By Kelli McElhinny
and Karen Hoffmann

Four scientists doing ground-breaking research in areas ranging from brain development to alternative fuel sources will give plenary lectures in Pitt’s Alumni Hall Auditorium during Science2006: Feel the Power, the University’s sixth annual festival of scientific discovery, Oct. 5-6.

The free, public program also will include spotlight sessions presented by scientists from Pitt and Carnegie Mellon University, a technology showcase highlighting recent inventions now available for licensing, a career development workshop for emerging scientists, and various networking and social events.

“The power of science thrives at the University of Pittsburgh and throughout the region,” said Arthur S. Levine, Pitt senior vice chancellor and Karen Hoffmann
Tobias Memorial Service Scheduled for Oct. 10 in Heinz Memorial Chapel

A memorial service for Pitt English Professor Richard C. Tobias is scheduled for 2 p.m. Oct. 10 in Heinz Memorial Chapel. A reception will follow in 501 Cathedral of Learning.

Nocturnal Wanderer to Open Pitt Rep Season

Nobel Laureate Gao Xingjian’s haunting tale, Nocturnal Wanderer, will open the University of Pittsburgh Repertory Theatre’s 2006-07 season with a preview performance at 8 p.m. Oct. 4 in the Studio Theater, located in the basement (B-72) of the Cathedral of Learning. The production will continue through Oct. 15.

In the play, a man wandering the streets of urban China in the middle of the night is confronted by a prostitute, a homeless man, and a thief. When the prostitute is found murdered, the blame shifts to the wanderer.

“Nocturnal Wanderer is not a story, but a dream. It is a dream about restlessness, isolation, brutality, and blame,” said Stage and Spike Wilson. “Sometimes in plot but powerful in meaning, Xingjian’s play encourages human detachment from violence as an acceptable reality, as a regularity in life. Once that detachment is achieved, a dream state, in which reality fluctuates, becomes a powerful exploratory tool. As perceptions shift, we can see the mechanisms, the source, the root of human violence, and come a step closer to ending it.”

For ticket information, call 412-624-PLAY (7529) or visit www.play.pitt.edu.

Poet Gabeba Baderoon To Give Reading Here

Poet Gabeba Baderoon will give a free public reading as part of the Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series at 8:30 p.m. Oct. 4 in 501 Cathedral of Learning.

An internationally renowned poet, Baderoon grew up in Crawford and Cape Town, Pennsylvania. Baderoon has received numerous honors and awards, including the 2005 DaimlerChrysler Award for South African Poetry. She has held fellowships at the African Gender Institute at the University of Cape Town, Pennsylvania State University, and the Oxford Institute for Islamic Studies.

The Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series, which runs through April 4, is cosponsored by the Wyndham Garden Hotel-University Place and Pitt’s Book Center, University of Pittsburgh Press, and Creative Nonfiction and Film Studies programs.

The survey on behalf of the All Allegheny Conference’s Office of the Allegheny Conference could be used to develop a comprehensive model of the transportation system in Oakland.

A Sept. 12 letter to the University community stated that the survey could be accessed through the myPittCard Portal. Quicker access is now available: Simply visit www.pitt.edu/trafficsurvey.

Pitt is facilitating the survey on behalf of the Allegheny Conference’s Office of the Allegheny Conference.

Poet Gabeba Baderoon

Gabeba Baderoon, a South African poet, is coordinating this project with the Carnegie Mellon University, the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, UPMC, the Heinz Endowments, and the Richard King Mellon Foundation. The survey, being conducted by Trans Associates in cooperation with the Allegheny Conference, is part of a series of surveys designed to create new transit options based on existing traffic patterns and the projected growth of Oakland’s economy.

UCCLA Professor to Give Lecture on “The Jewish Question and the Crisis of Postcolonial Culture”

Aamir Mufti, an associate professor of comparative literature at the University of California, Los Angeles, will deliver a free public lecture titled “The Jewish Question and the Crisis of Postcolonial Culture” at 4 p.m. Oct. 5 in 501 Cathedral of Learning. Pitt Distinguished Professor Paul A. Bové, editor of the Pitt literary journal boundary 2, is coordinating this event.

Mufti specializes in colonial and postcolonial literature, with a primary focus on India and Britain and 20th-century Urdu literature. His scholastic interests lie in Marxism and aesthetics, genre theory, canonization, minority cultures, exile and displacement, the cultural politics of Jewish identity in Western Europe, human rights, refugees and the right to asylum, modernism and fascism, language conflicts, and the history of anthropology.

Published by Duke University Press, boundary 2 is an international journal of literature and culture, available in print or online. Primary funding of its Pitt-based editorial office comes from Pitt School of Arts and Sciences’ Dean N. John Cooper.

From Northeastern Brazil To U.S. Classrooms

Western Pennsylvanians were developing lessons based on research during University-funded trip

By Amanda Left

One of Kathy Talipan’s more vivid memories of her Pitt-funded trip to Brazil last summer is of the time she and several fellow teachers took a group of orphans to a mall in the town of Recife, where they dined and played video games. “It was such a fulfilling experience to be able to give to kids who have so little,” says Talipan, a middle school Spanish teacher in the Bethel Park School District.

Susan Smith, a reading and math curriculum coach in Phillips Elementary School who formerly taught the students, was watching members of the nongovernmental organization Pro-Crianca teaching Brazilian students the Maracatu, a traditional dance of African origin. “Some students drummed the beat, some danced with enthusiasm, and a few others represented an African king and queen with their court,” Smith says.

Talipan and Smith were among the dozen K-12 teachers from Western Pennsylvania who participated in a teacher-training program in Brazil last summer, thanks to Pitt’s Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS).

The program was funded by a $82,000 grant to CLAS from the U.S. Department of Education’s Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad program. The trip was a major component of the CLAS outreach program called “Northeastern Brazilian Style, People, Culture, and History.” CLAS, one of 18 National Research Centers on Latin America as designated by the U.S. Department of Education, seeks to affected the project research and collect materials to be used in the design of interdisciplinary lessons and activities. These lessons will eventually be integrated into U.S. middle and high school world language and social studies classrooms.

Prior to departing for the Brazilian states of Pernambuco and Bahia, participating teachers attended a Pitt-sponsored seminar during which they were introduced to Brazilian Portuguese and cultural aspects of Northeastern Brazil. Also during the seminar, a curriculum design specialist guided teachers in selecting research projects to pursue during their trip. Project topics, which will be incorporated into lesson plans, ranged from “faith to the history of slavery to current living conditions of African Brazilians.”

After arriving in Olinda, Pernambuco, the teachers continued to study Brazilian Portuguese and practiced the language in marketplaces, restaurants, and public libraries. Visits to private and public schools gave the teachers opportunities to meet with people who play vital roles in education in Northern Brazil, including Mozart Neves Ramos, the Secretary of Education for the state of Pernambuco, and Thereza Maria Paes Barreto dos Santos, administrator of Ginasio Pernambucano, a model school.
Surprising Milestone: Cloned Mice Created From Fully Differentiated Cells

Studies discover that differentiated cells are more efficient than stem cells for somatic-cell nuclear transfer

By Lisa Rossi

New research dismisses the notion that adult stem cells are necessary for successful animal cloning, proving instead that cells that have completely evolved to a specific type not only can be used for cloning purposes, but they may be a better and more efficient starting point.

As proof, researchers report they created two mouse pups from a type of blood cell that itself is incapable of dividing to produce a second generation of its own kind.

This is the first demonstration that an animal can be derived directly from a fully differentiated cell, report lead researchers Tao Cheng of Pitt and Xiangzhong Yang of the University of Connecticut in the textbook Nature Genetics.

Moreover, they say, results of their study provide compelling evidence that Dolly the sheep and other mammals cloned by somatic-cell nuclear transfer were most likely derived from fully differentiated cells—not adult stem cells, as most have argued in the nine years since Dolly was cloned.

Because stem cells can self-renew and differentiate into any specialized cell type, they have been heralded for their promise for treating a variety of diseases and conditions. Yet, even for cloning of an embryo to the blastocyst stage—from which embryonic stem cells can be generated—adult stem cells have yielded disappointing results, with success rates in the range of 1 to 5 percent.

Somatic-cell nuclear transfer (SCNT), the scientific term for cloning, involves creating an embryo by using a nucleus that’s been removed from a somatic cell (any cell other than a reproductive cell) and transplanting it into an unfertilized egg that has had its chromosomes removed. Because the resulting new embryo contains the entire genome of the donor somatic cell, it is an exact copy. This cloned embryo is then implanted into a surrogate mother, and, if the process is successful, is carried to term.

In their studies, the researchers compared the efficiency for cloning mice using a fully differentiated blood cell called a granulocyte with its ancestor cells at different stages: hematopoietic stem cells, which are found in bone marrow and give rise to all red and white blood cells, and progenitor cells. Granulocytes are well-differentiated cells as nuclear donors. To the contrary, we found that cloned pups can be produced from adult, fully differentiated somatic cells, a conclusion that goes against popular opinion and current hypotheses,” said Yang, animal science professor, director of the University of Connecticut’s Center for Regenerative Biology, and co-corresponding author of the study. Previous attempts by scientists to produce animal clones directly from fully differentiated B cells, T cells, and neurons had failed beyond the blastocyst stage. Only with a second step that involved combining the blastocyst with a fertilized egg, which produces what biologists call a chimera, or by performing another nuclear transfer using the embryonic stem cells derived from these blastocysts, could “cloned” pups be produced. Even so, other researchers have countered these results are not bona fide clones because they possess chromosomes that are not identical to those of the donor.”

Since Dolly, animal cloning using adult cells has been accomplished in more than a dozen mammalian species, but the process is highly inefficient. Even if the reconstructed eggs survive to the blastocyst stage, only a handful, at most, of these result in live young when implanted into a female.

Many have attributed cloning’s limited success to a theory that clones must be derived from adult stem cells, which reside in a specific area of each tissue and remain quiescent until they are activated by the presence of disease or tissue injury. Yet, if this were true, Cheng and Yang point out, the results of their studies would have found the adult stem cells to be more efficient than the other, more differentiated cells.

“Of the 1,828 nuclear transfers we performed with stem cells, very few could develop to the blastocyst stage and not one clone was produced,” Yang noted. “With such odds, it is hard to believe that Dolly and other cloned animals could have possibly been derived from adult stem cells. Much more likely is that these animals were derived from fully differentiated tissue cells.”

While more research is needed to determine if what they found with hematopoietic cells will be true for cells of other tissue types, the investigators say the current studies may have important implications for regenerative medicine, since stem cells have been hailed for their promise for treating a variety of diseases and conditions. Yet, even for cloning of an embryo to the blastocyst stage—from which embryonic stem cells can be generated—adult stem cells have yielded disappointing results, with success rates in the range of 1 to 5 percent.

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Calling the disparity in classroom performance between Black and White students in America “the most complex, serious, politically and emotionally charged issue of our time,” Pittsburgh Public School Superintendent Mark Roosevelt told a Pitt audience last week that parents, educators, and future teachers and social workers must work together to raise the academic achievement levels of Black as well as White students in city schools.

“This economy is relentlessly cruel to those who are undereducated,” said Roosevelt, whose Sept. 26 lecture kicked off the Pitt Center on Race and Social Problems’ Buchanan Ingersoll and Rooney Fall 2006 Speaker Series.

While many White students are underachieving, too, the numbers on African American student performance in U.S. public schools are “just plain depressing,” Roosevelt said. For example, only 13 percent of Black fourth graders nationally are performing at or above the literacy levels for their grade, he noted.

Racism, poor-quality schools, teachers’ differing expectations of Black and White students, and students’ home environments all may be working against African American students, according to the superintendent. An urban youth culture that “emphasizes swagger more than it does work” also is “hugely debilitating,” he said.

Roosevelt, who became superintendent of Pittsburgh Public Schools in August 2005, pledged to provide immediate help to students when they begin to fall behind academically and to create smaller classes for high school underclassmen, among other initiatives. “If we don’t put the full force of our intellectual and monetary assets behind this issue” of improving public education in the United States, he declared, “it will be the issue that brings this country down.”

—Sharon S. Blake
Day of Caring 2006

Pitt volunteers painted a playground wall in Hazelwood as part of the 16th annual Pitt-United Way Day of Caring. Some 400 volunteers from the University volunteered for service projects in neighborhoods near Pitt. Sept. 15 was the official date of Pitt’s Day of Caring, but wet weather delayed the playground wall project until Sept. 22.

Constitution Day Panelists Defend Judicial Jurisdiction

During the University’s observation of Constitution Day Sept. 18, Pitt law professor Jules Lobel (above, left) and former federal judges Robert J. Cindrich (to Lobel’s left) and Timothy K. Lewis (not pictured) defended judicial independence and criticized a recent movement in the U.S. Congress to usurp jurisdiction over foreigners held in American custody outside the United States.

“Congress seemed poised to eliminate [the U.S. Supreme Court’s] habeas corpus jurisdiction for U.S. detainees held overseas, which would be inconsistent with Constitutional traditions and values,” Lobel noted.

Habeas corpus reform “is not consistent with judicial culture. If they can do it with these cases [of aliens held in U.S. custody], they will do it with others,” said Lewis, an attorney with Schnader, Harrison, Segal, and Lewis in Washington, D.C.

Narrowing judicial jurisdiction endangers civil liberties, argued Cindrich, chief legal officer and general counsel for UPMC.

The discussion followed a screening of a documentary titled “A Conversation on the Constitution,” featuring U.S. Supreme Court justices Stephen Breyer and Anthony Kennedy and former justice Sandra Day O’Connor.

—Mary Zangrilli

FORGOTTEN ROOTS

Jerome Branche, a professor and director of graduate studies in the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures in Pitt’s School of Arts and Sciences, facilitated a discussion that accompanied a Sept. 23 screening of La Raiz Olvidada (The Forgotten Roots) in Pittsburgh Filmmakers’ Melwood Screening Room in Oakland. La Raiz Olvidada, which documents the history of Mexico’s often overlooked African populations, was part of Women of Visions, Inc.’s Migrations of the African Diaspora film series.

Cave Canem’s 10th Anniversary Celebrated Here

Pitt English Professor Toi Derricotte (above, right) and fellow poets Terrance Hayes (left) and Nikky Finney (center) discussed African American aesthetics and Cave Canem, the celebrated poetry workshop that Derricotte cofounded, during a Sept. 22 celebration at Pitt of the workshop’s 10th anniversary.

Cave Canem poets don’t answer the question, “Are you a Black poet or are you a poet?” said Derricotte, who observed that racism fragments the ego, while writing heals. Cave Canem poets “have the hunger to get better and to know poetry from all angles,” she said. “It has to do with widening the Black aesthetic in all ways.”

The 10th anniversary celebration also featured an evening poetry performance by The Black Took Collective, which was formed during a Cave Canem workshop in 1999. Black Took members emphasized the importance of not allowing dominant aesthetics to quarantine their work. “The ‘Black aesthetic’ is not a monolith. By virtue of race, we do not know ’X,Y,Z.’ There is no easy system of equivalents,” said Duriel E. Harris, pictured, left, with fellow Black Took member Dawn Lundy Martin.

—Mary Zangrilli
Shown at the 2006 Tina and David Bellet Arts and Sciences Teaching Excellence Award ceremony are (left to right) Regina Schulte-Ladbeck, professor and associate dean of undergraduate studies; Daniel Moss, associate professor in the Department of Computer Science; Anthony Bledsoe, lecturer in the Department of Biological Sciences; Tina and David Bellet; and N. John Cooper, professor and dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.

Bellet Awards Committee Streamlines Process, and Prize Money is Increased

By Carol Mullen

Since the Tina and David Bellet Arts and Sciences Teaching Excellence Awards were established in 1998, 24 faculty members in Pitt’s School of Arts and Sciences have been recognized for teaching innovation and passion, and commitment to students. The honorees represent departments throughout the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences. But while their disciplines vary, they were all judged to be excellent educators by committees of their peers and students.

The month-long call for nominations for the 2007 Bellet Awards begins today. Students and faculty members may submit nominations to the associate dean for Undergraduate Studies Regina Schulte-Ladbeck at 140 Thackery Hall. Faculty members who meet all criteria and who receive three or more nominations will be invited to participate in the first round of review by submitting a dossier.

According to Schulte-Ladbeck, there are some notable changes to this year’s nomination process. Also, the prize money has increased.

“We have moved the call for nominations to October and the request for dossiers to the beginning of November,” she said. “Our hope is that by starting the process earlier in the year, we will provide candidates with more time to assemble their materials before the end of the term.”

The dossier requirements have also been amended. Last year, candidates were required to submit all undergraduate teaching evaluations for the past three years. This year, candidates are limited to submitting evaluations for three recent undergraduate courses.

Another change this year is that representative annotated instructional materials from an undergraduate setting are limited to 10 pages.

In 2007, each Bellet Awarded will receive a one-time prize of $3,000—up from $2,000 in the past—and, for the first time, each honoree’s department will receive a $5,000 grant.

“Many of our past honorees donated their prize money back to their departments,” explained Schulte-Ladbeck. “We approached the Bellets about incorporating this practice into the administration of the awards, and they were delighted to make the provisions to do so.”

Long-time friends and supporters of Pitt, the Bellets have attended every annual recognition dinner for Bellet Award recipients since the first prizes were given in 1999. While they are active philanthropists who donate time and resources to a number of causes and organizations, Tina and David Bellet have a special commitment to teachers. This dedication reflects their positive experiences both as students and in front of the classroom: David has been a guest lecturer at Stanford University and Columbia University, and Tina taught for 10 years in New York City.

In a 1998 interview, David Bellet summed up the mission and the motivation behind the Bellet Awards. “Teachers should be acknowledged, rewarded, and encouraged,” he said.

Arts and Sciences Dean N. John Cooper said, “This award, made possible by the generosity of our good friends, Arts and Sciences alumni David Bellet and his wife, Tina, provides an opportunity for us to celebrate the centrality of teaching in our mission as a school of arts and sciences, and the value we place on excellence in teaching as a centerpiece for our vision for the future of the school.”

For more information about the Bellet Awards, contact Carol Lynch at clynch@as.pitt.edu.

Klaus Hofmann Lecture, “Animal Biodiversity and Drug Discovery: Cone Snail Venoms, A Case Study”

Baldemero M. Olivera, Distinguished Professor of Biology, University of Utah, and adjunct professor; Salk Institute for Biological Studies Oct. 6, 11 a.m.

Olivera will discuss the possible pharmacological applications of cone snail venom produced by the predatory cone snail Conus magus, which contains neurotoxin peptides that are highly specific to specific types of ion channels. Many of these receptors are found in neurons, meaning that the peptides could be used to target pain, neurological diseases, and a host of other conditions. Because more than a hundred peptides can be isolated in any single Conus magus and there are hundreds of varieties of the cone snail, this research has vast potential for drug discovery.

After earning his doctorate in biochemistry at the California Institute of Technology, Olivera began his career at the University of the Philippines. There, limited laboratory resources forced him to find a subject that was inexpensive and readily available, leading him to study the cone snail. Although Olivera’s primary research interest lies in the molecular mechanisms of the nervous system and its function, the cone snail remains central to his work. Its peptides have led to the discovery of drugs such as ziconotide, a nonopiod analgesic useful for managing severe and chronic pain.

Olivera is a distinguished professor of biology at the University of Utah and an adjunct professor at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies. In April, he was one of 20 leading research scientists designated as Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigators, earning a $1 million, four-year grant that he plans to use to develop an interdisciplinary undergraduate neuroscience program at the University of Utah and to promote biodiversity awareness among young students in Pacific island nations. The goal of both initiatives is to encourage participants to consider careers in science.

The Klaus Hofmann Lecture is named for a distinguished biochemistry professor who made Pitt his scientific home from 1993 to 1995. Hofmann, who died in 1996, was a champion of energy sources and is clearly the only source capable of supplying more energy in a renewable fashion than humans could ever conceive of using on earth.”

After earning his Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1981, Lewis was an assistant professor of chemistry at Stanford University before moving to Caltech in 1988 as an associate professor of chemistry. After achieving full professorship in 1991, Lewis was honored as the George L. Argyros Professor in 2002.

Lewis has been recognized as an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow, a Camille and Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar, and a Presidential Young Investigator. He received the Fresenius Award in 1990, the American Chemical Society Award in Inorganic Chemistry in 1991, the Orton Memorial Lecture Award in 2003, and the Princeton Environmental Award in 2003.

The Provost Lecture is presented by Pitt’s Office of the Provost.
Establishing this center allows us to link population-based research with new techniques in genetics, imaging, and epidemiology to answer these questions: what’s really going on here at Pitt and at other institutions," said Ness. “In addition, CAPH will allow the Department of Epidemiology to expand its current research programs on aspects of healthy aging and the genetics of longevity and exceptional survival as well as investigations into the determinants of aging in the brain and cardiovascular system.”

To extend its global reach, CAPH plans to collaborate with research institutions in Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean, which are the world’s fastest-aging regions; recent projections estimate that the percentage of elderly living in these developing regions of the world will double in the next 20 to 30 years. Without adequate preparation, less developed countries—which already have overburdened health-care systems and few social policies to support, or even regulate, meeting the health-care needs of their growing elderly populations. Therefore, they need better information about aging and public policy on how to help people age successfully.

“Our country has had a long time to learn how to deal with its aging population. However, this phenomenon is just beginning in many developing countries and at a much faster rate. Given what we have learned, we have the opportunity to help them prepare for how to deal with this problem,” said Donald S. Burke, CAPH dean, Pitt’s vice chancellor for global health, and the UPMC-Jonas Salk Professor of Global Health.

One of CAPH’s first initiatives will be to hold an international, invitation-only symposium on the topic of successful aging. According to Newman, the primary goal of the symposium will be to gather new knowledge from current national and international population studies on aging. The symposium will include experts from around the world to assess both where we are and where we need to go,” she said. "Ultimately, we hope this conference will set forth a plan on how to deal with the global aging issue.”
Oct. 2- Oct. 9, 2006

Oct. 3


Oct. 4

Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic Conference, “Effective Treatment of Affective Disorders: Partnership, Innovation, and Promise,” 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m., featuring keynote address, “A Brilliant Madman: Living with Manic Depressive Illness” by Patty Duke, actress and mental health advocate; Ronald B. Herberman Conference Center, UPMC Cancer Pavilion’s 2nd floor, 5150 Center Ave., Shadyside, registration required: e-mail Ryassa Brian at brian@upmc.edu.


Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series Reading, poet/writer Matthew Hassen, 8:30 p.m., 301 Cathedral of Learning, www.english.pitt.edu.

Oct. 5

Dickson Prize in Medicine Lecture, “Chromatin and Transcription,” Roger D. Kornberg, Mrs. George A. Winzer Professor of Medicine at Stanford University, 11 a.m., part of Pitt’s Science2006: Feel the Power, www.science2006.pitt.edu/(For details, see p. 2).


Lecture, “The Jewish Question and the Crisis of Postcolonial Culture,” Aamir Muslim, professor of comparative literature, University of California, 4 p.m., part of Pitt’s Science2006: Feel the Power, www.science2006.pitt.edu/(For details, see p. 2).


Klaus Hofmann Lecture, “Animal Biodiversity and Drug Discovery: Cone Snail Venoms, a Case Study,” Baliemoroliva, distinguished professor of biology, University of Utah, and adjunct professor, University of Dortmund, 12:05 p.m., 817R Cathedral of Learning, www.science2006.pitt.edu/(For details, see p. 6).


Prosost Lecture, “Scientific Challenges in Sustainable Energy Technology,” Nathan S. Lewis, George L. Argyros Professor, professor of chemistry, and principal investigator of the Beckman Institute Molecular Materials Resource Center at the California Institute of Technology, 4 p.m, part of Pitt’s Science2006: Feel the Power, www.science2006.pitt.edu/(For details, see p. 6).

Center for Philosophy of Science Lunchtime Talk, “Learning From a Simulated Universe: The Limits of Virtual Experiments in Astrophysics and Cosmology,” Stephanie Buby, Department of Philosophy, University of Sveriges, 1205B Cathedral of Learning, 4:30 p.m., part of Pitt’s Science2006: Feel the Power, www.science2006.pitt.edu/(For details, see p. 2).


Oct. 6


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Oct. 7


Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Park, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, 2 p.m., Oct. 7, 8, 15, and Frick Park, Squirrel Hill, 412-904-2179.


Oct. 8

Pitt Asian Studies Center Film Screening, Kazhun: Valley of Despair, directed by Marzouq Maisi-Husain, 10 p.m., Sutherland Hall’s International Studies Living Community Lounge, 412-648-2133.

Oct. 9

Graduate School of Public Health Open House, for prospective students, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 501 Cathedral of Learning, www.publichealth.pitt.edu/admissions-open_house.html.

Lecture, “Speaking With the Silent Majority: Unculturable Bacteria in Micromaterial Communities From Soil and Water,” Kenneth E. Holmes, assistant professor of pathology and microbiology, University of Minnesota-Madison’s Department of Pathology, 4:15 p.m., six Corner Hall, www.pitt.edu/~stheory.


Lecture, “The.Coutndrump That Is the Kashmir Problem,” Richard Cohen, associate director of Pitt’s Asian Studies Center, 9 p.m., Sutherland Hall’s International Studies Living Learning Community Lounge, 412-648-2113, eel58@ucis.pitt.edu.


Oct. 10

items for publication in the Pitt Chronicle, including Happenings, should be submitted to chron@pitt.edu. Happenings items should include the following information: title of the event, name and title of speakers, date, time, location, sponsor(s), and phone number and Web site for additional information. Items also may be faxed to 412-624-4895 or sent by campus mail to 424 Craig Hall. For more information, call 412-624-1033.

Published notice: The next edition of the Pitt Chronicle will be published Oct. 9. The deadline for submitting information is 5 p.m. Oct. 3. Items for publication in the Pitt Chronicle, including Happenings, should be submitted to chron@pitt.edu. Happenings items should include the following information: title of the event, name and title of speakers, date, time, location, sponsor(s), and phone number and Web site for additional information. Items also may be faxed to 412-624-4895 or sent by campus mail to 424 Craig Hall. For more information, call 412-624-1033.