

## Provost James V. Maher to Step Down in 2010

Dr. James V. Maher, provost and senior vice chancellor at the University of Pittsburgh, today announced his intention to leave that position and return to the faculty at the beginning of the next academic year or as soon after that as his successor can be in place. The University's chief academic officer since June of 1994, Provost Maher has served with distinction and is widely credited with helping to lead Pitt through a period of unparalleled progress.

In accepting Dr. Maher's resignation, Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg said, "It is hard to imagine anyone being better at his or her job than Jim Maher has been as our provost. Among the many positive qualities that he brought to this key leadership role are his extraordinary breadth of knowledge, a well-developed ability to identify talented individuals and to anticipate academic trends, and a deep dedication to Pitt that has extended across most of his adult life. He has earned both the gratitude and respect of all of Pitt's many constituent groups and has touched, in significant and consistently positive

**"I am very proud to have been a key member of Chancellor Nordenberg's team during these years of dramatic progress for the University. I am optimistic that the University of Pittsburgh will continue to elevate itself among the nation's best research universities, and I only regret that I cannot go on indefinitely in pursuit of that goal."**  
—Provost James V. Maher

ways, virtually every aspect of life within our University.

"I certainly could not have had a more capable and committed professional partner than Jim Maher," Chancellor Nordenberg continued. "I will miss working with him on a daily basis when he leaves the provost's office. However, particularly given the knowledge and insights that Provost Maher has acquired over the past 15 years, he will remain a unique institutional asset, and we will find other ways, in addition to his contributions as a faculty member, to make use of his special talents for the further advancement of Pitt."

In commenting on his decision to bring his distinguished and lengthy tenure as Pitt's provost to an end, Dr. Maher stated, "I am very proud to have been a key member of Chancellor Nordenberg's team during these years of dramatic progress for the University. I am optimistic that the University of Pittsburgh will continue to elevate itself among the nation's best research universities, and I only regret that I cannot go on indefinitely in pursuit of that goal. I am deeply grateful to the Chan-

cellor and to all of my colleagues in the University community for the teamwork and dedication to the University that have characterized our years together."

During Dr. Maher's years as provost, the University made significant strides on wide-ranging fronts—dramatically increasing applications for admission; elevating the academic credentials of admitted students and boosting enrollments; promoting instructional innovation and supporting the creative use of new teaching technologies; adding substantially to on-campus housing capacity and enriching the quality of student life; enhancing overall research strength while moving into critical new areas of inquiry and creating programs for the commercialization of technology; designing and implementing plans for the development of facilities and infrastructure that would support academic ambitions while maintaining fiscal discipline; and reaching out to alumni, donors, and other friends in markedly more effective ways.

As provost, Dr. Maher served as chair of both the University Planning and Budgeting Committee and Pitt's Council of Deans. He also served as co-chair of the University's Facilities Planning Committee. He exercised oversight responsibility for



Provost Maher

the schools outside of the health sciences, four regional campuses, a number of major centers, and such other important areas as admissions, computing and information systems, student life, and the University Library System. He also has served as principal liaison to the Academic Affairs and Libraries Committee of the Board of Trustees.

Among Dr. Maher's positions of leadership in both national and regional

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## Pitt-WQED Multimedia's Science Mission 101 to Premiere Nov. 12



Pitt Mobile Science Lab

In the search for America's next generation of scientists, the University of Pittsburgh and WQED Multimedia have produced *Science Mission 101*, an educational, competitive reality television program wherein two teams of Pittsburgh-area high school students compete to unravel scientific mysteries. Aimed at reaching underserved middle-school students and accepted for national distribution by American Public Television (APT), the half-hour pilot of *Science Mission 101* will premiere at 8 p.m. Nov. 12 on WQED-TV.

In the pilot episode, host Mike Lee challenges *Team Awesome* and *Team Dominate* to investigate whether amoebae like those found in our digestive systems

prefer to eat specific types of bacteria—and whether that preference relates to the fact that only certain bacteria make people sick. The students expose an amoeba to different strains of the bacterium *Salmonella*—which is found in raw or undercooked food—to determine whether it prefers to eat one strain over the other. Students perform their work in laboratories within Pitt's Department of Biological Sciences and on the Pitt Mobile Science Lab, a traveling laboratory outfitted with high-end equipment used to perform scientific investigations.

The Pitt Mobile Science Lab is a self-contained, fully equipped, traveling laboratory primarily used for the outreach programs in the Department of Biological

Sciences. The 70-foot tractor-trailer was purchased in 2008 through a National Institutes of Health Clinical and Translational Science Award. It is sponsored by Pitt's Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute and through the Science Education Partnership Awards given to the Department of Biological Sciences. Collaborative partners include the Pittsburgh Life Sciences Greenhouse, the Lyceum Group, Thermo Fisher Scientific, and the Pittsburgh Tissue Engineering Initiative.

The teams present their findings to judges from Pitt's Department of Biological Sciences and are evaluated based on cooperation, creativity, interpretation of experimental data, presentation, and

scientific thought. The judges are Alison Slinsky Legg, Mobile Science Lab director and director of outreach programs for the Department of Biological Sciences; Graham F. Hatfull, Eberly Family Professor and HHMI Professor and chair of the department; and Kristen Butela, a graduate student in the lab of Pitt biological sciences professor Jeffrey Lawrence.

*Science Mission 101* will repeat at noon and 7:30 p.m. Nov. 15 and 4:30 p.m. Nov. 16. Additional resources for students and teachers will be available at [www.sciencemission101.com](http://www.sciencemission101.com) by the time the show premieres. Funding to produce the pilot for *Science Mission 101* was provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through the Pennsylvania Public Television Network (PPTN), PPG Industries Foundation, and the University of Pittsburgh.

Pitt's Biological Sciences Outreach Program has supported local K-12 education for the past 15 years, providing professional teacher training workshops, hands-on science experiments for K-12 students, and an outreach education associate's degree program that introduces graduate and undergraduate biology students to K-12 teaching (<http://www.pitt.edu/~biology>). Since 1995, Pitt has supplied high school science teachers with "Pitt Kits" that contain supplies to create and implement inquiry-based modules to teach their students throughout the year; the program has reached more than 33,000 students within a 50-mile radius of the University.

# PittScholars & Stewards

Achievement Rewards for College Scientists Foundation Scholar

## On the Forefront of Science

By Lori Spisak

Bartholomew Roland has remained steadfast in his dedication to following a scientific path. "Science and the pursuit of knowledge have always intrigued me more than any other career," he said.

Currently a student in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine's Interdisciplinary Biomedical Graduate Program, Roland is helping to investigate how sodium-potassium pumps—which are part of the human brain and critical to neuronal function—supply themselves with energy.

Roland was recently named an Achievement Rewards for College Scientists Foundation (ARCS) Scholar. ARCS is a nonprofit, national volunteer organization of women dedicated to providing scholarships to academically outstanding U.S. citizens who are studying science, medicine, and engineering. Sue Harter, president of the ARCS Pittsburgh chapter, says the chapter funds 29 scholars at both Pitt and Carnegie Mellon University. "Our 150 women members and the corporations, foundations, and other individuals who support us share our same concerns for our region and our country's future," she said.

Prior to enrolling in Pitt's School of Medicine, Roland attended Central Michigan University, where he became enmeshed in Huntington's Disease research. He said he was amazed to realize that a simple expansion of a piece of DNA could lead to a disorder that impairs physical movement, cogni-



From left, Bartholomew Roland, ARCS Pittsburgh member Millie Ryan, and her husband, Gary. The photo was taken in the Sen. John Heinz History Center's Sebastian Mueller Education Center.

tion, and psychiatric well-being. During his college years, Roland's love of research led him to jobs in the labs of Dow Chemical Company and a research assistantship in the Brain Research and Integrated Neuroscience (BRAIN) Center at Central Michigan University and the Field Neuroscience Institute in Saginaw.

Roland said he appreciates the recognition and financial support provided to him by the ARCS Foundation. "To me, the ARCS Foundation means a new source of hope. Because of the support of these generous women, I have finally been able to devote myself full-time to the study of neurodegenerative diseases in order to find

new ways to treat these conditions," he said.

Roland plans to complete his PhD in either pharmacology or pathology with a focus on neuroscience. After receiving his doctorate, he hopes to continue his research at an academic institution.

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organizations are recent service as chair of the Chief Academic Officers Section of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities and service on the boards of BioOne, the Carnegie Science Center, the Pittsburgh Technology Council, the Pittsburgh Tissue Engineering Initiative, the St. Vincent Seminary, and WQED Multimedia. He is a commissioner of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and served on the Association of American Universities (AAU)/National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC) Task Force on Accreditation, which developed a set of principles that were largely adopted by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation. He was a member of the AAU's Intellectual Property Task Force and a co-author of its formative report "Intellectual Property and New Media Technologies: A Framework for Development at AAU Institutions." He also was invited by the AAU and the Association of Research Libraries to participate in writing the influential *Tempe Principles for Emerging Systems of Scholarly Publishing*, a set of principles designed to guide the transformation of the scholarly publishing system.

Provost Maher earned his bachelor's degree in physics from the University of Notre Dame and his master's and doctoral degrees in physics from Yale University. He served as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Argonne National Laboratory before joining the faculty of Pitt's Department of Physics and Astronomy in 1970. He served as chair of that department and as director



Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg (left) and Provost Maher

of the University's Scaife Nuclear Physics Laboratory. He also has been a longstanding resident fellow of the University's Center for Philosophy of Science. He has published numerous papers in the fields of nuclear physics and statistical condensed matter physics, as well as presenting at professional conferences and serving as a visiting scientist at a number of other universities. He is an elected fellow of both the American Physical Society and the American Association for

the Advancement of Science.

Chancellor Nordenberg indicated that efforts to identify and recruit a worthy successor to Provost Maher would begin immediately. The search committee will be chaired by Dr. Randy Juhl, the University's vice chancellor for research conduct and compliance and a former dean of Pitt's School of Pharmacy. Senior staff support to the committee will be provided by Dr. B. Jean Ferketish, secretary of the University's

Board of Trustees and assistant chancellor. It is expected that the committee as a whole can be fully constituted over the course of the next few weeks.

## PittChronicle

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# Continued Progress Amid Continuing Economic Challenges

The following is the print version of Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg's Oct. 30, 2009, report to the Pitt Board of Trustees.



Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg

The beginning of every academic year is an exciting time. After the comparative calm of summer, we are jolted back to our own set of realities by the sudden, significant, and sustained surge of energy traveling with our students as they “repopulate” our campuses. In human terms, I doubt that there is anything quite like it in any other kind of institution.

Once again, I can report that we enrolled the best-qualified freshman class in our history here in Oakland. I hope that is a message I will be able to continue repeating and that you never will tire of hearing. But I also want to make the point that—though we tend to focus on Oakland undergraduate applications as one of our key institutional measures—applications, enrollment, and student credentials are up across most of our programs on all of our campuses.

At an Oct. 29 Health Sciences Committee meeting, for example, Dr. Arthur Levine, senior vice chancellor for the health sciences and dean of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, reported that the credentials presented by this fall's entering

class in the School of Medicine are equal to those of Harvard's entering class. And to single out one other important example, enrollment at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford passed the 1,500 mark this term. That has been a longtime goal—hard to achieve in a beautiful, but somewhat remote and sparsely populated, portion of our state. But President Livingston Alexander and his team, supported by Craig Hartburg and the Pitt-Bradford Advisory Board, met that milestone this year, so special congratulations are due to them.

And my specific mention of Pitt-Bradford also is a reminder that an important part of our undergraduate education is delivered on our four regional campuses—Bradford, Greensburg, Johnstown, and Titusville. We have invested in those campuses and also have tried to be sensitive to their markets in dealing with tuition issues—freezing tuition this year, for example. The people on those campuses, in return, are delivering high-quality programs to a substantial number of students.

Back on this campus, we assisted stu-

dents with our relatively hassle-free Arrival Survival move-in program, supported by an army of nearly 500 volunteers. We greeted a group of 4,600 new students and family members at our Freshman Convocation and Chancellor's Reception. These students were quickly engaged in a broad range of campus customs—from Lantern Night, which had Heinz Chapel overflowing; to the first-football-game bonfire, which attracted some 2,000 students to the Cathedral lawn; to all of the pageantry of the Oct. 23-25 Homecoming, which included the crowning of the queen and king, campus fireworks on Friday night, and game-time fireworks, with our big win over South Florida, at Heinz Field on Saturday afternoon.

I know that not all of you had the chance to be here for Homecoming, so let me tell you that Oakland was packed. Every available space seemed to have been claimed for one kind of Pitt event or another. On Friday evening, I moved from the African American Alumni Council's dedication of a special exhibition in Hillman Library to the Varsity Letter Winners Dinner in Alumni Hall, to the School of Law's reception in the University Club, to an open reception

ing hard to provide the right kind of transitions to the world of work for our students. One month ago today, for example, we hosted the largest career fair in our history, where some 3,000 students had the chance to meet with more than 200 employers. That event also is another reminder of the uses to which the Petersen Events Center is put, in addition to basketball.

At Pitt, of course, the “Petersen” name is synonymous with extraordinary generosity. And recent weeks have given us the chance to recognize private donors and their support—which have become increasingly important at a time when public support for higher education continues to wane, and the economy, more generally, is challenged.

One dimension of our stewardship has been large-group recognition of important supporters. Here, for example, you see [in a projected slide] scenes from this fall's Chancellor's Circle event, which honors donors of \$1,000 or more. Appropriately enough, we attracted nearly 1,000 people to this event, held under the big tent at Heinz Field. That is a far cry from the first such event that I attended, as a Chancellor's Circle donor,

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## Freshmen Applications Pittsburgh Campus



## Freshmen in Top 10% of High School Class



We also are work-

# Continued Progress Amid Continuing Economic Challenges

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some 20 years ago. It probably is not true that we all could have been stuffed into a phone booth, but a small seminar room would have accommodated all of us.

Recent weeks also have given us the chance to acknowledge individual giving on a truly spectacular scale. We celebrated the completion of the Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation at a ribbon-cutting held in conjunction with a meeting of the Board of Visitors of the Swanson School of Engineering. And less than two weeks ago, we announced the most recent commitment of John and Gertrude Petersen—this gift to support what will be known as the Petersen Sports Complex—the future home to our baseball, softball, and men's and women's soccer teams.

As the new term unfolded, we had the chance to welcome distinguished guests. Some came from considerable distances. The two most obvious examples in that category were José Manuel Barroso, the president of the European Commission, and Dimitry Medvedev, the president of the Russian Federation. I only wish that you all could have been here, because it was a truly memorable afternoon. And, as you would expect, the presence on our campus of these two world leaders brought very positive attention to Pitt all around the globe.

Other important outside guests ranged from the all-star lineup of speakers assembled for our ninth annual celebration of science to the winner of this year's Drue Heinz Prize in Literature—the country's most prominent award in short fiction, which we present annually. And throughout the fall, we have hosted a rich array of cultural activities.

Some of our distinguished guests came from within the "Pitt family." For example, within a larger group of Homecoming Week honorees, just last week [Oct. 22], we inducted a new class of Legacy Laureates. That group included your Board colleague Lee Noble, as well as such other distinguished Pitt graduates as the President of the Taipei Medical University, the Dean of the Yale Nursing School, and the founding Chancellor of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, to give just a few examples.

We also recognized a stellar group of African American Alumni Council distinguished alumnus honorees. That group

included your Board colleague Bill Strickland, as well as two of the first three African American women to enroll in our nursing school in the early 1940s. Their stories were inspiring not only because they broke that color barrier but because they went on to craft lives of such impact with their Pitt degrees in hand.

Important and well-deserved honors also were received by members of our Board from non-Pitt groups. Just in the last several days, to give two telling examples, Eva Blum was named a Distinguished Daughter of

Pennsylvania, a very high honor, and Keith Schaefer was named the CEO of the Year by the Pittsburgh Technology Council for the outstanding work he has done in leading BPL Global, which is positioned to be one of this region's great 21st-century commercial successes.

The presence of Keith and the work that he is doing here are telling examples of a type of largely unrecognized contribution that our University makes to regional economic development. In past presentations, I have reminded you that such contributions, though they are now getting more attention, actually are an important part of our regional history.

To repeat just two examples:

- Jerry McGinnis, a young man from Illinois, came to Pitt for graduate school, stayed in the region, and founded Respironics, which has become a major regional employer and a force in its area of specialty around the world; and
- John Swanson, a young man from

Upstate New York, came to Pitt for graduate school, stayed in the region, and founded ANSYS, which has become a major regional employer and a force in its area of specialty around the world.

Keith Schaefer, of course, was born, raised, and educated in Pittsburgh. However, he was "long gone" for many years, with most of his career spent in California. It was not until he was honored as a Distinguished Alumni Fellow, became a leader of the Pitt Alumni Association, and was elected to this Board that he really began re-engaging



JIM BURKE/CUDE



JIM BURKE/CUDE



MIKE DRAZDZINSKI/CUDE

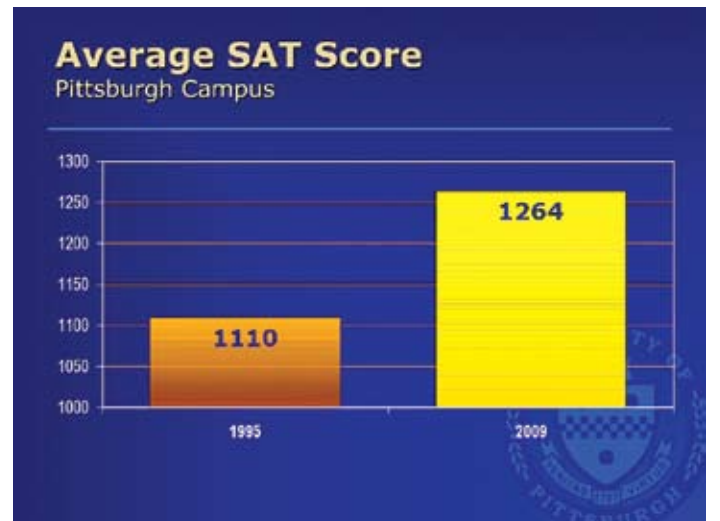


JIM BURKE/CUDE

1. Aug. 26 Freshman Convocation 2. Aug. 25-26 Arrival Survival moving-in process. 3. Aug. 25 ice cream social on William Pitt Union lawn 4. Aug. 30 Lantern Night in Heinz Chapel



Homecoming 2009 fireworks





John M. and Gertrude E. Petersen



Participants in the African American Distinguished Alumni awards ceremony

in Pittsburgh. And that positioned him to assume the CEO's position in this exciting new company.

Of course, the fact that the rebirth of this region's economy is tied so directly to strong university research is a theme that was sounded in publications throughout the country during the past year. That theme received even greater attention, and in more distant locations, when President Obama selected Pittsburgh to host the G-20 Summit. In connection with that event, both the "eds and meds" sector generally and Pitt, more particularly, received well-placed coverage for their contributions.

As you all know, we also do connect, both to the broader society and to our home communities, in important ways that are not tied directly to research. For example:

- Some 450 members of our staff and faculty participated in the United Way's Day of Caring. The Day of Caring concept was pioneered here in Pittsburgh, and Pitt has been a leading participant right from the start. Among the many projects with which Pitt people assisted this year was the creation of a food pantry in Oakland. The fact that such a facility is even needed in our home neighborhood, plus the fact that it has been so heavily utilized since it was opened, are telling and troubling reminders about the condition of the economy;

- We also have launched our traditional United Way campaign—where, again, we always have been a leader. Our goal this year is to collect more than \$600,000 from within the campus community;

- Earlier this month, in a striking display of community commitment, close to 3,000 Pitt students participated in their

second annual Pitt Make A Difference Day. They tackled projects in more than 50 different Pittsburgh-area neighborhoods. In fact, we could have involved more students if there had been more projects; and

- Even more recently, Pitt was the top-ranked public university in the 2009 edition of *Saviors of Our Cities: A Survey of Best College and University Civic Partnerships*. "Best neighbor universities," as they are called in this assessment, are distinguished by their "long-standing efforts with community leaders to rehabilitate the cities around them, to influence community revitalization and cultural renewal, and to encourage economic expansion . . . urban development and community service."

This impressive accumulation of good news and good deeds should not be misunderstood as a message that we have moved into this new academic year without any challenges, however. In fact, over the course of the last several weeks, our three biggest problems have been G-20, H1N1, and SB1036.

All of you are familiar with the G-20 protests and accompanying claims of excessive force and the H1N1 virus and fears of vaccine shortages. These matters have been widely covered in the popular press, and we have been reporting to you on them. Let me, then, focus on SB1036—which, in my judgment, has not received all of the attention it deserves.

SB1036 is the bill that has passed the Pennsylvania Senate

and that provides funding for Pitt's FY2010 appropriation. Even more to the point, SB1036 is one of several bills that have been "held hostage" in the House as wrangling over competing positions on gaming legislation continues.

It has been said that the Pitt, Penn State, Temple, and Lincoln appropriations all are

being held up because we are "nonpreferred" institutions, and, in the legal sense, we *are* "nonpreferred." However, being in that category generally means that a higher threshold of support is required when a vote is taken, not that bills will be kept from a vote of the members.

Think about our current situation. Legislation authorizing support for the universities that enroll the largest number of Pennsylvania students that attract research funding far in excess of their state appropriations and that are among the most powerful economic engines in the Commonwealth is being held up because competing caucuses cannot agree about the fees and taxes to be paid by the "table games industry." When you think about the way that most Pennsylvanians would rank their own priorities, that "nonpreferred" term seems even more clearly to be misplaced in this context.

In fact, when you think about the plain meaning of the term, Pennsylvania's state-related universities actually have become the **preferred** choice in higher education for many of Pennsylvania's hardest-working and most-able students. And Pennsylvania's state-related universities clearly have become **preferred** centers of research—within the community of government, corporate, and foundation sponsors. And because of that combination of strengths in research and education, the great weight of current commentary suggests that if you were looking for ways to sustain or revitalize a regional economy, Pennsylvania's state-related universities would be viewed as **preferred** engines of growth.

Even one who was trained as a lawyer and spent much of his career training others in the law knows that sometimes one has to move beyond legalisms and ask what is really happening in a particular situation. In this case, that is pretty clear.

When anyone says that the funding of Pitt, Penn State, Temple, and Lincoln is on hold because we are not preferred, what they also are saying, in the most practical sense, is that our more than 161,000 students—

including nearly 122,000 of Pennsylvania's brightest and most accomplished students, students who have chosen to stay at home for college or even higher levels of education and who also are more likely, then, to stay

here after college—are not preferred. And they are saying, at a time when job preservation is the most significant challenge to our economy, that our combined 50,000 employees are not preferred. And they are saying that the roughly one million alumni of our state-related universities—the biggest block of whom live here in Pennsylvania and do care deeply about their universities—are not preferred. And they are saying that the roughly 30 communities in which we have campuses or other key facilities that function as drivers of the economy are not preferred.

Otto von Bismarck, known as "The Iron Chancellor"—as opposed, I guess, to your much less imposing "Steel City Chancellor"—once said that "laws are like sausages, it is better not to see them being made." Four full months into the fiscal year without a completed budget, the real question in Pennsylvania is more basic—whether it should be seen or not, does Pennsylvania even have a functioning budget process? Certainly, the products that we might reasonably have expected have not been forthcoming.

Though the headlines of earlier this month broadly proclaimed that a state budget had been put in place, that simply was not the case. Instead, there is important work yet to be done. And in approaching that work, our 21st-century lawmakers might do well to heed the advice of Benjamin Franklin, perhaps the greatest Pennsylvanian and the former Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

Well over two centuries ago, Mr. Franklin said, "An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest." That judgment, like much of Mr. Franklin's wisdom, has stood the test of time and hopefully will guide the participants when work on the still-unfinished portions of the Commonwealth budget resumes in earnest.

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# Hard Rain

Pitt-led researchers create nanoparticle coating to prevent freezing rain buildup on roads, power lines



By Morgan Kelly

Preventing the havoc wrought when freezing rain collects on roads, power lines, and aircrafts could be only a few nanometers away. A University of Pittsburgh-led team demonstrates in the Nov. 3 edition of *Langmuir* how a nanoparticle-based coating developed in a Pitt laboratory can thwart the buildup of ice on solid surfaces and can be easily applied.

The paper, by lead author and Pitt doctoral student Liangliang Cao, presents the first evidence of anti-icing properties for a burgeoning class of water repellants—including the Pitt coating—known as superhydrophobic coatings. These thin films mimic the rutted surface of lotus leaves by creating microscopic ridges that reduce the surface area to which water can adhere. But the authors note that because ice behaves differently than water, the ability to repulse water cannot be readily applied to ice inhibition. Cao's coauthors include Di Gao, a chemical and petroleum engineering professor in Pitt's Swanson School of Engineering in whose lab the coating was developed; Jianzhong Wu, a chemical engineering professor at the University of California at Riverside; and Andrew Jones and Vinod Sikka of Ross Technology Corporation of Leola, Pa.

The team found that superhydrophobic coatings must be specifically formulated to ward off ice buildup. Gao and his team created different batches made of a silicone resin solution combined with nanoparticles of silica ranging in size from 20 nanometers to 20 micrometers, at the largest. They applied each variant to aluminum plates

and then exposed the plates to supercooled water (-20 degrees Celsius) to simulate freezing rain.

Cao writes in *Langmuir* that while each compound containing silica bits of 10-or-fewer micrometers deflected water, only those with silica pieces less than 50 nanometers in size completely prevented icing. The minute surface area of the smaller fragments means they make minimal contact with the water. Instead, the water mostly touches the air pockets between the particles and falls away without freezing. Though not all superhydrophobic coatings follow the Pitt recipe, the researchers conclude that every type will have a different particle scale for repelling ice than for repelling water.

Gao tested the coating with 50-nanometer particles outdoors in freezing rain to determine its real-world potential. He painted one side of an aluminum plate and left the other side untreated. The treated side had very little ice, while the untreated side was completely covered. He produced similar results on a commercial satellite dish where the glossed half of the dish had no ice and the other half was encrusted.

A video available on Pitt's Web site shows an aluminum plate glazed with Gao's superhydrophobic coating (left) repelling the supercooled water. For the uncoated plate (right), the water freezes on contact and ice accumulates. The video can be accessed at [www.pitt.edu/news2009/ice.html](http://www.pitt.edu/news2009/ice.html).

The *Langmuir* paper is available on Pitt's Web site at [www.pitt.edu/news2009/DiGao.pdf](http://www.pitt.edu/news2009/DiGao.pdf).

## Newsmakers

### LIFE WITHOUT OIL?



MARY JANE BENT/CODE

Bruce Babbitt, chair of the World Wildlife Fund, former U.S. Secretary of the Interior, and former governor of Arizona delivered a lecture titled "Life Without Oil: A Vision for the 21st Century." The Nov. 3 lecture was part of the American Experience Distinguished Lecture Series, sponsored by Pitt's University Honors College. As Secretary of the Interior, Babbitt created the National Landscape Conservation System, brought about a forest plan in the Pacific Northwest, helped restore the Florida Everglades, and was instrumental in the passage of the California Desert Protection Act and legislation for the National Wildlife Refuge System. He also is responsible for implementing the rules allowing for the reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone National Park.

### A LESSON ON RACIAL DIVERSITY



MIKE DRAZDZINSKI/CODE

Lee Mun Wah (above), a renowned film director, author, educator, and diversity trainer, visited the University of Pittsburgh on Nov. 5 for a daylong seminar and workshop hosted by the Office of Cross-Cultural and Leadership Development. Mun Wah presented the session titled "Unlearning Racism in Schools" to the Division of Students Affairs staff and other Pitt faculty and staff.

# Happenings



**Aunt Ester Series, four productions to celebrate August Wilson, August Wilson Center for African American Culture, November 10-22**

**Frick Art & Historical Center, *Icons of American Photography. A Century of Photographs From the Cleveland Museum of Art*, through Jan. 3, 7227 Reynolds St., Point Breeze, 412-371-0600, www.frickarts.org.**

**Mattress Factory Museum, *Gestures: An Exhibition of Small Site-specific Works*, through Jan. 10, 500 Sampsonia Way, North Side, 412-231-3169, www.mattress.org.**

**Senator John Heinz History Center, *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War and Lincoln Slept Here*, through Jan. 15, 1212 Smallman St., Strip District, 412-454-6000, www.heinzhistorycenter.org.**

**Pittsburgh Glass Center, *Sheila Klein's The Return*, through Jan. 20, 5472 Penn Ave., Garfield, 412-365-2145, www.pittsburghglasscenter.org.**

**Andy Warhol Museum, *Unnatural Rubber: Super Trash; Shepard Fairey: Supply & Demand*, through Jan. 31, 117 Sandusky St., North Side, 412-237-8300, www.warhol.org.**

**Carnegie Museum of Art, *Digital to Daguerreotype: Photographs of People*, through Jan. 31, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3309, www.cmoa.org.**

**Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, *Botanicals: Environmental Expressions in Art, the Alisa and Isaac M. Sutton Collection*, art exhibition, through June 30, Carnegie Mellon University, 5th floor, Hunt Library, 4909 Frew St., Oakland, 412-268-2434, http://huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu.**

**Falk Library, *Opening Doors: Contemporary African American Academic Surgeons*, through Jan. 28, 200 Scaife Hall, Pitt Health Sciences Library System, www.hsls.pitt.edu, 412-648-8866.**

**Hillman Library, *Historical Exhibition of African American Progress at Pitt*, ongoing, ground floor, 412-648-7710.**

## Lectures/Seminars/Readings

**"Shopper Marketing: Where the Rubber Meets the Road,"** Jeffrey Inman, Albert Wesley Frey Professor of Marketing, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business, 7:30 a.m. **Nov. 10**, 500 Alumni Hall, Pittsburgh Executive Lecture Series, 412-648-1608, landerson@katz.pitt.edu.

**"Cuba: Apuntes Para la Historia de un Scenario Actual,"** lecture in Spanish by Eduardo Torres Cuevas, director, José Martí National Library of Cuba, noon **Nov. 10**, 4130 Posvar Hall, Pitt Center for Latin American Studies, amaguina@pitt.edu.

**"Substantial Macro-histories Under Scrutiny: International and Transnational History, World History, Global History, and the History of Globalization,"** Diego Olstein, World History Center visiting scholar, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 4 p.m. **Nov. 10**, 3703 Posvar Hall, Pitt Department of History, www.history.pitt.edu.

**"The Muwallad Era (711-1085): The Christians of al-Andalus Amid Islamic Rule and Christian Kingdoms,"** Diego Olstein, World History Center visiting scholar, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, noon **Nov. 11**, 2628 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Department of Religious Studies, www.religiousstudies.pitt.edu.

**"Applications of High Capacity Power Electronic Technologies (FACTS and HVDC) for Green Energy Resources Integration and Management,"** graduate seminar featuring Gregory Reed, professor, Swanson School of Engineering's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, noon **Nov. 11**, 424 Benedum Hall, Swanson School, 412-624-8001.

**"El Luto Humano: Arte y Política de la Melancholia en José Revueltas,"** lecture in Spanish by Maria del Pilar Melgarejo, assistant professor of Spanish, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 3 p.m. **Nov. 11**, 313 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Center for Latin American Studies, jkl@pitt.edu.

**"Bodies of Work: Civic Display and Labor in Industrial Pittsburgh,"** Edward Slavishak, professor, Susquehanna University's

Department of History, 3 p.m. **Nov. 11**, 2201 Posvar Hall, Pitt Women's Studies Program, www.wstudies.pitt.edu.

**"Torture in America: The Long View,"** Fitzhugh Brudage, professor, University of North Carolina's Department of History, 5 p.m. **Nov. 11**, 202 Frick Fine Arts Building, Pitt Department of History, www.history.pitt.edu.

**"Careers in Science Law,"** Debra Parrish, partner, Parrish Law Offices, noon **Nov. 12**, S100 Starzl Biomedical Science Tower, Brown Bag Luncheon Series: Careers Over Lunch, Pitt Survival Skills and Ethics Program, 412-578-3716, www.survival.pitt.edu.

**"Introduction to Library Resources and Services on Korean Studies at the University of Pittsburgh,"** Xiuying Zou, public service librarian, Pitt East Asian Library, noon **Nov. 12**, 4130 Posvar Hall, Pitt Asian Studies Center, jennm@pitt.edu.

**"Will the Ecosystem for Information Technology Implode? The Case of Semiconductors in India,"** William W. Keller, professor in Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, noon **Nov. 12**, 4130 Posvar Hall, Asia Over Lunch Lecture Series, Pitt's Asian Studies Center, www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc.

**"A Global View on the History of Humanity,"** Diego Olstein, Pitt World History Center visiting scholar, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 6 p.m. **Nov. 12**, 4130 Posvar Hall, Pitt Global Studies Program, 412-624-2918.

**"Cyprus: The European Union's Lighthouse in the Eastern Mediterranean—Why Reunification Matters,"** Andreas Kakouris, Republic of Cyprus ambassador to the United States, 12:30 p.m. **Nov. 13**, Schenley Room, Pittsburgh Athletic Association, Pitt European Studies Center, American Hellenic Foundation of Western Pennsylvania, kal70@pitt.edu.

## Miscellaneous

**Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Book Club**, featuring H.C. Robbins Landon's *1791: Mozart's Last Year*, 6 p.m. **Nov. 10**, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, 412-622-3105, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

**"La Nina Santa,"** (2004, Lucrecia Martel), film screening, 7:30 p.m. **Nov. 12**, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Amigos del Cine Latinoamericano Fall 2009 Film Series, Pitt Center for Latin American Studies, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature, Eduardo Lozano Latin American Library Collection, amigoscinealatinamericano@gmail.com.

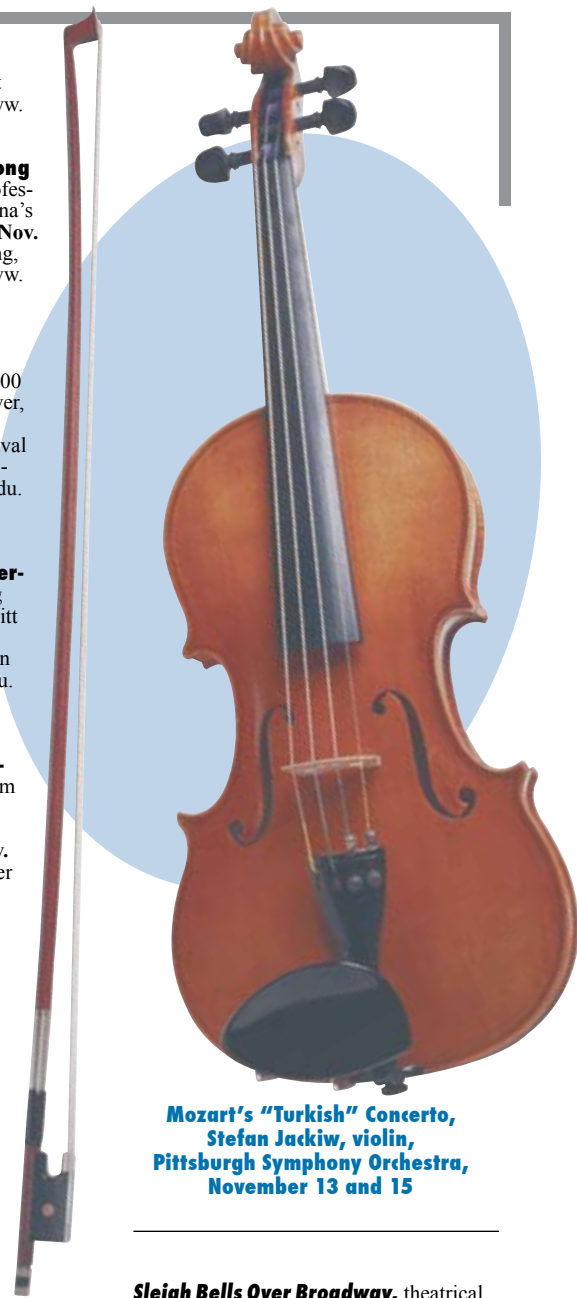
## Opera/Theater/Dance

**Aunt Ester Series, *Gem of the Ocean*, Nov. 10-11; *Two Trains Running*, Nov. 12-13; *Radio Gulf*, Nov. 14-15, *The Women of the Hill*, Nov. 20-22**, four productions to celebrate August Wilson through the exploration of his legendary character Aunt Ester, August Wilson Center for African American Culture, 980 Liberty Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, 412-258-2700, info@augustwilsoncenter.org.

**Light/The Holocaust & Humanity Project**, Nov. 12-15, Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, 412-281-0360, www.pbt.org.

**The Little Foxes**, play by Lillian Hellman, **Nov. 12 through Dec. 13**, O'Reilly Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theater, 412-316-1600, www.ppt.org.

**Pittsburgh Connections**, theatrical performance, **Nov. 13-15**, Pittsburgh Playhouse, 222 Craft Ave., Oakland, Point Park University, 412-621-4445, www.pittsburghplayhouse.com.



**Mozart's "Turkish" Concerto, Stefan Jackiw, violin, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, November 13 and 15**

**Sleigh Bells Over Broadway**, theatrical performance/murder mystery, 10 p.m. **Nov. 14**, Late Night Cabaret Theater, 655 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, 412-325-6769, www.pgharts.org.

**Brown Bag Concert**, free one-hour concert featuring Pittsburgh Opera's resident artists and arts partners performing Opera's Greatest Hits, noon **Nov. 14**, Pittsburgh Opera, 2425 Liberty Ave., Strip District, bring your lunch or purchase gourmet lunch, Pittsburgh Opera, 412-454-6200, www.pittsburghopera.org.

**Carousel**, theatrical performance, **through Nov. 15**, Pittsburgh Playhouse, 222 Craft Ave., Oakland, Point Park University, 412-621-4445, www.pittsburghplayhouse.com.

**Candide**, theatrical performance based on Voltaire's raucous satire, music by Leonard Bernstein, **Nov. 22**, Quantum Theatre, Former Don Allen City Auto, 5315 Baum Blvd., Bloomfield, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council, 412-394-3353, www.proartstickets.org.

**Forever Plaid**, musical theater, **through March 28**, Theater Square Cabaret, 655 Penn Ave., Downtown, CLO Cabaret, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

## Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

**Abreena I. Tlumak**, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences' Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, "Steady-state Analysis of Auditory Evoked Potentials Over a Wide Range of Stimulus Repetition Rates: Profile in Children versus Adult," 3:30 p.m. **Nov. 10**, 5054 Forbes Tower.

**Patryk A. Laurent**, Center for Neuroscience, "Basal Ganglia Involvement in the Reinforcement Learning of Physical and Cognitive Action," 10 a.m. **Nov. 13**, 2nd-floor auditorium, Learning Research and Development Center.

**Judson Englert**, School of Medicine's Cellular and Molecular Pathology Graduate Program, "A Pathophysiologic Evaluation of the Receptor for Advanced Glycation End Products (RAGE) in the Lung," 2 p.m. **Nov. 13**, 1105B Scaife Conference Center.

## Concerts

**AppalAsia**, Appalachian and Asian music, noon **Nov. 11**, Nurdy's Place, William Pitt Union, Pitt Arts' Artful Wednesdays, 412-624-4462, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

**Stanley Jordan and Jake Shimabukuro**, musical performance, 7 p.m. **Nov. 13**, Manchester Craftsmen's Guild, 1815 Metropolitan St., Manchester, MCG Jazz 2009-10 season, www.mcjjazz.org.

**Chhandayan Indian Classical Concert**, 6:30 p.m. **Nov. 14**, G23 Graduate School of Public Health Auditorium, Pitt Asian Studies Center, Department of Music, 724-265-7957.

**Thus Spake Zarathustra**, by Richard Strauss; Andris Nelsons, conductor, with works by Danielpour, and by Mozart with Stefan Jackiw, violin; **Nov. 13 and 15**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, BNY Mellon Grand Classics, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

**Michael Unger**, organist, 4 p.m. **Nov. 15**, Heinz Memorial Chapel, Fifth and Bellefield avenues, Oakland, The Organ Artists Series of Pittsburgh, 412-242-2787, www.oas-series.com.

**Magic and Mystery**, free concert by Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra, Lawrence Loh, music director, 7 p.m. **Nov. 15**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra, 412-392-4872, www.pittsburghyouthsymphony.org.

## Exhibitions

**University Art Gallery, *Making Face: Depictions of Women in Japan From Edo to Today***, Japanese woodblock prints from the 18th and 19th centuries and new works by Japanese contemporary artist Hiroki Otsuka, **through Dec. 12**, Frick Fine Arts Building, 412-648-2410.

**Hillman Library, *Selected Prints Exhibit From the Barry Rosensteel Japanese Prints Collection*, through Dec. 19**, Special Collections Department, third floor, Hillman Library, 412-648-8190.

**Wood Street Galleries, *Matter and Memory***, U.S. debut of French installation artist Julien Marie, **through Dec. 31**, 601 Wood St., Downtown, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, www.woodstreetgalleries.org.



**Chhandayan Indian Classical Concert GSPH Auditorium, November 14**



## Schenley Plaza Receives Silver Award at International LivCom Competition



Clockwise from above: Schenley Plaza during construction, some of the new food concessions lining the walkways, and the carousel at the south end of the plaza.

By Baidu Saidu

Schenley Plaza's transformation from a parking lot into a vibrant, green public space won the Silver Award in the Environmentally Sustainable Project Category during the 2009 International Awards for Liveable Communities (LivCom Awards) held Oct. 8-12 in the Czech Republic city of Pilsen.

The plaza's \$12 million redesign was a collaborative project of the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy and the Oakland Investment Committee of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development. The Parks Conservancy operates the plaza in partnership with the City of Pittsburgh. Meg Cheever, president and CEO of the conservancy, presented the project to a panel of judges and an audience representing 15 countries.

Schenley Plaza is a five-acre parcel of land located on Forbes Avenue in Oakland

between Carnegie Library and Pitt's Hillman Library. It offers such amenities as food kiosks, a one-acre lawn, café seating, and a Victorian-style carousel.

State grants as well as funding from the Parks Conservancy, University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, Carnegie Museums and Library, UPMC, the Heinz Endowments, and the Richard King Mellon Foundation supported the project. In addition to supplying funding, Pitt provided project and contract management services as well as legal services.

Pitt's Office of Facilities Management (OFM) contributed to the plaza's conceptual design and managed the construction process, said Ron Liebow, a project manager within OFM. The late Ana Guzman, Pitt's then-vice chancellor for facilities manage-

ment and a member of the Oakland Task Force, spearheaded the project. Guzman passed away on Dec. 1, 2008.

"It has been wonderful to see Schenley Plaza grow and develop over the past four years, and we are thrilled that it has received international recognition," Cheever said. "Schenley Plaza's conversion from a parking lot to a vital green gathering place has improved the quality of life in Oakland."

The LivCom Awards, created to encourage the best practices, innovation, and leadership in sustainable development, is the world's only competition for local communities that focuses on environmental management and the creation of liveable communities.

**PUBLICATION NOTICE** The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published Nov. 16. 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](mailto: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](mailto:robinet@pitt.edu).



