Pitt Is Nation’s Top-ranked Public School in 2009 Education-Civic Partnership Survey

University jumps from No. 6 spot in ’06

By John Harvith

Pitt is the nation’s top-ranked public “Best Neighbor” educational institution in the 2009 edition of Saviors of Our Cities: A Survey of Best College and University Civic Partnerships.

The top 25 institutions listed in the rankings “were selected because of their positive impact on their urban communities, including both commercial and residential activities such as revitalization, cultural renewal, economics, and community service and development,” according to the Oct. 12 announcement of the survey results by Dr. Evan S. Dobelle, the survey’s author, who is president of Westfield State College in Massachusetts and former president of the New England Board of Higher Education.

Saying that the current state of the U.S. economy makes the economic relationship between institutions of higher education and their local communities “more important than ever,” Dr. Dobelle released the report’s findings in Philadelphia during the 15th annual conference of the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities. When ranked with all institutions of higher education, public and private, Pitt was tied for second place in the survey with the University of Dayton; the University of Pennsylvania and USC were tied for first place in the survey. Pitt is the only public institution among these four universities.

Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg said, “The people of Pitt always have been proud to claim Pittsburgh as their home and have worked hard to create and support programs that add to the economic strength, social vitality, and overall attractiveness of the community. Over the course of recent years, the role that our University has played in this region’s rebirth has been cited with envy by observers from other parts of the country. To now be ranked as the country’s very ‘best neighbor’ among all of the nation’s public universities in the Saviors of Our Cities survey is a wonderful form of recognition for those efforts and their impact.”

This is the second Saviors of Our Cities ranking; in the first, issued in 2006, Pitt was ranked 6th among public institutions and 18th among all schools, public and private.

The Saviors of Our Cities rankings “are composed of academic institutions diverse in size, geography, and course offerings,” according to the announcement of the survey results. “They have demonstrated and documented long-standing cooperative efforts with community leaders to reinvigorate the cities around them. Their influence in community revitalization and cultural renewal, and to encourage economic expansion of the local economy, urban development, and community service.”

Among the criteria for assessment in the survey were length of involvement with the community; real dollars invested; the presence felt through payroll, research, and purchasing power; faculty and student involvement in community service; and sustained presence through programmatic and programmatic support and resources for Black students; and to recognize the significance of African American life and culture on the campus. These areas have been the subject of ongoing and effective institutional efforts over the course of the intervening years.

“In recent years, Pitt has had an aggressive diversity program, gaining distinction through its prominent African American faculty, scholars, and researchers; its students, who have achieved high academic success as Truman, Marshall, and Rhodes scholars; its service to diverse local and national communities; and its strong academic and distinctive cultural programs, including the Kuntu Repertory Theatre and the internationally renowned annual Jazz Seminar and Concert,” said Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. “In addition, there are more than 13,000 Black Pitt alumni, and they are represented in a broad cross-section of professional disciplines throughout the nation and around the world. Among them is the 2004 recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, Wangari Muta Maathai, who earned her Master of Science degree in our School of Arts and Sciences in 1965.”

“This 40-year celebration is a very timely and significant event in the life of this great University, and I hope that what has happened at Pitt in recent decades will set a standard for other academic institutions to follow in fulfilling their diversity agendas,” commented AAAC.

Continued on page 4

Undergraduate Researchers Present Work in Energy, Medicine, Sustainability at Science2009—Unplugged

As part of Science2009—Unplugged, more than 75 undergraduates will display research on topics ranging from traumatic brain injuries to energy solutions, from Type 2 diabetes to regional water quality.

The University of Pittsburgh’s annual celebration of science and technology has a new addition this year—undergraduate researchers.

As part of Science2009—Unplugged, more than 75 undergraduates will display research on topics ranging from traumatic brain injuries to energy solutions, from Type 2 diabetes to regional water quality.

The Undergraduate Poster Reception will be held Oct. 15 from 5 to 7 p.m. in Alumni Hall’s J.W. Connolly Ballroom.

“The University of Pittsburgh’s annual celebration of science and technology has a new addition this year—undergraduate researchers.”

“As part of Science2009—Unplugged, more than 75 undergraduates will display research on topics ranging from traumatic brain injuries to energy solutions, from Type 2 diabetes to regional water quality. The Undergraduate Poster Reception will be held Oct. 15 from 5 to 7 p.m. in Alumni Hall’s J.W. Connolly Ballroom.

“Under the guidance of faculty mentors, our undergraduates are engaged in cutting-edge research that seeks to find solutions to our contemporary needs in energy, medicine, and sustainability. This inaugural event provides an opportunity for these engineering and science students to share sophisticated and impressive research with the University community,” said George Klingzinger, Pitt vice provost for research.

Moving forward, Science2009—Unplugged is the University’s ninth annual celebration of science and technology. The Oct. 15-16 event in Alumni Hall will feature science presentations by some of Pittsburgh’s leading researchers as well as keynote lectures by distinguished guest scientists. Admission to all Science2009 events is free and open to the public, but registration is required. Additional information on Science2009’s events can be found at www.science2009.pitt.edu. The opportunity for Pitt undergraduates to engage in research is a defining strength of the University, according to Patricia Beeson, vice provost for graduate and undergraduate studies. “This new event is exciting because it showcases both the work of our undergraduates and of faculty

Continued on page 5

Pitt African American Alumni Council Marks 40 Years of Diversity Initiatives

Group to launch $3 million financial aid campaign to benefit students

By John Harvith

During the Oct. 22-25 Sankofa Homecoming Weekend, Pitt’s African American Alumni Council (AACC) will celebrate the many strides in diversity the University has made over the past four decades. As part of that celebration, the AACC is launching the public phase of a $3 million campaign to provide critical financial aid directly to students from under-represented groups through the following funds: the Bebe Moore Campbell Scholarship Fund, the Jack L. Daniel Endowed Book Fund, and the AACC Endowed Scholarship Fund.

Late Pitt alumnus Bebe Moore Campbell (EDUC ’71) was a nationally acclaimed best-selling author and Pitt trustee. Distinguished Service Professor of Communications Jack L. Daniel, who will participate in the AACC celebration, is a Pitt alumnus (A&S ’63, ’65G, ’66G), Pitt’s former vice provost for undergraduate studies and dean of students, and a Pitt student leader during the 1960s.

The celebration of 40 years is tied to 1969, when a Black student group known as the Black Action Society (BAS) occupied the University computer center and called for the University to address the inadequate number of Black students, faculty, administrators, and staff, to provide academic support and resources for Black students; and to recognize the significance of African American life and culture on the campus. These areas have been the subject of ongoing and effective institutional efforts over the course of the intervening years.

“In recent years, Pitt has had an aggressive diversity program, gaining distinction through its prominent African American faculty, scholars, and researchers; its students, who have achieved high academic success as Truman, Marshall, and Rhodes scholars; its service to diverse local and national communities; and its strong academic and distinctive cultural programs, including the Kuntu Repertory Theatre and the internationally renowned annual Jazz Seminar and Concert,” said Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. “In addition, there are more than 13,000 Black Pitt alumni, and they are represented in a broad cross-section of professional disciplines throughout the nation and around the world. Among them is the 2004 recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, Wangari Muta Maathai, who earned her Master of Science degree in our School of Arts and Sciences in 1965.”

“This 40-year celebration is a very timely and significant event in the life of this great University, and I hope that what has happened at Pitt in recent decades will set a standard for other academic institutions to follow in fulfilling their diversity agendas,” commented AACC.

Continued on page 5
Pitt to Issue New Faculty, Staff, Student ID Cards

University of Pittsburgh students, faculty, and staff will receive new Panther identification cards, which will include computer chips so the cards can be scanned on Pittsburgh Port Authority transit boards.

Faculty, staff, and undergraduate and graduate students will be required to return their old ID cards to receive new ones. The new ID cards will be pre-printed, so new photos will not be required unless Panther Central does not have a photo on file. Any Pitt students or employees who do not have their old IDs will be charged a $20 lost-card fee to receive their new IDs.

Pitt Plans Conference On Benefits of Bariatric Procedures

The long-term health benefits of surgical weight loss procedures will be the focus of Pitt Plans Conference on Benefits of Bariatric Procedures. The conference will feature a series of lectures about the physical and psychological issues underlying bariatric procedures. Featured speakers will include Anota Curran, director of the Division of Minimally Invasive Bariatric and General Surgery at Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC; Joseph Houmard, director of East Carolina University’s Human Performance Laboratory; and Dale Bond, a professor in Brown University School of Medicine’s Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior.

The event also will feature a panel discussion titled “Future Scientific and Clinical Opportunities,” which will be moderated by John Jakicic, professor and chair in Pitt’s Department of Health and Physical Activity, and Brett H. Goodpaster, a professor in Pitt’s Department of Medicine.

The event is free and open to the public, and refreshments will be served. Registration is required. For more information or to RSVP, contact Diane Casile at 412-488-1059.

—Anthony M. Moore

Pitt’s Teaching Excellence Showcase Set for Oct. 21

The University of Pittsburgh will hold its annual Teaching Excellence Showcase from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 21 in Alumni Hall’s J.W. Connolly Ballroom. Sponsored by the Provost’s Advisory Council on Instructional Excellence and coordinated by Pitt’s Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education (CIDE), the fair celebrates faculty initiatives and innovations related to teaching and the use of instructional technology.

Recipients of the 2008-09 Innovation in Education grant awards will present their prize-winning teaching projects. Also featured will be small-group discussions on teaching and learning facilitated by faculty who have been recognized for their teaching excellence.

Throughout the day, information sessions will be held on a variety of such teaching-related topics as motivating students and developing a teaching portfolio. For more information and to register, visit CIDE’s Web site at www.cide.pitt.edu, or contact Michelle Lara-O’Ghan at mlaroa@pitt.edu or 412-383-9799.

—Joanne M. Nicoll
Interacting With the 21st-century Student

By Lori Spisak

Nearly 20 years ago, Evelyn H. Wei chose the University of Pittsburgh as her academic home. She received her undergraduate degree in psychology from the School of Arts and Sciences in 1993 and earned her doctorate in psychiatric epidemiology at Pitt’s Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH) in 1999. A promising young scientist, Wei was a senior researcher for the Pittsburgh Youth Study, part of UPMC’s life-history studies program at the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic. She had become a national expert on teenage fatherhood and violent behavior by young men.

Tрагически, Wei was struck and killed by a minivan near her Regent Square home in January 2004. She was only 33 years old. Seeking to memorialize Wei’s passion for research, her parents—Donald and Yuling Wei—created an endowed scholarship in her name, the Evelyn H. Wei Scholarship Award in Epidemiology.

One of this past year’s recipients, doctoral candidate Allison Longenberger is studying the role of measures of physical function and physical activities as risk factors for diabetes in HIV-infected individuals.

Many of Wei’s colleagues and friends host a biannual fundraiser to support the scholarship award fund. Under the leadership of Pitt epidemiology professor Kim Sutton-Tyrrell, the fundraiser is held before Mother’s Day and again before the winter-holidays. The events have grown exponentially over the years, both in terms of supporters and items sold. Sutton-Tyrrell makes jewelry to sell, and there are also such gifts as candles, paintings, and used books. The effort has proven to be an effective way to raise support for the scholarship, and it has also become part of the social fabric of GSPH—"a wonderful way to honor Wei’s memory."

University Senate’s Fall Plenary
To Focus on 21st-century Student

By Anthony M. Moore

In recognition of exemplary practices in the recruitment and retention of older workers, the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) has named the University of Pittsburgh to its Best Employers for Workers Over 50 listing. In awarding the biennial honor to Pitt, AARP took specific note of numerous University practices that promote a positive working environment for older employees as well as their families.

Officials at Pitt said AARP’s recognition is a tremendous honor and a testament to Pitt’s long-standing commitment to its older workers.

AARP Recognizes Pitt as One of Best Employers for Workers Older Than 50

Officials at Pitt said AARP’s recognition is a tremendous honor and a testament to Pitt’s long-standing commitment to its older workers. Ronald W. Frisch, associate vice chancellor for Pitt’s Department of Human Resources, said acknowledging Pitt’s over-50 staff and faculty for their leadership, mentoring, and scholarly achievements is one of the top priorities for the University.

“It is a privilege to be associated with an organization such as Pitt that has long recognized its senior workforce,” Frisch said. “This award—being named of only 50 employers in the country—individually emphasizes the University’s commitment to all, especially our over-50 community of partners. Along with the leadership of the University of Pittsburgh, I am very proud of the University family and this special recognition.”

In an award letter informing Pitt officials of the University’s honor, AARP pointed to the University’s practice of providing a nurturing workplace culture that extends educational opportunities to older employees. Specifically, the letter mentioned Pitt’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, which provides test-and-grade-free courses to students above the age of 55, as well as workplace policies that accommodate older workers with such tools as screen and phone amplifications and read-to-you screens. The letter also recognized Pitt’s health and financial benefits packages, which are available to all employees but can be especially beneficial to older workers.

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization that assists people 50 and older with making choices that are beneficial and affordable to them and society as a whole. The organization has staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
Pitt’s 2009 Drue Heinz Literature Prize Winner, Judge to Give Readings At Oct. 14 Awards Ceremony

By Anthony M. Moore

Audience members will be immersed in the tales of characters from a foreign land where centuries-old traditions clash with modern times as Anne Sanow and Ann Patchett deliver literary readings during the University of Pittsburgh’s 2009 Drue Heinz Literature Prize Awards Ceremony. The readings, which are part of the Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series’ 2009-10 season, will be held at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 14 in the Frick Fine Arts Auditorium.

Sanow is the 29th recipient of the Drue Heinz Literature Prize, one of the nation’s most prestigious awards for books of short fiction. The award includes a cash prize of $15,000 and publication of the winning manuscript by the University of Pittsburgh Press. Previous winners include Anthony Varallo, Kirk Nessett, and Todd James Pierce. Patchett continues the Drue Heinz Literature Prize’s tradition of notable writers serving as judges.

“The Drue Heinz Literature Prize recognizes and supports writers of short fiction, and makes their work available to readers around the world,” said Maria Stilco, publicist for the University of Pittsburgh Press. “The annual award ceremony provides a new audience for our winner, Anne Sanow. In addition, it allows us to bring up Pittsburgh-acclaimed writer Ann Patchett to read for a local audience.”

Sanow received the honor for her short-story collection, Triple Time. The stories are set in Saudi Arabia, where Sanow lived for two years, and are linked by various characters over a 50-year span—from World War II to the mid-1990s.

Sanow describes her book as one of discovery. “My characters are native Saudis and expatriates going about their lives and loves and discover who they are and where they belong,” said Sanow. “My interest as a writer is to try to avoid easy exoticism by working from the inside out, character by character and place by place, so that somehow the epic and minute become enmeshed.”

Twice a fellow at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Mass., Sanow has also received fellowships and residencies from the MacDowell Colony, the Edward F. Albee Foundation, the Jentel Artist Residency Program, and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Her honors and distinctions include the Jack Hodsden Founders’ Award for Fiction and a Pushcart Prize Special Mention. She also is a two-time finalist for the Nimrod/Hardman Awards.

A native of California, Sanow currently lives in Provincetown, where she is an editor and writing instructor. She earned her BA degree in English at George Mason University and an MFA degree at Washington University in St. Louis.

Drue Heinz Judge Ann Patchett is the author of the novels The Patron Saint of Liars (Houghton Mifflin Co., 1992), Taft (Houghton Mifflin Co., 1994), The Magician’s Assistant (Harcourt, 1997), Bel Canto (Harper Collins, 2001), and Run (Harper Collins, 2007). Patchett’s books have been translated into 30 languages and have sold more than a million copies worldwide.

Her honors and distinctions include a Guggenheim Fellowship for The Magician’s Assistant, the Janet Heidinger Kafka Prize for Best Work of Fiction for Taft, and the Harold D. Vanmoll Memorial Award from The Academy of Arts and Letters.

The 2009-10 Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series season is cosponsored by Pitt’s Writing Program, Book Center, University Library System, and University of Pittsburgh Press. 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.pitt.edu.

Pitt AAAC Marks 40 Years of Diversity

Continued from page 1

President Linda Wharton-Boyd (A&S ’72, ’75G, ’79G), principal of the Wharton Group national and international communications consulting firm and chief of staff and chief communications officer for D.C. Council member Michael A. Stokes (A&S ’93), has been nominated for the Taft Scholarship by the University of Pittsburgh’s 2009-10 Pitts-...
TRIBUTE TO RALPH CAPPY

Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg (left) paid tribute to the late Ralph Cappy, former chair of Pitt’s Board of Trustees and retired Chief Justice of Pennsylvania, during a Sept. 15 program at Duquesne University. Justices of the state Supreme Court gathered at Duquesne and went into special session for the unveiling of an official portrait of Cappy, who died May 1. The program was hosted by Interim Dean and Pitt alumnus Kenneth Gormley (A&S ’77) of the Duquesne School of Law and the Duquesne Law Review. Nordenberg was the second speaker for the event, preceded by Cappy’s successor as chief justice, Ronald D. Castille. Above, Nordenberg stands with Duquesne University President Charles J. Dougherty.

RECEPTION FOR NEW WOMEN FACULTY

Nancy E. Davidson, director of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute and UPMC Cancer Centers, delivered an address at the event. A sampling of faculty-mentored undergraduate researchers present work in energy, medicine, sustainability at Science2009—Unplugged

Then and Now: A Historical Exhibition Of African American Progress at Pitt

A sorority sweater from the late 1960s. . . . a photograph of Pitt’s first Black homecoming queen . . . . images of prominent Black Pitt athletes of the 1960s and ’70s. These are a few of the items to be included in an exhibition called Then and Now: A Historical Exhibition of African American Progress at Pitt, which can be viewed on the ground floor of Hillman Library beginning at 4 p.m. Oct. 23. The display contains memorabilia pertaining to Black students who attended Pitt from 1969 through the 1980s and early ’90s. Photos of Black fraternities and sororities will be included, as well as news clippings from The New Pittsburgh Courier, The Pitt News, and University Times. Pitt alumni lent many of the materials that will show the progress of the Black experience at Pitt over the years.

—Sharon S. Blake

Undergraduate Researchers Present Work in Energy, Medicine, Sustainability at Science2009—Unplugged

Pitt Is Nation’s Top-ranked Public School in 2009 Education-Civic Partnership Survey

Continued from page 1

initiatives; quantifiable increase in positive recognition of the institution; qualitative esprit of the institution in its engagement; and recognition of the impact of these institutions within their communities. In the published survey text, Dr. Dobelle stated, “Pitt’s motto is, ‘The city is our campus,’ and through an engagement program, which builds upon the historic connection between institution and metropolitan area, the university has played a key role in helping to economically, culturally, and physically revitalize Pittsburgh.

Working through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Pitt created the Community Outreach Partnership Center, which has leveraged the university’s resources in a manner which supports neighborhood partnerships in order to address neighborhood concerns. The selection of the city as the site of the 2009 G-20 Summit reflects an urban economy discovering ‘life after steel.’ PITT ARTS connects the university’s students with the city’s emerging and energetic art scene.

“Pitt has set the dimensions and pace of engagement in Pittsburgh,” Dr. Dobelle concluded. “Its neighborhood collaborations have resulted in physically and economically revitalized neighborhoods. Neighborhood is the key here. Pitt’s engagement benefits the entire metropolitan region, one neighborhood at a time.”

With respect to the economic criteria considered in the rankings, Dr. Dobelle reviewed the following important elements of Pitt’s annual impact on the local economy:

• $5.6 billion in earnings by nearly 74,800 Pitt alumni residing in Allegheny County
• $1.74 billion in total University-related spending
• $51.3 billion in personal income generated from nearly 33,800 Pitt-supported jobs
• $642 million in sponsored research, supporting more than 23,100 jobs
• $351.7 million in direct and induced expenditures associated with people visiting Pitt
• $145.2 million to communities, including sales, wage, and real estate taxes; and
• $140.7 million average annual investment on construction from FY 2006 through FY 2008, generating more than 1,300 jobs in construction and related industries.

With respect to the economic criteria considered in the rankings, Dr. Dobelle reviewed the following important elements of Pitt’s annual impact on the local economy:

• $5.6 billion in earnings by nearly 74,800 Pitt alumni residing in Allegheny County
• $1.74 billion in total University-related spending
• $51.3 billion in personal income generated from nearly 33,800 Pitt-supported jobs
• $642 million in sponsored research, supporting more than 23,100 jobs
• $351.7 million in direct and induced expenditures associated with people visiting Pitt
• $145.2 million to communities, including sales, wage, and real estate taxes; and
• $140.7 million average annual investment on construction from FY 2006 through FY 2008, generating more than 1,300 jobs in construction and related industries.

Undergraduate Researchers Present Work in Energy, Medicine, Sustainability at Science2009—Unplugged

Continued from page 1 members who are helping to train a next generation of researchers and assisting students in acquiring the necessary skills for successful careers,” she said.

Undergraduates from Pitt’s School of Arts and Sciences, the Swanson School of Engineering, the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, the School of Nursing, and the Honors College will be presenting at the event.

A sampling of faculty-mentored undergraduate projects include pursuing a solution to climate change by investigating CO2 storage; aiming to improve clinical trials by understanding patient experience; identifying a primary cause of preterm labor to combat neonatal mortality; seeking new tuberculosis medications to treat drug-resistant strains of the disease; investigating how to protect the habitats of native plant and animal species; and striving to improve care of breast cancer patients by examining quality of life.
Rory Cooper, director of the Human Engineering Research Laboratories—a partnership between the University of Pittsburgh, UPMC, and the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System—will receive the Veteran of the Year Award from the Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania. Cooper, who is one of the world’s foremost authorities on wheelchair design, will accept the honor during an Oct. 29 ceremony at the Carnegie Music Hall. The FISA and Paralyzed Veterans of America Chair and Distinguished Professor in Pitt’s Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, Cooper is a decorated U.S. Army veteran who uses a wheelchair as a result of a spinal cord injury sustained in military service.

Two University of Pittsburgh alumni were recognized by the YWCA Greater Pittsburgh for excellence and leadership in the workplace and in the community. Valerie McDonald Roberts (SHRS ’77, A&S ’79G), manager of the Allegheny County Department of Real Estate, and Ellen A. Roth (EDUC ’82G), president of Getting to the Point, Inc., were honored with Tribute to Women Leadership Awards in the categories of civic engagement and entrepreneur, respectively. Roth was nominated for the award by Robert Hill, Pitt’s vice chancellor for public affairs. Six other women received Tribute to Women Leadership Awards in other categories during the annual Tribute to Women Leadership Awards Luncheon, held in May at the Westin Hotel, Downtown.

Deborah Walker, assistant to the dean in Pitt’s Office of Student Affairs, wrote an article that was published in the summer 2009 issue of Leadership Exchange, the quarterly publication of NASPA—Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education. The article, “Boosting Retention and Graduation Rates for Disadvantaged Students: University of Pittsburgh Program Helps Students Rise to the Top,” focused on Pitt’s Reaching Inside Your Soul for Excellence (RISE) program. RISE is an intervention program to improve the University’s retention and graduation rates for underrepresented students.

 Plays in American Periodicals, 1890–1918 (Palgrave/Macmillan, 2007), written by University of Pittsburgh professor of English Susan Harris Smith, was selected as Choice, an outstanding academic book of 2008. More than 35,000 academic librarians, faculty, and key decision makers use the reviews in Choice magazine and Choice Reviews Online to develop collections and conduct scholarly research. Choice is a publication of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association.

Marc Molandro, Pitt associate vice chancellor for technology management and commercialization, has been named to the board of directors of Pennsylvania Bio, a statewide association representing Pennsylvania’s biosciences community.

Dorothy J. Becker, a professor of pediatrics in the Pitt School of Medicine and chief of the Division of Endocrinology and Diabetes at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, has been elected president of the Lawson Wilkins Pediatric Endocrine Society. Becker’s clinical research on Type 1 diabetes has received continuous annual funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for the last three decades. She is principal investigator and coordinator of six U.S. centers of an NIH multinational primary prevention trial for Type I diabetes. The 10-year study is designed to determine whether feeding predigested cow’s milk formula to babies who are bottle-fed will prevent insulin-dependent diabetes.

George W. Dougherty, assistant professor of public and urban affairs at Pitt’s Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, was elected to the American Society for Public Administration’s (ASPA) National Council for a three-year term. The ASPA sponsors conferences and provides professional services to those who study government policy and public administration. Dougherty’s areas of expertise include education policy, performance measurement, public law, and transportation policy. He was awarded the 2008 Innovation in Education Grant by Pitt’s Office of the Provost’s Advisory Council on Instructional Excellence.

Dennis Slevin Named Inaugural Holder of Tom W. Olofson Chair in Entrepreneurial Studies

The University of Pittsburgh’s Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business has named Dennis Slevin the inaugural holder of the Tom W. Olofson Chair in Entrepreneurial Studies. Slevin, a professor of business administration in the Katz School, will lead the initiative to enhance entrepreneurship instruction to complement the outreach provided by the school’s Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence.

The chair was established by Pitt alumnus Tom Olofson and his wife, Jeanne, who donated $1.5 million to the University through the Tom W. and Jeanne H. Olofson Foundation. “Dennis Slevin is the ideal person to lead our entrepreneurship initiative,” says John T. Delaney, dean of the Katz School. “He is a recognized scholar in entrepreneurship, has great business experience, and is well connected to our region’s venture businesses. His appointment to the Olofson Chair is well deserved and has generated excitement at Pitt and in the community.”

—Amanda Leff
Concerts


Exhibitions


Senior John Heinz History Center, Forbes Field: Celebrating 100 Years, through Nov. 8; The Many Faces of Shock, through Oct. 17, Senator John Heinz History Center, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland.

KamilaGłaska Girls (Tetsuya Nakashima, 2004), film screening for faculty, staff, and education students, part of 2009 Japanese Film Series: Fictional Fairytails, 7:30 p.m., Oct. 16, 135 Fine Arts Building, Pitt Asian Studies Center, University Center for International Studies, 412-383-5062, jennm@pitt.edu.

Lectures/Seminars/Readings

“Does a Rock Perform Every Computation?” Mark Sprevak, visiting fellow from King’s College, 12:05 p.m., Oct. 15, 1695 Sennott Square, Pitt’s Department of Philosophy, 412-624-3512, jennm@pitt.edu.

“Can Non-conceptual Content Be Stored in Visual Memory?” Athanasios Raftopoulos, professor in University of Cyprus’s Department of Philosophy, 12:30 p.m., Oct. 16, 1876 Cathedral of Learning, University Center for International Studies, 412-624-3512, jennm@pitt.edu.

Happenings

Penn's Student Government hosts Jazz Week from Oct. 12-18, featuring the Pitt Jazz Seminar and Concert—the longest-running jazz conference in the country. Legendary musicians taking part this year include Terence Blanchard, Chick Corea, Kevin Eubanks, Tom Harrell, and Lew Soloff.

Concerts


Film

Nakahov: The Happiest Years (Merry Go Round & Vertical Skyline, 2006), 7 p.m., Oct. 12, Bellefield Hall Auditorium, Pitt’s Department of Film Studies, Russian Documentary Film Series, www.filmspublic.org.

Body Double (Brian De Palma, 1984), film screening presented by Scheyer Chapman, third-year PhD student in Pitt’s Department of English, 6:30 p.m., Oct. 16, 150 P Vanguard Hall. Film Studies Program’s Cinematheque series Extreme Cinema: The Many Faces of Shock, 12:30-3:15 p.m., Oct. 16, 135 Fine Arts Building, Pitt’s Asian Studies Center, University Center for International Studies, 412-383-5062, jennm@pitt.edu.

KamilaGłaska Girls (Tetsuya Nakashima, 2004), film screening for faculty, staff, and education students, part of 2009 Japanese Film Series: Fictional Fairytails, 7:30 p.m., Oct. 16, 135 Fine Arts Building, Pitt Asian Studies Center, University Center for International Studies, 412-383-5062, jennm@pitt.edu.

“Does a Rock Perform Every Computation?” Mark Sprevak, visiting fellow from King’s College, 12:05 p.m., Oct. 15, 1695 Sennott Square, Pitt’s Department of Philosophy, 412-624-3512, jennm@pitt.edu.

“Can Non-conceptual Content Be Stored in Visual Memory?” Athanasios Raftopoulos, professor in University of Cyprus’s Department of Philosophy, 12:30 p.m., Oct. 16, 1876 Cathedral of Learning, University Center for International Studies, 412-624-3512, jennm@pitt.edu.

Lineup Set for 39th Annual Pitt Jazz Seminar, Concert

International jazz greats will converge at the University of Pittsburgh Nov. 3 through Nov. 7 for the 39th annual Pitt Jazz Seminar and Concert—the longest-running of its kind in the country.

Legendary musicians taking part this year include Terence Blanchard, Chick Corea, Kevin Eubanks, Tom Harrell, and Lew Soloff.

During Jazz Week, the musicians conduct free lecture/demonstrations together on the Pitt campus, provide masterclasses at area schools, and offer community concerts. A jazz film and a lecture by a jazz historian are also scheduled. At the end of the week, the musicians will perform in concert at 8 p.m. Nov. 7 in Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland.

Concert tickets are available by calling RosebudTickets at 412-394-5555 or visit- ing www.pottickets.org. Tickets also are on sale at the William Pitt Union box office. Tickets for students with a valid ID are $8 and only available at the WPU box office.

Founded by Nathan Davis, director of Pitt’s Jazz Studies Program, the Pitt Jazz Seminar and Concert was the first academic jazz seminar in the country to feature international artists connecting with aspiring students in a lecture format, not performing together on an ensemble. Additional details, including the seminar schedule, will be available in the coming weeks.

—Sharon S. Blake
By Patricia Lomando White

Former Massachusetts governor and 1988 Democratic presidential nominee Michael S. Dukakis will address an internship panel at 8 p.m. Oct. 15 in the Twentieth Century Club Auditorium, 4201 Bigelow Blvd., Oakland. The panel is hosted by Pitt’s Honors College and School of Arts and Sciences’ Department of English.

The free event, also sponsored by The Pitt News, is open to students and the public. The winner of the annual Al McDowell Memorial Scholarship, named in memory of the Pittsburgh broadcasting pioneer and 1952 School of Arts and Sciences graduate, will be announced during the evening.

The program is titled “The Essential Internship: Snaring One in the Media, Public Relations, and Publishing.” The panel’s scope has been broadened to include internships in public policy, government, and politics. A question-and-answer session will follow the discussion. Students also will have the opportunity to talk with speakers during a dessert reception held after the program.

In addition to Dukakis, a political science professor at Northeastern University, panelists include Stacy Smith, KDKA-TV news anchor; Jessica Bayer, senior associate for recruitment at Burson-Marsteller; Susan Goldberg, the editor of The Plain Dealer in Cleveland; Elham Khatami, a Pitt student with internships at CNN.com and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette; John Sullivan III, executive editor at Bedford/St. Martin’s; and Kerala Taylor, editor-in-chief at Glimpse.org. David Shribman, executive editor of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, will moderate.

Brief biographies of the panelists can be obtained at http://www.pitt.edu/news2009/InternPanelBios.doc.

Dukakis, the son of Greek immigrants, won his party’s nomination for governor in 1974 as well as the election in November of that year. In 1988, he won the Democratic nomination for the presidency of the United States but was defeated by George H.W. Bush.

Dukakis, the son of Greek immigrants, won his party’s nomination for governor in 1974 as well as the election in November of that year. In 1988, he won the Democratic nomination for the presidency of the United States but was defeated by George H.W. Bush.

For more information about the internship panel, contact Writing Internship Coordinator Caren Marcus at 412-624-1737 or caren@pitt.edu.