Pitt Library System to Receive Most Extensive Collection of Public European Community/EU Documents, Publications in North America

University will make collection available to Hillman Library patrons and upload a large portion of it onto the Internet

By Patricia Lomando White and John Harvith

Pitt’s University Library System (ULS) will receive the entire European Union depository collection—the most extensive collection of public European Community/European Union documents and publications in North America—from the Delegation of the European Commission to the USA in Washington, D.C., and make it available intact to patrons of Pitt’s Hillman Library.

ULS also will digitize a large portion of the collection and upload it onto the Internet as part of Pitt’s Archive of European Integration (AEI).

The collections—established by the EU in 1951—were expanded to include works by the European Council, European Commission, European Parliament, European Court of Justice, European Council of Ministers, and the European Council of Europe, as well as private commercial publishers, such as Springer, Cambridge University Press, and AIP.

The collection contains a complete set of the publications of the EU institutions and agencies, as well as partial collections of relevant private commercial publishers, such as International Organizations as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Council of Europe, and European trade associations.

The collection published since 1973 are in English; earlier documents are mostly in French.

Pitt’s AEI is an online archive and repository that collects and uploads two types of materials on the topic of European integration: independently produced research materials, including working or policy papers and conference papers; and official EU government documents not available in electronic format on EU databases.

The EU depository collection will be the company of such other unique and important Pitt library special collections as the comprehensive World War II archive recently donated by Pitt professor Donald M. Goldstein, the archive of Pitt alumna and trustee, former Pennsylvania Governor, and former U.S. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh; the archive of the late Pennsylvania House Speaker K. Leroy Irvis, a Pitt alumnus and former trustee who was the first African American speaker of a state house in the nation since Reconstruction; and the Eduardo Lozano Latino American Collection, one of the most extensive Latin American collections in the United States.

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First Beating-Heart Transplant in United States Performed by McCurry

By Maureen McGuffin

Protected by its own nutrients and blood supply, a beating heart supported by an investigational organ-preservation device has been successfully transplanted at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) into a 47-year-old man with congestive heart failure and pulmonary hypertension.

The surgery was performed April 8 by Kenneth R. McCurry, an assistant professor of surgery in the Pitt School of Medicine's Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery and director of cardiopulmonary transplantation in UPMC's Heart, Lung, and Esophageal Surgery Institute.

It was the first such transplantation in the United States.

The patient, who is from Portage, Pa., is doing well and was discharged from the hospital April 30. The donated heart, from a 46-year-old man, was maintained in a beating state on the investigational Organ Care System (OCS) for two hours and 45 minutes.

McCurry is principal investigator of the PROCEED Trial at UPMC, which is evaluating the safety and efficacy of the OCS for heart transplants. Manufactured by TransMedics Inc., of Andover, Mass., the OCS is designed to maintain donor hearts in a beating state during transport from the donor to the recipient's hospital.

After removal from the donor, the heart is placed into the OCS, where it is immediately revived to a beating state, perfused with oxygen and nutrient-rich blood, and maintained at the appropriate temperature.

Using the OCS, organs are kept in their physiological, beating state for delivery to the recipient and until implantation.

"By maintaining the organ in near perfect physiologic state, the OCS will reduce injury and help extend the life of these organs, which also will improve patient outcomes with less rejection and shorter length of ICU and hospital stay."

—Kenneth McCurry

May 1936—Pitt's School of Law closes its downtown offices, classrooms, and library and moves into the Cathedral of Learning's 14th, 15th, and 16th floors, "though they were finished only in the rough," according to Robert C. Albright, the Story of the University of Pittsburgh, 1872-1987 (University of Pittsburgh Press, 1986). Law was the first Pitt school to move into the Cathedral as an entire unit, Albright wrote.

Chronicling:
An ongoing series highlighting
University of Pittsburgh history

The Separation of Blood

The Pitt Kuntu Repertory Theatre's world-premiere production of Healthy Black Family: The Separation of Blood continues through June 2 at Alumni Hall's 7th-Floor Auditorium. The play depicts the life and work of Charles Drew, a Black physician who did pioneering work in blood transfusions. Drew is played by Art Terry (right). Kevin Brown (left) plays Richard Drew, the scientist's father.

The play, commissioned by the Kuntu Rep, was written by Bridgette Wimbly. Woodie King Jr., called "the king of Black theater producers" by American Finance magazine, directs Kuntu's production. Remaining performances are scheduled for 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. May 31, 8 p.m. June 1 and 2, and 4 p.m. June 3. The Kuntu Rep's current season is being presented in partnership with the Center for Minority Health, part of Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health. For ticket information, call 412-624-7298.

NCAA Recertifies Pitt Athletics Program

By Linda K. Schmitmeyer

The NCAA Division I Committee on Athletics Certification recently announced that the Pitt athletics program has been recertified.

The "certified" designation indicates that the institution operates its athletics program in conformity with principles established by NCAA Division I membership.

The certification process involved a self-study that was led by Randy Juhi, chair of the steering committee of Pitt's NCAA self-study committee. The study included a review of the athletics program's governance structure, commitment to rules compliance, academic integrity, academic support, and equity and student-athlete welfare.

"We are pleased that the NCAA has recognized the outstanding commitment that Athletic Director Jeff Long and his staff have made to our student-athletes," said Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. "This certification reinforces the University's goal of excellence in all that we do. The recent announcement that more than 300 of our student-athletes earned a 3.0 term grade point average in 2006 is further testament to the synergy between good academic programs and great young men and women who are committed to excellence both on and off the field."

"Our certification underscores the values that shape intercollegiate athletics at the University of Pittsburgh," said Long. "The effort of our student-athletes, staff,
This engineering student collaborated on Pitt research that may lead to stronger, safer bridges and other structures

By Daniel Bates

One day last summer, Kent Harries gathered a team of University of Pittsburgh student-researchers from his lab and drove to Washington, Pa., where, several months before, an overpass had collapsed onto Route 70 East.

The University and Harries, a professor in the Pitt School of Engineering’s Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, had been awarded a contract by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) to conduct a forensic investigation of the structural failure of the bridge, whose collapse had caused major traffic headaches, though no injuries.

Among the students who methodically investigated the bridge scene—examining the corrosion of metal reinforcement bars (rebars) within the bridge’s concrete beams, checking for concrete deterioration, taking lots of photos—was Bem Atim, whose neat and precise handwriting earned him the job of serving as the team’s official note taker, among his other duties.

Atim was intern-ning as an undergraduate researcher in the engineering school’s Watkins-Haggart Structural Engineering Laboratory, where Harries conducts much of his research. Among Harries’ research interests are the seismic design and retrofit of building structures; the design and behavior of high-rises; and the use of nontraditional materials in bridges, roads, and other structures.

This exacting summary of Harries’ work doesn’t do justice to its potential for shore up America’s infrastructure—or to its coolness, according to Harries. “How can you not get excited about big things breaking? I had just graduated from college, and I loved it,” he said.

Harries’ enthusiasm rubber off on Atim, inspiring him to change his major last year from mechanical to civil and environmental engineering.

Atim attributes much of his intellectual curiosity to his family’s influence. His father is a chemist. His mother is a chemist. His maternal grandfather, who taught himself algebra and the Japanese language despite not having earned a high school diploma, is larger and larger K’NEX sets. Beginning when he was in the third grade and for every Christmas thereafter, Atim’s parents bought him larger and larger K’NEX sets.

“I built everything in the manuals,” he remembers.

Atim attributes much of his intellectual curiosity to his family’s influence. His mother is a chemist. His father, originally from Nigeria, is an engineer by training. Most inspiring, Atim says, was his maternal grandfather, who taught himself algebra and the Japanese language despite not having earned a high school diploma.

Atim spent the summer after his sophomore year as an intern with Federal Express. His assignment: helping manage a building project.

The Fed Ex internship gave Atim hands-on experience with the complexities of project management. “It introduced me to how corporate America works,” he says. “I did learn to become more of a ‘people person,’ but I wanted to do something more technical, and that [Fed Ex internship] was more about management than design.”

In fall 2005, Atim attended a presentation by Christopher Earls, then-chair of Pitt’s civil and environmental engineering department. It was a very convincing speech,” Atim remembers. “He joked that civil engineers are terrible drivers because they’re always staring up at bridge decks.”

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After describing the prototypical, preoccupied civil engineer, the department chair asked the audience: “Is that you?”

Atim thought: “Yes. That’s me.”

Soon thereafter, Atim was introduced to Harries, who offered Atim a summer research internship in his lab. Among the projects in which Atim participated was a PennDOT-funded study investigating the effectiveness of square metal bars in splicing together separate steel rebars in concrete. PennDOT asked the team to come up with ways to test the structural integrity of the connectors for spliced rebar. PennDOT would then use the research findings to determine whether to include the connectors on its list of approved products. Harries says that finding better ways to splice rebars remains important to PennDOT and transportation departments as they repair concrete road and bridge surfaces.

Over last summer, the Pitt team tested two types of splices, using special machines to pull the bars apart. Atim and other team members conducted fatigue tests, which required repetitive pulling, and tests to determine the breaking point for the rebars and connectors. They also studied the behaviors of connectors in concrete beams and slabs. At the end of the summer, the team detailed its findings in a lengthy report to PennDOT.

Harries is quick to point out that his research team does not make purchasing recommendations to PennDOT regarding the products it tests. But Pitt research findings are critical to PennDOT’s ongoing quality control and assurance objectives, he says.

For his work in Harries’ lab, Atim received a Best Summer Research Project award from the Pitt engineering school’s Excellence in Engineering (EXCEL) program.

As Atim’s mentor, Harries talked with the younger man about potential graduate school and professional opportunities.

“Bem was really trying to figure out what he was going to do [with his career], and we had long talks about what he wanted,” Harries says. “I wanted to give him an opportunity to see what graduate school would be like, and he worked out very well.”

Atim says he found that “research is frustrating in the sense that there’s a lot you have to learn on your own. It made me realize just what would be expected of me with research in graduate school.”

For the next two years, though, graduate school will have to wait while Atim teaches high school mathematics in the Chicago area through the Teach for America program, which trains recent college graduates to teach children in low-income urban and rural communities.

Harries hopes that Atim, who graduated from Pitt April 29 with the highest grade-point average in his class in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, will return to Pitt’s engineering school as a graduate student once his teaching stint is over.

In the meantime, Harries has no doubts about Atim’s grasp of mathematics and engineering, or his ability to impart that knowledge to others. “I watched him with the other students,” the professor says of Atim. “He knows his stuff.”
NCAA Recertifies Pitt Athletics Program

Pitt scientists create new substance combining characteristics of superconductors and lasers

By Morgan Kelly

Pitt physicists have demonstrated a new form of matter that merges the properties of superconductors and lasers. The work introduces a new method of moving energy from one point to another, Jordan explained. "Jordal's is a low temperature method of producing a light beam like that from a laser." Jordan is an expert in the field of semiconductor surfaces. He has employed electronic structure methods to elucidate the origins of long-range order in materials, and his work has been recognized by his election to the National Academy of Sciences.

The Pitt research builds on efforts in physics laboratories around the world to create materials that mix the characteristics of superconductors and lasers. "Snake's work provides a new method to trap and manipulate the energy particles," Jordan said. "Snake's work built on previous work in the lab, and it is a new way to trap and manipulate the energy particles." Jordan is a member of Pitt's Petersen Institute of Computational Biology, and director of the Pitt's High Performance Computing Center.

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How Normal Is Smoking? Teens Don’t Know, Pitt Study Reports

By Gloria Kreps

The more a high school student overestimates the percentage of people in the general population who smoke, the more likely he or she will be to smoke, reports a Pitt School of Medicine study. The study identifies three distinct ways to measure "normative beliefs" involving smoking, each of which it found to be significantly related to adolescents' likelihood of smoking. According to the study:

• The more an adolescent perceived that successful and elite people smoked cigarettes, the more likely that adolescent was to smoke;
• The more strongly an adolescent overestimated the percentage of smokers in the general population, the more likely that adolescent was to smoke.

According to the study, 93 percent of high school students overestimate the percentage of people who smoke in the United States, most of them women, cope with stress urinary incontinence (SUI), which is caused by childbirth, menopause, or injury to the bladder, such as running, coughing, or sneezing. SUI is a chronic condition that affects millions of women in the United States, so any new information is welcome. Adolescents have important misconceptions about cigarette smoking that can place them at increased risk for smoking.

More than 1,200 high school students who participated in the study were assigned normative belief scores based on their responses to survey items. Students responded as to whether they agreed or disagreed with statements like, "Most successful business people smoke cigarettes at least once a month" and "My favorite celebrities probably smoke cigarettes at least once a month." The students also responded to "perceived disapproval" statements such as, "According to most people my age, it is very important for me not to smoke cigarettes."

Finally, students were asked what percentage of U.S. high school students and adults they thought smoked at least once each month.

The study was funded by the Maurice Falk Foundation and Tobacco-Free Allegheny. Primack's research currently is supported by the National Cancer Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Study results were published in the May issue of the Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine.

Injection of Stem Cells From a Woman's Own Muscle May Be Effective Long-term Treatment for Urinary Incontinence

By Clare Collins

Women with stress urinary incontinence (SUI) who receive injections of muscle-derived stem cells to strengthen their bladder muscles achieve long-term improvements in their condition, according to a study led by researchers in Pitt's School of Medicine and the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto.

The study, which followed patients for more than one year, suggests that the approach is safe, improves patients' quality of life and may be an effective treatment for SUI.

"This clinical trial is extremely encouraging, given that 13 million people in the United States, most of them women, cope with stress urinary incontinence," said Michael B. Chancellor, the study's senior author and a professor of urology and gynecology in Pitt's medical school. "We're demonstrating for the first time that we may be able to offer people with SUI a long-term and minimally invasive treatment option."

Previous studies in animal models of SUI at Pitt demonstrated that injecting stem cells into the urethral muscles increases leak-point pressure, leading to the restoration of the deficient muscles. The results of these studies formed the basis for the clinical trial.

In the study, scientists at the Sunnybrook Research Institute took biopsies of skeletal muscle tissue from eight female patients and isolated and expanded the stem cells from the tissue in culture. In an outpatient setting, the patients then received injections of the muscle-derived stem cells into the area surrounding the urethra. Each patient received an equal dose of stem cell injections using three different injection techniques—a transurethral injection with either an 8-millimeter- or 10-millimeter needle or a periurethral injection.

Five of the eight participating women reported improvement in bladder control and quality of life with no serious short- or long-term adverse effects one year after the initial treatment. These improvements were associated with both the 10-mm needle injections and the periurethral injections, which allowed the investigators to deliver the stem cells close to the damaged sphincter muscle. The 8-mm needle was not able to deliver the muscle stem cells deep enough into the tissue to reach the sphincter.

A multicenter study in Canada and another study in the United States are under way and will allow researchers to determine the optimal dose of muscle stem cells needed to effectively treat SUI.

Women with SUI involuntarily leak urine during activities that put pressure on the bladder, such as running, coughing, sneezing, and laughing. Stress incontinence is caused by childbirth, menopause, or pelvic surgery and is most often diagnosed in women during middle age.

Results of the Pitt-Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre study were presented at the annual meeting of the American Urological Association last week in San Diego.

Rich in Antioxidants, Green Tea May Protect Against Bladder Inflammation

By Clare Collins

Green tea may protect against bladder inflammation, according to a Pitt School of Medicine study.

Green tea is rich in powerful antioxidants that make it a possible remedy for many medical conditions. It is made up of catechins—plant metabolites that provide it with many antioxidative properties.

"We discovered that catechins found in green tea protected both normal and cancerous bladder cells from inflammation when we exposed the cells to hydrogen peroxide," said Michael B. Channellier, a Pitt professor of urology and gynecology. "Although further studies are needed, these results indicate herbal supplements from green tea could be a treatment option for various bladder conditions that are caused by injury or inflammation.

In the Pitt study, normal and cancerous bladder cells were exposed to two major catechin components of green tea, epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG) and epicatechin gallate (ECG), for 23 hours. Both significantly protected cell lines from exposure to hydrogen peroxide, which damages or kills cells. The concentrations of EGCG and ECG used in the study were at levels that may be achieved through dietary intake.

Approximately 10 million American adults have problems controlling their bladders. Bladder disease affects both men and women and can include incontinence or interstitial cystitis, a chronic inflammatory condition that causes frequent, urgent, and painful urination and pelvic discomfort.

Pitt researchers presented their green tea study during the annual meeting of the American Urological Association in New Orleans last week. The study was funded by the Fishbein Family CURE-IC Program.
Awards & More

Pitt’s Maddy Ross Recounts How Pittsburgh’s Biggest Newspaper Went From Ordinary to Pulitzer Prize-winning

In accepting the President’s Award—a lifetime achievement honor—during the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania’s annual Golden Quill Awards dinner May 14, Pitt Associate Vice Chancellor Madelyn “Maddy” Ross recalled joining the Pittsburgh Press as a 22-year-old reporter and encountering what she called that now-defunct newspaper’s “utterly talented, understated, and profoundly miserable senior staff.”

“The Press at that time was successful by every commercial measure, but except for a few heroic personal efforts, there was little staff motivation to raise the quality of the journalism,” said Ross, who would go on to serve as managing editor of The Press and, following its 1993 demise, of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. “Day in and day out, the collective performance in the newsroom was mostly mediocrity, and the mood was at best flat and, sometimes, bitter.”

Feeling herself “being sucked into the abyss” and not wanting to leave her hometown (“apparently being the only young person in say, a millennial, who didn’t want to flee” Pittsburg, she quipped), Ross proposed to her editors the idea of starting a writers’ lunch—a once-a-week, brown-bag, everyone-invited, check-your-titles—free day during which they’d talk about how to improve their writing and speak the truth about their newspaper’s culture and performance.

“Even with the specter of union organizing rising in front of them,” Ross said, the editors approved her idea.

Ten minutes into the first writers’ lunch, however, as Ross and her colleagues were admiring the elegant details in a feature story by Gay Talese, a basso-profundo voiced raised an inchoate truth—“Excuse me,” said staff writer Larry Walsh. “We wouldn’t be allowed to write like this even if we knew how. We have rules at The Press against everything—rules against using brand names, against sentence fragments, against three-sentence paragraphs, rules against mentioning snakes and popes and pregnancy and dwarfs and the existence of television…”

The 14 staffers at that lunch decided that, to break out of their rut, they would have to violate The Press restrictive writing rules. “For the next seven days, the editors flaked madly to catch our mercurial freedom from scuttling all over the newspaper, and they saved us from ourselves. But a few of our experiments made it through, and all of us, everyone, lived to tell about it,” Ross remembered.

“The next week, 20 staffers showed up for the writers’ lunch, and that time we talked about why we don’t do more investigative reporting, why we talk about the Steelers game but not our Steelers coverage, why we use photographers like cub drunks, why we only set foot in the Hill District when someone gets shot there, and why the hell don’t we have a parking lot? We were telling the truth loud and without fear.”

“Every week, we outgrew the size of the previous week’s meeting room. Before long, some 50 folks were crammed into the session, editors and mail clerks, sports columnists and serenities and the old god-awful guy who made a living, turning on, talking to, all telling about how we could get better.”

Then one day Ross and her colleagues turned around and they noticed, winning national recognition that included two Pulitzer Prizes. “We were on our way, coming right out of mediocrity,” Ross said. “No greater infusion of energy, no huge increase in staff, just truth and ideas. The mood was electric, even if the typewriters weren’t.”

Two decades later, the paper’s owners pulled the plug on The Press following an eight-month strike that had shut down both The Press and its longtime rival, the Post-Gazette. The PC bought out The Press, and Ross was named the paper’s managing editor. Since August 2005, she has been associate vice chancellor for national media relations in Pitt’s Office of Public Affairs.

To read the full text of Ross’ President’s Award speech— including her recollections of confronting headstrong Press executives and a mob of angry Teamsters during the 1993-94 strike—visit www.chronicle.pitt.edu.

Also during the Golden Quill Awards dinner, the Pitt Graduate Newsroom’s winning student newspaper category for stories by John Harvith, Bruce Steele, and Patricia Lomando White. Bay Steele

Studies Best Paper Prize for research on the Pittsburgh Public Schools. Their paper, titled “Social Capital and Organizational Performance: Evidence From Urban Public Schools,” was published in the May-June 2006 issue of Organization Science. The researchers looked at improving student achievement in urban school systems, and the question, “What is it to like work here?”

Leana, the lead author of the paper, and Pitt examined internal social capital (relationship among teachers) and external social capital (relationships between the principal and external stakeholders) in 88 Pittsburgh public schools to determine their effects on student achievement. The results of the research indicate that positive relations within the groups (social capital) can predict improved student achievement in mathematics and reading. The researchers concluded that the pursuit of improving schools and student achievement has overemphasized such mechanisms as recruitment and experience while not giving enough attention to social interaction among teachers.

Harvey White

Rever White, professor of public and urban affairs and international development in Pitt’s Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, has been elected president of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), a national association based in Washington, D.C. ASPA, established in 1939, represents the public service arena, and the group’s 9,500 members serve as advocates for greater effectiveness in government.

In addition to serving as a Pitt faculty member, White leads the University of Southern Alabama Center for Healthy Communities, which coordinates community education, research, public service, and health activities.

Megan Spence, an assistant professor of chemistry in Pitt’s School of Arts and Sciences, has received a $5,000 award to further her burgeon-

Austria Honors Pitt’s Vivian Curran for Her Work on Holocaust Settlement Fund Committee

For her service on the Austrian Property Claims Committee—established to help compensate for property losses resulting from Nazi Germany’s annexation of Austria from 1938 to 1945—Pitt Professor of Law Vivian Curran has received one of the Austrian government’s highest honors.

Curran was awarded the Grand Decoration of Merit in Gold for Services Rendered to the Republic of Austria during a state luncheon and decoration ceremony May 2 at Pitt’s William Pitt Union. Evan Nowotny, Austrian ambassador to the United States, presented Curran with the decoration.

The Powe award is meant to help compensate for property losses resulting from Nazi annexation. Austria created the compensation fund and the committee and passed a law enabling the boards of victims to claim compensation for property losses.

During the May 2 ceremony here, Curran said that “while no one can change what happened in the past, what Austria is doing today—or compensate survivors of the Nazi era—is also a part of history.” Nowotny noted regretfully that “history cannot be healed with a neat bow” but emphasized the Austrian government’s acceptance of responsibility and its efforts to make amends to victims of the Nazi era.

Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg, in his opening remarks during the ceremony, pointed out that Nowotny “is no stranger to Pitt,” having lectured here 20 years ago and returned in 2004 as part of the Distinguished Visitors and Scholars program sponsored by the University’s European Union Center of Excellence and European Studies Center. Nordenberg also recalled meeting with Curran 18 years ago, when he was dean at Pitt’s School of Law, to discuss her hiring as an instructor of legal writing and analysis here.

“Today, Professor Curran is widely regarded to be one of this country’s leading comparative law and Holocaust scholars and an expert in property and restitutive law,” the chancellor said.

Curran’s current scholarship works deals with the effects of globalization on law. In her work, she has lectured on the role of law, especially in courts, in situations of constitutional crisis, as well as in Germany after Hitler came to power and in Vichy, France. Curran’s knowledge of U.S. estate law was essential to her role on the Austrian Property Claims Committee because many claimants were heirs and legatees of victims who had died in the United States.

Curran’s fluency in German and French was an asset to her committee work because the meetings were conducted in German. A native speaker of English and French, Curran created the Pitt law school’s Languages for Lawyers program, in which students study foreign languages in a legal context, and is English for Lawyers, in which foreign lawyers study English in a legal context.


—By Patricia Lemonds White

Awards & More

Continued from Page 6

ing research at Pitt. The 2007 Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Awards were presented to several junior faculty members across the country by the Oak Ridge Associated Universities, a consortium promoting research through academic, governmental, and industrial partnerships. The Powe award is meant to help young researchers such as Spence secure future funding by developing their research at an early stage. George Klinzing, Pitt vice provost for research, presented Spence with the award. Pitt will match the award amount.

Sean-Michael Green—a successful entrepreneur and former Marine—has been named the new assistant dean of Pitt’s College of General Studies (CGS). He will provide strategic leadership in developing academic programs and online education for CGS, which is geared toward the nontraditional student.

Green is completing a master’s degree in public management at Carnegie Mellon University. He holds a JD degree from Cornell University’s School of Law, a master’s degree from the University of Pennsylvania, and a bachelor’s degree from Pitt’s University Honors College.

Green created an Internet-based educational service company and was CEO of Memories RPA Inc.—an enterprise that converts analog images to digital. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and Reserves for 12 years and has been a mentor and instructor for young people in the academic, military, and business worlds.

He is the author of Marching to College: Turning Military Experience into College Admission (Random House, 2004).

Emil M. Spadafore Jr. has been elected chair of the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville (UPT) Advisory Board. Spadafore had previously served as vice chair of the board, which is made up of local and regional representatives who serve as advocates for UPT and as advisors to the campus’ president.

Spadafore earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at Pitt in 1971 and his JD degree from Duquesne University’s School of Law in 1976. He has been a partner in the law firm of Thomas, Spadafore, Walker, and Keenan in Meadville since 1989. For the past six years, Spadafore has served as an adjunct faculty member at UPT, teaching courses in business law, introduction to criminal justice, critical thinking, introduction to criminology, courts and the law, and law and politics.

Amin Kassam has been appointed chair of the Department of Neurological Surgery at Pitt’s School of Medicine. He is the first new chair for the department in 21 years and the first chair to chair two departments at Pitt for dedicated neurosurgical techniques in endonasal brain surgery.

The American Filtration and Separations Society has presented its Lifetime Achievement Award to Shio-Hung Chiang, one of the nation’s leading experts in fluid particle processing and separation technologies and their applications to energy and environmental systems. Chiang is a professor emeritus in Pitt’s Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering.

The Oak Ridge Associated Universities’ (ORAU) Board of Directors has added Gerald D. Holder—Pitt’s U.S. Steel Dean of Engineering and a professor of chemical and petroleum engineering—as a director. The ORAU board provides continuity and fiduciary oversight of the organization’s operations for its membership.

ORAU has a long and rich tradition of facilitating scientific exchange between government, academic, and industry, said Holder. “I believe such partnering is critical to the future of America’s technical leadership and am proud to have been selected to assist with the leadership of this vital organization.”

ORAU is a university consortium leveraging the scientific strength of 98 of the nation’s leading institutions for advanced science and education by partnering with national laboratories, government agencies, and private industry.
May 29 Lecture, “Finding Restriction Modification Systems: Con- 
apulations.” Richard J. Roberts, chief 
scientific officer, New England 
BioLabs and winner of the 1993 
Nobel Prize in Physiology or 
Medicine, 10:45 a.m., Schenck 
Hall’s Auditorium 6, Senior Vice 
Chancellor’s Laureate Lecture 
Series, 4-634-3333.

Musical Performance, “Song of 
the Lodz Ghetto,” interweaving 
new Yiddish songs with music 
created from 1940 to 1944 in the 
Jewish ghetto of Lodz, Poland; 
Brave Old World quartet, 7:30 p.m., 
Jewish Community Center, 5778 Forbes Ave., 
Squirrel Hill, 4-394-5333.

Theatrical Performance, 
“Evangelical Protestantism and the 
Nineteenth-century Origins of Contemp- 
orary Writing Instruction,” 2 p.m., 4314 Posvar 
Hall. For more information, send 
a title and a phone number and Web 
site to chron@pitt.edu. 

Film Screening, “Bad Education,” 
adapted from the poetry of 
Michael Ondaatje, 8 p.m., Garden 
Patio, University Center. 
For more information, call 4-394- 
5333 or visit film.pitt.edu.

Workshop, “Comparing the Roles 
of Professors Kuma in Using High 
Throughput Functional Screens,” 
Edward E. Harlow, professor 
and chair of Harvard Medical 
School’s Department of 
Biological Chemistry and Molecular 
Biology, noon, Heinz Hall’s Auditorium 6, Senior Vice 
Chancellor’s Laureate Lecture 
Series, 4-383-7382.

PhD Dissertation Defense by 
Feng Dai, Pitt Department of 
Biostatistics, “Vector Component Models in 
Statistical Genetics: Extensions and 
Applications,” 1 p.m., 4252 Crabbie Hall.

Workshop, “Introduction to 
Quantitative Methods in Public Health,” 
10 a.m., 4127 Social Sciences. 
For more information, call 4-394-6140.

PhD Dissertation Defense by 
Brenda Marguerite Glascott, 
Pitt Department of English, “The 
Ends of Literacy Education: 
Evangelical Protestantism and the 
Nineteenth-century Origins of 
Contemporary Writing Instruction,” 2 p.m., 4252 Crabbie Hall.

Film Screening, “Free 
Education,” 8:30-10 a.m., Fort 
Jackson Building, Suite 150, 
19 S. Washington St., Waynes- 
burg, Pa., Pitt’s Small Business 
Development Center; to register, 
4-648-1542.

Theatrical Performance, 
“The Collected Works of Billy the Kid,” 
adapted from the poetry of 
Nelson Algren, directed by 
Michel Rubfirst, 5 p.m., 
Rutgers Theatre, 12 W. North Ave., North 
Shore, Pennsylvania, 4-697- 

Theatrical Performances, 
Fourth Annual Pittsburgh Pride 
Theatre Festival, showcasing 
LGBT-themed plays by local 
playwrights, 8 p.m., through 
June 24, 542 Penn Ave., 
downtown, Pittsburgh Playwrights 
Theatre Company, 4-288- 

PHD DISSENTATION DEFENSES

pitt.edu.

June 6

Healthy Aging Classes, 
free classes for adults age 50 and 
older, 9-11 a.m. every Tuesday for 
four weeks, CCAC North Hills 
Campus, 8700 Perry Highway, 
Pittsburgh Center for Healthy 
Aging, 4-388-1312, www.healthyaging. 
pitt.edu.

June 5

Healthy Aging Classes, 
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Campus, 8700 Perry Highway, 
Pittsburgh Center for Healthy 
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pitt.edu.

June 4

Workshop, “The First Step: 
Mechanisms of Starting a Small 
Business,” 8:30-10 a.m., Fort 
Jackson Building, Suite 150, 
19 S. Washington St., Waynes- 
burg, Pa., Pitt’s Small Business 
Development Center; to register, 
4-648-1542.

Film Screening, “Bad Education,” 
8 p.m., 1501 Posvar Hall, Pitt 
Film Studies Program’s Films of 
Pedro Almodóvar series, tla@ 
pitt.edu or cks@pitt.edu.

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