

\$7.2 Million Grant for Pitt to Develop Microbicides Against HIV/AIDS

By Clare Collins

The University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH) has received a five-year, \$7.2 million grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) to develop microbicides against HIV transmission. The grant will allow Pitt to test two microbicide formulations—a film and ring that release the active ingredient over time.

Microbicides are substances designed to prevent or reduce the sexual transmission of HIV when applied topically to the vagina or rectum. Currently, there are several microbicides being tested, but none has been proven effective. Testing of many products will likely be required before finding one that is safe and effective against HIV, as well as easy to use and acceptable to both sexual partners.



Phalguni Gupta

“The HIV/AIDS epidemic remains uncontrolled in many regions in the world,” said principal investigator Phalguni Gupta, professor and assistant chair, Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, in GSPH. “In developing countries, HIV is most often spread through unprotected heterosexual intercourse, creating a great need for new ways to prevent transmission beyond the condom, whose use is often at the discretion of men.”

The project at Pitt will involve cell culture and animal studies of two microbicides, RC101 and CSIC, that target different stages of virus growth. RC101 inhibits entry of the virus into a cell, while CSIC works to inactivate an enzyme that the virus needs to grow after it has entered a cell. Study investigators will

evaluate these microbicides in two formulations—a film delivery system inserted into the vagina and used for up to seven days, and a ring delivery system inserted on a monthly or periodic basis. They also plan to test the microbicides in the presence of other sexually transmitted diseases and bacterial vaginosis, a common vaginal infection.

“If proven effective, microbicides could have particular impact among

women in developing countries, giving them the power to prevent sexually transmitted diseases,” Gupta said.

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—Phalguni Gupta

At the forefront of research on microbicides, the University of Pittsburgh also leads the National Institutes of Health-funded Microbicides Trial Network (MTN). Headquartered at Magee-Womens Research Institute in Pittsburgh, MTN is a global clinical trials network focused on preventing the sexual transmission of HIV.

Concordia Club Sale to Pitt Set to Close This Month



By Sally Kalson

The University of Pittsburgh agreed in July to purchase the Concordia Club, Oakland, for \$2.1 million. An auction of the club's furnishings, china, silverware, and other items was held Nov. 28, and the building's sale is expected to be finalized in mid-December. Plans for the club's building—and its membership—remain uncertain at this time. This is a reprint of a July 21, 2009, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette article.

It's the end of an era for the Concordia Club, which for more than a century was the place to be for prominent

members of Pittsburgh's Jewish society. In the face of declining membership and a shortage of cash, club members voted

It's the end of an era for the Concordia Club, which for more than a century was the place to be for prominent members of Pittsburgh's Jewish society.

[July 16] to approve the sale of their historic building on O'Hara Street in Oakland. The University of Pittsburgh will pay \$2.1 million for the structure that the club has occupied since 1913. Its previous headquarters was on the North Side, where the club was founded in 1874, the same era as the Duquesne Club.

The future of the organization is uncertain. Concordia board

member Foster Goldman, who negotiated the sale, said members might decide to use the proceeds to buy or rent another facility. Alternatively, they might join in with another club, or dissolve the organization and distribute the proceeds among the members.

Meanwhile, the sale's closing is tentatively scheduled for Dec. 14. Pitt has not said what it will do with the building, which sits in the middle of its campus. (In 2005, Pitt bought the 81-year-old University Club for \$3.1 million and, after extensive renovations, turned it into a faculty club).

“It's a shame that it's come to this,” Goldman said. “My parents were members,

and I've been using the club all my life. I hate to see it go, but given the situation, it's the right decision.”

At its peak, he said, the club had close to 300 equity members, plus associate and junior members. As of May, equity members numbered only 147.

Formed 135 years ago by German Jews, mostly members of the Rodef Shalom Congregation, the Concordia Club's purpose was “to promote social and literary entertainment among its members,” according to its charter.

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Concordia Club Sale to Pitt Set to Close This Month



Concordia Club lounge

Continued from page 1

The club quickly became a prestigious gathering place for the movers and shakers of the time. Judge Josiah Cohen was the primary founder and first president, and the membership rolls over the years included Pittsburgh Pirates owner Barney Dreyfuss, industrialist Leon Falk Jr., and department store magnate Edgar J. Kaufmann. Eventually, the club began including eastern European Jews, and in more recent years membership was open without regard to gender, race, ethnicity, or religion. Members held on to their reform Jewish identity while also assimilating into American society—the club's Golden Anniversary Song Book in 1924 contains the lyrics to "Annie Rooney," "Oh! Susanna," "Sweet Adeline," and "Jingle Bells." The dining room has long been open on the Sabbath, the menu features such non-kosher fare as shrimp and scallops, and clam bakes remain popular events.

When Concordia moved into its grand new building on O'Hara Street, it was one of city's most opulent. The china, crystal, and linens were elegant; the flower arrangements profuse.

"The new structure is entirely complete with billiard rooms, banquet hall, rest and lounging parlors, reading quarters, and sleeping accommodations," said a 1915 article in the *Jewish Criterion*. "Not a day passes without some function."

Later on, the environs became even more impressive. The Fort Pitt Hotel at 10th Street and Penn Avenue, Downtown, was demolished in 1967, and some of its distinctive, elaborate wood paneling was rescued by the club and installed in its interior.

The building has been the setting of countless parties, weddings, Passover seders, bar and bat mitzvot, birthday and anniversary celebrations. Men met there for smokers, women for bridge games and teas. Many thousands of glasses have clinked in its rooms, and many thousands of cigars have been fired up. Concordia members attended its lectures, plays, concerts, and games, including bowling in the alleys long since removed.

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Concordia members attended its lectures, plays, concerts, and games, including bowling in the alleys long since removed. There were Purim parties for children, Halloween dances for young adults, formal balls on Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve, even dances on Christmas Eve.

The club staged periodic frolics featuring song parodies written and performed by members on the expansive, curtained stage in the ballroom. Women were not allowed as full members until some time after 1972, a situation that Harriet Franklin protested in one of the follies' songs: "I am Woman, hear me roar, in numbers too big to ignore. But Concordia thinks that I don't exist. Don't use the bar is their request, til the sun sets in the west"

At a time when few good restaurants existed, Concordia's dining room offered such delicacies as (from its Golden Anniversary menu) sole amandine and guinea fowl supreme, artichoke hearts and asparagus vinaigrette. In more recent years, it was famous for its shaved chocolate cake.

In its heyday, it would have been difficult to imagine the club losing relevance for its members. But the barriers that kept ethnic groups apart started to fall, along with the need or desire for parallel social and business constructs. In addition, Oakland began

losing its cultural amenities—baseball, the symphony, and the historical society moved elsewhere, and the Syria Mosque was razed.

"Women work, Pitt football games moved to the North Side, doctors offices moved to satellite locations," said longtime member Barbara Mendlowitz, and competition for family time kept growing. "Children today have so many activities, you can't do everything."

Goldman ticked off other factors affecting private clubs in general. "Blue laws" that used to prohibit the public

sale of alcohol on Sundays didn't apply to private clubs. Also, there were very few good restaurants, "so if you didn't belong to a club, you didn't eat very well, and you didn't have a social life," he said.

Many of the business advantages to private club membership no longer exist.

"Your firm could pay your dues and deduct them. They can't do that anymore. You could deduct 100 percent of your meals for entertaining business clients. Now it's only 50 percent."

For all these reasons, he said, "Our membership is aging and younger people today have other agendas. They don't seem to be interested."

[The July 16] vote to sell the building wasn't unanimous, he said, but it passed by a good margin. Most members saw the sale as the best option under the circumstances. Still, he said, "It was a sad night."



Grand staircase

PittChronicle

Newspaper of the University of Pittsburgh

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

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PittScholars&Stewards

African American Alumni Council Endowed Scholarship

Medical Aspirations

By Pamela Jordan

Kyle Anthony is striving to achieve big goals. The freshman entered the University of Pittsburgh in the fall of 2009 as a biology major with a focus on pre-medicine. Anthony hopes to eventually enroll in medical school and become a doctor. With such challenging aspirations, the African American Alumni Council (AAAC) found Anthony to be the perfect scholarship candidate.

The AAAC's mission is to support the African American alumni community by strengthening the community's connection to the University of Pittsburgh. It also promotes the recruitment and retention of African American students. The group has supported student scholarships since the late 1980s. In October, the AAAC announced the public phase of a \$3 million campaign to fund scholarships for underrepresented students.

Anthony was awarded the AAAC

endowed scholarship, which will help him with the cost of attending what he calls his perfect-match school. While researching universities in high school, Anthony's main

criteria were location and reputation. As a Chicago native, Anthony liked that Pitt offers both a city and a campus environment.

"This scholarship has affected my life in many ways. Along with the financial impact, it has also made me proud to be recognized for my academic achievements," Anthony said. With the rising cost of education and the nation's economy in turmoil, Anthony

knows that every penny counts. He said he is incredibly grateful to the AAAC donors "for their generosity toward future generations." Anthony added that while he remains uncertain about which medical specialty he will pursue, he is certain that he wants to eventually give back to the community and help others reach their goals, just like the AAAC has helped him.

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Kyle Anthony

MARY JANE BENT/CUDE

BrieflyNoted



Iris Marion Young

Call for Iris Marion Young Award Nominations

The Pitt Women's Studies Program is calling for nominations for the Iris Marion Young Award for Political Engagement.

The award is given to a Pitt staff or faculty member, or graduate student who works to promote social justice and democracy, especially individuals whose work explicitly engages the

issues of gender and sexual orientation.

The Iris Marion Young Award was created to honor those who work to promote justice within the University, or at the local, national, or global levels. Undergraduate students are encouraged to seek nomination for the Iris Marion Young Undergraduate Award.

Both awards were created to honor the memory of Iris Marion Young, a former Pitt faculty member considered by many to have been one of the most important political philosophers of the past 25 years. Young (1949-2006) taught political theory at the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs for nine years. She maintained close ties to the Pitt community after leaving in 2000 to accept a political science professorship at the University of Chicago. Widely known for her work on theories of justice, democracy, and feminism, she also was a regular on picket lines and in the trenches of grassroots political activity, fighting for human rights, debt relief for Africa, and workers' rights.

To nominate a candidate, send an e-mail to wstudies@pitt.edu or mail the nomination to the Woman's Studies Program, 2208 Posvar Hall, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260, by Jan. 8, 2010. The e-mail should

include your name and contact information, the nominee's name and contact information, and a couple of sentences explaining why you are nominating that person.

For more information on the Iris Marion Young Award, visit www.wstudies.pitt.edu/imya.html or call the Woman's Studies Program at 412-624-6485.

—Kristin Shearer



Pitt Lands Grant for Health Sciences Librarian Certificate Program

Pitt's School of Information Sciences and Health Sciences Library System were awarded a \$991,311 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to support the creation of a post-master's degree health sciences librarian certificate program. The grant is aimed at helping address a national need for librarians and information managers in the health sciences.

The 15-credit program provides a focused curriculum addressing current issues in health-sciences librarianship and is offered online to lend working students flexibility.

Highly qualified health sciences librarians are needed as the health care industry focuses on evidence-based medicine to translate basic research into clinical care and disease prevention. Health-sciences librarians play a key role in helping practitioners and researchers keep pace with a rapidly expanding knowledge base. Pitt's program will prepare students for positions in health-sciences libraries in academic medical centers, hospitals, public health agencies, research institutes, and other health care settings.

More information is available on the certificate program's Web site at www.ischool.pitt.edu/health.

—Anthony M. Moore

Newsmakers

NATIVITY: A CHRISTMAS GIFT



JIM BURKE/CODE

The Shona Sharif African Dance and Drum Ensemble, part of Pitt's Department of Africana Studies, presented its unique musical production of *Nativity: A Christmas Gift* Dec. 5 and 6 in 4227 Alumni Hall. The show, which also will be presented Dec. 18-20, was inspired by Langston Hughes' *Black Nativity* and explores the Christmas season through traditional West African dance and 20th century gospel music. Ticket information is available by calling Dorsey Records at 412-731-6607.

A DIPLOMATIC VISIT



JIM BURKE/CODE

Andreas Kakouris, Ambassador of Cyprus to the United States, visited Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg on Nov. 13. From left, Professor Panos Kypros Chrysanthis, a professor in Pitt's Department of Computer Science and director of the Advanced Data Management Technologies Laboratory; Alberta Sbragia, the Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg University Chair and director of Pitt's European Union Center of Excellence/European Studies Center; Kakouris; Nordenberg; Professor Daniela Donno Panayides, a Pitt assistant professor of political science; and Lawrence Feick, director of the University Center for International Studies and a professor of business administration in Pitt's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business.

WORLD AIDS DAY



JOE KAPLEWSKI/CODE

Educating Teens About HIV/AIDS held its Fifth Annual Observance of World AIDS Day and the Red Ribbon Gala on Dec. 1 at The Twentieth Century Club in Oakland. The evening's speakers included Donald S. Burke, dean of the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health and the UPMCJonas Salk Professor of Global Health, and Jeannette E. South-Paul, the Andrew W. Mathieson Professor and Chair in the Pitt School of Medicine's Department of Family Medicine. Educating Teens About HIV/AIDS presented its First Annual Red Ribbon Awards—which recognize commitment and contributions to HIV prevention—to Charles R. Rinaldo Jr., chair and professor of infectious diseases and microbiology in Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health and professor of pathology in the School of Medicine; Cecile M. Springer (GSPA '71), former president of the Westinghouse Foundation and now principal of Springer Associates; and Robert Hill, Pitt's vice chancellor for public affairs and chair of the Red Ribbon Gala committee. From left are Kezia L. Ellison, Educating Teens About HIV/AIDS founder; Rinaldo; Albertha Graham-Ellison (EDUC '96G), vice president and project director of Educating Teens About HIV/AIDS; and Hill, who also served as the gala's master of ceremonies.

GRADUATE, PROFESSIONAL STUDENT RECOGNITION

University of Pittsburgh Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg delivered keynote remarks during the Dec. 3 Graduate and Professional Students Association's (GPSA) Winter Student Appreciation Reception. GPSA is the governing body for all Pitt graduate and professional students. From left, Marguerite Matthews, GPSA vice president of committees; Daniel Jimenez, GPSA president; and Nordenberg. Matthews and Jimenez are doctoral students in Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health.



MARY JANE BENT/CODE

Science & Technology



Members of the Pitt team working on the Large Hadron Collider are pictured in the ATLAS experiment control room at the European Organization for Nuclear Research in Geneva, Switzerland. From left, Vakho Tsulaia, graduate student Reza Yoosofmiya, Thomas Kittelmann, Damien Prieur, and Pitt physics and astronomy professor Joseph Boudreau. Tsulaia, Kittelmann, and Prieur are Pitt postdoctoral researchers.

Mysteries of the Universe

Pitt Researchers Play Important Role in Large Hadron Collider Project

By Morgan Kelly

Last month, lunchtime in the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) cafeteria allowed for games of “Spot the Nobel Laureate” as the world’s foremost physicists gathered in Geneva for one of the most significant events in the history of science: the long-awaited initiation of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), a device that could reveal the basic structure of space, time, and matter.

Pitt physics and astronomy professor Joseph Boudreau joined that notable clientele along with other researchers and students from the Department of Physics and Astronomy in the University’s School of Arts and Sciences. Pitt physicists have contributed to the massive project since 1994, beginning with now professor emeritus William Cleland, and have since helped develop the equipment meant to uncover the universe’s principal particles.

Constructed nearly 600 feet beneath CERN, the collider boasts a 17-mile circumference and \$10 billion budget, making it the largest, priciest scientific instrument in history. The LHC functions via twin proton beams that barrel into one another at speeds approaching that of light. On Nov. 30, 10 days after the first collisions, the LHC’s beams accelerated to 1.18 teravolts, the highest energy ever recorded. The goal is to accelerate each beam to 7 teravolts—a fraction lower than the speed of light—for a collision of 14 teravolts.

Boudreau belongs to a group of Pitt faculty members, postdoctoral researchers, and graduate students working on an experiment based at the collider

known as ATLAS, a collaboration of 2,900 scientists from more than 172 universities and labs. The largest particle detector ever built, ATLAS searches the energy created by the proton collisions for undiscovered forces that may have shaped the universe and that could provide insight into some of the most perplexing mysteries in physics, including the existence of dark matter and extra dimensions of space.

Boudreau and Pitt postdoctoral researchers Thomas Kittelmann and Vakho Tsulaia—both working out of CERN—were the primary developers of software that monitors and displays particle activity inside the detector. Cleland worked with professors Vittorio Paolone and Vladimir Savinov on Pitt’s contribution to developing the electronic circuitry in ATLAS that enables scientists to single out interesting particle events for observation. Professor James Mueller worked on LHC simulation software. Also representing Pitt in the project were postdoctoral researcher Damien Prieur at CERN, graduate students Kevin O’Connell, Kevin Sapp, and Shanti Wendler, as well as Reza Yoosofmiya at CERN. More exciting to Boudreau and his contemporaries than the LHC’s scale is its potential to generate energy levels not seen since the birth of the universe, he recently explained from Geneva.

“The LHC is meant to help physicists understand how matter behaves at its highest energies, such as during the Big Bang,” Boudreau said. “We’re also searching for the particles that could give us a fuller understanding of matter’s basic structure. This is new ground in physics, and we have

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Taking the Heat: Pitt Team Conquers Hurdle to Nano Devices With First Metallic Nanoparticles Resistant to Extreme Heat

By Morgan Kelly

A University of Pittsburgh team has overcome a major hurdle plaguing the development of nanomaterials that could lead to more efficient catalysts used to produce hydrogen and render car exhaust less toxic. The researchers reported Nov. 29 in *Nature Materials* the first demonstration of high-temperature stability in metallic nanoparticles, the vaunted next-generation materials hampered by a vulnerability to extreme heat.

Götz Vesper, a professor and CNG Faculty Fellow of chemical and petroleum engineering in Pitt’s Swanson School of Engineering, and Anmin Cao, the paper’s lead

author and a postdoctoral researcher in Vesper’s lab, created metal-alloy particles in the range of 4 nanometers that can withstand temperatures of more than 850 degrees Celsius, at least 250 degrees more than typical metallic nanoparticles. Forged from the catalytic metals platinum and rhodium, the highly reactive particles work by dumping their heat-susceptible components as temperatures rise, a quality Cao likened to a gecko shedding its tail in self-defense.

“The natural instability of particles at this scale is an obstacle for many applications, from sensors to fuel production,” Vesper said. “The amazing potential of nanoparticles to open up completely new fields and allow for dramatically more efficient processes has been shown in laboratory applications, but very little of it has translated to real life because of such issues as heat sensitivity. For us to reap the benefits of nanoparticles, they must withstand the harsh conditions of actual use.”

Vesper and Cao have presented an original approach to stabilizing metallic catalysts smaller than 5 nanometers. Materials within this size range boast a higher surface area and permit near-total particle utilization, allowing for more efficient reactions. But they also fuse together at around 600 degrees Celsius—lower than usual reaction temperatures for many

catalytic processes—and become too large. Attempts to stabilize the metals have involved encasing them in heat-resistant nanostructures, but the most promising methods were only demonstrated in the 10- to 15-nanometer range, Cao wrote. Vesper himself has designed oxide-based nanostructures that stabilized particles as small as 10 nanometers.



Götz Vesper

For the research in *Nature Materials*, he and Cao blended platinum and rhodium, which has a high melting point. They tested the alloy via a methane combustion reaction and found that the composite was not

only a highly reactive catalyst, but that the particles maintained an average size of 4.3 nanometers, even during extended exposure to 850-degree heat. In fact, small amounts of 4-nanometer particles

remained after the temperature topped 950 degrees Celsius, although the majority had ballooned to eight times that size.

Vesper and Cao were surprised to find that the alloy did not simply endure the heat. It instead sacrificed the low-tolerance platinum and then reconstituted itself as a rhodium-rich catalyst to finish the reaction. At around 700 degrees Celsius, the platinum-rhodium alloy began to melt. The platinum “bled” from the particle and formed larger particles with other errant platinum molecules, leaving the more durable alloyed particles to weather on. Vesper and Cao predicted that this self-stabilization would occur for all metal catalysts alloyed

with a second, more durable metal.

Vesper and Cao conducted their work with support from the National Energy Technology Laboratory, the lead research and development office for the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Office of Fossil Energy, as well as the DOE’s Office of Basic Energy Sciences and the National Science Foundation.

“The natural instability of particles at this scale is an obstacle for many applications, from sensors to fuel production,” Vesper said. “The amazing potential of nanoparticles to open up completely new fields and allow for dramatically more efficient processes has been shown in laboratory applications, but very little of it has translated to real life because of such issues as heat sensitivity. For us to reap the benefits of nanoparticles, they must withstand the harsh conditions of actual use.”

Awards & More



Wesley Lipschultz, manager of student services in the University of Pittsburgh School of Information Sciences, was selected to receive the 2009 Service to Commission Award presented by the National Academic Advising Association's (NACADA) Technology in Advising Commission. The award recognizes individuals who have provided outstanding service, leadership, and commitment to a particular commission. The NACADA Technology Advising Commission helps academic advisors and advising administrators to understand the impact that technologies, such as online registration and student information systems, have on academic advising; to use technology effectively in their work; and to appreciate the appropriate uses of technology in higher education.



Wesley Lipschultz

JiYeon Choi, a postdoctoral fellow in the School of Nursing, received the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award from the National Institute of Nursing Research. The two-year, \$96,472 grant will support Choi's research on the psychological,

behavioral, and biological aspects of stress responses in family caregivers of persons on prolonged mechanical ventilation.

Paul Daniel Patterson, a research assistant professor in the School of Medicine's Department of Emergency Medicine, received a grant from the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management Foundation. The grant will help fund Patterson's research proposal, "The Effect of Communication Patterns in the Emergency Department on Quality and Performance."

Nicholas Fitz, a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, received an award for the best poster presentation from the University of Pittsburgh Postdoctoral Association at the 2009 Postdoctoral Data & Dine Symposium. His project, "Influence of Abca1 on Alzheimer's Pathology and Cognition," is supervised by principal investigator and research assistant professor Radosveta Koldamova.

Sandra Quinn, an associate dean for student affairs and education and a professor in Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health, presented

Pitt Faculty and Alums Among New Pittsburgh Courier's 2009 Men of Excellence

Two University of Pittsburgh faculty members, **David A. Anderson** (DEN '84) and **Laurence Glasco**, have been named 2009 *New Pittsburgh Courier* Men of Excellence. A total of 50 honorees were recognized for individual contributions to their professions as well as to the local community during the *Courier's* Nov. 19 Men of Excellence Awards Reception at The Rivers Club at Oxford Centre, Downtown.

Anderson, a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Prosthodontics in Pitt's School of Dental Medicine and the school's first director of diversity initiatives, has been a member of the dental faculty since 2008. He is a past president of the Dental Society of Western Pennsylvania and a past chair of the Pennsylvania Dental Association's political action committee. In addition to his responsibilities in the School of Dental Medicine, Anderson has maintained a private practice for more than 25 years.

Glasco, a Pitt history professor, has taught African American history at the University since 1969. Through his work as a historian, he has been heavily involved with documenting the contributions of African Americans to Western Pennsylvania. Glasco is the author of the book *The W.P.A. History of the Negro in Pittsburgh* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2004). He also played instrumental roles in the Pitt-produced

exhibition and catalogue *Free at Last? Slavery in Pittsburgh in the 18th and 19th Centuries* and the documentary *Blue Gold & Black: From Doorway to Distinction*, among other projects.

The *Courier* also honored **James T. Johnson, Jr.** (A&S '82, A&S '88G), founder and executive director of the Afro American Music Institute and a lecturer in Pitt's Department of Music, as well as **Rep. Joseph Preston** (CGS '79, CGS '79), the Governor's Representative to Pitt's Board of Trustees.

The following Pitt alumni also received Men of Excellence Awards: **Randolph W. Brockington** (GSPIA '86), deputy director, Allegheny County Department of Human Services; **Richard Garland** (CGS '92, SOC WK '96), founder, One Vision, One Life; **Charles Gladney** (EDUC '75G), director of community program implementation and development, Highmark; **Rodney Jones** (SHRS '81G), vice president of operations, UPMC Braddock; **Walter H. Smith Jr.** (A&S '72, EDUC '73G, EDUC '90G), executive director, Family Resources; and **Joseph K. Williams** (A&S '81G), Judge, Allegheny County Common Pleas Court.

—By Anthony M. Moore

at an invitation-only meeting on megacrisis in The Hague, The Netherlands. The conference, which brought together senior government officials and researchers from The Netherlands, France, United States, and China, was sponsored by the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations in The Netherlands.

Qi Yang, doctoral candidate, Department of Human Genetics, was awarded a 2009 Abstract Trainee Award from the American Association of Immunologists for her presentation "The Transcription Factor E47 Controls the Cell Cycle Quiescence and Development of Multipotent Hematopoietic Progenitors." The award recognizes outstanding research work that has been selected for oral presentation from student and postdoctoral trainees.



Yuting Zhang

Conrad Dan Volz, a professor in the Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment on coal waste storage and its impact on human health and the environment.

Yuting Zhang, an assistant professor in the Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Health Policy and Management, received the Excellence in Mental Health Policy and Economics Research Award from the International Center of Mental Health Policy and Economics. She received the award for her article "Cost-Saving Effects of Olanzapine as Long-term Treatment for Bipolar Disorder," published in the *Journal of Mental Health Policy and Economics*.

Science & Technology

Continued from page 5

the potential to see interactions and particles that haven't been seen before. The atmosphere here is very exciting."

The most coveted particle is the elusive Higgs boson. It is the only missing piece of the Standard Model, which theorizes that all visible matter stems from interactions between the three elementary particles: quarks, leptons, and bosons. The Higgs boson is thought to be central to the interaction of these particles—and therefore an integral part of the world—yet it's never been observed. The LHC could prove or disprove the boson's existence and possibly cast suspicion on the Standard Model, which has guided particle physics for the past 50 years.

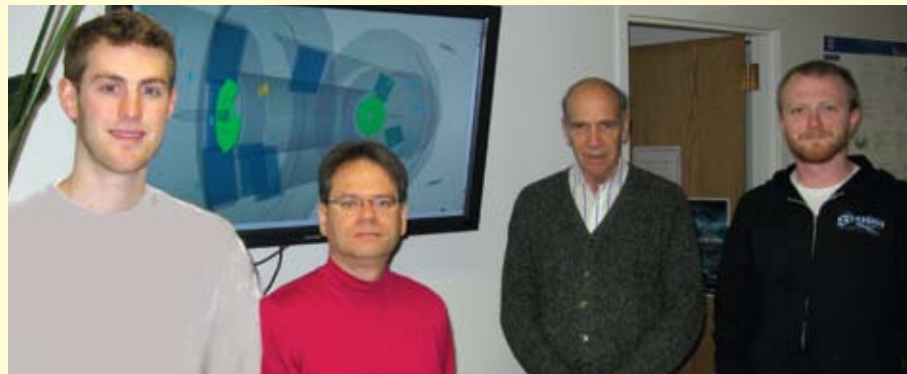
Years could pass before the LHC

produces energy levels high enough to detect Higgs, Boudreau said. But six years since he started working on the LHC, Boudreau joins his colleagues in celebrating the collider's hard-won early successes. Technical problems have scuttled a handful of launch dates, including a September 2008 setback, when ruptured magnets required a year of repairs.

"These early collisions are not very exciting, but they show that the LHC is back on track," Boudreau said. "When I consider how long it took to get to this point and that we could have the highest energy levels in the world within the next year, just getting the beams to collide is a huge milestone."

More information is available on CERN's LHC Web site at lhc.web.cern.ch.

Hadron Collider Project



Several researchers from Pitt's Department of Physics and Astronomy are contributing to the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) project, both in Pittsburgh and at the European Organization for Nuclear Research in Geneva, Switzerland. From left, graduate student Kevin O'Connell, Professor James Mueller, Professor Emeritus William Cleland—who began Pitt's involvement in the LHC in 1994—and graduate student Kevin Sapp.

Happenings



Navtivity: A Christmas Gift,
Shona Sharif African Dance and Drum Ensemble, December 18-20

Concerts

Renew, Ion Sound Project's environmentally themed program dedicated to works about renewal and rebirth, 7 p.m. **Dec. 14**, Bellefield Hall Auditorium, Ion Sound Project 2009-10 Season: Reduce, Renew, Recycle series, www.proartstickets.org.

B.E. Taylor Christmas Concert, nationally recognized recording and performing artist, 7:30 p.m. **Dec. 14-15**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Highmark Holiday Pops With Marvin! Marvin Hamlisch, conductor, **Dec. 17-20**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, PNC Symphony Pops, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Bells Are Ringing, McKeesport Symphony Pops Holiday Concert, 2:30 p.m. **Dec. 20**, McKeesport Area Senior High School, 1960 Eden Park Boulevard, 412-664-2854, www.mckeesportsymphony.org.

Dreamgirls, rags-to-riches story of 1960s Motown group, **Dec. 29-Jan. 3**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Auld Lang Syne, classic New Year's Eve celebration featuring dinner, concert, dessert, and dancing, 7 p.m. **Dec. 31**, Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Pittsburgh Opera, 412-281-0912, www.pittsburghopera.org.



Dreamgirls,
Heinz Hall,
December 29-January 3



Exhibitions

Hillman Library, *Selected Prints Exhibition From the Barry Rosensteel Japanese Prints Collection*, through **Dec. 19**, Special Collections Department, third floor; *Historical Exhibition of African American Progress at Pitt*, ongoing, ground floor; "The Palm Warbler," Audubon/Havell print no. 164, **Dec. 15-22**, Audubon Exhibit Case, ground floor, www.library.pitt.edu/libraries/

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.

Frick Art & Historical Center, *Icons of American Photography, A Century of Photographs From the Cleveland Museum of Art and Children's Hospital 1951*, 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 Surgeons*, 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., 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>.

Opera/Theater/Dance

The Second City—50th Anniversary Tour, Chicago-based improvisational troupe, **Dec. 17-19**, O'Reilly Theatre, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theater, 412-316-1600, www.ppt.org.

A Lyrical Christmas Carol, musical theater, **Dec. 17-20**, New Hazlett Theater, Allegheny Square East, North Side, Pittsburgh Musical Theater, 412-539-0900, www.pittsburghmusicals.com.

Navtivity: A Christmas Gift, featuring Pitt's Shona Sharif African Dance and Drum Ensemble, **Dec. 18-20**, 4227 Alumni Hall, Pitt Department of Africana Studies, tickets and information available at Dorsey's Records, 412-731-6607.

Beggar's Holiday, opera by Dale Wasserman, music by Duke Ellington, **Dec. 18-20**, Manchester Craftsmen's Guild Theater, 1815 Metropolitan St., Manchester, Opera Theater of Pittsburgh, 412-621-1499, www.operatheaterpittsburgh.org.

The Bench, theatrical performance, **Dec. 18-20**, Pittsburgh Playhouse, 222 Craft Ave., Oakland, Point Park University, 412-621-4445, www.pittsburghplayhouse.com.

A Child's Christmas in Wales, theatrical performance, through **Dec. 20**, Pittsburgh Playhouse, 222 Craft Ave., Oakland, Point Park University, 412-621-4445, www.pittsburghplayhouse.com.

Jane Eyre, theatrical performance, through **Dec. 20**, Charity Randall Theatre in the Stephen Foster Memorial, Pittsburgh Irish and Classical Theatre, 412-624-7529, www.pict.org.

A Musical Christmas Carol, theatrical performance, through **Dec. 23**, Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

A Kodachrome Christmas, one-woman play, through **Dec. 27**, City Theatre, 1300 Bingham St., South Side, 412-431-2489, www.citytheatrecompany.org.

The Nutcracker,
Benedum Center,
through December 27



The Palm Warbler, Audubon Print,
Hillman Library,
December 15-22

The Nutcracker, ballet, music by Tchaikovsky, through **Dec. 27**, Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

Cirque Dreams Illumination, cirque theatrical production extraordinaire, **Jan. 5-10**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

The Chief, theatrical performance, **Jan. 6-10**, O'Reilly Theatre, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, 412-316-1600, www.ppt.org.

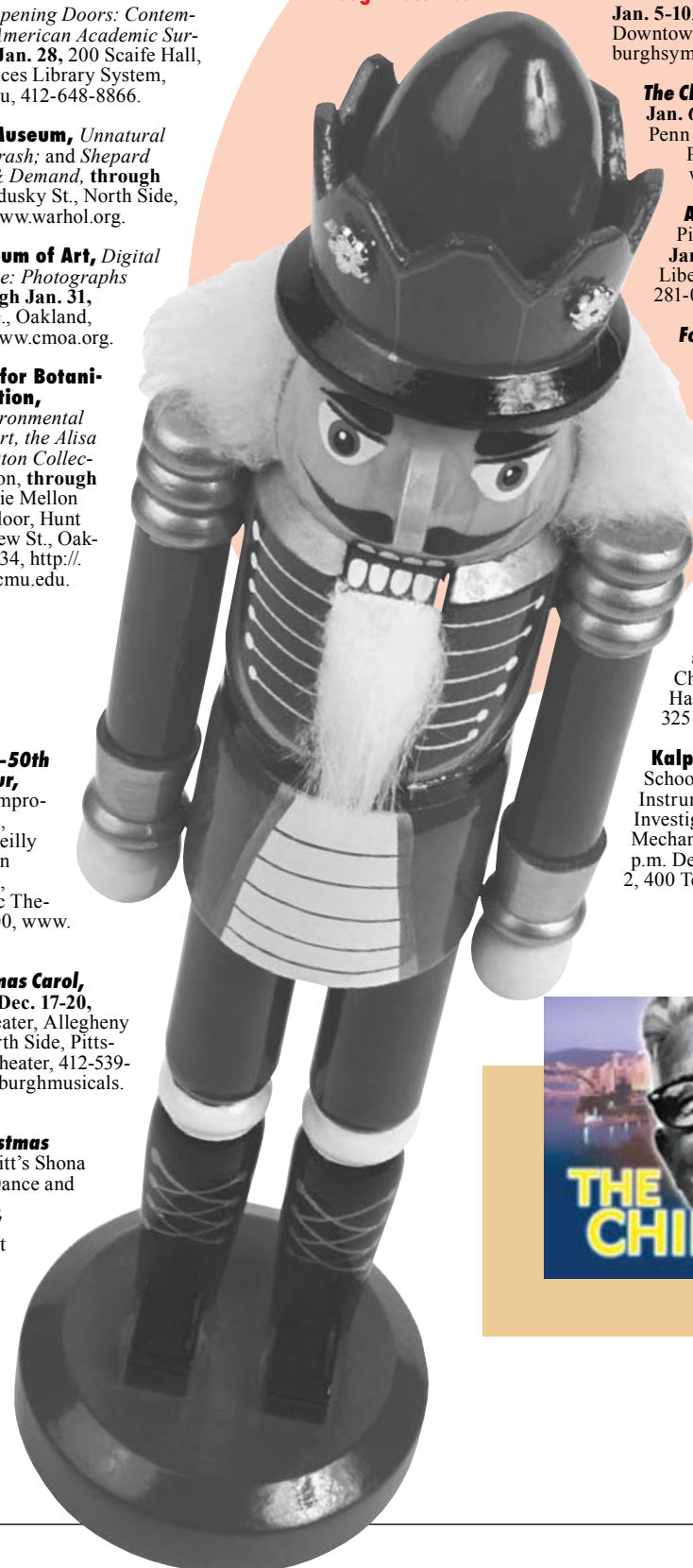
Art Song Recital, hosted by Pittsburgh Opera Guilds, 2 p.m. **Jan. 10**, Pittsburgh Opera, 2425 Liberty Ave., Strip District, 412-281-0912, www.pittsburghopera.org.

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

Chenbo Wang, School of Art and Sciences' Department of Chemistry, "Synthetic Studies on Haouamine A," 2 p.m. **Dec. 16**, 325 Eberly Hall.

Kalpesh Upadhye, Swanson School of Engineering, "Developing Instrumentation for Multi-parametric Investigation of Mechanisms of Mechanosensitivity in Ion Channels," 2 p.m. **Dec. 18**, 306 Bridgepoint Building 2, 400 Technology Dr., South Oakland.



The Chief,
O'Reilly Theatre,
January 6-10



Too Much of a Good Thing?

Holiday and weekend eating habits can jeopardize diets, study finds

By Amanda Leff Ritchie

The holidays can be challenging for even the most diligent dieters. But are weekends just as detrimental? Researchers at the University of Pittsburgh and Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Conn., found that weekend eating patterns change significantly.

J. Jeffrey Inman, a University of Pittsburgh professor of marketing and associate dean for research in the Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business, and his coauthor, Adwait Khare, Quinnipiac University professor of marketing, studied two years' worth of data on consumers' eating behavior and found that the quantity and quality of foods eaten at mealtimes and over the course of a day during the week differ considerably from those consumed on weekends and holidays.

Just as important as the daily caloric increase on weekends and holidays is the nutritional value of the food consumed, according to the research, which was published in the Fall 2009 issue of the *Journal of Public Policy & Marketing*. Labor Day barbecues and Thanksgiving Day feasts focus on family and friends bonding over tables laden with high-calorie foods. Because the quantity and quality of food consumed changes during these times, Inman suggests that the



J. Jeffrey Inman

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U.S. Department of Agriculture incorporate recommendations for holiday and weekend eating into its food pyramid guidelines.

Understanding eating patterns and knowing that a weekend can be just as dangerous to the diet as a holiday dinner arm consumers, doctors, and nutritionists with more knowledge to fight obesity, says Inman.

Inman says his advice for consumers interested in monitoring their intake during the holidays is "don't insult your mother-in-law by skimping on the meals, but maybe take a pass on that extra glass of eggnog."

This research is the follow-up to a 2006 study by Inman and Khare on the habitual behavior in American



eating patterns—a behavior that may lend itself to developing more effective strategies for maintaining a healthy diet. According to the previous study, people are most habitual when eating breakfast—rather than lunch or dinner—possibly because breakfast is usually eaten in the same environment and under greater time constraints. Results of the previous study also indicated that the food consumed for breakfast has a larger effect on what is consumed for lunch and dinner of the same day, because people pay more attention to meals within a single day than to what was consumed on a previous day.

Inman and Khare would like to follow up this most recent research with a study of the impact of intervention programs on sweetened beverage consumption.

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published Jan. 11. 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.

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.
