

Pitt Names 12 New Legacy Laureates

Alumni honored for personal, professional accomplishments



University of Pittsburgh Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg honored Pitt's 2008 Legacy Laureates during an Oct. 23 celebration that was part of the University's Homecoming events. Seated (from left) are Larry J. Merlo, Achilles Mitsos, and Barry M. Brenner. Standing (from left) are Frank Gaoning Ning, David H. Perrin, Nordenberg, Brian Generalovich, Paul Richard Bridges, Yu-Mei Y. Chao, Michael A. Bryson, Brian Segal, and Nicole Johnson. Henry Posner Jr. is not pictured.

By Lynn Shea and Brittney Gillison

The University of Pittsburgh has named 12 new Legacy Laureates, alumni recognized for their outstanding personal and professional accomplishments. The laureates were honored during Pitt's Oct. 23-26 Homecoming festivities.

The Pitt Legacy Laureate program was launched in 2000. Following are brief biographies of this year's honorees.

Barry M. Brenner

Barry M. Brenner, one of the world's leading nephrologists, earned his Doctor of Medicine degree at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine in 1962.

Brenner has made unparalleled advances in the treatment of kidney disease and is the Samuel A. Levine Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and director emeritus of the Renal Division of Brigham and Women's Hospital. He was director of the Harvard Center for the Study of Kidney Disease and the Physician-Scientist Program at Harvard Medical School.

Brenner is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences; the Royal College of Physicians, London; the American Association for the Advancement of Science; and the Molecular Medicine Society. He has received many prestigious awards, including, from the International Society of Nephrology, the Amgen International Prize and the Jean Hamburger Award. He also has been honored by having had three lectureships named for him, at Brigham and Women's Hospital and at both the American and International Societies of Nephrology.

Brenner has trained many prominent nephrologists; published extensively,

including the standard textbook *Brenner & Rector's The Kidney*; and received honorary degrees from universities worldwide.

Paul Richard Bridges

Paul Richard Bridges, a longtime recognized leader in his field, is chair of BRIDGES and Company, Inc., one of the largest contracting firms in Pittsburgh. He earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Pittsburgh School of Arts and Sciences in 1958 and a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree at Pitt's Swanson School of Engineering in 1959.

Established in 1982, BRIDGES and Company provides general contracting, design-build, construction management, and project development services for a variety of commercial and institutional projects throughout Western Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio, West Virginia, and Western Maryland. Under Bridges' leadership, the company has received numerous awards from the Western Pennsylvania Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. In 1988, the company was rated among the 30 fastest-growing new companies in the United States by *Inc.* magazine.

In 1989, Bridges was recognized by *Inc.* magazine, Arthur Young and Company, and the Pittsburgh High Technology Council as a Tri-State Construction Entrepreneur of the Year finalist, and in 2003, he received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Swanson School's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Michael A. Bryson

Michael A. Bryson forged a stellar

career as a bank executive after receiving the Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Arts and Sciences in 1968, earning distinction as Phi Beta Kappa's 1968 Man of the Year and winning the M.M. Culver Memorial Fund Award in mathematics.

Bryson is the retired executive vice president of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation and was one of three Mellon Financial Corporation executives to serve on the committee that oversaw the corporation's merger with the Bank of New York,

helping to preserve thousands of jobs in Pittsburgh and creating one of the world's largest asset-management and servicing companies. During more than 30 years with Mellon, he held positions in national, corporate, and institutional banking, corporate finance, and strategic planning. Eventually, he served as chief financial officer responsible for all areas of finance and corporate strategy.

Bryson has been an exceptionally

Continued on page 4

Pitt Extends Its Reach, Opens Center in Washington, D.C.

By Amanda Leff

The University of Pittsburgh Washington Center has officially opened at 2025 M Street, N.W. in the nation's capital. The new center, a five-office suite, is located at the edge of Foggy Bottom.

The center is a joint venture launched with financial support from the Office of the Provost and by Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA), School of Law, Office of Student Affairs, and Department of Federal Governmental Relations.

John Keeler, dean of GSPIA, recently hired a full-time associate director of GSPIA's Alumni Relations and Career Ser-

vices, Jessica Hatherill, who will be based in the D.C. center. In addition to offices for staff based in D.C., the suite includes two large seminar rooms, one of which is equipped with HD videoconferencing equipment to allow for connections to comparable facilities on the Oakland campus.

The center has been designed to be an invaluable means of serving GSPIA and School of Law students, strengthening both schools' alumni networks in Washington and opening new instructional opportunities. Keeler notes that nearly half

Continued on page 5



Briefly Noted



at Pitt's previous Slovak Heritage Festivals. A member of the Spolok Fajarasov (Fujarists Guild), Sorensen is also a member of the Folk Group Vagonar.

The Slovak Heritage Festival is free and open to the public. Pitt's Slovak Studies Program and the Pitt Students' Slovak Club are cosponsors of the event. For more information, contact Christine Metil, festival director, at 412-624-5906, or e-mail Slavic@pitt.edu.

—Anthony M. Moore

Author Russell Banks to Give Literary Reading at Pitt Oct. 29

Author Russell Banks will give a literary reading at 8:30 p.m. Oct. 29 in the University of Pittsburgh's David Lawrence Hall. The event is part of the Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series 2008-09 season.

A writer of both fiction and poetry, Banks is the author of the novels *The Reserve* (Harper Collins, 2008), *Cloudsplitter* (Harper Collins, 1999), *Rule of the Bone* (Harper Collins, 1996), *The Sweet Hereafter* (Harper Collins, 1991), and *Continental Drift* (Harper Collins, 1985). He also has contributed poems, short stories, and essays to such publications as *The Boston Globe Magazine*, *Vanity Fair*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *Esquire*, and *Harper's*.

The eldest of four children, Banks grew up in a working-class neighborhood in Newton, Mass., a fact that has played a major role in the subject matter of his writing. His stories often depict characters facing tragedy and downturns in everyday life while showing resilience and strength in the face of adversity.

His works have been translated into more than 20 languages and have earned numerous literary awards, including the Ingram Merrill Award, the John Dos Passos Award, and the Literature Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His novels also have been Pulitzer Prize and PEN/Faulkner finalists.

Banks also is one of the founders of Cities of Refuge North America, a nonprofit network of sanctuaries for writers exiled under threat of death, imprisonment, or persecution in their native countries. He is president of the International Parliament of Writers and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. As a professor of literature, he has taught at the University of New Hampshire, Columbia University, Sarah Lawrence College, New England College, New York University, and Princeton University. He is currently an artist-in-residence at the University of Maryland.

The 2008-09 Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series season is cosponsored by Pitt's Department of English in the School of Arts and Sciences, University Center for International Studies, Asian Studies Center, China Council Confucius Institute, Cultural Studies Program, Women's Studies Program, and Book Center and by the Carnegie Mellon University Creative Writing Program.

All events in the Writers Series are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Jeff Oaks at oaks@pitt.edu, or visit www.unc.pitt.edu/news/documents/morningreport/2008/08/wsschedule.pdf.

—Anthony M. Moore



Twelfth Annual Model UN Conference to be Hosted by Pitt Nov. 10

Approximately 415 students from 28 Western Pennsylvania high schools will convene at the University of Pittsburgh Nov. 10 to participate in the 12th Annual Model United Nations Conference.

The Model UN gives area high school students the opportunity to assume the role of diplomats as they participate in mock sessions of several bodies of the United Nations, including the Security Council, Historical Security Council (simulating events of the world as of March 15, 1967), Disarmament and International Security Committee, Economic and Financial Committee, NATO, and the Pan American Health Organization. Each school delegation has been assigned a country to represent in the negotiations. The students prepare for this event by researching their assigned countries' positions on a variety of real-world issues. Participants will discuss controversial matters facing the worldwide community within the context of a United Nations simulation.

Students will debate such issues as the global food crisis, the Arab-Israeli conflict, weapons in space, nuclear proliferation, NATO enlargement, Afghanistan, and health care for indigenous populations. Throughout the debates, students are evaluated on their abilities to realistically present the positions of the countries they represent.

Awards will be presented to outstanding individual students and country delegations.

Members of the Pitt Model UN Club have played an integral part in planning the conference and will participate in such roles as the UN Secretary General, committee chairs, and members of the UN staff.

The Model UN will be in session from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. in the William Pitt Student Union. The event is presented by Pitt's University Center for International Studies with special acknowledgement of Pitt's Asian Studies Center, Center for Latin American Studies, European Studies Center and the European Union Center of Excellence, Center for Russian and East European Studies, Global Studies Program, and Model United Nations Club, as well as Global Solutions Education Fund Pittsburgh and United Nations Association of Pittsburgh.

For more information, visit www.pitt.edu/~modelun or contact Luz Amanda Hank at 412-648-7394 or modelun@pitt.edu.

—Amanda Leff



Russell Banks

Pitt to Sponsor 18th Annual Slovak Heritage Festival Nov. 2

The 18th annual Slovak Heritage Festival—featuring authentic Slovakian song and dance, educational lectures and displays, ethnic foods, and vendors with Slovakian merchandise—will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. Nov. 2 in the University of Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning.

This year's festival will include artists and speakers performing in the Cathedral of Learning's Commons Room, including singer Jozef Ivaska, the Singing Revil'ak Family from the Slovak Republic; The Pittsburgh Slovaks and Pittsburgh Area Slovaks, representing the Western Pennsylvanian Slovakian community; and Ben Sorensen from North Carolina.

This year, speakers will present the following lectures: "Surfing for Slovak Ancestors: Find Your Roots Online," "Teaching Slovakia's Roma (Gypsies): Outlooks for a New Generation," "Slovak and Czech Cinema: A Reflection of History and Culture," "Slovak Cuisine," and "Rock the Folk: Popular Music in Contemporary Slovakia."

Ivaska, known in Slovakia as the Man of a Thousand Songs, is making his fifth concert tour of the United States. Born in Ruzomberok, Slovakia, Ivaska graduated from the Bratislava Conservatory of Music, where he studied opera and was active in the rock and pop music scene in both Ruzomberok and the city of Zilina. During the Communist era, Ivaska was forced from the country by Soviet officials, and his music was banned.

The Singing Revil'ak Family's repertoire includes Slovak and Carpatho-Rusyn folk songs and international favorites and has been featured for more than 20 years on European, Canadian, and U.S. stages. The family—the parents, two daughters, and a son—grew up singing in Bardejov, Slovakia, and has received many national awards.

Sorensen, an American musician, has studied the fujura, a Slovak shepherd's flute, under the guidance of Dusan Holik, who has performed

Pitt Launches Center For Simulation, Modeling

By Morgan Kelly

From mitigating the causes of global warming to designing proteins for the treatment of diseases, researchers at the University of Pittsburgh will now be able to increase their potential for faster, more efficient and effective real-world solutions through the University's Center for Simulation and Modeling. Launched Oct. 24, the center will allow faculty members from a variety of disciplines to more creatively and productively address their research challenges through collaboration and increased computing power.

A joint project of Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences and Swanson School of Engineering, the center comprises more than 50 faculty members from such disciplines as chemistry, physics, biology, materials science, chemical and mechanical engineering, computer science, and the social and health sciences. The center will initially be located in Pitt's Bellefield Hall.

"This center will be a marvelous resource for this University," said Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor James V. Maher. "With the amazing capabilities of today's computers, it's necessary to have a center offering this kind of expertise. The center's creation demonstrates the University's continued commitment to equipping our people with the support they need to succeed in their research."

The new center is expected to help position Pitt as one of the leaders in advanced scientific computing. Faculty members will have access to parallel processors—which allow simulations to run on several microprocessors at once—through the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center. This capability will allow Pitt researchers to tackle some of the biggest challenges in their fields—many of which require multiscale modeling—increasing the potential to conduct transformational research in energy and sustainability, nanoscience and materials engineering, medicine, global public health, economics, and other fields. Several PhD-level computational experts will be hired through the center to assist faculty members and their more than 100 graduate students.

"These consultants will work with researchers to convert their data and calculations into high-performance computer models that address complex problems, including improving energy efficiency,

Continued on page 3

PittChronicle

Newspaper of the University of Pittsburgh

PUBLISHER Robert Hill
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER John Harvith
EXECUTIVE EDITOR Linda K. Schmittmeyer
EDITOR Jane-Ellen Robinet
ART DIRECTOR Gary Cravener
STAFF WRITERS Sharon S. Blake
 John Fedele
 Morgan Kelly
 Amanda Leff
 Anthony M. Moore
 Patricia Lomando White

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Clare Collins
 Brittney Gillison
 Megan Grote Quatrini
 Lynn Shea

HAPPENINGS EDITOR Lauren O'Leary
 The *Pitt Chronicle* is published throughout the year by University News and Magazines, University of Pittsburgh, 400 Craig Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15260, Phone: 412-624-1033, Fax: 412-624-4895, E-mail: chron@pitt.edu Web: www.chronicle.pitt.edu

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

Pitt Launches Center for Simulation, Modeling

Continued from page 2

unraveling complex biological systems, and predicting the behavior of social systems,” said the center’s codirector, Kenneth Jordan, Distinguished Professor of Computational Chemistry in the School of Arts and Sciences. J. Karl Johnson, interim chair, W. K. Whitford Professor, and NETL Faculty Fellow of chemical and petroleum engineering in the Swanson School, will serve as the other codirector.

The center also will allow researchers to tap into the expert advice and work of on-campus faculty who are engaged in data modeling and visualization, or converting mountains of numbers into a visual representation of the research.

Among the faculty and projects using simulation and modeling tools at Pitt are Donald Burke, dean of Pitt’s Graduate School of Public Health, UPMC-Jonas Salk Chair of Global Health, and associate vice chancellor for global health, whose project simulates the spread of pandemic diseases. His group received a \$10 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to construct a model of how vaccines might contain epidemic diseases. Burke also is exploring models to outline the spread of such behavioral public health problems as smoking, obesity, and drug use.

Peyman Givi, the William Kepler Whitford Professor of mechanical engineering and materials science, studies the complex field of engine turbulence. By creating computer models of engines, Givi helps engineers design more efficient, cleaner-burning engines while saving the time and expense of constructing an actual test engine.

Kenneth Jordan models the structure

of methane hydrate, a methane-containing “ice” found in large deposits in the deep ocean and in permafrost. Methane hydrate is an enormous reserve of harvestable natural gas, but if the ice melted, it would release massive amounts of methane, a greenhouse gas twice as potent as carbon dioxide. Jordan focuses on how heat transfers through ideal and defective methane hydrate crystals.

G. Bard Ermentrout, University Professor of Computational Biology and professor of mathematics,

uses computational modeling to simulate complex medical phenomena. For example, Ermentrout and his colleagues use models to understand the immune responses during sepsis, a potentially fatal condition in which the body’s response to infection inflicts “collateral damage” on internal organs like the lungs.

Ivet Bahar, John K. Vries Chair and professor of computational biology, and colleagues in Pitt’s School of Medicine simulate the interaction of proteins with potential inhibitors, small compounds that can limit undesirable activities of some proteins. In collaboration with the Drug Discovery Institute, Professor Bahar’s lab members conduct “virtual screenings” of hundreds of thousands of chemical compounds for their potential to interact with target proteins with the ultimate goal of speeding up the process of identifying promising new therapies and drugs.

Karl Johnson is using quantum and statistical mechanics to help develop new, cost-effective materials for capturing carbon dioxide from power-plant smoke stacks.

“The center’s creation demonstrates the University’s continued commitment to equipping our people with the support they need to succeed in their research.”

—James V. Maher

Pitt Receives \$8.4 Million to Improve Disaster Preparedness

By Clare Collins

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will award \$8.4 million over the next five years to the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH) to create a Preparedness and Emergency Response Research Center.

Realizing that acting quickly and effectively during major disasters often means the difference between life and death on a large scale, the federal government is looking for ways to improve preparedness and emergency response systems across the country.

GSPH’s new center will develop methods to evaluate emergency response plans and “best practices” to handle public health emergencies caused by the spread of infectious diseases, defective water and sewage systems, natural disasters, or intentional acts.

“The capacity of local governments to respond to public health disasters varies greatly from region to region,” said Maggie Potter, principal investigator of the grant and associate dean and director of the Center for Public Health Practice in GSPH. “We know the difference between a poor response and an effective one based on actual outcomes, but we know much less about the underlying reasons why some plans work well and others fail.”

Potter and her team will focus initially on infectious diseases, such as the flu, to develop criteria and metrics for emergency

preparedness, model their effectiveness using sophisticated computer-based techniques, and develop new standards for emergency responses to improve quality of life for community members.

“Public health emergencies create heavy demands on state and local health agencies, but by using these quantitative methods, we can target the spending for preparedness more wisely and make better decisions about handling emergencies when they arise,” Potter said.

The center also will focus on emergency preparedness in vulnerable communities—those that typically lack access to resources and services.

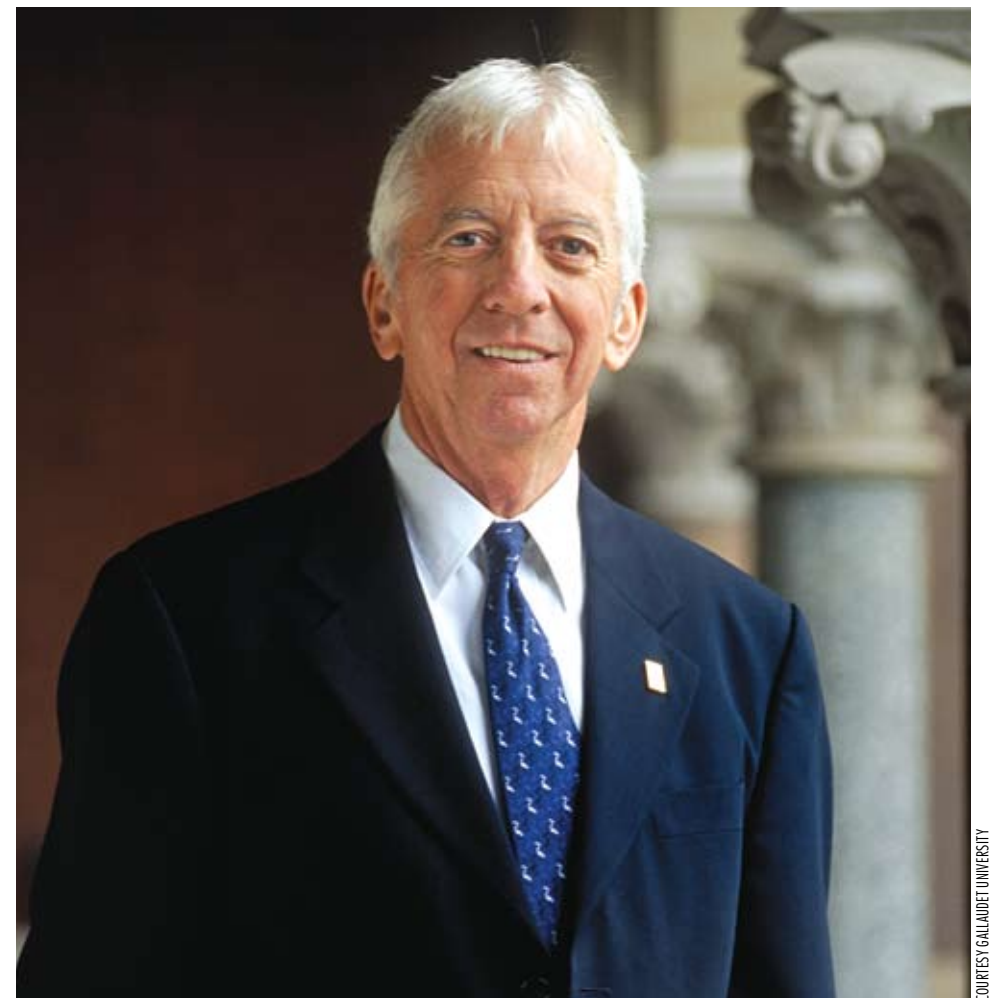
“We know from research and experiences like Hurricane Katrina that race, ethnicity, poverty, disability, age, and other factors that affect health status during routine times put individuals and families at greater risk during an emergency,” said Sandra Quinn, coprincipal investigator of the grant and associate dean of student affairs and education in GSPH. “Our research will help public health systems be more effective at protecting diverse communities. Part of our center will focus on how we can develop a more integrated and comprehensive approach to emergency planning that includes more marginalized communities that aren’t typically part of that process.”



Maggie Potter

Thornburgh Family Lecture Series in Disability Law To Feature Former President of Gallaudet University

I. King Jordan became Gallaudet’s first deaf president in 1988



I. King Jordan

By Patricia Lomando White

I. King Jordan, former president of Gallaudet University and the first deaf person to hold that office, will be the featured speaker at the University of Pittsburgh’s Thornburgh Family Lecture Series in Disability Law and Policy. His free public talk, titled “Issues of Access in the Deaf and Disability Communities,” will take place from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Oct. 30 in the Barco Law Building’s Teplitz Memorial Courtroom.

Jordan’s appearance will be simulcast in the Pitt School of Law’s Room 109. A question-and-answer session will follow the lecture.

Jordan became president of Gallaudet University—the world’s only university with all programs and services designed specifically for students who are deaf or hard of hearing—after students protested the Gallaudet Board of Trustees’ hiring of a hearing person who was unable to communicate in Sign language. As a result of the 1988 protest, known as Deaf President Now (DPN), the board reversed its decision and voted to hire Jordan, a former dean of Gallaudet’s College of Arts and Science who had earned his PhD degree in psychology at Gallaudet.

With the support of faculty, staff, alumni, and the deaf community both nationally and internationally, DPN was viewed as a turning point in the lives of deaf people worldwide. Jordan’s term as president has been described as a beacon of self-determination and empowerment for deaf and hard-of-hearing people everywhere.

Jordan served at Gallaudet as professor, department chair, dean, and president. He

has 11 honorary degrees and has been the recipient of numerous awards, among them the Presidential Citizens Medal, the James

L. Fisher Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, the Larry Stewart Award from the American Psychological Association, and the Distinguished Leadership Award from the National Association for Community Leadership.

The Thornburgh Family Lecture Series was created by a generous gift from former Pennsylvania Governor and U.S. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh and his wife, Ginny, director of the American Association of People with Disabilities’ (AAPD) Interfaith Initiative.

A 1957 graduate of the University’s law school, Dick Thornburgh has been a long-time Pitt trustee whose nomination as an emeritus trustee will be voted on Oct. 31 by the Pitt board.

Recipients of the 2003 Henry B. Betts Award from the AAPD, the Thornburghs donated the \$50,000 Betts Award funds to the University to establish The Thornburgh Family Lecture Series in Disability Law and Policy through Pitt’s School of Law and School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SHRS). Additional support for the lecture series is provided by Pitt’s Office of the Chancellor, law school, SHRS, and the Dick Thornburgh Forum on Law and Public Policy.

This lecture has been approved by the Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Board for 1.5 hours of CLE credit. Register at the door.

For more information on the lecture series, call 412-648-1490.

Pitt Names 12 New Legacy Laureates

Continued from page 1

devoted supporter of the University, serving as a member of the Board of Trustees, chair of the University Center for Social and Urban Research Board of Visitors, and director emeritus of the Pitt Alumni Association.

Yu-Mei Y. Chao

Yu-Mei Y. Chao has used the Master of Nursing Education and PhD degrees she earned at the Pitt School of Nursing in 1967 and 1979, respectively, to make important contributions to academic and professional nursing practices in Taiwan.

Chao is a research fellow at the Center for Health Policy Research and Development of the National Health Research Institutes in Taiwan, chief controller for the Taiwan AIDS Society, and executive director of the Childhood Cancer Foundation in Taiwan, and she serves on several committees of the Department of Health of Taiwan. She also is an adjunct professor at the National Taiwan University and chair professor at Chungtai Institute of Health Sciences and Technology.

Chao has helped influence international public health policies as a board member and third vice president of the International Council of Nurses in Geneva, Switzerland, and as a foreign associate of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies of the United States. She has received the First Class Golden Medal of Health Merits from the Department of Health of Taiwan and a Distinguished Nursing Alumni Award from Pitt.

Brian Generalovich

Brian Generalovich was a standout student-athlete at Pitt, attending on an athletic scholarship. After earning a Bachelor of Science degree at Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences in 1965, he passed up offers from the New York Knicks, Boston Patriots, and the Pittsburgh Steelers to attend the Pitt School of Dental Medicine, where he earned the Doctor of Dental Medicine degree in 1968. He played football for one year at Pitt and earned distinction as a two-time Academic All-American and was selected team captain for two years and Most Valuable Player for three years as a member of the Pitt varsity basketball team.

After graduating from Pitt, Generalovich served in the U.S. Army Dental Corps and has operated a private dental practice in Hermitage, Pa., since 1971.

Generalovich recently became a member of Pitt's Board of Trustees and has served as the president, vice president, and treasurer of the Pitt Alumni Association, helping establish the Student Alumni Association. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame's Western Chapter, received the Volunteer of the Year Award from the Pitt Alumni Association in 2000, and was named a Pitt Varsity Letterwinner of Distinction in 1993.

Nicole Johnson

Nicole Johnson was not satisfied to use her fame as Miss America 1999 to bring attention to diabetes and support the fight against the disease, which she has. She also wanted a formal health sciences education. So, in 2007, she earned a Master of Public Health degree at Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health.

A major philanthropic force, Johnson has helped generate \$20 million for diabetes research and, through the Nicole Johnson Foundation, Inc., provides access to education, technology, and health care. Her company, Nicole Johnson, Inc., provides diabetes-related consulting, advocacy, and contract services. Her books include *Living with Diabetes: Nicole Johnson, Miss America 1999* (LifeLine Press, 2001) and three *Mr. Food* (American Diabetes Association) series cookbooks. She serves as host of *dLifeTV*, a weekly CNBC show, and is a columnist for *Diabetes Health* magazine.

Among Johnson's numerous awards are a Telly Award, the American Diabetes Association's C. Everett Koop Award for Health Promotion, and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists' Eugene T. Davidson, MD, Award for Public Service. She is a member of the National Institute of Health's Director's Council of Public Representatives and serves as an ambassador for the International Diabetes Foundation's Life for a Child program, which advocates worldwide for children with diabetes.

Larry J. Merlo

Larry J. Merlo has used his 1978 Bachelor of Science degree from the Pitt School of Pharmacy as the launching pad for an eminently successful career as one of the nation's top retail drugstore industry executives.

As the executive vice president of CVS Caremark Corporation and president of CVS/pharmacy retail, Merlo has overseen the successful integration of thousands of new stores the company has acquired, playing a key role in the substantial growth of CVS and helping the company become the largest provider of prescriptions in the United States. CVS now fills or manages more than one billion prescriptions annually in its retail and specialty pharmacy stores, mail-order facilities, and pharmacy benefits management retail network. Merlo also is responsible for store operations, merchandising, logistics, inventory replenishment, marketing, and field operations support for 6,300 CVS/pharmacy stores in 40 states.

Merlo also serves as the treasurer of the board of directors of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores Foundation and was named Operations Executive of the Year in 2000 at *Drug Store News'* 16th Annual Retail Excellence Awards, the drug store retailing industry's top honors.

Achilleas Mitsos

Achilleas Mitsos—a Robert Schuman Fellow and visiting professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science—has made lasting contributions to the unification and advancement of Europe as a leading economist and former high-ranking official in the European Union. He earned his Master of Arts and PhD degrees in economics in 1972 and 1975, respectively, at Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences.

Mitsos enhanced the European Union's international role in the field of science and technology by having served as the director-general of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research. As director-general, he helped to implement research programs designed to develop human capital in scientific research through the training and mobility of researchers, the strengthening of the social and economic sciences knowledge base, and promoting the diffusion of scientific and technological culture throughout the European Union.

Additionally, Mitsos was the head of the Department on European Community Issues at the Bank of Greece; an advisor for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Greece; professor of international economics at the University of Athens; and head of cabinet for Grigoris Varfis, a member of the Commission of the European Communities.

Frank Gaoning Ning

Frank Gaoning Ning went on to become a global business leader holding executive-level positions in some of China's largest national conglomerates after earning his Master of Business Administration degree at Pitt's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business in 1985.

Ning is now chair of COFCO, a *Fortune* magazine Global 500 corporation that is one of the largest food manufacturers and leading grain, oils, and foodstuffs import-and-export groups in China. COFCO also provides real estate, hotel, and financial ser-

VICES and has annual sales revenues of more than \$21 billion. He also is chair of COFCO (Hong Kong) and China Foods, Limited, a subsidiary of COFCO.

Ning has been recognized five times as one of the 25 most influential business leaders by *Chinese Entrepreneur* magazine and served as a mentor at the second annual meeting of the New Champions, a gathering of 1,500 leaders from 80 countries sponsored by the World Economic Forum.

Ning serves as a director of BOC International Holdings, Limited, and Smithfield Foods, Inc.; nonexecutive director of Lippo China Resources Limited; and a member of the International Association for Chinese Management Research and the Asia Business Council.

David H. Perrin

David H. Perrin, who earned his PhD degree at Pitt's School of Education in 1985, has made significant contributions to the body of sports medicine knowledge as a scholar, advocate, and academic leader. He is the provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, professor in the Department of Exercise and Sport Science, and former dean of the School of Health and Human Performance at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Perrin was chair of the Department of Human Services and Joe Gieck Professor of Sports Medicine in the Curry School of Education at the University of Virginia and has held various teaching and athletic trainer positions at Pitt, Castleton State College, and Indiana State University.

Perrin also served on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Advisory Committee on Interdisciplinary, Community-Based Linkages of the Health Resources and Services Administration as well as the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs' Joint Review Committee on Education in Athletic Training. He has received numerous honors and awards and has been an active member of the National Athletic Trainers' Association, the American College of Sports Medicine, and the American Kinesiology Association.

Henry Posner Jr.

Henry Posner Jr., who has done pioneering work as a research scientist and is a distinguished entrepreneur and philanthropist, is chair of The Hawthorne Group, a private

investment and management company with holdings in multiple companies nationwide. He earned his Master of Science degree at Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences in 1948.

During World War II, Posner worked as a research scientist on solid fuels for rockets, military gas adsorption, and the Manhattan Project. He taught chemistry at Pitt and later began his business career at the Pittsburgh Outdoor Advertising Company, which was managed and partially owned by his father, Henry Posner Sr. He later joined his father in buying full ownership of the company and served as its president for 26 years.

Posner has served as president, chair, managing partner, or principal of 23 closely held businesses. As chair of The Hawthorne Group, he oversees the company's holdings in outdoor advertising, soft-drink bottling, health care, assisted living, information technology, paging, sports marketing, railroads, and real estate properties in Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Florida.

Brian Segal

Brian Segal has proven his exceptional leadership skills by having risen to the highest ranks in both academia and the publishing industry of Canada after having earned a Master of Science degree at Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health in 1970 and a PhD at Pitt's School of Social Work in 1971.

Segal currently serves as president and CEO of Rogers Publishing Limited, Canada's largest publishing company, with more than 70 consumer, business, parenting, and medical magazines and newsletters. Previously, he served the company as executive vice president and publisher of *Maclean's*, Canada's largest-circulation news and current affairs magazine. Prior to working in the publishing industry, he was president and vice chancellor in Ontario of both Ryerson University and the University of Guelph.

Segal also has provided leadership and assistance to a variety of professional and community organizations, including service as chair for the National Institute of Nutrition, Magazines Canada, the National Innovations Committee of the Government of Canada, the Council of Ontario Universities, the National Forum on Post-Secondary Education, and the Shaw Festival.

Newsmakers

PITT SENATE PLENARY



Pitt's University Senate held its Fall 2008 Plenary titled "Quality of Life in Oakland: Investing in University-Community Partnerships" on Oct. 23 in the William Pitt Union. Pictured are University Senate President John J. Baker (left) and Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg.

English Department, *Pitt News* to Host Panel On Internships in Mass Media, Public Relations

By Patricia Lomando White

The University of Pittsburgh's Department of English in the School of Arts and Sciences and *The Pitt News*, Pitt's student newspaper, will host a panel discussion titled "The Essential Internship: Snaring One in the Media, Public Relations, and Publishing" at 7:30 p.m. today, Oct. 27, in William Pitt Union's Lower Lounge.

In addition to the panel discussion, the annual Al McDowell Memorial Scholarship, named in memory of the Pittsburgh broadcasting pioneer and 1952 School of Arts and Sciences graduate, will be presented to a Pitt undergraduate student in the English department's nonfiction writing program.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Writing Internship Coordinator Caren Marcus at 412-624-1737 or caren@pitt.edu.

Information on the moderator and the discussion's panelists follows.

Moderator

David Shribman, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* executive editor, was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in Journalism in 1995 for his coverage of Washington and the American political scene. Before coming to Pittsburgh, he was the Washington, D.C., bureau chief of *The Boston Globe*. He also worked in various positions for *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Star*, and *The Buffalo Evening News*. His column, "National Perspective," is syndicated in more than 50 papers nationally, and he is a contributing editor for *Fortune* magazine.



David Shribman

Panelists

Tom Bettag is executive producer of the Discovery network's Koppel Group, which has produced documentaries for Discovery on topics of national significance, including the programs *The Price of Security*, *Iran: The Most Dangerous Nation?*, *Living with Cancer*, and, most recently, *The Peoples Republic of China*. Before joining Discovery, Bettag was executive producer of ABC News *Nightline* from 1991 to 2004. Prior to working at ABC, Bettag spent 22 years at CBS, serving as executive producer of *CBS Evening News with Dan Rather* from 1986 to 1991. He is the recipient of six DuPont-Columbia University Silver Batons, five Peabody awards, three Overseas Press Club awards, and 30 Emmys. In 1976-77, Bettag took a leave of absence from CBS News to travel to Japan as a Fulbright Scholar to study the country's television networks. He received his BA degree in history from the University of Notre Dame and an MS degree in journalism from Columbia University.

Mark Gruetze, administrative editor of the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, oversees newsroom recruiting and the newspaper's internship program in addition to running the metro desk on Sundays. In his 36 years as a journalist, he has been a reporter, copy editor, and assignment editor. Gruetze began his career at the Danville, Ill., *Commercial-News* after a summer internship at the paper. He was the city editor and assistant managing editor before being named managing editor of *The Marietta (Ohio) Times* in 1987. Gruetze moved to Pittsburgh in 1992 to help lead the *Tribune-Review's* expansion of suburban coverage, serving as suburban editor for almost six years before being named administrative editor in 2005. He was editor of the *Collegian*, the student newspaper at Kansas State University, where Gruetze received a BA degree in journalism.

Susan Johnson started her radio career in Pittsburgh in the late 1980s at WQED-FM 89.3, where she served as program coordinator, membership coordinator, classical

announcer, and arts reporter. From 1995 to 2000, she was program director for WUSF-FM in Tampa, Fla. As program director for the Classical Public Radio Network in Los Angeles, Johnson helped pioneer its innovative fundraising and launch its national programming through NPR. A violinist, she performed freelance with professional orchestras and string quartets in Western Pennsylvania, Sarasota, and Los Angeles. Johnson earned a BA degree in music history and literature at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where she also studied journalism.

W. Martin Kaiser has been editor and senior vice president of the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* since 1997. The paper won the Pulitzer Prize for local reporting in 2008. Kaiser also worked for 10 years at *The Baltimore Sun*, where he was sports editor, assistant managing editor, deputy managing editor, and associate managing editor. He also was sports editor for the *Chicago Sun-Times* for four years. Kaiser graduated from George Washington University and completed Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management Advanced Executive Program.

Jessica Bayer is a senior associate on Burson-Marsteller's Human Resources team in Washington, D.C. Since joining Burson-Marsteller in November 2007, she has spent most of her time focusing on recruitment efforts, as well as working with her team to increase diversity recruitment across the company. Bayer recruits for a number of Burson-Marsteller's national offices. Most recently, she managed the 2008 Harold Burson Summer Internship program. Prior to joining Burson-Marsteller, Bayer was a recruitment specialist at Corporate Executive Board in Arlington, Va. She received a BA degree in mass communications with a minor in business from Louisiana State University.

Marin Cogan, reporter-researcher for *The New Republic*, graduated from Pitt in April. She received a BA degree in nonfiction writing with a focus on political science and a minor in film studies. Cogan interned at *The New Republic*, *U.S. News & World Report*, and *Pitt Magazine*. She was the 2007 Al McDowell Scholarship winner. Cogan also placed first in the Gertrude Gordon Writing Competition and was named one of *UniversityWire's* Top College Columnists.

Pam O'Brien holds a visiting lectureship in Pitt's Department of English and is associate director of the department's Public and Professional Writing (PPW) Program. Her responsibilities include supervising PPW interns. O'Brien has worked as a federal grant writer and was vice president of an advertising agency for 15 years. She also writes poetry and has been published frequently in *Rattle*, *Blueline*, and *The Comstock Review*. O'Brien earned a BA degree in Spanish at Allegheny College, a diploma de estudiantes Hispánicos at the University of Madrid, and an MA degree in English at Gannon University.

John Sullivan III began his career at Bedford/St. Martin's publishers as an intern and is now a senior editor at the company. Sullivan primarily edits anthologies of essays for composition courses. *Ways of Reading*, a Bedford/St. Martin's anthology, is edited by Pitt professor David Bartholomae, chair of Pitt's English department, and Anthony Petrosky, professor of education and English at Pitt. Sullivan earned his BA degree in English at Suffolk University and his MA degree in literature at the University of Massachusetts.

Newsmakers

PROFESSOR, NEUROSURGEON, IRONMAN FINALIST

Joseph C. Maroon, a clinical professor of neurosurgery and Heindl Scholar in Neuroscience in the University's School of Medicine, finished 19th in his division in the grueling Hawaiian Ford Ironman World Championship Triathlon held Oct. 11 in Kona, Hawaii. Maroon finished with a time of 15 hours, 57 minutes and 20 seconds in what is considered the crown jewel of international triathlons. The event comprises a 2.4-mile ocean swim, a 112-mile bike race, and a 26.2-mile marathon. The 68-year-old Maroon, longtime team neurosurgeon for the Pittsburgh Steelers, has completed five previous Ironman events.



SLOVAKIAN PRESIDENT VISITS



JOE KAPLEWSKI/CODICE

Slovakian President Ivan Gasparovic (left) met with Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg in the Cathedral of Learning on Oct. 10. Gasparovic came to the United States to meet with President George Bush on Oct. 9 and then traveled to Pittsburgh to meet with U.S. Steel Corp. CEO John Surma and city officials. U.S. Steel bought a Slovak steel mill in 2000 that employs about 15,000 people in Kosice, Slovakia's second-largest city.

Pitt Extends Its Reach, Opens Center in Washington, D.C.



Continued from page 1

of GSPIA graduates take their first jobs in the Washington, D.C., area, many do internships there, and a great number of GSPIA's most prominent alumni reside there.

Also, the Chesapeake and Potomac Pitt Club is the largest Pitt alumni chapter outside of Pittsburgh.

With its videoconferencing capability, GSPIA will soon start holding "D.C. Alumni Briefings" for its students in Pittsburgh. This spring the school will offer a course taught by its first Washington-based adjunct professor, Daniel J. Fiorino, a distinguished senior manager at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

"We have only just begun to explore

the possible ways we can benefit from the center," Keeler explained. "The prospects are exciting, especially because we can already envision synergies developing from collaboration with the law school and our other Pitt partners."

Mary Crossley, dean of Pitt's law school, also stresses the value of the Washington Center in recruiting prospective students and providing educational experiences and placement support for current students.

"Having a physical presence in D.C.—with a staff member focusing on alumni relations and career services—will allow the School of Law to leverage its proximity to our nation's legal center by providing our students with greater access to externships in the federal government and a broad range of employment opportunities," said Crossley. "We are excited about the prospect of strengthening our ties with and supporting our D.C.-area alumni." She further notes that Pitt law alumni are working with the school's faculty to develop a range of externship opportunities for law students.

Paul Supowitz, vice chancellor for governmental relations at Pitt, also welcomes the opportunity for a federal base of operations in D.C. "Proximity to the House and the Senate as well as federal Executive Branch agencies is extremely important for the University's federal government relations endeavors—led by Jeanne Stoner, assistant vice chancellor for federal relations—and for providing a higher Washington profile for the University. We are very pleased to be able to share in the use of this facility as part of our efforts to promote the students, faculty, and programs of the University of Pittsburgh with our legislators and with federal offices in Washington."

Science & Technology



Internet-based Treatment of Bulimia Study Under Way at WPIC

By Megan Grote Quatrini

The Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic (WPIC) of UPMC is participating in a new study comparing the effectiveness of online cognitive behavioral therapy, delivered through a Web site and augmented with therapist-moderated, weekly online chat sessions, to that of face-to-face group therapy for the treatment of bulimia nervosa.

Bulimia is an eating disorder characterized by recurrent and frequent episodes of excessive overeating and purging behaviors. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, approximately one in a hundred people suffer from the disorder.

"For people with bulimia, frequent face-to-face cognitive behavioral therapy, or CBT, has long been considered the gold standard of treatment," said Marsha D. Marcus, professor of psychiatry and psychology and service chief of the Center for Overcoming Problem Eating at WPIC, and principal investigator at the Pittsburgh site. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) also is taking part in the study.

"For several different reasons, CBT does not reach everyone who needs treatment, including people who live in remote areas; people who cringe at the thought of driving to, and parking at, a medical center; and people for whom the price of gas is an

obstacle," added Marcus.

To overcome these challenges, study investigators have developed a Web site that will deliver the same content as traditional, manual-based cognitive behavioral therapy while also using the sound, animation, and video capabilities of the Internet.

Half of the study participants will receive CBT with weekly face-to-face group therapy sessions over a 20-week period. The other half will receive Web-based CBT with weekly online group-therapy chat sessions.

The chat sessions will be hosted on a secure server and moderated by experienced therapists at both WPIC and UNC. Chat session participants will meet in person with the moderator in the early stages of the study, before the online chats begin. To measure the effectiveness of the intervention, follow-up assessments for each participant will be conducted at three-, six-, and 12-month intervals after the end of treatment.

This study will allow the researchers to test several hypotheses, including whether the Internet-based therapy will be as effective as traditional CBT in reducing binge eating and purging and whether the Internet therapy will reduce the attrition or dropout rate among study participants.

This study is funded by the National Institute of Mental Health with additional funding from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

For additional information about the study, go to www.cbt4bn.org.



Marsha D. Marcus

Hepatitis C Virus May Need Enzyme to Cause Liver Disease, Pitt Study Finds



By Clare Collins

A key enzyme may explain how hepatitis C infection causes fatty liver—a buildup of excess fat in the liver that can lead to life-threatening diseases such as cirrhosis and liver cancer, report University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health and School of Medicine researchers.

The study, published in *Hepatology*, shows that an enzyme known to play a major role in lipid production, fatty acid synthase (FAS), was highly elevated in human liver cells exposed to the hepatitis C virus. While preliminary, the research suggests that testing for elevated levels of FAS could help determine which patients with hepatitis C virus may go on to develop more serious, long-lasting health consequences brought on by fatty liver.

Nearly 200 million people worldwide are infected by hepatitis C, including four million Americans. Seventy percent of people with hepatitis C develop chronic liver disease, and the infection is the leading reason for liver transplantation in the United States.

Unlike hepatitis A and B, there is no vaccine to prevent hepatitis C infection. Since hepatitis C typically has no symptoms, many people do not know they have the infection until they develop signs of liver failure or fatty liver, sometimes decades after infection. The virus replicates and mutates quickly, helping it to evade discov-

ery and attack by the immune system and allowing it to slowly wreak damage on the liver.

"Our study has provided new insight into how hepatitis C causes fatty liver. This has important implications for future studies and efforts to understand how the virus causes an increase in fatty acid levels that can lead to serious liver conditions," said Tianyi Wang, assistant professor, Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, and the study's lead author.

To identify possible proteins in the hepatitis C virus linked to an increase in fatty acids, Wang worked with Thomas Conrads, codirector of clinical proteomics at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, and colleagues on a mass spectrometry-based proteomics approach in which they measured protein expression from liver cell cultures exposed to the hepatitis C virus. The approach sorted proteins based on their weight and electrical charge, looking for divergent patterns linked to the virus. Of the 175 proteins they identified, only FAS was highly elevated in cell cultures. Furthermore, when they blocked the expression of FAS, they noted a three- to fourfold decrease in the level of the virus, indicating that FAS is directly linked to the virus' expression.

"Viruses are very complex, so it is challenging to determine what proteins may be at play in their survival and growth," said Wang. "The proteomic approach we used revealed many proteins linked to hepatitis C that may be worthy of further study, but FAS appears to be the protein most strongly associated with the production of fatty acids that can cause liver disease."

"Our next step in this research is to see how high the level of FAS is in tissue samples from hepatitis C patients and determine whether elevated FAS levels directly result in overproduction of fat in livers. If we learn that

FAS is highly present in tissue, testing for it may be a way to predict those at risk for liver disease."

In addition to Wang and Conrads, authors include three current and former researchers in Wang's lab: Wei Yang, a former postdoctoral fellow; Sara Chadwick, a student researcher; and Shufeng Liu, a current postdoctoral fellow.

Other authors include Brian L. Hood, senior research scientist, Clinical Proteomics Facility, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute; Simon Watkins, professor and vice chair, Department of Cell Biology and Physiology, and a professor of immunology, the Pitt School of Medicine; and Guangxiang Luo of the University of Kentucky College of Medicine.

The research was supported by a grant from the National Institutes of Health and University of Pittsburgh Central Research Development Funds.



Tianyi Wang

Happenings



Figure 3 (still), 2008, *Life on Mars*, 55th Carnegie International, through January 11

Concerts

Emerson String Quartet, featuring works by Haydn, Shostakovich, and Dvorak, 8 p.m. **Oct. 27**, Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Pittsburgh Chamber Music Society, 412-624-4129, www.pittsburghchambermusic.org.

Angelique Kidjo, international singer, 7:30 p.m. **Oct. 29**, New Hazlett Theater, Allegheny Square East, North Side, August Wilson Center for African American Culture, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, www.globalbeatspitt.com.

Mata String Quartet, noon **Oct. 29**, free lunch, Nordy's Place, Lower Level, William Pitt Union, Artful Wednesdays, PITT ARTS, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

University of Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, featuring Janacek's *The Village Fiddler's Child Ballad* and Ives' Symphony No. 2, 8 p.m. **Oct. 29**, free, Bellefield Hall Auditorium, Pitt Department of Music, 412-624-4125, www.music.pitt.edu.

38th Annual Pitt Jazz Concert, featuring Cecil Bridgewater, trumpet; Leon Ndugu Chanler, drums; Antonio Bart, alto saxophone; Mike Mossman, trumpet; Patrice Rushen, piano; 8 p.m. **Nov. 1**, Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Pitt Jazz Studies Program, 412-624-4187.

Biss Plays Mozart, featuring Marek Janowski, conductor; Jonathan Biss, piano, **Oct. 31-Nov. 2**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, 412-392-4200, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Exhibitions

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, *Fall Flower Show*, through **Nov. 9**, One Schenley Park, Oakland, 412-441-4442, www.phippsconservatory.org.

Frick Fine Arts Building, *Department of Studio Arts Faculty Exhibition*, through **Nov. 21**, University Art Gallery, Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences, 412-648-2430, www.studioarts.pitt.edu.

Silver Eye Center for Photography, *Eloquent Eggs & Disintegrating Dice: Photographs by Rosamond Purcell*, through **Nov. 29**, 1015 E. Carson St., South Side, 412-431-1810, www.silvereye.org.

Frick Art and Historical Center, *From Michelangelo to Annibale Carracci: A Century of Italian Drawings*, through **Jan. 4**, 7227 Reynolds St., Point Breeze, 412-371-0600, www.frickart.org.

Andy Warhol Museum, *1958*, through **Jan. 11**, 117 Sandusky St., North Side, 412-237-8300, www.warhol.org.

Carnegie Museum of Art, *55th Carnegie International*, through **Jan. 11**; *Worlds Away: New Suburban Landscapes*, through **Jan. 18**, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3131, www.cmoa.org.

Mattress Factory, *Inner & Outer Space*, through **Jan. 11**, 500 Sampsonia Way, North Side, 412-231-3169, www.mattress.org.

Free at Last? Slavery in Pittsburgh in the 18th and 19th Centuries, through **April 5**, exhibition by the University of Pittsburgh at the Senator John Heinz History Center, 1212 Smallman St., Strip District, 412-454-6000, www.pghhistory.com.

Films

Lista de Espera (2000), directed by Juan Carlos Tabio, 7:30 p.m. **Oct. 27**, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Latin American Film Series, Pitt's Center for Latin American Studies, amigoscinelatinoamericano08@blogspot.com.

Eu Tu Eles (2000), directed by Acdrucha Waddington, 7:30 p.m. **Oct. 29**, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Latin American Film Series, Pitt's Center for Latin American Studies, www.amigoscinelatinoamericano2008.blogspot.com.

Voisins, Voisines (2005), directed by Malik Chibane, 7 p.m. **Oct. 30**, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Beur Is Beautiful: Maghrebi-French Filmmaking series, Pitt's Global Studies Program, 412-624-2918, www.ucis.pitt.edu/global.

Lectures/Seminars/Readings

"The Last Soviet Dreamer: Encounters With Leonid Potemkin," Jochen Hellbeck, Rutgers University professor of history, 1 p.m. **Oct. 27**, 3703 Posvar Hall, Pitt's Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Center for Russian and East European Studies, 412-648-7407, crees@pitt.edu.

"What Is the European Genizah? A Survey of Hebrew Manuscript Discoveries in Italy and Spain and Their Importance for Jewish Studies," Mauro Perani, University of Bologna professor of Hebrew codicology and palaeography, 4 p.m. **Oct. 27**, 501 Cathedral of Learning, Jewish Studies Program and Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures, 412-624-5520, www.religiousstudies.pitt.edu/events.

"Interdisciplinarity—A Roadmap of the Discussion With Indications of Some Construction Sites," Hanne Anderson, University of Aarhus of Denmark professor of science studies, 12:05 p.m. **Oct. 28**, 817R Cathedral of Learning, Lunchtime Talk, Center for Philosophy of Science, 412-624-1052, www.pitt.edu/~pittcntr.

"Sixty-five Years Later: Teaching the Holocaust in Germany Today," Elke Gryglewski, Berlin's House of Wannsee Conference Memorial and Educational Center senior educator, 2 p.m. **Oct. 28**, Kurtzman Room, William Pitt Union, Pitt's School of Education, Department of Religious Studies and Jewish Studies Program, 412-624-5990, www.religiousstudies.pitt.edu.

"Security and Cooperation in the Mediterranean Region: An Italian Outlook," Ambassador Paolo Pucci di Benisichi, 4 p.m. **Oct. 28**, Conference Room S120, Thomas E. Starzl Biomedical Sciences Tower, European Union Center of Excellence, 412-648-7405, www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/euce.html.

Lecture by Ken Burns, award-winning documentarian, 7:30 p.m. **Oct. 28**, Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum, 4141 Fifth Ave., Oakland, Gerald McGinnis Cardiovascular Institute Speaker Series, 412-621-4253, www.soldiersandsailorhall.org.

"Reading, Writing, and Text," Alison Stones, Pitt professor of history of art and architecture, noon **Oct. 29**, Room 203 Frick Fine Arts, History of Art and Architecture Colloquium, Pitt's Department of History of Art and Architecture, 412-648-2400, www.haa.pitt.edu.

"The Hermeneutic Revolution in Contemporary Islam," Mohammed Bamyeh, Pitt professor of sociology, noon **Oct. 29**, 2628 Cathedral of Learning, Brown Bag Lunch Colloquium, Pitt's Department of Religious Studies, 412-624-5990, www.religiousstudies.pitt.edu.

"Printing a Pogrom: Violence and Print Communities in Interwar Romania," Roland Clark, doctoral candidate in Pitt's Department of History, 4 p.m. **Oct. 29**, Pitt's Department of History, Center for Russian and East European Studies, 412-648-7407, crees@pitt.edu.

"A Retrospective and Prospective on the Enigma of Women," Lipika Mazumdar, University of Pittsburgh-Greensburg assistant professor of anthropology, 7 p.m. **Oct. 29**, Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center, Pitt-Greensburg, 724-836-7741, www.upg.pitt.edu.

Reading by Russel Banks, fiction writer and poet, 8:30 p.m. **Oct. 29**, David Lawrence Hall, Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series, 412-624-6506, www.english.pitt.edu.

"Reading and Writing Chinese," Charles Perfetti, director of Pitt's Learning Research and Development Center and professor of psychology, noon **Oct. 30**, 4130 Posvar Hall, Asia Over Lunch Lecture Series, Asian Studies Center, 412-648-7370, www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc.

"Periadolescent Maturation of Dopamine Actions in the Prefrontal Cortex in Normal Rats and in Developmental Models of Schizophrenia," Patricio O'Donnell, University of Maryland professor of medicine, 1 p.m. **Oct. 30**, A219 Langley Hall, Pitt's Department of Neuroscience, 412-624-5043, www.neuroscience.pitt.edu.

Thornburgh Family Lecture in Disability Law and Policy, I. King Jordan, Gallaudet University former president, 1 p.m. **Oct. 30**, Teplitz Memorial Courtroom, Ground Floor, Barco Law Building, Pitt's Center for Bioethics and Health Law, Grand Rounds Fall 2008, 412-647-5700, www.pitt.edu/~bioethic.

"Excited State Chemistry in Complex Environments," Todd Martinez, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign professor of chemistry, 4 p.m. **Oct. 30**, 12B Chevron Science Center, Pitt's Department of Chemistry, 412-624-8200, www.chem.pitt.edu.

"How the U.S. Government Uses Geoscience at the USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance to Reduce the Impact of Geological Disasters Worldwide," Gari Mayberry, U.S. Agency for International Development geoscience advisor, 4 p.m. **Oct. 30**, 203 Thaw Hall, Fall 2008 Colloquium Series, Department of Geology and Planetary Science, 412-624-8780, www.geology.pitt.edu/colloquium.html.

"Freedom Papers: An Atlantic Creole Itinerary," Rebecca Scott, University of Michigan Charles Gibson Distinguished University Professor of History, 7:30 p.m. **Oct. 30**, 4125 Sennott Square, E.P. Thompson Memorial Lecture, Pitt's Department of History, 412-648-7455, www.pitt.edu/%7epithist.

"National Security Policy: Challenges for the New Administration and Congress," William Danvers, lobbyist at Johnson, Madigan, Peck, Boland, and Stewart, Inc., 7:30 p.m. **Oct. 30**, 1500 Posvar Hall, Matthew B. Ridgway Speaker Series, National Security Network, University Center for International Studies, 412-624-7884, www.ridgway.pitt.edu.

"A Cross-Cultural Study of the Minority Experience: Koreans in Osaka and African Americans in Chicago, 1920-1945," Chisato Hotta, postdoctoral fellow in Pitt's University Center for International Studies, 2 p.m. **Oct. 31**, 4130 Posvar Hall, Pitt's Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, Asian Studies Center, www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc.

Miscellaneous

Graduate School Fair, for all prospective international affairs graduate students, 5-7 p.m. **Oct. 29**, William Pitt Union, Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs, Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, register at the door or pre-register at www.apsia.org, 412-648-7640, www.gspia.pitt.edu.

Muslim Women in Modern America, Islamic Center of Pittsburgh's first annual women's conference, 9:15 a.m.-

6 p.m. **Nov. 1**, Islamic Center of Pittsburgh, 4100 Bigelow Blvd., Oakland, 412-513-9716 or 412-513-9716.

Opera/Theater/Dance

If You Give a Pig a Pancake, by Laura Numeroff, through **Oct. 27**, five locations including Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Pittsburgh International Children's Theater, 412-321-5520, www.pghkids.org.

The Great Gatsby, ballet, **Oct. 31-Nov. 2**, Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, 412-456-6666, www.pbt.org.

Diane's Heart Dries Out Still More, by Rob Penny, through **Nov. 1**, Kuntu Repertory Theatre, Seventh-floor Auditorium, Alumni Hall, 412-624-7298, www.kuntu.org.

Multiplicity, seasonal showcase of Bodiography Contemporary Ballet and Pittsburgh arts community, 8 p.m. **Nov. 1** and 2 p.m. **Nov. 2**, Kelly-Strayhorn Theater, 5941 Penn Ave., Downtown, Bodiography Contemporary Ballet, 412-521-6094 ext. 5, www.bodiography-cbc.com.

Radio Golf, by August Wilson, through **Nov. 2**, Pittsburgh Public Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, 412-316-1600, www.ppt.org.

Lysistrata, political comedy, through **Nov. 9**, Studio Theatre, Room B-72 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Repertory Theatre, 412-624-7529, www.pitt.play.edu.

Long Story Short, by Brendan Milburn and Valerie Vigoda, through **Nov. 16**, Pittsburgh City Theatre, 1300 Bingham St., South Side, 412-431-2489, www.citytheatrecompany.org.

The Lady With All the Answers, by David Rambo, **Nov. 13-Dec. 14**, O'Reilly Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theater, 412-316-1600, www.ppt.org.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, by Joe DiPietro and Jimmy Roberts, through **Feb. 1**, Theatre Square Cabaret, 655 Penn Ave., Downtown, CLO Cabaret Theater, 412-325-6766, www.clocabaret.com.

Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

Joseph F. Robare, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Epidemiology, "Prevention Research: The Center for Healthy Aging Demonstration Program," 9 a.m. **Oct. 29**, 5th-floor Conference Room, Bellefield Professional Building.

Rocio Fuentes, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, "The Discursive Construction of Intercultural Education in the Mexican Indigenous Context," 9:30 a.m. **Oct. 29**, 4217 Posvar Hall.

Laura M. Yerges, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Epidemiology, "Genetic Determinants of Bone Mineral Density in Men: A Candidate Gene Approach to Studying a Complex Trait," 1 p.m. **Oct. 29**, A523 Crabtree Hall.

Baqiyyah Conway, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Epidemiology, "Adiposity in Type 1 Diabetes," 11 a.m. **Oct. 31**, 2nd-floor conference Room, Diabetes and Lipids Research Building, 3512 Fifth Ave., Oakland.

Stephanie Webster-Cheng, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Music, "Composing, Revising, and Performing Suzhou Ballads: A Study of Political Control and Artistic Freedom in Tanci, 1949-1964," 2 p.m. **Oct. 31**, Room 302, Music Building.



The Lady With All the Answers
O'Reilly Theater
November 13-December 14



Pitt Highlights Innovative Educational Research With Teaching Excellence Fair

By Anthony M. Moore

Showcasing nine of its most innovative contributions to the field of education in the past year, the University of Pittsburgh will host its annual Teaching Excellence Fair from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 5 in the J.W. Connolly Ballroom, Alumni Hall.

Sponsored by the Provost's Advisory Council on Instructional Excellence and coordinated by Pitt's Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education (CIDDE), the event celebrates faculty endeavors related to teaching and the use of instructional technology.

"The Teaching Excellence Fair celebrates the many important teaching initiatives at the University of Pittsburgh and illustrates the important role of teaching at our University," said Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor James V. Maher. "The fair will feature the projects funded annually under the auspices of the Provost's Advisory Council on Instructional Excellence's Innovation in Education awards program. I encourage all faculty to take advantage of this special event."

Commencing with refreshments and registration at 8:30 a.m., the fair will comprise seminars and group sessions designed to help teachers enrich their course materials, address academic integrity issues, expand interactivity, and improve students' learning experiences.

The event will feature presentations by winners of the 2007-08 Innovations in Education grant awards. These faculty members, from disciplines across the University, will explain how their proposals advance educational instruction. Grant directors will answer questions and provide additional information about each project. The titles of the 2007-08 Innovation in Education award-winning projects and their directors follow:

"Virtual Systems Lab"—Ahmed Amer, assistant professor in Pitt's Department of Computer Science in the School of Arts and Sciences;

"Measuring Learner Outcomes: Oral



A scene from the 2007 Teaching Excellence Fair at Pitt

Proficiency and the University of Pittsburgh Oral Proficiency Language Assessment Instrument"—Claire Bradin Siskin, lecturer in Pitt's Department of Linguistics and director of Pitt's Robert Henderson Language Media Center;

"Writing Tutoring Based on Interdisciplinary Collaborations"—Mary Hall, professor of English at the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville;

"Transforming the College Writing Experience"—Catharine Kloss, a professor of English at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, and David Magil, assistant professor of English at Pitt-Johnstown;

"Virtual WebDB Laboratory"—Alexandros Labrinidis, professor in Pitt's Department of Computer Science in the School of

Arts and Sciences;

"Dr. Wizard's World of Dental Public Health"—Elizabeth Onik, clinical instructor in Pitt's Department of Dental Hygiene in the School of Dental Medicine; and Richard Rubin, a research instructor in Pitt's Department of Dental Public Health in the School of Dental Medicine;

"Finding a Needle in a Haystack: Learning the Art of Literature Retrieval Through Use of an Interactive, Web-based Tutorial"—Tara L. Pummer, assistant professor in Pitt's Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics in the School of Pharmacy;

"Development, Construction, and Deployment of Instructional Shake Table"—Luis E. Vallejo, a professor in Pitt's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineer-

ing in the Swanson School of Engineering; and

"The Virtual Hospital: A Simulation for Healthy Decision Making"—Gail Wolf, a professor and coordinator in Pitt's Department of Acute and Tertiary Care in the School of Nursing.

Informative minisessions will be conducted throughout the day on teaching-related topics such as motivating students and developing a teaching portfolio. In addition, participants will have an opportunity to speak with Pitt faculty in small-group discussions on methods of incorporating teaching strategies in the classroom. Several of the sessions will be Webcast in real time for those unable to attend.

Professor Joseph Grabowski in Pitt's Department of Chemistry will lead a discussion on the Innovation in Education grants program and application process.

As a special service to faculty who attend the fair, CIDDE's Photographic and Electronic Imaging staff will offer free digital portraits in the Connolly Ballroom from 9 to 9:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. to noon.

For more information and to register, visit CIDDE's Web site at www.cidde.pitt.edu, or contact Michelle Lane-Ogden at mlane@pitt.edu or 412-383-9729.

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published Nov. 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.