Pitt Seeks “Close to Normal” Operations During G-20 Summit: Media Tours to Showcase Eds-Meds Economy

By Jane-Ellen Robinet

University of Pittsburgh Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg said Pitt will maintain operations that are “as close to normal as possible” during the week of the G-20 Pittsburgh Summit, which will take place Downtown Sept. 24-25, 2009.

“Most official Summit activities will take place in the downtown area, some distance from campus, which should make our practical challenges more manageable,” the chancellor said in his Sept. 2, 2009, University Update. (See page 3.)

The exception, he said, is the heads-of-state dinner set for Sept. 24 at the Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.

“The presence of that signature event at a facility that sits literally on the border of our Oakland campus almost certainly will affect our operations here that day. When it becomes more certain what changes will be required, we will begin the processes of notification and implementation. However, even during that particular period, our approach, as noted, will be to maintain campus operations that are as close to normal as possible,” he said.

While President Barack Obama and other heads of state will be participating in a working dinner at the Phipps, First Lady Michelle Obama and other spouses will attend a private dinner at Rosemont, the Fox Chapel farm estate of the Heinz family and home of Teresa Heinz Kerry, who is married to U.S. Senator John Kerry.

The Summit’s plenary sessions will be held Sept. 25 in the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Downtown. As the national leaders meet, Mrs. Obama and other spouses will visit the Pittsburgh Public Schools’ Creative and Performing Arts high school in the Cultural District and then attend a luncheon at the North Shore’s Warhol Museum.

Nordenberg said the University will monitor the logistics of the G-20 situation on a continual basis and make announcements promptly should there be any changes in the scheduling during the week of Sept. 21-25.

“The staging of the Summit here in Pittsburgh not only is a way to showcase the growth and development for the broader community but has particular significance for Pitt—with a mission that includes the preparation of students for lives in a rapidly changing world and with our rich traditions in international education and research,” the chancellor said in his Sept. 2 update.

Meanwhile, Pitt has continued its efforts to assist the 3,500 local, national, and international media members expected to cover the summit. The University has created a G-20 Web site and, working with Carnegie Mellon University and UPMC, has created a joint Web site and planned 12 tours to showcase the three institutions and their joint initiatives.

Pitt’s G-20 Web site (www.g20.pitt.edu) offers story ideas and contact information for all of Pitt’s faculty who are experts on various topics related to the G-20. The Pitt, CMU, and UPMC joint Web site (www.edsmedspittsburgh.org) highlights the academic and research strengths as well as the economic contributions of each of the three institutions and their joint initiatives.

Pitt, CMU, and UPMC will host the 12 science and technology tours Sept. 21. The tours will help explain how and why the “eds and medis” sector of Pittsburgh’s economy has become a powerful driver of the region’s success.

The eds-med program will begin at 10:30 a.m. Sept. 21 in Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium, 4411 Fifth Ave., Oakland, with remarks by Carnegie Mellon President Jared L. Cohon, Nordenberg, and UPMC President and CEO Jeffrey A. Romoff. Tours will take place at noon, 2 p.m., and 4 p.m.

Tour sites are: Children’s Hospital of UPMC, Pitt’s Peter M. Winter Institute for Simulation, Education, and Research (WISER), Pitt’s Biomedical Sciences Tower 3, the Pitt-UPMC McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine, Pitt’s Center for Global Health, UPMC’s Sports Performance Complex, Carnegie Mellon’s Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon’s Entertainment Technology Center, a Pitt Green Tour, Pitt’s Center for Energy, the Pitt-Carnegie Mellon Quality of Life Technology Center, and the Carnegie Mellon Intelligent Workplace.

Tours are for Summit delegates and members of the media. Media representatives interested in attending must have a photo ID from the media outlet they represent. For more information or to register for a tour, visit www.edsmedspittsburgh.org.
Briefly Noted

Discussions on Global Cyber Threats and Responses

The University of Pittsburgh will host an all-day conference on the topic of “cyber threats and responses” on Sept. 11 in the William Pitt Union Ballroom. The discussion, titled “Cyber Threats: Challenges and Responses,” is sponsored by Pitt’s Matthew B. Ridgway Center for International Studies and the John P. Rothbury Institute for Homeland Security, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

The event is a continuation of two years of research by an interdisciplinary group of scholars, national security experts, and regional scholars. What began as a discussion in response to terrorists’ use of the Internet to recruit, solicit funds, plan logistics, and operate command and control has broadened to include a strategy for responding to any organization’s illicit Internet control.

The morning discussion will provide detailed assessments of the different classes of organizational (nation-states, criminal, and terrorist) threats and challenges. An afternoon roundtable discussion, beginning at 1:30 p.m., will address further development of the response model. An affiliated lecture by Thomas Longstaff, Johns Hopkins University senior advisor for science and technology, will be presented at 7 p.m.

For additional information or to register, visit www.ridgway.pitt.edu or call 412-624-7884.

—Amanda Leff

Prosecutor of U.N. International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda To Speak

Hasan Bubzar Jallow, chief prosecutor of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR), will deliver a lecture at noon Sept. 11 in the University of Pittsburgh School of Law’s Hepatic Memorial Courtroom, Barco Law Building.

The free public lecture, presented by the School of Law’s Center for International Legal Education (CILE), is titled “The Contribution of the Rwanda Tribunal to International Law and the Challenges of Completion: The Prosecutor’s Perspective.” Jallow will discuss the impact the ICTR has had on international law and the difficulties facing the tribunal as it pursues its completion mandate.

Born in the Gambia in 1950, Jallow studied law at the University of Dar es Salaam Tanzania, the Nigerian Law School, and University College, London. He worked as state attorney in the Attorney General’s Chambers in the Gambia from 1976 until 1982, when he was appointed solicitor general. Jallow served as the Gambian attorney general and minister of justice from 1984 to 1994 and as a judge of the Gambian Supreme Court from 1998 to 2002. In 1998, he was appointed by the U.N. Secretary-General as an international expert to carry out a judicial evaluation of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia.

For more information, call 412-383-6754 or dwrist@pitt.edu.

—Patricia Leonarde White

PITT ARTS Plans First Pitt Night For CLO Cabaret

PITT ARTS will launch its 2009-10 season of Pitt Nights in the Cultural District with the Sept. 11 performance of B-Fork, The Sound of the ’70s at the Theater Square Cabaret. Pitt Nights offer low-priced tickets to Pitt students, faculty, and staff to attend performances, enjoy dessert receptions, and meet the artists after the shows. Optional free transportation is also available through PITT ARTS.

B-Fork, The Sounds of the ’70s is a journey through the greatest hits of the 1970s, starring the music of the Emotions, The Carpenters, The Doobie Brothers, Labelle, Barry Manilow, Marvin Gaye, The Bee Gees, Helen Reddy, and many more. Tickets are $14 for Pitt students, faculty, and staff. The preshow reception will include cake.

Those wishing to participate in any of the six planned PITT Nights can purchase tickets through PITT ARTS, located at 929 William Pitt Union. Call 412-624-4949 or visit www.pittarts.pitt.edu for more information.

Call for Submissions for 2009 Johnson Award

The Johnson Institute for Responsible Leadership in Pitt’s Graduate School of Public and International Affairs is accepting submissions for the 2009-10 Johnson Award for Best Papers in Ethics, Accountability, and Leadership in Public Administration.

At least one winner in the following two categories will be selected through a blind-review process: papers published or accepted for publication in refereed forums between September 2008 and December 2009 and student papers, including work by doctoral students prior to the awarding of their degrees. Cash prizes of $5,000 and $1,000 will be awarded. Young scholars and students are especially encouraged to apply. Papers should have one of the following themes:

- International and civil security, human security, international development, public administration, and nonprofit/non-governmental organization management and governance. Themes are broadly interpreted. Generally, most papers with significant implications for public policy, public management, or nonprofit sector management will be acceptable.
- This year, papers addressing the broad theme of accountability and leadership in contexts where power and authority are diffuse are strongly encouraged. For example, this theme could include how to exercise leadership and manage performance in networked delivery systems or how globalization is affecting leadership and ethics.

All entries must be received by April 2, 2010. For specifics on the application and additional information, visit www.johnsoninstitute-gspa.org, e-mail ethics@gsas.pitt.edu, or call 412-648-1536.

—Amanda Leff
To: The University Community
From: Mark A. Nordenberg
Date: Sept. 2, 2009
Re: A Year of Challenge and of Opportunity

In many ways, this is a very exciting time. Even if we cannot predict them all, we know that the new year will bring a wide range of important opportunities, and we will pursue them from a position of ever-growing strength. We are providing higher education programs of the highest quality, and our students are performing in ways that are a source of widely shared pride. The respect that we have earned as a center of pioneering research continues to grow, and the quality and impact of the work being done by our faculty members is the envy of universities around the world. We also sit at the center of the “eds and meds” sector that now is the single most significant force in this region’s economic development. Consider just the following signs of impact and momentum.

- In 1993, we attracted 7,825 applications for admission to the undergraduate programs of the Oakland campus. This year, that number topped 21,700. Though we cannot finalize current-year numbers until withdrawal deadlines have passed, average SAT scores appear to have risen from 1110 to 1264 in that same period, and the percentage of enrolled freshmen ranking in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating classes grew from 19 percent to 48 percent.
- Among the high honors claimed by enrolled students last year were our first Gates Cambridge Scholarship, two Goldwater Scholarships, and three Humanity in Action Fellowships.
- We did move from sixth to fifth place in NIH funding this past year—joining Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Penn, and UCSF. We also moved from 11th to 10th in total federal science and engineering research support. To earn at least some of the funds that will be needed by our students, led by the President of the Student Government Board, rose to take the Pitt Promise. Their public commitment to civility is an important reminder of the type of community that we expect to nurture and sustain.

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The cycles of the school year are so much a part of our early years that their rhythms can take on a force that almost seems to be biological. For those of us who are lucky enough to call a university campus their “second home,” the patterns of the academic year come to influence in even more pronounced ways how we work and even how we feel.

Once annual commencement ceremonies have been completed, a generally welcome period of comparative quiet begins. Graduates move on to open the next chapter of their lives, and most other students take a more temporary leave, typically working to earn at least some of the funds that will be needed when the next term begins. As the teaching responsibilities of most faculty members decrease, even higher levels of energy are invested in research and scholarly projects. Staff often focus on initiatives that cannot be undertaken effectively when campus population is at its peak and work to prepare for the demands of the coming academic year.

Then, suddenly, that quiet time is over. Our students and the special energy that they bring with them return to launch a new year. Their presence transforms our campuses and the neighborhoods that adjoin them. It is an exciting time—marked by new faces, new hopes, and new opportunities. A New Year Is Launched. We began moving through that period of transformation, on all five of our campuses, last week. In Oakland, the challenge of moving thousands of students and their many possessions into a relatively compressed urban space known for its inhospitable topography was effectively met through our “Arrival Survival” program. Once moved in, more than 4,600 new students and family members attended our freshman convocation.

For me, two highlights of that event were especially worthy of note. The first was the spontaneous applause that greeted my report that Pitt had become one of the top 12 American universities in terms of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding competitively attracted by members of our faculty. My reaction as one clear sign of our students’ enthusiasm for high academic achievement in whatever form it takes. The second particularly meaningful moment came when our new students, led by the President of the Student Government Board, rose to take the Pitt Promise. Their public commitment to civility is an important reminder of the type of community that we expect to nurture and sustain.

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took steps to increase our liquidity and to protect against the higher interest rates that likely lie ahead.

From the time of our transformation to the status of public university in the mid-1960’s, the financial agreement between Pitt and the Commonwealth has been straightforward—in return for annual support from the state, the University would maintain lower tuition levels, for in-state students, than those charged by private universities. Clearly, the University will have to continue to search for ways to improve the University’s financial position. Though there are some small program variations, tuition and fees for a Pitt undergraduate for the current fiscal year total about $14,000. Tuition and fees at Pennsylvania’s two private AAU universities, in sharp contrast, are at or above $40,000.

At the same time, declining Commonwealth support necessarily generates pressures for the University to maintain its high level of instruction. This was explicitly noted by Peter Orszag, now the director of the Federal Office of Management and Budget, and his coauthors Thomas Kane and Emil Apostolov in their 2005 Brookings Institution report, “Higher Education Appropriations and Public University Quality.” In that report, they stated, “Over the past twenty years, state government support for public higher education has gradually waned, and the share of higher education expenditure subsidized by state appropriations has declined. One result of declining state support has been the widely publicized rise in tuition at public institutions.”

The unmistakable relationship between decreasing levels of state support and increasingly in-state tuition rates also can be seen in direct comparisons of Pitt to peer institutions. Those institutions, too, have often been affected by declining state support, but almost always to a far lesser degree. Consider the following chart, which was prepared by our Office of Finance from public financial statements and which compares Pitt to six peer public universities.

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Our appropriation to a point several million dollars beneath its 1995 level, when our enrollment was well over 20,000 students, when our research enterprise was not much more than one-third its current size, and when costs generally were lower.” It also would have had a devastating financial impact on students enrolled in the four state-related universities, the single largest group of public university students in the Commonwealth. In the face of strong Congressional opposition, the language of the act itself, and a long history of these universities being treated as public, and not private, under both federal and state laws, the Secretary of Education refused to accept this position. Instead, he found that “Pennsylvania’s efforts to make Pitt, Penn State, Temple, and Lincoln not ‘public universities’ and, therefore, would not be eligible for stimulus support. By taking that position and imposing additional state reductions, the Governor targeted Pitt for more than $30 million in budget reductions from the University’s fiscal year. That level of reduction, as noted at the time, “would take faced what I described as a serious and surprising threat when the Governor declared that Pitt, Penn State, Temple, and Lincoln were not “public universities” and, therefore, would not be eligible for stimulus support. By taking that position and imposing additional state reductions, the Governor targeted Pitt for more than $30 million in budget reductions from the University’s fiscal year. That level of reduction, as noted at the time, “would take program.” The state was instructed “to provide necessary relief in a difficult situation, we have permitted students whose support from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency has been delayed to move forward for the fall term, sharing their expectation that these funds ultimately will be received. In other respects, too, we will attempt to manage our finances in ways that minimize disruptions.

The staging of this summit here in Pittsburgh not only is a generally positive development for the broader community but has particular significance for Pitt—with a mission that includes the preparation of students for lives in a rapidly changing world and with our rich traditions in international education and research. Because the University has played such a key role in the transformation of this region’s economy, the fact that the President selected our region as the host site, at least in part, because of those changes provides another link between us and the summit.

In the meantime, as the arrival of our students has signaled so clearly, there is important work to be done, and we need to push forward. Doing what we can to provide necessary relief in a difficult situation, we have permitted students whose support from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency has been delayed to move forward for the fall term, sharing their expectation that these funds ultimately will be received. In other respects, too, we will attempt to manage our finances in ways that minimize disruptions.

Continued from page 3

New Issues Emerge. Despite this unenviable position, we were buoyed by budgetary programs designed to improve the University’s ability to increase in-state tuition rates also can be seen in direct comparisons of Pitt to peer institutions. Those institutions, too, have often been affected by declining state support, but almost always to a far lesser degree. Consider the following chart, which was prepared by our Office of Finance from public financial statements and which compares Pitt to six peer public universities.

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University Update

continued
Like every other institution in the world of 2009, we face an array of very real challenges, and we must find ways to meet them. However, returning to a principal theme from the opening passages of this update, as well as from a succession of other presentations, we are poised to push forward from a position of unusual strength—in terms of our dramatically improved financial condition, in terms of our rich reservoir of human talent, and in terms of our clearly demonstrated commitment to advance our important work.

...
Jack L. Daniel Named Pitt Distinguished Service Professor

Continued from page 1


A teacher in the area of African American communication, Daniel has research and writing interests that include African American family communication and the African cultural continuities that impact African American discourse.

Daniel is a Pitt alumnus who began at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and then earned his BS degree in psychology at the Pittsburgh campus in 1963 and the MA and PhD degrees in communication at the Pittsburgh campus in 1965 and 1968, respectively. He was an American Council on Education Fellow at Stanford University in 1973-74 and is a 1986 alumnus of Harvard University’s Institute for Educational Management.

Since the publication of We Fish, the Journey to Fatherhood (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2003), a memoir he co-authored with his son, Omari, Daniel has gained national acclaim and media attention as a writer. Currently, he is working on a book-length manuscript tentatively titled The Pursuit of Diversity: A Black Soul’s Wandering in an Ivory Tower: it is a critical analysis of his life’s work at Pitt.

Daniel’s wife, Jerlean E. Daniel (A&S ’64, SHRS ’72G, EDUC ’75G), is a former professor and chair in the School of Education’s Department of Psychology in Education. She currently is executive deputy director of the National Association for the Education of Young Children in Washington, D.C.

Omari Daniel received his bachelor’s degree from Pitt and his master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Maryland. He is a public school teacher in Maryland’s Blake High School. The Daniel’s daughter, Marijata, earned bachelor’s and doctoral degrees at the University of Michigan and a master’s degree at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is the research director for the HighScope Educational Foundation in Ypsilanti, Mich.
Happenings

Concerts
Roger Humphries, outdoor jazz music, 5 p.m. Sept. 11, Katz Plaza, Penn Avenue and Seventh Street, Downtown, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.


Ernie Smith and the Beasleys, Jamaican music, 7:30 p.m. Sept. 12, Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

Sweet Honey in the Rock, benefit concert for Mon Valley Unemployed Committee, Greater Pittsburgh Committee for Food Bank, and unbanked workers in Jamaica, 7:30 p.m. Sept. 13, Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.


Hassan Bubacar Jallow, chief prosecutor of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, noon Sept. 11, Trilby’s Memorial Courthouse, Barco Law Building, University of Pittsburgh School of Law’s Center for International Legal Education, 412-383-6754. (See page 2)

“The Problem of Progress,” Nicholas Rescher, Pitt University Professor of Philosophy, 12:05 p.m. Sept. 11, 117R Cathedral of Learning, Department of Philosophy Luncheon Talks, 412-624-1052, pphil@pitt.edu. (See page 2)

Museums

Jazz Poetry Concert 2009, poets and writers from many countries perform with world-class jazz musicians, 7 to 9:45 p.m. Sept. 12, Sampsonia Way, North Side, City of Asylum/Pittsburgh, www.cityofasylum.org.


2009 India Cultural Festival, free music and performances, 2 p.m. Sept. 12, Schenley Plaza, PPG, Pittsburgh, 412-733-3442, www.mckeesportindia.org.


“Picnic at the Plaza,” annual event for Pitt postdoctoral students and their families, 5 p.m. Sept. 15, Schenley Plaza, University of Pittsburgh Postdoctoral Association, www.oacch.pitt.edu.

Opera/Theater/Dance
8-Track: The Sound of the 70’s, through Sept. 27, Theater Square Cabaret, through Sept. 27, 655 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

Book Thieves Dissertation Defenses
Sarah Tarbox, School of Arts and Sciences, Department of Psychology, “The Nature of Schizotypy Among Multigenerational Multiplex Schizophrenia Families,” 10 a.m. Sept. 8, 4127 Sомнот Square.

Kirsten A. Stroyer, School of Arts and Sciences, Department of English, “Rains and Rites: Transnational Currents in Mexican Cinema,” noon Sept. 11, 426 Cathedral of Learning.


Catherine Eberbach, School of Education, Department of Instruction and Learning, “The Effect of Parent Disciplinary Knowledge and Parent Conversation Style on Children’s Observations of Biological Phenomenon,” 10 a.m. Sept. 15, 1st-floor Conference Room, LRDC.
Making the Disposable Reusable

Pitt’s Mascaro Center challenges students to make one-off products reusable in “green” design contest

By Morgan Kelly

Despite the fashionable chatter about sustainability and all things “green,” countless products—from plastic bottles and carpeting to cleaning products and packaging—remain single-use and are frequently discarded in landfills and the environment.

To spark ideas for rendering the disposable reusable, the University of Pittsburgh’s Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation has challenged undergraduate students in Southwestern Pennsylvania to create multiuse replacements for one-off products, processes, or services. The cash-prize 2009-10 Undergraduate Design Challenge seeks enhanced versions of everyday items that diminish waste and consumption, be it through longer lifetimes, potential for reuse, or decreased energy and water use during manufacturing.

The students’ inventions will be judged for originality and the possibility of successful implementation. The winning team receives $5,000; second-place receives $2,500; and third-place, $1,000. Teams of two-to-five students from any university or college in Allegheny, Butler, Washington, and Westmoreland counties are eligible to participate. Students are encouraged to form multidisciplinary and cross-institutional teams. Project concepts are due Oct. 21. Five finalist teams will be announced Nov. 4, and each will receive a $1,500 grant for supplies, equipment, travel, and other project expenses. The winning team will be announced April 30, 2010. Complete rules and deadlines are available on the Mascaro Center’s Web site at www.mascarocenter.pitt.edu

This latest challenge follows the Mascaro Center’s inaugural 2008 design competition, which prompted students in the region to create a technique for “greening” old buildings that would reduce electricity consumption and pay for itself within one year. Juniors Micah Toll, a mechanical engineering student at Pitt’s Swanson School of Engineering, and Shaun Espenshade, a rhetoric and classics student at Duquesne University, netted the $5,000 first-place prize for constructing a lightweight plastic wind turbine and augmenting it with a rundown of useful—and often obscure—tips for reducing home-power consumption. Older buildings commonly hemorrhage energy because of poor insulation, old wiring, and outdated lighting. Outfitting them with energy-conserving features is a considerable issue in such areas as Pittsburgh, where many buildings and homes were built before 1946. More information on the 2008 winners is available on Pitt’s Web site at www.chronicle.pitt.edu/?p=3098

Based in Pitt’s Swanson School of Engineering, the Mascaro Center specializes in sustainable design and engineering, particularly the development of sustainable neighborhoods. The center encourages and nurtures collaborative projects that translate the fundamental science of sustainability into real products and processes that positively impact the environment and improve the quality of life. Projects include greening the built environment, developing more sustainable water use, and designing distributed power systems.

PUBLICATION NOTICE: The next edition of Pitt Chronicle will be published Sept. 14. Items for publication in the newspaper’s Happenings calendar (see page 7) should be received at least two weeks before the event 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 robi@pitt.edu.