

Pitt 2008 Truman Scholar Eleanor **Ott Named 2010 Rhodes Scholar**



By Patricia Lomando White

Eleanor Ott, a University of Pittsburgh Honors College graduate who received a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and French and a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Pitt in April 2009, has been named a 2010 Rhodes Scholarship winner. Pitt is the only public institution in Pennsylvania with a 2010 Rhodes Scholar; Swarthmore College is the only other institution in the state with a 2010 Rhodes Scholarship winner.

Ott, who is a Lawrence, Kan., native, is the sixth Pitt undergraduate-degree recipient to win the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship. A former Pitt Chancellor's Scholar, Ott was a 2008 Truman Scholarship winner. Ott's

interests are human rights, refugee issues, and the use of evidence-based policies to ease the plight of refugee populations. At the University of Oxford, she will study forced migration and evidence-based social intervention, refugee and migration issues, and social-science research methods.

Rhodes Scholarships, the oldest of the international study awards available to U.S. students, provide two or three years of study at the University of Oxford in England.

My first opportunity to meet with Eleanor Ott to discuss her work in chemistry, history, and French occurred in 2008, when she was the only student from a Pennsylvania public university to be named a

"Her decision to pursue graduate work at Oxford's Refugee Studies Centre is indicative of what she values: knowledge that she can provide a glimmer of hope in the perplexingly catastrophic lives of refugees. Through her personal journey, she has taught us that, for her, change through empowerment takes heart, stamina, and the ability to lead on an international level. It is remarkable what this young lady from Pitt is achieving."

-Alec Stewart

Truman Scholar," said Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. "Ellie's exemplary record as an outstanding Pitt student and a highly effective leader made her the ideal candidate for that prestigious honor. Her selection as a Rhodes Scholar is further testament to her distinguished record of academic excellence, overall high achievement, and wideranging humanitarian commitment."

"At the very beginning of her under-graduate career, Eleanor Ott stood out," said Alec Stewart, Honors College dean. "Her decision to pursue graduate work at Oxford's Refugee Studies Centre is indicative of what she values: knowledge that she can provide a glimmer of hope in the perplexingly catastrophic lives of refugees. Through her personal journey, she has taught us that, for her, change through empowerment takes heart, stamina, and the ability to lead on an international level. It is remarkable what this young lady from Pitt is achieving."

After graduating from Pitt in April, Ott, a Truman-Albright Fellow, took a position as a social science research analyst in

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Thomas V. Inglesby Named Director of **UPMC** Center for **Biosecurity**



Thomas V. Inglesby

By Wendy Zellner

The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) named Thomas V. Inglesby to be the new director and chief executive officer of the Center for Biosecurity of UPMC. He succeeds Tara O'Toole, who was recently appointed Under Secretary for Science and Technology in the Department of Homeland Security.

Inglesby is a professor of medicine and public health in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and Graduate School of Public Health and has been the chief operating officer and deputy director of the Baltimore-based Center for Biosecurity since its founding in 2003. An infectious diseases physician by training, Inglesby was one of the founding members of the Johns Hopkins Center for Civilian Biodefense Strategies, where he was the deputy director from 2001 to 2003.

Inglesby has been an advisor to numerous government, scientific, and academic organizations on issues related to biosecurity. He has served on committees of the Defense Science Board and the National Research Council of the National Academies of Sciences. Most recently, he was appointed to the Technical Committee on National Health Security Strategy and as a member of the Maryland Governor's H1N1 Flu Advisory Board.

"Building on the center's already strong foundation, it is my intention that the center will continue to provide insightful, constructive, and respected policy analysis and practical recommendations aimed at preventing and mitigating the effects of biological threats and other serious health challenges," said Inglesby. "I will place a particular priority on improving the nation's response to H1N1, on strategies to address the evolving biological weapons threat, and on international partnerships to confront these issues.'

The Center for Biosecurity is an independent, nonprofit organization whose mission is to strengthen national security by reducing the risks posed by biological attacks, epidemics, and other destabilizing events, and to improve the nation's resilience in the face of such events.

NIH Awards \$12.5 Million for Center on Sexually Transmitted Infections

By Marc Lukasiak and Anita Srikameswaran

burgh School of Medicine have received Magee-Womens Research Institute, and a \$12.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to establish the UPMC Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Cooperative Research Center.

The center will be led by principal investigator Toni Darville, a professor of pediatrics and immunology in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and chief of the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC. Darville's laboratory at Children's Hospital is internationally recognized for its research related to chlamydial infections.

Scientists in the center will focus their

Researchers at the University of Pitts- research, based at Children's Hospital, the the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences in Pitt's School of Medicine, on the prevention of female reproductive tract complications caused by sexually transmitted infections. Their research will be funded through a five-year grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

This center will bring together many promising research initiatives already under way at Children's Hospital and the Magee-Womens Research Institute. And the center is led by scientists with many years of experience leading basic science and clinical research trials related to sexually transmitted diseases," Darville said. "Through our collaboration, we hope to speed the development of interventions that will limit or prevent genital tract disease in millions of women world-

wide and ultimately limit ectopic pregnancy

Toni Darville

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BrieflyNoted

Nationality Rooms Holiday Open House Set for Dec. 6

The University of Pittsburgh will host the annual Nationality Rooms Holiday Open House, featuring performances by area folk singers and dancers, from noon to 4 p.m. Dec. 6 in the Cathedral of Learning Commons Room.

Admission is free; ethnic foods and crafts will be available for purchase.

Each year, the 27 rooms that encircle the Cathedral of Learning's Commons Room are trimmed to reflect their ethnic heritages, including such decorations as Lithuanian geometric straw ornaments, Polish paper cutouts, German Advent wreaths, a French crèche, and a hand-carved Austrian manger scene. For the open house, guides in national dress will adapt their daily presentations to include descriptions of holiday traditions celebrated throughout the world.

Participants and sponsors are Pitt's African Heritage, Austrian, Chinese, Czechoslovakian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Indian, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Swedish, Syria-Lebanon, Ukrainian, Yugoslavian, Latin American, Philippine, Swiss, Thai, Turkish, and Welsh groups, along with Quo Vadis, the Women's International Club, the University of Pittsburgh's Women's Association, the Bobbin Lace Makers, and the Pittsburgh Folk Festival.

The holiday tours run through Jan. 15-except for Nov. 26, Dec. 24, 25, 26, and Jan. 1. Taped tours are available without reservations, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Mondays through Saturdays, and 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. On Nov. 27 and from Dec. 27-31, the rooms are open for guided tours beginning at 10 a.m. on a first-come, first-served basis. In all cases, the last tour begins at 2:30 p.m.

The Nationality Classrooms are gifts to the University from Pittsburgh's ethnic groups. Built between 1938 and 2008, the rooms are designed in an architectural style appropriate to the country for

which it is named.

For more information about the Open House, contact the Nationality Rooms Programs office at 412-624-6000 or visit www.pitt.edu/~natrooms. –Kristin Shearer

Donations of New Hat-and-Glove Sets Needed for Pitt Annual Christmas Dinner

Pitt's Volunteer Pool and the Salvation Army are collecting new hat-and-glove sets to distribute to adults and children during the 4th Annual Salvation Army Christmas Dinner on Dec. 25. Invited guests include the homeless, the needy, and foreign students who may not have an invitation for a Christmas meal. The dinner will be served from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Litchfield Towers' Marketplace cafeteria, lower level.

Each guest will receive a gift bag that will include, among other items, a hat-and-glove set. Pitt's Volunteer Pool is seeking donations of the sets for male and female children and adults, which can be dropped off at 710 Alumni Hall until Monday, Dec. 14.

Additional information is available by contacting Gwen Watkins, community activities coordinator for Pitt's Office of Community and Governmental Relations, 412-624-7702.



NIH Awards \$12.5 Million for Center **On Sexually Transmitted Infections**

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and protect fertility."

The research projects will focus on bacterial infections of the female upper genital tract that produce pelvic inflammatory disease (PID). According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, PID is a common and serious complication of some sexually transmitted pathogens, especially chlamydia and gonorrhea. It can damage the fallopian tubes and tissues in and near the uterus and ovaries and can lead to serious consequences, including infertility, ectopic pregnancy (a pregnancy in the fallopian tube or elsewhere outside of the womb), abscess formation, and chronic pelvic pain.

Each year in the United States, it is estimated that more than a million women experience an episode of acute PID. More than 100,000 women become infertile each year as a result of PID, and a large proportion of the ectopic pregnancies that occur every year are because of PID complica-

The UPMC STI Cooperative Research Center will consist of four projects. The first project will be led by Harold Wiesenfeld, director of the Division of Reproductive Infectious Diseases in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and associate investigator at Magee-Womens Research Institute. The goal of this project is to determine the importance of anti-anaerobic therapy in the treatment of women with PID

The second project will be led by Sharon Hillier, professor of obstetrics,

gynecology, and reproductive sciences, and of microbiology and molecular genetics in Pitt's School of Medicine and director of reproductive infectious disease research at Magee-Womens Research Institute. The goal of this project is to identify novel bacteria that might play a role in the development of PID.

The third project will be led by Darville. The goal of this project is to determine the role of Toll-like receptor 2 signaling in innate and adaptive responses to chlamydiae. Tolllike receptor 2 is a protein important in the innate immune system.

Project four will be led by Thomas Cherpes, assistant professor of obstetrics, gynecology, and reproductive sciences in Pitt's School of Medicine and a researcher at Magee-Womens Research Institute. The goal of this project is to identify the specific lymphocyte-mediated immune responses most strongly associated with protection against Chlamydia trachomatis infection and containment of the pathogen to the lower genital tract in a cohort of women at high risk for PID

Darville is considered one of the world's foremost researchers of Chlamvdia trachomatis, a bacterium that is the most frequently reported cause of sexually transmitted disease in the United States. Because symptoms are usually mild or absent, it can damage a woman's reproductive organs and cause irreversible damage, including infertility, before a woman ever recognizes a problem.



University Consortium to Provide Services To Department of Energy NETL Lab

the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie chemical engineering department, said he

Mellon University, and three other major research universities have been awarded contracts to provide a range of research and engineering services to the National Energy Technology Lab (NETL). The collective value of the three contracts is expected to exceed \$465 million over a five-year period.

NETL, part of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE)

national laboratory system, conducts research in coal, natural gas, and oil technologies and analyzes energy systems and international energy issues for the DOE Office of Fossil Energy. It also performs contract and project management for a number of other DOE offices.

The consortium of universities, comprising Carnegie Mellon, Pitt, West Virginia, Penn State, and Virginia Tech, joined a major industrial firm to pursue each of the three competitive awards. URS Corporation. headquartered in San Francisco, is the prime contractor on a program to provide fossil energy research and engineering services. McLean, Va.-based Booz Allen Hamilton will manage work on energy sector planning and analysis, and KeyLogic Systems of Morgantown, W.Va., is the prime contractor for project execution and integration.

'The University of Pittsburgh's burgeoning activities in energy-related research will be greatly enhanced by this collaborative effort with our partner universities and NETL," said Brian Gleeson, director of Pitt's Center for Energy and the Harry S. Tack Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science in Pitt's Swanson School of Engineering. "Pitt has more than 100 researchers who have been engaged in research with NETL over the past five years, and this award will allow for the continuance of world-class research in a wide spectrum of energy topics."

Andy Gellman, consortium research

Three industry-led teams that include director and head of Carnegie Mellon's

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contract.

is "looking forward to leading a very talented, multi-disciplinary team as we work to support the DOE's premier fossil energy and development laboratory.'

Over the past four years, three of the five participating universities have collectively performed more than \$40 million in research projects under the previous support services

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U.S. Senate Confirms Pitt Alumnus as Director of National Institute of Standards and Technology



Patrick Gallagher (center) stands with two fellow NIST physicists and Pitt alumni during a reception after his Nov. 20 swearing-in ceremony as NIST director. At left is Ronald Tosh (A&S '87G, '92G) and on the right, Paul Bergstrom (A&S '88G, '92G).

By Morgan Kelly

The U.S. Senate, in a Nov. 5 vote, confirmed University of Pittsburgh alum-

nus Patrick Gallagher as the 14th director of the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Gallagher will direct the agency that supplies and oversees the nation's standards of measurement, including the official time; has an annual budget of approximately \$800 million; and employs nearly 3,000 people, including scientists and engineers.

Gallagher earned his master's and PhD degrees in physics at Pitt in 1987 and 1991, respectively. He has been with NIST since 1993 and was named the Gallagher will direct the agency that supplies and oversees the nation's standards of measurement, including the official time; has an annual budget of approximately \$800 million; and employs nearly 3,000 people, including scientists and engineers.

agency's deputy director in 2008 before Gold Me President Barack Obama nominated him as in 2006.

director. Previously, he served for four years as the director of the NIST Center for Neu-

tron Research in Gaith-ersburg, Md. He also has served as a NIST agency representative at the National Science and Technology Council and chair of the Interagency Working Group on neutron and light-source facilities under the Office of Science and Technology Policy. Gallagher is active in numerous professional organizations and is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In recognition of his work, Gallagher was awarded a Department of Commerce

Gold Medal, the department's highest award, in 2006

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the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families. Her tasks include overseeing projects related to teenage-pregnancy prevention and in the Couples Together Against Violence program. She also collaborates with the Office of Refugee Resettlement.

While at Pitt, Ott was copresident and education chair for FORGEPitt (Facilitating Opportunities for Refugee Empowerment), a refugee advocacy organization that she helped found

in 2005. In cooperation with FORGEPitt and Catholic Charities, Ott helped local refugees obtain clothing, and she was instrumental in beginning a mentoring program that paired Pitt students one-on-one with refugees.

In addition to pursuing work with refugees, Ott worked with youth in local schools. She was an aide for the English as a Second Language class at Schenley High School and mentored at-risk elementary and middle school students with the Beginning With Books and First Step after-school programs.

Ott continues her work as a mentor and tutor with Somali, Burundi, and Senegal refugee families.

Ott's dream is to one day become the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees. Her nearerterm goal is to work in the U.S. government, developing and overseeing evidence-based

social policy, ideally within the Office of Refugee Resettlement. She hopes one day to be appointed to a position in which she can collaborate with other countries and the United Nations.

Among Ott's many honors was being named one of 12 University of Pittsburgh Phenomenal Women in the March issue of *Pitt Magazine;* she was the only undergraduate chosen for the distinction. In 2008, she won a Phi Beta Kappa Junior Scholarship, which is presented annually to one or two Pitt juniors a year. And in 2006, Ott won an Averill Scholarship, given each year to the top three sophomore Pitt chemistry majors.

This year's Rhodes U.S. winners—32 students from 23 institutions of higher learning—came from a pool of 216 interviewees from 97 colleges and universities. Those chosen will enter the University of Oxford next October.

Rhodes Scholarships are the legacy of British colonial pioneer, statesman, and

"My first opportunity to meet with Eleanor Ott to discuss her work in chemistry, history, and French occurred in 2008, when she was the only student from a Pennsylvania public university to be named a Truman Scholar. Ellie's exemplary record as an outstanding Pitt student and a highly effective leader made her the ideal candidate for that prestigious honor. Her selection as a Rhodes Scholar is further testament to her distinguished record of academic excellence, overall high achievement, and wide-ranging humanitarian commitment." -Mark A. Nordenberg

philanthropist Cecil J. Rhodes, who died in 1902. Although intel-lectual distinction is a necessary requirement for selection as a Rhodes Scholar, it is not alone sufficient. The selection process seeks excellence in qualities of mind and of person, which, in combination, offer the promise of effective service to the world in the decades ahead. Thus, winners are chosen on the basis of high academic achievement, personal integrity, leadership potential, and physical vigor, among other attributes.

The value of the Rhodes Scholarship varies depending upon the aca-

demic field, the degree (bachelor's, master's, doctoral), and the Oxford college chosen. The Rhodes Trust pays all college and university fees, provides a stipend to cover necessary expenses while in residence at Oxford as well as during vacations, and transportation to and from England.

Pitt's other five Rhodes Scholars are David Frederick (A&S '83), 1983; Donna Roberts (A&S '85), 1987; Nathan Urban (A&S '91, '96G, '98G), 1991; Justin Chalker (A&S '06), 2006; and Daniel Armanios (A&S '07, ENGR '07), 2007.

Dixon Is 2009 USA Basketball National Coach of the Year



Jamie Dixon

University of Pittsburgh men's basketball head coach Jamie Dixon has been named the 2009 USA Basketball National Coach of the Year.

USA Basketball, based in Colorado Springs, Colo., is the national governing body for men's and women's basketball in the United States. Among its members are the National Basketball Association, the Women's National Basketball Association, and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). It oversees U.S teams in a number of arenas, including the Olympic Games and the Pan American Games. It also fields men's and women's national teams for players 19 years old and younger (U19), as well as a U17 team for players 17 and younger.

Dixon's USA Basketball team won a gold medal at the 2009 FIBA U19 World Championship this past July. His USA squad compiled a perfect 9-0 record during the games, which were played in Auckland, New Zealand. The victory ended an 18-year drought for USA Basketball, which hadn't won the men's U19 World Championship since 1991.

"Jamie Dixon has established himself as one of the finest collegiate coaches in the game today, and this past summer, he proved himself on the international court, too," said USA Basketball Chair Jerry Colangelo. "In leading the USA Men's U19 Team to the World Championship, he not only accomplished something that the U.S. had not done since 1991, but to do so, he had to quickly form a team from 12 individual players and earn their respect and confidence. He obviously did so, and his team responded by winning its nine games in an impressive team manner."

Dixon said the USA Basketball award "is a tremendous honor from an outstanding organization. Everyone—our coaching staff, players, and the USA Basketball support staff—contributed to our success this summer. This award is a direct reflection of their hard work, dedication, and commitment." The USA Basketball National Coach of the Year title was previously awarded to Duke University's Mike Krzyzewski in each of the last three years (2006-08). Other prominent award winners have included Larry Brown, coach of the Philadelphia '76ers,' in 1999, and of the Detroit Pistons, in 2003; and Syracuse University's Jim Boeheim, who won the title in 2001.

USA Basketball also nominated Dixon for the U.S. Olympic Committee's 2009 National Coach of the Year award, which is expected to be announced in January.

Dixon's impressive performance as a USA head coach came on the heels of a record-setting NCAA season. In his sixth season at Pitt in 2008-09, Dixon guided the Panthers to its first-ever NCAA Regional Final and Elite Eight appearance, the school's first No. 1 national ranking, and the program's first No. 1 seed upon entering the 2009 NCAA Tournament. He was rewarded with being named the 2009 Naismith National Coach of the Year, college basketball's most prestigious national award.

Newsmakers

LAYING A HEALTHY FOUNDATION



Pitt students interested in health-sciences careers gathered Oct. 3 in the William Pitt Union for a daylong conference, Graduates of 2013 (G-2013) Pre-health Summit—Freshman Year: Laying the Pavement for Health Professions School Acceptance. The event addressed the expanded skill base necessary to succeed as a prehealth student at Pitt. From left are Marvin Roth, director of career services within Pitt's Division of Student Affairs; Paula K. Davis, assistant vice chancellor of health sciences diversity; Candi Castleberry-Singleton, UPMC's chief diversity officer; and Ryan Parker, director of Pitt's Office of Health Sciences Diversity and conference coordinator. The event was sponsored by Pitt's COACH (Creating Opportunities and Access to Careers in Health) Program, Office of Health Sciences Diversity, University, University Honors College, Academic Resource Center, and UPMC.

ACROSS THE GLOBE

DRAZDZINSKI/CIDDE

Members of a Zambian research team joined the Pitt School of Medicine's Department of Family Medicine for an Aug. 30 dinner held in the home of Robert Hill, Pitt vice chancellor for public affairs. The Zambian researchers were invited to Pittsburgh through a University Center for International Studies and Center for Global Health-funded grant that supported a Maternal Health Disparities Conference and seminars for undergraduates, law students, and faculty. Clinicians and scientists from the University of Zambia and Pitt have formed a collaborative to address factors that enhance the continuum and quality of care for maternal and child health in Zambia as well as in Western Pennsylvania. From left, Jeannette South-Paul, the Andrew W. Mathieson Professor and Chair in the Pitt School of Medicine's Department of Family Medicine; Michael Paul; Zambian researchers Obed Lungu, Getrude Tshuma, Fastone Goma, Beatrice Zulu, and Dhally Menda; and Hill.

TEENS WHO 'SHYNE'

The 3rd Annual Shyne Awards were held Aug. 6 in the Byham Theater, Downtown. The awards showcase the positive achievements made by young adults between the ages of 13 to 19. Among the awards' sponsors were Pitt's Office of Public Affairs and the Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business's David Berg Center for Ethics and Leadership.

HUMANITIES CENTER LAUNCH

Below: Pitt's new Humanities Center held its inaugural conference, Humanities in a Time of Crisis, in the Frick Fine Arts Auditorium on Nov. 13-14. The center is located in 602 Cathedral of Learning, and its director is Jonathan Arac, a Pitt professor of English. John Cooper, the Bettye J. and Ralph E. Bailey Dean of Arts and Sciences (left), and Arac (right) deliv-

ered opening remarks for the conference.

THE REWARDS OF DIGNITY AND RESPECT

Rachel Rosnick, a third-year student in Pitt's School of Law, won a new 16GB iPod as part of UPMC's Dignity and Respect Campaign, which ran throughout October and encouraged dignity and respect in the workplace. Participants from companies and organizations in Southwestern Pennsylvania made online Dignity and Respect pledges and also registered to interact on the campaign's Facebook page, making them eligible to win the iPod. Rosnick, who stands beside campaign mascot "Dr. Diggy" in the William Pitt Union, received her prize from Carol Mohamed, director of Pitt's Office of Affirmative Action, Diversity, and Inclusion; Erica Metzger, an intern with the UPMC Center for Inclusion; and Dawnita J. Wilson, the center's chief of staff.



Science&Technology

Pitt Team Part of \$100 Million NHLBI Bench-to-Bassinet Effort **In Congenital Heart Disease**

By Anita Srikameswaran

Developmental biologists at the University of Pittsburgh have been chosen to participate in a \$100 million federal Bench-to-Bassinet network that is dedicated to learning about the formation of the cardiovascular system and applying that knowledge to create new diagnostic and intervention strategies for congenital heart disease.

The Pitt team, led by Cecilia Lo, chair of the Department of Developmental Biology, School of Medicine, will use the mouse as a model system to identify and describe the core set of genes that play an essential role in producing structural heart defects. Such defects include holes in the heart walls, transposition of major blood vessels that connect to the heart, and other cardiacdevelopment problems that can affect as many as 1 percent of live births.

'Ultimately, we want to build a diagnostic chip that can rapidly and accurately identify the genetic root causes of specific heart defects," Lo explained. "That could enable us to examine how these genes influence disease progression, correlate them with long-term outcomes, and better tailor treatment.'

To find the genetic determinants of congenital heart disease, Lo's \$8.6 million project will expose fetal mice to a chemical that increases the like-

lihood of gene mutations and use noninvasive fetal echocardiography to spot any heart defects that result. Then the DNA of the affected mice will be examined to identify the gene changes that caused the abnormality. A zebrafish model will be used as a quick bioassay to validate the findings.

Lo is particularly interested in mutations

that affect the function of cilia, which are hair-like projections on cells that are best known for moving fluids along tissue surfaces. "We now know cilia are critical to heart development in the fetus," she said. "For example, they help to correctly orient the heart, which is a left-right asymmetrical organ. This asymmetry is crucial for normal functioning and allows for efficient oxygenation of blood."

One of only a handful of similar academic departments nationwide, the Department of Developmental Biology was established in April at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine; Lo was named its founding chair.

"As the Bench-to-Bassinet com-



mitment indicates, the study of fetal organ and tissue development will not only teach us about fundamental biological principles, but also could yield the treatments of the

future," said Arthur S. Levine, dean of the School of Medicine and senior vice chancellor for the health sciences at Pitt. "Dr. Lo's research techniques also can be applied to similar exploration of birth defects in other organ systems.'

program was devised by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, which is part of the National Institutes of Health. Lo's project is in the

Cardiovascular Development Consortium, which includes research teams from the University of Utah, Harvard University, and the University of California, San Francisco. Another consortium comprising five research centers will focus its work on translational research in pediatric cardiac genomics. Both will work with an existing clinical pediatric heart disease network.

'Congenital heart defects are the most common and life-threatening problem for newborns in the United States," said NHLBI director Elizabeth G. Nabel. "Our Benchto-Bassinet research efforts will offer new insights into how the human cardiovascular system develops and help speed the transition of promising laboratory discoveries into treatments that can save young lives."



Pitt Researcher to Codirect National Consortium on Facial Birth Defects

Mary Marazita

"FaceBase will bring together

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vene when facial development

starts to go wrong—or prevent

it from going wrong in the

first place."

-Mary Marazita

data that have never before

By Kristin Beaver

Researchers at the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Iowa will lead a \$9 million, five-year initiative to study the cause of facial birth defects. The FaceBase Consortium will create an encyclopedic database of how the faces of children develop and what goes wrong to cause malformations

FaceBase will build a list of the genes and proteins that drive embryonic cell differentiation around the forming mouth. These cells become bone, cartilage,

ligament, nerve, and soft tissue, which are visible as the developing face in the first sonogram of a fetus. However, questions remain about how this development occurs.

FaceBase will bring together data that have never before been in the same loca-tion," said Mary Marazita, coprincipal investigator of the FaceBase Management and Coordination Hub and direc-

tor of the Center for Craniofacial and Dental Genetics at the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine. "The hope is that this database will help us to piece together the information needed to intervene when facial development starts to go wrongor prevent it from going wrong first place." in the

Marazita and colleague, Seth Weinberg, a research assistant professor in the Pitt School of Dental Medicine, also have received

one of 10 independent FaceBase research and technology grants. This \$1.5 million, five-year research grant will focus on acquir-

ing 3D facial images and a large number of genetic markers from participants in Pittsburgh, Seattle, and Houston. The resulting data will be available through FaceBase and will allow discovery of genes related to facial features.

Jeff Murray, a professor at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, will serve as coprincipal investigator of the FaceBase Management and Coordination Hub.

> 'It's an exciting challenge to help produce a database that brings together biochemical, molecular, genetic, and imaging findings related to human facial and skull development," Murray said. "FaceBase will essentially create a 'how-to' manual of all the instructions that are needed to properly develop the mid-face, which includes the nose, upper lip, and palate, or roof of the mouth."

Development of the FaceBase portal and database will be in collaboration with coinvestigator Michael Becich, chair of the Pitt Department of Biomedical Informatics. A prototype is expected to be ready within the next year followed by a fully functioning portal and database soon thereafter. FaceBase will be free and publicly accessible to the scientific commu-

nity. FaceBase is funded by the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, part of the National Institutes of Health.



Cecilia Lo

The Bench-to-Bassinet

Awards&More

Pitt's University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR) awarded its annual Steven D. Manners Faculty Development Awards to Irina Murtazashvili, an economics professor, and Brian A. **Primack**, an assistant professor of medicine and pediatrics in Pitt's School of Medicine. Murtazashvili's award-winning project, "Heterogeneity of Family Motives: Altruism vs. Exchange in Intergenerational Transfers," seeks to expand society's understanding of the motives for monetary transfers between generations. Primack's project, "Waterpipe Tobacco Smoking at the University of Pittsburgh: A Longitudinal Study," will address some limitations of his earlier

waterpipe-related studies, including low response rates and a lack of focus on first-year students, who seem to be the most impacted by hookah smoking. The Manners awards, which honor promising research and infrastructure projects on campus, were named in memory of Steven Manners, a sociologist who began working at UCSUR in 1974 and served as its assistant director from 1989 until his death in September 2000.

Alec Stewart, the Bernice L. and Morton S. Lerner Chair and dean of the University of Pittsburgh Honors College, was selected for The Award for Excellence in Education by the Kiwanis Club of Oakland. Stewart received the award for his outstanding contributions in teaching and administration. He was recognized during a reception at the Western Pennsylvania School for

Blind Children (WPSBC) in Oakland. The Kiwanis Club makes a donation in





Brian A. Primack





Janice Pringle

honor of the awardee to the charity of his or her choice, and the recipient of this year's contribution was WPSBC.

Edward Krenzelok, the Dr. Gordon J. Vanscoy Chair of Pharmacy at Pitt and director of the Pittsburgh Poison Center and Drug Information Center at UPMC, received the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology Career Achievement Award. The award is presented to an Academy member in recognition of a lifetime of dedication to and distinction in the field of clinical toxicology.

Dexi Liu, a professor in the School of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a two-year \$485,889 grant from the National Institutes of Health to

assess the efficacy of a hydrodynamic procedure for liver gene delivery. The project is an extension of his work on the development of a computercontrolled gene-delivery system for gene therapy.

Michael Shullo, an assistant professor in the School of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, was selected to serve on the International Society of Heart and Lung Transplantation task force on heart transplantation. He will help to develop guidelines for immunosuppression and rejection management in heart transplant recipients.

Janice Pringle, a research assistant professor in Pitt's School of Pharmacy, and William Johnjulio,

chair, Department of Family Medicine UPMC Mercy, are coprincipal investigators on a five-year, \$1.8 million

grant from the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration. The grant will be used to develop a statewide training program to educate medical residents about the importance of identifying substance issues within their patient populations. The initiative is a collaborative effort among several institutions, including UPMC.

Eileen R. Chasens, an assistant professor in the School of Nursing, has been awarded a \$416,625 grant from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. The twoyear grant will support Chasens' research on obstructive sleep apnea, sleepiness, and activity in diabetes management. Her study will examine whether treatment of obstructive sleep apnea with continuous positive

airway pressure results in increased physical activity in people with type 2 diabetes.

Annette Duensing, an

assistant professor of pathology in the School of Medicine, has received a \$135,000 award from the GIST Cancer Research Fund to support her research with gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GISTs). Duensing's studies aim to

better understand the biology of GIST responses to the drug Gleevec, as well as the mechanisms underlying drug resistance.

J. Wallis Marsh, professor of surgery at the Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute, and **Cathy Freehling**, hepatology coordinator at the UPMC Center for Liver Disease, were honored by the Allegheny Division of the American Liver Foundation (ALF) for their commitment to liver health and disease prevention. They received the Tribute to Excellence Award, which is given to individuals and organizations demonstrating the highest level of dedication to ALF through advocacy and education.

The University of Pittsburgh Police **Department** (UPPD) was featured in the August issue of National Tactical Officers Association magazine. The article said the department "has been steadily innovative, aggressive, and proactive in campus law enforcement since the spring of 2005. As the third-largest police force in Allegheny County, with 74 commissioned police officers, it is primarily responsible for security on campus. The UPPD has put many security measures in place throughout the past years to ensure that the University and community" are aware that their safety and security are the department's priority.



H1N1 Modeling At Pittsburgh Super**computing Center Receives Top Supercomputing Award**

he Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center (PSC) received the 2009 HPCwire Readers' Choice Award for Top Supercomputing Achievement.

The award recognizes PSC's work as part of the National Institutes of Health's Models of Infectious Disease Agent Study (MIDAS), which supports research to simulate disease spread and evaluate intervention strategies.

The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center is a joint effort of the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University, which partner with Westinghouse Electric Company. Established in 1986, PSC is supported by several federal agencies, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and private industry and is a partner in the National Science Foundation TeraGrid program.

For this study, PSC scientist Shawn Brown (A&S '95, EDUC '98G) modeled the spread of the H1N1 virus in various locales, including throughout the United States, in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, and in Allegheny County. The modeling is intended to help policy-makers and public-health officials evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation strategies, such as vaccinations and school closures.

Brown collaborated with the Pittsburgh MIDAS Center of Excellence, led by Donald Burke, dean of Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center-Jonas Salk Chair in Global Health.

HPCwire is a news service for high-performance computing (HPC) and computational science that serves an international community. "This award, which represents a partnership between the HPCwire global readership and our publishing team, is a salute from the global HPC community," said Tomas Tabor, publisher of HPCwire.



Eileen R. Chasens

Happen



Brazilian Caracara Eagles, Audubon print, Hillman Library, through November 30

Concerts

Pittsburgh Live Chamber Ensemble, noon **Dec. 2**, Nordy's Place, William Pitt Union, Pitt Arts' Artful Wednesdays, 412-624-4462, www.pittarts.pitt.edu

Parker Sisters, musical performance, 6 p.m. **Dec. 2**, The Cup & Chaucer Café, Hillman Library ground floor, Calliope: Pittsburgh Folk Music Society, www.calliopehouse.org.

University of Pittsburgh Men's Glee Club, music for the holidays, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 4, First Baptist Church of Pittsburgh, 195 N. Bellefield Ave., Oakland, Pitt Department of Music, 412-394-3353, www.proartstickets.org.

A Funeral Mass for Mozart, Manfred Honeck, conductor, and Chen Reiss, soprano; featuring works by Beethoven and Mozart, Dec. 4-6, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Down-town, BNY Mellon Grand Classics, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Holiday Harp Concert, performed by members of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Harp Society, 2 p.m. **Dec. 5,** PPG Wintergarden, 200 Three PPG Place, Downtown, American Harp Society, Pittsburgh Chapter, 412-247-3916, lavenderharp@yahoo.com.

The Ebony Hillbillies, musical performance, 7:30 p.m. **Dec. 5**, Carnegie Lecture Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Calliope Concerts, 2009-10 series, 412-394-3353, www calliopehouse.com.

In the Fields in Frost and Snow, concert performed by Chris Norman and David Greenberg, 8 p.m. **Dec. 5,** Synod Hall, 125 N, Craig St., Oakland, Renaissance and Baroque Society of Pittsburgh, 412-361-2048, www.rbsp.org.

The Romeros Guitar Quartet, musical performance, 8 p.m. Dec. 5. Manchester Craftmen's Guild. 1815 Metropolitan St., Manchester, Guitar Society of Fine Art, MCG Jazz 2009-10 season, 412-612-0499, www.gsfapittsburgh.org.

Slavic Dance Party, music performance featuring the Carpathian Music Ensemble, 8 p.m. **Dec. 5**, William Pitt Union Assembly Room, Pitt Department of Music, 412-624-4193, anh59@pitt.edu.



Holiday Harp Concert,

PPG Wintergarden, December 5

Pittsburgh Opera Piano Recital, by Glenn Lewis, Pittsburgh Opera head of music and assistant conductor, 5 p.m. **Dec. 6**, free, Pittsburgh Opera, 2425 Liberty Ave., Strip District, www.pittsburghopera.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, Brazilian Caracara *Eagles,* Audubon print, Audubon Exhibit Case, **through Nov. 30**; *Selected Prints* Exhibition From the Barry Rosensteel Japanese Prints Collection, through Dec. 19, Special Collections Depart-ment, third floor; *Historical Exhibition* of African American Progress at Pitt, ongoing, ground floor, 412-648-7710, 412-648-8190.

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

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.

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

Andy Warhol Museum, Unnatural Rubber; Super Trash; and 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., Oak-land, 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.

Lectures/ Seminars/ Readings

"Learning Components for Human Sensing," Fernando De la Torre, professor, Carnegie Mellon Uni-'s Robotics Institute, noon Dec. 1, 5317 Sennott Square. Pitt Department of Computer Science, www.cs.pitt.edu.

"The Future of Philanthropy: Making Markets Work to Serve the

Poor, Jacqueline Novogratz, CEO, Acumen Fund, 3:30 p.m. Dec. 1, Schenley Lounge, Pittsburgh Athletic Association, Johnson Institute for Responsible Leadership's Philanthropy Forum, Pitt Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, Center for Global Health, Swanson School of Engineering, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business, 412-648-1336, gspiapf@pitt.edu.

"Transcendence and Reli-giously Feeling the State in Central Asia," David W. Montgomery, visiting professor, Pitt Department of Anthropology, noon **Dec. 2**, 2628 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Department of Religious Studies, www.religiousstudies.pitt.edu.

"Peace Dividend and Regional Stability in the Korean Peninsula: Focusing on the South-North Korea Cooperation Fund Allocation," Bok Gyo "Jonathan" Jeong, graduate student, Pitt Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, noon **Dec. 3**, 4130 Posvar Hall, Asia Over Lunch Lecture Series, Pitt Asian Studies Center, jennm@pitt.edu.

"The Poetics of Representation In Viceregal Peru: A Walk Round the Cloister of San Agustin in Lima," Sabine MacCormack, professor in University of Notre Dame's Department of Classics and History, 5 p.m. **Dec. 3**, 501 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Humanities Center, humanctr@pitt.edu.

"Science, Supposition and Refer-ence: The New Program," Robert Rynasiewicz, professor, Department of Philosophy, Johns Hopkins University, 3:30 p.m. **Dec. 4**, 817R Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Center for Philosophy of Science, 412-624-1052, pittentr@pitt.edu.

Miscellaneous

In Search of Mozart, (2006, Phil Grabsky), film screening of award-winning documentary about Mozart, 7 p.m. Dec. 1, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, 412-392-4876, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Moebius, (1996, Gustavo Mosquera R.), film screening, 7:30 p.m. **Dec. 3**, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Amigos del Cine LatinoAmericano Fall 2009 Film Series, Pitt Center for Latin American Studies, amigoscinemalatinoamericano@gmail

Pitt Nationalities Rooms' Holiday Open House, free, noon to 4 p.m. Dec. 6, Cathedral of Learning Com-mons Room, 412-624-6150, www.pitt. edu/~natrooms.

Opera/Theater/ Dance

Jane Eyre, theatrical performance, Dec. 2-20, Charity Randall Theatre in the Stephen Foster Memorial, 4301 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Pittsburgh Irish and Classical Theatre, 412-624-7529, www.pict. org.

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

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

Slavic Dance Party, William Pitt Union, **December 5**

Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

Blaine Connor, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Anthropology, "Transfers and the Private Lives of Public Servants in Japan: Teachers in Nagasaki's Outer Islands," noon Dec. 2, 3106 Posvar Hall.

Ahmet Bakan, School of Medicine's Joint Program with Carnegie Mellon University in Computational Biology, "Dynamics of Protein-Drug Interactions Inferred From Structural Ensembles and Physics-Based Models: Application to MAP Kinase Phosphatases," 2 p.m. Dec. 3, 3073 Biomedical Science Tower 3

Jee Eun Sung, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences' Department of Communication Science and Disorders, "The Effects of Locality on Sentence Comprehension in Persons With Aphasia and Normal Individuals," 2 p.m. Dec. 4, 6061 Forbes Tower.

Behgrang Mohit, School of Arts and Sciences' Intelligent Systems Program, "Locating and Reducing Translation Difficulty," 10 a.m. Dec. 3, 5317 Sennott Square.

Richard Stoner, Swanson School of Engineering, "Engineering Approaches for Neurobiology," 9 a.m. **Dec. 3**, 4075 Biomedical Science Tower 3.

> In Search of Mozart, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, **December 1**





University of Pittsburgh

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The Sounds of Music Pitt to Host Dec. 4 Symposium on Cultural Rights

By Sharon S. Blake

Today, music, as both a cultural practice and a commercial product, is enmeshed in a contentious debate concerning international law and the rights attached to individual creativity.

This controversy will be examined at the University of Pittsburgh in a symposium on music and cultural rights from 2 to 5 p.m. Dec. 4 in the Kurtzman Room of the William Pitt Union.

The symposium is a follow-up to an April 2005 conference at Pitt that offered global and local perspectives on the study of cultural rights through music. The papers presented at that conference are chapters in Music and Cultural Rights (Univ. of Illinois Press, 2009), a new

book coedited by Andrew Weintraub and Bell Yung, Pitt professors of music. The symposium celebrates the publication of the book, which provides individual case studies that demonstrate how musical aspects of cultural rights play out in the specific cultural contexts of China, Hawaii, Peru, Brazil, and others.

According to Weintraub and Yung, "cultural rights" refer to a group's ability to preserve its culture, raise its children in the ways of its forebears, continue to communicate in its language, and not be deprived of its economic base by the globalized environment in which it is located.



Andrew Weintraub



Bell Yung

a group's ability to preserve its culture, raise its children in the ways of its forebears, continue to communicate in its language, and not be deprived of its economic base by the globalized environment in which it is located. Yung, the symposium's speakers will include Beverley Diamond, Canada Research Chair in Music Ethnomusicology, and Memorial

According to Weintraub and

Yung, "cultural rights" refers to

University of Newfoundland; Michael Madison, professor of law, University of Pittsburgh; and Damien Pwono. executive director, Global Initiative on Culture and Society, The Aspen Institute.

Presentations to be given during the afternoon symposium are titled "Introduction to the Book Music and Cultural Rights," "Traditional Indigenous Protocols and Property Concepts in a World of New Media,' "Melayu Music and Cultural Rights in Indonesia and Malavsia," "Gift and Ownership in Popular Music," and "Culture and Security: Implications for Music Diversity and Rights."

Following the presentations, there will be a 5 p.m. reception featuring music by members of the University of Pittsburgh Gamelan Ensemble. The ensemble plays the gamelan music of the Sundanese people, an ethnic group that inhabits part of the island of Java.

In addition to Pitt's music department, sponsors include Pitt's Asian Studies Center, Center for Latin American Studies, Center for Russian and East European Studies, School of Law, and Office of the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.

For more information, contact Andrew Weintraub at anwein@pitt. edu or visit www.ucis.pitt.edu/inpac/ conferences/music.html.

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published Dec. 7. 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 robinet@pitt.edu.

including opera, storytelling, and the instrument qin. In addition to Weintraub and

Weintraub's current research

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.