Women’s History Month

Stella Stein, Class of 1898

See Page 6
HONORS CONVOCATION

Building on a History of Success And Courage, University Forges Ahead Despite Challenges

(The is the print version of the keynote address that Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg delivered during the University’s 56th Annual Honors Convocation on Feb. 24.)

It is wonderful to be with you today—in this magnificent hall and on such a truly auspicious occasion. Our annual Honors Convocation gives us the special opportunity to recognize excellence in our midst. Today, we honor students, staff, faculty, and alumni whose records of accomplishment and impact stand as a source of pride within our University.

And this particular Convocation is special in another way because it marks the start of our celebration of the 225th anniversary of Pitt’s founding. Through the Act of February 28, 1787, the Pennsylvania legislature provided for the creation of the log cabin Pittsburgh Academy that would grow to become the University of Pittsburgh.

Humble Beginnings

Descriptions of the Pittsburgh of that time, an outpost of fewer than 400 inhabitants perched at the edge of the American wilderness, convey some sense of how far we have come in other ways. In his classic history of the city, Stefan Lorant said this: “The buildings were neither elaborate nor were they beautiful. The streets before them were unpaved, dirty, littered with refuse, with dogs and hogs roaming through the mire. On rainy days one waded through the mud, in dry weather the dust rose in clouds.”

A leading citizen described Pittsburgh as a place where “there was no morality or regular order.” Outsiders were even less impressed. One visitor concluded simply that the town was an “excellent [place] to do penance in.”

Our Founder’s Dream

Far more positive impressions were held by our University’s founder, Hugh Henry Brackenridge. Born in Scotland and moved to this country at the age of five, he was educated at Princeton. James Madison was a classmate. Brackenridge and another classmate are credited with writing the first American novel.

As a young man, Mr. Brackenridge taught, earned a graduate degree, studied divinity, served as a chaplain in George Washington’s army, and founded and edited a monthly magazine. He also “read the law” under Samuel Chase, who signed the Declaration of Independence and later served as a Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

When Mr. Brackenridge moved west from Philadelphia, Pittsburgh became a principal beneficiary. In time, he served both in the state legislature and as a justice of the state supreme court. Among many other achievements, he helped establish the region’s first newspaper, incorporated a nonsectarian church, served on the committee that drafted the bill creating Allegheny County and making Pittsburgh its county seat, and was an advocate for improved roadways to the western part of the state.

In all that he did, Mr. Brackenridge was driven by an extraordinary vision for this region. When he viewed the modest settlement that had become his home, he said, “This town must in future time become a place of great manufactury. Indeed, the greatest on the continent or perhaps in the world.” He further asserted that “[t]he situation of the town of Pittsburgh is greatly to be chosen for a seat of learning.”

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Continued on page 3

Pitt Alumni Association’s Board Passes Resolution on Proposed State Funding Cuts

The Pitt Alumni Association Board of Directors voted unanimously Feb. 25 to pass a resolution asking Pitt alumni to advocate for no more cuts to the University’s state appropriation and to keep Pitt a public research university. That resolution is printed below.

RESOLUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

WHEREAS, the Pitt Alumni Association’s mission is to engage and enrich alumni and students and to support and advance the University of Pittsburgh; and

WHEREAS, the Pitt Alumni Association’s values are accountability, diversity, excellence, relationships, and traditions and its vision is to be the gateway for a global network of alumni and students who champion the University of Pittsburgh and each other; and

WHEREAS, the Pitt Alumni Association recognizes that the recently proposed Commonwealth budget would reduce support to the University of Pittsburgh, if adjusted for inflation, to the lowest level since Pitt became a state-related university; and

WHEREAS, more than $67 million in cuts already have been imposed. When added to recent proposals for further reductions, the total cumulative two-year cuts in state support would rise to more than $100 million. These cuts would reduce Pitt’s appropriation, in absolute dollars, to levels that Pitt has not seen since 1987, a quarter-century ago and when the state’s overall budget was only a third of what it is today; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the members of the Pitt Alumni Association Board of Directors do hereby express their sincere support for the University of Pittsburgh as a public institution of higher education; and it further

RESOLVED, that the members of the Pitt Alumni Association Board of Directors call for the involvement of alumni to advocate on behalf of the University of Pittsburgh to the leadership of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to reinstate funding levels consistent with legislation that was enacted on August 23, 1966, making the University of Pittsburgh a state-related university of the Commonwealth System of Higher Education, legislation that enabled the University to significantly reduce tuition for Pennsylvania residents, increase enrollment, and expand programs. This legislation made it possible for the University of Pittsburgh to meet the growing demand from Pennsylvanians for reasonably priced, but high-quality, university experiences; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the members of the Pitt Alumni Association Board of Directors approve this resolution at its Board meeting on February 25, 2012, and see this state funding as essential to the future of the University of Pittsburgh and ask for alumni to advocate “No More Cuts: Keep Pitt Public”; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be made a permanent part of the Pitt Alumni Association’s records.

Jack D. Smith
President
Pitt Alumni Association

Jeff Gleim
Executive Director
Pitt Alumni Association
Mr. Brackenridge also saw the link between education and regional prosperity that would emerge even more clearly over time. “I do not know that the legislature could ever have furnished a more public, beneficial, and ability … [and] we well know the strength of a state greatly consists in the superior mental powers of the inhabitants.”

Two-hundred-twenty-five years of history have taught us this about our founder: He was right about Pittsburgh becoming a center of manufacturing might. He was right about education becoming a center of higher learning. And he was right about education as a driver of economic prosperity.

Mr. Brackenridge goal was “to see Pennsylvania at all times able to produce mathematicians, philosophers, men equal to any in the confederacy.” That same goal is the keystone of the modern academic mission. In fact, it is our achievement of that goal, through the work of our honoraries, that we have gathered to celebrate today.

A Critical Transformation

Just as we honor Hugh Henry Brackenridge for leading us to establish Pitt, so should we recognize K. Leroy Irvis for leading efforts to transform it. Like Mr. Brackenridge, Mr. Irvis was a man of wide-ranging talents—an orator, author, painter, poet, and wood sculptor. And like Mr. Brackenridge, he was a transplanted. He attended high school and college in Upstate New York and began his teaching career in Baltimore. He came here to serve as public relations secretary for the Urban League. Mr. Irvis graduated from our School of Law in 1954 and was a longtime Pitt Trustee. He launched his political career in 1958 as a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, representing this part of the city. Nineteen years later, he was unanimously elected Speaker of the House—not only the first African American Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, but the first Black speaker of any state’s House of Representatives since Reconstruction.

During more than three decades in the state capitol, Speaker Irvis sponsored some 1,600 bills, including one that made it possible for us to annually provide tens of thousands of students with access to the highest-quality higher education at a reasonable cost.

Affordability was extremely important to Speaker Irvis. He regularly argued that higher education opportunities should be tied to “ability and not how fortunate a child happens to have been in the choice of his or her birth.”

But Mr. Irvis and others also saw that broader social issues could yield advancements that would flow from providing public support to the University. An editorial in the Pittsburgh Press advocated for this, by stating that “the existence here of a big, quality university is necessary to the welfare of the area and our hopes for industrial development, no less than for educational opportunity it offers to students.”

Institutional Advancement and Impact

In the 45 years that have passed since the bill sponsored by Mr. Irvis became law, Pitt has far exceeded any reasonable expectations that might have existed in the 1960s. In education, our University has attracted nearly 290,000 degrees and has maintained tuitions that are a fraction of those charged by comparable private universities. Pitt students regularly compete for top national awards with the very best students from the country’s top universities. And Pitt alumni continue to receive the highest honors for their achievements.

Particularly at an honors convocation, it seems appropriate to note that just since the dawn of the new century, Pitt graduates have received such awards as the Nobel Peace Prize, the Nobel Prize in Medicine, the National Medal of Science, the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, the National Book Award for Poetry, the Fritz Medal in Engineering, the and the Albany and Shaw Prizes in Medicine.

Over that same period, Pitt also has become an internationally respected center of pioneering research. We rank among the top American universities both in funding from the National Institutes of Health and in overall federal science and engineering research and development support. Our faculty have published more than 2,000 articles in the world’s most prestigious journals, and a peer-reviewed research impact that is regularly among the top ten in the nation. Pitt alumni have won seven Nobel Prizes among 93 members, as well as current alumni and alumni-to-be, are advancing our own exciting work and are poised to make future contributions to locally shared progress.

And he was right about the role of public support in the development of human potential, to the advancement of human understanding, and, in a broad range of ways, to the advancement of the greater good.

We also are fortunate that we have each other. This is a community of exceptional people, whether measured by the power of their brains, the strength of their character, or the size of their hearts.

In particular such challenging times, we are fortunate to be a part of an institution with such a noble mission. Everyone connected to the University is necessary to the welfare of the area and our hopes for industrial development, no less than for educational opportunity it offers to students.

Meeting Challenges and Maintaining Hope

With the record that Pitt has built, future generations hope that we will continue to imagine the challenges that exist, and make the progress that is so essential to human flourishing.

And we can take comfort from the inspiring successes crafted by our predecessors—and as they met their own challenges over the past 225 years. Those challenges included the Civil War and two World Wars, devastating floods and fires, a number of recessions, and the Great Depression.

In fact, it was during the Great Depression that we have each other. This is a community of exceptional people, whether measured by the power of their brains, the strength of their character, or the size of their hearts.

We are fortunate that we have each other. This is a community of exceptional people, whether measured by the power of their brains, the strength of their character, or the size of their hearts.

We rank among the top American universities both in funding from the National Institutes of Health and in overall federal science and engineering research and development support. Our faculty continue to claim the highest honors in both research and teaching. And alumni have brought honor to yourselves; and you have brought honor to yourselves; and you have brought honor to yourselves; and you have brought honor to yourselves; and you have brought honor to yourselves; and you have brought honor to yourselves; and you have brought honor to yourselves; and you have brought honor to yourselves; and you have brought honor to yourselves.
The Pitt Alumni Association honored 284 student-athletes during the annual University of Pittsburgh Scholar-Athlete Awards Breakfast, held Feb. 7 in Alumni Hall’s Connolly Ballroom. Pitt Alumni Association President Jack Smith served as the master of ceremonies.

“We are extremely proud of our student-athletes and their exceptional performance in the classroom. It takes an incredible amount of commitment, discipline, and sacrifice to achieve scholar-athlete honors at the University of Pittsburgh. These young men and women truly embody the very best of Pitt and Pitt Athletics.”

—Steve Pederson

Members of Pitt’s Academic Support Services for student-athletes handed out blue and gold awards to students who earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher during the 2011 calendar year. There were 163 student-athletes who accumulated a GPA of 3.0-3.49 (blue) and 121 who posted a 3.5-4.0 (gold)—including 18 student-athletes who achieved a perfect 4.0 GPA.

The list of 4.0 student-athletes included Adela Aprodu (tennis), Abbigail Baldys (women’s soccer), Justin Boehm (men’s soccer), Kimmy Borza (tennis), Abby Dowd (women’s basketball), Keli Gaynor (softball), Philip Konieczny (baseball), Jennifer Larimore (tennis), Susan Martinez (women’s track), Courtney McIntyre (women’s swimming and diving), Kristen McMullan (women’s swimming and diving), Pierre-Antoine Meunier (men’s swimming and diving), Lauren Mills (women’s swimming and diving), Korinne Piper (women’s track), Lisa Taylor (gymnastics), Ryan Tomei (wrestling), Leah Ulizio (women’s track) and Sarah Zetlmeisl (women’s swimming and diving). Also recognized at the breakfast were Kelyn Black, a member of Pitt’s Dance Team, and Ben Rubino, Pitt’s “Roo” mascot, both of whom held 4.0 GPAs during 2011.

Pederson also announced the Academic Team Awards.

The Most Improved Team was gymnastics, which earned a cumulative 3.10 GPA.

Earning the Top Men’s Academic Award for the third-consecutive year was the men’s soccer team.

The women’s tennis team was named both the Top Women’s Team and the Overall Team awardee for the second-consecutive year, boasting a collective 3.33 GPA. Seven members of the squad earned a 3.5 GPA or better, including two with a perfect 4.0 GPA.

The tennis team improved its overall GPA from the 3.32 GPA it held during 2010, the first time it won Top Women’s Team and the Overall Team.

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Pitt’s 4.0 scholar-athletes include, sitting, from left: Korinne Piper (track and field), Abbigail Baldys (soccer), Susan Martinez (track and field), and Sarah Zetlmeisl (swimming and diving). Standing, from left, are Pitt Athletic Director Steve Pederson, Pitt Alumni Association President Jack Smith, Kimmy Borza (tennis), Lisa Taylor (gymnastics), Abby Dowd (basketball), Keli Gaynor (softball), Lauren Mills (swimming and diving), Jennifer Larimore (tennis), and Ben Rubino (cheer team).

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“We are extremely proud of our student-athletes and their exceptional performance in the classroom.” Pitt Athletic Director Steve Pederson said. “It takes an incredible amount of commitment, discipline, and sacrifice to achieve scholar-athlete honors at the University of Pittsburgh. These young men and women truly embody the very best of Pitt and Pitt Athletics.”

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2012 Honors Convocation

1 and 2. Members of the Pitt community gathered for the University’s 36th Annual Honors Convocation on Feb. 24 in Carnegie Music Hall. The event launched the observance of Pitt’s 225th Anniversary, a celebration that will continue through Homecoming Weekend in October. 3, 4, and 5. Pitt’s Alumni Association named three Distinguished Alumni Fellows, all of whom were honored during the convocation: John M. Peterson (BUS ’51), retired president and CEO of Erie Insurance Group; Patricia D. Hambo (NURS ’82G), U.S. Army lieutenant general and U.S. Army Surgeon General and commanding general; and David A. Tepper (A&S ’78), president and founder of Appaloosa Management. 6 and 7. Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor Patricia E. Beeson addressed the audience, and Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg delivered the keynote address. The print version of his address is on page 2.

Goszczynki, Rousseau Kuever, and Aaron Snyder
Graduates: Alex Kubickie and Alex McLaren

WOMEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING
Joanna Budzisz, Renee Deschenes, Kelsey DiGilio, Brittany DiSanti, Kate Dunseith, Julie Harrison, Tamara Lelli, and Alec Shaeffer
Graduates: Mallory Mullady and Morgan Speece

WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL
Alexis Wilder, Ashley Moore, Shanae Thomas, and Valerie Wilson, and Ashley Woodford

WOMEN’S TRACK AND FIELD/CROSS COUNTRY
Jessica Rocco, Natalie Ryan, Veronica Renz, Casey Meier, Stephanie Powers, Gaskins, Jarred Holley, Adam Laz

FOOTBALL
Alyssa Standlick, and Anna Sweeney

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Schultz, and Travis Whitmore

CHEER AND DANCE TEAM

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Schultz, and Travis Whitmore

BASEBALL
Graduates: David Kaye, John Schultz, and Travis Whitmore

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Loliya Briggs and Marquel Davis

CHEER AND DANCE TEAM
Derek Bradley, Hannah Brady, Julianna Bursic, Samantha Bursic, Yeasia Eddy, Dorranda Fella, Marlee Hartenstein, Cat Hoel, Emma Holmes, Mallory Karavalis, Jessica Litten, Danielle Narlesky, Hilary Nickels, Michael Nuzzo, Jill Palski, Brittain Poyt, Natalie Runco, Ali Sanders, Danielle Scalise, Adam Slabicki, Jeralyn Smith, Alyssa Standlick, and Anna Sweeney

FOOTBALL
Myles Carageen, Devin Cook, Greg Gaskins, Jarred Holley, Adam Laz- ena, Michael Thays, Chris Yankoski, Matt Yoklic, and Brett Zuck
Graduates: Jabaal Sheard and Tyler Tkach

WOMEN’S GYMNASTICS
Allysa Adrian, Bri Hogan, Kori Macdonald, Alexis Riech, and Alicia Talucci
Graduate: Jennifer Liberato

MEN’S SOCCER
Terry Akpua, Andy Clifford, Julian Dickenson, and Keegan Gunderson
Graduate: Joe Prince-Wright

WOMEN’S SOCCER
Madison Gritsch, Katelyn Lippert, Alyssa Meier, Taylor Parisse, Lynsdsey Pierson, Kristina Rixos, Katelyn Riehe, and Morgan Sharick
Graduates: Laura Berbert and More Kephart

SOFTBALL
Graduates: Alyssa O’Connell and Reba Tutt

MEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING
Adam Maczewski, Tyler Matheny, Hussein Mohamed, Otto Pagel, John Pidgeon, and Jacob Van Rokech
Graduates: Andrej Dubiel and Charles Hauser

WOMEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING
Emily Bolek, Tori Bruno, Kimberly Cadell, Kimberly Ciotti, Kelsey Herbst, Veronica Lee, Lauren Matevish, Jessica Nederlanden, Alison Swafford, Yolandi Van Der Merwe, Yolandi Van Rooyen, and Leigh Waltz
Graduates: Sarah Looney and Caitlyn Trant

WOMEN’S TENNIS
Melissa Bostwick, Minh Evans, Jocelyn Lu, and Karma Parbhoo
Graduate: Elizabeth Adams

MEN’S TRACK AND FIELD/CROSS COUNTRY
Graduate: Joshua Christopher

MEN’S TRACK AND FIELD/CROSS COUNTRY

Jordyn May, Amanda Kuhl, and Michelle Magyar
Graduates: Sarah Anderson, Brianna Broyles, Kaitlyn Flynn, Anita James, Carrie Mavrakis, Victoria Tozo, and Kelsey Voltz

WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL
Alexa Campbell, Lauren Hartman, and Maria Nicholas
Graduates: Iman Harper, Allyson Hodnik, and Rachel Kalberer

WRESTLING
Victor Konno, Donald Tasser, and Tyler Wilps
Graduate: Christian Fagan

GOLD AWARDS (3.5-4.0 GPA)

BASEBALL
Graduates: David Kaye, John Schultz, and Travis Whitmore

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FOOTBALL
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1895 Sisters Margaret and Stella Stein are the first women to enter the Western University of Pennsylvania (now the University of Pittsburgh) as full-time sophomores. The sisters graduate in 1899, tied for first place in their class, and return to Pitt in 1901 to begin their master’s degrees.

1900 Jean Hamilton Walls receives the bachelor’s degree at Pitt, the first Black woman to receive the bachelor’s degree at Pitt, the first Black woman student at Pitt jumping from about 40 to 250.

1908 Pi Theta No, the first sorority, forms in 1908. Women’s organizations are rare until after 1910.

1909 Shortly after the University moves to Oakland, Pitt opens the School of Education. Women flock to the new program, with the number of women students at Pitt jumping from about 40 to more than 300 in the first year.

1910 Jean Hamilton Walls receives the bachelor’s degree at Pitt, the first Black woman to do so at the University. In 1938, she becomes the first Black woman to receive the PhD degree at Pitt.

1914 Women constitute 25 percent of Pitt’s student body, with 600 female students attending.

1914-15 Women’s basketball organizes, the first competitive sport for women at Pitt.

1918 Pi Theta No, the first sorority, forms in 1908. Women’s organizations are rare until after 1910.

1919 Virginia Proctor Powell Florence is the first African American woman to hold a professional education program in librarianship. She graduates in 1923 from the Carnegie Library School, which later became part of Pitt’s School of Information Sciences. (In 2004, a plaque honoring Florence is installed in the Information Sciences Building lobby.)

1920 Lantern Night, a candlelight ceremony for freshman women, begins.

1924 Women’s Varsity Basketball team sweeps its home game opponents and losses only one game on the road.

1924 The Panthers post their first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance during the 2006-07 season. The Panthers post 24 wins that season. The Pitt team later advances to the NCAA Sweet Sixteen in both 2008 and 2009.

1932 Angela Gronenborn, the UPNRC Research Franklin Professor and Chair in the Pitt School of Medicine’s Department of Structural Biology, is elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences. She is a leading structural biologist and expert in nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy.

1935 The lab of Elodie Ghedin, a parasitologist and computational and systems biologist, is named a 2011 MacArthur Fellow. Ghedin, a parasitologist and computational and systems biologist, is named a 2011 MacArthur Fellow. Ghedin studies microbial dynamics and their impact on ecosystems. (2011)

1940 Katherine Detre, distinguished professor of epidemiology in Pitt’s Graduate School of Public Health, begins leading a national study—involving 2,368 patients with cancer of the thyroid—to determine the best way to treat people with both type 2 diabetes and early coronary artery disease. The study attracts funding for the largest combined grant in Pitt history, $65 million.

1940 Yoon Chang, a renowned scientist and cancer researcher, is elected to the National Academy of Sciences. In 2006, she is named the Dr. Helen S. Faison Professor and Chair in the Pitt School of Medicine, is elected to the National Academy of Sciences. She is a leading structural biologist and expert in nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy.

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1947 Virginia Proctor Powell Florence is the first African American woman to hold a professional education program in librarianship. She graduates in 1923 from the Carnegie Library School, which later became part of Pitt’s School of Information Sciences. (In 2004, a plaque honoring Florence is installed in the Information Sciences Building lobby.)

1949 Florence is installed in the Information Sciences Building lobby.)

1949 Laucille B. Czesier (EDUC ’34, A&S ’46G) becomes the first female Pitt Alumni Association President. She was also an Alumni Trustee from 1971 to 1974 and Emeritus Trustee from 1977 to 1997.

1957 The provost’s advisory committee for women’s concerns is created.

1969 Chancellor Wesley Coverton creates the advisory committee for women’s opportunities to address the agenda of the newly formed University Committee for Women’s Rights.

1972 The Pitt Women’s Studies Program is founded.

1973 Pitt establishes the Women’s Center to serve as an advising center to campus and community women.

1975 The provost’s advisory committee for women’s concerns is created.

1983 Katherine Detre, distinguished professor of epidemiology in Pitt’s Graduate School of Public Health, begins leading a national study—involving 2,368 patients with cancer of the thyroid—to determine the best way to treat people with both type 2 diabetes and early coronary artery disease. The study attracts funding for the largest combined grant in Pitt history, $65 million.

1985 Margaret Stein

1985 Barbara Stein

1989 The Institute of American History joins the University of Pittsburgh, including its service as a member of several board committees as well as the boards of visitors of the School of Nursing and the School of Education. Broadhurst is director of corporate giving for Earl Park Hospitality Group.

1996 Elodie Ghedin, an assistant professor in the Pitt School of Medicine’s Department of Computational and Systems Biology, is named in 2011 MacArthur Fellow. Ghedin, a parasitologist and virologist, said she will use the unrestricted award of $500,000 to expand her parasitology research and explore her interest in the evolution of infectious diseases. (2011)

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2001 Jeanette South-Poulit (MED ’79) is the first female chair of a Pitt medical department and the first Black female chair in the nation of a medical department at a historically black college or university. South-Poulit is the Andrew W. Mellon Professor and chair of Pitt’s Department of Family Medicine.

2003 Suzanne Broadhurst is elected vice chair of Pitt’s Board of Trustees and continues to serve in that position. She has made countless other contributions to Pitt, including her service as a member of several board committees as well as the boards of visitors of the School of Nursing and the School of Education. Broadhurst is director of corporate giving for Earl Park Hospitality Group.

2004 Wangari Muta Moi, who earned the Master of Science degree in biology at Pitt in 1965, is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her 30-year effort to reforest her native Kenya and improve the economic status of women there, while fighting for democracy and against corruption and tribalism. Moi conferred on her on being an honorary doctor of Public Service degree during an Oct. 26, 2006, ceremony in Alumni Hall. Moi died Sept. 25, 2009, at age 71.

2009 The director of Pitt’s European Union Center, Alberta Shangria, is named Jean Monnet Chair ad personam by the European Commission, which also designates her center a European University Center of Excellence. Shangria, a professor of political science, is one of only two academics to be named Jean Monnet Chair at Pitt in 2006, and Shangria is named the inaugural holder of the Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg University Chair and, in 2010, a vice provost for graduate studies.

2010 Patricia E. Beeson is elected the first female provost and senior vice chancellor of Pitt by the University’s Board of Trustees. Beeson, with her successful 27-year career as a Pitt faculty member and administrator, was recommended by Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg.

2011 Roberta Luxbacher is the first woman to be named a Swanson School of Engineering Distinguished Alumna. She was nominated to the position by President Barack Obama May 10 and was later approved by the U.S. Senate.

2012 Elodie Ghedin, assistant professor in the Pitt School of Medicine’s Department of Computational and Systems Biology, is named in 2011 MacArthur Fellow. Ghedin, a parasitologist and virologist, said she will use the unrestricted award of $500,000 to expand her parasitology research and explore her interest in the evolution of infectious diseases. (2011)


Hillman Library Ground Floor, Pitt—225 Years of Building Better Lives—1787-2022, exhibition of Vintage photographs, maps, and copies of pages of Pitt’s original state charters, on loan from Pennsylvania’s state archives, through May 13, also on display in the gym. Audubon case are the actual front pages of Pitt’s original state charters, University’s 225th anniversary commemoration, through May 18, 415-933-2398, 412-648-8389.


Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, Active Plants, Active Vessels, New directions in botany, featuring works by John Kiff, Peter Bouteloua, and Julie Anderson, through May 20, 648-8199.


Lectures/Seminars/Readings

“Skeletal Tissue Engineering and Regeneration: Adult Stem Cells, Honeymoon Safari, and Biological Regulation,” Rocky S. Tuan, Arthur H. Robinson Chair in Sports Medicine, Pitt’s School of Medicine, 4 p.m. March 9, Lecture Room 6, Scaife Hall, Pitt Provost’s Inaugural Lecture Series, www.provost.pitt.edu.


“Exploring Residential Segregation With a Telescope and a Microscope” Marie Kimm, professor of sociology, University of Illionis at Chicago, noon March 13, Pitt Center on Race and Socioeconomic Fairness (CRASP), 20th floor, Cathedral of Learning, CRASP Speaker series, 412-624-7382.

“Poetic Unity in Aristotle,” Wolfgang Bernard, professor, Heinrich Schillemann-Institute, University of Rostock, Germany, 4 p.m. March 14, 2449 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Department of Classics, www.classics.pitt.edu.

Exhibitions

Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Rockhounds Care and Dog Stories, ends March 30, 7272 Reynolds St., 412-622-3131, cmnhweb@pitt.edu.


Opera/Theater/Dance


Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses


Yil Agimi, Graduate School of Public Health’s Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, “Role of State Licensing and Physician Reporting Requirements on Older Older’s Health,” 1:30 p.m. March 9, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Graduate School of Public Health.


Feng-Ling Tsai, Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences’ Department of Biological Sciences, “The Msz-7 Replicative Helicase is Essential to Container DNA Replication, 5-Phase Checkpoint and Sister Chromatid Cohesion,” 2 p.m. March 19, A2198 Langley Hall.

A St. Patrick’s Pop With Natalie MacMaster, Heinz Hall, March 15-19


Ming Ren, School of Information Sciences Graduate Program in Information Science and Technology, “Advanced Map Matching Technologies and Techniques for Pedestrian/Wheeled Navigation Systems,” 2 p.m. March 16, 502 Information Sciences Building.

Mary Lou Vecellio, Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences’ Department of Languages, “Complexity, Accuracy, and Fluency as Properties of Language Performance,” 2 p.m. March 16, 335 Cathedral of Learning.

Concerts


Puro Queso Jazz Quartet, Paul Eiss, saxophone; Jose Lavo Puente, bass; Dylan Aragon, drums; and Victor Ruiz, guitar, noon March 16, free. Cup & Chaucer Café, ground floor, Hillman Library, Emerging Legends Series, Calloso: The Pittsburgh Folk Music Society, www.callaloo.org/legends.htm.
Honors College Marks 25th Anniversary
Preparing “students to become learners and thinkers for the rest of their lives.” —Honors College Dean Edward M. Stricker

1. The University Honors College (UHC) celebrated its 25th anniversary on Feb. 25 during a daylong forum that included several presentations and musical interludes. The dinner, held in Alumni Hall’s Connolly Ballroom, and the forum, held in Bellefield Hall, coincided with the weekend launch of Pitt’s 225th anniversary celebration, which began with the Feb. 24 Honors Convocation and continues through the 2012 Homecoming festivities in October. Among the day’s speakers were:


3. Colin Stewart, managing director of the Bank of America in New York and son of the late G. Alec Stewart, founding dean of the UHC.


5. Edward M. Stricker, UHC dean and a Distinguished University Professor of Neuroscience.