FEATURE

New versions of the University's seal — and guidelines for their use — are coming July 1. See page 9.

UNIVERSITY TIMES

IN THIS ISSUE

A pollution-eating roof? It's being installed on Posvar Hall.....5

The current revolution in health care will mean changes in medical education, the dean says.....6 & 7

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Nordenberg named chancellor emeritus

Mike Drazdzinski/CIDDE

Chancellor Mark Nordenberg shows off his new "Chancellor Emeritus" nameplate to applause at the June 20 Board of Trustees meeting. At right are Patricia Beeson, provost and senior vice chancellor, and Arthur Ramicone, chief financial officer.

Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg received the title chancellor emeritus and was honored by Pitt's Board of Trustees with a resolution of appreciation and a video celebrating his life and accomplishments (www.chancellor.pitt.edu/news/trustees-honor-chancellor-nordenberg-outstanding-leadership-exceptional-contributions).

In his final report to the board as chancellor, Nordenberg, who will become chancellor emeritus upon his retirement on Aug. 1, recognized members of his staff and leadership team at the June 20 board meeting.

"I'm deeply grateful to these outstanding people for all that they have contributed to Pitt's progress. I get a lot of the credit that should go to them," he said. "I'm also indebted to the members of the Board of Trustees. First you gave me the opportunity to be chancellor and then you worked as hard as you could to make certain that I would succeed," Nordenberg said.

"Though I did not come remotely close to doing the job perfectly, this really has been a perfect job for me in terms of my interests, in terms of my loves and in terms of my skill set. And even on the worst of days I have recognized how lucky I have been to have this opportunity. I never have taken your support and encouragement for granted. We have been through a lot together and we have both the smiles and the scars to prove it."

Nordenberg presented board chairperson Stephen R. Tritch with a chancellor's medal "in recognition of your University of Pittsburgh roots, your extraordinary professional successes and the distinctive contributions you have made as chair through what has been a very challenging time — bomb threats, budget cuts and other things — for the University of Pittsburgh.

"I also present this medal to you as a tangible sign of my broader respect and gratitude to the entire board and also to the three outstanding individuals who preceded you as chair during my 19 years as chancellor," Nordenberg said. "I'm grateful to you for what you've done for the University and for the central role you have played in my own academic life."

Nordenberg closed by reading contrasting observations, the first excerpted from the external review commissioned in 1995 by the Board of Trustees:

"'There is something missing when one walks around the campus. Call it pride, tradition or institutional loyalty.'"

Then from the Middle States

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Mike Drazdzinski/CIDDE

Chancellor-elect Patrick Gallagher at the June 20 Board of Trustees meeting. Also pictured is trustees chairperson-elect Eva Tansky Blum.

Gallagher prepares for role of Pitt chancellor

Although he won't officially become Pitt's 18th chancellor until Aug. 1, Patrick D. Gallagher was an invited guest at the Board of Trustees June 20 meeting.

In comments following the meeting, board chairperson Stephen R. Tritch said, "We have a whole list of activities we are undertaking with Pat to get him ready to assume the role on Aug. 1, and even after he assumes the role, to still continue the transition."

Gallagher, who resigned as director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology on June 13, "is available and will be here for a number of events but he won't be here fulltime," said Tritch, adding that Gallagher will be spending time with his family this summer before he is "inundated" with the responsibilities of his new role at Pitt.

Tritch said he does not expect the change in University leadership to have a "dramatic effect" on the board's priorities. The board, at its Feb. 28 meeting, endorsed an updated set of strategic priorities that align closely with those adopted in 1996. *(See March 6 University Times.)* "The board will be using those just like they did in (Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg's) time to move forward with Pat Gallagher," Tritch said.

He added that Gallagher recognizes Nordenberg's "reservoir of talent and capability" and plans to draw on it for support.

Nordenberg said, "I have indicated to Chancellor Gallagher that I will be available to him if there are things that I can do that would be of help." Gallagher already has met with senior members of Pitt's leadership team, local business leaders and state and local elected officials, and has been introduced at alumni events.

"This isn't something where we start on July 31. We have been trying to identify windows in his schedule, where he could be here or at some other place and really begin connecting with people — and talking with them in ways that will provide a good platform on Aug. 1," said Nordenberg, who on Jan. 1 will assume the newly created position of chair of the University's Institute of Politics.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Pitt budget waits on appropriation

Pitt's budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1 remains on hold while state legislators work to fill budget gaps to finalize Pennsylvania's spending plan for fiscal year 2015.

The state revenue department reported that fiscal year-to-date general fund collections through May totaled $25.8 billion, which is $532.5 million, or 2 percent, below estimate and a June 16 report from Pennsylvania's Independent Fiscal Office revised its FY14 general fund revenue projections downward by $611 million, to $28.544 billion.

Although the University asked for a 5 percent increase *(see Oct. 10, 2013, University Times)*, in his budget proposal last February Gov. Tom Corbett proposed level funding for Pitt, its fellow state-related universities, State System of Higher Education schools and community colleges as part of his $29.4 billion spending plan for the fiscal year that begins July 1. *(See Feb. 6 University Times.)*

Because Pitt and its fellow state-related schools are not under complete state control, their support from the state is provided through non-preferred appropriations. House Bill 2335 proposes a FY15 appropriation that reflects flat funding of nearly $134 million for general support and $2.3 million for rural education outreach.

The University's budget — including tuition and the salary pool — is not finalized until Pitt's state appropriation is announced.

Funding decisions for non-preferred appropriations are made individually after the state general fund budget is passed. Medical school funding comes through the Department of Public Welfare as part of the general fund budget.

—Kimberly K. Barlow ■

Still no decision but Alexander confident about UPT's future

No decision on the future of Pitt's Titusville campus has been made two years after its administrative realignment under Pitt-Bradford President Livingston Alexander, but Alexander still is confident about its future, and says the changes have been beneficial.

"We're moving forward and we await some decisions that will affect the future of the campus," Alexander said, adding that no details can be divulged. "We're considering a number of different options and no decision has been made yet about which option to move into."

Nor is there a timetable for any decision. Ken Service, vice chancellor for Communications, said the decision remains with the provost's office and is not dependent on the new chancellor taking office in August.

Alexander said: "We have really had no discussion with the new chancellor-elect about Titusville. That is a matter he will take up along with the provost at a time they feel is appropriate to do so."

However, Service said, the realignment has been "successful." During the past two years of lowered or flat state funding, he said UPT has not shed any faculty or staff since the Voluntary Early Retirement Program (VERP) ended, and has added five associate degree programs: criminal justice, biological sciences, computer technology, psychology and history. According to Service, the campus is considering adding an associate's degree in petroleum engineering in concert with the employment opportunities in the region. Some UPT classes now are taught by UPB faculty, both remotely and on the Titusville campus.

While UPT enrollment has fallen from 501.6 full-time equivalent (FTE) students in 2007 to 325 in 2013, Alexander called enrollment levels "good for fall," although "it's early" to know exact figures, adding: "Many of our students make their decisions later than most colleges' and universities'." He believes the campus retention rate "has improved significantly" because UPT is providing more financial aid to students than in past years.

Alexander also said campus officials are "recruiting very aggressively. We are doing everything we can to provide a strong offering of courses … to enhance the experience students have on campus.

"The faculty and the staff at Pitt-Titusville are working extremely hard to achieve viability," he said. "They are optimistic about the future of the campus."

—Marty Levine ■

University Times letters policy

Letters should be submitted at least one week prior to publication. Persons criticized in a letter will receive a copy of the letter so that they may prepare a response. If no response is received, the letter will be published alone.

Letters can be sent by email to njbrown@pitt.edu or by campus mail to 308 Bellefield Hall.

The University Times reserves the right to edit letters for clarity or length. Individuals are limited to two published letters per academic term. Unsigned letters will not be accepted for publication.

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Technology Corner

Jinx Walton
Chief Information Officer

Technology topics and trends from Computing Services and Systems Development (CSSD)

Working to advance the University's mission

Though perhaps not as visible as the iconic Cathedral of Learning, Pitt's information technology infrastructure is central to today's achievement of the teaching/learning and research mission of the University. CSSD, as the central information technology division, develops, maintains, secures and continually enhances Pitt's technology infrastructure and provides centrally supported enterprise technology services.

As we plan, make strategic decisions and initiate projects throughout the course of the year, CSSD considers technology — and decisions about technological innovation — within the context of the ways in which the technology advances the University's mission. Technology in and of itself is intriguing, challenging and engaging. But that's not enough. Technology must enable the University to achieve its goals and objectives.

A strong, secure infrastructure is a necessary foundation for successful implementation of technology at a world-class research university. Much of our work to provide that infrastructure involves projects that take place out of sight of the campus community, such as recent work to replace network switches and upgrade border routers. We will double bandwidth for faculty and staff this fall, allowing faster connections to research and other networks.

Other initiatives also will support faculty and staff efforts to advance the University mission. Key projects this year focused on services that foster collaboration and increase productivity and efficiency, such as upgrades to the email system and enhanced mobile offerings. Our business intelligence team is working closely with other areas of the University to communicate more effectively the reliable data available to be used for administrative decision-making.

We have established a Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA)-compliant zone for researchers with federal contracts and have begun a significant upgrade of the environment housing the high-performance computing systems hosted at the Network Operations Center. This summer, we will begin working with faculty focus groups on identifying a reliable enterprise electronic lab notebook system that meets security and research data management requirements.

My Pitt email

Our most visible initiative this summer — affecting everyone at the University — is the implementation of the new email system. The Pitt system processes roughly 24 million email messages every month, but until now, those messages were being managed across several different programs. This year, faculty, staff and students all will have Exchange email accounts under the umbrella title of My Pitt Email, offering a more professional interface and features such as a calendar and a Pitt address book. (Faculty and staff who want to stay with the legacy IMAP interface can do so; CSSD will forward their email to the legacy system.)

Faculty and staff will be able to increase their mailbox quota as needed through a self-service accounts management tool. Detailed information about the new email system is available at technology.pitt.edu.

The global, mobile world of higher education

As we considered options for upgrading Pitt's email system, we collected information and suggestions from faculty, staff and students. A not-unexpected finding was that a growing number of people reported using a mobile device, rather than a desktop machine, to read Pitt email messages.

We know that mobile services are growing more important for people. Pitt's wireless network averaged 21,000 client connections each day this year. By the end of the summer, we will release an updated mobile Pitt site (m.pitt.edu, which works across mobile platforms), with apps that enable students to view class schedules and grades and add or drop courses.

CSSD Technology Services staff worked closely with the Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education (CIDDE) and implemented improvements to CourseWeb, the University's web-based course management system. Faculty and staff are seeing a number of significant enhancements, such as improved course discussion and messaging tools; streamlined grading for online assignments; an updated math editing tool; new online test and survey options, including test question analysis, and a new retention center designed to help instructors identify students at risk.

Recognizing that teaching and learning now take place asynchronously and on various mobile devices, we also are coordinating with CIDDE staff to identify an enterprise video platform that lends itself to lecture-capture and can be used across the University for a variety of video functions.

The global eduroam consortium allows Pitt faculty, staff and students to use their accounts to log in to other participating institutions' wireless networks — and allows visiting scholars to use their home institution account on our wireless network. In this past year, visitors from 30 different countries used the eduroam service at Pitt.

Cloud services like pitt.box.com support collaboration and efficiency; users can store and access documents and files securely from both desktop and mobile devices from any location with an Internet connection — around campus or around the world. CSSD increased the Box account storage space to 50 GB this year. Adoption of the service is growing steadily. By the end of the 2013 spring term, more than 7,000 people had activated their Box accounts; by the beginning of this month, more than 20,000 users had activated accounts.

Business intelligence

CSSD is responsible for the University Data Warehouse and the related business intelligence processes. The University Data Warehouse serves as the authoritative data source for University reporting; it combines data from various University systems into one reliable system. Business intelligence transforms the raw data into meaningful information that can be used to analyze and predict performance.

Vice Provost Juan Manfredi, Associate Vice Chancellor Jane Thompson and I identified key people from across the University to serve on a number of committees to look closely at how data are entered into source systems to ensure their accuracy and reliability and to define and document the data available in the warehouse so that it can be accessed easily and used by administrators in decision-making.

Also underway, CSSD's business intelligence team is developing a dashboard with research accounting data for principal investigators and interactive dashboards and reports for a range of student-related data for administrators.

The University's faculty information system provides faculty with a secure, web-based resource for creating CVs, annual reviews, online profiles and other documents important to academic careers. Currently, there are more than 4,000 user accounts in the system. Pitt faculty members also use this resource to search for colleagues who share research interests.

Security

Cyber-security threats are real — and increasing. The University network is probed for vulnerabilities more than 380,000 times a month. Filters blocked roughly 15 million malware delivery attempts from Pitt email accounts last year.

But it's important that technology resources be as accessible as possible for the University's legitimate users. For an institution like Pitt, a balanced approach to security is critical in order to support the diverse needs of world-renowned researchers.

Some years ago, CSSD established enterprise firewalls and research security zones in order to most effectively meet security and collaboration needs for Pitt researchers. We now also provide a FISMA-compliant environment for research being done with grants and contracts from federal agencies such as the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. Pitt's FISMA environment contains a well-defined security perimeter and computing resources that support projects up to the "moderate security" category level.

Individual responsibility is critical to an effective approach to security, however. Faculty and staff must change passwords regularly, install antivirus software, be wary of suspicious emails and protect laptops with encryption and theft recovery software. Security measures are outlined for you in the Secure Your Data resource community in My Pitt.

CSSD's approach to technology continues to provide both a foundation and springboard for the University's future progress and strength in research, teaching and collaboration. Learn more about our services and our strategic planning by visiting the technology.pitt.edu website. ■

Jinx Walton is the University's chief information officer.

Chancellor gives final Senate Council report

Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg received a standing ovation from Senate Council as he concluded his final report to the group June 11.

"This is it," quipped the chancellor, who is preparing to step down from his post Aug. 1. "If you count not only the regular Senate Council meetings, but also the plenary sessions, that's got to be about 200 Senate Council meetings — which has got to be something near a record, I would think."

Nordenberg said, "I do want to say just how proud I feel of all that we have accomplished together. There is a sense of pride in what we have accomplished because the University of Pittsburgh today is stronger in so many ways than it was two decades ago.

"But I also want to say that there is a special satisfaction that comes from the fact that we really have been in it together. And that doesn't mean that we haven't disagreed on things from time to time. But in the main, we have recognized that we're all committed to the same noble mission. We're all contending with challenging forces from the outside. One of the most important things that we have had going for us is the ability to mobilize our collective energies and intellect and power and to keep pushing the University of Pittsburgh forward."

The chancellor thanked University Senate and Staff Association Council officers for a May 12 reception honoring him and his family. *(See May 15 University Times.)*

"It really was a wonderful experience for me," he said. "Words can't describe how much it meant to me.

"I also will say that it meant a great deal to me that my family was there and that the contributions and sacrifices made by my wife over the course of the last 19 years also were recognized. So I am deeply grateful to everyone who participated in what will be one of the most memorable events of my life."

A positive transition

"There is a good transition underway," as Patrick D. Gallagher prepares to assume leadership of the University, Nordenberg said.

"Chancellor-elect Gallagher and I are in regular contact with each other. He knows what I'm doing. I'm warning him about some of the things that he's going to have to be doing," Nordenberg said.

Gallagher has met with people on campus, and has participated with Nordenberg in alumni receptions as well as in a visit to Harrisburg.

"We spent an entire day in the Capitol meeting with the governor and senior members of his team and the leaders of each of the four legislative caucuses," Nordenberg said.

"All of my interactions with him leave me with the sense that he is a very fine, highly principled person who interacts well with other people. And I do know that he has a skill and experience set that I don't have. A set of skills and experiences that are going to position him to do things for the University of Pittsburgh that I couldn't do, or could not do nearly as well. That's the way that you want a transition to go," the chancellor said.

"Good things lie ahead and I look forward to sharing many of those good things with you, albeit from a somewhat different vantage point," Nordenberg said.

In other business:

Bylaws change approved

Following Faculty Assembly's approval at its June 3 meeting *(see June 12 University Times)*, Council approved a bylaws change that will shift terms of office for University Senate standing committee chairs from the current June 1-May 30 to July 1-June 30.

The change includes a charge to the sitting committee chairs to hold officer elections by July 1 to ensure that committees don't go without leadership during the summer months.

Commonwealth relations to expand mission

A proposal to change the name of the Senate commonwealth relations committee to the governmental relations committee is in the works for fall, said committee co-chair Deborah Rougeux. The new name aims to reflect a broader advocacy mission that would encompass city, county and state executive branch lawmakers in addition to state legislators.

Reports to council

• In his report, University Senate President Michael Spring said a fall plenary session is set for Oct. 23, adding that there may be two plenary sessions in the upcoming academic year. The fall session will focus on research data management and governance.

• Graduate and Professional Student Government President David Gau reported that a graduate and professional student orientation is set for 2-5 p.m. Aug. 18 in the O'Hara Student Center. Information on University resources will be available. Orientation events also will be open to postdocs, he said.

—Kimberly K. Barlow

This year two units were presented with chancellor's affirmative action awards.

At left: Quinten Brown and Kaleab Abebe accepted the award for the career education and enhancement for health care diversity (CEED) program.

At right: Amy Houtrow and Michael Boninger accepted the award for the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

Photos by Mike Drazdzinksi/CIDDE

2 chancellor's affirmative action awards presented

Breaking from the tradition of selecting one recipient for the annual Chancellor's Affirmative Action Award, Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg recognized two Pitt areas — the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and the career education and enhancement for health care diversity (CEED) program — in presenting the 2014 awards at Senate Council's June 11 meeting.

CEED

"The University has long recognized the critical need to develop strategies to recruit and retain members of underrepresented groups to pursue careers in teaching and in research," Nordenberg said in highlighting CEED's work.

Thirty-five scholars have completed the program since its start in 1997. Initially designed for fellows, postdocs and junior faculty members, CEED expanded in 2012 to include students in the School of Medicine.

CEED participants take part in a 12-month professional and research development program that includes coursework through the Institute of Clinical Research Education, opportunities to network and connect with senior faculty and partnerships with faculty mentors who help participants set and meet goals.

CEED scholars also learn to draft successful grant applications, "something that we well know is critical to those seeking to pursue a career in funded research," Nordenberg said.

"The CEED program is helping to broaden the pool of future researchers, a development that will work to our shared advantage," Nordenberg said, citing the words of faculty member Hernando Gomez of critical care medicine.

Gomez was among multiple CEED scholars to write in support of the program's nomination.

The chancellor said that Gomez credited CEED "with providing him with the funding that allowed him to devote 50 percent of his time to jumpstart a career in academics and research, in an environment that allowed him to grow his ideas, subject him to peer review and 'learn the nuts and bolts of the ever-confusing funding process.'" Gomez also praised CEED as a "life-changing program that helped me to craft my voice and my path and that gave a Colombian in Pittsburgh a real opportunity to participate in the University, in the development of science and the generation of knowledge."

Physical medicine and rehabilitation

The Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, "is a very worthy recipient of recognition, given all that it has done to improve the lives of patients with mobility issues so that they can lead fuller lives," Nordenberg said.

"The department develops individualized treatment for patients facing the many challenges of living with limited mobility due to trauma, illness or disease. Its commitment to patient care has grown to include serving as advocate for their patients, many of whom come from socioeconomically disadvantaged and underrepresented groups," the chancellor said.

"In terms of research the department has received funding to investigate the impact of gender on recovery after traumatic brain injury; to look at how race and income impact the provision of wheelchairs regardless of insurance coverage, and to examine how raising a child with disabilities influences family dynamics, finances and health."

Nordenberg said members of the department also are involved in the community as volunteers at the National Veteran's Wheelchair Games and in leading the formation of the Mighty Penguins sled hockey team.

"The department extends this concept of inclusiveness to its recruitment of faculty and staff," Nordenberg said, citing department chair Michael L. Boninger's observation that "more than half of the department's members are women, one-third are from underrepresented groups and a significant percentage are persons with disabilities.'"

Nordenberg continued: "'The department takes great pride in the fact that it has created an atmosphere in which all individuals are treated equally and respectfully so that they have the opportunity to ensure that others have these same opportunities.'"

❑

The award, which includes a $2,500 prize, is given annually to an "outstanding University program area or individual that has made a significant contribution in affirmative action," defined as the "increase of access to and full participation in all aspects of University functions by minorities and women and those who have been declared members of protected classes by executive orders, legislation or court decisions."

—Kimberly K. Barlow

Mike Drazdzinski/CIDDE

Members of the Board of Trustees read aloud a resolution of appreciation in honor of Chancellor Mark Nordenberg and bestowed on him the title of chancellor emeritus, effective Aug. 1, as part of his final board meeting as chancellor.
The board's June 20 resolution was presented to the chancellor as "a symbol of gratitude for the leadership that he has provided and the high regard in which he is held by his many friends and colleagues at the University of Pittsburgh." The resolution can be viewed at www.utimes.pitt.edu/documents/nordenbergResolution.pdf.

Nordenberg named chancellor emeritus

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Commission on Higher Education's 2012 reaccreditation report:

"'There is a justified, though given our cynical times, still remarkable, sense of pride in every sector of the University community. From faculty, even faculty in units that have not been favored with major investments of resources, to students, many of whom have done both undergraduate and graduate studies at the University because, as they have stated, of their love for the school.

"There seems to be an ethos of appreciation which evokes humility in those of us who come to observe it.'"

Nordenberg said, "In an institution that is so heavily dependent on people — and not just upon the talent of people, but upon the attitudes and the feelings and the drive of people — that is the change that we have helped effect together that should make us most proud. And I do thank you for letting me be part of it."

❑

In other board business:

Admissions update

The incoming freshman class — drawn from a pool of 30,600 applicants — boasts an average SAT score of 1298 (out of 1600). The number of applicants, Nordenberg said, represents a huge increase beyond the 7,825 who applied in 1995 and an increase of 3,000 applications over last year.

In addition, he said, "We are having a very strong admissions year on all four of our regional campuses. That's in sharp contrast to the struggles that are facing many other institutions with campuses in western Pennsylvania."

Capital project additions approved

On recommendation of the board's budget committee, trustees approved $15 million in additional capital budget funding for four Pittsburgh campus projects:

• An additional $12 million for Clapp Hall renovation and infrastructure. Trustees previously approved $22 million for the project, which will renovate nearly 90,000 square feet of space for biological sciences. *(See March 6 University Times.)*

Half of the additional money will come from commonwealth funding and half from Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences reserves, said Arthur G. Ramicone, chief financial officer, who outlined the funding requests at the budget committee's June 19 meeting.

• An additional $2.07 million for the installation of a helium recovery system in the mid-campus complex. Trustees previously approved more than $1.8 million for the project, which also includes construction of a 1,000-square-foot machine shop. Funding will come from Dietrich school reserves.

• An additional $500,000 for laboratory renovations on the 13th floor of Chevron Science Center. Trustees previously approved $5 million for the project, which will create new synthetic organic chemistry and chemical molecular biology research labs for two new faculty research teams. The additional funding will come from Dietrich school reserves.

• An additional $440,000 for Cathedral of Learning elevator upgrades. Trustees previously approved $10 million for the project, which is expected to create a faster and more energy-efficient, destination-based elevator system. Funding for the project comes from commonwealth and plant funds.

Fee increases approved

On recommendation of the student affairs committee, the board approved four fee increases, to take effect in the fall term:

• An increase in the student wellness fee to $105 per semester for full-time students (up from $85). The fee supports Student Health Service, the University Counseling Center and the Office of Intramurals and Recreation.

• An increase in the graduate and professional student activities fee to $30 per semester for full-time students (up from $10) and $15 per semester for part-time students (from $5). The fees support graduate and professional school governance organizations and the Graduate and Professional Student Government.

• An increase in student recreation fees at Pitt-Titusville. Fees for full-time students will rise to $100 per term in fall and spring terms (from $80), and to $20 per term (from $15) for part-time students. The fee covers expenses including intramural sports, fitness center equipment, recreation room upkeep and off-site leisure trips.

• An increase in student activities fees at UPT to $90 per term for full-time students (up from $75) and $15 per term for part-time students (up from $10). The fees cover sponsorship of student organizations and expenses for student activities programming.

Board officers, members elected

Board chairperson Stephen R. Tritch and vice chair Morgan K. O'Brien were re-elected; board member Eva Tansky Blum was voted chairperson-elect.

Tritch initially was elected chairperson in 2009. The board's bylaws permit a chairperson five consecutive one-year terms, but allow, in special circumstances, up to three additional subsequent one-year terms.

Tritch was elected to serve one more term to aid in the transition to a new chancellor.

Blum will become chairperson upon completion of Tritch's term in June 2015. She will be Pitt's first female board chairperson.

On recommendation of the nominating committee, the trustees approved Jane Bilewicz Allred (A&S '71) and James P. Covert (A&S '91) as new board members.

Allred, the retired president of Allred Marketing, is the immediate past-president of the Pitt Alumni Association. She is a community representative to the Board of Trustees' institutional advancement committee and a member of the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences board of visitors.

She is a recipient of Pitt's 225th Anniversary Medallion and recently received a distinguished alumni award from the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences.

She established the Allred Endowed Writing Fund, which supports the University of Pittsburgh Writing Center in promoting writing throughout the curriculum.

Covert, who has more than two decades of experience in health care sales, marketing and acquisition, has been president and chief executive officer of the Institute for Transfusion Medicine since 2007.

He is vice chair of the National Blood Foundation and is a director on the boards of The Institute for Transfusion Medicine, The Blood Science Foundation, The Hemophilia Center of Western Pennsylvania, Creative Testing Solutions, Hospice Compassus and The Robert Packard Center for ALS Research at Johns Hopkins.

Covert lettered in football at Pitt and played for the Chicago Bears, 1983-90.

Re-elected to the board were:

Mary Ellen Callahan (A&S '90), Robert M. Hernandez (A&S '66), Terrence P. Laughlin (BUS '81G), F. James McCarl (CGS '73), Keith E. Schaefer (A&S '71), William E. Strickland, Jr. (A&S '70), John A. Swanson (ENGR '66G), and Sam S. Zacharias (A&S '64).

In addition, Jack D. Smith was re-elected to the board of the University of Pittsburgh Trust for the 2014-18 term. He is chair of the Excela Health System orthopedics department.

Elected to serve as University directors on the UPMC board of directors for the 2014-17 term were Hernandez and Blum. Nordenberg was elected to the UPMC board, effective Aug. 1, for the term ending in 2016.

Tritch noted that state representative John A. Maher III (R-40) has been reappointed by the House of Representatives as a commonwealth trustee.

—Kimberly K. Barlow ■

Mike Drazdzinski/CIDDE

Chancellor Nordenberg presented board chairperson Stephen Tritch with a chancellor's medal.

New Posvar roof will "eat" pollution

The new roof of Posvar Hall will "eat" airborne pollution, thanks to technology that has been around for decades but just now is being applied to rooftops — and is affordable.

The roofing material — Eco-Activ Waterproofing Holder by a company called Siplast — is coated with mineral granules that contain the photocatalytic agent Noxite, which uses the sun's ultraviolet rays to break up the air-polluting nitrous oxides NO and NO_2.

Rains wash away the resultant nontoxic residue.

Posvar will be the first Pitt building to use this product. "What you're seeing now, with the emergence of LEED, these products are becoming more prominent," says Pitt sustainability coordinator Dan Marcinko of Facilities Management. LEED, or Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design, is a certification for sustainable features offered by the U.S. Green Building Council.

"They are just starting to use this on building exteriors," Marcinko says about the new roof coating.

Having seen the finished product on exterior walls of buildings elsewhere, he says, "It doesn't look pretty, I'll tell you that." But the roof of Posvar, which has been leaking and has been scheduled for replacement for the past four years, is not visible from the ground or surrounding buildings, apart from the Cathedral of Learning a block away.

Use of the new technology was suggested by Posvar renovation designer Landmarks Design Associates. "Sometimes you pay a big premium" for green products, Marcinko notes, but the price difference between this product and normal roofing was "close enough" to make the greener choice worthwhile, he says.

The new gray roof materials also will keep Posvar somewhat cooler than the current black roof, he adds. Work on the roof was begun in late February and is expected to conclude before the fall semester begins.

"It's one of those new, innovative products … and I think you're going to see this technology applied to different surfaces," Marcinko says.

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Marcinko co-led the compilation of Pitt's 2013 Report on Sustainability, released in March, with Lauro Zullo, Pitt's senior manager of energy initiatives. He hopes the report continues to offer a clearer picture of Pitt's sustainability efforts.

"We'd like to make this an annual report to keep the word out," he says.

Marcinko says he was impressed with the breadth of Pitt's sustainability effort, from Computing Services and Systems Development eliminating paper notices via the Read Green email program in 2012-13 to Dining Services instituting composting and trayless dining in 2009-10. "We were surprised at just how many departments were involved in these sustainability initiatives," he says.

But "eye-opening to me, and something the University can focus on in the future," he adds, was the greenhouse gas inventory, which the University has conducted in 2008 and 2011 and is planning to conduct again. It found that Pitt's greenhouse gas emissions dropped by 4,900 metric tons between 2008 and 2011 and resulted in a 2 percent carbon dioxide reduction. But the inventory found that some of the highest metric tonnage of CO_2 emissions was generated by the University through the air travel of Pitt personnel.

The report also details how Pitt in fiscal year 2013 recycled 42 percent of its total waste stream. That included 473 tons of office paper, 550 tons of cardboard, 59 tons of aluminum, glass and plastic containers, 112 tons of construction waste and 226 tons of other materials.

For future reports, Marcinko hopes to expand coverage of the University's educational and research efforts toward sustainability. He also hopes to highlight initiatives only now in progress, such as switching to single-stream recycling, which mixes all consumer recycling material into single bins.

—Marty Levine ■

Mike Drazdzinski/CIDDE

Eva Tansky Blum, chairperson-elect of Pitt's Board of Trustees, and Chancellor Mark Nordenberg at a press conference after the board's June 20 meeting.

Nordenberg talks about Chancellor-elect Gallagher

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Nordenberg said his continuing presence on campus isn't likely to be a challenge to his successor. "He is a mature, accomplished professional who has moved through positions where he has dealt with predecessors on past occasions," he said.

"I've had a very long run; leaving at this time was principally my decision. I think Pat is going to view me as an asset, not as a threat. If people don't recognize that we're different leaders with different strengths, then they're being shortsighted."

Nordenberg added: "Clearly there is a period of building relationships that is important to the institution's success. Dr. Gallagher and I already have spent a full day together in Harrisburg, meeting with the governor and his senior staff, meeting with the four legislative caucuses. I think that there are ways that I will be of help to him in that regard."

Nordenberg said, "There are lots of projects and problems that he will inherit from me and having me provide him with a sense of context — not telling him what to do, but telling him how we got to a particular place — probably would be important to him."

The chancellor praised Gallagher's skills and experiences as an asset both to the University community and the broader region, which "ought to be celebrating the fact that someone who has devoted his life to the applications of science and technology and the pursuit of commercial success and economic development is coming to the University of Pittsburgh."

Nordenberg said, "It's a great thing for Pittsburgh at this time. He's been a champion in the federal government for advanced manufacturing issues, for example, that all of us are involved in now. He is recognized throughout the country for the contributions he's made toward cybersecurity, something that is critically important to us.

"He is bringing a set of skills that permit him to do things I could not do or that I could not do nearly as well," Nordenberg said.

Looking back on his accomplishments as chancellor, Nordenberg said he views the change in Pitt's culture — with increased pride, ambition and connection — as a highlight of his tenure as chancellor.

"That's the highest point for me because I think it can be a lasting foundation for so many good things to come."

He added: "My goal through all of this has not been to make these years the best years for Pitt, but to put Pitt on a path where every year the University gets better.

"That's what I hope for, for Pitt; that's what I hope for, for Pat moving forward. I am prepared to help with that in any way that I can."

—Kimberly K. Barlow ■

University of Pittsburgh

The Senate of the University of Pittsburgh

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE FROM THE OFFICERS OF THE SENATE

Proposed changes to the Senate bylaws were approved by both Faculty Assembly and Senate Council at the Feb. 18 and Feb. 26 meetings as well as the June 3 and June 11 meetings respectively. Please visit the Senate website at http://univsenate.pitt.edu to view the bylaws in their entirety. If you have any questions or if you wish to receive a hard copy of the Senate bylaws, please contact Lori Molinaro, director, Office of the University Senate, at 412/624-6505. The substantive changes and rationale are:

Article IV. Section 4. Meetings and Reports:
Standing and Special Committees of the Senate shall meet regularly and report to the Faculty Assembly and Senate Council on matters in areas of their responsibility. They shall provide the Senate Office with the minutes (including the attendance lists) of their meetings, as well as with the dates and brief agendas of their forthcoming meetings. When a Committee meets in Executive Session, a statement of any decision reached and its supporting reasons must be provided to the Senate Office. Five members shall constitute a quorum. ***In order to obtain the greatest possible representation of all voting members, when deemed appropriate and desirable by the chair, any vote of the committee may be held by electronic means.***
Rationale: In our electronic age, along with the fact that Senate Elections are done electronically, it makes sense to allow committees, if they so choose, to vote via electronic means.

Article IV. Section 9. Chair and Secretary:
(a) The voting members of each Standing Committee shall elect the Committee Chair and Secretary for terms of office of one year. The Chair shall be an elected faculty member; the Secretary may be either an elected or pro tem faculty member of the Committee. Co-chairs may be elected at the Committee's discretion. Terms shall run **July 1 through June 30. The sitting Committee Chair will organize the election of a new Chairman and Secretary at a meeting or, if necessary, by electronic means (email, video conference, etc.) before July 1.** The immediate past chair shall, for the first four months of the new term year, be a non-voting member ex officio of the Committee (unless the Chair continues to hold membership on the Committee).
(b) Chairs of Standing Committees also serve as Ex Officio voting members of Faculty Assembly. (See Article II. Section 2.(b).)
Rationale: This allows the committee five weeks to elect a chair; previously the dates were June 1-May 31. This ensures a chairman and secretary are in place at the conclusion of that term.

NOTE: These changes will become affective 45 days after this announcement unless the Senate Office receives a petition signed by at least 50 members of the Senate requesting a vote of the full membership. If you are not in agreement with the recommended changes you are encouraged to submit a petition to the Senate Office as outlined in Article VIII amendments.

We hope you will use this opportunity to learn more about the University Senate by viewing other sections of the Senate website as well.

Professor Michael B. Spring
President, University Senate

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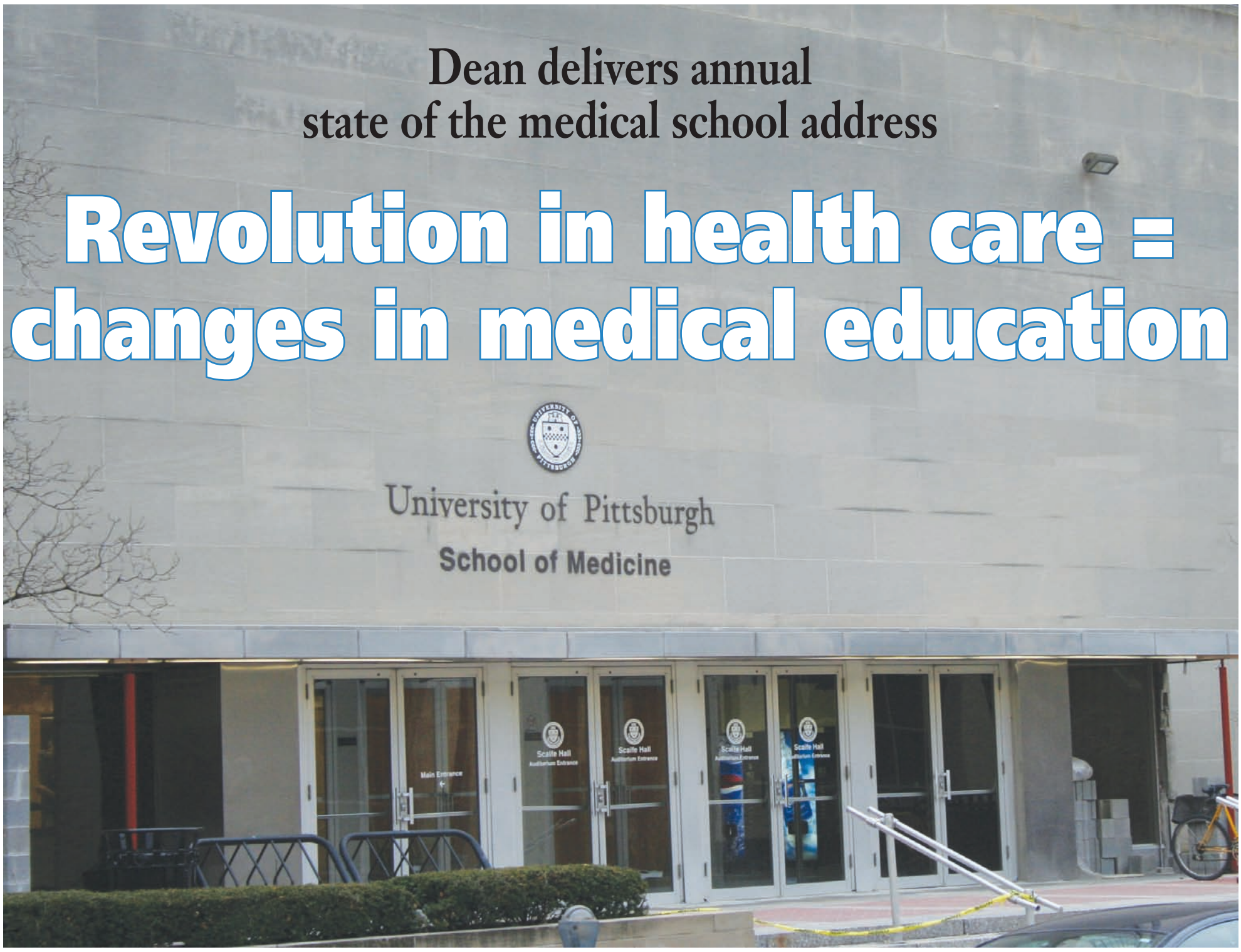

Dean delivers annual state of the medical school address

Revolution in health care = changes in medical education

The convergence of personalized medicine, better imaging technologies, big data and analytics and the Affordable Care Act are fomenting a revolution in medicine and health care, said Arthur S. Levine, senior vice chancellor for the Health Sciences and the John and Gertrude Petersen Dean of Medicine.

In his June 12 state of the medical school address, "The Second Revolution in Medicine and Its Impact on Our School of Medicine," Levine equated today's transformation with the effects of Abraham Flexner's groundbreaking 1910 report, "Medical Education in the United States and Canada," which, he said "effected a revolutionary change in how medicine was taught and practiced in this country."

Noting that the mandate of the Affordable Care Act goes beyond increasing access to include raising the quality and reducing the cost of health care, Levine said, "The more productive our biomedical and behavioral research, the more likely it is we can practice preventative medicine or targeted therapy and thereby lower the cost of treatment for individuals."

Personalized medicine "means deeply interrogating the entire genome of a human being," Levine said, noting that the cost of genetic sequencing soon will drop to about $1,000 — the equivalent of the cost of an MRI. "That will allow us to have the knowledge we need to understand the molecular roots of a disease or disorder, to prevent it if we understand what it is and what's causing it," he said.

Aiding that understanding are advances in imaging technologies. "The imaging of tissues, bodies, cells, organs — all of that is accelerating at a phenomenal rate now," Levine said.

In addition, UPMC is investing $100 million in accumulating patient data, including genomics, insurance claims, environmental exposures, history and family, social and economic data, Levine said. "The challenge will be not accumulating the data, but making sense of it once we do that, and that is a real intellectual challenge."

With these changes occurring against the backdrop of the Affordable Care Act, "if you put all that together, I really do think that we are in the midst of a revolution in medicine and health care," Levine said, adding that interprofessionalism — "to have others besides physicians offer primary care to the degree that their training, experience and ability permits" — also has the potential to reduce health care costs.

"I do think that this is a very good time. It's a scary time. I think the next two years in particular will be volatile and there will be some unpredictable elements about it," Levine said.

"Nonetheless I think we are exquisitely well positioned for the future but it has to be a future that is surrounded by the economic context in which we find ourselves. It goes without saying that we cannot let our expenses exceed our revenues. It's no different than when you go to Giant Eagle ... They'll only let you take out of the store what you pay for."

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Despite the fact that "it's a very rocky time for the NIH," the University remains No. 5 in terms of National Institutes of Health funding — behind Harvard, Penn, Johns Hopkins and the University of California San Francisco, said Levine.

While the end of federal stimulus funding eliminated an upward blip in research funding, "we're not going down, we're staying level — and most of the country is not, so that leaves us in a good position," Levine said.

Pilot grants, bridge funding and free scientific and editorial review of grant applications are all available to aid health sciences researchers, the dean said.

Core facilities that provide services to investigators also have been developed "to help people get grants," but the cores are under review, he said.

"We are beginning an exercise in which we actually look at the use of each core: the number of faculty using it, who they are, whether their grants depend uniquely on access to that core, whether the core's activities could be replicated in some other way," the dean said, noting that some cores had been more successful than others at covering their expenses through user fees.

"We are studying the entire core enterprise because the subsidy has gotten very high. ... I'm not sure that we can sustain it at the level that we're at," Levine said, adding, "One or two of these cores may have to be diminished in order for us to sustain what we are hoping to accomplish."

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Levine noted that NIH doubled its budget from $13 billion to $27 billion between 1998 and 2003, prompting research institutions to construct new buildings, add faculty and train new researchers, "assuming that this gravy train would continue forever." Instead, "The train has stopped, and in fact it has gone backward. And so there is no way that we can sustain the level that we're operating at now. We all recognize that."

The dean referenced two recent commentaries that he labeled "extremely important, particularly taken together" in terms of the current climate.

In recognition that biomedical and behavioral research can't be supported at their current levels amid the current funding climate, former National Academy of Sciences President Bruce Alberts, cell biologist Marc W. Kirschner, Princeton President Emeritus Shirley Tilghman and Nobel laureate and National Cancer Institute director Harold Varmus proposed solutions in their editorial, "Rescuing U.S. Biomedical Research From its Systemic Flaws," published in the April 22 Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences journal.

Levine commended the authors' recommendation that the federal government provide a more stable and predictable funding stream by appropriating funds for NIH on a five-year (rather than the current annual) basis.

However, he decried as "damaging to academic medicine" the authors' recommendations that institutions foot the bill for researchers' salaries and pick up all overhead costs. "If either or both of those recommendations were to be implemented it would end biomedical research at the universities of this country virtually overnight," Levine said. "It certainly would be devastating to research as we know it in the universities."

Noting that "none of (the authors) have actually worked in an academic medical center for many years," Levine said, "None of them are in the trenches and I don't think they are reasoning this through."

Levine said he has collaborated on a response, "basically applauding the authors for their insights and those remedies we think are appropriate but rebutting the remedies that we think would be damaging."

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Another article, "Academic Medical Centers Fear Squeeze From Affordable Care Act," by Anna Azvolinsky, published in February in Nature Medicine, correctly points out that academic medical centers — "defined at a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Pitt's medical students by the numbers

Arthur S. Levine, senior vice chancellor for the Health Sciences and the John and Gertrude Petersen Dean of Medicine. said 4,982 students applied for 162 positions in Pitt's medical school class of 2017.

Students in the class of 2017 hail from 31 states and two foreign countries and represent 74 different undergraduate colleges and universities. The class is 59 percent men, 41 percent women and 17 percent are underrepresented minorities.

Levine said that 94 percent of the accepted applicants have relevant experience in research; 89 percent have experience in medical and clinical community service and 71 percent have non-medical community service or volunteer experience.

Tuition

Medical school tuition for the 2013-14 academic year is $46,962 for in-state students, $48,138 for out-of-state students.

Levine noted the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition is only about $1,000 because "we get so little money from the state to support our medical students that there cannot be a larger distinction than that."

Student debt

The medical school awarded $5.1 million in need-based scholarships in fiscal year 2013, up 24 percent from FY12, with an average award of $20,405. Levine said 87 percent of the medical school's student body (517 of 593) received some form of financial assistance.

Pitt medical students who graduated in the class of 2014 owed an average of $134,564, with debt ranging up to $300,000, Levine said.

Research output

Pitt's medical school requires all students to engage in research. "I want all of our students to master the scientific method and to do so with emerging independence and to their full creative potential," Levine said, adding that the 2013 graduating class had 39 fellowships, grants and national awards and 39 School of Medicine awards to show for those research efforts.

Class members' research resulted in more than 234 national presentations and abstracts and 134 peer-reviewed papers with more still in review, Levine said.

Residencies

In 2014, 36 percent of the class matched for residencies in primary care specialties (compared with 35 percent in 2013); 18 percent matched in surgical specialties (compared with 14 percent a year ago) and 29 percent matched in hospital-based specialties (compared with 38 percent a year ago).

Levine said 29 percent matched for residencies in UPMC programs (compared with 19 percent in the prior year) and 68 percent matched with top-level residencies (compared with 67 percent last year.)

Pitt's medical students increasingly are hailing from out of state — about 75 percent of them — "so the idea of staying in Pittsburgh is not as foreign to them as for people who were born in Pittsburgh," Levine said. And UPMC residencies have become more competitive and attractive. "The students hope they can stay here for those residencies," he said. For those who don't match with UPMC residencies, "if they don't stay here almost 70 percent of the class goes to one of the top 12 or 15 academic medical centers in the country with which we compete."

The dean said that not only are Pitt medical school graduates going to the top-tier schools, but "this year for the first time" now are being matched with top residencies within those top schools. "Historically they might have gone to top-tier hospitals but not necessarily to one of the best residencies in the country in that field," Levine said.

"We're doing very well despite the fact that our tuition is high; that we have a smaller endowment than many of our competitors; that we can therefore give less financial aid than many of our competitors. The fact is that this is an extremely competitive school now for the medical student body."

Graduate programs

Levine said 80 students were enrolled in the MD/PhD medical scientist training program, with 265 students in the school's PhD programs.

—Kimberly K. Barlow ■

Revolution in health care = changes in medical education

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

minimum as a hospital and medical school," Levine said — are more expensive to operate than a community hospital.

"By definition an academic medical center has to support research, teaching, training, a specialized infrastructure, superspecialized physicians et al.," Levine said. In short: "Community hospitals are cheaper than academic medical centers," prompting major insurers to increasingly exclude academic medical centers from their networks.

While nearly half of the nation's academic medical centers have been excluded by major insurers in their regions, Levine said, "In that regard, Pittsburgh is utterly different.

"Despite the current imbroglio with Highmark, UPMC enjoys a privileged position," the dean said, noting that UPMC has 62 percent of the patients in the region — nearly 4 million people. In addition, UPMC has its own insurance plan and is not totally dependent on clinical revenue, but also has a large international and commercial services division; "it has products it can sell to other people."

Levine said that while Pitt may be the most financially well positioned academic medical center in the country, "it doesn't mean that UPMC is not threatened by the implications of the Affordable Care Act" because high copays and insurance deductibles are making consumers think carefully about their medical care, regardless of what insurance they have.

"I think that over the next two years in particular — fiscal '15 and fiscal '16 — we will have to work very closely with UPMC; we will have to be very vigilant about what the economic impact is."

Levine labeled the Affordable Care Act "an inspired and inspirational piece of social legislation," but cautioned that it is imperfect, as is "every other major social policy that ever has been developed in this country." Noting that Social Security and Medicare rules continue to be changed, the Affordable Care Act likewise will continue to change, Levine predicted. "It will reach some sort of steady state years from now, not immediately."

The downside to the legislation: "It will in fact squeeze clinical revenues," the dean said. "The medical school is exquisitely dependent upon monies delivered from UPMC in support of our academic mission. That is our major source of discretionary revenue," he said, adding that the medical school's endowment is smaller than that of many of its competitors and that the school receives little in state funding.

"We do not have the wherewithal necessary to continue our quite remarkable momentum without adequate if not generous support from UPMC based on their clinical revenue," he said, adding that over the next two years, "We will need to re-equilibrate ourselves with response to the re-equilibration that UPMC has to do to bring their expenses into line with their revenue."

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Levine's address is posted at http://mediasite.cidde.pitt.edu/mediasite/SilverlightPlayer/Default.aspx?peid=7cc22a492e714b68a9c8a8adbc1c1fff.

—Kimberly K. Barlow ■

"I think the next two years in particular will be volatile and there will be some unpredictable elements about it."

—Arthur Levine

Pitt's medical school by the numbers

Comparing the medical school's finances during his tenure, Arthur S. Levine, senior vice chancellor for the Health Sciences and the John and Gertrude Petersen Dean of Medicine, noted that operating revenues have tripled to $2.132 billion in 2014, up from $702 million in 1998. Endowment funds and restricted accounts have doubled, rising to $1.098 billion from $525 million.

Research revenues have more than tripled, rising to $658 million from $210 million and NIH awards have more than doubled, rising to $431 million from $185 million.

In addition the number of faculty has risen to 2,363 in 2014, up from 1,375 in 1998, with the medical school student body increasing to 899, up from 725 during that same period.

Levine reported that the school's endowment (not counting quasi-endowments and restricted funds) was valued at about $838 million as of Dec. 31, 2013, and stands at about $900 million now.

Of those funds, 52 percent is for endowed chairs; 30 percent is for general operations; 15 percent is for academic departments, centers and institutes, and 3 percent is for financial aid, Levine said.

Faculty facts

Pitt's medical school has 2,234 full-time faculty, with teaching compensation totaling $18.5 million. "That is roughly comparable to the amount of tuition we receive from the students," Levine said.

The University's medical school faculty have distinguished themselves, Levine noted.

The school boasts a National Medal of Science winner in Thomas E. Starzl; four Lasker Award winners; six National Academy of Sciences electees and 25 Institute of Medicine members.

Fifty-seven Pitt medical school faculty are members of the American Society for Clinical Investigation, or "Young Turks," with 10.5 percent of the group's 2014 inductees coming from Pitt's faculty. In addition, 24 Pitt faculty have been named to the Association of American Physicians, or "Old Turks," Levine said.

"The school is not only excelling with respect to its students but to its faculty as well," Levine said.

Nearly 100 Pitt faculty have been selected, by peer review, for the school's Academy of Master Educators, Levine said. "They are the very soul of the institution with respect to their commitment to education, their zeal for doing so and their ability in doing so."

Curriculum changes

The medical school's integrated preclinical curriculum has been redesigned and the clinical skills curriculum reformed over the past three years, said Levine, adding that more changes are on the horizon. "The curricula in this country are evolving at a rapid rate. So at our next curriculum colloquium in the fall I think we will be looking at what some of our competitors are doing and probably tweak the curriculum again," he said.

"It is not fossilized; there is an ongoing biology to medical school curricula and we will act accordingly," said Levine.

—Kimberly K. Barlow ■

RESEARCH NOTES

Bioengineer earns $2.9 million brain implant grant

Xinyan "Tracy" Cui, bioengineering faculty member in the Swanson School of Engineering, has received a five-year, $2.9 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to improve brain-computer interface technology.

Less than two years ago, a brain-computer interface designed at the University allowed Jan Scheuermann, who has quadriplegia, to control a robotic arm solely with her thoughts. Such technology soon may help other patients with quadriplegia or amputated limbs.

Cui will focus on the microelectrode arrays, or brain implants, that are used to connect mind and machine. As the primary investigator, she will explore ways to coat the microelectrodes with biological molecules that may strengthen the connection between the brain implants and computers that operate devices like robotic arms.

Research has shown that, over time, microelectrode arrays can elicit an inflammatory response and cause damage to neurons, weakening the link. While the harm to the patient isn't significant, poorer recordings of neural impulses can limit the functionality of the technology and the quality of information reaped by researchers.

Cui said: "For the first few months, the data are good, but it starts to decline. It's a common trend to see the amplitude of the recorded signal go down, and it becomes lost in the noise. After a year, we lose half the channels. What we hope to do is camouflage (the microelectrode needles) with biochemicals that can escape the immune surveillance response and protect neurons around the electrodes."

Cui has high hopes for a cell adhesion molecule called L1, which has shown positive results in animal models. In addition to gaining better understanding of the mechanisms behind L1's preliminary success, Cui also plans to pursue and test several other targets.

Andrew Schwartz, the neurobiology faculty member leading a study of the robotic arm technology used by Scheuermann and serving as a co-investigator on Cui's team, believes in the potential of the project. "We did one array, and we had spectacular results," he said. "We had very nice recordings with large signals, and they lasted longer than what we would normally see."

Schwartz said that the initial experiments have shown that the coating extends the viability of neural recording via microelectrode arrays by about six months beyond what is now a nine- to 12-month window.

The grant also will be used to explore a new microscopy technique that will allow Cui and colleagues to monitor the function of L1 and other tested molecules in a living animal.

"In vivo imaging will allow us to see which neurons are firing and which are not active and, therefore, not being recorded," she said.

Cui's work could advance not only brain-computer interface technology but also other technologies that use microelectrode arrays to help restore sight, hearing, movement, ability to communicate and cognitive function.

Co-investigators are School of Medicine faculty members **Carl Lagenaur**, neurobiology, and **Alberto Vazquez**, radiology, as well as **T.K. Koza** in the Swanson school's bioengineering program.

UCSUR awards grants for neighborhood studies

The University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR) has given two Steven D. Manners Faculty Development Awards to promising research projects in the social, behavioral and policy sciences on campus.

One award, to epidemiology faculty members **Anthony Fabio** and **Dara Mendez**, funds a project titled "The Development of a Measure of Neighborhood Well-being for Pittsburgh Neighborhoods." This study aims to develop, through the use of the data included in the Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System, a neighborhood well-being index. This index will be used as a guide for identifying neighborhoods with positive or negative attributes related to public health.

The researchers plan to apply this index to two ongoing studies: an analysis of the effects of the Consol Energy Center and the Rivers Casino on neighborhood level crime, and the relationship between neighborhood environments and pregnancy and birth outcomes. The results are expected to be a resource for other researchers and advocates in the Pittsburgh community conducting work related to the influence of the neighborhood on health and well-being, particularly in addressing issues of equity in the region.

The second award, to University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute faculty member **Linda Barry Robertson**, will fund "Social Stressors, Air Pollution and Cancer in Allegheny County." This study will develop methods to explore multifaceted, and potentially interactive, risk factors for cancer — including exposures to neighborhood psychosocial stressors and air pollution, and individual factors including smoking, drinking, obesity, physical activity and psychological distress.

Robertson also plans to map local spatial patterns in two important risk factors for cancer — air pollution and psychosocial stress — in an effort to develop refined, testable hypotheses on mechanistic pathways for different cancer outcomes.

These grants support pilot research with scientific merit and a strong likelihood that the project will lead to subsequent external peer reviewed funding. They honor the memory of **Steven Manners**, a sociologist who began working at the center in 1974 and served as its assistant director from 1989 until his death in September 2000. His research and service to the center and the University community were dedicated to improving social conditions in the urban environment.

Depression associated with earlier deaths in type 1 diabetics

People with type 1 diabetes have a higher risk of premature death as their number of depressive symptoms increases, a Graduate School of Public Health study revealed.

The research used data collected through the Pittsburgh Epidemiology of Diabetes Complications Study (PEDCS), a long-term study of health complications in people with type 1 diabetes.

Said senior author **Trevor Orchard**, epidemiology faculty member: "Through the 25 years that we've been running this study, we've found that there's a lot more to diabetes than high blood sugar. This link between premature mortality and depression adds to our previous findings, which show that depressive symptomatology predicts cardiovascular disease and demonstrates that doctors need to consider more than adjusting insulin doses when treating type 1 diabetes."

Lead author **Cassie Fickley**, a doctoral student in Orchard's department, analyzed data on 458 study participants with type 1 diabetes who were assessed using the Beck Depression Inventory, a 32-point scale that measures depressive symptoms ranging from loss of appetite to suicidal tendencies. People who score 16 or more points are considered likely to be clinically depressed.

Said Fickley: "For every one-point increase on the scale, participants showed a 4 percent increase in risk for mortality, even after controlling for other relevant factors, such as age, gender, smoking, cholesterol levels and high blood pressure. That's a significant increase and is something we'll need to explore more to determine if treating depression would translate into lower mortality in people with type 1 diabetes."

Type 1 diabetes usually is diagnosed in children and young adults and occurs when the body does not produce insulin, a hormone that is needed to convert sugar into energy. The disease can lead to nerve, kidney, eye and heart complications but can be controlled with insulin therapy and other treatments.

PEDCS is an investigation to document long-term complications of type 1 diabetes among patients at Children's Hospital between 1950 and 1980. Funded by NIH, the study recently was renewed for another five years. Its latest findings were presented in a press conference at the American Diabetes Association scientific sessions.

Engineering innovation incremental, psych study finds

Is finding that "new" engineering invention a massive mental leap from point A to point B, or are there scores of unnoticed intermediate steps in between?

Christian Schunn, a psychology faculty member and senior scientist at the Learning Research and Development Center, and **Joel Chan**, a psychology graduate student in the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, believe that not enough has been done to understand how engineers create. Understanding the process may provide a road map for speeding up innovation. Their recently published paper online in Cognitive Science explored the workings of the creative engineering mind by examining the process in real life.

Said Schunn: "Most companies make all their money on new products. They barely break even on old products. They have to innovate to be viable, and that's a hard path to follow." In the pursuit of innovation, companies pay big money to consultants to help spur creativity. "But little of what they do is based on research," he added.

Using multiple hours of transcripts of a professional engineering team's "brainstorming" sessions to break down the conversation systematically, the researchers looked for the path by which thought A led to thought B that led to breakthrough C.

"We want to understand the nature of cognitive limitations," Schunn said. "Why do we get stuck (on an idea), what kinds of things get us unstuck and why do they work?"

They found that new ideas didn't spring fully formed after massive cognitive leaps. Creativity is a stepwise process in which idea A spurs a new but closely related thought, which prompts another incremental step, and the chain of little mental advances sometimes ends with an innovative idea in a group setting.

Commenting on Thomas Edison's dictum that genius is 1 percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration, Schunn concluded that "inspiration creates some … perspiration."

Formula content doesn't prevent development of diabetes antibody

Early findings from the first large international trial to try to prevent type 1 diabetes show that infants at risk for the disease who were fed a special baby formula that lacks complex cow milk proteins still made antibodies against the insulin-producing cells of the pancreas by the time the youngest children studied were 6 years old. Previous studies suggested the experimental formula might prevent the development of the auto-antibodies, which represent inflammatory changes in the organ.

But that doesn't mean the children definitely will develop type 1 diabetes as they get older, cautioned researchers at Children's Hospital, led by School of Medicine pediatrics faculty member **Dorothy Becker**, U.S. principal investigator for the study. Pitt is the coordinating center for the American arm of the study. The results were published in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

In type 1 diabetes, the body's immune system attacks its own pancreatic beta cells, which make insulin to regulate blood sugar levels. That autoimmune process is thought to start very early in life, explained Becker. Some smaller studies and animal experiments have shown that exposure during infancy to complex foreign proteins, such as the cow milk proteins in conventional baby formula, is associated with the presence of these autoimmune antibodies in children who have a parent or sibling with the condition and other indications of genetic risk.

Said Becker: "This has been a controversial issue, in part because different natural history studies have come to different conclusions. We hope that when our intervention trial concludes in February 2017, which is when all the participating children will be at least 10 years old, we should have enough evidence to say whether or not this experimental formula can prevent them from getting type 1 diabetes."

From 2002 to 2007 at 78 study sites in 15 countries, the "Trial to Reduce IDDM in the Genetically at Risk," or TRIGR, research group randomly assigned 1,078 high-risk infants to be weaned to a "hydrolyzed" formula made almost completely with smaller, less complex casein proteins, and 1,081 to get conventional formula, which is made with 80 percent cow milk proteins and 20 percent of the hydrolyzed casein protein. The two formulas were similar in taste and smell so that neither the parents nor researchers could tell the difference between them. Each baby's parents made their own decisions about breastfeeding and age of weaning to formula.

Blood samples from the umbilical cord and at 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 24 months of age, and yearly after that to age 10, were tested for antibody levels. After an average of seven years of follow-up — the youngest participants are now 6 — the researchers found no differences in antibody levels between the two groups.

"This tells us that the kind of formula the baby drinks doesn't affect the inflammatory changes going on in the pancreas," Becker said. "But it doesn't tell us yet whether they will develop diabetes. In one animal study, mice that were fed the experimental formula had the inflammatory markers, but diabetes was almost totally prevented using the same experimental formula. That could be the case with these children, too."

The TRIGR study group includes researchers from six centers in the U.S., centers in Scandinavia and centers throughout Canada, Australia and Europe.

The project was supported by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the special statutory funding program

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

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, 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.

New versions of University seal adopted

The University's institutional identity is about to become clearer.

University Communications designers have developed new versions of the University seal, optimized for print and online applications.

In addition to accommodating new communications formats, "We want to make sure the materials that represent the University are consistent in quality and appearance," said Ken Service, vice chancellor for Communications.

Pitt's academic seal — its most formal logo — isn't changing. Reserved for diplomas and official documents, the seal adopted in 1993 features a shield and crest based on William Pitt's family coat of arms; a banner with the Latin words "Veritas, Virtus" (Truth, Virtue) and 1787, the year of the University's founding, and a "University of Pittsburgh" name circle that includes leaf sprigs symbolic of achievement and strength.

The standard print seal (for use in publications, stationery, advertisements, displays, marketing materials, premiums, reports, signage and videos), is a simplified version of the academic seal.

The new print version of the University seal

An even simpler online seal is available for websites, e-publications, online presentations and social media. The most noticeable difference in the online version is the lack of vertical lines in the shield, to increase clarity when viewed on peripheral devices. "Most people won't notice a great deal of difference," Service said.

Along with the streamlined logos come more than 100 pages of graphic standards (www.communications.pitt.edu/graphic-standards.pdf) with do's and don'ts for properly representing Pitt's institutional identity. According to the standards, graphics designed by University Communications will be grandfathered in, but independent unit graphics that were created elsewhere will need to be reviewed and approved in order to continue to be used.

The new seals will be available for download in July via links at communications.pitt.edu/institutionalidentity.

—Kimberly K. Barlow ■

RESEARCH NOTES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

for type 1 diabetes research and digestive and kidney diseases, both part of NIH; the Canadian Institutes of Health Research; the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International, and the Commission of the European Communities.

NSF funds sustainably produced magnets for electric generation

A more energy-efficient and less time-consuming method to produce permanent magnets for power generation in machines from electric cars to windmills is the potential of a National Science Foundation grant to engineering researchers at the Swanson School of Engineering and Alcoa Technical Center in New Kensington.

The proposal, "Manufacturing of Nanostructure-Enhanced Mn-Al-base Materials via Modulated Machining and Thermo-mechanical Consolidation for High-Performance Magnets" was awarded a $299,998 NSF Grant Opportunity for Academic Liaison with Industry (GOALI) award for three years.

The research will be led by **Jörg M. K. Wiezorek**, faculty member in mechanical engineering and materials science, with co-PIs **M. Ravi Shankar**, faculty member and Whiteford Faculty Fellow in industrial engineering and Hasso Weiland at the Alcoa center. They use a machining-based process combined with low-temperature consolidation to generate dense bulk ferromagnetic aggregates, or permanent magnets, for high-performance applications.

The grant also will support graduate student fellowships in the lab.

Said Wiezorek: "Current methods of producing permanent magnets are expensive and energy-intensive, requiring imported rare-earth metals and high temperatures. By using a more affordable and less expensive magnesium aluminum alloy we can reduce a six-step manufacturing process into two stages and more efficiently and affordably produce permanent magnets for use in electro-generation."

The research will explore the effective manufacture of rare-earth-metal-free magnetic materials, which are considered critical to technologies used in the conversion between mechanical work and electrical power, as well as in power transmission and distribution.

The improved manufacture of permanent magnet materials based on abundant ingredients can positively impact the development of sustainable energy technologies from turbine power generation to electric vehicle battery charging.

The machining-based process will deliver high-purity manganese-aluminum alloy-based micro-particulates with an internal ultrafine-grained structure at the nanoscale level. To determine the most effective process-structure-property relationships for the magnets, the team will use physics-based numerical models with magnetic and mechanical property measurements, X-ray diffraction and electron microscopy experiments.

Additionally, the researchers' machining-based manufacturing is adaptable to a range of alloy systems and has the potential to advance the field of powder-particulate-based manufacturing of functional and structural material in general. ■

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PEOPLE OF THE TIMES

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, by fax at 412/624-4579 or by campus mail to 308 Bellefield Hall.

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Samuel Poloyac has been named director of the Center for Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences in the School of Pharmacy.

Poloyac has been a member of the Pitt faculty since 1999. He earned his Pharm.D. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Kentucky and his B.S. in pharmacy at Pitt.

His research focuses on determining the role of drug-metabolizing enzymes in disease progression and optimizing drug therapy in critically ill patients, particularly those with stroke, cardiac arrest or traumatic brain injury.

He was a winner of the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award this year and the Academy of Students of Pharmacy Faculty Member of the Year Award in 2003.

The Center for Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences is home to 15 faculty members whose work focuses on optimizing drug therapy and developing novel therapeutic interventions in areas that include the neuroscience of stroke and traumatic brain injury, immunology, infectious disease, nephrology, oncology, pharmacokinetics/dynamics and transplantation.

Stacy McLinden has joined the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid as the federal work-study payroll administrator. She earned her undergraduate degree in business at Pitt with a paralegal certification. As an undergraduate, she was a work-study student employee.

After graduation, McLinden worked for various law firms as a paralegal and more recently as an administrator for Genesis Healthcare.

The Provost's Advisory Council on Instructional Excellence has selected 10 teaching proposals to fund under the 2014 innovation in education awards program.

The awards, established in 2000, encourage instructional innovation and teaching excellence. The advisory council seeks to identify high-quality proposals that show promise for introducing innovative, creative approaches to teaching and that can be used in other courses.

Laurie J. Kirsch, Pitt vice provost for faculty development, said, "This year, we had an especially strong set of proposals. The advisory council was pleased to recommend 10 proposals for funding, which is a higher number than in the recent past and which reflects the overall quality of the submissions. Innovation in teaching is certainly flourishing at Pitt."

Winners of the 2014 awards are:

• **Jean Ferguson Carr**, director; **Jennifer Lee**, associate director, and **Brenda Whitney**, lecturer, all of the Department of English's composition program, for "Seminar in Composition Digital Literacy Initiative."

This project seeks to integrate digital and writing pedagogy in the University's required Seminar in Composition course and in the training program for teaching fellows. The course's revised syllabus will include assignments geared toward increasing students' fluency in multimedia, such as the ability to compose digital essays to analyze an assigned reading.

The digital composition and literacy course, Carr and Lee write, will allow students to "engage with new media as readers and writers, utilizing digital texts and technologies both as tools for inquiry and as forms of inquiry." The overall goal, they add, is to make digital literacy a defining component in the University's literate arts, as it is crucial for undergraduates to be savvy users of multimedia as well as in writing and research.

• **Philip Empey**, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, School of Pharmacy, for "Using Personal Genome Testing to Teach Pharmacogenomics in a Large Lecture Course."

Pharmacists' primary responsibility is to effectively manage drug therapy, a task that has become increasingly difficult with the rapid proliferation of personalized medicine. This project's goal is to enhance personalized medicine education so that pharmacy students will enter the field with experiential knowledge of personal genomic testing.

Empey's project will redesign a large lecture course in the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum to incorporate optional personal-genomic-testing technology for students and faculty. He will create learning activities to use the testing data and to create a database for analysis and evaluation. The course redesign will give students a new opportunity to experience firsthand how genetic testing is performed, said Empey, allowing students to assess the strengths and limitations of genetic information.

• **Zsuzsa Horvath**, director of faculty development, Office of Faculty Affairs, School of Dental Medicine; **Susan M. Meyer**, associate dean for education, School of Pharmacy, and **Susan A. Albrecht**, associate dean for external relations, School of Nursing, for "Learning and Teaching Together to Advance Evidence-Based Clinical Education."

The project's goal is to enhance students' clinical learning experiences in dental medicine, nursing and pharmacy by providing pedagogical training to clinical faculty. The initiative will comprise a faculty seminar, a workshop, a three-day training session (all taught by an outside consultant), and an in-depth, semester-long course on clinical teaching skills.

The project is expected to help a significant number of clinical faculty members at the schools to implement instructional innovations in clinical teaching, which will, in turn, improve student learning and eventually, the future health care workforce.

• **Gordon R. Mitchell**, assistant dean, University Honors College, and **Kathleen M. McTigue**, director of the clinical scientist track, School of Medicine's internal medicine residency program, for "Learning Lake Initiative."

This partnership among Pitt, Pymatuning State Park and the surrounding community envisions the 17,088-acre Pymatuning Reservoir as "a dynamic intellectual ecosystem of interdisciplinary learning and research." It seeks to create a "curriculum incubator and support infrastructure" that benefits both the University and the community.

Among the initiative's projects are an online hub (weblog) to maintain a dialogue among students, faculty and community members; a local production of Shakespeare's "The Tempest" to spread awareness and leverage the larger goal of collaboration; and a series of curricular innovations, including a stand-alone course, a module in an existing course and a mentored research project.

The Learning Lake Initiative is open to students in many disciplines — from architectural studies to public health — and it encourages inquiry-based learning in applied research projects directly connected to life near the lake.

• **Andrea Hergenroeder** and **Victoria Hornyak**, Department of Physical Therapy, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, for "The Use of Assessment Virtual Patients to Examine Clinical Decision Making."

Currently, there are no adequate methods to assess physical therapy students' understanding of, or proficiency in, clinical decision making, Hergenroeder and Hornyak write. This project will develop virtual patient cases that incorporate narrative and media and are designed to assess students' clinical decision-making skills in patient management. This measurement strategy will be implemented in the required Doctor of Physical Therapy curriculum, giving students hands-on experience before they conduct their clinical internships.

Unlike written evaluations, the "assessment virtual patients" are computer-generated simulations that allow students to play the role of health care providers. The project's goal is to develop and pilot-test this approach to determine if assessment virtual patients are accurate and effective measuring tools for student development.

• **Elizabeth Bilodeau**, Department of Diagnostic Sciences, School of Dental Medicine, for "The Gamification of Oral Diagnosis: Engaging Students in a Large Classroom."

This project is a web site that features an oral pathology atlas and interactive games, which are intended to help dental students achieve diagnostic competency, a skill that is difficult to teach effectively in large-lecture settings.

"Descriptions of the lesions cannot replace students seeing actual pathology and its associated nuances," Bilodeau writes. "Practice experiences and training as to how to evaluate these lesions become critical."

The web site — comprising clinical and radiographic images from decades of visual archives — will allow learners to practice their diagnostic skills, compete in games against their peers and post their scores on Facebook.

• **John R. Shaffer**, Department of Human Genetics, Graduate School of Public Health, for "Online Human Population Genetics Simulator."

The explosion of technology-driven -omics sciences has spurred unprecedented interest in human genetics, personalized medicine and other fields that have a foundation in population genetics. However, Shaffer writes, that foundation is historically abstract and highly mathematical in nature. This project's goal is to create an educational tool — namely, an online population genetics simulator — that will "facilitate the comprehension of principles derived from math-heavy course material" and promote genomics literacy across disciplines.

The software will be integrated into the required undergraduate or graduate curriculum, offering hands-on experimentation that focuses on high-level learning, which often is elusive in traditional, lecture-based pedagogy. "For example, this tool could be used for modeling a disease-causing gene and then seeing how evolutionary forces act on that gene," Shaffer writes.

• **Denise A. Piechnik**, biology, Pitt-Bradford, and **Matthew M. Kropf**, director of the Energy Institute, Pitt-Bradford, for "STEM-Sense: Students Building and Using Sensors for Classroom Research."

This is a pilot project designed to enhance student learning in a Pitt-Bradford introductory biology course by using a cross-disciplinary approach in research-based lab exercises. Students will build and use sensor systems in lab exercises and will share their lab data online with students in other disciplines, including chemistry

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

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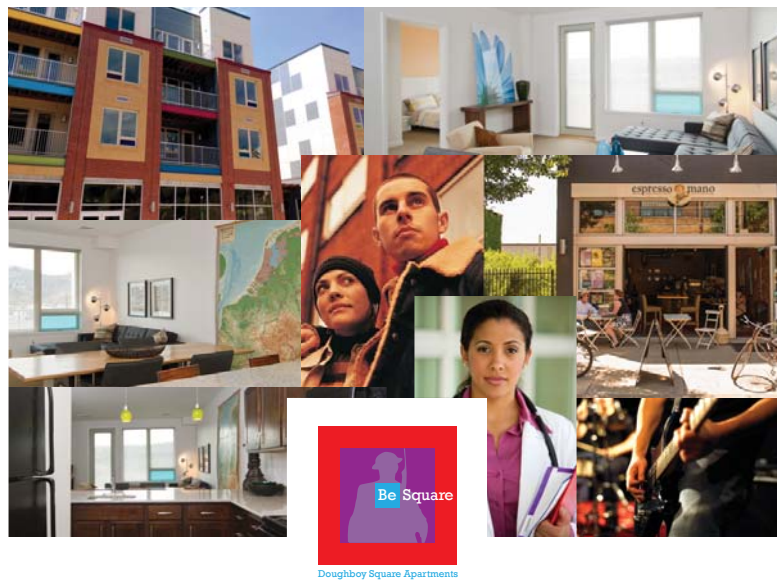

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Margaret Mary Kimmel

In an oral history Margaret Mary Kimmel gave to the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) in 1995, for which she had served as president in the previous decade, she told the interviewer:

"From my vantage point as an educator, the need for people who are concerned about how children acquire knowledge, about reading, about books, about listening and life, about information in whatever form it takes — the need for us in the society — is more than it's ever been before. I think that we need to work with all of those other adults who are concerned. I see our contribution as being unique in that ... but I see us as keepers of the story in the same way that storytellers are keepers of tradition."

Kimmel, professor emerita in the School of Information Sciences' Department of Library and Information Science, died June 10, 2014.

She joined the University faculty in 1978 as an associate professor in that department, which she chaired 1990-95. She was granted tenure in 1979 and attained the rank of professor in 1983. She also directed the interdisciplinary program in children's literature undergraduate certificate program jointly run by the School of Education and the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences.

Children's literature long was the focus of her career. She was the editor of the University of Pittsburgh Press series of Golden Triangle Books for young people, 1999-2002, and co-author of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood: Children, Television and Fred Rogers" from the Press and of "For Reading Out Loud! A Guide to Sharing Books With Children" from Dell. She also authored the children's book "Magic in the Mist."

Her most recent publication came with co-author Mark Collins in September 2008: "The Wonder of It All: Fred Rogers and the Story of an Icon," published by the Fred Rogers Center for Early Learning and Children's Media at Saint Vincent College, where she had been named a fellow the year before. She also advised Rogers' show during its production years.

Kimmel contributed journal articles and reviews to many prominent publications in her field, including columns in publications by Family Communications (the company that produced "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood"), and appeared on television news and public radio broadcasts from Pittsburgh to Toronto to Salt Lake City.

In her department, she chaired the committee on doctoral studies for a year, the curriculum committee for two years, the faculty search committee four times, and took on many other roles. She was president of the school's senate, as well as chair and member of numerous committees.

For the University as a whole, she served on the provost's advisory committees on women, on University-wide access and on academic computing. She was a member of Faculty Assembly

1988-91 and of its student affairs committee.

Her research focused on school children's reading abilities and the state of children's services in public libraries.

Mary K. Biagini, a colleague in Kimmel's department and director of the library certification program, had worked with Kimmel since 1988, when Kimmel mentored Biagini as a doctoral student. Biagini also was associate dean for a time during Kimmel's tenure as department chair.

"She was a wonderful teacher," Biagini recalled. "She was a master storyteller and actually her storytelling skills really enhanced her skills as a teacher. She had a way of engaging her students and really stressed the service aspect — the public good — of being a librarian, the value that would come to children and their parents.

"She was just a person you wanted to be around," Biagini added, "because she was always optimistic and cheerful." Kimmel's service to the community also was quite impressive: "Everyone admired how she was able to encourage people in so many ways to be a part of literacy and children's literature."

Kimmel was born May 12, 1938, in Gary, Indiana. Her earliest work experience came as a school media specialist in an elementary school library in Gary, and she eventually worked as children's librarian at the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore.

After attending Dominican University's Rosary College in Illinois, where she earned both a BA in history and a Master of Library Science degree, she completed her PhD at Pitt in 1980, writing a dissertation titled, "Professional Striving and the Orientation of Public Libraries Toward Lower Class/Lower Status Patrons."

During her Pitt career, Kimmel was honored by many local and national institutions, including the ALSC, Children's Museum of Pittsburgh and Seton Hill College, which awarded her an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh created a scholarship in her honor for a staff member to attend Kimmel's school, and she received the Chancellor's Distinguished Service Award from Pitt in 1996.

Kimmel was a visiting professor at the College of Librarianship in Wales for two years, which allowed her to study European libraries and library education. She was in much demand as a speaker, workshop facilitator and consultant across the country, at libraries, conferences, school districts and government organizations. She served as an officer for many professional associations: the American Association of Library Schools (later the Association of Library and Information Science Educators), the American Library Association, Children's Literature Association and others. In addition, she was a term trustee for the Carnegie Library, on the board of directors of the Electronic Information Network and on the steering committee for the Children's Literacy Network. She served on boards for local low-income housing and arts councils as well as the UPMC Health Care System (2002-05). She also was on the advisory board of Beginning with Books, a literacy program for the youngest children.

During the oral history interview, Kimmel recalled serving on two Newbery/Caldecott awards committees prior to the awards' separation. "I often think to myself how much those two experiences have helped me as a teacher," she said. "I want my students to be able to talk about books, to talk about illustrations the way that those people on the committees talked about them. It's a new vocabulary; it's a new way of looking at things."

She is survived by a sister, Cathy Kimmel, and a brother, Mike Kimmel. Donations in her honor can be made to Canterbury Place or Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's children's books department.

—Marty Levine ■

PEOPLE OF THE TIMES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

and engineering.

Piechnik and Kropf believe the project can have an impact on as many as 150 students annually, creating early hands-on engagement in STEM disciplines, especially in the natural sciences at Pitt-Bradford.

• **Daniel S. Lambrecht**, Department of Chemistry, for "Chemistry in the Cloud: Hands-on Experience of Three-Dimensional Molecular Structures Using Mobile Devices in Large Lecture Courses."

"What if, in a chemistry class of 500, every student could have a 3-D molecular model to experiment with?" Lambrecht asks in his proposal to develop a molecular visualization app for mobile devices (smartphones or tablets).

With more than 70 percent of today's students owning mobile devices, working in small groups in the classroom will ensure that all have access to what chemists traditionally have displayed with ball-and-stick models.

"Chemistry in the Cloud" will allow students to instantaneously access virtual molecular structures to improve their understanding of concepts such as molecular orbitals, electron densities and charge maps.

The project aims to deepen students' understanding of 3-D molecular structures across chemistry disciplines, Lambrecht writes, by making "models accessible, interactive and intuitive, particularly in large lecture classes."

• **Jeremy C. Justus**, English literature, and **Marissa Landrigan**, English writing, both at Pitt-Johnstown, for "Innovations in Digital Communication Technologies: Reading, Analyzing and Producing Interactive Narratives."

This project aims to enhance student digital literacy by developing two writing and composition courses focused on interactive narratives, "Contemporary Interactive Narratives" and "Writing Interactive Narratives." After attending an intensive digital humanities seminar, faculty will develop technology-driven, multidisciplinary courses in the fields of digital humanities and new media studies.

The two courses will challenge students from different disciplines to interact with texts in a digital environment. GPS-informed reality games, visual narratives that rely on user input and social media stories that integrate multiple user streams are among the digital forms students will interpret and construct. These multidisciplinary interactions, Justus and Landrigan write, will help students develop crucial digital literacy, "positioning [them] to have a greater appeal … in an increasingly interconnected job market."

Law faculty member **Vivian Curran** has been awarded the Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques (The Order of Academic Palms) in recognition of her work stressing the importance of teaching foreign languages in a legal context.

L'ordre des Palmes Académiques, instituted in 1808 by Napoleon Bonaparte, is one of the highest French government honors bestowed upon academics and cultural figures.

Curran has been instrumental in promoting the teaching of law courses in foreign languages. She wrote a book, "Learning French Through the Law" and a Journal of Legal Education article on the topic, and is frequently invited to speak on the importance of teaching foreign languages in legal contexts.

At Pitt, Curran's class on teaching French in a legal context was the first of its kind in the country. She also has founded two related groups for students: Languages for Lawyers, which facilitates communication between American lawyers and their foreign clients, transmitting a sense of foreign legal culture to American practitioners; and English for Lawyers, which provides foreign lawyers the opportunity to study English in a legal context.

For the past eight years, Curran has worked with a group of French and American judges at the Collège de France on the internationalization of law.

In addition to her many English-language publications, Curran publishes frequently in French law journals, work that was recognized with her election to the Société Française de Législation Comparée (French Society of Comparative Legislation).

Rush Miller will retire as director of the University Library System (ULS) and Hillman University Librarian effective Dec. 31.

Miller ushered the ULS — which now includes 15 libraries and holdings of nearly 7 million books — through two decades of change and growth. Under his direction, ULS has embraced new technologies like on-demand book printing, enhanced library resources to students and faculty and has been at the forefront of open access to scholarly publications.

Since Miller took his position in 1994, Pitt library holdings have doubled and now include more than 1 million electronic books and 110,000 journals. ULS publishes numerous scholarly e-journals, free to partners who share its support for open access to research information. It is one of the top publishers of international journals, something Miller calls "an extension of our global outreach as a library system."

Under Miller's leadership, Pitt's libraries have helped to implement an extensive international document delivery service with more than two dozen libraries in China, Taiwan and South Korea.

He developed a staff exchange program with libraries in China, resulting in more than 40 Chinese librarians coming to Pitt for training and 12 Pitt staff members accepting positions in China. In 2012, the Chinese American Librarians Association presented Miller with its Distinguished Service Award.

A search committee will be formed to identify Miller's successor.

M. Ravi Shankar, faculty member in industrial engineering and William Kepler Whiteford Faculty Fellow, has been recognized by the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) with one of its top academic awards.

Shankar received the Dr. Hamed K. Eldin Outstanding Early Career IE in Academia Award, which recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding characteristics in education, leadership, professionalism and potential in industrial engineering. The award also acknowledges engineering contributions in application, design, research or development of IE methods by early-career IIE members. Candidates are evaluated on research, scholarship, educational contributions and service to the industrial engineering profession.

Shankar's primary research interests include synthesis and thermo-mechanical characterization of nanomaterials for structural and biomedical applications, synthesis and characterization of multifunctional polymers and design, and modeling of advanced manufacturing processes.

He received his PhD in industrial engineering from Purdue and his BTech in mechanical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras. ■

CALENDAR

June

Thursday 26

HSLS Workshop
"Painless PubMed," Pat Weiss; Falk Library classrm. 1, 11:30 am (pwf@pitt.edu)
SAC-sponsored Tour
Soldiers & Sailors Museum, noon (www.sac.pitt.edu)
Pgh. Arts & Lectures/Carnegie Library Book Talk
"The Johnstown Girls," Kathleen George, theatre; Intl. Poetry Rm. 2nd fl. Carnegie Library, Oakland, 6 pm (register: pittsburghlectures.org)

Monday 30

• Osher Lifelong Learning Inst. summer session 2 begins. (info: 4-7308 or www.cgs.pitt.edu/osher)

July

Friday 4

• University closed for Independence Day.

Saturday 5

• Summer 4-week-2 session ends. Final exams scheduled during last class meeting.

Monday 7

• Summer term & 12-week session deadline for students to submit monitored withdrawal forms to dean's office.

• Summer 4-week-3 session enrollment period ends & classes begin.

HSLS Workshop
"Painless PubMed," Rebecca Abromitis; Falk Library classrm. 1, 3 pm (baa@pitt.edu)

Tuesday 8

HSLS Workshop
"Advanced PowerPoint for Presentations," Julia Dahm; Falk Library classrm. 2, 12:30-2:30 pm (jcj6@pitt.edu)

Wednesday 9

• Summer 4-week-2 session grades must be approved by instructors by 11:59 pm before final posting can begin.

• Fall term deadline for continuing students to register without penalty fee.

• Summer 4-week-3 session add/drop period ends.

SAC Meeting
102 Benedum, noon

HSLS Workshop
"Pathway Analysis Tools 1," Ansuman Chattopadhyay; Falk Library classrm. 2, 1-4 pm (ansuman@pitt.edu)

UNIVERSITY TIMES publication schedule

Events occurring	*Submit by*	*For publication*
July 10-24	July 3	July 10
July 24-Aug. 28	**July 17**	**July 24**

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.

Defenses

IS/Library & Information Science
"Restaging the Record: The Role of Contemporary Archives in Safeguarding & Preserving Performance as Intangible Cultural Heritage," Tonia Sutherland; June 26, 828 IS, 10 am
Medicine/Ctr. for Neuroscience
"The Impact of Inflammation on the Regulation of Intracellular Ca2+ in Cutaneous Nociceptive Neurons," Nicole Newell Scheff; June 26, 1495 BST, 10 am
Public Health/Epidemiology
"Dementia, Brain Structure & Vascular Risk Factors in Very Old Blacks & Whites," Ge Liu; June 26, 530A 130 N. Bellefield Ave., 1 pm
Public Health/Biostatistics
"Design Issues in RNA-seq Experiment: Sample Size & Power Calculation," Ge (Serena) Liao; June 27, A622 Crabtree, 1:30 pm
Business
"Territories & Border Crossings: Information Search & Location in the Online Environment," Brian Dunn; June 30, 270 Mervis, 9 am
A&S/Hispanic Languages & Literatures
"Textualidades entrelazadas: la poética del cuerpo en la memoria andina de Bolivia y Perú," Maria Ximena Postigo Guzman; July 1, 1528 CL, 11 am
A&S/Ctr. for Neuroscience
"Metabolic Tuning of Neural, Neuroendocrine & Behavioral Responses to Stress," James W. Maniscalco; July 2, A219B Langley, 10 am
Public Health/Environmental & Occupational Health
"The Role of Gender & Secreted Phosphoprotein 1 in Early Neutrophil Recruitment After Silica Exposure in Mice," Alexander Chukwuma Ufelle; July 9, 540 Bridgeside Pt., 1 pm
A&S/Psychology
"Post-High School Education Trajectories, Adult Role Transitions & Maturing Out of Heavy Alcohol Use," Christine Palmer; July 10, 4127 Sennott, 11 am
A&S/Geology & Planetary Science
"From Small Watersheds to Regions: Variation in Hydrologic Response to Urbanization," Kristina Hopkins; July 10, 214 SRCC, 1 pm

Theatre

PICT Production
"Woman & Scarecrow"; Henry Heymann Theatre, July 10-Aug. 2 (various times; http://pict-theatre.org/plays-events/2014-season/woman-and-scarecrow)

Exhibits

Hillman Library
"Oakland: A Look Back Over the 20th Century"; Hillman gr. fl., through Aug. 8, Sun 10 am-F 10 pm & Sat 9 am-10 pm

Deadlines

UCIS Sheth Int'l Achievement Awards
Nominations due July 1. (www.ucis.pitt.edu/main/news-events/sheth-international-awards)
Engineering Sustainability 2015 Call for Abstracts
Submission deadline is Oct. 27. (http://eswpregpage.com/ESCFP.aspx)

Event Deadline

The next issue of the University Times will include University and on-campus events of July 10-24. Information for events during that period must be received by 5 pm on July 3. Send information to utcal@pitt.edu.■

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SUBJECTS NEEDED

MARKS•ELDER LAW
Wills; estate planning; trusts; nursing home/Medicaid cost-of-care planning; POAs; probate & estate administration; real estate; assessment appeals. Squirrel Hill: 412/421-8944; Monroeville: 412/373-4235; email michael@marks-law.com. Free initial consultation. Fees quoted in advance.

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