

## The University's Sustained Commitment to Excellence

A report to the University of Pittsburgh Board of Trustees by Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg

*This is the print version of the report delivered to the board at its Oct. 26, 2007, meeting.*

When we last met, at the very end of June, we took a look back at the 2006-07 academic year and agreed that it had been a very big year for Pitt. It was big in the sense that we achieved a big goal—passing the \$1 billion mark in our capital campaign. It was big in the sense that we celebrated a big birthday—marking the 220th anniversary of Pitt's founding as a log cabin academy at what was then the edge of the American frontier. And it was big in the sense that we launched the big project to clean and preserve the Cathedral of Learning—an initiative that might be viewed both as a 220th birthday present to Pitt and an especially fitting acknowledgment of the 70th birthday of the Cathedral itself.

We will not have that same array of milestones to celebrate this year. No campaign total, even though larger, will have the same magic as \$1 billion—at least until we get to \$2 billion. A 221st birthday, though it involves a bigger number, does not carry the same cachet as the 220th. And no matter what impressive facilities projects we may undertake, nothing will have the same emotional appeal as our recent investments in the Cathedral of Learning.

But the last academic year also was a big year for Pitt because of the work that

was done, the progress that was forged, and the momentum that continued to build. As we have moved into the new academic year, our clear commitment has been to continue “picking up speed”—and all of the signs suggest we will be able to do so.

As the veterans among you know, I am a “true believer” when it comes to the position statements publicly adopted by this board in February of 1996. Those priority statements have provided a framework within which we have been able to significantly elevate institutional quality, both through deliberate planning and also through the pursuit of unanticipated opportunities. I plan to focus my remarks on three of those position statements, those that committed us to aggressively pursue excellence in undergraduate education, maintain excellence in research, and secure a resource base adequate to support our aspirations.

### Undergraduate Education

The 2006-07 academic year really was a “banner year” for undergraduate education at the University. A high point, of course, was claiming both a Rhodes Scholar and a Marshall Scholar, the only public university in America to do so. You had the chance to meet and hear from Daniel Armanios and Anna Quider at our February meeting. I regularly receive e-mail messages from

*Continued on Page 4*



Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg (left) and Provost James V. Maher at the October board meeting

MARY JANE BENNY/CODE

## David Lewis Named to Institute of Medicine

By Megan Grote Quatrini

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) has selected David A. Lewis, professor in Pitt's Departments of Psychiatry and Neuroscience and director of the Translational Neuroscience Program at the University of Pittsburgh, as one of its newest members for his contributions to the advancement of treating schizophrenia and his efforts to bring the importance of this major public health issue to the forefront.

Lewis is the 19th IOM member from the University of Pittsburgh.

“Members are elected through a highly selective process that recognizes people who have made major contributions to the advancement of the medical sciences, health care, and public health. Election is considered one of the highest honors in the fields of medicine and health,” IOM President Harvey V. Fineberg said.

Current active members elect new members from among candidates nominated for their professional achievement and commitment to service. An unusual diversity of talent is assured by the institute's charter, which stipulates that at least one-quarter of the membership be selected from outside the health professions,



David A. Lewis

**“This acknowledges that the research I've devoted my career to is viewed as informative and useful, and it also reflects the many opportunities and support that Pitt and UPMC offer in biomedical research.”**

—David A. Lewis

from such fields as the natural, social, and behavioral sciences, as well as law, administration, engineering, and the humanities.

“It is a tremendous honor and a privilege to be recognized by these leaders in medicine,” Lewis said. “I look forward to participating in IOM-commissioned activities that affect all aspects of health and medicine. This acknowledges that the research I've devoted my career to is viewed as informative and useful, and it also reflects the many opportunities and support that Pitt and UPMC offer in biomedical research.”

Lewis has been involved in schizophrenia research for more than 20 years. His research focuses on the neural circuitry of the prefrontal cortex and related brain regions and the alterations of this circuitry in schizophrenia.

In addition to meeting his academic responsibilities, Lewis also serves as director of Pitt's National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Conte Center for the Neuroscience of Mental Disorders, which is focused on understanding the role of prefrontal cortical dysfunction in the pathophysiology of schizophrenia.

## Lobel Shares Civil Liberties Book Prize

Cocauthors say U.S. “losing war on terror”

By Patricia Lomando White

Jules L. Lobel, a University of Pittsburgh professor of law, and colleague David D. Cole have won the inaugural Roy C. Palmer Civil Liberties Prize from the Chicago-Kent College of Law at the Illinois Institute of Technology for their book *Less Safe, Less Free: Why America Is Losing the War on Terror* (The New Press, 2007).

Lobel and Cole, a professor of law at Georgetown University, will share a \$10,000 prize and give a spring 2008 presentation at Chicago-Kent College of Law.

The prize was established earlier this year by Chicago-Kent alumnus Roy C. Palmer, a lawyer and real estate developer, and his wife, Susan M. Palmer, to honor an exemplary work of scholarship that explores the tension between civil liberties and national security in contemporary American society.

In the book, the authors, who are constitutional law scholars, argue that the United States' war on terrorism has foundered because of what they term the particularly aggressive “preventive paradigm” that the Bush Administration adopted in the wake of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Lobel and Cole set out to show that what they call “preemptive coercion” has not only compromised the rule of law in the name of prevention but also has made the United States more susceptible to future terrorist attacks.

The authors suggest that the way



to keep America safe and free is to employ noncoercive measures and multilateral cooperation, relying on foreign relations rather than military might.

And, the authors propose, where coercion is necessary and appropriate, America must adhere to basic legal rules, treating

the rule of law as an asset in the struggle to keep citizens safe and free.

Lobel, professor of international and constitutional law in Pitt's School of Law, also is vice president of the Center for Constitutional Rights, a national civil and human rights organization. He has been one of the foremost legal challengers of what he calls the exercise of unilateral presidential war-making for the past two decades.

Lobel also is author of *Success Without Victory: Lost Legal Battles and the Long Road to Justice in America* (New York University Press, 2004).

Cole, in addition to teaching at Georgetown University, is the legal affairs correspondent for *The Nation*, a regular contributor to the *New York Review of Books*, and the author of *Enemy Aliens: Double Standards and Constitutional Freedoms in the War on Terrorism* (The New Press, 2003), which won the American Book Award.

# Briefly Noted

## Professor Honored for Work to Preserve Polish Culture

Oscar Swan, professor in the University's Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures in the School of Arts and Sciences, will be named the laureate of the University of Warsaw's Polonicum Award during a ceremony Nov. 19 in Poland. The award recognizes outstanding achievements in the advancement of Polish culture.

Swan, the first American to win the award, specializes in Polish and Russian linguistics, Old Church Slavic, syntactic and semantic theory, language pedagogy, materials development, and Polish literature. He has been teaching and publishing in the discipline of Polish language and literature for more than 30 years.

Swan is the author of 16 books, including *Grammar of Contemporary Polish* (Slavica Publishers, 2003), which won the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages' award for Best Work in Slavic Linguistics in 2004.

His book *Intermediate Rush* (Slavica Publishers, 1986) was awarded the Amicus Poloniae Award by *Poland* magazine.

Swan regularly teaches courses at Pitt in Polish literature and culture, the structure of the Russian language, and Polish culture in film, among other subjects.

The Polonicum Award is administered by the Center of Polish Language and Culture for Foreigners at the University of Warsaw. It was established in 2006 and is under the patronage of the Marshal of the Senate of the Republic of Poland. The award is conferred each year in November during ceremonies celebrating the founding of the University of Warsaw.

—Anthony M. Moore

## Norton, Author Isaacson Set Thursday Forum on "Everything Einstein"

Albert Einstein emerged as the preeminent scientist in a century driven by science. Now, renowned Einstein expert John Norton, philosophy of science professor at the University of Pittsburgh, and Walter Isaacson, author of the recent biography *Einstein: His Life and Universe*, will host an in-depth discussion of how the legendary physicist worked and thought.

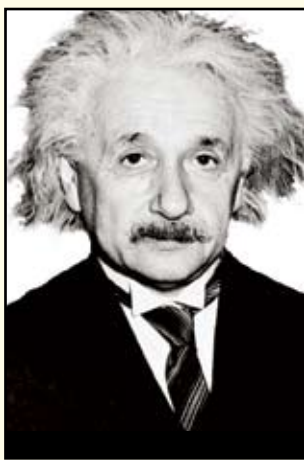
Titled "Everything Einstein," the program starts at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the New Hazlett Theater, 6 Allegheny Square East, on Pittsburgh's North Side. The program is free and open to the public, but those interested in attending must register by e-mailing [rvsp@nowall.com](mailto:rvsp@nowall.com).

The discussion's moderator will be Regina Schulte-Ladbeck, a professor in Pitt's Department of Physics and Astronomy and the associate dean of undergraduate studies in the School of Arts and Sciences.

Norton specializes in the philosophy behind Einstein's theories of relativity and the context within which Einstein developed his ideas. Norton directs Pitt's Center for Philosophy of Science, the world's leading research institute in philosophy of science and a centerpiece of the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, in Arts and Sciences.

Isaacson, a longtime editor and journalist, is president and CEO of the Aspen Institute and past chair and CEO of CNN. The program is presented by cityLIVE!, no wall productions, the Heinz Family Philanthropies, and the New Hazlett Theater, and sponsored by Pop City Media.

—Morgan Kelly



## MIT Economist Delivers McKay Lecture Friday

Peter Diamond, an Institute Professor in the Department of Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), will deliver the Marion O'Kellie McKay Lecture, titled "Thinking About Taxes," at 3:30 p.m. Friday in Frick Fine Arts Auditorium.

The presentation provides an insider's perspective of the American taxation system. Diamond, president of the American Economic Association and the Econometric Society, will discuss the pattern of tax rates on earnings and capital income and whether taxes should be based on the circumstances of individuals or families.

Diamond is widely considered one of the major contributors to economic theory during the last half of the 20th century. His professional career has focused on analysis of social welfare programs in general and the U.S. Social Security Administration in particular. Diamond has proposed policy adjustments, such as small incremental increases in Social Security contributions using actuarial tables to adjust for changes in life expectancy.

Diamond is coauthor of *Saving Social Security* (Brookings Institution Press, 2005). He has been president and chair of the board of the National Academy of Social Insurance and has served on Social Security panels for the U.S. Senate Finance Committee and the Congressional Research Service.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Nancy Sciulli at 412-648-1765.

—Anthony M. Moore

## UPB Professor Promotes Lab Role in Teaching Engineering

Klaus Wuersig, an assistant professor of engineering at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, presented a paper on laboratory classes for first- and second-year engineering students at the International Conference on Engineering Education in September.

The conference took place Sept. 3-7 at the University of Coimbra in Portugal.

Wuersig argued that having first-semester engineering students participate in labs, an uncommon practice in most large engineering schools, increases student retention in the engineering program and allows students to make a more informed decision about which area of engineering they would like to pursue.

"If they have the initial qualifications for engineering studies, most students drop out or switch

majors because excitement and focus is missing in their chosen engineering field," Wuersig said. "This is where a well-designed first-semester laboratory course can be very helpful in reducing the perceived drudgery and lack of focus."

Wuersig compared data from large engineering schools that do not offer labs until the third or fourth year to his experience at Pitt-Bradford, where students take part in labs during their first and second years. In contrast to schools without labs, "We lose very few students that first semester," Wuersig said of the Pitt-Bradford program.

Wuersig argues that the labs have as much to do with building a personal relationship between students and faculty as it does with hands-on learning.

Wuersig noted that Pitt-Bradford engineering students who finish their degrees at the Pittsburgh campus have a high retention rate.

—Kimberly Marcott Weinberg

# Casey Hosts Film Screening, Will Moderate Q&A on Nuclear Threats

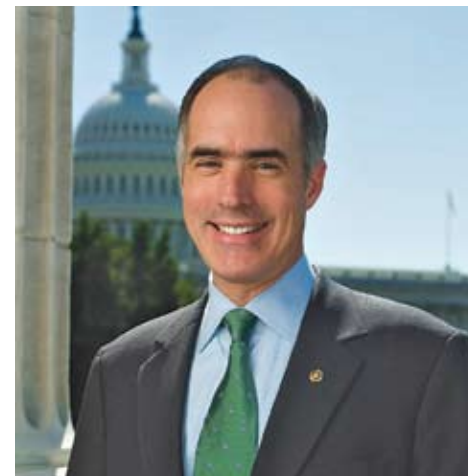
By Amanda Leff

U.S. Senator Robert P. Casey Jr. will be on campus Nov. 19 for the free public screening of the 2005 film *Last Best Chance*, directed by Ben Goddard. Casey will introduce the docudrama—which shows the threat posed by vulnerable nuclear weapons and materials around the world—at 3:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the William Pitt Union.

Following the screening of the 45-minute film, Casey will moderate a question-and-answer session with a panel featuring Michael Hurley, a counterterrorism special advisor to the Nuclear Threat Initiative, and commentators from Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA).

The special event is sponsored by GSPIA, the GSPIA Student Cabinet, and the Matthew B. Ridgway Center for International Security Studies.

In *Last Best Chance*, al Qaeda operatives organize three separate operations aimed at obtaining nuclear weapons. The material is then fabricated into three crude



U. S. Senator Robert P. Casey Jr.

nuclear weapons by small groups of trained terrorists, who have recruited bomb-making experts to help them manufacture their weapons. Governments around the world discover clues to the plot, but are unable to uncover the scheme before the weapons are en route to their destinations.

According to the film, the hardest job for terrorists is gaining control of a nuclear weapon or material. In the opinion of the filmmakers, because the governments had failed to take sufficient action to secure or destroy the nuclear weapons material, they are helpless to prevent an attack. For more information on the film, visit [www.lastbestchance.org](http://www.lastbestchance.org).

## Chronicle

An ongoing series highlighting University of Pittsburgh history



Nov. 8, 1912—The University of Pittsburgh's 126th year was "the most promising in its entire history," *The Pitt Weekly* reported. "The Freshman class, numbering 600 students, represents growth along every line. The increase in new students over last year at the same time is over 400, or 29 percent. The buildings are overcrowded, and the resources of the University are put to the severest test."

That made the University's \$3 million fundraising campaign, newly announced by Chancellor Samuel B. McCormick (above), all the more vital, the newspaper said. The first gift of \$100,000 was made by oil and gas tycoon Joseph Clifton Trees (ENGR 1895) to fund a new gymnasium, and several hundred additional donations had been made "chiefly among the alumni," *The Pitt Weekly* said. "The outlook is encouraging beyond expression."

The University—which had moved to Oakland's Schenley Farms neighborhood only four years earlier—now had 10 schools and 2,500 students. "When the fund of \$3,000,000 has been completed the University will be put upon a foundation of power and of excellence, insuring a career of enlarged usefulness," *The Pitt Weekly* said, and "the western part of this great Commonwealth with have a University (of which all are justly proud) equal to any in America."

## CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

Two photo captions in the Nov. 5 issue of *Pitt Chronicle* omitted important information. The caption under the photo on page 3 should have noted that Roger Kingdom (CGS '02) was a gold medalist in both the 1984 and 1988 Summer Olympics. The caption under the photo "Achievers Honored" on page 6 neglected to mention that 2007 Goldwater Scholar Benjamin O. Gordon is a senior in Pitt's School of Engineering, in addition to the Honors College.

## PittChronicle

Newspaper of the University of Pittsburgh

<b>PUBLISHER</b>	Robert Hill
<b>ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER</b>	John Harvith
<b>EXECUTIVE EDITOR</b>	Linda K. Schmitmeyer
<b>EDITOR</b>	Jason Togger
<b>ART DIRECTOR</b>	Gary Cravener
<b>STAFF WRITERS</b>	Sharon S. Blake John Fedele Morgan Kelly Amanda Leff Anthony M. Moore Patricia Lomando White
<b>CONTRIBUTING WRITERS</b>	Kimberly Marcott Weinberg Amy Dugas Rose Megan Grote Quatrini
<b>HAPPENINGS EDITOR</b>	Tearsa Brown

The *Pitt Chronicle* is published throughout the year by University News and Magazines, University of Pittsburgh, 400 Craig Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15260. Phone: 412-624-1033, Fax: 412-624-4895, E-mail: [chron@pitt.edu](mailto:chron@pitt.edu) Web: [www.chronicle.pitt.edu](http://www.chronicle.pitt.edu)

The University of Pittsburgh is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution that does not discriminate upon any basis prohibited by law.



# 37 Years and Counting: Jazz Week Capped With Sold-Out Concert



Joe Banadio (left) and lecturer Paul Silverthorn

By Sharon S. Blake

It's an event Joe Banadio hasn't missed for 37 years. The longtime saxophonist and string bassist, who splits his time between Pittsburgh and Sarasota, Fla., is a fixture at the annual Pitt Jazz Seminar and Concert, and this year's event was no exception.

Every year, Banadio, 84, makes the drive from Florida to the Pitt campus and attends as many jazz seminars as possible, as well as the concert.

This year's event featured Monty Alexander on piano; Randy Brecker, Jon Faddis, and Claus Reichstaller on trumpet; Peter King and Benny Golson on saxophones; Abraham Laboriel on bass; Cecil Brooks III on drums; and Yotam Silberstein on guitar.

The artists performed under the direction of Nathan Davis, saxophonist, professor of music, head of Pitt's Jazz Studies Program, and founder of the annual event.

Pitt's Jazz Week featured a free lecture by Paul Silverthorn, former business manager for Grover Washington Jr., as well as the musicians' individual lectures on campus and miniclinics at area schools, the Hill House, and the Asbury Heights continuing care center.

After just one rehearsal, the jazz greats convened on stage Nov. 3 at Carnegie Music Hall in a sold-out concert that brought the enthusiastic crowd of 1,900 to its feet.

"The audience was treated to moments of pure beauty, virtuosity, and showmanship, especially in the case of bassist Abraham Laboriel, who is always a ball of energy, slapping his bass as he jumps up and down like someone possessed," wrote *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* jazz critic Nate Guidry in his Nov. 6 review.

At intermission, trumpeter Brecker received the Pitt Jazz Seminar and Concert Committee Award and sax man Golson was presented with the Pitt International Academy of Jazz Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award.

Banadio recalls the very first Pitt Jazz Seminar and Concert in 1970, when the workshops by jazz greats like Art Blakey attracted just a handful of people to the William Pitt Union. Now, the event attracts regular jazz buffs and students from as far away as the state of Washington—fans who know that the first Saturday evening in November is always reserved for the city's premier jazz concert.

Despite Banadio's long-standing presence at the event and his long career with the Butler Symphony, the Sarasota Pops Orchestra, and Pittsburgh-area dance bands when local jazz was in its heyday, he says he always learns some new nugget of information at the lectures.

"The seminars are so educational. I mean, these guys have a ton of experience," he said.

But sometimes the tables are turned and Banadio himself



Benny Golson

is called upon for his expertise. As a longtime golf professional at the Longboat Key Golf Club and Resort in Sarasota, he knows a thing or two about many of the musicians' favorite pastime.

"Jon Faddis, Dizzy, Larry Coryell—a lot of them have asked me for tips on their golf swing over the years," he said.



Master of ceremonies: Allegheny County Councilman Bill Robinson



PHOTOS BY JIM BURKE/CODE

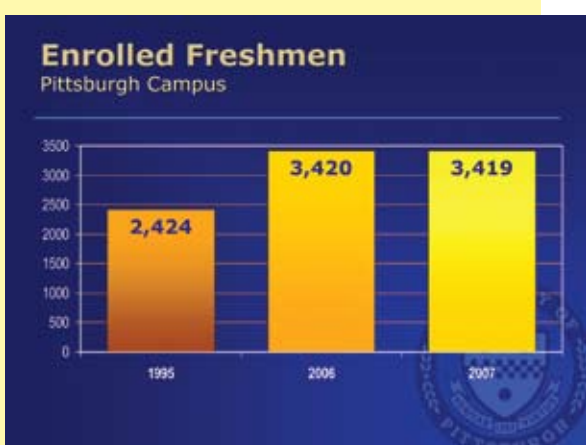
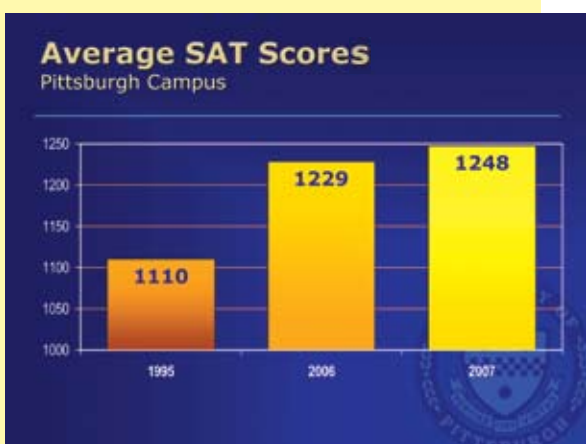
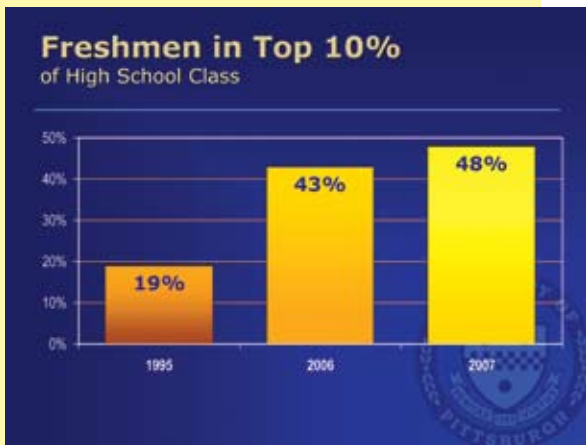
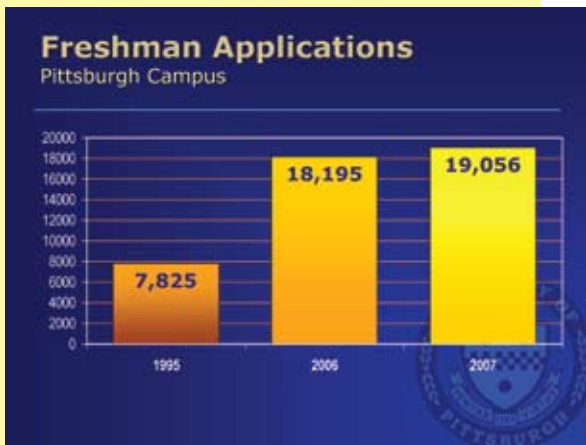


From top to bottom: Randy Brecker, Abraham Laboriel, Monty Alexander, and Claus Reichstaller.

Clockwise from left, Yotam Silberstein, Cecil Brooks III, Benny Golson (center) and Pitt's Nathan Davis

# The University's Sustained Commitment to Excellence

Continued from Page 1



both of them and can report that they are happily situated at Oxford and Cambridge.

It is impossible to predict when we will claim both a Rhodes Scholar and a Marshall Scholar in the same year again. But we continue to attract the caliber of students who possess both the talent and the commitment to extend our exceptional record of student success in key national competitions.

Let me provide a clearer contextual sense of the changing pool from which our award winners and their classmates now will emerge.

The freshman class admitted to the Oakland campus in the fall of 1995 was drawn from an applicant pool of 7,825. For the class admitted in 2006, that applicant pool had shot up to 18,195, and this year it grew further, to 19,056—almost two and one-half times what it had been 12 years ago.

As you would expect, the larger applicant pool has produced freshman classes with much stronger academic credentials. For example, in 1995, just 19 percent of the enrolled freshmen ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating classes. By 2006, that percentage had increased to 43 percent. And this fall, 48 percent of our Oakland freshmen ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating classes.

In 1995, the median SAT score for Oakland-based freshmen was 1110. By 2006, that number had risen to 1229, and this year it was 1248. It is worth noting that our SAT increase of nearly 20 points this year came at a time when SAT scores nationally declined by about five points.

Even more telling, in terms of our success in attracting stronger entering classes, is the fact that we have done so while also dramatically increasing class size. In 1995, we enrolled 2,424 freshmen here in Oakland. In each of the last two years, the size of the entering class has been roughly 1,000 students larger than that. So, we have been able to enroll classes that are both bigger and better, which is no small feat.

Of course, what really matters is what happens to those students once they join us. In this regard, we try to engage incoming students from the very beginning.

Not only does "Arrival Survival" make moving in less painful, but it is structured to provide opportunities for students to begin to connect with campus groups.

We have preserved decades-old traditions, like Lantern Night—which featured [Pitt Trustee] Eva Blum as its principal speaker this year.

We have developed new traditions, such as the Freshman Convocation, the Chancellor's reception for incoming students and their family members, and our annual riverboat ride to the Heinz Field Fanfest.

And we follow up with activities like the bonfire pep rally and the pageantry of Homecoming.

We also have worked to create a physical environment supportive of learning and growth.

One key area of focus has been the development of increased



Top, Pennsylvania Hall; above, Panther Hall

on-campus housing. Recent reports have featured the opening of Pennsylvania and Panther halls, which together house 1,000 undergraduates on the hill overlooking the Petersen Center. This summer, we completed a new apartment complex for medical students near Scaife Hall. We now are in the process of converting Ruskin Hall, which had been used for medical students, into additional undergraduate housing on the lower campus, literally within the shadow of the Cathedral of Learning.

We also have partnered with the city in a serious effort to improve both safety and attractiveness in areas near campus where large numbers of our students reside.

In past years, we have invested heavily in physical fitness and recreational space, from the magnificent Baierl Center, to the renovated fitness center in Bellefield Hall, to the exercise facilities that now exist in many residence halls. This summer, we renovated the social spaces on the ground floor of the William Pitt Union, with the ribbon cutting held just last week.

Reflecting the fact that much student

growth occurs outside the formal class-room setting, we also dedicated our brand-new Student Government Corridor and Cross-Cultural and Leadership Development Center in the William Pitt Union at that same time.

Of course, hardworking students also need to eat. This fall, we unveiled the brand-new Market Central dining facility in the Litchfield Towers, where more than 400,000 meals have been served since its late-August opening. I am not sure whether loading up on that fuel we call food or burning off the resulting calories is more important to college students. But Pitt students now can do both in style.

And while my comments and supporting visuals have focused on Oakland, it is important to note that much of our important work with undergraduate students takes place on our four regional campuses, and that parallels exist there. I also should note that two

of those campuses—Pitt-Greensburg and Pitt-Johnstown—welcomed new presidents this summer. In fact, we formally installed

**One key area of focus has been the development of increased on-campus housing. Recent reports have featured the opening of Pennsylvania and Panther halls, which together house 1,000 undergraduates on the hill overlooking the Petersen Center.**



Biomedical Science Tower 3

Jem Specter as UPJ's president last month, with UPG's installation of Sharon Smith scheduled for the spring term.

Whatever their physical location or academic level, in dealing with our students, we try to encourage a commitment to service, nurture the development of leadership qualities, and stimulate a sense of high academic ambition. We also advance that cause by exposing our students to inspiring examples, as we did through the Legacy Laureate program—featuring, among others, Trustee John Pelusi—during Homecoming last week.

#### Research

High academic ambition has been a key driver of our considerable strength in research. Here, too, it is useful to look at our trajectory over time. In fiscal year 1995, our research expenditures totaled about \$230 million. By 2006, that total had risen to \$602 million, and this past year, it climbed even higher—to more than \$620 million.

That last increase is particularly noteworthy, because federal research funding streams currently are under severe stress. In fact, just last month, the National Science Foundation reported that federal spending for academic research and development, after adjustments for inflation, had fallen for the first time in 25 years. A *Chronicle of Higher Education* article discussing that report made a more refined point of particular significance for Pitt, given the makeup of our research portfolio.

Biomedical researchers, in particular, have been singing the blues about money since 2003, when an effort to double the National Institutes of Health budget over five years ended. Since then, the NIH's budget—the largest single source of funds for academic research—has received increases below inflation.

What all of this appears to mean is that our strategy is paying off. We could not predict exactly when or why federal funding for research would dip. However, it seemed predictable that a downturn would come at some point in time. We invested, both in facilities and in people, trying to position ourselves so that we could compete effectively whenever the environment did

become more challenging.

We appear to be succeeding in two important senses. First, the absolute total of research dollars attracted, after flattening for a year, is increasing again. Second, we are improving our position within the ranks of the country's leading research universities, which present very formidable competition.

**In the most recent rankings available from the NIH, we place seventh nationally in terms of the grants won by members of our faculty. As you already know, the "top 10" institutions with which we are competing are a very strong group. ... We fully expect that when the next rankings are released, we will have moved into the sixth position nationally.**

In the most recent rankings available from the NIH, we place seventh nationally in terms of the grants won by members of our faculty. As you already know, the "top 10" institutions with which we are competing are a very strong group. And, as I have been reporting to you for months, this information really is "stale." We fully expect that when the next rankings are released, we will have moved into the sixth position nationally. And we rank 11th nationally in terms of total federal science and engineering research and development obligations, up from 12th one year ago.

On the science and engineering side, we continue to open important facilities that will support key initiatives, such as our Center for Vaccine Research, which was dedicated late last month. And just two days ago, we announced a \$23 million grant to support the creation of the new Richard King Mellon Foundation Institute for Pediatric Research.

We continue to attract major grants. Three of particular note in recent weeks were a \$16 million NIH grant to establish an HIV research center, an \$8 million NIH grant to lead the largest study ever of the rare autoimmune disorder called myositis, and a \$4.75 Department of Education grant to create a rehabilitation engineering research center on spinal cord injuries.

We continue to host important programs, such as Science 2007—which, for the second consecutive year, featured a Nobel Prize winner in the very week of his selection for that high honor.

Our faculty members continue to win the highest forms of recognition, such as the recent naming of Roberta Ness, the chair of the Department of Epidemiology in the Graduate School of Public Health, as the president-elect of the American College of Epidemiology and the even more recent

election of psychiatry professor David Lewis to the Institute of Medicine.

And we continue to promote an entrepreneurial research culture through a broad range of initiatives led by our Office of Technology Transfer and events like our annual Celebration of Innovation.

But I also want to underscore the fact—because we do so often dwell on research dollars—that the breadth of the institution, in terms of scholarship, outreach, and impact, extends far beyond our obvious strengths in science and engineering. Just to highlight a few telling examples from recent weeks:

We began a yearlong celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Pitt Poetry Series, published by the University of Pittsburgh Press and widely regarded as among the finest poetry series in the country;

We presented the annual Drue Heinz Prize, also housed within our Press, which

is the country's most prestigious award in short fiction;

We marked the fifth anniversary of our Center on Race and Social Problems, the only center of its type housed in a school of social work;

We hosted the first in a series of national forums on designing healthy, livable communities for older Americans, as well as the annual Thornburgh Family Lecture on Disability Law and Policy; and

We began preparing for the 37th annual Pitt Jazz Seminar and Concert, the longest-running program of its type in the country.

#### Fundraising

For us to sponsor such a wide range of programs and to support the work of so many talented people and to create the kind of opportunities that really exist only within a top research university obviously requires resources. Some of what we need comes from government. Certainly, we would not be where we are today without both federal and state support—but both of those revenue streams are under stress. Particularly with public support for public higher education declining, more daunting financial commitments have been required of students and their families.

For us, the brightest light, by far, on the resource side has been our private fundraising progress. In 1995, we received \$39 million in total voluntary support. By 2006, that number had risen to \$117 million. Last year, it passed \$122 million. Over that same period, the percentage of support provided by individuals increased from 24 percent to 41 percent to 45 percent—a change we knew would be required if our capital campaign was to be a success. So far, more than 127,000 donors have taken that campaign to a total that is fast approaching \$1.15 billion.

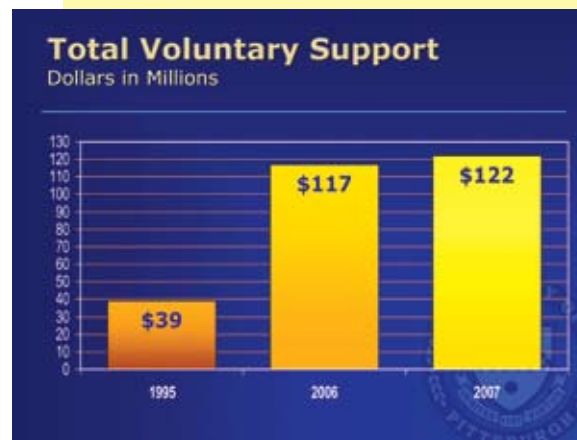
One of the great things about this campaign is that when we talk about "voluntary" support, we really do mean it. Despite our successes, this has not been a hard-sell effort. Instead, we have let people know of our strengths and of our needs, and they have responded generously.

Outreach efforts since our last meeting have taken many forms.

The Cathedral of Learning Society Dinner was held in the Commons Room of the Cathedral on the evening of our summer board meeting. At that very special recognition event, we inducted 20 new contributors of \$1 million or more, including Trustees Chuck Steiner and Tom Usher.

Most of our outreach efforts are far less elegant, but they are becoming increasingly popular. This year's Chancellor's Circle event drew more than 700 people, essentially twice our previous high. When we decided to hold a special "University Update" at the Duquesne Club last month, we sold out the main dining room and generated a waiting list in two days. We had a very successful event in Boston last month and have another scheduled in New York City—to be hosted by Terry Laughlin—in about 10 days. Building on both our strong placement partnership and the generous support we have received from its foundation, we

*Continued on Page 6*



## Katz's Murrell Named Director of the Berg Center for Ethics and Leadership

By Amanda Leff

University of Pittsburgh Professor Audrey Murrell has been named the new director of the David Berg Center for Ethics & Leadership in the Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business (KGSB) and College of Business Administration. Murrell is a professor of business administration in KGSB, with joint appointments in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs and Department of Psychology in the School of Arts and Sciences.

The David Berg Center for Ethics & Leadership was created through a generous gift from David Berg, an alumnus of the University, to be an outstanding center for the understanding, promotion, and development of ethical business leadership. The center focuses on the education of undergraduate business students through a certificate program in leadership and ethics that immerses students in the principles of ethics and leadership. It also supports important research into the area of ethics and leadership by faculty and undergraduate students.

The center also invites members of the business community to share their expertise in the classroom and in strategic planning for the center, as well as by contributing to ongoing education in business ethics through outreach events.

Murrell joined the University of Pittsburgh in 1987. She conducts research, teaches, and works with organizations on strategies to enhance overall effectiveness by utilizing their most valuable assets—human and social capital. She conducts extensive research on building capacity of people and outcomes at work with a special empha-

sis on enhancing outcomes for women. This includes topics such as mentoring, breaking the “glass ceiling,” diversity, and workplace discrimination. Her work has been published widely in management and psychology journals, and she is the author (with Faye Crosby and Robin Ely) of *Mentoring Dilemmas: Developmental Relationships Within Multicultural Organizations* (Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 1999), and the forthcoming book (with Sheila Forte and Diana Bing) *Blue Mentoring: Innovative Mentoring for Organizational Learning at IBM*.



Audrey Murrell

Murrell serves as a consultant in the areas of mentoring, organizational effectiveness, teamwork, diversity, and leadership development. Her clients have included Alcoa, IBM, Heinz, Bayer, Eli Lilly, Kaiser Permanente, FedEx Ground, Executive Leadership Council, YWCA, Carnegie Libraries, Human Engineering Research Labs, and several universities.

She also has served on the Allegheny County Department of Minority, Women, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Certification Appeals Board and is a former chair of the Gender and Diversity in Organizational Division of the Academy of Management. Audrey is also the chair of the board of directors for Urban Youth Action Inc.

Murrell received the Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in psychology from the University of Delaware in 1987 and 1985, respectively, and the B.S. degree in psychology, magna cum laude, from Howard University in 1983.

## When the Going Gets Tough: \$2M NSF Grant Enables Researchers to Examine Difficult Engineering Problems

By Morgan Kelly

How can engineers help reduce tree-related fatal car accidents along a heavily traveled, wooded road? Removing some of the trees may save lives, but what if the trees are redwoods, a protected species?

Researchers from Pitt's School of Engineering are spearheading a \$2 million multi-institutional project intended to help engineering students solve such nuanced dilemmas as described above.

Larry Shuman, an industrial engineering professor and the engineering school's senior associate dean for academic affairs, and Mary Besterfield-Sacre, the Fulton C. Noss Faculty Fellow and professor of industrial engineering, will collaborate on the four-year project with colleagues from the California Polytechnic State University, Colorado School of Mines, Purdue University, University of Minnesota, and the U.S. Air Force Academy.

The project, supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation, seeks to extend the use of a mathematical problem-solving methodology known as model-eliciting activities, or MEAs, in teaching engineering. Only recently applied to engineering, MEAs present students with an open-ended case study that simulates a

real-world scenario and encourages them to develop creative and ethical resolutions. For example, students might play the roles of company engineers faced with products that have been found to fail and potentially could cause serious injury or death.

Shuman and Besterfield-Sacre will integrate MEAs into existing industrial engineering courses at Pitt to explore their effectiveness in helping students become better problem solvers. At the same time, they and their colleagues will note how students develop solutions in order to identify the areas of the problem-solving process educators should focus on most, Besterfield-Sacre said. They plan to present these results at conferences and in academic journals, as well as in workshops and through educational material for teachers at all educational levels.

“Sometimes engineers have to make decisions without having all the information, and we want to prepare students for that,” Shuman said. “We also want to understand how student teams identify and resolve engineering problems. We want to understand enough to model this type of problem-solving process and then improve learning.”



Mary Besterfield-Sacre (left) and Larry Shuman

## Grant Positions CMH as National Center of Excellence

New five-year, \$4.8 million effort in Pitt's GSPH to eliminate health disparities in Pittsburgh

By Amy Dugas Rose

The Center for Minority Health (CMH) in Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH) has been awarded a five-year, \$4.8 million grant to establish a Research Center of Excellence in Minority Health Disparities.

The grant was awarded by the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities, a part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The new multiyear grant positions CMH as a National Center of Excellence in translating evidence-based research into community-based interventions designed to prevent disease and promote health in Pittsburgh's African American community.

“This NIH funding will help our efforts to improve the translation of scientific findings into interventions that contribute to the elimination of racial and ethnic health disparities,” said Stephen B. Thomas, CMH director and the grant's principal investigator.

The Research Center of Excellence in Minority Health Disparities will embed rigorous scientific research within the Healthy Black Family Project, a health promotion and disease prevention program that has enrolled more than 6,000 participants in the Pittsburgh area in a lifestyle behavior-change intervention designed to increase physical activity, improve nutrition, reduce stress, and provide access to a medical home.

The Healthy Black Family Project is currently headquartered in East Liberty, with a satellite office in Wilkensburg, and is expanding to the Hill District and North Side to bring program activities closer to where people live, work, play, and worship.

“Public health faces many challenges, but there is no greater challenge than the elimination of health disparities,” said Donald S. Burke, GSPH dean and the Jonas Salk Chair in Global Health at Pitt.

“Eliminating disparities is a daunting task that will require more than just good intentions,” Burke said. “Excellent science, visionary leadership, and a deep moral commitment are required to bring about change. This NIH award confirms that the CMH has the leadership needed to bring exactly these strengths to the GSPH, the University, the region at large, and the nation.”

According to Thomas, who also is the Philip Hallen Professor of Community Health and Social Justice in GSPH, the NIH was impressed with the inclusion of representatives from African American organizations, local foundation leaders, the CMH Community Research Advisory Board, and people from the community as members of the leadership team in the new center.

“We have demonstrated how community partnerships must be more than ‘lip service’ in grant applications, and that it is feasible to develop and sustain a true partnership that benefits the African American community and the community of academic research scientists,” Thomas said.

As part of the new center, Charles Reynolds III, director of the Late Life Mood Disorders Center in the Department of Psychiatry in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, will serve as principal investigator of a study designed to prevent depression through the use of problem-solving therapy (PST).

PST is a behavioral treatment that teaches problem-solving orientation and skills. It teaches people to accept problems as a normal part of life, enhances belief in one's ability to solve them, develops active coping skills, and helps people plan daily pleasurable activities to combat worsening of mood and decreased activity.

“The Healthy Black Family staff will be trained in the PST method to increase their capacity to identify and avert early signs of depression, a condition commonly associated with people who also suffer from diabetes and cardiovascular disease,” Reynolds said.

The mission of the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities is to promote minority health and to lead, coordinate, support, and assist the NIH effort to reduce and ultimately eliminate health disparities.

Established in 1994 with a grant from the R.K. Mellon Foundation, the Center for Minority Health is committed to translating evidence-based research into community-based interventions and innovative outreach practices. The CMH provides the infrastructure for addressing health issues among ethnic and racial minorities and other vulnerable and underserved populations.

**“Public health faces many challenges, but there is no greater challenge than the elimination of health disparities.”**

—Donald S. Burke

## University's Commitment to Excellence

Continued from Page 5

had a “U.S. Steel Day” on campus this fall. And, of course, Homecoming gave us the chance to bring large numbers of graduates back to Pitt, reconnecting in a wide range of ways, through almost countless events and activities.

As I moved from event to event, there was one prevailing feeling—people liked to be back. They liked to be back, in part, because of the memories of their own pasts that their current presence triggered. But they also liked being back because they were proud to see what their University had become...and is still in the process of becoming.

There are some things that are very real—even if you cannot chart them or graph them or rank them. The growing pride in Pitt is one of those things—and you, as a board, have played a major role in shaping the progress upon which those feelings are built. That, in turn, ought to be a very special source of pride for you. Of course, as we constantly remind ourselves, it also is a source of pressure...welcome pressure...the pressure to keep things going.

Since we are just passing the midpoint of the first term, we still have a lot of time to get more good things done in this current academic year. In fact, we may have more time than was available last year, because without big birthdays to mark or big campaign goals to pass, less time will be invested in celebrations.

We are off to a very good start. And there is every reason to believe that this academic year will become just the most recent in an unbroken string of years in which the University of Pittsburgh becomes better, in meaningful ways, than it ever has been.

That has become the Pitt pattern. The fact that we have been able to forge such a sustained and dramatic record of progress is a tribute to the “people of Pitt”—faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends. And, of course, it all begins with you. Thanks, congratulations, and best wishes to us all for the important work that still lies ahead. Remember, as pleased as we may be about Pitt's recent progress and its current condition, one important aspect of our responsibilities is working to ensure that the best is yet to come.

# Happenings



**Mattress Factory**  
**India: New Installations, Part II**  
through Jan. 20

**"Post-Welfare Outcomes for African Americans and Hispanics,"** Andrew J. Cherlin, professor of public policy at Johns Hopkins University, noon-1:30 p.m. **Nov. 15**, School of Social Work Conference Center, 2017 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Center on Race and Social Problems, 412-624-7382, [www.crsp.pitt.edu](http://www.crsp.pitt.edu).

**"Demystifying the Grant Review Process,"** David Armstrong, professor of medicine and sociology at the National Institute of Mental Health, 3-5 p.m. **Nov. 15**, S100 Starzl Biomedical Science Tower, Pitt Office of Academic Career Development, Health Sciences, [www.oacd.health.pitt.edu](http://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu).

**"Roles for Polymer Chemistry in Designing Anti-Biofouling Surfaces,"** Karen Wooley, professor of chemistry at Washington University, 4 p.m. **Nov. 15**, 12 Chevron Science Center, Pitt Department of Chemistry, [www.chem.pitt.edu](http://www.chem.pitt.edu).

**"Acupuncture for the Relief of Chronic Pain,"** Engkeat Teh, acupuncture practitioner at Pitt Center for Integrative Medicine (CIM), 5:30 p.m. **Nov. 15**, CIM Shadyside Place, Suite 310, 580 S. Aiken Ave., Shadyside, 412-623-3023, <http://integrativemedicine.upmc.com>.

**"The Second Step: Developing a Business Plan,"** 7:30-10 a.m. **Nov. 16**, 104 Mervis Hall, 412-648-1542, Pitt Small Business Development Center, [www.sbdc.pitt.edu](http://www.sbdc.pitt.edu).

**"Defining Professionalism From the Perspective of Patients, Nurses, and Physicians,"** Gregory Makoul, professor of medicine at Northwestern University, noon-1 p.m. **Nov. 16**, Lecture Room 3, 4th Floor, Scaife Hall, Pitt Medical Education Grand Rounds, 412-648-9000, [www.medschool.pitt.edu/megr](http://www.medschool.pitt.edu/megr).

**"Synthetic Methodologies for the Preparation of Polymers and Nano-scale Objects,"** Karen Wooley, professor of chemistry at Washington University, 2 p.m. **Nov. 16**, 12B Chevron Science Center, Pitt Department of Chemistry, [www.chem.pitt.edu](http://www.chem.pitt.edu).

**"Fjords and Ice Sheet Dynamics: Lessons Learned From Applying Cosmogenic Radionuclides to the Northeastern Canadian Shield,"** Jason Briner, professor of geology at SUNY Buffalo, 4 p.m. **Nov. 16**, 11 Thaw Hall, Pitt Department of Geology and Planetary Science, [www.geology.pitt.edu](http://www.geology.pitt.edu).

**Mo Willems**, children's author, 10:30 a.m. **Nov. 17**, Carnegie Library Lecture Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Black, White, and Read All Over Series, 412-622-3114, [www.pittsburghlectures.org](http://www.pittsburghlectures.org).

**"Moral Psychology,"** George Loewenstein, professor of economics and psychology at Carnegie Mellon University, **Nov. 17-18**, 817 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Center for Philosophy of Science, [www.pitt.edu/~pittctr](http://www.pitt.edu/~pittctr).

**Kristofer Collins and Jacquelyn Seigle**, 2 p.m. **Nov. 18**, First Floor Quiet Reading Room, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Sunday Poetry and Reading Series, 412-622-3151, [www.carnegielibrary.org](http://www.carnegielibrary.org).

**Nathaniel Philbrick**, 7:30 p.m. **Nov. 19**, Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Drue Heinz Lectures, 412-624-4187, [www.pittsburghlectures.org](http://www.pittsburghlectures.org).

**Avenue Q**  
**Benedum Center**  
**Nov. 20-25**



## Lectures/Seminars/Readings

**"Do Anti-Dementia Drugs Really Work? Effectiveness of Cholinesterase Inhibitors, Memantine, and Antipsychotics,"** Lon S. Schneider, professor of psychiatry, neurology, and gerontology in the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine, 4 p.m. **today**, A115 Crabtree Hall, Pitt Graduate School of Public Health, 412-648-1294, [www.publichealth.pitt.edu](http://www.publichealth.pitt.edu).

**"Family Enterprise Program: Call to Order: Keeping Family Meetings Efficient and Interesting,"** 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. **Nov. 13**, the Duquesne Club, 325 Sixth Ave., Downtown, Pitt Small Business Development Center, 412-648-1544, [www.sbdc.pitt.edu](http://www.sbdc.pitt.edu).

**"Developing a Business Plan,"** 9-11 a.m. **Nov. 13**, Bradley House of Catering, 5239 Brownsville Rd., Pleasant Hills, Pitt Small Business Development Center, 412-306-8090, [www.sbdc.pitt.edu](http://www.sbdc.pitt.edu).

**"The First Step: Mechanics of Starting a Small Business,"** 8-10 a.m. **Nov. 14**, Comfort Inn Hotel, 237 Meadowslands Blvd., Washington, Pitt Small Business Development Center, 724-627-9054, [www.sbdc.pitt.edu](http://www.sbdc.pitt.edu).

**"How to Effect Change in Your Department: Lessons From the Pathology Women's Task Force,"** Marie C. DeFrances and Mona Melhem, Pitt professors of pathology, 7:30-9 a.m., **Nov. 14**, 1104 Scaife Hall, Pitt Office of Academic Career Development, [www.oacd.health.pitt.edu](http://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu).

**"Neuropathology of Gliomas and the Role of Pharmacogenomics,"** Roger E. McLendon, professor of pathology at Duke University Medical Center, noon **Nov. 14**, 1104 Scaife Hall, Annual Totten Lecture, 412-648-1260, <http://path.upmc.edu>.

**"Alternative Aesthetics, the Street, the Media, and the Environment,"** Miguel Rojas Sotelo, Pitt PhD candidate in contemporary art and cultural theory, noon-1 p.m. **Nov. 14**, 203 Frick Fine Arts Building, Pitt Department of the History of Art and Architecture, [www.haa.pitt.edu](http://www.haa.pitt.edu).

**Alison Malmon**, founder of Active Minds, 7:30 p.m. **Nov. 14**, Mukaiyama University Room, Frame-Westerberg Commons, Pitt-Bradford, [www.upb.pitt.edu](http://www.upb.pitt.edu).

**India: Culture and Religion**, panel discussion, 7 p.m. **Nov. 14**, Mattress Factory, 500 Sampsonia Way, Northside, part of *India: New Installation, Part II* exhibition, 412-231-3169, [www.mattressfactory.org](http://www.mattressfactory.org).

**"Conservation and Conflict: Ecotourism in a Fijian Village,"** Hao-Li Lin, Pitt postdoctoral student in anthropology, noon **Nov. 15**, 4130 Posyar Hall, Asia Over Lunch Lecture Series, 412-648-7370, [www.ucis.pitt.edu](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu).

## Miscellaneous

**Alice Waters and Her Delicious Revolution**, PBS documentary, 7 p.m. **Nov. 14**, Silver Eye Center for Photography, 1015 E. Carson St., Southside, 412-431-1810, [www.silvereye.org](http://www.silvereye.org).

**3 Rivers Film Festival**, various times and locations, **through Nov. 15**, 412-681-5449, [www.3RFF.com](http://www.3RFF.com).

**Fourth Annual Regional Equitable Development Summit**, featuring keynote speaker David Rusk, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Nov. 16**, Twentieth Century Club, 4201 Bigelow Blvd., Oakland, Pitt's Johnson Institute for Responsible Leadership, 412-258-6642, [www.sustainablepittsburgh.org](http://www.sustainablepittsburgh.org).

**Cruel and Unusual: A Novel** by Patricia D. Cornwell, mystery book discussion, 1 p.m. **Nov. 16**, Teen Quiet Study Room, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3151, [www.carnegielibrary.org](http://www.carnegielibrary.org).

**Farmers' Market**, 3:30-6:30 p.m. **Nov. 16**, Sennott Street between Atwood Street and Meyran Avenue, Oakland Business Improvement District, 412-683-6243, [www.onlyinoakland.org](http://www.onlyinoakland.org).

**Strange Candy** by Laurell K. Hamilton, horror book discussion, 6:30 p.m. **Nov. 19**, Director's Conference Room, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3151, [www.carnegielibrary.org](http://www.carnegielibrary.org).

## Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

**Donna Talerico**, School of Education, "A Comparison of Morphemic Analysis and Whole Word Meaning Instruction on Sixth Grade Students Knowledge of Prefixes, Taught Words and Transfer Words," 1:30 p.m. **Nov. 15**, Learning Research and Development Center.

**Maria del Pilar Melgarejo Acosta**, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature, "El lenguaje de la regeneración: producción del discurso político en Colombia y México," 3:30-5:30 p.m. **Nov. 26**, 1309a Cathedral of Learning.

## Opera/Theater/Dance

**Break! The Urban Funk Spectacular**, 7:30 p.m. **Nov. 15**, Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center, Pitt-Johnstown, 814-269-7535, [www.upj.pitt.edu](http://www.upj.pitt.edu).

**Chunky Move's Glow**, 8 p.m. **Nov. 15-16**, Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, 412-456-6666, [www.pgharts.org](http://www.pgharts.org).

**House of Blue Leaves**, 7:30 p.m. **Nov. 15-17**, Ferguson Theater, Pitt-Greensburg, 724-836-7483, [www.upg.pitt.edu](http://www.upg.pitt.edu).



**House of Blue Leaves**  
**Ferguson Theater, UPG**  
**Nov. 15-17**

**Uncle Vanya** by Anton Chekhov, **Nov. 15-18**, Studio Theatre, Blaisdell Hall, Pitt-Bradford, [www.upb.pitt.edu](http://www.upb.pitt.edu).

**This Wonderful Life**, 8 p.m. **Nov. 15-Dec. 16**, O'Reilly Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theater, 412-316-1600, [www.pgharts.org](http://www.pgharts.org).

**Chunky Move's I Want to Dance Better at Parties**, 8 p.m. **Nov. 17**, Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, 412-456-6666, [www.pgharts.org](http://www.pgharts.org).

**Lewis Black**, comedy performance, 8 p.m. **Nov. 17**, Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, 412-456-6666, [www.lewisblack.net](http://www.lewisblack.net).

**Desdemona: A Play About a Handkerchief** by Paula Vogel, 8 p.m. **through Nov. 18**, Stephen Foster Memorial's Henry Heymann Theatre, Pitt Repertory Theatre, 412-624-PLAY (7529), [www.playpitt.edu](http://www.playpitt.edu).

**The Elixir of Love**, **through Nov. 18**, Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Opera, 412-281-0912, [www.pittsburghopera.org](http://www.pittsburghopera.org).

**Avenue Q**, Broadway musical, 8 p.m. **Nov. 20-25**, Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, PNC Broadway Across America Series, 412-471-6930, [www.avenuq.com](http://www.avenuq.com).

**Copihue-Chile (Dancing From Chile)**, 2-3 p.m. **Nov. 25**, First Floor Quiet Reading Room, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3151, [www.carnegielibrary.org](http://www.carnegielibrary.org).

**Murderers**, 8 p.m. **through Dec. 16**, Lester Hamburg Studio, 57 S. 13th St., South Side, City Theater, 412-431-2849, [www.pgharts.org](http://www.pgharts.org).

## University Special Events

**Pitt-Bradford Open House**, 5-7 p.m. **Nov. 13**, Hanley Library, Admissions Office, 814-362-7555, [www.upb.pitt.edu](http://www.upb.pitt.edu).

## Workshops

**K99/R00**, Joan M. Lakoski and Robert J. Milner, 8:30-10:30 a.m. **Nov. 13**, S100 Starzl Biomedical Science Tower, Pitt Office of Academic Career Development, Health Sciences, [www.oacd.health.pitt.edu](http://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu).

**General K Award**, Joan M. Lakoski and Robert J. Milner, 3-5 p.m. **Nov. 13**, S100 Starzl Biomedical Science Tower, Pitt Office of Academic Career Development, Health Sciences, [www.oacd.health.pitt.edu](http://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu).

## Concerts

**Music Monday: Informal Recitals by Pitt Music Students**, 8 p.m. **today**, Bellefield Hall Auditorium, Pitt Department of Music, 412-624-4125, [www.music.pitt.edu](http://www.music.pitt.edu).

**Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra** with host Monica Mancini, *Mancini at the Movies*, **Nov. 15-18**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., 412-392-4900, [www.pittsburghsymphony.org](http://www.pittsburghsymphony.org).

**Chatham Baroque Peanut Butter and Jam**, 10 a.m. **Nov. 17**, Calvary Episcopal Church, 315 Shady Ave., 412-661-0120, [www.calvaryppgh.org](http://www.calvaryppgh.org).

**Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra**, *Firebird* by Igor Stravinsky, *Piano Concerto No. 3* by Prokofiev, *Burlesque* by Respighi, 8 p.m. **Nov. 23-25**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., 412-392-4900, [www.pittsburghsymphony.org](http://www.pittsburghsymphony.org).

## Exhibitions

**KOA Art Gallery**, *Rocket Science: An Exhibition of Paintings by Heather Levy*, **through Nov. 16**, Blaisdell Hall, Pitt-Bradford, [www.upb.pitt.edu](http://www.upb.pitt.edu).

**Hillman Library**, *Rose-breasted Grosbeak*, **through Nov. 19**, Ground Floor, 412-648-8191, [www.library.pitt.edu](http://www.library.pitt.edu).

**Regina Gouger Miller Gallery**, *Patria Maurides, Michelle Stitzlein, and Julie Stunden*, **through Dec. 21**, Purnell Center for the Arts, 5000 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Carnegie Mellon University, 412-268-3618, [www.cmu.edu/millergallery](http://www.cmu.edu/millergallery).

**The Andy Warhol Museum**, *Andy and Oz: Parallel Visions, A National Gallery of Australia 25th Anniversary Exhibition, Georgia O'Keeffe and Andy Warhol, and Elusive Signs: Bruce Nauman Works With Light*, all **through Dec. 30**, 117 Sandusky St., 412-237-8300, [www.warhol.org](http://www.warhol.org).

**Wood Street Galleries**, *Workin' Down Under*, **through Dec. 31**, 601 Wood St., Downtown, 412-471-5605, [www.woodstreetgalleries.org](http://www.woodstreetgalleries.org).

**Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center**, *Points in Time, Glass: Shattering Notions, and Discovery Place*, both **through Dec. 31**, 1212 Smallman St., Strip District, 412-454-6000, [www.pghhistory.org](http://www.pghhistory.org).

**Carnegie Museum of Art**, *Picturing Childhood: Pictorialist Family Photography, c. 1890-1940*, **through Jan. 13**, *On a Grand Scale: The Hall of Architecture at 100*, **through Jan. 27**, and *Design to Be Lit*, **through Feb. 10**, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-441-9786 ext. 224, [www.cmoa.org](http://www.cmoa.org).

**Mattress Factory**, *India: New Installations, Part II*, **through Jan. 20**, 500 Sampsonia Way, Northside, 412-231-3169, [www.mattressfactory.org](http://www.mattressfactory.org).



# Education's Berman Examines Learning in Face of Bosnian War

By Patricia Lomando White

David Berman has made many trips to Sarajevo, but it was his first trip there, to the University of Sarajevo in 1995, that set the stage for his work in Sarajevo and his resulting two books. When he made that initial trip, he was carrying with him an article from the Dec. 14, 1994, *Chronicle of Higher Education* about the struggles of Bosnia's universities during the war.

His second book, *The War Schools of Dobrinja: Reading, Writing, and Resistance During the Siege of Sarajevo*, will be published this month by Caddo Gap Press.

"The (*Chronicle*) article made such an impression on me," said Berman, a professor and coordinator of social studies education in the Department of Instruction and Learning in Pitt's School of Education. In the article, Bosnian faculty members are quoted as saying that everyone had deserted them. "It was an indictment of the university community," Berman said. "No university had tried to help."

In the fall of 1994, Seth Spaulding, now a Pitt professor emeritus of education and then director of the Institute for International Studies in Education in Pitt's School of Education, initiated the Program in Educational Policy, Planning, and Technical Cooperation in Bosnia-Herzegovina (BIH) under the auspices of UNICEF.

The project's mission was to assess the work needed to lay the groundwork for efficient, effective, and relevant postwar education in BIH.

It was at Spaulding's invitation that Berman made the 1995 trip to Bosnia. One of the first people Berman met in the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Sarajevo, located 100 yards from the front line, was Zvonimir Radeljkić, chair of the Department of English Language and Literature, who was pictured in the *Chronicle* article.

Berman remembered holding up the *Chronicle* article next to Radeljkić and



David Berman poses with a poster of opera superstar Luciano Pavarotti in Sarajevo in 2006, when Pavarotti was declared an honorary citizen by Sarajevo's authorities because of his support for Bosnia during the 1992-95 war.



saying to him, "This is you!"

The experience of meeting Radeljkić at the University of Sarajevo stayed with Berman.

Like Berman, Radeljkić was a university educator. He and his colleagues were saying that the Western world had abandoned them. Berman noted the pathos of it all: "I saw Sarajevo in starker terms—the bullet holes in the walls, no heat, and they were still trying to have classes."

For Berman, the question was how they managed to do this. He then asked, "How can I help?" And Radeljkić invited him to come back to teach.

By the afternoon of the day of Berman's arrival in Sarajevo, three children had been killed by snipers, and the United Nations Protection Force had closed off the road to

the university. Berman couldn't return to the school.

Berman, who had been a high school teacher years before, planned to return to Sarajevo the following summer to teach at the university, but the fighting escalated. Radeljkić told him to wait, because it wasn't safe. Berman went back to teach just after the siege was lifted, in the spring of 1996.

"Part of my responsibility (at Pitt) is to transform our students into teachers," explained Berman. "Here was the perfect example for me to show students that teaching is more than methodology and to give them a wider perspective on teaching. What were the lessons for us in this incredible struggle to continue educating students in spite of the war? What could I bring back as a teacher/educator that would benefit our students?"

Berman's connection to Bosnia has endured. For more than a decade, he has conducted research to understand how the citizens of Bosnia reconstructed their educational system and lives during the four years of the siege. He received two Fulbright Scholar Awards, in 2001 and 2006, to help fund his research.

Berman's first book, *The Heroes of Treća Gimnazija: A War School in Sarajevo, 1992-1995* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2001), was about an academic preparatory school on the front lines that was destroyed by shelling in the early days of the siege of Sarajevo, in 1992. The second book is a case study of the war schools of the Dobrinja community, which enemy forces cut off completely from Sarajevo in the first months of the Bosnian war.

In his initial research for *The War Schools of Dobrinja*, Berman learned of the Dobrinja War School Center, created by a group of Bosnian educators, that served as the administrative framework for elementary and secondary education.

At the time of the siege, approximately 3,000 elementary school children lived in Dobrinja. There were three elementary schools, two of which were on the front lines, and the third, located in the middle of the settlement, was shelled into rubble.

This left no physical school building for these children. There also were 800 to 1,000 secondary school children who had attended schools outside Dobrinja.

"All the children of Dobrinja needed to find alternatives," explained Berman. "They were taught in basements, shelters, stairways, corridors—in any available building that was relatively safe, since there were snipers and shelling across the whole city."

In the preface of his new book, Berman quotes Smail Vesnić, former director of the Dobrinja War School Center and now an expert advisor for the Ministry of Education and Science of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina: "We didn't fight with guns, we fought in this way, to defend our homes, our families. We saved those kids. We moved them from the streets to the classroom, and we saved them."

According to Berman, it was important to continue to educate the children in spite of the chaos. In the book, he relates the Bosnian war schools to the schools of the East European ghettos during the Holocaust. There were the same struggles. Being in school helped the children to forget about the horror that was going on around them.

"This is a story of the human condition and the human spirit," said Berman. "Schooling is the lens through which we view the Sarajevo community under conditions of extremity."

**PUBLICATION NOTICE** The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published Nov. 26. The deadline for submitting information is noon Nov. 21. Items for publication in the newspaper's *Happenings* events calendar (see page 7) should be submitted to [chron@pitt.edu](mailto:chron@pitt.edu). *Happenings* items should include the following information: title of the event, name and title of speaker(s), date, time, location, sponsor(s), and a phone number and Web site for additional information. Items may be faxed to 412-624-4895 or sent by campus mail to 422 Craig Hall. For more information, call 412-624-1033.