

Giuliani, Thornburgh Help Dedicate Waldman Room



Friends of the late U.S. District Judge Jay C. Waldman join Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg at the ribbon-cutting ceremony Tuesday for a new seminar room in Hillman Library. From left are Nordenberg; Ed Weiss, chief counsel at Time Warner Inc.; Dan Shapiro, a Pittsburgh attorney; Shanin Specter, a Philadelphia attorney; Pitt trustee and former Pennsylvania Governor Dick Thornburgh; Roberta Waldman, wife of the late jurist; former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani; U.S. Senator Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania; Paul Critchlow, vice chair of Merrill Lynch & Co.; and Michael Smerconish, Philadelphia author and talk-show host.

By Jason Togyer

With laughter and a few tears, friends and family of the late U.S. District Judge Jay C. Waldman remembered his life during the dedication Tuesday of a new Hillman Library seminar room named in Waldman's honor.

The intentionally low-key ceremony was a surprise to Pitt students using the library, who got the unexpected chance to mingle with Republican presidential candidate Rudolph Giuliani. The former mayor of New York City interrupted his campaign to participate in the Waldman tribute.

A close friend of Waldman, Giuliani joined Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg, U.S. Senator Arlen Specter, former Pennsylvania Governor Richard L. Thornburgh

(LAW '57), and dozens of other dignitaries to officially open the new Judge Jay C. Waldman Seminar Room.

Located on Hillman's first floor, the wood-paneled study area will be used for seminars by faculty and students. Shelves and walls display a selection of artifacts from Waldman's career, including photos, newspaper clippings, and his law school textbooks, many of which are annotated in his own hand.

The seminar room adjoins the library's Dick Thornburgh Room—an appropriate place, Nordenberg said, because Waldman served as one of Thornburgh's most trusted advisors for more than 30 years, and they often had adjoining offices.

Thornburgh, who Nordenberg called a "source of inspiration to Pitt students and faculty," is a Pitt trustee and former U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania who also served as U.S. Attorney General in the Reagan and George H.W. Bush administrations. The University has been the official repository for Thornburgh's papers since 1998 and has hosted the Thornburgh Family Lecture Series on Disability Law and Policy since 2003.

Waldman "had the capacity and planning ability to prepare for political and governmental challenges that no one else anticipated," Thornburgh said. "He developed what I called the ability to see around corners."

A Pittsburgh native and alumnus of Taylor Allderidge High School in the city's Squirrel Hill neighborhood, Waldman, who died in 2003 at the age of 58, was a graduate of Yale University and the University of Pennsylvania Law School. In 1971, he served as assistant U.S. attorney under Thornburgh, then followed him to a post at the U.S. Justice Department in Washington, D.C., under President Ford.

After managing Thornburgh's successful Pennsylvania gubernatorial campaign in 1978, Waldman went to Harrisburg as one of the new governor's "Five Musketeers"—his inner circle of close advisers.

As executive assistant and general counsel to Thornburgh, Waldman became famous for his willingness to take the heat when the governor made difficult political decisions. The *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin* called him "the power behind the throne," while the *Philadelphia Inquirer* called him Pennsylvania's "shadow governor."

In 1988, Waldman was appointed a U.S. district court judge and began serving on the federal bench in Philadelphia. He was nominated by President George W. Bush to the Third U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in 2003, but died of lung cancer while waiting to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

Waldman lived his life "at the intersection of law, politics, and intellectualism," Specter said. "What a fitting tribute that he should be honored with a seminar room where people can think about those things and try to emulate his achievements."

Giuliani said he met Waldman in 1975, when both were federal prosecutors—one in New York, the other in Pittsburgh. The two bonded over their common love of the law—and cigars, he said. In later years, Giuliani came to depend on Waldman's reliable, no-nonsense personal and profes-

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Pederson Returns to Lead University's Athletic Department

By E.J. Borghetti

Together they orchestrated a major revitalization of Pitt athletics that resulted in nationally ranked programs and state-of-the-art facilities.

That team re-formed Friday when Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg announced the return of Steve Pederson as the University's athletic director.

Nordenberg originally tapped Pederson to head Pitt's athletic department in October 1996. During the next six years, the Panthers' athletic fortunes elevated dramatically, on and off the field, prompting a Pittsburgh newspaper to dub Pitt "Comeback U."

Pederson departed Pitt in December 2002 to become athletic director at his alma mater, the University of Nebraska. He returns to Pittsburgh nearly 11 years to the day of his initial Pitt appointment by Nordenberg.

"For six exciting years, Steve Pederson led the University of Pittsburgh through a period of unprecedented progress in intercollegiate athletics," Nordenberg said. "For many, the most visible development was

the stunning transformation of our athletic facilities. But this also was a period in which our teams competed at dramatically higher

levels, national attention was reignited, fan interest and attendance soared, programs for the overall development of our student-athletes were strengthened, and uncompromising standards of institutional integrity were maintained. In my judgment, and this assessment is shared by countless others, Steve Pederson is one of this country's most talented and accomplished athletic directors, and I am very pleased that he is returning to Pitt."

"I am grateful to Chancellor Nordenberg for the opportunity to again be part of this great University, city, and region," Pederson said. "Leaving here five years ago was the hardest professional decision of my life. Coming back was the easiest. As great

as the past has been at Pitt, the future is even brighter. I am thrilled to be able to work with Pitt's great coaches and staff, and I'm

anxious to get to know our student-athletes. My wife, Tami, and I are also excited to renew acquaintances with our great Pitt fans and welcome many new fans to the Panther family."

"Steve was the person who originally convinced me to come to the University of Pittsburgh back in 1999," Pitt men's basketball coach Jamie Dixon said. "He has continued to be a tremendous friend and a person I have regularly sought out for advice and direction over the years. I am incredibly excited that Steve and his family are returning to our University. Everyone in our department is going to benefit from his leadership."

During his initial Pitt tenure, Pederson hired six Big East Conference Coach-of-the-

"I am grateful to Chancellor Nordenberg for the opportunity to again be part of this great University, city, and region."

—Steve Pederson



Steve Pederson

Year honorees (football, men's and women's basketball, baseball, track and field, and volleyball), an unprecedented achievement by a Big East athletic director.

Continued on Page 3

Briefly Noted

Pitt to Offer Holiday Dinner To Needy and Homeless Dec. 25

Pitt's Marketplace will host the Second Annual Salvation Army Christmas Dinner for the homeless and needy on Dec. 25.

The event marks the second year that the Pitt Volunteer Pool and the Salvation Army have organized the free dinner. About 400 adults and children are expected this year, said Gwen Watkins, a special events coordinator with the University's Office of Community and Governmental Relations. The meal is also open to University students who are unable to return home for the holidays, she said.

Dinner will be served in the lower level of Litchfield Towers from approximately 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Santa will make an appearance to give presents to the children, and Mrs. Claus will read stories.

Everyone attending will receive a gift bag, which will include a hat-and-glove set.

Watkins said donations of new hat-and-glove sets—for children or for adults—can be delivered to 710 Alumni Hall by Mon., Dec. 10. Anyone wanting to volunteer for the event can contact Watkins at 412-624-7702.

The Pitt Volunteer Pool was formed in 1991 by Pitt staff and faculty who were interested in volunteering for local nonprofit organizations. The pool comprises 2,500 faculty and staff who work primarily in teams on more than 100 community projects.

—Jane-Ellen Robinet

Sala Udin to Discuss Race, Poverty, and Sprawl Issues

Sala Udin, president and CEO of the Coro Center for Civic Leadership in Pittsburgh and a former Pittsburgh City Council member, will deliver a lecture today on social problems associated with urban decline.

The lecture, from noon to 1:30 p.m., will be held at Pitt's Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP), 2017 Cathedral of Learning. CRSP is part of Pitt's School of Social Work.

The talk, which is free and open to the public, is part of the Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney Fall 2007 Speaker Series. Lunch will be provided, and registration is not required.

Udin's lecture, titled "Challenges of Race, Poverty, and Sprawl," will examine what he calls "profound demographic changes over the past 50 years in the population and resources of the urban core." He said that underrepresented people are locked in, prevented from accessing jobs, housing, and quality education. Meanwhile, he said, the quality of life inside the urban core continues to deteriorate. "The long-term viability of the region is inextricably bound to the viability of the urban core to which it is connected," Udin says. "If the heart fails, the body dies."

During his 11 years on Pittsburgh City Council, Udin became known as a voice for the poor and oppressed. He led the city's contracting of a disparity study, which resulted in an unprecedented number of underrepresented groups obtaining jobs or construction contracts for the demolition of Three Rivers Stadium and the construction of PNC Park and Heinz Field. Udin served as chair of city council's finance and budget committee for three successive two-year terms.

Coro is a national nonprofit organization that seeks to strengthen the democratic process by preparing

individuals for effective and ethical leadership in the public arena. It has operations in Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, St. Louis, Kansas City, and Cleveland.

For more information about today's lecture, call 412-624-7382.

—Sharon S. Blake

Director of Smart-Growth Partnership At UPG Elected President of Pa. Planning Association

Alexander J. Graziani was elected to a two-year term as president of the Pennsylvania Planning Association (PPA).

Graziani is executive director of the Smart Growth Partnership of Westmoreland County, which is based at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. Founded in 2001, the center works to support meaningful economic growth that also improves residents' quality of life.

PPA is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization for professional planners and planning officials, as well as other organizations and individuals interested in planning. It is a chapter of the national American Planning Association.

Graziani previously served two terms as vice president and one term as treasurer of PPA. In 2004, Gov. Ed Rendell appointed him to serve a four-year term on the reactivated Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Graziani received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Westminster College and his Master of Public Policy and Management degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

—Wendy Mackall

UPB Names Director for Business Resource Center

Ann R. Robinson was named director of the Business Resource Center at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, effective Oct. 1.

The center helps entrepreneurs begin or expand a business by assisting in the writing of business plans, identifying financial help and training programs, and analyzing finances and products.

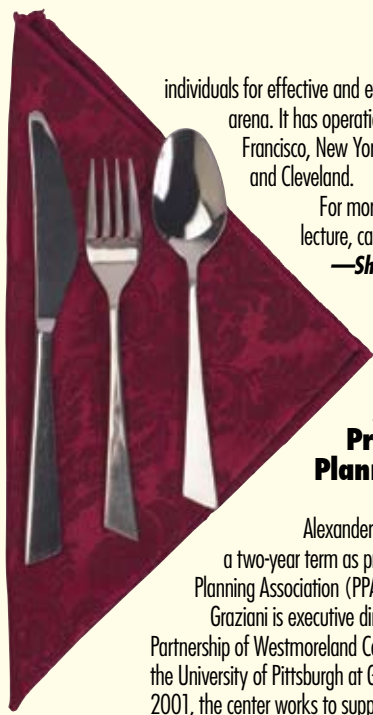
"The Business Resource Center is an integral part of Pitt-Bradford, and Ann Robinson has played a key role in making it a success," said Bridgett Passauer, UPB director of auxiliary services, who oversees the resource center.

Robinson said the center assesses clients' needs and points them to the appropriate small-business resources available. "It's all about collaboration and regional partnerships," she said.

Robinson is also responsible for the administration of the WEDnetPA Program, Pennsylvania's Guaranteed Free Training Program. She assists regional manufacturing and technology-based businesses in applying for and receiving grant funds for job training. In this fiscal year, Pitt-Bradford and the Business Resource Center, as a WEDnetPA Partner, will help to bring more than \$330,000 in training dollars to the region.

Robinson, who has been with the center since 2002, was its interim director prior to her appointment. Previously, she served as a field executive for the Keystone Tall Tree Girl Scout Council for 10 years and owned Ready, Set, Grow child development center for five years.

—Kimberly Marcott Weinberg



Education, History Dept. Team Up for Joint Degree

New master's combines graduate study in history with certification in secondary education



By Patricia Lomando White

Pitt's School of Education and the Department of History in the School of Arts and Sciences have joined to offer the Master of Arts in History Education (MAHE) degree, a new degree that combines graduate study in history with professional training and certification in secondary social studies education.

According to David Berman, education professor and coordinator of the Social Studies Education Program in the School of Education, the idea for the MAHE is to better prepare history and social studies teachers to begin their careers on a solid intellectual and pedagogical footing, adjust

to changing curricular demands, and remain engaged in their profession.

The history department and education's Social Studies Education Program developed the new degree program.

"As envisioned, the MAHE offers future teachers the opportunity to conduct graduate study in history to learn the craft of the historian, and to develop professional relations with faculty and peers," said William Chase, Pitt professor of history. "Graduates not only earn their certification, but also get to experience the rigors of demanding disciplinary training." The two-year program requires students to take graduate-level history courses during the first year and courses in the School of Education's Master of Arts in Teaching and Professional Year programs in the second year.

Program graduates will acquire the history expertise required for the Master of Arts in history. They will also earn the Instruction I certification in secondary social studies education that is required to teach history and social studies in Pennsylvania public schools.

In addition to the academic coursework needed to fulfill the MAHE degree requirements, students must pass the PRAXIS I General Knowledge test to be admitted to the program. They must also take the PRAXIS II Content Knowledge test, generally taken during the second summer of the program, to obtain the Internship Certification required for the internship field experience in the schools.

The MAHE provides stipends from participating school districts for their internship experience upon receipt of the Internship Certificate. During the second year of the program, students will serve an internship field experience in a local school district from September through June of the public school year.

Applications for admission to the MAHE can be found on the history department's Web site at www.pitt.edu/~pithist/graduate/ and on the School of Education Web site at www.education.pitt.edu. The deadline for applications for the first year of the program is Jan. 15, 2008.

Chronicling

An ongoing series highlighting University of Pittsburgh history



Dec. 3, 1942—Pitt was mourning the loss of the first "flying ace" of World War II and the youngest lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Air Forces (AAF). Boyd D. "Buzz" Wagner, 26, had taken off several days earlier in a P-40 fighter plane on a routine flight from Alabama to Elgin, Fla. He never arrived. It was months before the plane's wreckage was found 25 miles north of Elgin.

A native of Nanty Glo, Pa., Wagner entered Pitt in 1934 to study aeronautical engineering, but dropped out three years later to enlist in the AAF. He was stationed in the Philippines when the Japanese declared war on the United States.

On Dec. 12, 1941, Wagner, flying alone on a reconnaissance mission, was attacked by two groups of Japanese fighter planes. He shot down four and outraced the others. Five days later, Wagner and two other pilots attacked a Japanese air base, destroying nine planes and damaging seven others.

His exploits earned him the Distinguished Service Cross, and *Time* magazine called him "the best, the bravest, the hottest pilot, and the swiftest guy in the Air Forces." In 1953, a new high school at Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines was named in his honor.

CORRECTION

In the story "37 Weeks and Counting: Jazz Week Capped With Sold-Out Concert" (*Pitt Chronicle*, Nov. 12), the name of jazz musician Joe Bonadio was misspelled.

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Pederson Returns to Pitt



During his first stint as Pitt's athletic director, Pederson oversaw completion of the John M. and Gertrude E. Petersen Events Center

Continued from Page 1

In 1999, he charged an unknown coach from Northern Arizona University with the task of resurrecting the Panthers' struggling men's basketball program. That coach, Ben Howland, would build Pitt into a Big East power and was named the consensus National Coach of the Year in 2002.

Pitt, which had not been to the NCAA Tournament in nine years, advanced to the "Sweet 16" in 2002 after posting a school-record 29 victories. The following season, Pitt would reach No. 2 in the polls, capture its first Big East Tournament championship, and again advance to the NCAA regional semifinals.

Since that time, Pitt basketball has become one of the nation's most consistent winners, advancing to six consecutive NCAA tournaments from 2002 to 2007.

Pitt football was revitalized under Pederson's watch. Upon his arrival, the Panthers were coming off seven consecutive seasons without a bowl. By the end of his tenure, Pitt earned four bowl berths in six years, including back-to-back postseason wins in 2001 and 2002.

The '02 team finished 9-4, the program's best mark in 20 years, and ranked No. 18 in the final polls.

Pitt enjoyed tremendous achievements in attendance under Pederson. In NCAA Division I men's basketball, Pitt ranked among the nation's top five schools in attendance increase for two consecutive years (2001-02 and 2002-03).

The 2002-03 basketball season—the

inaugural campaign in the 12,508-seat Petersen Events Center—was sold out.

In football, Pederson formed a marketing and ticket-pricing plan that resulted in record attendance for the 2003 season. Season tickets were sold out for the '03 campaign as the Panthers averaged an all-time record 59,197 fans for their home season, surpassing the previous mark of 54,818 set in 1982.

Pederson's tenure witnessed a major strengthening of Pitt's athletic infrastructure.

With Nordenberg, he helped shape the vision of the Petersen Events Center, the state-of-the-art convocation center that dramatically revolutionized Pitt's campus upon its opening in 2002.

The Petersen Center is widely considered one of the finest college basketball venues in the country, and it also has been a major asset for student life, providing outstanding recreational facilities and an impressive venue for graduation ceremonies.

Pederson was at the forefront of the football program's move into the UPMC Sports Performance Complex, which included the forging of a unique relationship between UPMC, a professional sports franchise, and college athletic program.

Pitt football gained a sparkling new home in Heinz Field under Pederson's watch in 2001. The Panthers created a prominent presence at the new stadium with their logos on the seating, gates and signage. Pederson additionally initiated the renaming of Martindale Street to "Tony Dorsett Drive" to further enhance Pitt's identity on the North Shore.

Fitzgerald Field House underwent a major renovation in 1998-99, providing Pitt's Olympic sports programs with new locker and training facilities. Trees Field also underwent major upgrades to accommodate both baseball and Pitt's new softball program.

Pederson and his wife have three children: Mark, Kari, and Kristin.



Pitt education senior John DeGroot and many former Pitt basketball players returned to pay tribute to the late Bill Baierl during an alumni game Nov. 4. Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg (inset) served as one of the referees.

Athletics Honors Baierl With First Alumni Game

By Greg Hotchkiss

Pitt basketball stars of the past have paid tribute to one of the most generous and enthusiastic contributors to the University's athletics programs.

The inaugural Bill Baierl Alumni Game was held Nov. 4 at the Petersen Events Center in honor of the former basketball letterman and dedicated long-time supporter of the Pitt athletics program.

William R. Baierl, who during a five-decade career in business turned a single car dealership in Beaver County, Pa., into a \$200 million chain of automobile businesses, died April 14, 2007. He was 78.

Baierl (EDUC '51) provided the lead gift for the construction of the Petersen Center's 43,000-square foot Baierl Student Recreation Center and the Baierl Basketball Center, which houses Pitt's locker rooms, team meeting rooms, and training and practice facilities.

Festivities at the event included an autograph signing session during halftime of the women's game, a video tribute celebrating Baierl's life, and a 30-minute alumni game.

The video tribute featured interviews with Pitt women's basketball coach Agnus Berenato, Pitt men's basketball coach Jamie Dixon, and Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg.

Baierl's wife, Carole, and cousin, Lee, both spoke to the audience. A moment of silence in Baierl's honor also was observed.

Then a group of Pitt alumni—divided into Blue and Gold squads—battled for the first alumni game title in a closely contested game, with the Blues defeating the Golds, 51-48.

The Golds battled back from a large halftime deficit. After the Golds' Darren Morningstar (CAS '91) hit one of two free throws to cut the Blues' lead to 49-48, the Blues' Bobby Martin (CAS '91) was fouled. Martin hit both of his free throw attempts, and the Golds trailed by three points with 10 seconds remaining.

On the next possession, the Golds' Antonio Graves (CAS '07) hit a 3-pointer, but the points were disallowed because Gold coaches Barry Rohrssen, Curtis Aiken,

(CGS '87) and Sam Clancy had inadvertently called a timeout before the shot.

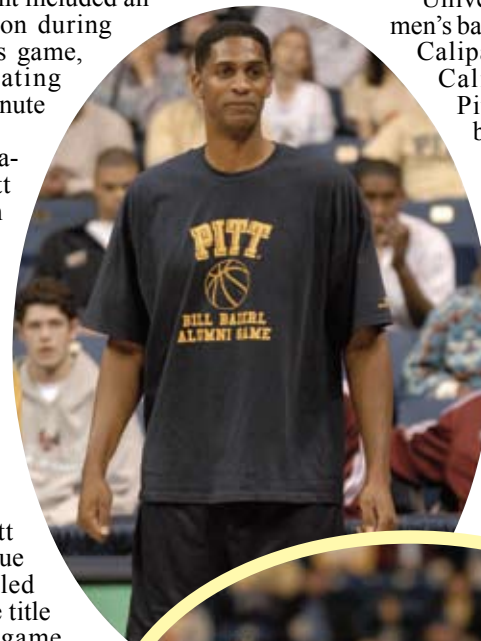
Clancy was a basketball standout for Pitt until 1981, when he left to pursue a career in the National Basketball Association. He returned to Pitt in 2006 to complete his degree. Rohrssen, now head men's basketball coach at Manhattan College, was a Pitt assistant coach and associate head coach.

With four seconds left, the Golds had an opportunity to score but missed several shots—including one blocked by Charles Smith (CAS '88)—to give the Blues its 51-48 win.

Smith, Big East Rookie of the Year in 1984-85, Big East Player of the Year in 1988, Pitt's leading all-time scorer, and 1988 Olympic bronze medalist, was one of many former Pitt basketball standouts who participated.

University of Memphis men's basketball coach John Calipari also attended. Calipari is a former Pitt assistant men's basketball coach.

For more information, visit: pittsburghpanthers.cstv.com



Top photo: Alumni games organizer and participant Charles Smith (CAS '88). Bottom: Carole Baierl along with Bill Baierl's cousin, Lee Baierl, share remarks before the game.

MEDICAL MISSION



Two Pitt faculty traveled with Project Africa Global Inc. (PAG) to Manzini, Swaziland, this summer to present an anesthesia machine to Raleigh Firkin Memorial Hospital. The machine—the first of its kind at the hospital—was donated by Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC.

Shown with hospital staff are, second from left, Condesa Curley-Haley (CAS '76), chief executive officer of PAG, and, center, Margaret Larkins-Pettigrew, a professor in the Pitt Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproduction in Pitt's School of Medicine and director of the department's Global Health Program. Not shown is Larkins-Pettigrew's husband, Chenits Pettigrew, assistant dean of student affairs and director of diversity programs in Pitt's School of Medicine.

Based in Los Angeles and maintaining an office in the Pittsburgh area, PAG is a nonprofit organization that links health care resources in the United States with the developing countries of Africa. As part of their work with PAG, Pettigrew and Larkins-Pettigrew have traveled to Africa for the past three years to treat patients, present a medical conference, and teach teenagers about the prevention of HIV/AIDS.

Science & Technology

Pitt Cardiologists Identify New Gene Responsible for Sudden Cardiac Arrest

By Maureen McGaffin

Researchers in Pitt's School of Medicine have identified a new gene responsible for a rare, inherited form of sudden cardiac arrest known as Brugada syndrome.

The team hopes identification of this new gene will shed light on more common causes of heart attacks and heart failure, and will help the development of new, effective therapeutic treatments that will prevent all types of fatal arrhythmias.

The team was led by Barry London, the Harry S. Tack professor of medicine, chief of the division of cardiology in Pitt's School of Medicine, and director of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Cardiovascular Institute.

Their findings were reported in the Nov. 12 issue of *Circulation: Journal of the American Heart Association*. The paper is online and available by going to circ.ahajournals.org.

Brugada syndrome is a rare inherited arrhythmia, more commonly found in men. It can be discovered when the patient has an electrocardiogram (ECG) after reporting unexplained fainting spells.

In about 20 percent of Brugada syndrome patients, mutations in the heart's sodium channels lead to less current flow and shorter heartbeats in part of the heart. That puts patients at risk for rapid, abnormal heart rhythms. Without warning, a seemingly healthy patient can pass out or suffer a sudden cardiac arrest from an arrhythmia.

Arrhythmias remain a major public health problem leading to more than 250,000 sudden cardiac deaths each year. Brugada syndrome was only identified approximately 15 years ago and much is still not understood about the condition, London said. It is found all over the world and presently there is no cure.

The best therapy to date is to implant a defibrillator into the chests of patients who are clinically found to be at high risk.

Using positional cloning and gene sequencing on a family affected with Brugada syndrome, London and colleagues identi-

fied a mutation in a previously unstudied gene, GPD1-L, on chromosome 3p24. This mutation impairs the heart's natural electrical ability to beat in a coordinated manner and maintain a stable rhythm, he said.

Patients with Brugada syndrome rarely have symptoms, London said, though they carry the genetic mutation all the time. "So, the question now is, why do arrhythmias or sudden death happen on any one particular day?" he said. "Something else is happening concurrently with this mutation to trigger the potentially lethal rhythm problems."

With the identification of the GPD1-L gene, London's team hopes to discover additional genes that control the heart's rhythms and increase their understanding of the mechanisms that lead to arrhythmias in Brugada syndrome patients and others.

London's collaborators include Michael Michalec, Haider Mehdi, Xiadong Zhu, Laurie Kerchner, Prakash C. Viswanathan, Mohan Madhusudanan, Catherine Baty, Stephen Lagana, Ryan Aleong, Rebecca Gutmann, and Dennis McNamara, all from the University of Pittsburgh Cardiovascular Institute; along with researchers from the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Ohio State University, Emory University, and the Atlanta VA Medical Center.

His study was funded in part by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs grant and the American Heart Association Established Investigator Awards.



Barry London



NSF Grant Aids Study of Power Plant Pollution

By Morgan Kelly

The planet could breathe easier if new research now under way in Pitt's chemistry department proves fruitful. Professors Lawrence Friedman and Toby Chapman are working with several students to develop polymers that capture carbon dioxide emissions from coal-burning power plants so they can be disposed of in an environmentally friendly way.

They are synthesizing the polymers in collaboration with David Luebke of the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL), who will test the polymers' effectiveness.

The project is supported by a Discovery Corps Senior Fellowship, which Friedman received from the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Division of Chemistry and the Office of Multidisciplinary Activities for the 2007-08 academic year.

Though in its early stages, the project builds on previous work involving unique polymers (large molecules made of smaller molecules) that are able to capture carbon dioxide from flue gases, are stable to flue gas components, and are inexpensive to prepare in large quantities.

Although the concept of carbon-capturing materials is not new, this research is novel in that it uses specifically designed polymers to capture carbon dioxide and has immediate application as a potential solution for uncontrolled carbon dioxide emissions.

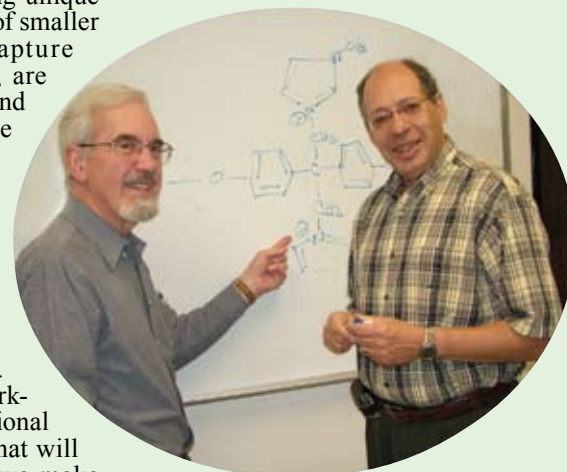
"We've established a working relationship with the National Energy Technology Lab that will result in the materials we make at Pitt going directly into an

application," Friedman said. "Successfully developing and applying carbon-capturing molecules would be a good method for getting our arms around carbon dioxide emissions."

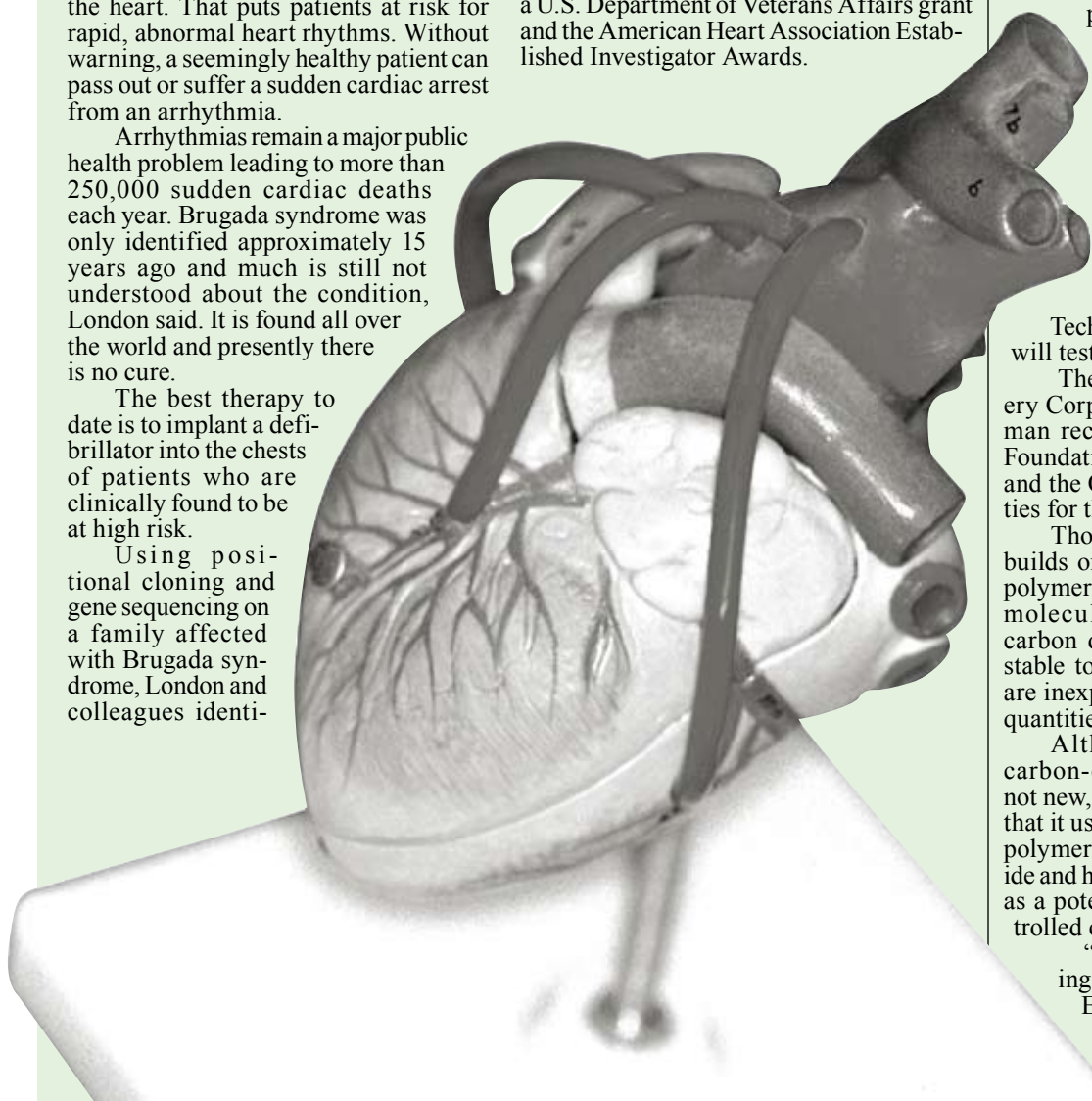
Friedman also will develop and teach a short course on green chemistry as part of his fellowship and organize a seminar program that will bring leaders in green chemistry and chemical engineering to Pitt to make technical presentations and interact with students.

In addition, undergraduates will contribute to the development of green chemistry laboratory projects for mainstream introductory and organic chemistry courses. These students also will be involved with outreach with the University's College in High School program and with Bidwell Training Center's Chemical Technician program.

This research is novel in that it uses specifically designed polymers to capture carbon dioxide and has immediate application as a potential solution for uncontrolled carbon dioxide emissions.



Lawrence Friedman (left) and Toby Chapman



Awards & More



ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

Alumni Banners Awarded; Chicago Club Nets Top Prize

The Pitt Alumni Association has awarded the Pitt Club of Chicago its 2007 Club/Council of the Year award—the top award given to the banner status applicants. Along with this award, the alumni association also announced the blue and gold banner awards to various Pitt alumni organizations.

Established in 1998, the banner program recognizes Pitt alumni clubs, councils, societies, and regional associations that participate in communications, fundraising, student recruitment, programs, and scholarships, among other activities that support the mission of the alumni association.

Criteria for the award include the completion of annual requirements and one activity in each of the following categories: financial strength, communications, student involvement, and partnerships.

The association's banner awardees for 2007 are:

Blue Banner Status

Boston Area Pitt Club
College of General Studies
Alumni Society
Metro Pittsburgh Pitt Club
New York City Pitt Club
South Florida Pitt Club

Gold Banner Status

African American
Alumni Council
Chesapeake & Potomac Pitt Club
Pitt Club of Chicago
Cincinnati, Columbus,
Dayton Pitt Club
Graduate School of Public
and International Affairs
Alumni Society
Graduate School of Public
Health Alumni Society
Greater Philadelphia Pitt Club
New Jersey Pitt Alumni Club
Pitt Band Alumni Council
Pitt Bradford Alumni Association
School of Dental Medicine
Alumni Society
School of Education Alumni
Society
School of Engineering
Alumni Society
School of Health and
Rehabilitation Sciences
Alumni Society
School of Information
Sciences Alumni Society
School of Medicine Alumni
Society
School of Nursing Alumni Society
School of Pharmacy Alumni
Society
School of Social Work
Alumni Society

—Patricia Lomando White

PSC Recognized for Innovation

HPCwire, a leading electronic news service that covers high-performance computing (HPC) and communication, has awarded two of its 2007 Reader's Choice Awards for innovation to the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center (PSC).

PSC's biomedical research program, the National Resource for Biomedical Supercomputing (NRBSC), won an award for "Most Innovative Use of HPC in the Life Sciences," while ZEST, a PSC-developed file system that makes very large-scale scientific computing more efficient, won for "Most Innovative HPC Storage Technology or Product." The awards were presented Nov. 12 during Supercomputing 2007 in Reno, Nev., an international conference for high-performance computing, networking, storage, and analysis.

Established in 1987, NRBSC was the first external biomedical supercomputing program funded by the National Institutes of Health. NRBSC scientists conduct core research that connects supercomputing with the life sciences and develop collaborations with biomedical researchers around the country, providing computational resources, outreach and training.

"Over the past decade, computing has become essential to almost all aspects of biomedicine," says PSC's Joel Stiles, director of NRBSC. "Here at the NRBSC, we're developing and distributing computational tools in simulation, visualization, and education that are helping to transform our understanding of life and disease."

ZEST, developed by PSC's Advanced Systems Group, is a prototype for speeding up the way that data is saved on large computing platforms, thus eliminating a major bottleneck in transferring files. ZEST will directly apply to so-called "petascale" platforms (computing systems comprised of tens of thousands or hundreds of thousands of processors) and its goal is creating maximum reliability at low per-unit cost.

The PSC is a joint venture between the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, and Monroeville, Pa.-based Westinghouse Electric Company. Established in 1986, PSC is supported by several federal agencies, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and private industry, and is a leading partner in the TeraGrid, the National Science Foundation's cyberinfrastructure program.

—Michael Schneider

Oregon Native Wins Press 2007 Starrett Prize

Michael McGriff is the 2007 winner of the Agnes Lynch Starrett Poetry Prize—one of America's most distinguished awards for a first book of poetry—for his collection *Dismantling the Hills*.

McGriff's manuscript was selected from several hundred entries, with Ed Ochester, Pitt Poetry Series editor, serving as this year's judge. It will be published by the University of Pittsburgh Press in the fall of 2008.

"To say the very least, I'm honored that *Dismantling the Hills* is an upcoming Pitt title," said McGriff, a 30-year-old Oregon native who now resides in San Francisco. "From Tranströmer to Levis, from Olds to Ostriker, from Kooser to Orr, the Pitt Poetry Series represents a broad range of

poets who take up a lot of space on my bookshelf."

"Unlike other first book contests, where you get published then ignored, the Starrett Prize offers you the chance to develop a working relationship with an editor. This is increasingly uncommon," he said. "I really admire the series, and am truly honored to have won this year's prize."

McGriff describes his collection as "a witness to the landscapes and industries of rural American life." The poems focus on a blue-collar Oregon lumber town, much like his birthplace of Coos Bay. He uses a broad range of styles—from the strictly narrative to the expansively meditative, from the grounded to the surreal.

Currently a Stegner Fellow at Stanford University, McGriff attended the University of Oregon and University of Texas at Austin, where he was a James A. Michener Fellow in Poetry and Fiction. He's been awarded a Ruth Lilly Fellowship from the Poetry Foundation. His poetry and translations have appeared in *Agni*, *Poetry*, *Field*, *Northwest Review*, *Crazyhorse*, *Poetry Northwest*, and elsewhere. A limited-edition collection of poems, *Choke*, was published by Traprock Books in 2006. His translation of Tomas Tranströmer's *The Sorrow Gondola* is forthcoming from Green Integer Books in 2008.

The Starrett Prize was established in 1981 and bears the name of the Press's first director. It is awarded for a first full-length book of poems and includes a \$5,000 prize and publication in the Press's acclaimed poetry series. The series was founded in 1968 to publish the best in contemporary American poetry.

—Maria Sticca

Public Affairs Staffers Receive 17 IABC/Pittsburgh Awards

The University of Pittsburgh's Office of Public Affairs was honored with 17 awards by the Pittsburgh chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC).

Three projects produced by Public Affairs claimed the top prizes in their categories.

The honors were presented Sept. 26 at the 28th annual Golden Triangle Awards ceremony, held at the Twentieth Century Club in Oakland. Master of ceremonies was Jennifer Antkowiak, formerly a reporter at KDKA-TV and currently the head of Jennifer Productions, which produces *At Home With Jennifer* magazine, a locally syndicated newspaper column, and a weekly talk show for WTAE-TV.

Pitt's 17 awards were the most of any organization entered in the competition. According to IABC/Pittsburgh organizers, 132 entries were received this year.

The top prize—the IABC Award of Excellence—was presented to Executive Creative Director Marci Belchick in the category "Graphic Design: Book and Magazine Covers" for *Blue Gold and Black 2006* and to Assistant Creative Director Don Henderson in the category "Publication Design: Annual Reports" for the *2006 Engineering Annual Report*.

In the category "Publications: Magazines," *Pitt Med*, the quarterly publication of the University's School of Medicine, also



received an Award of Excellence.

The Golden Triangle Awards, presented by IABC/Pittsburgh, recognize excellence in communications management, skills, and creativity throughout Western Pennsylvania.

In all, 11 Awards of Excellence and 43 Awards of Honor were presented at this year's competition.

IABC/Pittsburgh presented Office of Public Affairs projects and staff members with 14 Awards of Honor in 12 different categories:

Annual Reports: *2006 Report of Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg*

Annual Reports Design: Marci Belchick, *2006 Community and Economic Impact Reports*

Brochures/Leaflets Design: Coleen Rush, *What Will Be Your Legacy?*

Communications Management: Madelyn A. Ross, associate vice chancellor for national media relations and University Marketing Communications, "Freedom House," the celebration/communications of the 40th anniversary of the Hill District-based Freedom House Ambulance Service, the world's first mobile emergency medical care unit

Graphic Design (Book and Magazine Covers): Marci Belchick, *2006 Community and Economic Impact Reports*

Graphic Design (Other): "Freedom House" project

Magazines: Cindy Gill, editor-in-chief, for *Pitt Magazine*

Magazines Design: Elena G. Cerri, *Pitt Med*; and Don Henderson, *Engineering News*

Newsletters Design: Amy Porta Kleebank, *World of Giving*

Newspapers/Tabloids: Linda K. Schmitmeyer, executive editor, for *Pitt Chronicle*

Newspapers/Tabloids Design: Gary Cravener, art director, *Pitt Chronicle*

Special Publications: *Blue Gold and Black 2006* and *2006 Community and Economic Impact Reports*

IABC is a not-for-profit international network of public relations and marketing professionals that develops educational resources, services, and activities for individuals and organizations in the field.

Earlier this year, Pitt's Office of Public Affairs received five Circle of Excellence Awards during the annual meeting of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) in New York City.

Public Affairs received a gold award in the category of "Individual Special Events" for the Three Rivers Youth 125th anniversary exhibition and opening event, and a bronze award in the

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Awards & More

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category "Individual Public Relations/Community Relations Projects" for the same project.

In addition, bronze Circle of Excellence Awards were presented to *Pitt Med* in the category "Special Interest Magazines," *Pitt Chronicle* for "Print Internal Audience Tabloids/Newsletters," and *Pitt Magazine* for "Periodical Staff Writing for External Audiences."

A sixth CASE Circle of Excellence Award—bronze—was presented to Pitt's School of Law for *Today's Cutting Edge Scholars* in the category of "Individual Institutional Relations Publications."

In other recent awards competitions, *Pitt Magazine* received the following awards:

International Galaxy Awards: Gold for University Magazines, Gold for Copywriting, and Silver for Magazine Design; and

MarCom Creative Awards: Platinum for "Magazine (Educational Institution)" and Platinum for "Magazine Writing."

Linda Siminerio, executive director of the University of Pittsburgh Diabetes Institute and a professor in the Schools of Medicine and Nursing, has received the Josiah Kirby Lilly Sr. Distinguished Service Award for outstanding contributions to the lives of persons with diabetes mellitus.

The award is named for Josiah Kirby Lilly Sr., the son of the founder of Indianapolis-based Eli Lilly & Co. pharmaceuticals who became president of the company after his father's death in 1898.

Siminerio was the first woman editor of *Diabetes Forecast* magazine and has authored several books on diabetes. In addition to leading numerous research projects and publishing both scientific and patient articles, she has been a powerful advocate for diabetes education worldwide.

Currently cochair of the Pennsylvania Action Plan for Diabetes, Siminerio previously served as president of Health Care and Education for the American

Diabetes Association (ADA) and the senior vice president of the International Diabetes Foundation (IDF). She also has been named the chair of the 2009 IDF World Diabetes Congress.

Past honors have included the ADA awards for Outstanding Contributions to Diabetes in Youth and for Distinguished International Service to the Cause of Diabetes.

Siminerio received the award at the 18th annual J.K. Lilly Distinguished Service Award Gala on Nov. 3 in Indianapolis.

Xiaoyan Zhang was awarded a 2007 Erin McGurk Research Grant from the Orthopedic Research Laboratory Alumni Council (ORLAC) for a project entitled "A Subject-Specific Model of the Anterior Cruciate Ligament."

Zhang is a predoctoral research fellow in Pitt's Musculoskeletal Research Center (MRC) and is conducting her work under the supervision of the MRC's founder and director, Savio L-Y. Woo, University Professor of Bioengineering in Pitt's School of Engineering. McGurk grants provide funding for female graduate students to perform musculoskeletal research during the summer.

United Educators Insurance (UEI) Risk Retention Group has honored **Jane Thompson**, Pitt's associate vice chancellor for planning and analysis, with its prestigious Frank J. Bachich Award. UEI is an insurance company owned by 1,160 member colleges, universities, public school districts, and other related organizations. A 20-year veteran Pitt employee, Thompson has served on UEI's board of directors for 10 years, including three years as secretary-treasurer.

An accompanying citation on the Bachich Award calls Thompson "a model director, leading by example and demonstrating at every turn the highest level of loyalty, creativity, intelligence, ethical decision making, and hard work." The award, named for the late Frank J. Bachich, senior

vice president for finance and treasurer of Drexel University and the Medical College of Pennsylvania, has been presented annually by UEI since 2001.

The Pittsburgh Pirates's Minority Business Advisory Board honored Pitt's **RISE: Reaching Inside Your Soul for Excellence** program during the team's African American Heritage Day celebration.

A citation from Winifred Torbert, Pirates director of community development, praised the RISE program for its "outstanding demonstration of selfless humanity" and its dedication "to the enrichment and development of underprivileged youths" in Pittsburgh.

Administered by Pitt's Office of Student Affairs, RISE is a mentoring program that helps students perfect the skills necessary to finish their college degrees. RISE staff were honored at an on-field ceremony at PNC Park Aug. 4 before the Pirates played the Cincinnati Reds.

Charli Carpenter, professor of international affairs in Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA), has been awarded \$647,000 by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to study why certain human rights issues are adopted by the international community while others are ignored. Her project, "Issue Adoption in Human Rights Advocacy Networks," will focus on the role of transnational advocacy networks in issue creation.

Carpenter's research team will map the global human rights network using both surveys and analysis of advocacy Web sites, determine what issues they consider salient, decide where gaps exist, and host a series of focus groups with human rights organizations to explore reasons why some issues receive more attention than others.

The project is an international, interdisciplinary collaboration between researchers

at Pitt and in Canada and the Netherlands, spanning the fields of sociology, political science, and information science.

In addition, the editorial team for the curriculum guide *Peace, Justice, and Security Studies* has selected for inclusion the syllabus from a course that Carpenter teaches at Pitt called "Humanitarianism in World Politics."

Peace, Justice, and Security Studies compiles syllabi for schools to use as they build new programs in peace and security studies. The curriculum guide is underwritten and produced by the Plowshares Project, a collaborative effort of Earlham College in Richmond, Ind.; Goshen College in Goshen, Ind.; and Manchester College in North Manchester, Ind., and funded in part by a \$14.3 million grant from the Lilly Endowment.

The editors of the book received more than 200 entries and selected only 75 for publication. The next edition of the curriculum guide, used by nearly 400 American colleges and universities, will be published next year.

E. Maxine Bruhns, director of Pitt's Nationality Rooms Program, was one of three alumni from Bridgeport High School chosen to inaugurate the school's new "Hall of Fame," in Bridgeport, W.Va. A 1941 graduate, Bruhns told the *Bridgeport News* that she remains "very close" to her alma mater and was excited to learn that she was among the first three inductees.

Director of Pitt's Nationality Rooms Program since 1965, Bruhns is a graduate of Ohio State University and in May received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree from West Virginia Wesleyan University. She and the other two Bridgeport alumni were honored at a formal dinner on Aug. 30.



Charli Carpenter



E. Maxine Bruhns

Giuliani, Thornburgh Help University Dedicate Waldman Room

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sional counsel.

But, Giuliani joked, both men were wrong on the most important advice they gave each other; Waldman told Giuliani not to run for mayor of New York City, while Giuliani, afraid Waldman would find a federal judgeship stifling, told him not to seek an appointment to the bench.

"I was completely wrong," Giuliani said. "I didn't realize what a serious interest he had in the law. He was tremendously dedicated, tremendously well respected by both sides. It proved that no matter how well you think you know somebody, there's always a deeper side to them."

"This is a joyous occasion because Jay was a very optimistic guy," he said, "but I'm very sad and miss him tremendously, and I can't go past Philadelphia in my many travels without thinking of him."

Giuliani and other speakers also paid tribute to Waldman's wife, Roberta, an assistant vice president at Merrill Lynch & Co. James Seif, who worked with Waldman and Thornburgh on both the state and federal levels, called Roberta Waldman "a power package" and "a dynamo" behind her late husband.

"You should view this Jay Waldman



Roberta Waldman, widow of U.S. District Judge Jay C. Waldman, with former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani

Seminar Room as a reflection of the respect and affection we have for you, Bobbi," Nordenberg told Roberta Waldman.

Other Pitt officials included in the cel-

ebration included Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor James V. Maher; Vice Provost for Academic Planning and Resources Management Robert Pack; Vice Chancellor for

Institutional Advancement Al Novak; and Rush Miller, Hillman University Librarian, director of University Libraries, and professor of information sciences.

The master of ceremonies was Paul Critchlow, vice chair of Merrill Lynch & Co., who served as Thornburgh's press secretary from 1978 to 1984 and helped lead the fundraising drive for the Waldman Room along with Seif; Thornburgh's son, John; and Samuel S. Zacharias (CAS '64), a principal in Gateway Financial Group Inc., a member of Pitt's Board of Trustees, and an emeritus president of the Pitt Alumni Association. Other guests included philanthropist and Pitt benefactor Elsie Hillman; former Pennsylvania attorney general D. Michael Fisher, now a judge on the Third U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and an emeritus member of Pitt's Board of Trustees; and Evans Rose Jr. (LAW '59), a director of Cohen & Grigsby, P.C., and an emeritus member of Pitt's Board of Trustees.

After the ceremony, Giuliani briefly signed autographs for Pitt students, several of whom took the opportunity to have their photos taken using cell-phone cameras. Guests then adjourned to the William Pitt Union for a luncheon.

Happenings



Gamelan Open House, Bellefield Hall, Dec. 5



Spike-Timing-Dependent Potentiation Identified Through Investigation of Activity at Individual Synapses," 10 a.m. Dec. 3, 1495 Biomedical Science Tower.

Debra M. Wolf, School of Nursing, "Effect of Patient-Centered Care on Patient Satisfaction at Hospital Discharge," 11 a.m. Dec. 3, 331 Victoria Building.

Alison M. Colbert, School of Nursing, "Functional Medication-Taking, Health Literacy, Self-Efficacy, and HIV Medication Adherence," 3 p.m. Dec. 4, 451 Victoria Building.

Chen Li, Center for Neuroscience/Neurobiology Graduate Program, "Cellular Specialization of Synaptic Integration in a Mammalian Sympathetic Ganglion," 10 a.m. Dec. 7, 1496 Biomedical Science Tower.

Weiqun Yu, Department of Biological Sciences, "Umbrella Cell Mechanotransduction and Stretch-Regulated Exocytosis/Endocytosis," 1:30 p.m. Dec. 10, 1145 Scaife Hall.

Concerts

College-Community Choir, Annual Winter Concert, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 5, Bromeley Family Theater, Pitt-Bradford, www.upb.pitt.edu.

University of Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, performing works by Felix Mendelssohn and Johannes Brahms, 8 p.m. Dec. 5, Bellefield Hall Auditorium, Pitt Department of Music, 412-624-4125, www.music.pitt.edu.

Randy Weston's African Rhythms Quintet, Dec. 6-9, Manchester Craftsmen's Guild, 1815 Metropolitan St., Northside, MCG Jazz, 412-322-0800, www.mcgjazz.org.

Wandering Minstrels, A Pluckin' Good Time, 8 p.m. Dec. 7, St. Stanislaus Church, Smallman Street, Strip District, Chatham Baroque, 412-687-1788, www.chathambaroque.org.

Kenny G Christmas Concert, 8 p.m. Dec. 7, Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, *Phantasmagoria* by Corigliano, *Cello Concerto* by Elgar, *Symphony No. 39* by Mozart, Dec. 7-9, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, 412-394-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, *Great Russian Nutcracker*, 3 and 7 p.m. Dec. 8, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, Heinz Hall Special Presentation, 412-394-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Alejandro Esquivel, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8, Carnegie Lecture Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Calliope Concert Series, 412-394-3533, www.calliopehouse.com.

Pitt Women's Choral Ensemble Holiday Concert, 8 p.m. Dec. 8, Heinz Chapel, 412-624-4125, www.music.pitt.edu.

Anne-Marguerite Michaud, *Holidays With Harp*, 8 p.m. Dec. 8, Parlor Concert: 3 p.m. Dec. 9, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Renaissance City Winds, 412-394-3533, www.proartstickets.org.

John Prine, 8 p.m. Dec. 8, Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, the Outback Concerts, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

Barry Bauguess and Webb Wiggins, *Bohemian Rhapsody: Eastern European Elegance*, 8 p.m. Dec. 8, Synod Hall, 125 N. Craig St., Oakland; also

2:30 p.m. Dec. 9, Chatham University's Laughlin Music Center, Woodland Road, Shadyside, Chatham Baroque, 412-687-1788, www.chathambaroque.org.

The Pittsburgh Camerata, *Star in the East*, 8 p.m. Dec. 8; also 3 p.m. Dec. 9 and 8 p.m. Dec. 15, various church locations, 412-421-5884, www.pittsburghcamerata.org.

Heinz Chapel Choir Christmas Concert, various times through Dec. 9, Heinz Chapel, Pitt Department of Music, 412-624-4125, www.music.pitt.edu.

Life in Balance, 2-3 p.m. Dec. 9, Outdoor Deck, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Sunday Afternoon Music Series, 412-622-3151, www.carnegielibrary.org.

Cuarteto Latinoamericano With Entrequatre, 8 p.m. Dec. 10, Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Pittsburgh Chamber Music Society, 412-624-4129, www.pittsburghchambermusic.org.

Exhibitions

Hillman Library, *Cat Bird*, through today, Ground Floor, Pitt Department of Special Collections, 412-648-8191, www.library.pitt.edu.

Regina Gouger Miller Gallery, *Patricia 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/milergallery.

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., Northside, 412-237-8300, www.warhol.org.

Wood Street Galleries, *Workin' Down Under*, through Dec. 31, 601 Wood St., Downtown, 412-471-5605, www.woodstreetgalleries.org.

Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center, *Points in Time, Glass: Shattering Notions, and Discovery Place*, through Dec. 31, 1212 Smallman St., Strip District, 412-454-6000, 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.

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

Lectures/Seminars/Readings

"Challenges of Race, Poverty, and Sprawl," Sala Udin, president and CEO of Coro Center for Civic Leadership, noon-1:30 p.m. Dec. 3, School of Social Work Conference Center, 2017 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Center on Race and Social Problems, 412-624-7382, www.crsp.pitt.edu.

"Former Colonies: Local or Universal?" Roberto Schwarz, Brazilian literary critic, 4 p.m. Dec. 4, 501 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Department of English, www.english.pitt.edu.

Andrea Hollander Budy and Sheryl St. Germain, poetry reading, 8 p.m. Dec. 5, Carnegie Lecture Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-621-9893, www.thepoetryforum.org.

"Protein Conformational Dynamics and Allostery: Insights From Network Models," Ivet Bahar, John K. Vries Chair in Computational Biology in Pitt School of Medicine, 4-5 p.m. Dec. 6, Auditorium 5, Scaife Hall, Pitt McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine Seminar Series, www.mirm.pitt.edu.

"The First Step: Mechanics of Starting a Small Business," 7:30-10 a.m. Dec. 7, 104 Mervis Hall, Pitt Small Business Development Center, 412-648-1542, www.pittentrepreneur.com.

"Methods and Issues in the Study of Expertise," Robert Hoffman, senior research assistant at the Institute for Human and Machine Cognition, noon-1 p.m. Dec. 7, Pitt Medical Education Grand Rounds, 412-648-9000, www.medschool.pitt.edu/megr.

"Pluralism About the Sciences of Behavior," Helen Longino, professor of philosophy at Stanford University, 3:30 p.m. Dec. 7, 817R Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Center for Philosophy of Science, 412-624-1052, www.pitt.edu/~pittcentr.

"Climate Change, Sustainability, and Global Health," Donald S. Burke, dean of Pitt Graduate School of Public Health, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 7, 2500 William Pitt Union, Pitt Asian Studies Center, 412-648-7370, www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc.

"Writing Dynamic Abstracts and Scientific Papers," Kevin L. Kraemer, Pitt professor of health policy and management, 3-5 p.m. Dec. 11, S120 Biomedical

Science Tower, Pitt Office of Academic Career Development, www.oacd.health.pitt.edu.

"Autophagy, a Cellular Survival Mechanism in Cancer Cells," Xiaoming Yin, Pitt professor of pathology, noon Dec. 12, 1104 Scaife Hall, Pitt Department of Pathology, 412-648-1040, http://path.upmc.edu.

"Managing Up: Obtaining the Resources and Support to Succeed," Cathie T. Siders, psychological and organizational consultant at Siders Consulting, 8-10 a.m. Dec. 13, S100 Biomedical Science Tower, Pitt Office of Academic and Career Development, www.oacd.health.pitt.edu.

Miscellaneous

Robust Red and Whites for Winter, 6:15 p.m. Dec. 5, Cabaret at Theater Square, 655 Penn Ave., Downtown, Wednesday Wine Flight Series, 412-456-6666, www.clocabaret.com.

Book Talk: Helen Clay Frick—Bittersweet Heiress by Martha Frick Symington Sanger, 4-6 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Dec. 5, Frick Art Museum Auditorium, Frick Art and Historical Center, 7227 Reynolds St., Point Breeze, 412-371-0600, www.frickart.org.

Dog Walking and Cat Cuddling, 1-3 p.m. Dec. 8, Animal Rescue League, 6620 Hamilton Ave., East End, Pitt Volunteer Pool, 412-624-7709, stz@pitt.edu.

Holiday Swags for the Door or Table, Adult Greens Workshop, 1:30-4:30 p.m. Dec. 8, Lexington Education Center, Frick Art and Historical Center, 7227 Reynolds St., Point Breeze, 412-371-0600, www.frickart.org.

Build Your Own Gingerbread House, Holiday Workshop for Families, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Dec. 9, Frick Art and Historical Center, 7227 Reynolds St., Point Breeze, 412-205-2022, www.frickart.org.

Building Collaborations for the Future, Annual Research Poster Day, 3-6 p.m. Dec. 10, Assembly Room, William Pitt Union, Pitt Institute of Aging, 412-624-1019, www.aging.upmc.com.

Coffee and Culture: Victorian Christmas, 10-11 a.m. Dec. 12, Frick Art and Historical Center, 7227 Reynolds St., Point Breeze, 412-371-0600, www.frickart.org.

Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

David W. Nauen, Center for Neuroscience/Neurobiology Graduate Program, "Mechanisms of

Opera/Theater/Dance

Season's Greetings and The Santaland Diaries by David Sadaris, 8 p.m., Dec. 6, 7, 8, Studio Theatre, B72 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Department of Theatre Arts, 412-624-7529, www.play.pitt.edu. Suggested donation of \$5; proceeds benefit the Pitt student chapter of the United States Institute for Theater Technology.

A Different Drummer, various times Dec. 7-10, Kelly Strayhorn Theater, 5941 Penn Ave., East End, Dance Alloy Theater, 412-363-4321, www.dancealloy.org.

A Christmas Carol, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 12, Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center, Pitt-Johnstown, Nebraska Theater Caravan, www.nebraskatheatercaravan.com.

This Wonderful Life, 8 p.m. through Dec. 16, O'Reilly Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theater, 412-316-1600, www.pgharts.org.

Murderers, 8 p.m. through Dec. 16, Lester Hamburg Studio, 57 S. 13th St., City Theater, South Side, 412-431-2849, www.pgharts.org.

University Special Events

Gamelan Open House, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Dec. 5, 309A Bellefield Hall, Pitt Department of Music, 412-624-4126, www.music.pitt.edu.



A Christmas Carol
Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center
Pitt-Johnstown, Dec. 12



Pitt Survey: Privacy Rules Slow Medical Research, Add Cost

Ness' report in *JAMA* says many health care studies delayed or abandoned



By Michele Baum

Federal rules intended to protect patient privacy also slow research necessary to find treatments and cures, a Pitt survey has found.

Implementation of the U.S. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) has severely eroded the process of scientific research, delaying some clinical studies and curtailing others before they even begin, said Roberta B. Ness, professor and chair of the Department of Epidemiology in Pitt's School of Medicine.

Her findings, reported last month in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, are part of the first national survey of epidemiologists commissioned by the Institute of Medicine, part of the National Academies of Science.

"HIPAA is adversely affecting our ability to conduct biomedical research," said Ness, who also serves as an associate investigator at the Magee-Womens Research Institute (MWRI) and as an advisor to the Institute of Medicine committee studying the issue. "The privacy rule has made research more costly and time consuming. As a result, some possibly important studies are just not being done."

Epidemiologists analyze the development and control of a wide array of illnesses and their impact on public health.

Ness' report, titled "Influence of the HIPAA Privacy Rule on Health Research," appeared in the Nov. 14 issue of *JAMA*.

She surveyed 1,527 epidemiology practitioners employed in academia, government, industry, and other groups.



Roberta B. Ness

Two-thirds of the respondents said that HIPAA had made research "a great deal" more difficult to accomplish.

In addition, a significant proportion of respondents reported more negative consequences for protecting human subjects than positive effects.

All respondents were part of the Joint Policy Committee of the Societies of Epidemiology, which cosponsored the study.

"We asked questions about both positive and negative potential impacts from the HIPAA privacy rule, including the impact on subject privacy, confidentiality and public trust, as well as on research procedures," Ness said. "Almost 40 percent of respondents indicated that the privacy rule had increased research costs by a large degree, and nearly half said that significant addi-

tional time was required under the rule to complete projects."

Established in 2003, HIPAA was designed to enhance patient privacy by restricting access to medical records while preserving the legitimate use of such information for important social goals.

Ness said that academic institutional review boards (IRBs) and other institutional bodies that govern research on human subjects vary widely in their interpretation of the rule. That, she said, has resulted in a mishmash of conflicting procedures across the country, adding that some IRBs continue "business as usual," while others have essentially shut down many research projects.

"According to our survey, there is a perception that HIPAA may even be having a negative effect on public health surveillance practices, and a lot of it is because of this variability in interpretation," said Ness, president-elect of the American College of Epidemiology. "Some public health departments are defining a much broader portfolio of activities as research, and, therefore, are subject to HIPAA, more than other health departments. At this point, we're not absolutely sure what that means in terms of public health—whether this poses any threat to combating epidemics or other dangers."

While documenting negative HIPAA effects on a nationwide basis has been difficult, single-institution experience indicates widespread problems.

Recruitment for one study being conducted here at Pitt, for example, declined from more than a dozen people a week prior to HIPAA to an average of five at most after the rule took effect.

At the University of Michigan, patient

"Public opinion polls show that more than 90 percent of the public thinks it's a priority for us to proceed expeditiously in uncovering new causes of and treatments for disease. Without any question, this survey suggests that the HIPAA legislation is impeding the progress of such research."

—Roberta B. Ness

consent for a study declined from more than 96 percent to 34 percent. In another study at Michigan, the implementation of HIPAA resulted in a nearly 73 percent decline in patient recruitment and a threefold increase in the time spent recruiting.

At the same time, only a quarter of epidemiologists said they thought HIPAA had achieved its goal of improving the confidentiality of patient information.

"Public opinion polls show that more than 90 percent of the public thinks it's a priority for us to proceed expeditiously in uncovering new causes of and treatments for disease," Ness said. "Without any question, this survey suggests that the HIPAA legislation

is impeding the progress of such research. And for those institutions that may have a breakthrough in the offing, it's going to add months to years to discovery."

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published Dec. 10. The deadline for submitting information is noon Dec. 5. Items for publication in the newspaper's *Happenings* events calendar (see page 7) should be submitted to 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.