

Chancellor Names 2010 Distinguished Research Award Winners



Susan G. Amara



Thomas C. Hales



Colin MacCabe



Elodie Ghedin



Laura J. Niedernhofer

University of Pittsburgh Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg has announced the winners of the 2010 Chancellor's Distinguished Research Awards. The awards will be given to the following five Pitt faculty members:

Susan G. Amara, Thomas Detre Professor of Neuroscience and chair of the Department of Neurobiology in the University of Pittsburgh's School of Medicine and codirector of Pitt's Center for Neuroscience;

Thomas C. Hales, Mellon Professor of Mathematics;

Colin MacCabe, Distinguished Professor of English and Film;

Elodie Ghedin, assistant professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases, Pitt School of Medicine; and

Laura J. Niedernhofer, a professor in the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, Pitt School of Medicine, and Molecular and Cellular Oncology Program, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute.

Amara, Hales, and MacCabe were honored in the senior scholar category, which recognizes "an outstanding and continuing record of research and scholarly activity." Ghedin and Niedernhofer were honored in the junior scholar category.

Awardee will receive \$2,000 cash prizes and \$3,000 grants for the support of their research and teaching. The awardees will be recognized during Pitt's 34th annual Honors Convocation on Friday, Feb. 26, and their names will be inscribed on plaques to be displayed in the William Pitt Union.

Amara is internationally renowned for her seminal contributions in two separate fields. Early in her career, she conducted groundbreaking research on alternative splicing of mRNAs, permitting a single gene to give rise to multiple products. Amara pushed her gene-expression techniques to the next level and became the first to clone two major classes of transporters, which are the molecular machines that take up neurotransmitters after their release. These transporters are essential for the inactivation of synaptic transmission and, as such, are important targets for such drugs as antidepressant medications.

"Your efforts have been recognized through a number of prestigious appoint-

ments, including service as a Howard Hughes Senior Investigator, receipt of a [National Institutes of Health] Merit Award, election to both the National Academy of Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and your recent appointment as president-elect of the Society for Neuroscience," Nordenberg wrote in his letter to Amara notifying her of the award.

In his letter to **Hales** announcing the award, the chancellor said the selection committee "noted that you have made seminal contributions to a broad range of areas of mathematics, including discrete geometry, algebra, and formal theorem proving. You are internationally recognized

for solving a number of mathematical problems that have stymied scientists for decades, if not centuries."

Hales is universally recognized as having solved the oldest and most difficult open problem in discrete geometry, Kepler's Conjecture from 1611. The complexity of the proof for Kepler's Conjecture was such that it took a panel of 12 reviewers convened by the Annals of Mathematics several years to check its correctness. In addition, Hales settled the ancient Honeycomb Conjecture and supervised the solution to the challenging Dodecahedral Conjecture. "The proofs of these three conjectures

are considered to be among the most significant breakthroughs in discrete geometry in the 20th century," Nordenberg wrote.

MacCabe is considered by many to be the world's foremost authority on the life and work of filmmaker Jean-Luc Godard; he is also a major figure in the British Independent Cinema movement of the late 1980s and 90's, when he produced critically acclaimed films and television documentaries and served as the head of production and head of research for the British Film Institute. MacCabe has also served on juries of several major film festivals, including the Cannes and Vancouver festivals. In addition, he has authored 12 books, edited 14 collections, and published more than 100 essays, chapters, prefaces, and introductions.

In his letter notifying MacCabe of his award, Nordenberg lauded him for playing "a central role in interdisciplinary initiatives in Arts and Sciences, including the development of Pitt's Cultural Studies Pro-

gram. You have also been instrumental in bringing leading artists and intellectuals to our campus, such as Salman Rushdie, Tilda Swinton, and Cornell West."

Ghedin is a scientist whose research has made a significant impact in two key areas of infectious disease: parasite and viral genomics. She has focused her efforts on the study of neglected infectious diseases like African sleeping sickness, Chagas disease, and leishmaniasis which afflict mil-

lions in poor and underdeveloped countries. "In the future, your research may allow for the prediction of viruses that may emerge in future populations, where such emergence is mostly likely to occur, and which species are most likely to act as reservoirs," Nordenberg wrote in his letter informing Ghedin of her award.

Ghedin came to Pitt in 2006, after spending six years at The Institute for Genomic Research in Rockville, Md., where she initiated and led the Viral Genomics Group.

Niedernhofer is a faculty member studying the health impact of DNA damage and its contribution to aging and age-related diseases. "As a postdoctoral student, your work yielded definitive experimental evidence that DNA damage promotes aging in mammals and induces a systemic endocrine response that extends lifespan. At the University, you are using the models you developed to test the hypothesis that diverse age-related diseases may be caused by a common mechanism," Nordenberg wrote in his letter to Niedernhofer announcing her award.

Snow Days for Big Kids at Pitt



A powerful snowstorm overtook the Pittsburgh region last week, resulting in the University of Pittsburgh's closure Feb. 8-10. Mother Nature dumped an estimated 29.6 inches of snow on Pittsburgh this month, making it the snowiest February on record.

Additional Instructional Times Offered for Classes Affected by Pitt Campus Closings

University of Pittsburgh students whose classes on the Pittsburgh campus were canceled because of record snowfall can make up those classes on two upcoming Saturdays. Pitt is communicating with its faculty, through the deans, about options for additional instructional time. Arrangements have been made to hold classes on the following days:

Monday's classes will be made up on **Saturday, March 27.**

Tuesday's classes are rescheduled for **Saturday, April 17.**

Classes missed on Saturday or Wednesday will not have an alternative class day offered.

Instructors may make arrangements other than meeting on these Saturdays to cover the missed course material, but these alternative arrangements are to be clearly conveyed to students during the coming week.

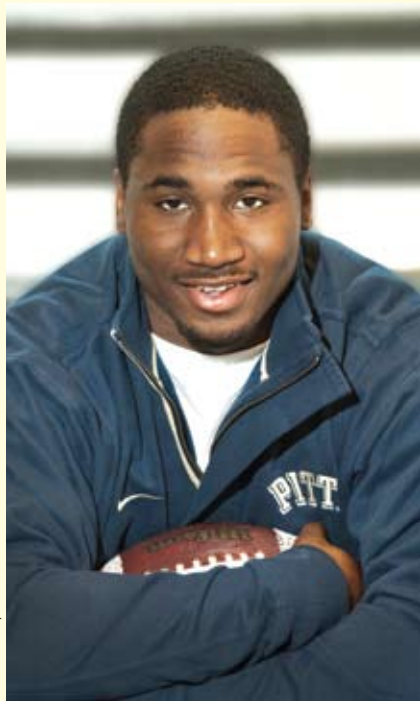
The University expressed confidence that Pitt faculty and students, working together, can address any conflicts or special circumstances.

—Sharon S. Blake

BlackHistoryMonth

Giving His All

Pitt Panther running back and freshman Dion Lewis works for success on the field—and in life, too



Dion Lewis

By Anthony M. Moore

The moment he made a sharp juke move to his right to evade a final defender at the 11-yard line, Pitt running back Dion Lewis knew his first touchdown as a Panther was mere seconds away.

"It felt good. It felt really good." The freshman communication major grins as he recalls standing in the back left corner of Heinz Field's south end zone being congratulated by teammates and cheered on by a crowd of thousands of Pitt fans. "It was exciting, but I couldn't lose my head over it. We were only halfway through the first quarter; there was still a lot of game to go and a lot of work to do."

Indeed, Lewis had a lot left to accomplish in the game that was Pitt's 2009 season opener. By the end of the game against the Youngstown State University Penguins, he had scored two more touchdowns, rushed 129 yards, and grabbed the attention of the nation's football fans as he led his teammates to a 38-3 victory.

That game would turn out to be just the start of an outstanding freshman campaign, which resulted in 18 touchdowns and 1,799 yards rushing, culminating with the Most Valuable Player designation in the 2009 Meineke Car Care Bowl. Yet, even as many college football analysts are predicting he will be a Heisman Trophy favorite for 2010, Lewis has remained humble and acknowledges his skill set is far from complete.

"This off-season, my focus is on working on my game and becoming a more accomplished, all-around football player for next season," says Lewis, an Albany, New York, native.

Healthy anticipation and working today for the future are key mindsets

for Lewis. And fortunately, Pitt's philosophy for its student athletes dovetails nicely with Lewis' vision for the future. One of the most impressive aspects of the University during his recruitment period, Lewis recalls, was its emphasis on producing athletes who are also high-quality students.

"Pitt is a great academic school. It's not one of those colleges where you can play football and get away with not going to class and not doing what you're supposed to be doing," says Lewis, who would like to become an NFL commentator when his football career is over. "Sports has played a big part in my life, but football isn't forever, and there are a lot of different things that I can do with a communication degree. That was important to me in making my decision on which school to attend."

Focused and driven beyond his years, Lewis says he views football as more than just a game: He also sees it as a means to building a secure future for himself and his family. Lewis is dedicating this period of his life to laying the foundation for that future.

The roots of this solid sense of focus spring directly from Lewis' parents. Lewis is the third of the four children of Leroy and Linda Lewis, a construction worker and social worker, respectively. He said both of his parents were strong disciplinarians who wanted all of their children to be driven and self-disciplined.

This sentiment is clear to anyone who has ever spent a significant amount of time with the Lewis family. Jeff Hafley, Pitt's secondary coach who recruited Lewis to the University, says that Dion's family life has definitely shaped the man he is today.

"When you look at Dion I think you can easily see a lot of his parents' influences within him," says Hafley. "In Dion, you have all the intangibles of a dynamic football player. He has a tremendous drive to be the best, and once you get to know him you see how dedicated he is in all aspects of life."

On the football field, Lewis makes it all look easy, but the 19-year-old's daily life outside of football is anything but a breeze. What most spectators do not see is the exhausting grind of both academic and football-related responsibilities within Lewis' weekly routine. His schedule consists of a full-time class load, football practice, tutoring sessions, hours devoted to strength and conditioning, traveling—all of this before representing Pitt on the football field on Saturday afternoons.

A normal day in the life of student-athlete Lewis starts with a string of morning classes followed by various football activities. After enduring the rigors of daily classes and practice, your average freshman student would retreat to the leisure of their room.

But not Lewis.

His dedication to performing well academically is strong, and in the evenings, he can often be found in tutoring sessions

in the University's Petersen Events Center. If he does not have a night class on that particular evening, he will return to his dorm room to ice injuries and study alone for a few hours before calling it a day—and then will get up early the next morning and do it all over again.

Lewis sees the tight schedule as an integral part of being a Pitt student. His studies and football are priorities. But on those rare occasions when he can find the time, Lewis explores his surroundings. Pitt has much to offer culturally, he says, adding that he is enjoying the numerous events the University is sponsoring for February's Black History Month.

Lewis views this month as an opportunity to celebrate those who have made great sacrifices, not just for African Americans, but for all Americans. He cites Mohammed Ali as a childhood role model because of Ali's athletic prowess and his strong stance when he joined the Nation of Islam, sparking a firestorm of



Dion Lewis in action during the 2009-10 season

His schedule consists of a full-time class load, football practice, tutoring sessions, hours devoted to strength and conditioning, traveling—all of this before representing Pitt on the football field on Saturday afternoons.

public controversy.

While Lewis says he does not consider himself to be a role model, he understands that others may see him that way. "You may not want to be a role model, but the reality is that people are watching you and little kids are going to look up to you; it's a part of life," he says, adding that he doesn't spend too much time thinking about it.

The future appears bright for Lewis—a future that could include a career in the NFL—but today, his focus is on preparing for the short term, the 2010 season.

"Professional ball is nice to think about, but that's not where my head is at right now," says Lewis, referring to the upcoming fall season. "I want to be remembered as a team player, a guy who always gave it his all, tried to make things happen on the field, and who worked for everything he received."

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PUBLISHER	Robert Hill
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER	John Harvith
EXECUTIVE EDITOR	Linda K. Schmitmeyer
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STAFF WRITERS	Sharon S. Blake John Fedele Morgan Kelly Amanda Leff Anthony M. Moore Patricia Lomando White
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS	Megan Grote Quatrini
HAPPENINGS EDITOR	Baindu Saidu

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Happenings



Gods, Love, and War: Tapestries at Carnegie Museum of Art, through June 13

ty's Elliot School of International Affairs, 2 p.m. **Feb. 17**, Department of History Lounge, 3703 Posvar Hall, Pitt European Colloquium Series, www.history.pitt.edu.

"Managing the Butterfly: The Challenges Facing Medical Start-up Companies," Alan West, president and CEO, Carmell Therapeutics Corp., 4 p.m. **Feb. 17**, S123 Starzl Biomedical Science Tower South, Pitt Offices of Enterprise Development and Technology Management, 412-624-3160, www.oed.pitt.edu.

"The Mosaic of the Birth of Helen and the Dioscuri From Leptiminos," Nejib ben Lazreg, researcher and curator, Institut National du Patrimoine, Tunisia, 4:30 p.m. **Feb. 17**, 208A Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Department of Classics, Archaeological Institute of America, www.classics.pitt.edu.

"The Material Culture of Death in Medieval Japan," Karen Gerhart, professor, Pitt Department of the History of Art and Architecture, noon **Feb. 18**, 4130 Posvar Hall, Asia Over Lunch Lecture Series, Pitt Asian Studies Center, jennm@pitt.edu.

"Letras Prohibidas y Escritores Estigmatizados en el Mundo Letrado," a lecture in Spanish, Mercedes Niño-Murcia, chair, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Iowa, 2:30 p.m. **Feb. 18**, 602 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Center for Latin American Studies, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, Department of Linguistics, Humanities Center, humctr@pitt.edu.

"Minds for Sale," Jonathan Zittrain, professor, Harvard Law School, 3 p.m. **Feb. 18**, Teplitz Memorial Courtroom, Barco Law Building, Sara Fine Institute 2010 Lecture, Pitt Schools of Law and Information Sciences, Pittsburgh Technology Council, 412-624-2677, kis9@pitt.edu.

"Advancing to an Academic Position: Being Prepared for the Job Market," workshop, The Postdoctoral Professionalism Series Spring 2010 Workshops, 3-5 p.m. **Feb. 18**, Office of Academic Career Development, S100 Thomas E. Starzl Biomedical Science Tower, register at www.oacd.health.pitt.edu.

"Where Neoplatonism Meets Ethnology: Garcilaso and the Gods of Huacochiri," Frank Salomon, John V. Murra Professor of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin, 4 p.m. **Feb. 18**, 232 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Center for Latin American Studies, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, Department of Linguistics, Humanities Center, humctr@pitt.edu.

Film

The Devil Came on Horseback (Ricki Stern, Anne Sundberg, 2008), Global Health Film Series, 3:30 p.m. **Feb. 16**, A115 Crabtree Hall, Pitt Global Health Student Association, Center for Global Health, glsa@pitt.edu.

Akaler Sandhaney (Mrinal Sen, 1980), Indian Film Series, 7 p.m. **Feb. 19**, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Pitt Asian Studies Center, Arts and Sciences Graduate Dean's Office, Film Studies Program, Indo-Pacific Area Council, 412-624-5578.

Rangeela (Ram Gopal Varma, 1995), Indian Film Series, 7 p.m. **Feb. 20**, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Pitt Asian Studies Center, Arts and Sciences Graduate Dean's Office, Film Studies Program, Indo-Pacific Area Council, 412-624-5578.

South Korea Unreel'd, documentary screening of *Good For Her* (Elizabeth E. Lee, 2005), 2 p.m. **Feb. 21**, Winchester Thurston School, 555 Morewood Ave., Shadyside, Asia Unreel'd Documentary Film Series, Pitt Asian Studies Center, Confucius Institute, 412-578-7523, www.winchesterthurston.org.

Lectures/Seminars/Readings

"Helena Valero's Yanomamo Captivity Narrative," H. David Brumble, professor, Pitt Department of English, noon **Feb. 17**, 2628 Cathedral of Learning, Brown Bag Lunch Colloquium, Pitt Department of Religious Studies, www.religiousstudies.pitt.edu.

"Does the Judge's Gender Make a Difference," Pat K. Chew, professor, Pitt School of Law, noon **Feb. 17**, 2201 Posvar Hall, Pitt Women's Studies Program, www.wstudies.pitt.edu.

"The Civil Wars of the Nineteenth Century: Revolution and Reconstruction in Germany, Africa, and the United States," Andrew Zimmerman, professor, George Washington Universi-

"A Locus for Now—A Modal Perspective," Tomasz Placek, philosophy professor, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland, 12:05 p.m. **Feb. 19**, Pitt Center for Philosophy of Science, Room 817 Cathedral of Learning, 412-624-1052.

"Copyright vs. Community in the Age of Computer Networks," Richard Stallman, founder of the GNU project, 1 p.m. **Feb. 19**, Lower Lounge, William Pitt Union, Pitt Department of Computer Science, www.cs.pitt.edu.

"Ideas Against Ideocracy: The Platonic Drama of Russian Thought and Possible Strategies for the Future," Mikhail Epstein, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Cultural Theory and Russian Literature, Emory University, 3 p.m. **Feb. 19**, 3911 Posvar Hall, Pitt Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Center for Russian and East European Studies, Film Studies Program, Cultural Studies Program, www.ucis.pitt.edu.

Elizabeth Alexander, poet and Yale University professor of African Studies, 7:30 p.m. **Feb. 22**, Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Drue Heinz Lecture Series, 412-622-8866, www.pittsburghlectures.org.

"Colonial, Post-colonial, and Lesotho Today: Khotso Pula Nala 'Peace Rain Prosperity,'" Mpho Letima, Pitt's 2009-10 Malmberg Fellow, 8 p.m. **Feb. 23**, First-floor Lounge, Sutherland Hall, Pitt Global Studies Program, 412-648-5085.

"Queering Terror: Visualizing Sexuality and Nationalism in Israeli and Palestinian Cinema," Colleen Jankovic, graduate student, Pitt Department of English and Women's Studies Program, noon **Feb. 24**, 2201 Posvar Hall, Pitt Women's Studies Program, www.wstudies.pitt.edu.

Miscellaneous

Politics and Pancakes, seven Pittsburgh City Council members will speak and answer questions, 8:15 a.m. **Feb. 16**, William Pitt Union, Lower Lounge, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, www.gpsa.pitt.edu.

PITT ARTS & Pittsburgh Opera, free lunch with PITT ARTS and Pittsburgh Opera performers, who will sing excerpts from Bizet's *Carmen*, noon **Feb. 18**, William Pitt Union Assembly Room, 412-624-4498.

Pitt Film Studies Program to Partner With Steeltown Entertainment Project in Feb. 20 Workshop

The University of Pittsburgh Film Studies Program in partnership with Steeltown Entertainment Project will hold a workshop from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **Feb. 20** in the seventh-floor Alumni Hall Auditorium. The workshop, titled "The Director's Pitch: Transforming Screenplays Into Productions," is one of a series of events for the Steeltown Film Factory screenwriting competition.

Launched in November, the Film Factory competition called for students and aspiring filmmakers to submit their 10-12 page, Pittsburgh-inspired screenplays for judging by such top filmmaking professionals as 300 (2006) producer Bernie Goldmann, CBS Television's *Two and a Half Men* director Jamie Widdoes, Lionsgate producer John Dellaverson (A&S '68), and Carl Kurlander, a Pitt senior lecturer, Hollywood screenwriter, television writer-producer, and native Pittsburgher.

In a January workshop at Carnegie Mellon University, the top 10 finalists were chosen and asked to rewrite their scripts. Five finalists will be selected from this group of writers at the Pitt workshop. The panel, moderated by Kurlander,

will include Widdoes and Heide Waldbaum, production manager for *Avatar*, who will discuss the elements of directing with a focus on these screenplays.

Those chosen at the Pitt workshop will go on to the next round at Point Park University.

The Film Factory competition includes a \$25,000 total prize package, which will be used to produce the winning film or films in the southwestern Pennsylvania region during the summer of 2010. The completed films will be screened during the 2010 Three Rivers Film Festival.

Tickets for the Pitt event, available online, are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

For more information on the Steeltown Film Factory, contact Jodi Klebick at jodi@steeltown.org or visit www.steeltownfilmfactory.org.

For more information on Pitt's Film Studies Program, contact Jennifer Florian at jrf16@pitt.edu or visit www.filmstudies.pitt.edu. —Patricia Lomando White



**Politics and Pancakes
William Pitt Union
February 16**

Opera/Theater/Dance

Company B & In the Upper Room, dance performance, through **Feb. 15**, Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, 412-281-0360, www.pbt.org, PITT ARTS Cheap Seats available, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

A Midsummer Night's Dream, theatrical performance, through **Feb. 21**, O'Reilly Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theater, 412-316-1600, www.ppt.org, PITT ARTS Cheap Seats available at 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

Pitt/PhD Dissertation Defenses

Tae Hoon Choi, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Chemistry, 9 a.m. **Feb. 18**, "Studies of Potential Energy Surfaces of Neutral, Protonated, Negatively Charged Water Clusters," 325 Eberly Hall.

Kusum Vijay Pandit, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Human Genetics, 9:30 a.m. **Feb. 18**, "Expression and Regulation of let-7d in Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis," NW628 UPMC Montefiore Hospital, 3459 Fifth Ave., Oakland.

Concerts

The Weathered Road, acoustic trio performing "AmeriCeltic Newgrass," 6 p.m. **Feb. 17**, The Cup & Chaucer café, ground floor, Hillman Library, The Emerging Legends Series, University of Pittsburgh Library System and Calliope: The Pittsburgh Folk Music Society, www.calliopehouse.org.

An American Voyage, Leonard Slatkin, conductor, Mason Bates, electronica, **Feb. 19-20**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, www.pittsburghsymphony.org, PITT ARTS Cheap Seats available, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

Russian Masters, performance by Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra, Lawrence Loh, music director, featuring works by Tchaikovsky and Shostakovich, 4 p.m. **Feb. 20**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra, www.pyso.us.

Exhibitions

Senator John Heinz History Center, *Discover the Real George Washington: New Views From Mount Vernon*, **Feb. 19-July 18**, 1212 Smallman St., Strip District, 412-454-6000, www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

Frick Art and Historical Center, 1934: *A New Deal for Artists*, art exhibition celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Works Progress Administration's Public Works of Art Program, through **April 25**, 7227 Reynolds St., Point Breeze, 412-371-0600, www.frickart.org.

Carnegie Museum of Art, *Forum 64: Cecil Balmond*, through **May 30**; *Gods, Love, and War: Tapestries at Carnegie Museum of Art*, through **June 13**; *Caricature, Satire, and Comedy of Manners: Works on Paper From the 18th Through 20th Centuries*, ongoing; *Past Meets Present: Decorative Arts and Design*, ongoing, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3131, www.cmoa.org.



Preschool Children of Bipolar Parents Have Eightfold Increase in Risk for ADHD, Pitt Study Finds

By Megan Grote Quatrini

Preschool children of parents with bipolar disorder have an eightfold increase in the risk for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and significantly higher rates of multiple psychiatric disorders compared with children of parents who don't have the mental illness, according to a University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine research study to be published in the March issue of the *American Journal of Psychiatry*.

"Studies already have shown that the children of bipolar parents are far more likely to develop the disease, although typically not in the preschool years. By identifying ADHD and other developmental issues in this group, we can treat them early and potentially prevent full-blown development of bipolar disorder," said Boris Birmaher, lead author of the study and Endowed Chair in Early Onset Bipolar Disease and professor of psychiatry in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Birmaher is also codirector of Child and Adolescent Bipolar Services at Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic of UPMC.

The study is currently available online at <http://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/cgi/content/abstract/appi.ajp.2009.09070977v1>.

According to previously published results from the Pittsburgh Bipolar Offspring Study (BIOS), having parents with bipolar disorder is the best predictor of whether those parents' children will develop the condition. However, until now, little has been known about the effects of parents' bipolar disorder on their preschool-age children.

For the current study, the Pitt researchers compared two groups of children and parents. The first group had 121 children, ages 2 to 5,



of 83 parents with bipolar disorder. (Of those parents, only two families had both a mother and father with bipolar disorder.) The second group was a demographically matched control group comprising 102 offspring of 65 parents without bipolar disorder.



Boris Birmaher

Parents were assessed for psychiatric disorders, family mental health history, family environment, and exposure to negative life events. They also were interviewed about their children. Children were assessed

directly for bipolar disorder and other psy-

chiatric disorders by researchers who did not know their parents' diagnoses.

Compared with the offspring of parents in the control groups, children with bipolar parents had an eightfold increase in the risk of having ADHD, as well as a sixfold increase in the risk of having two or more other psychiatric disorders. Although only three children had clinically certified full-blown mood disorders, children of bipolar parents, particularly those with ADHD or ODD (oppositional defiant disorder) had more subclinical manic and depressive symptoms when compared with children in the control group.

"Because BIOS is prospectively fol-

lowing all of these children, we will be able to address their developmental issues and delineate the types and severity of symptoms that may predict a possible conversion to bipolar disorder," said Birmaher. "Also, because almost 70 percent of the children of parents with bipolar disorder in our study did not have any diagnosable psychiatric illnesses and very few appeared to be on the cusp of developing mood disorders, we believe there is a window of opportunity for prevention in the high-risk group of kids."

The researchers note that these findings have important implications. "Clinicians who treat adults with bipolar disorder should question them about their children's psychopathology to offer prompt identification and early interventions for any psychiatric problems that may be affecting the children's functioning," noted Birmaher. "Further studies are needed to help determine the clinical, biological, and genetic risk factors that may be modified to prevent the development of psychiatric disorders in the children of those with bipolar disorder."

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published Feb. 22. Items for publication in the newspaper's *Happenings* calendar (see page 3) 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.

