



*What we earn:  
An annual Pitt  
report details the  
highs and lows of  
salaries here. See  
pages 4-6.*

# UNIVERSITY TIMES

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UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

## Goodbye, broadcast messages

**T**his broadcast message includes ... a recommendation to eliminate Pitt's broadcast message service.

Computing Services and Systems Development director Jinx Walton said she's making the call to terminate the service based in part on a recent survey in which nearly 9 out of 10 respondents said the compilation of announcements and promotional messages provided through CSSD was not useful or was only minimally useful.

"There are so many other ways to reach people, this one's no longer relevant," Walton said.

About 1,780 people (36 percent) responded to the survey sent last month to the University's 4,875 voicemail subscribers by CSSD in conjunction with the University Senate computer usage committee.

Committee co-chair Alexandros Labrinidis told Faculty Assembly at its May 4 meeting, "We've been hearing anecdotal evidence in the committee, and by reports from other people, that they don't like broadcast voicemail."

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## Commencement 2010

**The University awarded more than 7,000 bachelor's, graduate and professional degrees this year at its five campuses.**

**The Pittsburgh campus commencement was held May 2 at The Petersen Events Center. The four regional campuses held commencement ceremonies on their own campuses the same weekend.**

See pages 8 & 9.

Jim Burke/CIDDE

## Syllabus should address issue of students recording classes, Faculty Assembly says

**F**aculty should add a statement to course syllabi clarifying students' use

of recording technology in the classroom, Faculty Assembly recommended last week.

Kathleen Kelly, co-chair of the University Senate educational policies committee (EPC), reported May 4 on what she termed a "classroom civility topic."

As University Senate President Michael Pinsky reported at the November Assembly meeting, in October a student secretly taped a Pitt class and posted it on YouTube. The posting included the student's caustic commentary about the class, the instructor and the University, he said.

When confronted by the instructor, the student removed the video from the site and resigned from the course. The teacher elected not to pursue any action against the student, Pinsky told Assembly members in the fall.

At the May 4 Assembly meeting, Kelly said, "There was an incident that was taken care of, but it raised the bigger issue of making faculty more aware of the potential of this happening with the growth of electronic media."

"We spent a lot of time deliberating on the issue of students' disseminating what happened in a classroom. We had the input of legal counsel on several occasions, as well as the provost's office, to come up with—not a policy—but a statement."

The statement, which was

approved by Assembly members with one abstention, reads: "To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the student's own private use."

Use of the statement is optional, Kelly noted.

To disseminate this recommendation to faculty members, EPC plans to work with the Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education (CIDDE), she said.

"We thought the best vehicle for that might be to go through CIDDE, to have them perhaps pre-populate that statement in their [syllabus] template," Kelly said.

At last week's Assembly meeting, Pinsky, in endorsing the statement, said, "The principle here is the sanctity of the classroom, and that the classroom should have open and free conversation, but it is not a public place. So, for example, you can't go into someone else's classroom without their permission."

The other issue, he said, was protecting students' confidence

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Kimberly K. Barlow

## Carved in stone

**Facilities Management laborer Lennie Burd inscribes the names of the 2009 Omicron Delta Kappa Senior of the Year awardees on the ODK walkway crossing the Cathedral of Learning lawn. The inscriptions on prior years' stones were sandblasted offsite as part of the recent restoration of the walkway, but additional names are being inscribed in place.**





## Pitt ranked among top research schools

**P**itt ranks among the top American research universities, according to the 2009 report of the Center for Measuring University Performance released last week.

According to the report, in addition to publicly available data, the center “relies heavily on the initiative and insights of its advisory board and draws on the insights and recommendations of many colleagues throughout the country who contribute data, information and perspective.”

The 2009 report includes only those institutions with at least \$40 million in research expenditures in fiscal year 2007; 160 institutions — 113 public and 47 private — met the criteria for FY07. According to the report authors, these 160 schools account for about 90 percent of all reported academic federal research expenditures.

The listing identifies 52 institutions (27 private and 25 public) that rank in the top 25 nationally on at least one of nine measures

related to financial support, faculty or students.

Pitt ranked in the top 25 research universities nationwide in four of the nine measures: No. 12 in postdoctoral appointees, with 846; No. 13 in federal research dollars, with \$441 million; No. 18 in total research dollars, with more than \$558.6 million in FY07, and No. 19 in faculty awards, with 28.

Pitt ranked in the top 26-50 in four measures: No. 29 in endowment assets with more than \$2.3 billion; No. 29 in doctorates granted with 463; No. 42 in National Academy members with 25, and No. 49 in annual giving with nearly \$127 million.

Pitt's national rank for SAT or ACT range (560-660, 570-660) placed the University at No. 139 nationally.

Three institutions — Columbia, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Stanford — were ranked in the top 25 in all nine measures. Harvard, Penn, Duke

and Michigan-Ann Arbor were ranked in the top 25 in eight measures.

Among public research institutions, Pitt ranked in the top 25 in all nine measures: No. 6 in postdoctoral appointees; No. 7 in federal research; No. 8 in endowment assets; No. 10 in faculty awards; No. 12 in total research; No. 19 in doctorates granted; No. 22 in National Academy members; No. 25 in annual giving, and No. 25 in SAT/ACT range.

Joining Pitt in the group of public institutions with top 25 ranking in all nine measures were Berkeley, UCLA, Illinois/Urbana-Champaign, Michigan-Ann Arbor, North Carolina-Chapel Hill and Wisconsin-Madison.

Current and previous years' report data are available in spreadsheet form at <http://mup.asu.edu>.

(For Pitt's rankings in last year's report, see May 14, 2009, *University Times*.)

—Peter Hart

## Go green — toss those old cell phones

**A**n estimated 500 million cell phones are stored in homes across the United States, unused and taking up space. The University, in conjunction with local electronics recycling firm eLoop, aims to do its part to properly recycle these unwanted phones in a way that keeps cell phone waste (which can contain lead, mercury and other toxins) out

of landfills. eLoop estimates that only 2 percent of all cell phones are properly recycled.

Computing Services and Systems Development (CSSD) is leading a collection of cell phones, other mobile devices and accessories through June 5 in partnership with eLoop's “Last Call” phone recycling initiative.

The Last Call initiative aims to collect 1 million phones in its six-week campaign that began on Earth Day (April 22) and runs through World Environment Day (June 5). According to eLoop, phones are sorted for destruction or refurbishment. Phones collected in the Last Call program are recycled in an environmentally conscious fashion with all personal data securely destroyed.

CSSD director Jinx Walton said the University was approached by eLoop and decided to participate. “We are looking at green initiatives. We thought this was a good opportunity to see what kind of response we got,”

Walton said. “We estimated we could probably collect a couple hundred [devices].”

In the first two weeks of the collection, 47 cell phones and 20 chargers have been collected.

The University receives a small amount of cash for each pound of material collected, but the program mainly is designed to build awareness of the negative environmental impact of cell phone waste, Walton said.

The cell phone collection is likely to be repeated periodically, she said. “Every time a new device comes out people want to upgrade.”

Collection boxes are located in campus computing labs, Hillman Library, the Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation, Software Licensing Services, the University Book Center, William Pitt Union, Craig Hall and the Towers lobby.

Additional information on the program is available at [technology.pitt.edu](http://technology.pitt.edu).

—Kimberly K. Barlow

### Absentee ballot deadline May 14

Tuesday, May 18, is Pennsylvania Primary Election Day. Polls will be open 7 a.m.–8 p.m.

Absentee ballots must be received by the County Board of Elections no later than 5 p.m. tomorrow, May 14.

For more information, contact Pitt's Governmental Relations office, 412/624-6011, or the Allegheny County Division of Elections, 412/350-4500.



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### Donations accepted till May 17

## Food drive extended

**P**itt's Partnership for Food drive has been extended to May 17.

Although donations are running ahead of last year's totals, “Based on the extraordinary needs and numbers of people served by the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, the decision was made to maximize the food drive's results by extending it,” said Steve Zupcic, coordinator of the Faculty and Staff in Service to Communities program.

In addition to donating food via the on-campus collection sites, members of the University community can shop online for items that the Food Bank needs most. Food can be purchased at about half the retail price from the Food Bank's suppliers and shipped directly to the Food Bank.

The online shopping link is [www.pittsburghfoodbank.org/pitt](http://www.pittsburghfoodbank.org/pitt).

Credit cards accepted are Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express and Diners Club.

Participants in the virtual food drive receive a receipt for tax deduction purposes. In addition, the value of all donations, including those purchased online, will be matched by the Office of the Chancellor.

Donations to the Food Bank also may be made by check to the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, 1 North Linden Street, Duquesne 15110.

Donors should write “University of Pittsburgh” in the memo area of the check to ensure the donation will be matched by the Chancellor's office.

For more information, contact Zupcic at 412/624-7709 or [stz@pitt.edu](mailto:stz@pitt.edu).

—Peter Hart



Kimberly K. Barlow

### Painting for a cause

**Artist Trish Orchard, wife of Graduate School of Public Health epidemiology professor Trevor Orchard, works at her easel during the annual spring sale to benefit the Evelyn H. Wei Scholarship Award in Epidemiology. The spring sale raised an estimated \$3,300 for the fund. Held May 7 in Parran Hall, the event featured jewelry, photography, artwork and other items handmade by faculty, staff and friends of GSPH.**

**The scholarship fund was established in 2004 in memory of Pitt researcher Evelyn Wei, who was struck by a vehicle while walking near her Regent Square home. Wei earned her PhD in psychiatric epidemiology at GSPH.**

**To date, more than \$40,000 has been raised. Information on the twice-yearly sales to benefit the fund is available at [www.publichealth.pitt.edu/section.php?pageID=260](http://www.publichealth.pitt.edu/section.php?pageID=260).**

## Pitt is hanging up on broadcast messages

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

messages. We now have factual evidence. The conclusion is this is not useful; it's a nuisance, more nuisance than it's worth. We're going to recommend that this is suspended, and we're going to be coming up with alternative methods for these messages to be delivered, possibly on a web site.”

While about 13 percent of respondents found the service somewhat, very or extremely useful, 64.5 percent said the message service was not useful and 22.3 percent found it minimally useful.

Nearly two-thirds admitted to never listening to the announcements, which typically are sent about four times per month.

Though 32 percent said they'd like to see the broadcast messages eliminated completely, more than 55 percent of respondents preferred the messages be delivered in some other format such as on a web site or portal.

Labrinidis said some used the words “annoying,” “hassle,” “waste of time” and “useless nuisance” to describe the broadcast messages. Others labeled the messages “audio spam.”

Walton said University phone users have been extremely vocal in opposing the broadcast messages. “To date, no one is coming forward

in strong support of keeping these messages,” she said.

Some who missed the survey deadline went so far as to contact the technology help desk to register their opinions. “People feel they have spam filters for email; [they say] can't we filter out these messages?” Walton said. Many workers view voicemail as a necessity but consider the broadcast messages a burden because there is no easy way to opt out, she said.

Noting the 36 percent response rate, Walton said she planned to use the survey information as a basis for making the decision to eliminate the messages.

She was amenable to developing a way to deliver the information in a way that would offer the best of both worlds — humoring both those users who don't want the messages at all, yet taking into account that more than half of the survey respondents were open to receiving the information in some other format.

Exactly how to deliver the messages has yet to be determined, but a web site or RSS feed to which users could subscribe are possibilities.

She said she hopes to roll out the new format in time for the fall term.

—Kimberly K. Barlow  
& Peter Hart



Research in the fields of education, neurobiology and psychology has informed the understanding of how students learn. Yet, educators say, there is a disconnect between what researchers know about learning and what faculty members do about it when they're teaching.

Two Pitt professors last week discussed their approaches to bridging that gap — the “growing schism between learning and schooling” as one professor put it — at a Summer Instructional Development Institute seminar titled “How Students Learn Directs How We Should Teach,” sponsored by the Provost's Advisory Council for Instructional Excellence and the Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education.

“Information is not knowledge,” said Sam Donovan, research associate professor of biological sciences who specializes in using web-based collaboration tools. “Technical access to something is not the same as professional access. There's lots of work to do to create a disciplinary perspective for information, and you need to provide students with some background to get started, but the good news is there are tools and resources available to do it.”

Donovan, who also is director of undergraduate programs for the BioQUEST Curriculum Consortium, a 25-year national reform effort in biology education, spoke on “Learning to Learn: Integrating Disciplinary and Media Literacy.”

He credited the educational theories of Allan Collins, author and emeritus professor of education and social policy at Northwestern University, with leading him to “a revelation.”

“With the exponential expansion of technology, how we interact with students is changing. There are changes in the very nature of the discipline and there are differences between students' learning outside school compared to what they learn inside school,” Donovan said.

“We have the tools and capacity for communities built on common interest to form and sustain themselves, to be focused on specialized topics, and people are taking advantage of these to learn outside the classroom.”

*(Collins delivered a lecture on this subject at Pitt last October. See Nov. 12 University Times.)*

“One of the hallmarks of the new science of learning is its emphasis on learning with understanding. Deep understanding of subject matter transforms factual information into usable knowledge. It also leads to lifelong learning, which is one of our responsibilities to promote,” Donovan said.

“What is understanding? Understanding involves more than reproducing information or using existing routines. Understanding is the ability to think and act flexibly with what one knows,” he said.

Donovan advocates a performance-based evaluation of understanding. “We [faculty] traffic in knowledge and skills. So a student who performs well in our class generally acquires a certain amount of knowledge. But the integration of that knowledge, the application of that knowledge to problems, for that there are

# Incorporating how students learn into how faculty teach

transfer issues. Understanding is not something that is indicated on a test. It's the act of doing something,” he said.

That's where the “three Ps” come in: problem posing, problem solving and peer persuasion, Donovan said.

What makes a good scientific problem? “The goal of any problem is to get students to move from being an audience to being participants. To do that, they have to see how research, which can be introduced into the teaching setting, plays out,” he said.

For example, teaching evolutionary biology involves a range of interdisciplinary knowledge, including in biology, genetics, ecology and environmental studies, Donovan said.

“The key is to integrate disciplinary knowledge and information literacy.”

It used to be that the professor and the textbook were the sole sources of information. “Now that is true much less so,” he said. “Think about all the information that's on the Internet. Students need to gain experience to find the information, which is what faculty have been trained to do,” he said.

In addition to accessing the most current discipline-specific academic literature, students need to learn to use other online tools — RSS feeds (such as Science News and PubMed), Google alerts, imageJ, ManyEyes and Gapminder — in their course assignments, he said. “Students gravitate toward these things. We are visual creatures, we can make sense of complex things,” Donovan said.

“Undergraduates need to understand the process of science, its interdisciplinary nature and how science is closely integrated within society. Students also should be competent in communication and collaboration, as well as have a certain level of quantitative competency, and a basic ability to understand and interpret data.”

Donovan said his main “take-away messages” are:

- While lectures have a role in courses, an overemphasis on didactic instruction does little to engage students as learners and even less to prepare them for future lifelong learning,
- “Work settings change, people have to retrain regularly, so we need to rethink our responsibility in terms of training lifelong learners,” he said.
- Online information resources exist to provide students with authentic learning experiences.

- Adopting this new curricular model will involve addressing both disciplinary and information literacy. “We need to think about not just our disciplinary knowledge but how things play out in the real world where students are interacting with all sorts of media,” Donovan said.

□

Another approach to applying how students learn to teaching is by employing evidence-based practice (EBP) techniques, according to Richard Henker, professor and vice chair in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, School of Nursing. He teaches nursing master's anesthesia students in the human simulation laboratory and as a nurse anesthetist preceptor at UPMC Presbyterian.

Evidence-based practice, Henker said, is defined as an approach to decision-making in which the clinician uses the best evidence available, in consultation with the patient, to decide on the option that suits that patient best.

“Our nursing anesthesia students are high achievers, excellent clinicians and critical care nurses who have a well-developed practice before they enter into our curriculum and they have some exposure to research,” Henker said.

“What we've discovered is that their understanding of a clinical concept is driven by their experience on that unit. They get a bachelor's degree that gives them many of the concepts, then they go out and practice on the unit and it changes a lot of their understanding. So we try to use EBP to guide their understanding from the time they start the program,” he said.

“What we try to emphasize is not only do you look at the literature and look at the evidence, but you also have to look at the patient's situation and the patient's preferences. So we try to integrate the clinician's expertise, moderated by patient circumstances. One of the things that drives me crazy is the model of always referring to the protocol. Not all patients fit the protocol.”

For example, Henker said, a patient with a broken arm that requires surgery should be given the choice of having regional block anesthesia or general anesthesia, instead of the nurse anesthetist making the decision. Nurse anesthetists learn to interview and assess each patient and formulate a plan of care to best meet the individual's needs.

“We encourage our students to look at all the advantages of

regional block and all the advantages of general anesthesia in terms of taking care of the patient, such as post-op complications and pain management,” he pointed out.

One obstacle can be a student's pre-existing understanding, which can be faulty. “Students arrive with preconceptions or incomplete understanding about how the world works. We try to fix those things they've learned from their clinical experience,” Henker said. “We do give content through lectures, which work well for recognition, but not for understanding. Recognizing a correct answer on a test does not show understanding.”

So faculty in the nurse anesthesia program use the Socratic method to engage students. In addition, the nursing school has decided to de-emphasize multiple choice exams in favor of essay tests, which provide a clearer indication of whether students understand concepts, he said.

“Our goal is a deeper foundation of factual knowledge, but there are obstacles, chiefly the attitude of ‘this is the way we've always done this procedure.’ The goal also is we want to teach you a process: Try to look at the literature, and incorporate the literature into patient care. Most important is to develop the habit of reviewing and critiquing the literature in order to relate it to practice. The literature on patient care changes dramatically in a short period,” Henker said.

He then explained how the nursing school incorporates EBP into its nurse anesthesia master's program curriculum.

“In the first course, Foundations of Anesthesia, there is

mostly content but we make sure we have an assignment that starts them identifying clinical questions, going out and doing research and then writing up a summary,” Henker said. Students quickly learn that the answers to these questions aren't all black and white.

“The textbooks may make it look black and white, but that's not the case in the real world,” he said.

In the Pharmacology course, students learn to critique the academic literature in small groups of two-three students. “They critique the article and discuss it, and then have someone get up in front of the class and present the critique and then discuss how this will affect their practice,” Henker explained, adding that this process is continued throughout the curriculum.

“In Statistics, evidence-based practice helps them to evaluate the methodology used in articles, and in Evidence-Based Practice I and II, students take some of the results of evidence they've found and apply it to a particular patient,” he said.

“In Research Practicum, which I teach, the format is: four short lectures; a review of statistical analysis and the critique process; critiquing seven articles, by having small groups critique different sections of the articles, and on a discussion board post a summary of their critique. We'll spend two hours discussing the critiques, and then we rotate the small groups,” Henker explained. “This really gives me insight into how well they understand the article. The article selection is important. They should be clinically relevant articles.”

He added that students are graded on classroom and online discussion.

The goal, he said, is to demonstrate the importance of research in supporting practice. “It's a clinically oriented program, and students are mostly interested in gaining clinical skill, but they often don't see the connection between research and clinical skill,” Henker said.

He added that the program promotes the critique process as part of lifelong learning; students learn to organize knowledge in a way that facilitates retrieval and to incorporate knowledge into practice, and they develop self-efficacy regarding learning.

—Peter Hart

## City Council to vote on Pitt master plan

Proposed updates to the University's master plan and a zoning change request that would allow Pitt to expand student housing at Bouquet Gardens are continuing their path through Pittsburgh city government.

The two items were approved at yesterday's City Council standing committee meeting and will move next to a full council vote, which is expected later this month.

A May 6 public hearing drew no public comment on the plans, which were approved in February by the city Planning Commission. (See Feb. 4 University Times.) At the hearing, Associate Vice Chancellor for Business Eli Shorak said the University plans to add 150-180 beds to undergraduate housing, although the project is still in the design phase.

To facilitate the expansion of Bouquet Gardens, the University seeks to rezone property at 315 Oakland Ave. from its current high-density residential zoning to the educational/medical institution district designation. The site contains a house that had been used as office space. The University purchased the parcel from Children's Hospital earlier this year for nearly \$1.4 million.

Pitt's master plans are posted online at [www.facmgmt.pitt.edu](http://www.facmgmt.pitt.edu).

—Kimberly K. Barlow





The University’s 11 executives, administrators and managers in the Office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences averaged salaries of \$190,596 in fiscal year 2009. At the same time, 20 technical, skilled and service employees in the office of the Associate Vice Chancellor, Human Resources earned an average of \$19,219, representing the high and the low on the spectrum of staff pay at Pitt.

Among faculty, the 23 full professors in the Arts and Sciences dean’s office were at the top of the salary range (by rank), averaging \$153,534, while 29 lecturers/others in the School of Medicine were lowest paid, with average salaries of \$20,404.

The FY09 report on mean and median faculty and staff salaries across the University’s 45 responsibility centers was presented at the April 30 University Senate budget policies committee meeting. The University’s Management Information and Analysis office compiles the report for BPC, which is charged with monitoring salaries and salary policies. This year’s figures are based on full-time Pitt employees on Oct. 31, 2008, and are categorized by faculty rank or staff occupational category for each responsibility center.

—*Kimberly K. Barlow*  
*Staff member Barbara DelRaso provided editorial support for this story.*

# Staff/administration salaries

The annual mean and median salary analysis compiled by Pitt’s Management Information and Analysis office divides staff by responsibility center into four categories: Executive, administrative and managerial employees (including executive staff who also may have a faculty appointment); other professionals; secretarial and clerical, and technical, skilled and service.

The report includes salary figures only for regular (not temporary) full-time staff as of Oct. 31, 2008. Research associates are excluded.

Mean and median salary amounts were suppressed when the number of employees in a category was three or fewer. The net total reflects the exclusions.

• **Arts and Sciences (A&S) dean’s office: net total of 31 staff who made \$52,414 average, \$45,000 median.**

That included six executives, administrators and managers: \$94,189 average, \$86,556 median; 25 other professionals: \$42,388 average, \$39,742 median.

• **A&S humanities division: 59 net total who made \$31,699 average, \$29,674 median.**

42 other professionals: \$35,322 average, \$34,230 median; 17 secretarial and clerical: \$22,746 average, \$21,840 median.

• **A&S natural sciences division: 203 net total, \$35,616 average, \$30,000 median.**

Six executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$102,534 average, \$79,483 median; 127 other professionals: \$36,354 average, \$34,045 median; 29 secretarial and clerical: \$27,086 average, \$25,200 median; 41 technical, skilled and service: \$29,570 average, \$23,000 median.

• **A&S social sciences division: 29 net total, \$31,021 average, \$28,793 median.**

20 other professionals: \$34,367 average, \$32,021 median; nine secretarial and clerical: \$23,586 average, \$24,435 median.

• **A&S undergraduate studies: 70 net total, \$38,453 average, \$36,938 median.**

Five executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$75,865 average, \$73,170 median; 54 other professionals: \$38,286 average, \$37,136 median; 11 secretarial and clerical: \$22,272 average, \$21,671 median.

• **Associate vice chancellor for Human Resources: 86 total, \$38,375 average, \$29,077 median.**

12 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$95,620 average, \$83,000 median; 46 other professionals: \$34,027 average, \$33,202 median; eight secretarial and clerical: \$25,403 average, \$25,205 median; 20 technical, skilled and service: \$19,219 average, \$19,255 median.

• **Athletics: 131 net total, \$70,256 average, \$42,253 median.**

10 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$127,629 average, \$91,305 median; 105 other professionals: \$71,140 average, \$45,000 median; 16 secretarial and clerical: \$28,595 average, \$28,028 median.

• **Bradford campus: 130 net total, \$39,605 average, \$35,000 median.**

10 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$90,864 average, \$79,728 median; 80 other professionals: \$37,758 average, \$35,708 median; 24 secretarial and clerical: \$27,248 average, \$25,168 median; 16 technical, skilled and service: \$35,340 average, \$36,470 median.

• **Business Operations: 411 net total, \$34,709 average, \$29,765 median.**

10 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$67,079 average, \$62,161 median; 97 other professionals: \$40,235 average, \$40,277 median; 68 secretarial and

## At a glance

### Highest-paid staff

**Highest average (by job category)**  
Executives, administrators & managers  
Senior Vice Chancellor, Health Sciences, \$190,596

**Highest average (net total by area)**  
General Counsel’s office, \$92,292

**Highest median (by job category)**  
Executives, administrators & managers  
Senior Vice Chancellor, Health Sciences, \$152,068

**Highest median (net total by area)**  
General Counsel’s office, \$88,330

### Lowest-paid staff

**Lowest average (by job category)**  
Technical, skilled & service  
Associate vice chancellor, Human Resources, \$19,219

**Lowest average (net total by area)**  
Education-University Service Programs, \$28,089

**Lowest median (by job category)**  
Secretarial/clerical  
University Library System, \$17,537

**Lowest median (net total by area)**  
University Library System, \$23,639

clerical: \$20,979 average, \$20,350 median; 236 technical, skilled and service: \$35,022 average, \$32,022 median.

• **Chancellor: 247 net total, \$63,437 average, \$48,783 median.**

68 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$114,853 average, \$85,603 median; 155 other professionals: \$45,934 average, \$42,642 median; 10 secretarial and clerical: \$29,072 average, \$24,656 median; 14 technical, skilled and service: \$32,035 average, \$33,014 median.

• **College of General Studies: 23 net total, \$33,325 average, \$32,415 median.**

18 other professionals: \$36,485 average, \$33,448 median; five secretarial and clerical: \$21,950 average, \$21,759 median.

• **Computing Services and Systems Development: 194 net total, \$63,107 average, \$56,093 median.**

Nine executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$128,919 average, \$127,000 median; 164 other professionals: \$62,808 average, \$59,180 median; four secretarial and clerical: \$23,824 average, \$23,098 median; 17 technical, skilled and service: \$40,388 average, \$43,357 median.

• **Education-University Service Programs: nine net total, \$28,089 average, \$27,842 median.**

Five other professionals: \$33,380 average, \$35,030 median; four secretarial and clerical: \$21,476 average, \$20,736 median.

• **Executive Vice Chancellor: 28 net total, \$87,418 average, \$69,851 median.**

16 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$116,346 average, \$98,400 median; 12 other professionals: \$48,848 average, \$45,447 median.

• **Facilities Management: 452 net total, \$40,783 average, \$29,844 median.**

Six executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$97,495 average, \$96,015 median; 73 other professionals: \$49,970 average, \$48,054 median; nine secretarial and clerical: \$25,423 average, \$24,925 median; 364 technical, skilled and service: \$38,386 average, \$29,474 median.

• **General Counsel: 20 net total, \$92,292 average, \$88,330 median.**

10 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$146,459 average, \$142,175 median; four other professionals: \$46,035 average, \$42,857 median; six secretarial and clerical: \$32,852 average, \$33,195 median.

• **Graduate School of Public and International Affairs: 17 net total, \$37,873 average, \$36,331**

**median.**  
17 other professionals: \$37,873 average, \$36,331 median.

• **Graduate School of Public Health: 409 net total, \$42,941 average, \$40,951 median.**

23 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$70,218 average, \$66,749 median; 320 other professionals: \$43,777 average, \$42,813 median; 46 secretarial and clerical: \$30,374 average, \$31,309 median; 20 technical, skilled and service: \$27,111 average, \$26,679 median.

• **Greensburg campus: 95 net total, \$34,374 average, \$29,889 median.**

14 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$62,123 average, \$57,083 median; 42 other professionals: \$31,920 average, \$29,838 median; 16 secretarial and clerical: \$23,664 average, \$22,179 median; 23 technical, skilled and service: \$29,413 average, \$29,885 median.

• **Honors College: seven net total, \$45,800 average, \$47,129 median.**

Seven other professionals: \$45,800 average, \$47,129 median.

• **Johnstown campus: 209 net total, \$35,201 average, \$31,441 median.**

Nine executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$74,180 average, \$72,429 median; 89 other professionals: \$40,076 average, \$38,001 median; 39 secretarial and clerical: \$24,638 average, \$23,545 median; 72 technical, skilled and service: \$30,025 average, \$28,829 median.

• **Katz Graduate School of Business: 104 net total, \$45,807 average, \$39,937 median.**

15 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$86,237 average, \$84,000 median; 72 other professionals: \$42,109 average, \$41,000 median; 17 secretarial and clerical: \$25,792 average, \$25,246 median.

• **Learning Research and Development Center: 42 net total, \$38,577 average, \$36,550 median.**

37 other professionals: \$39,616 average, \$39,123 median; five secretarial and clerical: \$30,893 average, \$31,422 median.

• **School of Dental Medicine: 155 net total, \$31,143 average, \$29,235 median.**

74 other professionals: \$37,616 average, \$35,507 median; 31 secretarial and clerical: \$25,954 average, \$24,988 median; 50 technical, skilled and service: \$24,781 average, \$23,766 median.

• **School of Education: 107 net total, \$42,703**

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



# Staff/administration salaries

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

average, \$38,618 median.

Nine executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$73,210 average, \$72,294 median; 83 other professionals: \$42,415 average, \$40,000 median; nine secretarial and clerical: \$27,210 average, \$25,097 median; six technical, skilled and service: \$24,165 average, \$25,312 median.

• **School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences: 38 net total, \$39,173 average, \$37,110 median.**

34 other professionals: \$39,862 average, \$37,551 median; four secretarial and clerical: \$33,309 average, \$33,633 median.

• **School of Information Sciences: 19 net total, \$45,083 average, \$43,614 median.**

14 other professionals: \$48,698 average, \$45,705 median; five secretarial and clerical: \$34,961 average, \$32,576 median.

• **School of Law: 40 net total, \$37,768 average, \$33,795 median.**

Four executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$74,679 average, \$64,307 median; 23 other professionals: \$37,358 average, \$38,155 median; 13 secretarial and clerical: \$27,137 average, \$24,577 median.

• **School of Medicine: 1,436 net total, \$41,841 average, \$37,959 median.**

63 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$63,996 average, \$71,379 median; 1,171 other professionals: \$42,891 average, \$39,751 median; 94 secretarial and clerical: \$30,731 average, \$30,861 median; 108 technical, skilled and service: \$27,198 average, \$26,226 median.

• **School of Medicine Division Administration: 322 net total, \$45,141 average, \$32,473 median.**

37 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$120,118 average, \$87,064 median; 123 other professionals: \$46,582 average, \$43,830 median; nine secretarial and clerical: \$28,666 average, \$28,178 median; 153 technical, skilled and service: \$26,820 average, \$28,042 median.

• **School of Nursing: 83 net total, \$40,682 average, \$37,565 median.**

Seven executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$73,941 average, \$75,515 median; 63 other professionals: \$39,561 average, \$40,000 median; six secretarial and clerical: \$27,993 average, \$27,229 median;

seven technical, skilled and service: \$28,388 average, \$28,410 median.

• **School of Pharmacy: 55 net total, \$44,870 average, \$42,353 median.**

Four executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$83,449 average, \$75,643 median; 46 other professionals: \$43,381 average, \$42,488 median; five technical, skilled and service: \$27,704 average, \$26,500 median.

• **School of Social Work: 89 net total, \$45,493 average, \$49,292 median.**

Five executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$67,480 average, \$68,169 median; 84 other professionals: \$44,185 average, \$49,283 median.

• **Secretary of the Board of Trustees: nine net total, \$62,988 average, \$46,219 median.**

Four executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$94,098 average, \$72,784 median; five other professionals: \$38,100 average, \$37,624 median.

• **Senior Vice Chancellor and Provost: 293 net total, \$59,696 average, \$38,793 median.**

61 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$151,113 average, \$118,080 median; 163 other professionals: \$41,163 average, \$39,900 median; 60 secretarial and clerical: \$22,364 average, \$21,255 median; nine technical, skilled and service: \$24,619 average, \$24,155 median.

• **Senior Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences: 55 net total, \$63,854 average, \$32,660 median.**

11 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$190,596 average, \$152,068 median; 38 other professionals: \$32,316 average, \$30,448 median; six secretarial and clerical: \$31,232 average, \$28,803 median.

• **Student Affairs: 149 net total, \$43,635 average, \$37,000 median.**

19 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$86,768 average, \$84,861 median; 107 other professionals: \$40,125 average, \$37,125 median; 19 secretarial and clerical: \$25,272 average, \$24,460 median; four technical, skilled and service: \$19,848 average, \$19,916 median.

• **Swanson School of Engineering: 91 net total, \$43,763 average, \$36,740 median.**

Seven executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$83,509 average, \$80,232 median; 64 other

professionals: \$42,274 average, \$36,192 median; 11 secretarial and clerical: \$26,634 average, \$25,793 median; nine technical, skilled and service: \$44,375 average, \$42,493 median.

• **Titusville campus: 47 net total, \$28,974 average, \$28,420 median.**

26 other professionals: \$32,418 average, \$31,262 median; 11 secretarial and clerical: \$20,723 average, \$18,677 median; 10 technical, skilled and service: \$29,095 average, \$29,918 median.

• **University Center for International Studies: 54 net total, \$39,658 average, \$36,067 median.**

Six executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$70,785 average, \$67,883 median; 40 other professionals: \$38,289 average, \$37,093 median; eight secretarial and clerical: \$23,157 average, \$21,873 median.

• **University Center for Social and Urban Research: 21 net total, \$44,168 average, \$45,846 median.**

21 other professionals: \$44,168 average, \$45,846 median.

• **University Library System: 126 net total, \$30,015 average, \$23,639 median.**

92 other professionals: \$33,052 average, \$26,982 median; 34 secretarial and clerical: \$21,798 average, \$17,537 median.

• **University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute: 187 net total, \$39,680 average, \$35,020 median.**

Six executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$87,659 average, \$76,255 median; 151 other professionals: \$40,004 average, \$35,829 median; 11 secretarial and clerical: \$30,894 average, \$29,801 median; 19 technical, skilled and service: \$27,046 average, \$26,137 median.

• **Vice Chancellor for Budget and Controller: 222 net total, \$56,230 average, \$48,197 median.**

53 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$105,526 average, \$86,010 median; 140 other professionals: \$44,282 average, \$44,200 median; 29 secretarial and clerical: \$23,817 average, \$23,851 median.

• **Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement: 110 net total, \$55,390 average, \$43,113 median.**

39 executive, administrative and managerial employees: \$86,941 average, \$70,004 median; 67 other professionals: \$38,533 average, \$34,502 median; four secretarial and clerical: \$30,119 average, \$30,416 median. ■

# Faculty salaries

The annual mean and median salary analysis compiled by Pitt's Management Information and Analysis office categorizes faculty by academic rank: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, instructor and lecturer/other.

Salaries for faculty with 12-month contracts have been converted to a nine-month equivalent using a multiplier of 0.818.

The report includes salary figures only for regular (not temporary) full-time faculty as of Oct. 31, 2008. Research associates are excluded.

Mean and median salary amounts were suppressed when the number of faculty in a category was three or fewer. The net total reflects the exclusions.

• **Arts and Sciences (A&S) dean's office: 27 net total, \$149,686 average, \$146,753 median.**

23 at the rank of professor: \$153,534 average, \$153,981 median; four associate professors: \$127,562 average, \$97,496 median.

• **A&S humanities division: 280 net total, \$62,993 average, \$59,852 median.**

64 professors: \$108,354 average, \$95,970 median; 61 associate professors: \$68,389 average, \$68,208 median; 48 assistant professors: \$56,927 average, \$58,986 median; 27 instructors: \$30,264 average, \$31,439 median; 80 lecturers/others: \$37,275 average, \$36,950 median.

• **A&S natural sciences division: 261 net total, \$79,807 average, \$74,539 median.**

85 professors: \$113,555 average, \$110,389 median; 59 associate professors: \$76,761 average, \$76,714 median; 73 assistant professors: \$64,393 average, \$68,000 median; 10 instructors: \$35,587 average, \$35,701 median; 34 lecturers/others: \$46,826 average, \$45,431 median.

• **A&S social sciences division: 123 net total, \$83,576 average, \$76,000 median.**

43 professors: \$117,316 average, \$109,518 median; 29 associate professors: \$76,298 average, \$70,000 median; 29

## At a glance

### Highest-paid faculty

Highest average (by rank)

Full professors

School of Arts & Sciences dean's office, \$153,534

Highest average (net total by area)

School of Arts & Sciences dean's office, \$149,686

Highest median (by rank)

Full professors

School of Arts & Sciences dean's office, \$153,981

Highest median (net total by area)

School of Arts & Sciences dean's office, \$146,753

assistant professors: \$68,906 average, \$65,000 median; 22 lecturers/others: \$46,559 average, \$43,794 median.

• **Bradford campus: 72 net total, \$58,183 average, \$58,984 median.**

Nine professors: \$74,483 average, \$74,798 median; 26 associate professors: \$63,211 average, \$62,615 median; 28 assistant professors: \$52,987 average, \$50,507 median; nine instructors: \$43,522 average, \$44,000 median.

• **Education-University Service Programs: Seven net total, \$45,403 average, \$37,497 median.**

Seven instructors: \$45,403 average, \$37,497 median.

• **Graduate School of Public and International Affairs: 32 net total, \$99,878 average, \$102,717 median.**

13 professors: \$120,637 average, \$114,454 median; 10 associate professors: \$96,874 average, \$95,226 median; nine assistant professors: \$73,229 average, \$74,516 median.

• **Graduate School of Public Health: 154 net total,**

### Lowest-paid faculty

Lowest average (by rank)

Lecturers/others

School of Medicine, \$20,404

Lowest average (net total by area)

Education-University Service Programs, \$45,403

Lowest median (by rank)

Lecturers/others

School of Medicine, \$20,450

Lowest median (net total by area)

Education-University Service Programs, \$37,497

**\$86,880 average, \$73,449 median.**

37 professors: \$134,244 average, \$138,719 median; 38 associate professors: \$86,248 average, \$80,855 median; 79 assistant professors: \$65,002 average, \$64,346 median.

• **Greensburg campus: 74 net total, \$55,987 average, \$54,067 median.**

Seven professors: \$77,817 average, \$74,851 median; 28 associate professors: \$62,044 average, \$59,098 median; 26 assistant professors: \$50,455 average, \$50,114 median; 13 instructors: \$42,249 average, \$47,000 median.

• **Johnstown campus: 150 net total, \$55,307 average, \$53,122 median.**

16 professors: \$70,848 average, \$67,969 median; 56 associate professors: \$62,440 average, \$61,577 median; 49 assistant professors: \$49,427 average, \$49,786 median; 29 instructors: \$42,897 average, \$41,000 median.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6





# BPC requests longitudinal salary data

The University Senate budget policies committee is requesting longitudinal information to supplement the administration's annual report on mean and median salaries at Pitt.

In response to the presentation of Pitt's Management Information and Analysis report on mean and median salaries of full time faculty and staff for fiscal year 2009 at BPC's April 30 meeting, Senate President Michael Pinsky proposed examining faculty salary trends over a multi-year period.

"I have a hard time looking at any data from one year alone," he said, adding that a comparison of faculty salaries over a longer period of time would give the committee perspective on trends and help guide future salary discussions.

Because each salary report is a snapshot of Pitt employees as of a certain date (the current report is based on Oct. 31, 2008, employment), the employees enumerated in the report vary from year to year, meaning that a strict apples-to-apples comparison isn't possible. Recognizing that limitation, Pinsky argued that the size of the University workforce is large enough to render some helpful information.

"If the population is large enough then that degree of variance will not be an issue in terms of you looking over time," he said. The overall salary data can be influenced by faculty being promoted through the ranks or full professors leaving or retiring, for example. But, while there may be some variance in a given year, over time a trend should emerge, he said.

"Unless you significantly change the demographics of the population, it should be able to be followed as a mean and median value," Pinsky said. "Although the individuals can't be looked at, the trends still are valid."

The committee agreed to request a report showing faculty pay (by rank) from the past five mean and median salary reports in relation to pay at

public Association of American Universities institutions.

Vice Chancellor for Budget and Controller Arthur G. Ramicone agreed to convey the committee's request to the provost.

Another report typically sought by BPC is not being requested this year due to the University's pay freeze. Management Information and Analysis prepares a report on salary increases for full-time continuing faculty at BPC's request each year, but BPC chair John J. Baker did not request that report this year because there was no salary pool increase. "I didn't think it would show much," he said. Committee member Phil Wion reiterated his contention that "there might have been some value in seeing how many people indeed did get some raises even though there was a freeze," adding that the lack of a report "breaks the continuity" for BPC's review of the report.

In other business:

Baker noted that the full University planning and budgeting committee held its last meeting of the fiscal year April 29. As part of the University's annual budget process, UPBC, made up of faculty, staff, students and administrators, develops budget parameters and recommends compensation increases to the chancellor.

Baker said, "I think UPBC had a very fruitful discussion on parameters for next year," adding that because UPBC deliberations are confidential, he could not provide details. "There was a lot of discussion and I thought it was a very good discussion," he said.

A closed portion of the April 30 BPC session was devoted to discussion of BPC's own recommendations for fiscal year 2011 salary pool increases.

Members were provided historic data on how Pitt's salary pool and average faculty salary increases compared with inflation rates over the past five years. "I think it's a negative trend we need to discuss," Baker said.

In four of the past five years,

more than half the faculty who performed satisfactorily or better received pay increases that were less than the increase in the Consumer Price Index, according to figures compiled by Baker. While the fiscal year 2010 Consumer Price Index rose 0.1 percent, Pitt's FY10 pay freeze meant that more than 95 percent of faculty still lost ground compared with inflation. Although the current

fiscal year's figure can be attributed to extenuating circumstances, Baker said, in FY08, 11 percent of faculty received pay raises that fell below the CPI's 2.5 percent increase. In the other three of the past five years, 54-57 percent of Pitt faculty whose performance was rated satisfactory or better received increases that failed to keep pace with inflation.

Baker noted that he had



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

• **Katz Graduate School of Business: 77 net total, \$124,814 average, \$119,995 median.**

31 professors: \$148,231 average, \$138,500 median; 23 associate professors: \$114,100 average, \$102,000 median; 19 assistant professors: \$116,781 average, \$102,986 median; four lecturers/others: \$43,097 average, \$39,264 median.

• **School of Dental Medicine: 87 net total, \$81,049 average, \$79,469 median.**

Nine professors: \$120,567 average, \$117,468 median; 20 associate professors: \$79,966 average, \$73,521 median; 50 assistant professors: \$82,044 average, \$79,729 median; eight instructors: \$33,082 average, \$32,928 median.

• **School of Education: 114 net total, \$70,160 average, \$69,245 median.**

17 professors: \$101,938 average, \$97,441 median; 31 associate professors: \$83,283 average, \$80,000 median; 28 assistant professors: \$65,303 average, \$67,300 median; 10 instructors: \$49,210 average, \$44,939 median; 28 bbbvs: \$48,676 average, \$46,416 median.

• **School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences: 92 net total, \$67,272 average, \$64,801 median.**

11 professors: \$109,611 average, \$114,231 median; 19 associate professors: \$74,336 average, \$69,323 median; 41

assistant professors: \$61,126 average, \$63,253 median; 21 instructors: \$50,703 average, \$50,736 median.

• **School of Information Sciences: 30 net total, \$85,227 average, \$85,859 median.**

Five professors: \$115,221 average, \$109,406 median; 15 associate professors: \$90,730 average, \$92,666 median; 10 assistant professors: \$61,977 average, \$66,142 median.

• **School of Law: 49 net total, \$100,600 average, \$102,485 median.**

30 professors: \$129,470 average, \$136,367 median; five associate professors: \$62,604 average, \$63,692 median; seven assistant professors: \$59,681 average, \$53,988 median; seven lecturers/others: \$44,926 average, \$43,704 median.

• **School of Medicine: 2,129 net total, \$73,194 average, \$57,260 median.**

432 professors: \$118,002 average, \$115,583 median; 468 associate professors: \$79,211 average, \$76,591 median; 1,095 assistant professors: \$57,250 average, \$40,900 median; 105 instructors: \$42,872 average, \$40,626 median; 29 lecturers/others: \$20,404 average, \$20,450 median.

• **School of Medicine Division Administration: five net total, \$80,136 average, \$82,413 median.**

Five assistant professors:

examined more extensively the relation between Pitt's salary policy and faculty members' actual buying power in a University Times Senate Matters column. (See Oct. 12, 2006, *University Times*.)

• Nomination of committee officers is expected to take place at the May BPC meeting. Although the committee is scheduled to meet May 28, Baker told the University Times that the date would be changed. The new date had not been set as of press time.

—**Kimberly K. Barlow**

\$80,136 average, \$82,413 median.

• **School of Nursing: 78 net total, \$65,936 average, \$61,904 median.**

Six professors: \$104,947 average, \$102,738 median; 17 associate professors: \$78,505 average, \$77,941 median; 34 assistant professors: \$60,189 average, \$60,957 median; 21 instructors: \$53,919 average, \$46,223 median.

• **School of Pharmacy: 81 net total, \$84,198 average, \$79,210 median.**

16 professors: \$113,373 average, \$108,506 median; 17 associate professors: \$92,403 average, \$86,944 median; 40 assistant professors: \$74,401 average, \$73,342 median; four instructors: \$75,779 average, \$73,779 median; four lecturers/others: \$39,007 average, \$26,757 median.

• **School of Social Work: 30 net total, \$74,499 average, \$68,289 median.**

Four professors: \$107,215 average, \$107,976 median; nine associate professors: \$85,753 average, \$80,641 median; 17 assistant professors: \$60,843 average, \$62,651 median.

• **Senior Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences: 25 net total, \$46,675 average, \$43,047 median.**

25 lecturers/others: \$46,675 average, \$43,047 median.

• **Swanson School of Engineering: 131 net total, \$97,120 average, \$92,145 median.**

40 professors: \$137,942 average, \$129,594 median; 39 associate professors: \$91,322 average, \$95,000 median; 46 assistant professors: \$73,407 average, \$76,251 median; six lecturers/others: \$44,467 average, \$46,909 median.

• **Titusville campus: 28 net total, \$52,042 average, \$51,065 median.**

Four professors: \$60,578 average, \$59,451 median; eight associate professors: \$55,723 average, \$56,387 median; 10 assistant professors: \$48,570 average, \$46,440 median; six instructors: \$47,231 average, \$45,856 median.

• **University Library System: 66 net total, \$47,467 average, \$42,697 median.**

37 at librarian III: \$55,197 average, \$49,139 median; 14 at librarian II: \$44,057 average, \$39,791 median; 15 at librarian I: \$31,584 average, \$29,448 median.

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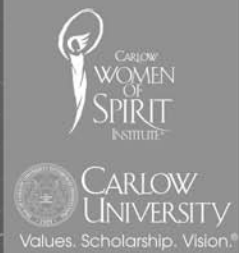
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# Dealing with the ravages of Alzheimer's

Until treatments for dementia are found, researchers must seek ways to best care for people who have the condition, said the author of one of the first guides for families caring for loved ones with Alzheimer's disease. "We need to be working on both sides: looking for cure, for prevention — and figuring out how to best care for people," said Peter V. Rabins, professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences and co-director of the Division of Geriatric Psychiatry and Neuropsychiatry at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, who presented the 2010 Jay L. Foster Memorial Community Lecture last month at Rodef Shalom Congregation.

Rabins co-authored "The 36-Hour Day: A Family Guide to Caring for People with Alzheimer Disease, Other Dementias and Memory Loss in Later Life." The 1981 book is now in its fourth edition and has sold 2 million copies.

The Foster community lecture, presented in partnership with Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health, aims to educate family members, caregivers and others about dealing with the illness.

Early detection has been the focus of much research in the field, Rabins said, which will be especially important once good treatments are developed. In the meantime, given that most people who have Alzheimer's disease die from it, we need to better understand how to care for them, said Rabins, whose recent research has focused on caregivers' decision-making and quality-of-life issues for people who have late-stage Alzheimer's disease.

## Dementia defined

Dementia is defined as any disease that begins in adulthood and impairs two or more aspects of thinking, Rabins said. While some 75 different diseases can cause dementia, Alzheimer's disease is the most common, responsible for about three-quarters of all dementia cases, Rabins said.

Although Alzheimer's typically is considered a memory disease, "The irony is that most of the disability, most of the struggles that the patient has and the family have are actually from the non-memory cognitive function symptoms," Rabins said.

In spite of the notion that Alzheimer's disease only can be diagnosed after death, Rabins said doctors can diagnose it with approximately 90 percent accuracy in living patients. Those who later are found not to have Alzheimer's typically had some other form of dementia, he said.

Following a medical, neurological and psychiatric assessment to rule out other causes such as Parkinson's disease, lupus or multiple sclerosis, criteria for an Alzheimer's diagnosis include a decline in memory coupled with at least one of the following: difficulty with language or communications (aphasia), difficulty with everyday activities (apraxia) or difficulty with one's ability to see the world accurately (agnosia), Rabins said.

Alzheimer's disease progresses slowly, he said. "Most people don't

come to their family's or their doctor's attention for at least two years," he said. "If you're retired and you're living a pretty routine life, you actually don't depend on memory all that much. If you're lucky enough to have a spouse or live with somebody else, they remind you when your doctor's appointment is, or the occasional out-of-the-ordinary things. Once you start becoming dysfunctional, having trouble doing things you've done all your life, that's what gets people's attention."

The general course of Alzheimer's disease progresses over an average of about 10 years. During the initial three years, memory impairment is the most obvious symptom. In the next three years, a patient may develop problems communicating, performing everyday tasks or seeing the world accurately. "This is when people start to get lost while they're driving or have trouble doing their checkbook," Rabins said.

The next three years may include physical decline: the patient develops difficulty walking, loses bladder or bowel control, becomes mute or develops language problems. Swallowing and feeding problems also may appear.

Some 40 percent of people with dementia die of pneumonia due to aspiration of saliva or food into their lungs, Rabins said.

Dementia is very rare prior to age 60, Rabins said. After that age, the risk steadily rises. Conservative estimates indicate that by age 90, 30 percent of people have dementia.

Age 80 is the most common age of diagnosis, he said, noting that about 20 percent of 80-year-olds have dementia. "That still means that 70-80 percent of 80-year-olds are cognitively normal," he pointed out.

Ongoing research finds 9.5 percent of residents over age 64 in Cache County, Utah, have dementia. The county has the nation's longest life expectancy. Of those with dementia, about 22 percent are in the late stages of the illness. Nationwide, that equates to about 1 million people, Rabins said.

## Public health impacts of dementia

The incidence rates, coupled with lengthening life expectancies, create some worries for Social Security and Medicare, he said.

"We are living through a revolution in human life expectancy," Rabins said, noting that since 1830 life expectancy has increased by three months each year and appears not to be leveling off.

And, while the majority of the increases between 1850 and 1950 were due to lower infant mortality, today's gains are at the other end of the lifespan. Given that people in their 80s and 90s are living longer and that dementia affects 4-8 percent of the population, "The absolute number of people who are likely to get these diseases is going up exponentially," Rabins said.

Many projections fail to account for these increases in life expectancy, meaning that the number of people with these diseases likely will increase faster

than expected. "From a public health perspective, this is a huge issue," he said.

Clinical and ethical issues also arise. "We live in a culture where people believe in autonomy, that people should make decisions for themselves. And yet in advanced dementia 100 percent of individuals are robbed of that ability. So there are a lot of ethical issues," such as what to do with dementia patients who stop eating, for example, and who should make decisions for them, Rabins said.

Another issue is that most people with advanced dementia do not speak correctly or clearly, he said. "How do you detect pain in someone who can't say 'my leg hurts', 'my back hurts'? That's a challenge."

Late-stage dementia patients may have problems walking or may fall frequently. "Since we want to keep them independent, how do we balance the risk of falls with allowing them to be independent?"

Advance directives present an additional challenge, he said, noting that research shows that about half of people change their advance directive at some point in their life, often after they get sick. "And usually it's in the direction of wanting more, not less, treatment. But people with dementia can't do that," he said. "How do we deal with that?"

Public health considerations also arise from the financial issues surrounding the disease. Dementia adds to medical costs, affecting hospital as well as nursing home beds. "This is a group of diseases that interact with every other health problem," Rabins said. "It turns out that people with dementia stay twice as long in the hospital for the same medical condition at the same age as people without dementia."

If 8 percent of the population has dementia, that equates to 20-25 percent of hospital patients having dementia, "There's a huge added medical cost," he said.

In addition, Rabins said, "The single biggest item in almost every state budget in the United States is

medical assistance. And the single biggest medical assistance cost is nursing costs."

He estimated that 75-80 percent of the 3 million people in nursing homes and assisted living facilities in America have dementia.

"If we could come up with a prevention or effective intervention for Alzheimer's, there would be very few nursing home beds," Rabins said, likening it to the way improved treatments have eliminated the need for tuberculosis sanitariums.

## Research findings

In a study of 125 people with late-stage dementia who met hospice criteria (they were likely to die within six months), Rabins and colleagues found that, matching for medical severity, those who were hospitalized in the last six months of life had a lower quality of life compared to people who were not hospitalized.

Rabins said 41 percent of the patients studied were sent to the hospital at least once during those six months; about 90 of them died during that time.

The most common reasons for hospitalization were infections (typically bladder or respiratory), delirium, confusion or dehydration, or falls.

Except for fractures, Rabins believes many such conditions could be better managed in a nursing home. "Sending people to the hospital is probably to nobody's benefit," he said, given that not only has aggressive care been found to be bad for the late-stage dementia patient's quality of life, but that it also is expensive.

"We need to be thinking about how do you take care of people in place."

Researchers also found that higher quality of life correlated to a lower rate of behavior problems, including agitation or other psychiatric symptoms. "That's maybe something we can help by improving the environment," Rabins said.

In addition, people who had pain identified by their caregivers

actually had a better quality of life. "Whether that's because maybe they were on opiate medication or because it was relieved, I don't know," Rabins said.

"This suggests to me that there are at least two different things we can do to make the quality of life potentially better: By supporting people and making their behavioral problems less, and by treating their pain, it's plausible that we can improve their quality of life."

Support for those responsible for patients with late-stage dementia also is crucial. The researchers' study of whether the existence of an advance directive made decision-making harder or easier yielded mixed results.

In cases where an advance directive was in place, decision makers were asked whether that made the choices — for hospitalization, feeding tubes, testing or other medical procedures — easier. "In the case where advance directives stated the patient didn't want artificial feeding, the surrogates found that helpful. But they did not find it helpful in anything else," Rabins said.

They also were asked whether they were satisfied with their decision. "Whenever people made a decision to do something — yes they can have blood work, yes they can have a feeding tube, yes they can go to the hospital, they almost always said 'That was not a hard decision and I'm very satisfied with it,'" Rabins said. Conversely, when they decided against a treatment option, "many more people found that a difficult decision, and were not really satisfied," he said.

In light of these findings, Rabins suggested that medical personnel not only provide information about the value of proposed treatments, but also support decision makers by acknowledging that the choices they face are difficult.

Even when such issues have been discussed before the patient became ill, "It's still hard for people. These are tough decisions even in late-stage disease."

Rabins's lecture and the accompanying panel discussion are posted at [www.publichealth.pitt.edu/lecturearchive](http://www.publichealth.pitt.edu/lecturearchive).

—**Kimberly K. Barlow**



Following his lecture, Peter V. Rabins joined a panel of experts on aging and dementia to take questions from the audience. Left to right: moderator Steven Albert of the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences; Rabins; nursing faculty member Jennifer Lingler; Thomas Baumgartner Jr. of Pitt's Alzheimer Disease Research Center, and Lois Lutz of the Greater Pennsylvania Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.





**At left: Pitt alumnus and trustee John A. Swanson gave the keynote address May 2 at the commencement exercises held in the Petersen Events Center, urging new graduates to tackle the “grand challenges” of life.**

**Now retired, Swanson, the founder, former president, CEO and director of ANSYS, is the University’s single largest benefactor. Pitt awarded him an honorary doctor of science degree.**

**Far right: University Senate President Michael R. Pinsky, as the chief University marshal, led the procession of graduates, administrators, trustees, faculty and staff in full academic regalia.**



**“Y**our lives are the ultimate grand challenge,” Pitt alumnus and trustee John A. Swanson told Pitt’s 2010 graduates May 2 at the annual commencement exercises. “You in this room, are, first of all, by far the most intelligent group I have ever been able to face, and that makes this a joy. You are also highly qualified to meet these challenges,” said Swanson, who helped revolutionize computer-aided engineering soon after earning his PhD in applied mechanical engineering here in 1966.

In developing the theme for his address Swanson, the founder, former president, CEO and director of ANSYS, drew on a National Academy of Engineering concept, “the grand challenges in engineering.” ANSYS markets the software code that Swanson created for use by the aerospace, automotive, biomedical, manufacturing and electronics industries to simulate how product design will behave in real-work environments.

“I thought, ‘Why should it just be engineers that have grand challenges?’ Because most of the challenges combine engineering and philosophy and religion and education and teaching and everything else,” said Swanson, who is the University’s single largest benefactor, having donated more than \$40 million. In 2007, Pitt renamed its engineering school the John A. Swanson School of Engineering in recognition of his generosity.

“A grand challenge is something that you plan for, that you say, ‘I have a problem. I need to do something.’ It’s also something that’s going to be major. It’s going to affect the world — all of the people in the world,” Swanson told graduates, their families and friends in the packed Petersen Events Center. “The solution may or may not be obvious. It may be that you know exactly what needs to be done, but you don’t have the will to do it. That’s a case that I call, ‘You have the way, but the will is weak.’ Or you may have the will, but haven’t the foggiest idea what the way might be. Both of those are grand challenges.”

Among the grand challenges Swanson pointed to was America’s space program in the 1960s, which succeeded in its goal to

send humans to the moon within a decade.

He also cited the Salk polio vaccine, developed at Pitt in the 1950s.

“That was a grand challenge. We knew exactly what the problem was. We knew what the desired goal was. We knew what the schedule was — as soon as possible — because many people were dying of polio,” said Swanson, who last year was named to the National Academy of Engineering for contributions to and innovations in engineering, and in 2004 received the American Association of Engineering Societies’ John Fritz Medal, widely considered the highest award in the engineering profession.

“If we focus on the survival of the species, where are the grand challenges? I found just one, and it’s a big one — the problem of nuclear war. Mass annihilation. This has every potential to wipe out our species. It is absolute stupidity to maintain vast archives of nuclear weapons,” Swanson said to vigorous applause.

“First of all, we’re never going to use them. Secondly, who controls them? And if we look at the Gulf of Mexico, accidents will happen ... and we do not want an accident to happen here. The way is clear; the will is weak.”

However, even if nuclear weapons were eliminated, war and conflict still would exist, he noted.

“An underlying cause of that, unfortunately, seems to be religion. We almost all worship the same god, but somehow that does not seem to be enough,” Swanson said. “For those of you in philosophy, think about it. Find a way for all of our religions to co-exist. The world is too small for us to be as fragmented as we are.”

Another grand challenge to human survival is maintaining sufficient energy supplies, Swanson said. “Energy is not a big problem. There is lots of energy falling on this Earth every day. The problem is timing, and the problem is location. No one wants to live in the desert, but the energy is there. So we have network problems. We can solve those. It’s a grand challenge. The end is clear. We have the tools. Let’s go and do it,” he said.

Diseases such as bird flu also potentially can threaten human survival. “Because diseases can move back and forth between us, if we are healthy and the animals are not, we are not healthy. So we need to look at a total health system,” Swanson advised.

Other threats include solar storms, the possibility that the Earth’s magnetic poles will reverse and global climate change, he said. “Let me tell you for sure that our climate will change. What we don’t know for sure is which way it’s going. It would be presumptuous to think that we can control the climate,” Swanson said.

“The answer, I believe, is let’s plan on change ... not on which change. But let’s not build on flood plains. Let’s get the houses away from the seacoast. Let’s do the incremental things that can be done, so that when the earthquake comes or the hurricane comes, the Earth will not be annihilated, that we can pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off and go on again.”

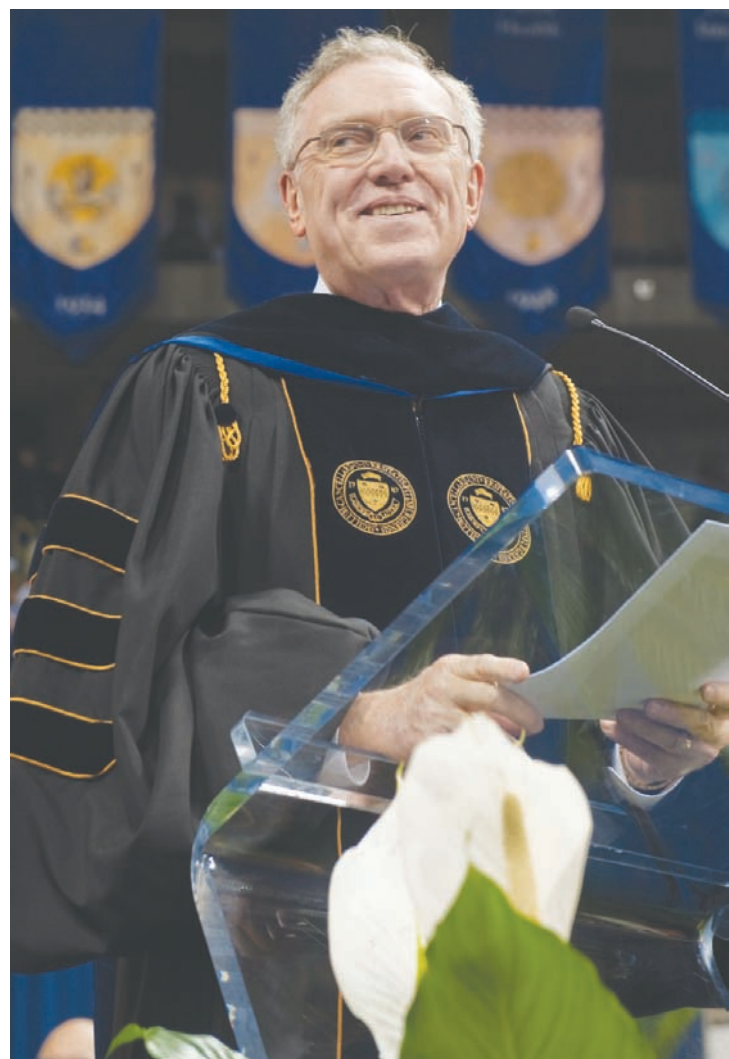
Swanson apologized on behalf of his generation for the threat it created to the survival of the nation. “I can talk about this because I am a U.S. citizen. I am proud of it, but I am not necessarily proud of our government,” he said. “A grand challenge is to balance the federal and state budgets. We cannot continue spending more than we earn. I have to apologize for my generation, because what you are facing in the national debt, you and your children, is abominable. You have your hands tied behind your back and we are imposing upon you the sins of the adults.

“So please be a little forgiving, accept the challenge and see if you can dig your way out of the mess that we’ve put you in.”

Swanson said the biggest threat to the United States is cybersecurity. “The Internet has given us access to everything with only a little bit of hacking required to get to some items which are very threatening. We need to solve the cybersecurity problem,” he said.

Similarly, the nation faces the threat of terrorism. “But I would like to quote the distinguished philosopher Pogo: ‘We have met the enemy, and he is us.’ The impact of terror is much greater because of what we do [rather] than what

# COMMEN



any of our enemies do. And if you have traveled, you know what I am referring to,” Swanson said.

Individuals, too, face grand challenges, Swanson said, offering the new graduates some advice.

“Use time. Use it to invest in your future. Use it to invest in education. This is just the beginning of your education, not the end,” he told the newly minted grads. “Don’t hesitate if someone says it will take a long time. Get started, because the 10 years or the 15 years will go by very quickly. If we start out, the world we see in 10 years will be much improved over the world we see now.”

He also advised: “Find a life partner, and make it work. Be part of the solution, not part of the problem. Be informed. Learn how to get information instead of just

raw data. Form opinions. Discuss those opinions. Be curious. Look at the other fields — look at what they are doing versus what you are doing.”

He continued, “Get involved in government. Make sure that you are a part of it and you understand it. Work with society. Being a loner is not a good thing. Have friends. Have neighbors. Talk to them. Work with them. Stay healthy.”

“Volunteer. Work with other people. There are needs out there. And support your University. You have received; now is the time to start giving back,” he said.

One last lesson on facing the grand challenge of life, he said, “When troubles come — and they will — a very useful thought is, ‘This too will pass.’ It may hurt, and it may hurt badly. But a week





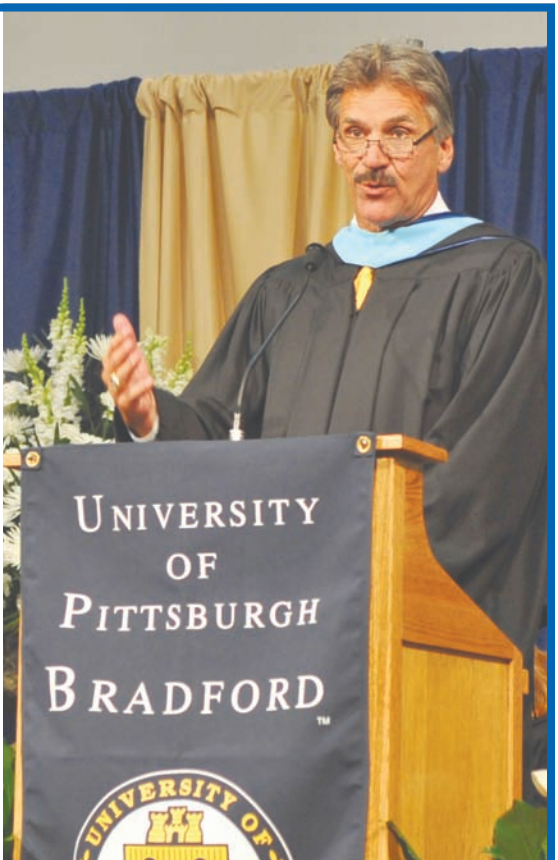
## Regionals hold own ceremonies

Pitt-Bradford held its commencement May 2 in the KOA Arena of UPB's Sport and Fitness Center. UPB awarded degrees to 286 students.

Pitt-Greensburg held its May 1 commencement ceremonies outdoors on Ridilla Field. UPG awarded degrees to 178 students. Of those, 27 students received their diplomas from family members as part of the Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association's legacy diploma presentation program.

Also on May 1, Pitt-Johnstown honored 560 students who completed bachelor's or associate degrees in August or December 2009, April 2010 or will complete degree requirements in June of this year.

Pitt-Titusville held its commencement May 1 as well, conferring bachelor's and associates degrees on 64 students. The ceremony was held in UPT's J. Curtis McKinney Student Union.



**At right: Pitt head football coach Dave Wannstedt delivered his first commencement address May 2 when he spoke to Pitt-Bradford graduates, their families and friends.**

Wade Aiken

# CEMENT



**Above: B. Jean Ferketish (right), assistant chancellor and secretary of the Board of Trustees, lends a hand prior to the May 2 commencement ceremony.**

**At left: Pitt conferred an honorary science doctorate on Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor James V. Maher, who is stepping down as provost to return to the faculty.**

## Pittsburgh campus photos by Jim Burke/CIDDE

from now, a month from now, it will get better. You have a Pitt education. You are well on your way. Try to make each day a better day. Make the world a little better each day."

□

Following Swanson's address, Pitt conferred on him an honorary Doctor of Science degree.

When he introduced Swanson, Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg said, "In summarizing his philosophy, John once said, 'Charitable giving feels good. It's a happy thing. It's so much better than just keeping up with the neighbors.'"

"That may be true, but your gifts to Pitt have made it possible for our engineering school not only to keep up with its engineering school neighbors, but to surpass them by allowing us to

make available cutting-edge facilities, attract and retain world-class faculty and top students, expand innovative industry partnerships and provide educational programs that are second to none."

Breaking from the custom of awarding only one honorary doctorate at commencement, the University also conferred an honorary science doctorate on Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor James V. Maher, who is stepping down as provost after 16 years in the post to return to the physics faculty.

Pitt awarded approximately 7,000 undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees this year at its five campuses. Pitt-Bradford, Pitt-Greensburg, Pitt-Johnstown and Pitt-Titusville hold their own graduation ceremonies.

—Peter Hart



**At left: UPG's assistant women's basketball coach Andy Geter hugs Lindsay Littler, one of his graduating players.**

**The keynote speaker at Pitt-Greensburg's May 1 commencement ceremony was Ken Sawyer, CEO of the Pittsburgh Penguins.**

**At right: Pitt-Johnstown President Jem Spectar presents the first President's Medal of Excellence to Mary Rose in recognition of her work to raise the standards of education for women globally. Her efforts resulted in the construction of a dormitory and educational development center at a school for girls in Cameroon.**

**The medal is given to an individual "who has strengthened our communities by empowering human beings to achieve their fullest potential, contributing to the dignity of all, and promoting social progress."**

**UPJ's keynote speaker was U.S. Air Force Captain Scott O'Grady.**



**Keynote speaker at Pitt-Titusville's May 1 commencement ceremony was Joseph Grunenwald, president of Clarion University.**



## RESEARCH NOTES

### Why omega-3s reduce inflammation

School of Medicine pharmacologists have found new mediators that not only can explain how omega-3 fatty acids reduce inflammation, but also hint at new treatments for diseases linked to inflammatory processes. Their findings are in the online version of *Nature Chemical Biology*.

There is strong evidence that omega-3 fatty acids (found in some fish, plant-derived oils and nuts) reduce inflammation and lower the risk of cardiovascular and other inflammatory diseases, but exactly how omega-3s induce such effects has remained a question. "This study has given us fresh and revealing perspective into that process," said senior author **Bruce A. Freeman**, chair of the Department of Pharmacology and Chemical Biology.

In this study, also led by pharmacology and chemical biology faculty member **Francisco J. Schopfer**, researchers examined metabolic byproducts of omega-

3 fatty acids that are produced by activated macrophages (a type of immune cell found in inflamed tissue) and discovered previously unknown biochemical mediators of inflammation.

Researchers chemically modified several derivatives of omega-3 fatty acids that were produced by immune cells to become electrophilic fatty acid oxidation products (EFOX).

The research team found that an enzyme called cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) mediates the transformation of omega-3 fatty acids into EFOX products, which are attracted to electrons and react with molecular targets in many cell types.

COX-2 is the molecular target of common drugs such as aspirin, ibuprofen and acetaminophen. Researchers found that cellular EFOX concentrations were significantly increased in the presence of aspirin, suggesting another mechanism for that drug's beneficial effects.

By interacting with certain protein residues that have electrons available for chemical bind-

ing, these derivatives stimulate changes in cellular protein function and the genetic expression patterns of cells, resulting in a broad range of antioxidant and anti-inflammatory responses.

"There is a lot of evidence that supports minimizing inflammation as a fundamental therapy for many diseases," Freeman said. "Our new insights help explain in part the multitude of beneficial actions observed for both omega-3 fatty acids and aspirin, and the discovery of this new class of omega-3 fatty acid-derived anti-inflammatory mediators could point drug development activities in new and fruitful directions."

For example, drugs that enhance the production of EFOX could be of value, or new agents might be synthesized to induce anti-inflammatory signals similar to those induced by EFOX, Freeman explained. The researchers and their drug discovery team are working on some of these approaches.

The research team also included co-lead author **Alison L. Groeger**, as well as **Marsha**

**P. Cole**, **Steven R. Woodcock** and **Gustavo Bonacci**, all of the Department of Pharmacology and Chemical Biology.

The study was funded by the School of Medicine, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the American Diabetes Association and the Ri.MED Foundation.

### Child abuse increase coincided with recession

The number of cases of abusive head trauma in children increased dramatically during the recession, according to a multi-center study led by Children's Hospital.

Lead researcher **Rachel Berger**, a child abuse specialist and researcher at Children's Hospital's Child Advocacy Center, presented the results at the Pediatric Academic Societies annual meeting.

The study involved 512 patients, ages 9 days-6 years, who had abusive head trauma. In addition to Pittsburgh, the patients were treated at pediatric hospitals in Cincinnati, Columbus and Seattle.

The University Times Research Notes column reports on funding awarded to Pitt researchers and on findings arising from University research.

We welcome submissions from all areas of the University. Submit information via email to: [utimes@pitt.edu](mailto:utimes@pitt.edu), by fax to 412/624-4579 or by campus mail to 308 Bellefield Hall.

For submission guidelines, visit [www.utimes.pitt.edu/?page\\_id=6807](http://www.utimes.pitt.edu/?page_id=6807).

The number of cases of abusive head trauma (shaken baby syndrome) rose from six per month before December 2007, to 9.3 per month after that. Researchers collected demographic and clinical data for all cases of unequivocal abusive head trauma before the recession (January 2004-November 2007) and cases during the recession (December 2007-December 2009).

"Our results show that there has been a rise in abusive head trauma, that it coincided with the economic recession and that it's not a phenomenon isolated to our region but happening on a much more widespread level," Berger said. "This suggests we may need to dramatically increase our child abuse prevention efforts now and in future times of economic hardship."

Of the children studied, 63 percent had injuries severe enough that they had to be admitted to pediatric intensive care units; 16 percent died.

Berger and colleagues said a possible reason for the increase in abuse is that important programs such as social services often are cut during a recession and their loss can increase family stress, which is a known risk factor for abuse.

### Transplant research presented

Pitt researchers were among the presenters earlier this month at the American Transplant Congress in San Diego. Among their presentations were:

#### *Innate immunity in transplantation*

**Fadi Lakkis**, a faculty member in surgery and immunology at the School of Medicine and scientific director of the Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute, presented findings from his research on the role of innate immunity in distinguishing foreign tissues from self.

"It has been for many years assumed in transplantation that adaptive or acquired immune mechanisms, meaning antigen-specific responses, play the essential role in recognizing and rejecting donor tissue," he said. "But our research indicates that the innate system, which is more primitive, also knows the difference between self and non-self."

Unraveling the signals of this other recognition system could lead to another set of criteria to match donor and recipient tissues, which in turn could improve patient and donor organ survival and reduce the need for anti-rejection drugs.

This research was funded by NIH.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



## Protect the Environment. Recycle Your Cell Phone or Mobile Device.

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- William Pitt Union

For details, visit [technology.pitt.edu](http://technology.pitt.edu). This program is a partnership with eLoop Inc.



University of Pittsburgh  
Computing Services and Systems Development (CSSD)



## RESEARCH NOTES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

**Quality-of-life predictors for caregivers**

**Larissa Myaskovsky**, a faculty member in medicine and psychiatry, presented her research on quality of life for caregivers of cardiothoracic transplant recipients.

She and her team interviewed 242 adult caregivers to determine social supports, self-image, optimism, caregiver burden and quality of life. They found emotional and social quality-of-life functioning remained high for the first year after their loved ones' transplant, but physical functioning and bodily pain worsened during that time. Optimism, mastery and family support were important predictors of physical and psychological quality of life in caregivers, but greater perceived burden predicted poorer physical quality of life.

The study was funded by the National Institute of Mental Health.

**Fibrosis regulator found**

Medical school researchers have discovered that a molecule that regulates gene expression plays a central role in the development of fibrosis, a condition in which organ-supporting connective tissues become thick, hard and rigid, restricting normal function. The findings are available in the April edition of the *American Journal of Pathology* at <http://ajp.amjpathol.org/>.

Early Growth Receptor-1 (EGR-1) orchestrates the response to certain growth factors and influences the activity of numerous genes, said principal investigator **Carol Feghali-Bostwick**, a faculty member in medicine and pathology.

"Our study shows that abnormally high levels of EGR-1 are associated with the development of fibrosis," she said. "Therefore, controlling EGR-1 could be a potential therapy for disorders such as scleroderma and pulmonary fibrosis."

Researchers induced fibrosis in animal and human fibroblasts (cells that give rise to connective tissue).

They found that the induced fibrosis was associated with abnormally elevated EGR-1 activity. And, when fibrosis was produced in cells and animals lacking EGR-1, the amount of fibrosis was dramatically reduced.

"We also found that, compared to healthy individuals, people who have pulmonary fibrosis had higher levels of EGR-1 in samples of their lung tissue and in their fibroblasts," Feghali-Bostwick noted.

The findings suggest that targeting EGR-1 provides a potential therapeutic approach for organ fibrosis.

Other Pitt co-authors were **Hidekata Yasuoka**, **Eileen Hsu**, **Ximena D. Ruiz** and **Richard A. Steinman** of the Department of Medicine's Division of Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine.

Funding for the study came from the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases; the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute;

the American Lung Association; the American Heart Association Pennsylvania/Delaware affiliate, and the Uehara Memorial Foundation.

**Weight gain in obese pregnant women?**

How much weight obese women should safely gain during pregnancy is often controversial, with current guidelines suggesting a single range of 11-20 pounds.

A new study, published online in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, by Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health and the University of California-Berkeley, suggests that optimal weight gain depends on level of obesity and that weight loss or very minimal weight gain may be detrimental to newborns' health, except in the case of extremely obese women.

The study, which included 5,500 obese pregnant women at Magee-Womens Hospital, investigated how the amount of weight gain related to babies born too small, too large or too early.

Nearly 10 percent of the study participants lost weight during pregnancy. Weight loss was generally associated with an increased risk of preterm births and infants with restricted growth. For severely obese women, however, very minimal weight gain (less than 5 pounds) or weight loss was not detrimental to newborn health.

The study also found that women who gained a large amount of weight were at increased risk of preterm births and infants who were overgrown, suggesting that very high weight gain also is related to adverse birth outcomes.

**Lisa M. Bodnar**, lead author of the study and faculty member in epidemiology, obstetrics and gynecology, said: "We need to consider level of obesity and advise women accordingly."

The authors suggest the following pregnancy weight gain ranges to optimize birth outcomes: 20-30 pounds for women

with a body mass index (BMI) of 30-34.9, 5-20 pounds for women with BMIs 35-39.9, and less than 10 pounds for women with BMIs 40 and over.

Women who gain less than the suggested amounts can have healthy pregnancies provided their dietary intake is being monitored to ensure proper nutrition, say the authors.

Pitt co-authors of the study were **Hyagriv N. Simhan** and **Katherine P. Himes** of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences and Magee-Womens Research Institute.

**Exercise aids learning**

Regular exercise speeds learning and improves blood flow to the brain, according to a study by School of Medicine researchers that is billed as the first to examine these relationships in a non-human primate model. The findings are available in the journal *Neuroscience*.

Other animal studies have shown that exercise benefits cognition, but it has been unclear whether the same holds true for people. Testing the hypothesis in monkeys can provide information that is more comparable to human physiology, said senior author **Judy L. Cameron**, a faculty member in Pitt's psychiatry

department and a senior scientist at the Oregon National Primate Research Center at Oregon Health and Science University.

"We found that monkeys who exercised regularly at an intensity that would improve fitness in middle-aged people learned to do tests of cognitive function faster and had greater blood volume in the brain's motor cortex than their sedentary counterparts," Cameron said. "This suggests people who exercise are getting similar benefits."

For the study, researchers trained monkeys to run on a treadmill at 80 percent of their individual maximal aerobic capacity for an hour each day, five days per week, for five months. Another group of monkeys sat on the immobile treadmill for a comparable amount of time.

Half of the runners went through a three-month sedentary period after the exercise period. In all groups, half of the monkeys were middle-aged (10-12 years old) and the others were more mature (ages 15-17). Initially, the middle-aged monkeys were in better shape than their older counterparts, but with exercise, all the runners became more fit.

In a preliminary task, the monkeys learned to lift a cover off a small well in a testing tray to get the food inside. In a spatial delay task, a researcher placed a food reward in one of two wells and covered both wells in full view of the monkey. A screen was lowered to block the animal's view, and

then raised again. If the monkey displaced the correct cover, it got the treat. After reliably succeeding at this task, monkeys that correctly moved the designated one of two different objects placed over side-by-side wells got the food reward that lay within it.

Monkeys that exercised learned to remove the well covers twice as fast as controls, Cameron said. "Also, they were more engaged in the tasks and made more attempts to get the rewards, but they also made more mistakes."

She noted that later in the testing period, learning rate and performance were similar among the groups, which could mean that practice at the task eventually would overshadow the impact of exercise.

When the researchers examined tissue samples from the brain's motor cortex, they found that mature monkeys that ran had greater vascular volume than middle-aged runners or sedentary animals. But those blood flow changes reversed in monkeys that were sedentary after exercising for five months.

"These findings indicate that aerobic exercise at the recommended levels can have meaningful, beneficial effects on the brain," Cameron said.

The research was supported by the National Institute of Aging, the National Institute on Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Disorders and the Retirement Research Foundation.

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# MOORE

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## RESEARCH NOTES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

### Shoppers plan for impulse buys

Straying from the grocery list can yield some surprises in your shopping cart, but not necessarily in your wallet, say researchers from Pitt and Baylor University who have co-authored a new study. They found that shoppers often expect to buy a certain number of unplanned items, and most have a fairly accurate estimate as to how much they will spend on them. The study's co-authors use the term "in-store slack" to describe the room shoppers leave in their budget for unplanned purchases.

Written by **Jeffrey Inman**, associate dean for research and faculty and **Albert Wesley Frey** Professor of Marketing in Pitt's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business; **Karen M. Stilley**, postdoctoral fellow in the Katz school, and **Kirk L. Wakefield**, chair of the marketing department at Baylor's Hankamer School of Business, "Planning to Make Unplanned Purchases? The Role of In-Store Slack in Budget Deviation" will be published in the August issue of the *Journal of Consumer Research*.

The researchers asked shoppers at several grocery stores what they intended to purchase, how much they expected to spend on the planned items, and how much they intended to spend total. After shopping, participants provided



their receipts and answered questions about themselves and their purchases. More than 75 percent of the participants included room in their mental budgets for unplanned purchases.

"Shoppers in the study indicated that they employ this strategy both because they anticipate 'forgotten needs' as well as because they realize that they will encounter 'unplanned wants' — with some respondents even explicitly indicating that they expected to make impulse purchases," the authors write. The shoppers were remarkably accurate when predicting how much they would spend.

The average budget deviation (actual spending minus planned spending) was only 47 cents.

The impact of in-store slack on the shoppers' lists depended on how many aisles the shopper visited and their level of impulsiveness. "Less-impulsive individuals who shop most aisles tend to spend the money available from in-store slack but don't exceed their overall budgets. In contrast, in-store slack leads to overspending for highly impulsive individuals who shop most aisles," the authors explain.

For retailers, this research suggests that consumers who shop only specific aisles are not spend-

ing all of the money that they are prepared mentally to spend on the current trip, according to the authors. "In addition to highlighting the importance of encouraging consumers to shop more aisles, this research also affirms practices that retailers employ to encourage consumers to spend all of their mental budgets, such as offering samples (increase desire) or reminder placards as they approach the checkout lines (cue forgotten needs)."

Finally, the researchers' mental budgeting perspective suggests that brands may be vying for a fixed amount of money that consumers have allocated for unplanned purchases. The fact that most consumers do not exceed their mental budgets despite making unplanned purchases suggests that different product categories function as substitutes (i.e., should I spend my in-store slack on ice cream or Parmesan cheese?).

Therefore, the researchers believe research should further examine whether in-store stimuli may simply serve to redirect what items consumers purchase rather than generate incremental spending.

"For the majority of consumers, having in-store slack appears to be a rational way to use the store to cue needs and preserve self-control," the authors write, but caution that "highly impulsive individuals may want to consider planning as many specific purchases in advance as possible."

### MicroRNA's role in fibrosis studied

A small piece of RNA appears to play a big role in the development of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF), according to researchers at the School of Medicine. Their study is available online in the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*.

MicroRNAs are short strands of genetic material that are involved in regulating gene expression. They are thought to be factors in embryonic development, multiple cancers and chronic heart failure, said senior author **Naftali Kaminski**, a faculty member in medicine, computational biology and pathology and director of the Dorothy P. and Richard P. Sim-

mons Center for Interstitial Lung Diseases at the School of Medicine and UPMC.

"Our research now indicates that microRNA changes also contribute to IPF," Kaminski said. "We have identified an entirely new molecular mechanism for the disease, which gives us new ideas about how to treat it."

In microRNA profiles in healthy lung tissue samples and samples from tissue affected by IPF, "Ten percent of the microRNAs were different between IPF and control lungs," said **Kusum Pandit**, the study's lead author and a postdoctoral researcher in Kaminski's lab.

The researchers particularly noted a diminished amount of a microRNA called let-7d. It was abundant in 20 samples from healthy tissue, but there was almost no expression of let-7d in the fibrotic, or scarred, areas of 40 IPF lung samples. Further experimentation showed that let-7d is inhibited by the cytokine TGF-beta, a signaling protein that promotes the development of fibrosis through several biological pathways.

Researchers also administered an antagonist that inhibits let-7d to several mice through their windpipes for a few days. When examined soon after, the lungs of the mice looked very much like what is seen in patients with early lung fibrosis. "These results suggest that by increasing let-7d in the lung, we may be able to slow down or even prevent lung fibrosis," Kaminski said.

### Osher grant funds tech lectures

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Pitt, the OLLI at Carnegie Mellon University and the Carnegie Science Center received a \$1,000 grant to develop a model OLLI/Science Center collaborative project.

The award comes from the Osher National Resource Center, which recently received a planning grant from the National Science Foundation to create a Science Education Center for the Third Age. The purpose of the grant is to increase adult knowledge and skill in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The project, designed to increase understanding of the science and technology of robotics and the application of robotics in society, brought three robotics lecturers to an OLLI audience at the Carnegie Science Center.

In March, Ralph Hollis, research professor of robotics and director of CMU's Microdynamic Systems Laboratory, explored the history of robotics in his talk, "Robots and Robotics Through the Years: A Personal View."

In April, CMU robotics faculty member Howie Choset, associate director of the Center for Robotic Assisted Search and Rescue, spoke on "Medical Robotics — The Wonder of Snake Robots and Minimally Invasive Surgery." Choset's group has developed a family of snakelike robots that can reach places conventional tools cannot.

The third lecture, held this month, was given by CMU Robotics Institute professor William (Red) Whittaker, who spoke on robots in space. ■

## THINKING OF QUITTING SMOKING?

UPMC seeks smokers aged 18-65 who are already planning to quit smoking to participate in a 9-week research study on the short-term effects of two oral medications on smoking behavior, craving, and mood. One is FDA-approved for smoking cessation, Zyban (bupropion), and the other is FDA-approved for wakefulness, Provigil (modafinil). This is not a treatment study.

You will be asked to take study medication that may or may not contain the active components. Research study participants who complete the entire study will receive \$845.

Although this study is not a treatment trial, everyone who completes the study will be offered optional brief counseling and Zyban (bupropion) at no cost after the study is over to help them quit permanently.

For more information, call 412-246-5306.



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## PEOPLE OF THE TIMES

The International Symposium on Ligaments and Tendons (ISL&T) has established the Professor **Savio Woo** Young Researcher Awards for individuals who have performed the best research studies in three major areas: biomechanics, biological research and clinical research.

Woo is University Professor of Bioengineering and the founder and director of the Musculoskeletal Research Center at the Swanson School of Engineering. He is renowned for his more than 40 years of translational research in knee ligament healing and repair.

ISL&T established the awards in recognition of Woo's lifetime commitment to training, mentoring and providing recognition of aspiring students in the fields of biomedical engineering and orthopaedic research and his lifelong contributions and accomplishments as an internationally recognized researcher and scholar in these fields.

Baseball head coach **Joe Jordano** has been elected into the Metropolitan Erie chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame, joining nine others selected for induction June 22.

An Erie native, Jordano was a Tech Memorial and Glenwood League star prior to his tenure as head coach at Mercyhurst College (1988-97) and at Pitt (1998-present).

At Tech Memorial, Jordano played both baseball and golf and in 1981 helped the Post 11 American Legion baseball team to a district championship and a third-place finish in the state tournament. While playing in the Glenwood League, Jordano was named MVP in 1982 and went on to win batting and home run titles for the league in 1984 and 1988.

Jordano played his collegiate ball at Westminster College, batting .302 for his career, and was named to the all-district team in 1985.

At Mercyhurst, Jordano had a 283-118 record and was named the Louisville Slugger Coach of the Year three times (1995, 1996, 1997).

This year, he has led the Panthers to their highest ranking in school history at No. 20. At 359 wins in his Pitt career, Jordano ranks second on the all-time wins list.

The School of Arts and Sciences has named **Barbara Kucinski**, a faculty member and adviser in the Department of Psychology, the recipient of the 2010 Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Advising. The Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize is given annually to a full-time faculty member who has served as a departmental adviser for at least three years at the Pittsburgh campus.

The award, which carries a \$4,000 cash prize, honors outstanding faculty achievement in undergraduate advising.

**Hashim Yousif**, a physics faculty member and director of the physical sciences program at Pitt-Bradford, has received the 2010 Chairs' Faculty Teaching Award for excellence in teaching.

Yousif was chosen for the

award by the chairs of UPB's five academic divisions. They reviewed letters of recommendation, student evaluations of teaching, syllabi and grade distribution. They also considered the teachers' knowledge of subject matter and their advising and dedication in working with students beyond the classroom in such activities as internships and research projects.

Yousif has taught a variety of courses in several disciplines, including physics, mathematics, astronomy, engineering and computer science. He also has developed new courses in several of those disciplines.

For several years, he hosted a workshop at Pitt-Bradford in conjunction with the American Association of Physics Teachers and the National Science Foundation for middle and high school teachers of physics and physical sciences to help them become better teachers.

**Brian Houston**, a faculty member in civil engineering technology at the Johnstown campus, has been named the 14th recipient of the UPJ President's Award for Teaching Excellence.

Houston was recognized at Pitt-Johnstown's May 1 graduation ceremony, where he was presented with an engraved medallion.

The award was established to recognize teaching excellence and to promote UPJ's primary mission of providing high-quality undergraduate education. The award recipient must have demonstrated a high level of competence in the professional aspects of teaching, such as construction of courses, classroom presentation, assignments and grading; innovation in the classroom; commitment to undergraduate teaching; evi-

dence of intensive and sustained attention to the teaching/learning process; instilling in students the desire to be lifelong learners, and availability to students.

Houston also was commended for his efforts to involve students in real-world projects and extra-curricular activities.

Also at the May 1 graduation exercises, Spectar presented the campus's first-ever President's Medal of Excellence to Mary Rose of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The medal is given to an individual "who has strengthened our communities by empowering human beings to achieve their fullest potential, contributing to the dignity of all, and promoting social progress."

Rose was chosen to receive the award in recognition of her work to raise the standards of education for women globally. Her efforts have resulted in the construction of a dormitory and educational development center at St. Joseph's Vocational School for girls in the missionary community of Bafut, Cameroon.

The Press Club of Western Pennsylvania announced the winners of the 46th annual Golden Quill Awards this month. The competition recognizes professional excellence in written, photographic, broadcast and online journalism in western Pennsylvania.

Pitt affiliates who were winners and finalists of the 2010 Golden Quills are:

- **Ervin Dyer** of Pitt magazine was a finalist in magazine features category for "The History of the World ... Really." Dyer also was a winner in the health/medical/magazines category for "Invisible Harm."

- **Tim Ziaukas**, a faculty member at Pitt-Bradford, was a finalist in the health/medical/magazines category for "Mr. Yuk Nears 40."

- **Gary Cravener** of Pitt magazine was a finalist in the photo essay or story category for "Phenomenal Women."

- **Cara J. Hayden** of Pitt magazine was a finalist in the business/magazines category for

The People of the Times column features recent news on faculty and staff, including awards and other honors, accomplishments and administrative appointments.

We welcome submissions from all areas of the University. Send information via email to: [utimes@pitt.edu](mailto: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](http://www.utimes.pitt.edu/?page_id=6807).

"Grow It!"

- **Morgan Kelly** of the Pitt Chronicle was a finalist in the non-daily newspapers features category for "I Know These People Now." Kelly also was a finalist in the science/technology non-daily newspapers category for "Humans Related to Orangutans, Not Chimps, Says Study by Schwartz, Buffalo Museum of Science."

- **Cindy Gill** of Pitt magazine was a finalist in the cultural magazines category for "Drawing Life."

- The Pitt Chronicle staff writers were winners in the non-daily newspapers features category for "Black History Month Series."

- **Alex Davis**, a junior at Pitt-Bradford, received the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania scholarship, given to an aspiring journalist.

Pitt faculty and staff recently won the 2010 CGS Student Choice Awards, which are determined by nominations from College of General Studies students. The awards, announced at a reception last month, are designed to highlight teachers and staff who are dedicated to Pitt's nontraditional students.

Awardees included:

**Sherry Miller Brown**, director of the McCarl Center for Nontraditional Student Success; **Tim Carr**, CGS adviser; **Thomas Damski**, a staff member in Admissions and Financial Aid; **Karen Dreyer**, a teaching fellow in the School of Education; **Michael Flinn**, a faculty member in the Department of Classics; **David Korman**, an adjunct faculty member, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA); **Jeff Oaks**, a faculty member in the Department of English, and **Robert Stumpp**, a faculty member in GSPIA.

**Song Li**, a faculty member in the Department of Pharmaceuti-

cal Sciences and the Center for Pharmacogenetics at the School of Pharmacy, has been appointed to serve as a member of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) developmental therapeutics study section, Center for Scientific Review, for the term July 1, 2010-June 30, 2013.

Li's research group studies drug and gene delivery and gene regulation. His research is focused on the development of lipid- and polymer-based nano-delivery systems for targeted delivery of various types of therapeutics including nucleic acids (genes, siRNA and peptide nucleic acids), proteins and small molecules (e.g., anticancer agents and antioxidants).

Li is an associate editor for the Journal of Gene Medicine. Research in Li's lab has been supported by NIH, the U.S. Department of Defense and the American Heart Association.

**Amy Williams**, a faculty member in the Department of Music, is one of 10 composers nationally to receive a Fromm Music Foundation at Harvard commission. The annual commissions carry a grant of \$10,000 and a subsidy for the performing ensemble.

Williams will compose a string quartet for the JACK Quartet. She anticipates that the new work will receive its premiere in 2012.

The Fromm Music Foundation seeks to strengthen composition and to bring contemporary concert music closer to the public. The foundation has commissioned more than 300 compositions and their performances, and has sponsored hundreds of new music concerts. ■

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# OTM offers new Pitt commercialization guide

The Office of Technology Management — coordinator of the commercialization of Pitt innovations — has launched an innovation of its own.

As part of its mission to encourage faculty, staff and students to participate in the process of patenting and commercializing innovations developed here, OTM recently published its new Pitt

Innovator's Guide to Technology Commercialization.

The 36-page booklet explains the basics of what qualifies as an invention — including practical considerations for what it takes to have commercial potential — and offers tips on how to protect intellectual property.

In straightforward style, it guides the reader through Pitt's commercialization process,

outlining how the University decides which innovations have commercial value and what inventors and their academic departments can gain from successfully licensed innovations. The booklet also offers advice on best practices that stand to benefit a broader segment of the University community, such as tips on what information should be included in laboratory notebooks

and how the notebooks should be maintained.

The new guide takes the place of OTM's outdated and less reader-friendly Inventor's Handbook, which fell into disuse several years ago. The booklet will be updated periodically as intellectual property law and University policies and procedures change, said Marc Malandro, associate vice chancellor for Technology Management and Commercialization.

Malandro said the aim in putting together the primer was to outline what needs to be done and to call attention to pitfalls to look out for when commercializing University technologies. "A lot of policies come to bear, a lot of procedures come to bear. We abstracted the important parts to say, 'Here's what you can expect if you go down this pathway,'" he said. "Sometimes it's hard to pick out the applicable parts from policy documents. We're not creating anything new, just making it more accessible."

As the idea of translating research into commercial products that benefit patients is built into grant mechanisms more often, faculty are becoming more savvy, Malandro noted. "For the past several years, faculty have become adept at the idea of intellectual property and thinking ahead," he said, adding that initiatives such as the National Institutes of Health clinical and translational science awards and T-1 grants have translational components.

Not all commercializable innovations are related to the health sciences. Malandro noted that the Learning Research and Development Center is among the most productive groups within the University in terms of licensing. Copyrighting intellectual property also is covered in the new handbook.

Malandro said the guide is part of OTM's internal outreach to faculty and other innovators, as are workshops offered on academic entrepreneurship, intellectual



property or the "Benchtop to Bedside" program aimed at guiding scientific research into the marketplace to benefit patients.

"This is another piece of the puzzle," Malandro said, adding that OTM wants to make faculty aware of the assistance the office can offer.

"Even if you don't want to be part of the commercialization pathway, that's fine — you can benefit from OTM programs and become a better-informed researcher."

Trust must be developed between the innovators and OTM, he said. "Us doing it alone or them doing it alone really isn't going to work," he said. "The earlier we form that partnership, even at the innovation disclosure stage, makes for a better experience for all involved."

OTM strategic relations manager Daniel Bates said the goal is to make the guide available to as many faculty, staff and students as possible to encourage increased participation in technology commercialization. The office makes presentations to University departments and as part of new faculty orientations, typically reaching 15-20 departments and centers each year, he said.

The guide is available in print and online formats. The electronic version can be accessed by clicking on "Resources & Education" at [www.otm.pitt.edu](http://www.otm.pitt.edu).

—**Kimberly K. Barlow**

## Address class recordings in syllabus, faculty urged

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that their remarks in class would not be recorded. "We cannot have classrooms where students do not feel they can be honest and open. It's the sanctity of the classroom that must be preserved. This statement is an attempt to raise awareness," Pinsky said.

■

In other Assembly business:

- Alexandros Labrinidis, co-chair of computer usage committee, reported results of a survey on the voicemail message system. (See story on page 1.)

- Senate elections chair John Baker reported on participation in the recently concluded elections for Senate officers and new Assembly members. (For those results, see April 29 *University Times*.)

Baker said 17 percent of the

3,257 eligible voters participated in the elections, which concluded April 15. "That number is considerably better than last year, when only 10 percent of the eligible faculty voted for Faculty Assembly [members]. If we go back to our last paper ballot, which was 2006, 23 percent of the eligible faculty voted."

He asked Assembly members for recommendations to increase voter participation.

"The [Senate standing] committee elections were held during finals week, but I don't know how we could have avoided that," Baker said.

"We can set the election date, so we can change it next year if there's strong sentiment to do so, but it's very difficult to do. We

don't really want to have committee elections at the same time as Faculty Assembly elections," he said, adding his strong preference for holding elections before the end of the academic term when the majority of faculty are on campus.

Assembly members suggested more email reminders during the election cycle. For this election season, one paper reminder and one email reminder were sent, according to Senate office director Lori Molinaro.

- Pinsky said Assembly meetings will be held in Ballroom A of the University Club for the foreseeable future. Assembly meetings usually are held at 3 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month.

—**Peter Hart**

*You are cordially invited to join Ron Wyatt as his guest for a complimentary breakfast, lunch or dinner event exclusive to University of Pittsburgh faculty and staff.*

## Are You Making Financial Mistakes Today That Could Spoil Your Retirement Tomorrow?

Are you worried about the economy, market downturns, increased taxes or higher inflation, and confused how these obstacles could affect your retirement? If you are experiencing any of these concerns, you'll want to sign up for this event to learn how to help secure your retirement. You'll also receive answers to the following questions:

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- How will you pay for the potential costs of long-term care?
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## Senate committee members elected

Election results for open faculty seats on the 15 University Senate standing committees have been announced. Voting by Faculty Assembly members concluded May 2. Winners serve three-year terms beginning July 1.

- **Admissions and student aid:** Cyril Kendrick, Pitt-Titusville; Sharon Nelson-Le Gall, Arts and Sciences (A&S); Susan Shaiman, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SHRS).

- **Anti-discriminatory policies:** Jane Feuer, A&S; Andrew Franz, Pitt-Greensburg; Roy Smith, medicine.

- **Athletics:** Lou Fabian, education; Jamie Pardini, medicine; Steve Wendell, dental medicine.

- **Benefits and welfare:** Irene Kane, nursing; Judith Lave, Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH); Emilia Lombardi, GSPH.

- **Budget policies:** Hiro Good, University Library System (ULS); Michael Hahn, SHRS; Chandralchka Singh, A&S.

- **Bylaws and procedures:** Nicholas Bircher, medicine; Sasa Zivkovic, medicine.

- **Commonwealth relations:** Robert Dailey, A&S; Edda Thiels, medicine; Debbie Rougeux, ULS.

- **Community relations:** Laurie Cohen, ULS; Bruce Rabin, medicine; Martha Ann Terry, GSPH.

- **Computer usage:** Joseph Costantino, GSPH; Arif Jamal, ULS; John LaDue, Health Sciences Library System.

- **Educational policies:** Debbie Miller, SHRS; Thomas Platt, SHRS; Jay Rajgopal, engineering.

- **Library:** Clark Muenzer, A&S; Margaret Verrico, pharmacy; Frances Zauhar, Pitt-Johnstown.

- **Plant utilization and planning:** Nancy Baker, SHRS; Jeanine Buchanich, GSPH; Attilio Favorini, A&S.

- **Student affairs:** Anthony Bledsoe, A&S; Ray Jones, business; Scott Mark, pharmacy.

- **Tenure and academic freedom:** Rose Costantino, nursing; William Federspiel, engineering; Linda Frank, GSPH.

- **University Press:** Judith Brink, ULS; Adam Shear, A&S; Linda Tashbook, law.



## CALENDAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

### Monday 24

**Medicine Diploma Ceremony**  
Carnegie Music Hall, 10 am (8-8935)

### Tuesday 25

**HSLs Workshop**  
“The WOWFactor: PowerPoint for Posters,” Sam Lewis; Falk Library classrm. 2, 10 am-noon  
**Basic & Translational Research in Lung Diseases Seminar**  
“Nitrite Regulates Mitochondrial Function,” Sruti Shiva, pharmacology & chemical biology; NW628 Montefiore, noon  
**Health Services Research Seminar**  
“Improving Health Care Delivery Through Patient-facing Computerized Applications,” Ralph Gonzales, UC-San Francisco; 305 Parkvale, noon  
**UPCI Basic & Translational Research Seminar**  
“Histone Lysine-specific Demethylase 1 (LSD1) as a Potential Therapeutic Target for Breast Cancer,” Yi Huang, pharmacology & clinical biology; Cooper Conf. Ctr. classrm. D, noon  
**ReSET Tobacco Research Roundtable Seminar**  
“Interventions for Hospitalized Smokers: Translating Research to Practice,” Nancy Rigotti, Harvard; 109 Parran, 3:30 pm

### Wednesday 26

**Clinical Oncology & Hematology Grand Rounds**  
“Entering an Era of Personalized Therapy for Head & Neck Cancer,” Barbara Burtress; 2nd fl. aud. UPMC Cancer Pavilion, 8 am  
**Pathology Research Seminar**  
“Iron Homeostasis & Its Disorders: Hepatocytes as Endocrine Regulators,” Tomas Ganz, UC; 1105AB Scaife, noon

### Thursday 27

**EOH Seminar**  
“How Retinol Lost Its ‘PATH’ & Found ‘WAY’ to Support Self Renewal of ES Cells,” Jaspal Khillan; 540 Bridgeside Pt., noon  
**Endocrine Research Conference**  
“Organization & Trafficking of Lipolytic Proteins in Fat & Muscle Cells,” James Granneman; 1195 Starzl, noon  
**HSLs Workshop**  
“PubMed Basics,” Katrina Kurtz; Falk Library classrm. 1, 1-2:30 pm

### PhD Defenses

**A&S/Economics**  
“Essays on Term Structure, Forward Premium Anomaly & Globalization,” Ting Ting Huang; May 13, 4940 Posvar, 11 am  
**A&S/English**  
“It’s Modern Kinesis: Motion Picture Technology, Embodi-

ment & Replayability,” Amy Borden; May 14, 526 CL, 10:30 am  
**A&S/Slavic Languages & Literatures**  
“Between Philosophies: The Emergence of a New Intellectual Paradigm in Russia,” Alyssa DeBlasio; May 14, 1218 CL, 11 am  
**SHRS/Rehabilitation Science**  
“Evaluation of Young Adults’ Preferences, Needs & the Understandability of the Personal Health Record Data Contents,” Haya Al-Khatlan; May 17, 6053 Forbes Tower, 10 am  
**A&S/Psychology**  
“The Association of Affective, Behavioral & Cognitive Components of Hostility With Telomere Length, a Marker of Biological Aging,” Judith Carroll; May 17, 4127 Sennott, 2 pm  
**A&S/Chemistry**  
“Copper Ion-Based Electron Spin Resonance Spectroscopic Rulers,” Zhongyu Yang; May 18, 715 Chevron, 1 pm  
**A&S/English**  
“The Wordsworthian Inheritance of Melville’s Poetics,” Corey Goehring; May 19, 526 CL, noon  
**A&S/Chemistry**  
“Mixture Synthesis & Spectroscopic Analysis of a Stereoisomer

Library of the Phytophthora Mating Hormone Alpha1 & the Corresponding bis-MTPA Esters,” Reena Bajpai; May 21, 307 Eberly, 10 am  
**A&S/Anthropology**  
“Prehispanic Social Organization in the Jamastran Valley, Southeastern Honduras,” Eva Martinez; May 24, 3107 Posvar, 3 pm  
**Medicine/Cellular & Molecular Pathology**  
“b-Catenin: A Friend or Foe in Liver Pathobiology?” Michael Thompson; May 25, S123 BST, 2 pm  
**GSPH/Epidemiology**  
“Mortality Trends in a Population-based Type 1 Diabetes Cohort,” Aaron Secrest; May 25, 2nd fl. conf. rm. DLR Bldg., 3512 5th Ave., 3 pm  
**Business**  
“Strategic Knowledge Disclosure: Its Effect on Competitive Response & Knowledge-Based Competencies in the Global Hard Disk Drive Industry,” Donghun Lee; May 26, 280 Mervis, 1 pm  
**SHRS/Rehabilitation Science & Technology**  
“The Relationship Between Ultrasonographic Median Nerve Characteristics, Symptoms of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome & Wheelchair Propulsion Techniques Amongst Manual Wheelchair Users,” Brad Impink; May 27, 4065 Forbes Tower, noon

## Theatre

**PICT Performance**  
“Othello”; May 20-June 12, Heymann, Foster Memorial, W-Sat. 8 pm, Sun. 2 pm, Tue. 10 am (412/561-6000)  
**PICT Play Reading**  
“Parlour Song”; May 24, Foster Memorial, 7 pm (412/394-3353)

## Exhibits

**Hillman Library Audubon Exhibit**  
“Barn Swallow,” through May 24; “Olive-sided Flycatcher,” May 25-June 7; Hillman Library ground fl. exhibition case, reg. library hours (8-7715)  
**Law School**  
“Negotiable Ambivalence,” Michael Walter; Barco Library, through May 28, M-Th 7:30 am-11:45 pm, F 7:30 am-8 pm, Sat. 10 am-8 pm, Sun. 10 am-11:45 pm

## Event Deadline

The next issue of the University Times will include University and on-campus events of May 27-June 10. Information for events during that period must be received by 5 pm on May 20 at 308 Bellefield Hall. Information may be sent by fax to 4-4579 or email to utcal@pitt.edu. ■

## CLASSIFIED

- \$8 for up to 15 words; \$9 for 16-30 words; \$10 for 31-50 words.
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- Reserve space by submitting ad copy one week prior to publication. Copy and payment should be sent to University Times, 308 Bellefield Hall, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh 15260.
- For more information, call Barbara DelRaso, 412/624-4644.

### HELP WANTED

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Candidate must have PhD, extensive experience with design & characterization of animal models of neurodegeneration; expertise in stereotaxic surgery, neurobehavioral analysis, neurochemistry, histology, microscopy & viral vector construction/validation & be experienced in using these to assess neuroprotection & potentiation of neurotoxicity. Send CV & letter to Theresa Hayden, BST3-7035.

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### SUBJECTS NEEDED

#### FEMALE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Women 30 yrs +. A women's health study, conducted by the UPMC, needs to interview women about their past & present emotional well-being for training. The 45-90 min. interview will be videotaped & conducted on N. Bellefield St., Oakland. The payment is \$20. Call Alicia at 412/383-5133.

#### HEALTHY MID-LIFE WOMEN NEEDED

Healthy mid-life women are needed for a research study. Requirements include phone (20 min.) & in-person screening (45 min.) & 3 days of monitoring as you go about your daily activities. \$50 compensation & parking provided. For more information contact Jill at 412/648-9186 or [curreyjm@upmc.edu](mailto:curreyjm@upmc.edu).

#### POST-MENOPAUSAL WOMEN

Caucasian, Asian or Hispanic women wanted for a 3-month osteoporosis study. Must qualify by having low bone density on screening DXA Scan. 5 study visits at UPMC Montefiore. Requires daily injections of either an approved or investigational drug for osteoporosis. Contact coordinator@412/864-3266 or [endoresearch@dom.pitt.edu](mailto:endoresearch@dom.pitt.edu).

### WANTED

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Wed., Mar. 16, 2011



KARL ROVE  
Former Bush Advisor & Deputy Chief of Staff



HOWARD DEAN  
Former Vermont Governor & DNC Chairman

ROVE VS. DEAN  
Wed., April 27, 2011



CALENDAR

May

Thursday 13

**Dental Medicine Continuing Ed Conference**  
“Local Anesthetics for the Dental Hygienist, Part 1,” Sean Boynes & Paul Moore; 2148 Salk, 7:30 am-5 pm  
**HSLS Workshop**  
“EndNote Basics,” Patricia Weiss; Falk Library classrm. 2, 10 am-noon  
**HSLS Workshop**  
“Searching in CINAHL,” Mary Lou Klem; Falk Library classrm. 1, 10-11:30 am  
**Molecular Biophysics/Structural Biology Seminar**  
“Using Capsid Mutants to Understand the Early Infection Pathway of HIV-1 in Macrophages,” Zandrea Ambrose; 6014 BST3, 11 am  
**GSPH Anne C. Sonis Lecture**  
“Tilting at Windmills: The Quest for Health Reform,” Elizabeth McGlynn, RAND; S100A Starzl BST, noon (412/692-4853)

**HSLS Lunch With a Librarian**  
“Searching for Dollar\$: Grant Resources,” Barbara Folb; Falk Library conf. rm. B, noon  
**HSLS Orientation**  
“Introduction to HSLS Resources & Services at Falk Library,” Emily Johnson; Falk Library entrance, 1 pm  
**Microbiology & Molecular Genetics & Pharmacology UPCI Lecture**  
“Selective Autophagy in Aging & Age-related Disorders,” Ana Maria Cuervo; 4th fl. aud. 6 Scaife, 4 pm

Friday 14

**SBDC Workshop**  
“The 1st Step: Mechanics of Starting a Small Business”; Mervis, 7:30-10 am (to register: 8-1542)  
**Neurology Grand Rounds**  
“Carotid Stenting Compared to Carotid Endarterectomy to Prevent Stroke (Including Results

of the CREST Trial),” Thomas Brott; 1105BC Scaife, 11 am  
**Health Sciences Lecture**  
“Translating Science Into Drug Control Policy in 2010,” A. Thomas McLellan, Office of Nat’l Drug Control Policy; aud. 6 Scaife, noon  
**Renal Electrolyte Lecture**  
“Regulation of AP-1B-dependent Membrane Trafficking in Polarized Epithelial Cells,” Heike Fölsch; F1145 Presby, 12:15 pm  
**Bradford Campus Police Memorial Day**  
Bromeley Family Theater, Blaisdell, UPB, 1 pm  
**Law Commencement Ceremony**  
Speaker: Gordon Bonnyman, Tennessee Justice Ctr.; Soldiers & Sailors Mem., 3 pm (8-1373)

Saturday 15

**Greensburg Campus Katz Immersion MBA Info Session**

102 Lynch, UPG, 9:30 am (also May 19, 6 pm; to register: 724/836-9893)  
**Dental Medicine Commencement Ceremony**  
Heinz Hall, Downtown, 1 pm (8-8422)

Tuesday 18

**CVR Seminar**  
“Childhood Vaccinations & Autoimmune Diseases: Perceptions & Realities of Association,” Pearay Ogra; 6014 BST3, noon  
**Health Services Research Seminar**  
“Are Geriatricians More Efficient Than Other Physicians at Managing Inpatient Care for Elderly Patients?” Melony Sorbero; 305 Parkvale, noon  
**Magee-Womens Work-in-Progress Seminar**  
“Pre-eclampsia, the Obesity Epidemic & the Role of Asymmetric Dimethylarginine (ADMA),” Robert Powers; 1st fl. conf. ctr. Magee, noon  
**UPCI Basic & Translational Research Seminar**  
“Signatures of Rejection,” Francesco Marincola, NIH; Cooper Conf. Ctr. classrm. D, noon  
**Senate Community Relations Committee Mtg.**  
272 Hillman, noon  
**Postdoc Data & Dine Symposium**  
“Science Matters: The Role of the Postdoc in Shaping Future Science Policy,” Alan Russell, McGowan Inst.; Assembly Rm. WPU, 5-9 pm

Wednesday 19

**Orthopaedic Surgery Grand Rounds**  
“Total Elbow Arthroplasty,” Bernard Morrey, U of TX; 7th fl. LHAS aud. Montefiore, 7 am-noon  
**Clinical Oncology & Hematology Grand Rounds**  
“Manganese Superoxide Dismutase (MnSOD) Plasmid Liposome (PL) in Combination With Standard Chemoradiation

in Surgically Unresectable Stage IIINSLC,” Robert Schillo; 2nd fl. aud. UPMC Cancer Pavilion, 8 am  
**HSLS Workshop**  
“Advanced PowerPoint for Presentations,” Sam Lewis; Falk Library classrm. 2, 10 am-noon  
**Pathology Research Seminar**  
“The  $\alpha_2\beta_1$  Integrin: Odyssey With a Collagen Receptor,” Samuel Santoro, Vanderbilt; 1105AB Scaife, noon  
**SAC Meeting**  
1175 Benedum, 12:15-2 pm  
**HSLS Workshop**  
“Pathway Analysis Tools 1,” Ansuman Chattopadhyay; Falk Library conf. rm. B, 1-3:30 pm

Thursday 20

**Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds**  
“Evolving Biomarkers,” Jestin Carlson; “EMS Cases,” Adam Tobias; “Salicylates,” Tony Pizon; “A Review of Intubation Technique & Tips for Difficult Intubation With Video Laryngoscopy,” Frank Guyette; 5th fl. classrm. A 230 McKee Pl., 8 am-noon  
**Pathology Fetterman Lecture**  
“The Desire to Purge: A Historical View,” F. Gonzalez-Crussi, Northwestern; 3rd fl. conf. rm. Rangos, 8 am  
**Finance & Retirement Seminar**  
“Are You Making Financial Mistakes Today That Could Spoil Your Retirement Tomorrow?” Ron Wyatt, JFS Wealth Advisors; U Club conf. rm. B, 8:30 am, noon & 6:30 pm (for reservations: 412/921-2970)  
**Endocrine Research Conference**  
“Insulin & Angiotensin II Regulation of Microcirculation in Diabetes,” Zhenqi Liu; 1195 Starzl BST, noon  
**Alzheimer Disease Research Ctr. Lecture**  
“Epidemiology of Mild Cognitive Impairment: Update on the Mon-Yough Healthy Aging Team (MYHAT) Project,” Mary Ganguli, psychiatry, neurology & epidemiology, & Beth Snitz, neurology; S439 ADRC conf. rm. Montefiore, noon  
**Paul Dowd Chemistry Lecture**  
“Chemical Approaches to Understanding Redox Biology in the Brain,” Christopher Chang, UC-Berkeley; 157 Benedum, 5 pm

Friday 21

**GI Research Rounds**  
“Halt C Trial: Lessons Learned,” Anna S.F. Lok; M2 conf. rm. Presby, 7:30 am  
**Paul Dowd Chemistry Lecture**  
“Metals on the Brain: Probing Their Chemistry With Molecular Imaging,” Christopher Chang, UC-Berkeley; 157 Benedum, 2:30 pm

Saturday 22

**Dental Medicine Continuing Ed Conference**  
“Virtues of Profitable Dentistry,” Howard Farran; aud. 5 & 6 Scaife, 8:30 am-1 pm

UNIVERSITY **TIMES** publication schedule

Events occurring	Submit by	For publication
May 27-June 10	May 20	May 27
June 10-24	June 3	June 10
June 24-July 8	June 17	June 24
July 8-22	July 1	July 8
July 22-Sept. 2	July 15	July 22

The University Times events calendar includes Pitt-sponsored events as well as non-Pitt events held on a Pitt campus. Information submitted for the calendar should identify the type of event, such as lecture or concert, and the program’s specific title, sponsor, location and time. The name and phone number of a contact person should be included. Information should be sent by email to: utcal@pitt.edu, by FAX to: 412/624-4579, or by campus mail to: 308 Bellefield Hall. We cannot guarantee publication of events received after the deadline.

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