Saha, director of community relations.

Collection bins are located in Ahlunt, Benedum, Craig, Mervin, Scale, Thackery and Povac halls, the Cathedral of Learning, the Eubanks Building, Hillman Library, the O’Hara Student Center, Duke Plaza, the Petersen Events Center, the Coudert Public Safety Building, Thomas Boulardie, the University Store on Fifth and the William Pitt Union.

Schools and departments are encouraged to set up their own collection points, and can arrange a pickup by contacting Community and Government Relations.

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Mark A. Nordenberg Lecture in Law, Medicine and Psychiatry

Pitt Law

Open to the Public

Mark A. Nordenberg Lecture in Law, Medicine and Psychiatry

ETHICS IN REGENERATIVE MEDICINE: WHAT’S OLD, WHAT’S NEW, WHAT’S BORROWED, AND WHAT’S BLUE SKY?
Thursday, November 12, 2015
12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
Barco Law Building
Courtyard - Ground Floor
3300 Health Sciences Drive - Oakland
Thursday 29

Ctr. for Simulation/Modeling Seminar

"ARCH 2015: Advancing Research Through Computing"; UT Chattanooga, 113 Minshall Hall, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Faculty/Staff Development Workshop

"Microsoft Excel 2013 Fundamentals"; 300 Taylor St., 3rd Floor, 8 a.m.-noon (registrants: 907-343-4288; non-registrants: 907-343-5551)

CIDDIE Workshop

Class Participation: What’s It Worth?"; 9:45 a.m.-10 a.m. (registrants: 907-343-4288; non-registrants: 907-343-5551)

Animal Friends Therapy Dogs Visit

Noody’s Place, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Health Services Research Seminar

"RAN D Mini-Perspectives"; 305 Pinchcock St., noon (registrants: 907-343-4288; non-registrants: 907-343-5551)

Jazz Seminar Performance

Pat Jaz Ensemble, Switzerland lobby, noon

Chemistry Seminar

"Targeting Mitochondrial DNA with Oligodeoxynucleotide Peptides"; 10 a.m. (registrants: 907-343-4288; non-registrants: 907-343-5551)

Friday 30

Full term deadline for students to submit unclassified withdrawal forms to dean’s office.

Feresh/Italian 5th Anniversary Conf.

602 CL & UCCH, 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. (registrants: 907-343-4288; non-registrants: 907-343-5551)

Feresh/Italian 5th Anniversary Concert

Housman Building, 10 a.m. (registrants: 907-343-4288; non-registrants: 907-343-5551)

Festfall

V. C. Na, Housman Building, 9 a.m. (registrants: 907-343-4288; non-registrants: 907-343-5551)

Chemical Education Symposium

"Ethical Dilemmas in Chemistry"; 9 a.m. (registrants: 907-343-4288; non-registrants: 907-343-5551)

Monday 31

Fuller Cystometry Workshop

Hill Center, 1400 Mountain, 9 a.m.-noon (registrants: 907-343-4288; non-registrants: 907-343-5551)

CIDDIE Workshop

"Assignments: Design, Assessment and Feedback"; 9:30 a.m. (registrants: 907-343-4288; non-registrants: 907-343-5551)

Jazz Seminar Performance

Pat Jaz Ensemble, WPU lounge, noon

Chemistry Seminar

"Evidence for Accommodation of Cesalpinia & Its Use in Violin Manufacturing"; 10 a.m. (registrants: 907-343-4288; non-registrants: 907-343-5551)

Tuesday 3

Faculty/Staff Development Workshop

"Difference Like You!"; 9:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m., 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.; 1 p.m.-2:15 p.m. (registrants: 907-343-4288; non-registrants: 907-343-5551)

Jazz Seminar Performance

Pat Jaz Ensemble, WPU lounge, noon

Chemistry Seminar

"Recent Advances in Computational Chemistry & Its Use in Violin Manufacturing"; 10 a.m. (registrants: 907-343-4288; non-registrants: 907-343-5551)

Find it in the University Times Classifieds!