Larry Davis Is Recipient of the 2007 Affirmative Action Award

Larry Davis, dean of the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work and founder and director of Pitt’s Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP), has been selected as the recipient of the 2007 Chancellor’s Affirmative Action Award.

The inaugural holder of Pitt’s Donald M. Henderson Professorship, Davis created CRSP, the first research center on race at any school of social work in the nation, shortly after he arrived at the University in 2001. The center and its programs look at how race affects economic and education gaps, relations between groups of people, mental health, criminal justice, youth and families, and the elderly. As School of Social Work dean, Davis has recruited to the University faculty who conduct research on race, and he has encouraged other Pitt schools and departments to do the same.

Davis has established faculty research advisory panels, made up of more than 40 Pitt faculty who share research interests and collaborate on publishing and other activities. He has established programs to mentor faculty from traditionally underrepresented groups and launched a successful CRSP lecture series as well as summer institutes. Three new courses aimed at educating students on racial issues have been added to the social work curriculum, and Davis is creating the new Journal on Race and Social Problems.

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By Sharon S. Blake

Pitt Professor Awarded ILO’s Inaugural Decent Work Research Prize

Pitt’s Carmelo Mesa-Lago shares honor with Nobel Peace Laureate Nelson Mandela

By Amanda Leff

University of Pittsburgh Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Economics and Latin American Studies Carmelo Mesa-Lago is a recipient of the inaugural International Labour Organization (ILO) Decent Work Research Prize, which he shares with Nobel Peace Laureate Nelson Mandela, former president of the Republic of South Africa.

The prize for extraordinary lifetime contribution to knowledge and understanding of and advocacy for the central concerns of the ILO was awarded to Mesa-Lago in recognition of his major scholarly contributions to the analysis of socio-economic relationships and policy instruments for the advancement of decent work. Throughout the years, Mesa-Lago has had a significant impact on social security and pension reform in Latin America.

The prize, created by the ILO’s International Institute for Labour Studies, will be awarded during the closing plenary of ILO’s International Labour Conference June 15 in Geneva.

Mesa-Lago, a Pitt faculty member since 1967, is a former director of the University’s Center for Latin American Studies, where he founded and edited the journal Cuban Studies. He is the author of more than 60 books and 200 articles published in eight languages in 33 countries.

The Center for Latin American Studies is part of the University Center for International Studies at Pitt.
NORTHERN IRELAND LEADER VISITS

Mark Durkan (center), leader of Northern Ireland’s Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP) in the British House of Commons, visited Pitt May 21 to meet with Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg and participate in a one-hour conversation with Pitt faculty members and administrators on a variety of subjects, including the new jointly administered government in Northern Ireland and its impact on education and research in the province.

Durkan was a key member of the SDLP’s team in the negotiations that led to Northern Ireland’s Good Friday peace agreement.

Pictured in the chancellor’s office are, from left: James J. Lamb, president of the Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh; Alberto Stragala, Pitt professor of political science, director of the University’s European Union Center at Excellence and European Studies Center, and inaugural holder of the Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg University Chair; Durkan; Sheila O’Malley, executive director of SDLP-USA; and Nordenberg Center of Excellence and European Studies Center, and inaugural holder of the Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg University Chair; Durkan; Sheila O’Malley, executive director of SDLP-USA; and Nordenberg.

THE TOAST OF BUDAPEST (AND VIENNA AND...)

The University of Pittsburgh’s Men’s Glee Club is back from a European concert tour last month—the group’s first visit to Europe since 1990. Director Richard Teaster (front, center of the group photo) says the 30-member ensemble’s repertoire of mostly American music was enthusiastically received during its performances in Budapest (pictured above), Vienna, Salzburg, and Prague. “Choral music at its best” was how a reporter described it in the Herrnbaumgarten, Austria, newspaper. Marta Lindop, the club’s tour guide in Hungary, was so impressed she told Teaster she wants to hear the club perform somewhere in the United States next year so impressed she told Teaster she wants to hear the club perform somewhere in the United States next year.

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Continued on Page 3

Beeson Named Vice Provost for Graduate and Undergraduate Studies

By John Harvith

Patricia Beeson—University of Pittsburgh vice provost for graduate studies since May 2004 and interim vice provost for undergraduate studies since January 2006—has been named vice provost for graduate and undergraduate studies at the University, Pitt Provost James V. Maher has announced.

Beeson, who also is a professor of economics in Pitt’s School of Arts and Sciences with a joint appointment in public policy in Pitt’s Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, was formerly associate dean for undergraduate studies in the School of Arts and Sciences.

As the University’s vice provost for graduate studies, Beeson has worked with committees of faculty, staff, and graduate students to establish baseline standards and to review and make recommendations on proposals for new graduate and professional programs. She also is the liaison to the provost’s Advisory Committee on Women’s Concerns, one of several of her activities pertaining to the status of women at Pitt.

As interim vice provost for undergraduate studies, Beeson has worked with committees of faculty, staff, and undergraduate students to review and make recommendations on proposals for new undergraduate programs. She also is chair of the provost’s Advisory Committee on Undergraduate Education and cochairs the Enrollment Management Committee with Vice Provost and Dean of Students Kathy Humphrey. Most recently, she has led the University’s efforts in learning outcomes assessment.

“I have the greatest confidence that Dr. Beeson will continue to provide energetic, thoughtful, and effective academic leadership to our graduate, professional, and undergraduate programs at the University of Pittsburgh as we pay special attention to research, scholarship, and strategic assessment of learning outcomes,” said Maher. “Her experience and insight will help us build our existing strengths and focus on critical priorities in our education of students across the University who, like Pitt students before them, will use what

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they have learned here to make significant contributions throughout the nation and around the world."

When she was Arts and Sciences associate dean, Beeson guided the implementation of a new undergraduate curriculum emphasizing a culture in which students engage with faculty in the scholarly activities of the University. She also was responsible for the provision of student services, including the Arts and Sciences Advising Center and Academic Support Center, and she played a lead role in developing quantifiable models of student enrollment, to ensure that students’ educational objectives and ambitions were being met.

Beeson earned the Bachelor of Science degree in economics at Oregon State University in 1977 and the PhD degree in economics at the University of Oregon in 1983. She joined the Pitt faculty as an assistant professor of economics in 1983, was promoted to associate professor in 1990, and to full professor in 2000. She served Pitt’s Department of Economics as director of graduate studies and as a member of the Graduate Committee before serving as Arts and Sciences associate dean.

Pitt’s University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR) has named the eleventh annual Steven D. Manners Faculty Development Awards, established in memory of the civil and environmental engineer who died in September 2000 at age 49. The awards, according to UCSUR director Richard Kittel, are intended to "continue the trend begun by Steve Manners, who was to support faculty members and their research infrastructure at the University."

This year’s awardees are Patricia Isabel Documet, Jeffrey Shook, and Michael Vaughn. Information on them and their projects follows:

**Patricia Isabel Documet**

Assistant professor of behavioral and community health sciences in the Graduate School of Public Health, won her award for a project titled “Groundwork for Testing a Collectivist Approach to Cervical Cancer Screening Among Latinos.”

Latinas and other underrepresented groups are underscreened for cervical cancer, which share a disproportionate burden of disease and death as a result. The project’s research will develop a standardized training curriculum for women who will recruit other women, pilot test measures of social networking, attitudes toward screening among community women, and field a clinic preparation strategy to deliver a collectivist approach to cancer screening. It is important to conduct this research in a “new growth area” such as Western Pennsylvania, because these areas have almost no services addressing cultural differences. If successful, the group visit approach has the potential to deliver culturally competent care and therefore improve compliance with screening recommendations, thus preventing disease and death. This information can be used by researchers, practitioners, public health workers, and Latinos, as well as policymakers and administrators.

**Jeffrey Shook and Michael Vaughn**

Both assistant professors in the School of Social Work, won the award for a project titled “The Back End of the Criminal Justice Process: An Explanatory Study of the Experiences and Outcomes of Juveniles on Adult Probation and Parole.”

Legislative changes over the last several decades have eased the process of treating juveniles as adults in the justice systems. These changes have led to an increasing number of juveniles tried and sentenced as adults. Many of these youth end up receiving a probation or short prison sentence. Using administrative data and probation and parole officer case notes, this pilot project will focus on what happened to them as they engaged in the criminal justice process by examining the pathways that juveniles follow after being transferred to probation or released on parole. This research will both add to existing knowledge concerning the consequences of criminal justice involvement and examine the feasibility of a larger funded project to expand understandings of the experiences and outcomes of juveniles at the back end of the criminal justice process.

UCSUR offers annual awards in two categories: Research Development Grants to support pilot research in the social, behavioral, and policy sciences, and Infrastructure Development Awards aimed at enhancing faculty capabilities to carry out interdisciplinary research in the social, behavioral, and policy sciences. For more information about the Steven D. Manners Faculty Development Awards, contact UCSUR at 412-624-5442.

**Joanne McKeever**

A University Honors College senior majoring in nursing, was named the 2007 Emma W. Locke Award winner during Pitt’s annual Honors Convocation, held during the spring term. McKeever, who had a 3.97 GPA, graduated from Summit School, a local high school.

"Established in 1946 by Charles A. Locke in memory of his mother, the Emma Locke W. Award is presented annually to a graduating senior in recognition of high scholarship, character, and devotion to the ideals of the University. The student must have at least a 3.85 GPA and plan to continue his or her education after graduation.

Also during the Honors Convocation, seniors Andrew E. Youngo, majoring in marketing and communication and rhetorical studies, and Joseph Pasqualehio, majoring in electrical engineering, with a minor in Latin, received the 2007 Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) Senior of the Year Award. ODK, founded in 1914 at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Va., is an honorary society that recognizes students who maintain a high standard of leadership in collegiate activities. The award is given to students who possess and exhibit outstanding leadership qualities in service to the University.

The National Council of Kappa Kappa Psi, the national honorary band fraternity, has awarded Jack R. Anderson, director of bands at Pitt, its Distinguished Service to Music Medal in the Instrumental Music Education category. Anderson received the honor at the Pitt Symphony Band’s annual spring concert, on April 15.

Pitt’s Alpha Omega Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, which was established in 1919 to promote the advancement of college and university bands, nominated Anderson, an alumnus of the band. The award, which recognizes extraordinary accomplishments by those actively supporting college and university bands, was presented to Anderson.

Spadafore has been a partner in the law firm of Jones Day since 1976. He received the Juris Doctor degree from Duquesne University’s School of Law in 1976. He has been a partner in the law firm of Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue since 1989. He is a member of the American Bar Association and the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Fiona Cheong is a professor in the Pitt School of Arts and Sciences’ Department of English, has received a Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA) 2007 Fellowship to further her artistic career. The honor includes a $10,000 grant, which was awarded in honor of her book, A Black Book, which was submitted to Cheong’s unpublished manuscript, titled Chinese Blue.

Established in 1966, PCA has fostered excellence, diversity, and vitality in the arts in Pennsylvania. The council annually awards grants of $5,000 to $10,000 to support outstanding Pennsylvania artists.

Cheong is the cofounder and co-director of the Asian American Writers’ Forum, an organization of graduate and advanced undergraduate students of color within the Pitt community. She teaches contemporary fiction, Asian American and transnational literature, writing pedagogies, and women’s studies at Pitt. Cheong also teaches both graduate and undergraduate fiction workshops. She is a member of Pitt’s Writing Program Committee.

**Emil M. Spadafore Jr.**

has been elected chair of the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville (UP) Advisory Board. Spadafore has 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 Juris Doctor 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, constitutional law, introduction to criminology, courts and the law, society and the law, and law and politics.

**John S. Lazo,** director of Pitt’s Drug Discovery Institute and a founding Professor of Pharmacology, has received the Dean’s Teaching Excellence Award from the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.
Theatrical Performance, American Humbug by Lynn Conner; Pitt associate professor of theater arts, directed by Bruce McConachie, chair of Pitt’s theater arts department, through June 15; part of Pittsburgh’s Three Rivers Arts Festival, 9:30 Liberty Ave., Downtown, www.artsfestival.com.


Student Art Exhibitions, Accomplishments 25, through July 6, MCG Gallery, 1815 Metropolitan St., Northside, and Collective Fusion; a collabora


Art Exhibition, Glassmasters, through July 19, Pittsburgh Glass Center, 117 Sandusky St., Downtown, 412-325-7232.

Exhibitions, Metamorphosis: The Life Cycle of a Glass Bead, through July 14; Seal Soldiers: African Americans and the Viet Nam Era, through Oct. 31; Points in Time, through Dec. 31; Glass: Shattering Notions, through Dec. 31; and Discovery Place, through Dec. 31; Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center, 2152 Smallman St., Strip District, 412-434-4000, www.phghistory.org.


June 12 PhD Dissertation Defense by Monica Solinas, Pitt Department of Sociology, “Precursors of Intimate Partner Abuse: Drawing Upon Three Theoretical Perspectives,” noon, 2431 Pohier Hall.


Film Screening, Sahara, directed by Breck Eisner, dusk, Schenley Park’s Flagstaff Hill, Citiparks’ Cinema in the Park Series.

June 14 Film Screening, ‘Ratatouille,’ 8:30 p.m., 1501 Pohier Hall, Pitt Film Studies Program’s Films of Pedro Almodovar series, fall14@pitt.edu or cs1@pitt.edu.


June 15 Film Screening, Flower of My Secret, 8 p.m., 1501 Pohier Hall, Pitt Film Studies Program’s Films of Pedro Almodovar series, fall14@pitt.edu or cs1@pitt.edu.

June 17 Volunteer Opportunity to register participants for the 84th Annually the Warhol Cancer Run and Walk, 6-10 a.m., River Front Park near Heinz Field, North Side; Pitt Volunteer Pool, 412-624-7709, www.pitt.edu/~govtrel/volunteer.


Film Screening, Bad Education, 7:30 p.m., 1501 Pohier Hall, Pitt Film Studies Program’s Films of Pedro Almodovar series, fall14@pitt.edu or cs1@pitt.edu.

June 18 Film Screening, Matador, 9 p.m., 1501 Pohier Hall. Pitt Film Studies Program’s Films of Pedro Almodovar series, fall14@pitt.edu or cs1@pitt.edu.


June 20 Pittsburgh Staff Association Council Meeting, noon, 1175 Benedum Hall, www.pitt.edu/~sac.

June 21 Film Screening, Flower of My Secret, 8 p.m., 1501 Pohier Hall, Pitt Film Studies Program’s Films of Pedro Almodovar series, fall14@pitt.edu or cs1@pitt.edu.


Good Friday at the Warhol National Park’s Flagstaff Hill, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Late hours and cash bar, 117 Sandusky St., North Side, 412-217-8300, www.warhol.org.

June 24 Film Screening, Akeelah and the Bee, directed by Doug Atchison, dusk, Schenley Park’s Flagstaff Hill, Citiparks’ Cinema in the Park Series, 412-937-3039.

June 26 PhD Dissertation Defense by Ashley Carrier, Pitt Department of Sociology, “The Visibility of Sexual Minority Movement Organizations in South Africa and Namibia,” 11 a.m., 2431 Pohier Hall.

June 27 PhD Dissertation Defense by Minlu Wang, Pitt Department of Biostatistics, Graduate School of Public Health, “An Adaptive Bayesian Approach to Joint Modeling Response and Toxicity in Phase I Clinical Trials,” 10:30 a.m., A272 Columbia Hall, CGSP.

Film Screening, Lady in the Water, directed by M. Night Shyamalan, dusk, Schenley Park’s Flagstaff Hill, Citiparks’ Cinema in the Park Series, 412-937-3039.

June 28 Film Screening, Matador, 9 p.m., 1501 Pohier Hall. Pitt Film Studies Program’s Films of Pedro Almodovar series, fall14@pitt.edu or cs1@pitt.edu.

June 29 Farmers’ Market, 3:30-6 p.m., every Friday, Soldiers Home Goodwood Street and Meyran Avenue, Oakland, Business Improvement District, 412-683-6243, www.onlyinkland.org.


PUBLICATION NOTICE: The next edition of the Pitt Chronicle will be published June 25. The deadline for submitting information is 5 p.m. June 20. Items for publication in the Pitt Chronicle, including informa
tion for Happenings, should be submitted to chron@pitt.edu. Happenings items should include the following informa
tion: title of the event, name and title of speaker(s), date, time, location, sponsor(s), and a phone number and Web site for additional informa
tion. Items also may be faxed to 412-624-4895 or sent by campus mail to 422 Craig Hall. For more information, call 412-624-8103.