Become engaged, faculty are urged after Nov. election

As the aftermath of this month's elections prompted a new leadership change at the University of Pittsburgh, President Frank C. DeBlasio urged faculty to become more engaged in the public good.

"We're at a moment where, in my view, what we do is more important than ever," President DeBlasio said. "We're at a moment where we might be able to have serious public debates that are happening here and nationwide. Chancellor Patrick Gallagher issued an election message (http://chancellor.pitt.edu/news-story/chancellors-election-message) that said we 'must re-engage in the shared task of addressing the challenges and opportunities we face as a country.'"

"For that reason, our students showed their support and ideas about where we go from here. See page 3.

UHC dean qualifications discussed

An open forum to discuss qualifications for the next Honors College Dean drew a small but passionate crowd of about 20 people to Posvar Hall on Nov. 11. The honors college has no dedicated faculty or official students, which left attendees and search committee chair Ardith Armoy, senior director of international programs and director of the University Center for International Studies, wondering whether this will be an asset or a liability for new leaders, and for the college itself.

"Is the honors college flexible?" Armoy asked during the forum. "Is the college a wonderful place for visiting scholars from other institutions?"

Participants noted that honors college courses are better known to scholars joining the college than students, while students during the recent recession became oriented more toward classes that lead to jobs after graduation. "The honors college is a counterforce to that," he contended. It is a "clear vision" in which students can participate.

New Human Resources head sees the recruitment and retention of millennials as one of the challenges ahead. "It's important for a lot of the decision-making that we're more engaged in," he said.

Forum participants also debated what sort of impact the new dean could or should have.

END PAGE 2

University Library System staff members moved books from the fourth floor of Hillman Library.
Honors college dean qualifications discussed

An instructor recently conducted a focus group and was surprised to hear students telling of the results of the first exam. "They are in college now," he lamented. "They should know how to study!"

Faculty frequently comment that students do not devote the needed time or effort in their courses because they don't know how to study. The Higher Education Research Institute found that 58.6 percent of students studied fewer than six hours per week on homework in their senior year of college. Of those surveyed, 62.7 percent said they would build upon what they had learned in college

Carol Washburn, author of "Teach Students How to Learn," believes that students don't spend the time needed on their courses because they don't know how to engage with materials in ways that will produce results. She recommends that instructors use students with methods that have been proven to increase learning. This advice comes with one caveat; instead of using the term study skills, McGuire refers to these practices as metacognitive strategies, supported by evidence from cognitive psychology. Such strategies can be used by students to improve their grades by helping them learn more effectively.

A computer science instructor used Bloom's taxonomy to teach students about higher levels of cognitive processes. She introduced the levels of questions that students might answer. Students were then given a simple example. The instructor then revised her study questions to ensure that students would understand the theory. Students then revised their study questions to reflect the higher level skills.

Cheryl Messick, a faculty member in the Department of Communication Science and Disorders, also teaches Bloom's taxonomy to her students. "Students should be taught that you can ask questions to assess different knowledge levels," she said. "We also want students to consider the level of critical thinking that faculty want. McGuire recommends using a four-step approach when teaching Bloom's: 1. Have students define the difference between studying and learning. 2. Ask students if they would study harder to make an A on a test or to teach the materials to the class. 3. Present Bloom's taxonomy, explaining each level of the hierarchy and then applying Bloom's to the materials. 4. Ask students at what level of Bloom's have they been operating and at what level do they need to be operating now."

When you incorporate learning strategies into your teaching, you provide students with tools that they need to succeed. Once you understand the methods of their increased effort, they also learn a powerful lesson: Abilities are not innate, but can be continually improved upon with time and the proper effort.

Carol Washburn is the manager of teaching and learning at the Center for Teaching Excellence and Faculty Development.

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Caroline Ellis
Manager of Teaching and Learning
Center for Teaching Excellence and Faculty Development

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Teaching and Learning at the Center for Teaching Excellence and Faculty Development
Post-election thoughts

Editor's note: This is an edited version of remarks by Don Bialostosky, chair of the English department, presented at a department meeting on Thursday, Nov. 10.

Yesterday, the morning after the election, I attended a very glum meeting of the Humanities Council. Before the meeting began, Katie Pope, Pitt's Title IX coordinator who addresses sexual assault and harassment, said she was worried that the federal administrative mandate that led to the creation of her position might well be rescinded in the next administration. She also commented that it would be hard to address a group of 19-year-old men about sexual assault with a president-elect who has bragged about committing it and been repeatedly accused of doing so.

These were hard words at a hard moment for all of us. But I told the group that the University policy adopted in response to the Obama administration's interpretation of Title IX is now a University policy that we can continue to uphold because it addresses a crucial issue of the safety and good treatment of all of us here, an issue we should be concerned about as a university.

We can hold to it because it's a good policy or modify it to make it better without a federal mandate. The University enjoys a degree of autonomy to make its own commitments and policies, and I am determined to defend that autonomy. Pitt, like all the other hopeful blue spots on the electoral map Tuesday night — Madison, Wisconsin; Ann Arbor, Michigan; and Centre County, Pennsylvania, where Penn State has turned a once red county blue — has a crucial role at this time.

Universities have long been bastions committed to values that the struggle we face, and I hope that our country can move forward in peace, without regard to our own personal opinions, expertly and efficiently. The library is their third space, not home and not work, but a community. I love to walk through Hillman on a busy evening, seeing students of all types, sensing the creative intellectual energy. It is one of the joys of my role here in the University and an inspiration for me to do the best I can for them, to match their drive and curiosity.

In times of crisis, libraries, academic, K-12 or public, are near us. We are our correspondents and people come to us as a community hub. We stay open, keeping watch over our community, vigilant over the threads of what bind us together. Our new Librarian of Congress, Carla Hayden, kept the doors of Baltimore public libraries open, when so many doors were closing, in response to the protests and anger of the death of Freddie Gray. Library director Scott Bonner used his public library branch as a way to keep his community together during the protests and anger in Ferguson, Missouri, over the death of Michael Brown. You can check LibrariesRespond to see how libraries today are helping communities take a deep breath, reflect and connect. The Association of Research Libraries, of which Pitt is a member, recently reaffirmed its commitment to diversity, inclusion, equity and social justice.

Many issues related to libraries, information and the academy confront us and new ones will come about for us to confront: fake news presented as journalism; data used in faculty evaluations; the sheer overwhelming amount of information available; difficulties discerning bias and origin; the value of human analysis versus the algorithms of massive social networks; understanding and researching the nuances of complicated issues; and living in a sometimes seemingly post-factual world. Libraries will face these issues as they always have, by adhering to our values, providing equal access, expert curation and unwavering privacy, in a common space. We will steadfastly continue in this vital role for the academy and our students.

—Don Bialostosky

Editor's note: Hillman faculty librarian Robin Kear, who is vice president of the University Senate, submitted these thoughts on the role of libraries as keepers of the community in times of crisis.

When Pitt students spontaneously reacted to their overwhelming emotions early on the morning of Wednesday, Nov. 9, they marched and chanted. They cried and argued. They ended up creating a space, being the first to use the flag, creating a peace circle, heatedly discussing politics, identity, race, sexuality and gender. I was very proud of the restrained and constructive way they handled the night and even more proud of what they ended it.

Students at Pitt often use the sidewalk space around Hillman Library as a peaceful public forum. Not only are we a central physical space on campus, we are a space that is central to intellectual freedom. We actively cultivate a space where students can explore ideas that may challenge the boundaries of their experiences. It's a space that is central to our ability as a university to support our students. We welcome all students from all disciplines to be curious, discuss, explore, research, write, learn and collaborate. Hillman is a space that students deeply respect and where everyone is accepted and equal. I am sure it is a common space where they grow, mature and tackle difficult questions.

We as librarians assist students no matter the question, without regard to our own personal opinions, expertly and efficiently. The library is their third space, not home and not work, but a community. I love to walk through Hillman on a busy evening, seeing students of all types, sensing the creative intellectual energy. It is one of the joys of my role here in the University and an inspiration for me to do the best I can for them, to match their drive and curiosity.

At this point it no longer matters whom we voted for or why we voted for them, but that we come together and strengthen our family and our community. To support one another, fight for one another, and be there for each other. I can't promise to know how things will turn out, but I will commit to try. It will impact us, but I can promise that we are here for you, I am here for you and that I hope that our country can move forward in peace, understanding and hope.

If you need anything, a hug, a coffee, to talk, to cry or laugh, we're here. We are your family at Pitt and are here for you.

Melanie and the HLPA team

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Melanie and the HLPA team
New ULS director named

Cornell University’s associate university librarian for research and learning services will take over as Pitt’s Hillman University Librarian and director of the University Library System effective May 1.

Provost Patricia E. Beeson announced the appointment of Kornelia Tancheva last week.

Tancheva holds a PhD in American drama and theatre from Cornell, as well as three master’s degrees—one in library science from Syracuse University, one in history and theory of drama and theatre from Cornell, and one in English language and literature from Sofia University in Bulgaria.

Her career has included planning and implementing a number of key projects and initiatives, including partnership programs within Cornell and beyond.

“I am delighted that Dr. Tancheva has agreed to serve in this new role,” said Beeson.

“Her vision for the ULS is well matched with our aspirations for the library and the University, with demonstrated leadership experience in overseeing a large and complex organization as it navigates the rapidly changing information landscape, she is committed to guiding the ULS to new levels of excellence.”

Prior to her present position, Tancheva served as director of Cornell’s John M. Olin Library and Uris Library, which provide research materials in the humanities and social sciences. She also supervised Cornell’s library annex, an environmentally controlled storage facility. As an adjunct visiting instructor at Sofia University, she teaches a master’s course on Drama and Theatre in the Age of the Internet.

She also has been on the faculty at Cornell and SUNY-Binghamton.

Frequent in three languages, she is heavily involved in research, is widely published, and has presented on both library- and theatre-related topics at conferences.

“I am very excited about the opportunity to build upon the considerable strengths and achievements of the library system and chart its future in the rapidly changing environment of higher education for the benefit of the University and our local and global users,” said Tancheva.

Tancheva will succeed Bern Brody, who has been acting as interim director of ULS since the retirement of Rush Miller in December 2014.

Pitt’s University Library System is the 35th-largest academic library system in North America. Under the administration of the Hillman University Librarian and director, it includes 12 libraries and holds more than 7.1 million volumes, specialized collections and major foreign-language materials from around the world.

Hillman Library’s renovation means moving miles of books

University Library System (ULS) staffs have begun emplacing shelves on the fourth floor of Hillman Library in anticipation of building renovations that are set to begin in May.

On average, 3,000 items per day are being moved as ULS staffs work to clear some seven miles of shelved material on Hillman’s fourth floor by mid-to late April, said library senior specialist Anne Koening, who is coordinating the materials movement.

Library staff, bolstered by the addition of temporary workers, have cleared about one mile of shelves since work commenced on Oct. 23.

Each book’s circulation history includes scanning each book in order to update its location in PintCat — is designed to ensure that materials remain accessible, regardless of where they’re being kept.

Hillman’s entire fourth floor must be cleared by May to accommodate the first phase of what’s planned as a top-down, floor-by-floor renovation.

Exactly all that’s entailed in the Hillman Library “reinvention” has yet to be determined. Initially, the project will focus on updating mechanical systems original to the 1968 structure.

“Our maintenance staff does a tremendous job at keeping systems running, but at some point major upgrades are required,” said Owen Cooks, Facilities Management assistant vice chancellor for planning, design and construction team leader and systems engineer.

When systems work is planned, facility managers will consult to ask users whether their space still works programmatically, so that other changes can be considered as part of the renovation, Cooks said.

At the request of the Provost’s office, interim ULS director Fern Brody chaired an advisory group tasked with developing an “all-hands” committee, probably in spring, of which items are being moved during the multi-year renovation, and because funds won’t be allocated all at once, he said.

“We’re anticipating a phased renovation that will follow the most logical way to fix the mechanical systems,” he said.

Programmatic additions will be determined phase by phase.

Gusten commended Facilities Management for its efforts to create a greater benefit from a mechanical systems project.

“It’s a good example of taking an opportunity because the right communications were made. Facilities did not attempt to do a mechanical project in a vacuum. They realized there was an opportunity to say ‘What bigger thing can we gain out of this?’ And because it’s a multi-phase project, it allows the kind of time to begin to think about in great detail what programmatic changes and improvements should and do we want to make?’”

Added Brody: “Everybody realized the value of the library on the campus,” citing not only Hillman’s location, but its role as a multi-disciplinary gathering place. “It really has opportunities that everybody realized we need to take advantage of,” she said.

For a week-by-week timeline of which items are being moved and details on emplacing library materials, go to http://library.pitt.edu/hillmanrenovation.

—Kimberly K. Barlow

The University Library System has a temporary staff to move materials from the fourth floor of Hillman Library before renovations begin in May.

At left: Ben Kuster pulls books destined for storage from the library’s fourth floor stacks.

At right: In a staging area on the Hillman Library’s ground floor, David Bruno and Chris Stossel fill “trucks” with books destined for storage.

Each day 15-20 of the most urgent items are sent to the Thomas Boulevard storage facility.
Admissions office expands recruiting areas

Faced with the prospect of hiring 10 percent more graduating high school seniors within a 300-mile radius of the University this fall, the admissions and recruiting staff is broadening its recruitment focus.

The office for recruiting for freshman students is focused on a 300-mile radius of the University—the distance most students are willing to go to attend college, said Kelly Kane, Office of Admissions and Financial aid director of operations and strategic planning. The 300-mile radius remains a key market, but recruitment efforts also are targeting areas with high concentrations of Pitt alumni and the Atlantic Coast Conference states where Pitt athletic events are televised, Kane said in a recent presentation to the University Senate staff, aid, admissions and affairs committee (SAAC).

The office for recruiting for transfer students is also expanding to include students from 28 counties.

Including international students, nearly 2,000 international students are minorities. “We are looking to both increase numbers and diversify our international students, to bring a lot more of that culture here onto campus,” Kane said.

Expanding access

For the first time, Pitt and Penn State are together in a shared application portal as part of the Coalition for Access, Affordability and Success, Kane said. The group (www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org), which includes 95 universities and has joined the platform of online tools designed to smooth the college application process, is an effort to increase college access among first-generation students.

“The hope is to begin engaging high schoolers in their freshman year, she said, adding that transfers and juniors and seniors can recycle these opportunities to earn college credits, she said. In other business:
• The committee reviewed a draft financial aid satisfactory academic progress policy that, in part, would increase the minimum GPA for graduate students to remain eligible for federal financial aid from 2.0 to 3.0, to match the graduation requirement for Pitt’s graduate programs (except in law, which has a 2.0 graduation requirement).
• Albert Bragia, vice provost for graduate studies, updated SAAC on enhanced communications and support for graduate students’ experience.

The committee last year focused on the graduate student experience and recommended improved communication, support for graduate students and for Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) activities. (See April 14 University Times.)

GPSG has received permission from the provost to email one newsletter each semester to all graduate and professional students at Pitt.

Cheryl Johnson, associate vice chancellor for Diversity

Johnson has been a constant presence on campus since joining the University as director of diversity and professional development training and programs. She uses “passive outreach” to find new hires who might need to be addressed in our recruitment efforts. “I don’t want to make any quick judgments about where diversity might need to be addressed in our recruitment efforts. I want to be able to go to all graduate and professional students at the University,” she said.

She also sees “tons of opportunities to leverage enabling technologies.” At her last university, Kansas State, she was vice president for human capital services, job applicants could apply for employment using a smartphone or iPad. Pitt could offer its job hopefuls the same convenience, she believes, and also increase both efficiency and effectiveness of the recruitment process.

“Data analytics is something that we haven’t used as fully,” she adds. How long does it take to fill specific types of positions at Pitt? “I would not be able to tell you that right now,” she says. Does one source of potential new hires work better than another? “What we do is look at the turnover rate for particular positions, and why people leave or stay?” These are important questions for Johnson, who may answer and help HR redirect its hiring practices, she says.

Other future HR moves for employee retention may include implementing a “benefits bundle” to attract and retain employees, she says, perhaps including job-sharing and flexible work spaces and hours, as long as we have core hours and are meeting the needs of students and the community,” she cautions.

And of course diversity in hiring, and creating a welcoming work climate, especially during provost’s Year of Diversity at Pitt, Johnson said.

“Indeed, for all employees, she says, “it’s a career?” Under such circumstances, career?” Under such circumstances, better use of social media as a...
Robert Gilbert, business professor, said the class is the lone member in the Katz Graduate School of Business, stepped away from traditional marketing problems at WPTS DJ and the organized turning of his project in Marketing course. The program has enrolled students in the Schenley Quad. This Nov. 7 event, designed to promote the Acura ILX to target millenials — the long class project, also featured free food, a roaming magician, the Pit cheerleaders, an opportunity to contribute canned goods to charities, by filling the trunk of one 2017 ILX and nearby, the chance to play car karaoke (a riff on James Corden’s viral “carpool karaoke” videos from “The Late Show”).

It’s the 10th year Gilbert has shepherded a group of mostly seniors through this class, offered twice a year. “This role is more of an facilitator, even a CEO-kind of role,” than as a traditional professor, Gilbert said. He organizes the students into an advertising agency, then into agency departments (campaign strategy, research, campaign strategy and advertising) and chooses department heads, creating the structure for the class that runs through the semester’s marketing project. He stressed that these are marketing approaches that are inappropriate for the project or wildly off-strategy, and offers lessons on branding and positioning, PR and advertising.

Gilbert admits Acura may be a tougher selling task for these students than many others that have passed through the National Football League, American Eagle or the World Wide Web. “But I will tell you this: the energy about the idea is the students in my class have a lot more energy than other students, he said. “What we are trying to get is this brand into the minds of new buyers looking for the next immediate purchase, for a down-the-road purchase. We're getting a lot of people into the car, which is a big priority.”

Half of his class campaigns have been for local companies or nonprofits, Gilbert said, while the other half, such as this semester’s Acura campaign, are part of a national competition among 21 universities run by EdVenture Partners, which develop industry-education partnership programs. This semester’s marketing class, dubbing themselves “Pros In Motion,” will know by Dec. 2 whether they’re among the top three teams and are headed for Torrance, California, to present their campaign and its results to Acura executives. Top prize is $5,000 contribution to Pitt — and Gilbert’s Pitt class has won before. When the business school was first approached a decade ago by EdVenture, Gilbert said, “it seemed like a big opportunity, and we quickly realized it deserved to be a class unto itself.”

While most campaigns have been focused on marketing to students in his class and on other consumer groups. A previous campaign, marketing the National Football League’s Play 60 initiative to encourage active children, for instance, required appealing to elementary school teachers and younger parents.

Gilbert recalled encountering a tough selling task for these students and knowing his class would need to make big improvements on it. “It was something like, ‘The NFL movement for an active generation.’ It was, in our opinion, too new, but we were a bit advanced in this class. We suggested: ‘Make every day game day.’

The NFL and Steelers loved it,” Gilbert said. After pitching a Steelers game at the team’s South Side headquarters’ team meeting room, he recalled, his students encountered coach Mike Tomlin in the hallway. He asked to hear the class’s strategy tag line.

“He kind of looked off into space and put his hand on his chin and said, ‘Yeah, that’s a lot better than what we’ve got,’” Gilbert recalled. With that high praise, “the kids floated out of the room.”

“Hands-on, practical, real-world approaches to agency work. They have learned is really the motivation to do this,” Gilbert said of his students. “It’s a lot in two words,” she said.

While the class’s advertising efforts include the traditional flyers, banners and print ads, it’s more guerilla marketing that may reach the most millennials. “Millennials aren’t keen on advertising,” Maglione added. In fact, she added, “we’re very aware that people tend to avoid ads no matter what.”

The class is concentrating on social media efforts on Facebook and Instagram, since not enough people tend to use them: “Tell me a funny story about the car and requests to peek,” Gilbert said of his students. “The hands-on, practical, real-world approaches to agency work they have learned is really the motivation to do this,” Gilbert said of his students. “It’s a lot in two words,” she said.

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Stairs, heavy doors and sidewalks narrowed by utility poles, alfresco seating and sandwich board advertisements are among the barriers Graduate School of Public Health staffer DJ Stemmler navigates daily in Oakland.

Stemmler, who uses a power wheelchair, provided her perspective as the University Senate community relations committee (CRC) took to the streets last week for a firsthand look at accessibility in Oakland.

In addition to her work as a staffer in the HIV/AIDS prevention and care project in the Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, Stemmler is a consumer advocate and founding member of Oakland for All: Beyond Accessible, a group that advocates for a more accessible Oakland business district. Pitt, UPMC, the Oakland Business Improvement District (OBID) and Oakland Transportation Management Association (OTMA) are among the program’s partners.

Stemmler, along with Georgia Petropoulos, OBID executive director, and Kannu Sahni, Pitt’s director of Community Relations, pointed out what’s good, what’s bad and what’s improving as they led the committee on a half-mile trek through Oakland.

Said Petropoulos: “We take a lot for granted. The world was not designed for people who can’t see, who can’t walk, or who can’t hear. Sometimes we’re temporarily disabled.”

“She said, adding that Oakland should be a model community for accessibility in particular because the UPMC and VA hospitals are here.

The city’s hilly terrain can make traversing Oakland streets more difficult for wheelchair users who don’t use power chairs, Petropoulos pointed out. Stairs — up or down from the street level — pose additional problems for individuals with mobility challenges.

Sidewalks on Fifth and Forbes avenues are narrow in spots, the result of efforts to accommodate vehicle traffic. Add crowds and a few sandwich boards — some on the left, others on the right — and the sidewalk becomes an obstacle course.

Sandwich boards are among Stemmler’s biggest peeves. Eliminating them “would make moving around easier for everybody,” she says. “Think about lunchtime on Fifth Avenue, trying to dodge those boards and steps and all the other people,” she says. “I have a 350-pound machine and..."
Not all accommodations include a permanent handicap ramp, Stemmler notes. Above: Customers needing assistance to enter Sushi Fuku on Oakland Avenue can knock or dial a phone number posted at the door. The restaurant and restrooms inside also are accessible, Stemmler says. At right: A portable ramp eases access to this storefront on Mayset Avenue.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

changes at 5th & bellefield sought

The Staff Association Council (SAC) is pushing for increased pedestrian/biker safety measures at the corner of Fifth and Bellefield avenues.

Andy Stephany, SAC vice president of public relations, announced the effort at SAC’s Nov. 16 meeting.

Spurred by staff concerns and by a bus injuring a pedestrian in July, SAC wrote to Chancellor Patrick Gallagher, Paul Supowitz, vice chancellor for Community and Governmental Relations; and other Pitt administrators urging action on the issue.

SAC’s letter suggested Pitt and the City of Pittsburgh collaborate on several steps, including:

• Installation of a 20-25 second pedestrian-only crossing signal on the western side of Fifth Avenue, and at both North Bellefield crosswalks, allowing for pedestrians to cross prior to vehicles.

• Installation of a no-turn-on-red traffic sign facing vehicular traffic traveling south on North Bellefield Avenue to further prohibit drivers from turning onto Fifth Avenue while pedestrians are crossing.

• Additional open forums between stakeholders involved in the bus Rapid Transit planning process and the Complete Streets initiative (which City Council passed Nov. 21) to communicate with the University community updated strategies and timelines surrounding each initiative. The latter two projects are city plans for better accommodating walking, bikers and vehicular traffic on city streets.

• Stephany said that the chancel-

lor had responded by urging the group to work with Supowitz on these efforts.

“The idea is to promote more applied and engaged research and scholarship among faculty and get stronger recognition in the University for that,” he said.

Sahni noted that presenta-

tions from last month’s p4 summit are posted at www.pittsburghsummit.org. The two-day conference, sponsored by the City of Pittsburgh, CRC and the Heinz Endow-

ments, brought leaders together around the themes of people, place, planet and performance, with a focus on economic and social equity and justice.

• CRC’s next meeting is set for Jan. 17.

—Kimberly K. Barlow

Pitt’s extreme weather policy

Not sure what to do when winter weather makes travel to work difficult? University Policy 07-04-02, Exception to Higher Authorities, exists that can be implemented by individual areas or departments.

• The University’s Emergency Notification Service (ENS) is used to communicate with subscribers through voice, text and email messages, as deemed appropriate in the event of an emergency. To register, go to the CSSD website: www.technology.pitt.edu/service/emergency- notification-service.

Below are the general guidelines surrounding University clos-

dues due to inclement weather:

• Only the chancellor may offi-
cially close the University in the event of extremely adverse weather conditions that make it impossible for the university community to work. The University will remain open in all but the most extreme circumstances. However, Univer-
sity employees are urged to use their own discretion in deciding whether they can safely commute to work. If, because of inclement weather, a staff employee is unable to communicate with the employees when the University is open, the supervisor should be contacted within the first hour of the workday. Such an absence will be charged against the respective employee’s leave balance due to incapacity while traveling to work. If, because of inclement weather, a staff employee is unable to communicate with the employees when the University is open, the supervisor should be contacted within the first hour of the workday. Such an absence will be charged against the respective employee’s leave balance due to incapacity while traveling to work.

• Should the University officially close or delay the start of classes, all businesses, administrative offices, and faculty and staff should consider the needs of the students and faculty. Staff and faculty should cooperate in determining whether it is safe to travel to and from the University.

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• For questions concerning an official University closure, contact Human Resources’ Customer Service Center at 412-624-7900 and select option 3, or by email at hradsup@pitt.edu.

Not all accommodations include a permanent handicap ramp, Stemmler notes. Above: Customers needing assistance to enter Sushi Fuku on Oakland Avenue can knock or dial a phone number posted at the door. The restaurant and restrooms inside also are accessible, Stemmler says. At right: A portable ramp eases access to this storefront on Mayset Avenue.
Local police official discusses race & gender bias on the job

Race is something many have never seen in Pittsburgh have a difficult time talking about,” Allegheny County Police Assistant Superintendent Maurice Bryant told the crowd at her Nov. 8 talk on race and gender in the police force and who dominated the force, the latter she said. They may not have hated the new black and female recruits, she said, but “they just couldn’t connect to them.”

"Due to the issues on the job, I was determined not to quit," Bryant said. "Today, women make up only 16 percent of the force."

"In general, Bryant added, people “think of diversity as just black and white. Diversity is having people with different thoughts at the table. You have all white males at the table. You’re going to think like all white males."

"When black females came on the job, for the first time there, there was no connection” to the way of thinking among white male police officers, she said. "They hadn’t been educated."

The court order did its job, however. By 1998, 25 percent of the 1,100 officers were women, the highest percentage of any law enforcement agency in the U.S. at the time and more than twice the average percentage, she reported — up from 1 percent in 1975. There also was a much higher percentage of women in command positions.

"It didn’t mean that women were well-regarded in the depart- ment,” Bryant added. "She said, too often, she had to work cleaning office buildings, being sought. “I used to hate it.”

"He gave a new meaning to the word ‘domestic violence,’” she said; the only reason their marriage lasted 10 years was because “he was constant in and out of jail,” she said — and she thought she could fix him and their relationship. She labeled herself “naive, with low self-esteem.”

"Those are challenges that most police officers cannot understand or find empathy for women," she noted.

Seeking to move from her early work cleaning office buildings, she said, "I was doing things for a low-hold survival, raising my daughters and moving out of the projects," she said.

Once with the police, there were many black female officers alongside her, she said. "It felt like the storms while living on the glass cliff” — working in police departments associated with a greater risk of public criti- cism and failure. The late Gwen Elliott, the first black female sergeant and commander on the force, was most influential, Bryant said. She called Elliott “a true champion for children,” citing the Moms and Cops program that Elliott founded and Bryant later headed, the formation of a police domestic violence unit, and the creation of the nonprofit Gwen’s Girls.

"It’s such a shame that, while she was on the police force, that’s not where she received the most accolades and recognition,” Bryant said.

Bryant also praised the work of Ophelia “Cookie” Coleman, now police chief of Wilkinsburg. "She advanced that fairness, the equity, for minorities,” she said. Bryant recalled the two working together at the West End police station in the late 1970s. "There was a section of people where they weren’t used to African Americans, especially women, in a blue uniform,” Bryant said. She remembered answering one 911 call at the request of the White caller’s front door with “What do you want? I called the police.”

"The empowerment of black female leadership in the Pittsburgh police was Rashallah ‘Cookie’ Coleman’s responsibility,” Bryant said for the city’s special deploy- ment unit, now headed law enforcement agency in the U.S. at the time and more than twice the average percentage, she reported — up from 1 percent in 1975. There also was a much higher percentage of women in command positions.

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Brain model sought for Alzheimer's, schizophrenia

The Department of Biomedical Informatics at the University of Pittsburgh and biopharmaceuti- cal company Pfizer are working on developing a computerized model to help identify the drivers of schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease and related brain disorders and enable researchers to better understand and treat the diseases.

Said Burmanghelch: “In addition to the genotype data, measurements from magnetic resonance imaging brain images will be used to characterize abnormal brain variations. By studying brain images and relating the variations of each brain region to the genet- ics and clinical observations of patients, we provide deeper insight into the underlying biology of the diseases.”

The study will use the pub- licly available datasets of ADN 1 (Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimag- ing Initiative) and private data of the GENUCIS (Genes of Endophenotypes of Neurofunc- tion to Understand Schizophre- nia) Consortium, both of which contain images, genetic informa- tion, biological information and clinical observations of patients, to develop software that can be used to associate the images with gene patterns.

Genetic test aids heart stent patients

A genetic test that can identify patients who may benefit from clopidogrel treatment has been developed at UPMC Presbyterian. The test is implemented at UPMC Presbyterian and other institutions, but the researchers hope to extend it to other hospitals and clinics.

The test is designed to identify patients at increased risk of death from blood clots following a stent procedure, which can be caused by a genetic deficiency that affects the body's ability to activate clopidogrel, a common anti-clotting drug given after a coronary artery stent is inserted. About 30 percent of all patients have a genetic defi- ciency, which can lead to decreased clopidogrel effectiveness and increased risk for adverse cardio- vascular events, such as strokes, heart attacks and death.

The current study from the Implementing Genomics in Practice (IGNITE) Network at UPMC Presbyterian, the University of Pittsburgh School of Health (NIH), researchers at Pitt's school of medicine and colleagues at the University of North Carolina, the University of Maryland-Baltimore, the University of Alabama-Birmingham, Vander- bilt University Medical Center, the University of Illinois-Chicago, Indiana University-Indianapolis, Stony Brook University and the University of Pennsyl- vania.

Decoding cellular signal deaths

A multidisciplinary interna- tional team of scientists solved the puzzle of cell death, which is caused by a genetic deficiency and related brain disorders and enable researchers to better understand and treat the diseases.

Said Philip Empey, pharmacy and therapeutics faculty member and leader of the Pitt team: “This study is a major step forward as it shows applying pharmacogenom- ics to solve a problem that many in cardiology have been trying to solve for many years.”

Studying the mechanism behind the discovery is straightforward. As the role of technology continues to grow in the health care industry, a UPMC quality improvement project coupled patient surveys with observations, nurses’ self-reports and electronic health record (EHR) data to better understand how nurses allocate their time during a shift.

The findings, published online in the Journal of Nursing Care Quality, are intended to help the health system take additional steps to improve care quality and the patient experience.

Said Linda Higgins, lead author of the project: “UPMC nurses have expressed concerns that they are spending too much time entering information into the EHR and not enough time at the bed- side caring for patients. It was also unclear how patients felt about the time they spent with their nurses, so we designed this project to gather multifaceted data that could provide a comprehensive picture of nursing activity and guide future improvements in workflow and patient satisfaction.”

Over five months, 11 trained observers visited four inpatient units, shadowing one shift for each of the 79 nurses involved in the project. The observers chronicled 900 hours of nursing activity and logged it according to predetermined categories. Following the observed shift, nurses filled out a questionnaire, and the observers interviewed the patients cared for by the observed nurses.

In the interviews, patients reported spending an average of 74 minutes with their assigned nurse, and 90 percent rated the amount of time with their nurse as “excellent” or “good.” However, the observ- ers estimate that the nurses actually spent only about 40 minutes with each patient, including the time that nurses spend with their patients may impact the patients' perceptions of the length of time their nurses spend with them.

The most frequently observed shift activities were: documenting (11.5 percent); and reviewing (9.1 percent) the EHR; patient assess- ment and interaction (8.9 percent); in-person communications with health care workers about patients or patient care (7.5 percent); and patient care and bedside procedures (7.2 percent). Overall, nurses were observed to spend an average of 33 percent of their shift interacting with patients directly.
Cancer cells hijack DNA repair in order to stay alive

Research by scientists at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI) has revealed how cancer cells hijack DNA repair pathways to prevent telomerases, the endcaps of chromosomes, from shortening, thus allowing the tumor to spread. The findings were published in Cell Reports.

The moment a cell is formed, a countdown clock starts ticking that determines how long the cell can live. The clock is the telomere, a series of repeating DNA letters at the ends of each chromosome in the cell. However, cancer cells cleverly hijack this telomere clock, resetting it and lengthening the telomere every time it shortens. This leads the cell into thinking that it is still young and can divide, thus spreading the tumor.

Most cancers do this by increasing the activity of an enzyme called telomerase, which lengthens telomeres. But approximately 15 percent of cancers use a different mechanism for resetting the clock, called alternative lengthening of telomeres (ALT).

Researchers have known for almost two decades that ALT is a mechanism that contributes to many aging-related diseases and cancer. In 2002, a team led by Dr. Patricia Opresko, an environmental and occupational biology professor and a member of UPCI’s molecular and cellular cancer biology program, first identified ALT in tumor cells, levels of the enzyme telomerase, which lengthens telomeres, and telomere shortening by ALT, which can divide indefinitely.

“Our new information is useful in designing new therapies to preserve telomeres in healthy cells and develop novel treatments of inflammation and aging. On the flip side, we hope to develop new drugs to target independent telomeres in cancer cells to stop them from dividing,” said Opresko.

Researchers have shown that oxidative stress — a condition where damage-mediating free radicals have built up inside cell — accelerates telomere shortening. Damage from free radicals, which can be generated by smoking, pollution, as well as environmental factors, is thought to build up throughout adulthood and contribute to many aging-related diseases.

The goal of the new study was to determine what happens to telomeres when they are damaged by oxidative stress. The researchers suspected that oxidative stress would stop telomerase unable to do its job.

“Much to our surprise, telomerase could keep telomeres with oxidative damage,” Opresko said. “In fact, the damage seems to promote telomere lengthening.”

The next team looked to see what would happen if the building blocks used to make up telomeres were instead subjected to oxidative stress. They also found that when telomerase was able to add a damaged DNA precursor molecule to the end of the telomere, oxidative stress was unable to add additional DNA molecules.

The researchers’ results suggest that the mechanism by which oxidative stress accelerates telomere shortening occurs only in the DNA precursor molecule, not the telomere itself. “We also found that oxidative DNA building blocks is a new way to inhibit telomerase activity, which implies that it could potentially be used to treat cancer,” she said.

And her team now are beginning to further explore the consequences of oxidative stress on other DNA repair enzymes, such as a telomere sensor, developed at Carnegie Mellon University, that produces oxidative damage selectively in telomeres.

Funding for the research was provided by the American Cancer Society and the Abraham A. Mitchell Distinguished Investigator Award.

Additional Pittsburgh collaborators were Elise Fouquerel, Jessica Giampiccolo, and Donald Gessner.

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Three Pitt employees are among this year's Fuerza Award honorees. Diego Chaves-Gnecco, Gloria J. Rodriguez-Ramirez and Melanie Weiser Krugel were honored at a Nov. 18 event at Alumni Alley on the North Side, where, presented by Cafe con Leche, the ceremony included the contributions of Latino/Latina leaders to the community.

Chaves-Gnecco, a faculty member in pediatrics at the School of Medicine, is a prenatal behavioral pediatrician and founder and director of the program Salud Para Niños.

A graduate of Gimnasio Moderno in Bogotá, Colombia, and an honoree of the Universidad Javeriana. Following his residency in pediatrics at Hospital Universitario San Ignacio, he came to Pitt in 1998 as a faculty member in the Center in Clinical Pharmacology, where he worked until 2002. He obtained a master's degree from the Graduate School of Public Health in 2000. In 2002, he started his residency at Children's Hospital and joined its community residency education (CORE) program, an area of community involvement. He began as a pediatrics training program that aims to train leaders in community health and child advocacy.

As part of his CORE training, in 2009, he created the first pediatric bilingual-bicultural clinic in southwestern Pennsylvania, which is part of the program Salud Para Niños (Health for the Children). He is also the founder, a licensed professional counselor, works in the Office of Child Development providing mental health supportive services to children, their families and school age/early education providers.

A native of San Juan, Puerto Rico, she came to Pittsburgh to pursue her medical education. She received a B.A. in psychology from La Roche College then earned an M.D. degree from the University of Pittsburgh, where she is a practicing counselor at Duquesne University.

She led the creation of the Latino Health Policy Center for the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, along with Latinos in community leaders and Latino families.

She is active in the Latin American Cultural Union, currently serving as vice president.

Weiser Krugel, assistant director of student and diversity recruitment for the Katz Graduate School of Business, is president and founder of Pitt’s Hispanic and Latino Professional Association (see Sept. 3, 2015, University Times) and an ardent supporter of inclusion and integration initiatives across campus.

English instructional information on the awardees is at www.cafeconlechepgh.com/fuertaz/1/fuertap Pittsburgh.

A search for the National Institutes of Health reveals a strong background in inflammation research has been recruited to join the Richard King Mellon Foundation Institute for Pediatric Research at Children's Hospital. The institute’s fellowship programs are part of the School of Medicine.

Scott Canna is the fifth scientist appointed to Children’s Mellon Scholar program, which enables promising researchers in the early stages of their careers to pursue potential breakthrough research projects in biomedicine.

Canna’s research focus is autoimmune disorders, where the body’s immune system attacks its own tissues. In particular, he studies an inflammation inducing molecule called IL-18 and how it may contribute to pediatric diseases including macrophage activation syndrome, a potentially life-threatening complication of certain childhood inflammatory diseases.

Canna comes from the School of Medicine. She led the creation of the program Salud Para Niños and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, where he was the Metzger Scholar of Translational Research and head of the autoinflammatory pathogenesis unit. He received his bachelor’s degree from Hopkins and his medical degree from George Washington University.

Judith Yang, a Swanson School of Engineering faculty member in chemical and petroleum engineering, has been selected as a fellow of the American Physical Society (APS) “for seminal contributions to situ environmental transmission electron microscopy, the fundamental understanding of metal oxidation, the application of nanomaterials and catalysis.”

Yang is among 15 members of the APS Division of Materials Physics to be named fellows this year. The APS elected 20 new fellows each year, 0.5 percent of its 51,000 international members.

Nominees are evaluated based on exceptional contributions to the physics enterprise, including outstanding research, application, leadership or service and contributions that relate to the field of physics.

Yang joined the Pitt faculty in 2002 and has received numerous awards including a 2005 Chancellor’s Distinguished Research Award.

A leadership transition is on the horizon at the Swanson School of Engineering, its Office of Academic Affairs.

Mark Besterfield-Sacre, faculty member in industrial engineering, has been appointed associate dean for academic affairs effective Jan. 1. Larry Shuman, Distinguished Service Professor of Industrial Engineering, will remain senior associate dean for academic affairs through his retirement in 2019. Besterfield-Sacre will assume full responsibility for the Swanson School effective Jan. 1, 2018. These duties include the first-year (or freshman) program, transfers, Engineering Shops, EX, Investing and New, and the international, co-op and innovation initiatives in engineering programs in addition to ABET and new academic program development. Shuman will continue to direct the Engineering Education Research Center.

In addition to her academic role, Besterfield-Sacre is founding director for the Engineering Education Research Center in the Swanson school and serves as a center associate for the Learning Research and Development Center.

Her principal research is in engineering education assessment. Besterfield-Sacre’s current focus is on innovative design and entrepreneurship, engineering modeling and global collaborative education.

She earned a bachelor’s degree in engineering management from the University of Illinois and a master’s degree in industrial engineering from Purdue and was a recipient of the best engineering education from Pitt. Before returning to Pitt, she was an industrial engineer at the University of Texas-El Paso.

Shuman’s research has focused on health systems planning, engineering ethics and most recently on improving the engineering educational experience for students.

Within the Swanson school he has led the development of the Swanson School’s awards education and study-abroad programs. Under Shuman’s leadership, 45 percent of Swanson school seniors graduate with at least some form of international experience.

Shuman and Besterfield-Sacre are leading a Swanson School effort to introduce innovation and entrepreneurship across the engineering curriculum.

“Mary and Larry have worked hand-in-hand over the past few years to guide our under graduate engineering curriculum, and I am very pleased that one will continue to lead in such a search to another,” noted G. D. H. Holder, U.S. Steel Dean of Engineering. “Larry is internationally recognized not only within the industrial engineering discipline, but also for his impact on engineering education.”

Likewise, Mary’s own research has helped to transform how our research, and how our students engage with one another in the classroom. I thank them both for their contributions to the University and to the Swanson school.”

Amanda Godley, a faculty member in the School of Education, has been named co-editor of the journal English Teaching Practice and Critique for a two-year term.

This peer-reviewed international journal encourages critical, reflective practice and classroom-based research on issues related to literacy.

Godley is a faculty member in schools academic affairs. She holds secondary appointments in the Departments of Linguistics and English, education and language, literacy and culture. She holds secondary appointments in the Department of Linguistics and English, education and language, literacy and culture. She holds secondary appointments in the Department of Linguistics and English.

She is affiliated with the University’s Center for Urban Education and the Learning Research and Development Center.

Poet Yona Harvey, faculty member in English and Creative Writing, is the recipient of the 2016 Carol B. Brown Creative Achievement Awards’ Established Artist Award. Sponsored by The Pittsburgh Foundation and The Heinz Endowments, the awards recognize artists and emerging artists for their creative achievement.

She was an勋优儿童 artist and emerging artist each year. Candidates were nominated by artists and regional arts leaders and chosen by an independent panel that reviewed applications and work samples. Recipients are awarded $15,000. Harvey is the author of the poetry collection “Hemmings the Water,” winner of the Kate Tufts Discovery Award from Claremont Graduate University and finalist for the Hurston-Wright Award.

Her work has been anthologized in several publications, including “A Poet’s Craft: A Comprehensive Guide to Making and Sharing Your Poetry” and “The Force of What’s Possible: Accessibility and the Avant-Garde.”

Harvey, along with emerging singer-songwriter and fashion designer Jeremih Moyle, will be recognized during a public program Dec. 5 at the August Wilson Center.

The Carol R. Brown Creative Achievement Awards event is part of the Immigrant in Profession, Artists: The Pittsburgh Region Artists Program, a multiyear initiative initiated jointly by The Pittsburgh Foundation and the Heinz Endowments.

The awards program was conceived in 1991 as the Creative Achievement Awards by Carol R. Brown, who was president of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust 1986-2001. Brown oversaw the transformation of a 14-square-block area of Downtown Pittsburgh from a red light district to a nationally recognized model for arts-based community redevelopment.

The awards were hiatus from 2002-11. In 2012, The Pittsburgh Foundation and The Heinz Endowments resurrected the awards and renamed them the Carol R. Brown Creative Achievement Awards.

—Compiled by K. Barlow

Winter essentials, holiday gift drives underway

Pitt’s annual winter essentials and holiday gift drives are underway.

• New hats, gloves, scarves and socks are being collected as part of the winter essentials drive, which runs until Dec. 12. The items will be distributed to those in need, including attendees at the Christmas Day at Pitt celebration.

Donations can be dropped off at the following campus buildings: Alumni; Benedum; Cathedral of Learning; Craig; Eureka; Hillman Library; Mervis; O’Hara Student Center; Park Plaza; Petersen; Public Safety; Scaife; Thackeray; Thomas Boulevard; Pown; University Store on Fifth; and William Pitt Union.

Donors also can choose to select items online using the drive’s Amazon Wish List (https://www.amazon.com/gp/wishlist?ie=UTF8&k=APYTYM1HITST5S). Donations for Pitt’s holiday gift drive, which provides a gift to each child attending Christmas Day at Pitt, can be dropped off through Dec. 16 at the Office of Community and Governmental Relations, 710 Alumni Hall. Departmental gift drives are encouraged.

The drive is targeting specific age groups for gift drive donations. Email giftsforsmallpitt.edu to request the number of labels the character gift drive applications. The awards and Community Relations will send them in the right age-group mix.
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: utcall@pitt.edu.

**November**

**Wednesday 23**
- *Thanksgiving recess for students through Nov. 27.*

**Thursday 24**
- University closed through Nov. 25 in observance of Thanksgiving.

**Friday 25**
- University closed.

**Monday 28**
- Ctr. for Teaching Workshop “Grading & Feedback”; B23 Alumni, noon (register: www.teaching.pitt.edu/worksheets/)

*Tuesday 29*

- Senate Athletics Comm. Mgr. Peteren Minos Conf. Rm., 11 am (register: www.crsp.pitt.edu)
- "Inositol Phosphates Act as Structural Cofactors to Regulate Bioenergetics." Marijn Ford, cell biology; Scaife, room B.
- "Expressive Means & Intelligibility in Mathematics." Kenneth Manders; 156 CL, 1 pm
- "Pathway Analysis: NIH DAVID & IPA," Ansuman Chatterjee; Falk Library, classroom 1, 1-4 pm (ansuman@pitt.edu)

Wednesday 30

- OACD Workshop "Academic Writing From the Reader's Perspective," 794 Alumni aqu. 8-3 pm (www.ucpmed.health. pitt.edu)
- ASC/PNP commentator Cokie Roberts will deliver the American Experience lecture "Why Trump and What's Next?" Dec 6.

Thursday 1

- GI Lecture "Endovascular GI Bleeding," Kevin McGrath; Prexly admin. conf. rm. M2 C-wing, noon
- UCSU Seminar "Pathway Analysis: NIH DAVID & IPA," Ansuman Chatterjee; Falk Library classroom 1, 1-4 pm (ansuman@pitt.edu)

Friday 2

- Psychiatry Grand Rounds "Suicide Prevention Across the Life Cycle." David Biren, Kolter; 166NCL, noon

- Molecular Biophysics/Structural Biology Seminar "Study on UVDDB-Parp1 Recognition Steps of theNER Pathway Using Single-Molecule Technique;" Sarbani Jang; Hillman Cancer Ctr. 2nd fl. conf. rm. 9 am
- Ctr. for Teaching Workshop "Projection/"Theater Of/"O'Hara Student Ctr. bbl., 9:30 am (register: www.teaching.pitt.edu/)

**Saturday 3**

- Holiday Concert Heinz Chapel Choir; Heinz Chapel, 8 pm (tickets: www.pitt.edu/~heinzcc/tickets.html)

**Sunday 4**

- Holiday Concert Heinz Chapel Choir; Heinz Chapel, 3 pm (tickets: www.pitt.edu/~heinzcc/tickets.html)

**Monday 5**

- Ctr. for Teaching Workshop "Blackboard Using the Grade Center;" B26 Alumni, 10 am (register: www.teaching.pitt.edu/worksheets/)
- Chancellor’s Long-term Staff Recognition Ceremony/Recip- tition WPU Assembly Rm., 2 pm (ARC@pitt.edu)

**Wednesday 6**

- HSLS Workshop "Eosinophilic Esophagitis: The Tale of a Stuck Steak;" Ron Sceh, Temple Prexly, admin. conf. rm. M2 C-wing, noon

**Saturday, December**

- "University Times 2016-17 publication schedule"
- "GI Research Rounds
  "Eosinophilic Esophagitis: The Tale of a Stuck Steak;" Ron Schey, Temple Prexly, admin. conf. rm. M2 C-wing, noon
  UCSU Seminar
  "Pathway Analysis: NIH DAVID & IPA," Ansuman Chatterjee; Falk Library classroom 1, 1-4 pm (ansuman@pitt.edu)
- "Modeling: Prexly: Mortgage Lending;" Kristen Cressy, West Chester; 3911 Porzer, noon (www.personal.psu.edu)
- Senate Research Comm. Mgr. 156 CL, 1 pm
- Philosophy Lecture
  "Expansive Means & Intelligibility in Mathematics;" Kenneth Manders; 817CL, 3:30 pm

**Wednesday, November**

- "From Climate Change to Political & Personal Change: Building a Prosperous, Sustainable World;" John Steman, MIT; UC Hall, 6 pm
- GI Grand Rounds Andrew Chan, Harvard; 1105AB Seafce, 5 pm (aj2@pitt.edu)
- Bradford Campus Holiday Concert Boston Brass; Brumley Theater Benjamin, 11:15 pm (www.phyl. pitt.edu/TheArts)
- "Endoscopy I: GI Bleeding," Kevin McGrath; Prexly admin. conf. rm. M2 C-wing, noon
- UCSU Seminar "Pathway Analysis: NIH DAVID & IPA," Ansuman Chatterjee; Falk Library classroom 1, 1-4 pm (ansuman@pitt.edu)
GI Sadie Gerson Scholar Award Lecture
“Tailoring Colorectal Cancer Screening Ready for Prime Time or Work-in-Progress” Thomas Imperato, INI; Montefiore LHAS and, noon
Basic/Translational Research Seminar
Philosophy Lecture
“What Quantum Measurements Measure,” Robert Griffiths, CMU; 8178 CL, 12:01 pm
Faculty Assembly Mug
2700 Pverige, 1 pm
Pharmacology/Chemical Biology Seminar
“Role of Carapace Cell Death Pathways in Neurological Diseases,” Robert Friedlander; 1391 BST, 3:30 pm
GSPIA Lecture
“Crisis of American Democracy,” Abalafr Rober, U of M; WPU dining rm. A, 4:30 pm (rsvp: lfmc-sham@pitt.edu)
Concert
Pitt Gospel Choir; FFA aud., 7 pm
Honors College/Dick Thurnburgh Forum American Experience Lecture
“Why Trump & What’s Next?” Cokie Roberts, ABC & NPR; 7th fl. Alumni aud., 7 pm (reservations: http://www.honorscollege.pitt.edu/about/newsletter/fall2016/)
Concert
Pitt Symphony Orchestra; Belfield aud., 8 pm

GI Lecture
“Journal Jeopardy 1,” Swayth Ganesh & Anan Mancem; Presby admin. conf. rm. M2 C-wing, noon
ADRC Lecture
“The Effects of Everyday Physiological Activity on Cognitive & Brain Health in Late Life,” Chelsea Stillman; Montefiore S439 conf. room, noon
Senate EIADAC Mtg.
426 CL, noon
HSLS Workshop
“Endnote Basics,” Andrea Ketschum; Falk Library classroom. 2, 1 pm (ketschum@pitt.edu)

Provoe’s Inaugural Lecture
“Up to My Eyeballs in Alligators: Advancements in Teaching & Practicing Entrepreneurship” Eric Beckman, engineering; 2500 Posvar, 4 pm
Blast Furnace Demo Day
O’Hara Student Ctr. ballrm., 5 pm

Defenses
A&S/Chemistry
“Photo-Induced Electron Transfer in Molecular Systems & Nanoparticle Assemblies,” Brinny Grall; Nov. 30, 307 Earth, 3 pm
SHRS/Physical Therapy
“Postural & Perceptual Measures During Performance of Static Standing Balance Exercises,” Saad Alothman; Dec. 1, 232 Bridgittl Poin, 10 am
A&S/Hispanic Languages & Literatures
“2666: En Busqueda de la Totalidad Perdida,” Pedro Salas; Dec. 2, 1325 CL, 4:30 pm
A&S/Anthropology
“Sacred Social Relics: World Trade Ctr. Stuck in Off site 9/11 Memorials in the US,” Senem Biyikli; Dec. 5, 3106 Posvar, 2 pm
A&S/Physics & Astronomy
“Multi-Photon Photoemission Study of TiO2 for Photocatalysts,” Adam Argondizzo; Dec. 6, 219 Allen, 2 pm
A&S/Hispanic Languages & Literatures
“A Dynamics of Violent Stories: Reading the Feminicidios of Guadal Jairines as Narratives,” Roberto Cerezo, Dec. 8, 5601 Semont Sq., noon

Deadlines
Heinz Chapel Choir Tour Fundraiser
Deadline for donations is Dec. 31. (www.engage.pitt.edu/project/2705)
Pitt Sustainability Awards
Submit nominations by March 10. (www.engineering.pitt.edu/MCSI/Forms/Sustainability-Awards-Page)

Exhibits
Bradford Campus
“Contemporary Figurative Work: An Exhibition in Graphic & Watercolor,” Anna Lembries; 363A Gallery Blaissell, UBPB, Dec. 1-16; M-F 8:30 am-6 pm (opening show Dec. 1, 7 pm; www.upb.pitt.edu)
Falk Library
“The Ultimate Service Pin: A History of Nursing,” Dawn McBride; displays cases main fl., through Jan. 5; M-Th 7 am-mid, F 7 am-10 pm, Sat 9:30 am-10 pm & Sun 11 am-mid

The Boston Brass performs Nov. 30 at Pitt-Bradford’s Bromley Theatre in Blaisdell Hall.