Two of Pitt’s most visible engineers—one an established authority, the other an up-and-coming graduate student—were among the region’s foremost engineers recognized by the Engineers’ Society of Western Pennsylvania (ESWP) during its 124th Annual Banquet Feb. 20 at Heinz Field.

Gerald D. Holder, the U. S. Steel Dean of Pitt’s Swanson School of Engineering, received the ESWP’s signature 2008 William Metcalf Award for lifetime achievement in engineering. Pitt engineering graduate student and 2007 Barry M. Goldwater Scholar Benjamin Gordon received the inaugural George Washington Prize, a $5,000 award to be presented annually to a promising Pitt engineering senior to help further student’s engineering education. (Gordon was a senior in the Swanson School and University Honors College when nominated for the award.)

With its history of invention and creation, Western Pennsylvania remains an established center of skilled and innovative engineering. Founded in 1880, ESWP is among the nation’s oldest and largest engineering societies. Its 124th banquet drew more than 500 to Heinz Field’s East Club Lounge, where towering floor-to-ceiling windows framed the iconic towers and bridges of Downtown Pittsburgh built by engineers past and present. The imposing Downtown vista, its lights burning through the snowy night, provided a fitting backdrop as Holder accepted the Metcalf Award.

“Who would not be proud to be recognized by this great profession and by this great engineering society in this great city?” asked Holder, the award’s 46th recipient since it was established in 1963 in honor of Engineering Professor William Metcalf. “Perhaps Pittsburgh’s most important contribution has been its engineering firms, some of the best in the world, producing iron, steel, glass, aluminum, and coal for the entire globe.”

“The Metcalf Award acknowledges not just my contributions, but also the contributions of all engineers,” he said. “Engineers have allowed an extraordinarily high standard of living for so many people in this country and in many countries throughout the world. Because of engineers, the average American can travel thousands of miles in a few hours. Thanks to engineers, we can instantly communicate with each other from anywhere in the world. Through engineering, we live in comfortable homes with clean water systems that have added years to the average life span of each American.”

Now in his 7th year at Pitt, Holder is a renowned authority on gas hydrates, a potential energy source composed of gas molecules trapped in hydrogen-bonded water molecules. He has served on more than 20 national committees and panels, including the Congressional Advisory Panel on Methane Hydrates, which advises Congress on the potential future use of gas hydrates for energy. Holder earned his PhD degree in chemical engineering from the University of Michigan in 1976. That same year, he joined the chemical engineering faculty at Columbia University; then he left Columbia for Pitt in 1979.

Since becoming the ninth dean of Pitt’s engineering school in 1996, Holder has overseen a period of unprecedented growth at the school in enrollment, reputation, and resources. In 1996, the average SAT score was 1195 and only 32 percent of incoming engineering students were in the top 10 percent of their graduating high school classes. In 2007, more than 450 freshmen enrolled with a class average SAT score of 1312 and with more than half of the students having graduated in the top 10 percent of their high school classes.

Also during this time period, research grants awarded to engineering faculty jumped from less than $20 million in 1996 to currently more than $35 million, and more research is leading to successful new technologies and companies. The engineering school also has generated unprecedented philanthropic support under Holder’s leadership. The school now has a $98 million endowment—up from $48 million in 2000—and it successfully met a $100 million campaign goal, which has been expanded to a goal of $175 million. In December 2007, the school was renamed the U. S. Steel Dean of Pitt’s Swanson School of Engineering.

From left: Benjamin Gordon, a Pitt engineering graduate student and 2007 Barry M. Goldwater Scholar, and Gerald D. Holder, the U. S. Steel Dean of Pitt’s Swanson School of Engineering.
Renowned Sociologist to Lecture on Reshaping of Urban Protest

From tales of tax revolt to the story of the four Black college students who sat down at a Whites-only lunch counter in 1960 in Greensboro, N.C., a good story has always been a powerful way to stir people to action.

Francesca Polletta, a professor of sociology at the University of California, Irvine, will speak at the University of Pittsburgh on Feb. 28 in 2413 Posvar Hall. Her lecture, titled “Victim Stories,” will take place from noon to 1:30. An informal discussion on participatory democracy in social movements will run from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Polletta is a prominent scholar of narrative and storytelling in contemporary social movements. Defining culture more as familiar relationships, institutional routines, and conventions of self-expression than beliefs and worldviews, Polletta conducts research that explores how culture sets the terms of strategic action.

Her award-winning book *Pitcairn Was a Feaver: Storytelling in Puppet and Politics* (University of Chicago Press, 2004) investigated the political advantages and risks of telling stories, especially for disadvantaged groups. It was honored from the American Sociological Association (ASA) and the Association for Humanist Sociology. Her 2002 book, *Freedom Is an Endless Meeting: Democracy in American Social Movements* (University of Chicago Press), garnered Polletta a 2003 Distinguished Scholarly Book award and an Honorable Mention from the ASA, as well as an Academic Title Award from Choice Magazine.

Her newest research, titled “Grand Designs: Public Deliberation in Rebuilding Ground Zero,” involves working with an online forum that solicited opinions on what should be done with the site of the destroyed World Trade Center buildings. She and fellow researchers coded thousands of messages to see how people used and responded with personal stories instead of actual reasoning.

More information is available by contacting Kathleen Blake at 412-648-1593 or kblake@pitt.edu.

—By Sharon S. Blake

Former CIA Officer To Address “Water-Boarding,” Ethics in Pitt Talk

John Kiriakou, a former Central Intelligence Agency officer who participated in the capture and questioning of the first al-Qaeda terrorist suspect to be waterboarded, will speak at the University of Pittsburgh on Feb. 28.

The free public lecture, titled “Ethics in Intelligence,” will be held from 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. in Room 120 of David Lawrence Hall.

Kiriakou served in the CIA from 1990 to 2004, first as an analyst, and later as a counterterrorism operations officer. He said that Zayn al-Abidin Muhammad Hassan Abu Zubaydah, the first high-ranking al-Qaeda member captured after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, broke down in less than a minute after he was subjected to the controversial waterboarding technique. He ended up providing interrogators with information that led to the disruption of a number of planned attacks.

According to Kiriakou, Abu Zubaydah was defiant and uncooperative when first captured in 2002, until his captors strapped him to a board, wrapped his nose and mouth in cellophane, and forced water into his throat in a technique that simulates drowning. Kiriakou has said in interviews that he didn’t witness the waterboarding, but learned about it by reading briefing papers.

In a round of national interviews late last year, Kiriakou said that while he believes waterboarding constituted torture, the technique worked on Abu Zubaydah and resulted in the disruption of dozens of planned terrorist attacks.

As a senior analyst on Iraq and the Persian Gulf, Kiriakou wrote the National Intelligence Estimates on Iraq for the president, the vice president, and the secretaries of state and defense. These papers formed the basis for U.S. policy toward Iraq in the mid-1990s.

Kiriakou, a native of New Castle, Pa., joined the CIA in early 1990 after studying at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. He is a president of Second Street Consulting Corp., an Arlington, Va.-based firm that specializes in international business risk analysis. Kiriakou is being hosted at Pitt by Mike Frank Epitropoulos, a lecturer in the sociology department who teaches in the course Peace Movements, which explores various forms of social movements and protest.

—By Sharon S. Blake

You Are Invited to join our celebration as Pitt students, faculty, alumni, and staff are recognized for their outstanding achievements and their contributions to the rich quality of life on campus and in the surrounding community.

32nd Annual Honors Convocation

2 p.m. Friday, February 29

Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Avenue

Honors Convocation and a reception following the program are open to the public without charge.

University of Pittsburgh
Education Unlocks Dreams

By Amonde Leff

When many children his age were playing with toy tractors, William Simmons was driving real ones on his grandfather’s farm in rural South Carolina. His grandfather was one of the largest Black landowners in Charleston County, S.C., and he farmed semicommercially from the 1940s through the ’60s.

Simmons says he has always had big dreams for himself, but he credits his grandfather, Oliver Simmons, with helping those dreams become a reality by stressing the value of education. “My grandfather emphasized that we could do anything we set our minds to. Our future was unwritten—one that he wanted us to help create—so that we could do anything we set our minds to,” he says. “He was one of the biggest advocates for me to get an education,” Simmons says. “My grandfather emphasized that we could do anything we set our minds to. Our future was unwritten—one that he wanted us to help create—so that we could do anything we set our minds to.”

Simmons has spoken at high schools in the past about the importance of an education, but he acknowledges that his story is not typical. “I was one of the biggest advocates for me to get an education,” Simmons says. “My grandfather emphasized that we could do anything we set our minds to. Our future was unwritten—one that he wanted us to help create—so that we could do anything we set our minds to.”

Today, Simmons is a University of Pittsburgh visiting clinical associate professor and an attending anesthesiologist at UPMC Shadyside. He received a bachelor’s degree in biology from Carleton College in Northfield, Minn., and a medical degree from the Mayo Medical School in Rochester, Minn. He also was among the first Black chief residents in Georgetown University Hospital’s pediatric residency program.

After the Georgetown pediatric residency, Simmons completed an anesthesiology residency at George Washington University Hospital. In 1986, he got his first taste of Pittsburgh and completed both a pediatric critical care fellowship and a pediatric anesthesiology fellowship at Children’s Hospital. Still craving more education, Simmons completed a mini-MBA program at the University of Rochester’s Simon Business School in 2002.

Andrew Herlich, chief of anesthesiology at UPMC Mercy, worked with Simmons for nearly 10 years, at the Pittsburgh Eye and Ear Hospital and Temple University Health Science Center School of Medicine. Herlich describes Simmons as an upbeat, hard worker who would go above and beyond what was expected of him. “He was very detail-oriented, a hard worker and kind to his patients,” Herlich said.

Herlich also remembers Simmons as a natural computer whiz. “During a time when most other doctors were more comfortable using a typewriter, Bill was creating a groundbreaking database for quality assurance in anesthesiology,” Simmons was not only a dependable colleague, Herlich recalled, but a good friend who opened his home to Herlich and his family of five during the holidays. “He was very detail-oriented, a hard worker who would go above and beyond what was expected of him.”

Simmons enjoys teaching resident physicians, fellows, and medical students. “I get to interact with young minds all of the time,” he says. “Aside from teaching, Simmons says, the most rewarding part of his career is establishing a rapport and trust with his patients in the brief time before their procedures. He also enjoys evaluating the ever-changing needs of his patients. “Every patient is different,” he says. “I find the mental exercise of determining their needs incredibly fascinating and stimulating.”

Simmons’ road to success began on his grandfather’s farm. As a child, Simmons woke up early to feed the chickens and pigs, and he tended to the fields once he returned from school. But even during the busy harvest season, his grandfather never let him or his brother stay home from school to help. “As Simmons grew, so did his career aspirations. And while his hopes as a young Black man were sometimes met with skepticism, he forged ahead, aided both by his own determination and by a program that eventually took him off the farm.”

In 1968, during Simmons’ 8th grade graduation ceremony, the teachers at his school couldn’t contain their laughter when they announced that a student had declared he was going to be a doctor. That student was, of course, Simmons. “It was a laughing matter to them because no one from the local high school I was able to attend had ever gone to college.”

And then in 1969, amidst busing, segregated schools, and South Carolina’s reluctant attempts at desegregation, a group called the Earl Jackman Relocation Program would move Simmons to the heart of New York City. The program tested thousands of students throughout the Southern states with the goal of relocating potentially high-achieving students to families and better schools in the North and West. Simmons was one of 40 Black students selected. So just before the start of 10th grade, he packed his bags to continue his high school career in New York City. “Leaving home at the age I did wasn’t something that was easy to do,” Simmons says. “I had to convince people that it would be a good opportunity and I would be safe.”

Simmons spent his 10th grade year at Steward Park High School. He lived on the Lower East Side of Manhattan with the Colberts, who were present at his graduation—the Simmonses, the Colberts, and the McCulloughs. Members from all three of his families were present at his graduation—the Simmonses, the Colberts, and the McCulloughs. Because of Simmons’ successes, he has been able to support not only his mother, who is a black woman, but also his father, who is a white man, and his brother, who is also white. Simmons says he is proud of his family’s diversity, and he encourages others to pursue higher education.

“My biggest accomplishment wasn’t being the first to go to college in my family, but not being the last,” he says. Simmons says he is proud of his family’s diversity, and he encourages others to pursue higher education.

Simmons has spoken at high schools where children are at high risk of not going to college. “I make sure they understand the importance of an education,” he says. “Like my benefactor, Dr. Earl Jackman, who witnessed my graduation from medical school, I get invited to witness the hearwarming graduations of those coming after me. The discussions at my family reunions are always about new jobs, promotions, first homes, and plans for marriage,” he said. “The young ones talk about college— not as a given, but as a higher education.”
The Pitt Alumni Association honored 305 student-athletes who earned grade-point averages (GPAs) of 3.0 or higher over the past two semesters. The athletes were recognized at the Alumni Association’s annual University of Pittsburgh Scholar-Athlete Awards Breakfast on Feb. 18 in Alumni Hall.

The program’s special guests were Lee Patouillet, associate vice chancellor for alumni relations and executive director of the Pitt Alumni Association; WPXI Channel 11 sports anchor Rich Walsh, a former Pitt scholar-athlete; and Pitt Athletic Director Steve Pederson.

The Pitt men’s baseball team was named the Most Improved Team, earning a collective 2.81 GPA during the spring and fall 2007 semesters. Players Kyle Landis, a graduate, and senior Nick Mullins were among the 22 student-athletes honored during the breakfast for a perfect 4.0.

The men’s swimming and diving team earned the Top Men’s Team GPA Award. Seven members of the team were Gold Awardees with GPAs ranging from 3.5 to 3.9. Graduate Andrew Sheaff and junior Jonathan Buchanan were honored for their 3.9. Graduate Andrew Sheaff and junior Jonathan Buchanan were honored for their 3.9.

The women’s volleyball team won the Top Women’s Team Award and the Overall GPA Award for the second consecutive year. Junior Monica Macellari and sophomore Meagan Dooley led the team with 4.0 GPAs. 

The women’s volleyball team won the Top Women’s Team Award and the Overall GPA Award for the second consecutive year. Junior Monica Macellari and sophomore Meagan Dooley led the team with 4.0 GPAs, but all 11 members of the squad were honored with Gold Awards.

The following are the award winners.

**Perfect 4.0 GPA Awards**

**Baseball**
- Kyle Landis and Nicholas Mullins

**Cheer and Dance Team**
- Aimee Moore

**Gymnastics**
- Robyn Marszalek

**Men’s Soccer**
- Andrew Kalas

**Women’s Soccer**
- Corina Sebesta

**Softball**
- Valerie Mihalik

**Men’s Swimming and Diving**
- Jonathan Buchanan and Andrew Sheaff

**Women’s Swimming and Diving**
- Sarah Looney

**Men’s Track and Field/Cross Country**
- Steve Gonzalez and Tim Konovol

**Women’s Track and Field/Cross Country**
- Janelle Adams, Nicole Bielick, Suzy Bossart, Elizabeth Calabrese, and Myciaaah Clemons

**Volleyball**
- Azadeh Boroumand, Meagan Dooley, and Monica Macellari

**Wrestling**
- Joe Ciampoli and Matt Darnell

**Gold Awards** (3.5-3.99 GPA)

**Baseball**
- James Bassage, Miles Gallagher, Christopher Harner, Jordan Herr, Morgan Kachut, Philip Koniecny, and Matthew Litizinger

**Men’s Basketball**
- Keith Benjamin and Levon Kendall

**Women’s Basketball**
- Karlye Lim, Sylvia Tatfen, and Mallorie Winn

**Cheer and Dance Team**
- Beth Abbott, Megan Barna, Christie Bonk, Christina Colalli, Sara Fabans, Lauren Haust, Brittany Jackson, Nicole Jackson, Erin Lageman, Ashley Liska, Shawn Luco, Kesa Mayanga, Lauren McCormick, Lauren McPherson, Katie Mulkern, Erica Nickels, Teresa Pignat, Jen Scaccio, Amanda Tomich, Chris Watkinson, Megan Worbs, and Kayla Young

**Football**
- Vernon Botts, Lucas Briggs, Steve Bouches, Myles Carageen, Mark Esterner, Max Gruder, Mike Hull Jr., Conor Lee, Chris McKillop, Kevan Smith, Lucas Stone, Tyler Tkach, and Dustin Walters

**Women’s Gymnastics**
- Samantha Debone, Nicole Drane, Kathleen Harrison, and Nicole Kugowski

**Men’s Soccer**
- Tyler Bastianelli, Justin Boehm, Matt Deetz, Matt Langton, Zachary Matthews, Marshall Stula, and Adam Walkowiak

**Women’s Soccer**
- Laura Berbert, Carli Brill, Jenna Greenfield, Ashley Habbell, Morie Kephart, Renee Pilch, Katie Surma, and Kylie Veverka

**Softball**
- Laura Belardinelli, Cory Berliner, Alicia Broudy, Samantha Card, Morgan Howard, Kimberly Stiles, and Kayla Zinger

**Men’s Swimming and Diving**
- B.J. Conklyn, Patrick Mansfield, Jared Martin, Jeremy Stultz, and Charles Zettel

**Women’s Swimming and Diving**
- Hanna Bratton, Kristin Brown, Caitlyn Harrington, Amy He, Agnes Mago, Kristen Mcmillan, Erin Mehman, Beth Newell, Kelly O’Hara, Erika Rodriguez, Megan Scalley, Kathy Suda, and Sara Sullivan

**Men’s Track and Field/Cross Country**
- Ethan Headlee, Dave Kapetanovich, Nick Orio, and Jacob Pelletier

**Women’s Volleyball**
- Kelly Campbell, Melissa Ferguson, Rachel Kalberer, Jessica Moses, Stephanie Ross, Melissa Stadelman, Nicole Taurence, and Amy Town

**Wrestling**
- Tim Allen, Christian Fagan, Mark Generalovich, Drew Headlee, Ethan Headlee, Dave Kapetanovich, Nick Orio, and Jacob Pelletier

Continued on page 6

- Aly Brown, Bailey Flask, Kari Hedderick, Kristin Johnson, Heather Lezanic, Aurielle McCauley, Shannon Moore, Julianna Reed, Kimberly Rorabaugh, Jenna Rozansky, Jennifer Setz, Victoria Toso, Leah Ulizio, and Anna Yoney

**Women’s Tennis**
- Elizabeth Adams, Kristy Borza, Anna Broverman, Anne Davies, Frances Liebenguth, and Stephanie Scheinoff

At last weekend’s Big East Indoor Championships.
Faith Adiele Coedit Anthropology About Coming of Age

As middle-class Chinese women have entered the Hong Kong workforce in unprecedented numbers over the past two decades, the demand for foreign domestic workers has soared. Approximately 150,000 individuals now serve two-year contracts, and the majority are women from Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Vietnam. University of Pittsburgh Professor Nicole Constable tells their stories in the recently released second edition of her 1997 book, Maid to Order in Hong Kong (Cornell University Press).

In this second edition, Constable, a professor of anthropology and associate director of graduate studies at Pitt, focuses on the many significant changes that have taken place in Asia over the course of the last decade. Using her research at the Asian frontiers of the late 1990s and the 2008’s outlook of 2002 as a backdrop, Constable interweaves the individual stories of women with her social analysis of Asia’s political, economic, and cultural developments.

Constable received her master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of California, Berkeley. Her geographically oriented specializations are China (with a focus on Hong Kong), and the Philippines. She also is the editor of Crossborder Gender: Ethnicity, Mobility and Women in Transnational Asia (University of Pennsylvania Press, 1996), and the author of Christian Souls and Chinese Spirits (University of California Press, 1994), Romance on a Global Stage: Pan Aesthetics, Feminist Ethnography, and “Mail Order” Marriages (University of California Press, 2005), and Guest People: Hakka Identity in China and Abroad (University of Washington Press, 2007).

From left: Pittsburgh Steelers owner Dan Rooney and Gerald D. Holder, the U.S. Steel Dean of Pitt’s Swanson School of Engineering. Barat Holder, Gordon Win Engineering Awards


Shapiro coauthored Black Wealth/White Wealth: Racial Wealth Inequality, which received the Distinguished Scholarly Publications Award from the American Sociological Association and the C. Wright Mills Award from the Society for the Study of Social Problems, among other honors. A newer edition of Black Wealth/White Wealth: Examining the most important changes in racial inequality and developments in asset policy over the past decade, was published in 2006. A new report coauthored by Shapiro and released last month, by a thread: The New Experience of America’s Middle Class, is a comprehensive study that measures economic stability across the American middle class.
Blue Awards

(3.0-3.49 GPA)

Baseball
Rob Brant, Sean Conley, Kevin Dooley, Zachary Duggan, Ryan Dunford, David Kaye, Ben Knuth, Robert Lawler, Paul Narodzni, John Schultz, Matthew Tokarszczyk, Brian Trybiski, and Christopher Warner

Men's Basketball
Mike Cooke, Tim Frye, Maurice Polen, and Sam Young

Women's Basketball
Ashley Henderson, Selena Nwude, and Shavonte Zellous

Cheer and Dance Team
Christie Blonder, Tracy Clinton, Amanda Eggert, Tiffany Golonka, Caylen Harris, Katelynn Jackson, Erin Kenny, Rachel King, Gina Kienz, Kyle Loftus, Melanie Miller, Kayla Misgiman, Nick Passe, Ashley Rader, Madalyn Rendulich, Iovanna Ritter, Kelly Scanlon, Samantha Schenk, Emily Spade, Melanie Spain, and Lori Steranchuk

Football

Gymnastics
Andrea Arlotta, Danielle Brey, Jessica Byich, Anya Chayka, Jessica Garber, Jennifer Jones, Andrea Konesky, Shannon McConnell, Victoria McGuigan-Carl, Krista Rubini, and Sarah Thompson

Men's Soccer
Matt Baker, Chris Bastidas, Morgan Faust Jr., Matt Firster, Chris Franczukowski, Orane Gordon, Pat Kerr, and Brendon Smith

Women's Soccer
Dee Absul, Iris Bolvin, Liz Carroll, Stephanie Davis, Alison Finch, Kristina Francois, Kaitlyn Kacsuta, Megan Watson, and Erica Wright

Softball
Meghan Bostick, Jessica Dignon, April Ghirol, Sheena Hellon, Mollie Illenberger, Kelly Murphy, Alyssa O'Connell, Rebecca Stottlemeyer, and Reba Tutt

Men's Swimming and Diving
Warren Barnes, Eric Becker, Daniel Connealy, Jason Erdeljac, Collin Forner, Chris George, Charles Hauser, Rene Hipol, Steve Jackson, Andrew Kyrekjo, Jared Martin, Zane McLean, Alex McIvor, David Montgomery, Geoffrey Morgan, Andrew Natali, and Scott Shearer

Women's Swimming and Diving
Melissa Brosius, Sophie Cross, Kendra Decelle, Emely DeStefano, Margo Ekstrom, Allision Horvath, Sabrina Jennings, Ryann Kishbaugh, Tiffany Malatesta, Lauren Myrick, Ruth Seifert, Andrea Shouset, and Katherine Templeton

Women's Tennis
Shannon Bene, Leah Friedman, Sarah Magaudland, Audra Praszkiewicz, Carlie Smith, and Albrina Vyzorom

Men's Track and Field/Cross Country
Joshua Christopher, Kareem Cousar, Matt Daniele, Eric Fleming, William Grinstead, Eric Jones, Curtis Larimer, Stephen Reed, Christian Schmidt, Jeffrey Stortz, Matthew Timko, Andrew Tomasswick, Brandon Turner, Samson Weiser, Brian Woods, and Joshua Zierger

Women's Track and Field/Cross Country
Raquel Bender, Stacey Bilan, Leah Colveleski, Onowunmi Fapohunda, June Farley, Katelyn Fleishman, Akiesha Gilchrist, Prachi Gupta, Alicia Lichvar, Carron Mitchell, Janessa Murphy, Nicole Pitchford, Stephanie Stambul, Melissa Vignetti, Kelley Voltz, and Kari Weimerskirch

Wrestling
Andrew Brentzel, Eric Cassidy, Adam Counterman, Kyle Deliere, Joey Ecklof, Brad Gentile, Mike Heist, Brock Martella, Kyle Patton, Sean Richmond, Zach Sheaffer, Philip Sorrentino, Ryan Tomez, and Jeff Warsz
Concerts


Donnis Nekis Pocon by Ralph Vaughn Williams, 3 p.m. March 2, First Presbyterian Church, Belkfield Ave., Oakland, Sacred- ury, 412-642-0000, www.sacred-ury.org.


Craig Douv, Ronn Kel, 5:30 p.m. March 4, Cabaret at Theater Square, 655 Penn Ave., Downtown, Jazz Live Free Concert Series, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

Exhibitions

Kuntu Repertory Theatre, Telling Our Story through the Lens, through Feb. 29, City-County Building lobby, 414 Grant St., Downtown, 412-511-7902, info@ kuntu.org.


“The Hemlock Warbler” Hillman Library February 26–March 1

Lectures/Seminars/Readings


Miscellaneous
Film Screenings, 7 p.m., Wednesdays and Fridays, through Feb. 29, Swanson School of Engineering Auditorium, part of Chinese Culture Exhibition Month, of Chinese Culture, www.pitt.edu.


“Eleventh Annual Arts and Sciences Grad Lection,” 8 p.m. March 2-3, William Pitt Union, Pitt School of Arts and Sciences, 412-624-6698, gradexpo@pitt.edu.

Opera/Theater/Dance

Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses
Renee Salloway, School of Educa- tion, American Reproductive Rights Utilized by Minority Students Majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathemat- ics Disciplines,” 10 a.m. Feb. 27, 5700 Powsar Hall.

Joe Wei Lee, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, “A Com- parative Study of Economic Develop- ment Policy Process in Minneapolis and Pittsburgh Regions,” 4 p.m. Feb. 28, 3215 Powsar Hall.

Ethan Rull, School of Education, “Phys- ical Activity Patterns From Adolescence to Young Adulthood and Parental Sup- port For Physical Activity in Children,” 11:30 a.m. March 4, 130 Trees Hall.

Michael Amato, School of Education, “The Challenges of a Change in Practice: The Experience of an Experienced Principal’s Journey Through a Struggling Urban Elementary School,” 1 p.m. March 4, 4251 Powsar Hall.

Workshops


Renowned Cancer Doctor to Give Bernard Fisher Lecture at Pitt Medical School

Holland talk to focus on Human Mammary Tumor Virus

By Megan Grote Quatrini

James F. Holland, a leading authority on medical oncology and cancer biology who is investigating a viral cause of human breast cancer, will deliver the 2008 Bernard Fisher Lecture at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine on Feb. 27.

Holland, a distinguished professor of neoplastic diseases at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, will speak at 3:30 p.m. in Auditorium Six, Scaife Hall. The title of his talk is “HMTV, The Human Mammary Tumor Virus.” The event is free and open to the public, and a reception will follow the lecture in Room 1105 Scaife Hall.

The lecture is named in honor of Bernard Fisher, Pitt’s pioneering breast cancer researcher. Holland is one of the nation’s authoritative figures when it comes to cancer research and clinical care. His career has been dedicated to searching for a cure for cancer, and he continues that pursuit even now, when others would be satisfied to pass the baton to the next generation of oncology experts,” said Arthur S. Levine, senior vice chancellor for engineering breast cancer and next generation of oncology experts.

Fisher, a 1943 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, has served as Distinguished Service Professor of Surgery at Pitt since 1986. He is a founding member and past chairman and scientific director of the Pittsburgh-based National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project, the research consortium that he chaired from 1967 to 1994. From 1955 to 1968, he directed the Laboratory of Surgical Research, which he founded at the University.

Fisher went on to show the effectiveness of adjuvant chemotherapy and hormonal therapy (tamoxifen) in treating breast cancer as a systemic disease not cured by surgery alone. In subsequent studies related to breast cancer prevention, Fisher also found that tamoxifen can substantially reduce the incidence of breast cancer in high-risk women.

Holland is a graduate of Princeton University and Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons. After early work at the National Cancer Institute and Roswell Park Cancer Institute, he joined the faculty of Mount Sinai School of Medicine, where he served as professor and founding chair of the Department of Neoplastic Diseases for 20 years. He, Emil Freireich, and Emil Frei III are credited with first using combination chemotherapy in patients to successfully treat acute leukemia. This strategy, for which they won the 1972 Lasker Award for Clinical Medical Research, was initiated in the 1950s and soon gained wide acceptance as a template for treating numerous other cancers with a regimen of several drugs administered simultaneously.

Fisher, a 1943 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, has served as Distinguished Service Professor of Surgery at Pitt since 1986. He is a founding member and past chairman and scientific director of the Pittsburgh-based National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project, the research consortium that he chaired from 1967 to 1994. From 1955 to 1968, he directed the Laboratory of Surgical Research, which he founded at the University.

Fisher is best known for overturning the prevailing paradigm that breast cancer metastasizes in an orderly and sequential way from the breast to neighboring lymph nodes before any further spread—a paradigm that had led to radical mastectomy as standard treatment for this disease. Instead, after almost two decades of laboratory investigation related to the biology of tumor metastasis, he proposed that breast cancer is a systemic disease that metastasizes unpredictably. Using randomized clinical trials, Fisher found that radical mastectomy was no more effective than total mastectomy and, in turn, that total mastectomy was no more effective than lumpectomy in treating breast cancer.

“Holland is one of the nation’s authoritative figures when it comes to cancer research and clinical care. His career has been dedicated to searching for a cure for cancer, and he continues that pursuit even now, when others would be satisfied to pass the baton to the next generation of oncology experts.”

—Arthur S. Levine

PUBLICATION NOTICE: The next edition of Pitt Chronicle will be published March 3. Items for publication in the newspaper’s Happenings calendar (see page 7) should be received six working days prior to the desired publication date. 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 e-mailed to chron@pitt.edu, faxed to 412-624-4895, or sent by campus mail to 422 Craig Hall. For more information, call 412-624-1033 or e-mail robinet@pitt.edu.