Jhronicle

INSIDE

Women's History Month profile: Nancy Davidson... 3

Chancellor's statement to Pa. House Committee..... 4

Newspaper of the University of Pittsburgh

Volume XI • Number 8 • March 1, 2010

Paul Gartside, Adam Leibovich Are Named 2010 Bellet Teaching Excellence Awardees



Paul Gartside



Adam Leibovich

By Patricia Lomando White

The University of Pittsburgh School of Arts and Sciences has named Paul Gartside, a professor in the Department of Mathematics, and Adam Leibovich, a professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, winners of the 2010 Tina and David Bellet Teaching Excellence Award. The Bellet Award recipients will be honored at a byinvitation-only dinner at 7 p.m. April 7 in the University Club's Fraternity Grill.

The Bellet Awards were established in 1998 and endowed in 2008 with a \$1.5 million gift from School of Arts and Sciences alumnus David Bellet (CAS '67) and his wife, Tina, to recognize outstanding and innovative undergraduate teaching in the School of Arts and Sciences. A committee appointed by the Arts and Sciences associate dean for undergraduate studies evaluates teaching skills as evidenced by student-teaching and peer evaluations, student testimonials, and dossiers submitted by the nominees. Full-time faculty who have taught in Arts and Sciences during the past three years are eligible. Each award recipi-

Gartside joined the University in 2000. He was a junior research fellow at the University of Oxford in England from 1993 to 1997 and during that time, from 1995 to 1996, had appointments as a Royal Society postdoctoral fellow at Moscow State University in Russia and the University of Auckland in New Zealand. Gartside was a European Union presidential postdoctoral

ent receives a cash prize.

fellow from 1997 to 1998 at the University

Pitt Trustees' Properties and Facilities Committee Approves \$46 Million In Construction, Renovations

The project will pro-

vide the University's

Technology Initiative

expanded facilities for

eight existing faculty

members and for the

three newly created

positions.

with improved and

Nanoscience and

By John Fedele

The Property and Facilities Committee of the University of Pittsburgh Board

of Trustees approved nearly \$46 million in construction and renovation projects, high-lighted by a \$28.2 million laboratory expansion and renovation project for the Department of Physics and Astronomy; it also approved three thirdparty leases for more than 190,000 square feet of space. The construction and renovation projects are expected to generate 248 construction and 99 construction-support jobs and create three experimental physics research faculty positions.

The \$28.2 million project, titled "Mid-campus Complex Renovations, Phase Two," will build or renovate 13 experimental physics laboratories, pri-

marily in Allen Hall, Old Engineering Hall, and the Nuclear Physics Laboratory. The

project will provide the University's Nanoscience and Technology Initiative with improved and expanded facilities for eight existing faculty members and for the three newly created positions. Two other experimental physics research groups will receive upgrades to their facilities. The \$28.2 million project is supported by a \$15 million construction grant from the National Institute of Standards and Technology as part of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), with the remainder of the funds coming from the University.

Other construction and renovation proj-

Continued on page 6

of Galway in Ireland and a junior lecturer from 1998 to 2000 at Oxford.

In Pitt's mathematics department, Gartside is graduate director and has served on the Undergraduate Committee since 2007,

the Computer Committee since 2001, and the VIGRE (Vertical Integration of Research and Education in the Mathematical Sciences) Planning Committee since 2003. Gartside also was a member of the Graduate Committee from 2001 to 2006 and the Engineering Integrated Curriculum Committee from 2000 to

Gartside has worked on various Web-based tools to support math research

and learning, including MathML (Mathematical Markup Language) and Mozilla's "Latex for the Web." He contributed to the development of Alice, a Java and Maplebased math homework system that has vital features not shared by any available commercial system. He also has published eight issues of MathZine, a Web department magazine (www.math.pitt.edu/magazine.

html). He has written more than 40 articles that have appeared in peer-reviewed jour-

In addition to his holding fellowships in England, New Zealand, Russia, and Ireland. Gartside received an Arts and Sciences Faculty Research Grant from Pitt in summer 2001 and was coprincipal investigator on a \$998,937 National Science Foundation (NSF) grant that led to Math 1230—The Big Ideas of Mathematics, a course for under-

graduate math majors that he developed

Continued on page 5

Dick Thornburgh Forum for Law and Public **Policy Announces Inaugural Grant Winners**

The Bellet Awards were

established in 1998 and

endowed in 2008 with a

\$1.5 million gift from School

of Arts and Sciences alumnus

David Bellet (CAS '67) and

his wife, Tina, to recognize

outstanding and innovative

School of Arts and Sciences.

undergraduate teaching in the

By Amanda Leff Ritchie

The University of Pittsburgh's Dick Thornburgh Forum for Law and Public Policy has announced the inaugural recipients of the Dick Thornburgh Academic Support Grant. The grant has been designed to support inclusion of the Dick Thornburgh Archive Collection, a rich resource of information on many significant

public events in Pennsylva-nia and U.S. history, into course instruction across Pitt's campus.

The Dick Thornburgh Archive Collection, donated to Pitt in 1998, provides a comprehensive record of Thornburgh's life, from his community participation in the early 1960s to his extraordinary career that included service

as governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (1979-87), attorney general of the United States (1988-91), and undersecretary-general at the United Nations

Each of the four recipients is a Pitt faculty member who will be awarded a \$2,500 grant to incorporate archival material into new or existing curricula or to develop significant case studies of historic events in which the archives serve as a resource. Information about the recipients and the

Richard Cox, professor in the School of Information Sciences, will incorporate research from the archives into the course Archival Access, Advocacy, and Ethics.

Graduate students will use the Thornburgh collection to develop information packets for use by college students to highlight the value of archival records in understanding legal, public policy, and other high-profile

Rosemary Hoffman, assistant professor in the School of Nurs-

ing's Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, will incorporate research from the archives into the course Leadership, Healthcare Policy, and Finance. Hoffman and a graduate student will develop a multimedia case study analyzing the impact of Three Mile Island on health care policy develop-

ment, potential health effects, and changes in the nuclear industry—especially

emergency response planning.

Mark Magalotti, senior lecturer in the School of Engineering's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and coordinator for the Graduate Program in Transportation Engineering, will incorporate research from the archives into the course Urban Transportation Planning. A graduate student will research and write a case study on the short- and long-term impact of the Three Mile Island crisis on public policy for transportation planning for nuclear plant disasters. The case study will then be used in the course as a real-world

Continued on page 6

Pitt to Hold March 5 Open Forum on Search for Provost Maher's Successor

By Sharon S. Blake

All members of the University of Pittsburgh community are invited to participate in an open forum to discuss the search for a successor to Provost James V. Maher. The session will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, March 5, in 2700 Posvar Hall, on the Pittsburgh campus.

Faculty, staff, and students who cannot attend may view a live Web cast of the forum and submit questions online at http://tinyurl.com/ydygecs. Individuals on Pitt's regional campuses may also participate via live videoconference at the following locations:

Bradford: 237 Swarts Hall
Greenburg: 250 Millstein Library
Johnstown: 201 Biddle Hall
Titusville: G7 Haskell Library
The forum will be a free-flowing

exchange, during which the search committee, chaired by Distinguished Service Professor of Pharmacy and Vice Chancellor for Research Conduct and Compliance Randy P. Juhl, former dean of the School of Pharmacy, will brief attendees on the search process and time line. Those attending can provide input on the process, the time line, and the present and future challenges they feel the new provost will face.

Provost Maher, widely credited with helping lead Pitt through a period of unparalleled progress, announced in November that he would leave that position and return to the Pitt faculty. Juhl says the advances Pitt has made over the last decade make the position of provost all the more

The goal is to have the new provost named by July 1 of this year and in place by the start of the Fall 2010 academic year.

attractive.

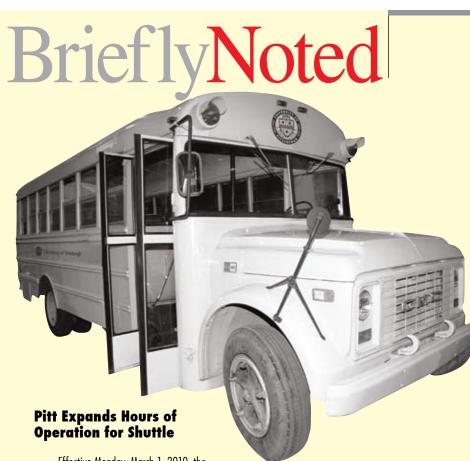
The 21-member search committee already has a good representation of faculty, staff, and students of various disciplines and ranks, said Juhl. Nonetheless, he is looking forward to hearing what the Pitt community has to say.

"This forum gives us the opportunity to review some of the finer points with people

and to reinforce things we've thought about already," said Juhl. "The more people we talk to, the better."

The search committee has retained the services of R. William Funk & Associates, a national search firm serving the higher-education sector. The committee hopes to select a diverse and highly qualified pool of 70 to 90 candidates. That list will be shortened to four or five names that will be presented, without the committee's rankings, to Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg, who will make the final decision.

The goal is to have the new provost named by July 1 of this year and in place by the start of the Fall 2010 academic year. For more information on the search, visit www. provostsearch.pitt.edu.



Effective Monday, March 1, 2010, the University of Pittsburgh's 10A Upper Campus shuttle will operate for an extra 50 minutes each night. Additional departures from the Cathedral of Learning at 3 a.m. and 3:30 a.m. have been added. The shuttle route will terminate at the Cathedral of Learning bus shelter at 3:50 a.m.

The 30C South Oakland shuttle will operate for an additional half-hour each night. A departure from the William Pitt Union bus shelter at 3:10 a.m. has been added for Monday through Saturday service. The shuttle route will terminate at the William Pitt Union shelter at 3:25 a.m.

The 3OC shuttle's Sunday service also has an additional departure at 2:30 a.m., and will conclude service at

a.m.

—John Fedele

March 3 Health Fair For Pitt Staff and Faculty

The University of Pittsburgh LifeSolutions, an employee assistance program, will hold an interactive wellness event for Pitt faculty and staff from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 3, in the William Pitt Union's Kurtzman Room.

The free event, Healthy Lifestyle Experience3, is to promote the benefits of a mind-body connection for a healthier lifestyle. Information on health-related programs and resources will be available, along with healthy cooking demonstrations, nutrition advice, chair massages, exercise demonstrations, blood-pressure assessments, and other activities.

Additional information is available at 1-800-647-3432 or www.hr.pitt.edu/benefits.

tile in the interest of the in

Pitt Plans 30th Annual Latin American and Caribbean Festival

The Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) at the University of Pittsburgh will host the 30th Annual Latin American and Caribbean Festival from noon to midnight Saturday, March 27, in the William Pitt Union Ballroom.

The festival will feature food, crafts, and information vendors; music and dance performances will take place in the WPU's Assembly Room. From 10 p.m. to midnight, there will be dancing to the sounds of Latin American music.

Since its inception, the festival has showcased diverse Latin American and Caribbean cultures by combining the resources of CLAS with people of Latin American heritage. The growth of Pittsburgh's Latin American community has made the festival one of the largest gatherings of Latin Americans in Western Pennsylvania.

Mexican artist Armando Jiménez Aragón will be the festival's guest artist—demonstrating how he designs and creates *animalitos* (imaginative animal figures). He is the grandson of Manuel Hernandez, who created the renowned *alebrijes* (Oaxacan woodcarvings)

For more information, contact Luz Amanda Hank at lavst12@pitt.edu or 412-648-7394.

—Amanda Leff Ritchie

United States' First Female African American Rabbi to Give Talk

The path to the pulpit has been a long and winding journey for Alysa Stanton, the United States' first female African American rabbi. Stanton will share her life experiences during a free public lecture titled "Layers of Healing, Layers of Hope" at 7:30 p.m. March 3 in the Ballroom of Pitt's William Pitt Union.

Born to a Christian family in Cleveland, Ohio, Stanton converted to Judaism at age 24. She completed seven years of rabbinical training at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion before assuming the role of rabbi of Congregation Bayt Shalom, a 60-family synagogue in Greenville, N.C., in June 2009.

Prior to converting to Judaism and preparing for the rabbinate, Stanton worked as a psychotherapist specializing in grief counseling; her counseling experience includes the treatment of individuals affected by the murderous 1999 shooting rampage at Columbine High School. She is an alumnus of Colorado State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in psychology in 1988 and a master's degree in education in 1992; she received a professional counselor's license in 1998.

Stanton's presentation is sponsored by Pitt's Office of Cross Cultural and Leadership Development and



Departments of Cultural Studies, History, and Religious Studies, as well as by the Edward and Rose Berman Hillel Jewish University Center of Pittsburgh and the United Jewish Federation of Pittsburgh.

For more information on the event, call 412-621-8875 or e-mail carlya@hilleljuc.org.

—Anthony M. Moore

PittChronicle

Newspaper of the University of Pittsburgh

PUBLISHER
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER
EXECUTIVE EDITOR
EDITOR
ART DIRECTOR
STAFF WRITERS

Robert Hill John Harvith Linda K. Schmitmeyer Jane-Ellen Robinet Gary Cravener Sharon S. Blake John Fedele Morgan Kelly Amanda Leff Anthony M. Moore Patricia Lomando White

HAPPENINGS EDITOR

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

The University of Pittsburgh is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution that does not discriminate upon any basis prohibited by law.

Women's History Month

Knowledge, Experience, and the Gift of Hope

Nancy Davidson brings scientific expertise, groundbreaking research to her job as director of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute

"I have come to one

centers in the country.

My overall goal is to

take advantage of all

the resources here to

make a difference in

how we take care of

cancer, how we allow

people to live beyond

cancer, and how we

prevent cancer."

-Nancy Davidson

of the best cancer



Nancy Davidson

Armed with extensive knowledge and experience in breast cancer research and treatment, Nancy Davidson became director of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI) and the UPMC Cancer Centers in February 2009. Along with her top-notch academic and clinical experience, the internationally renowned cancer researcher brings one other essential tool to her post: the gift of hope.

Davidson manages all aspects of UPCI's cancer research, clinical care, and educational activities, which have grown exponentially since the institute's founding more than two decades ago by UPMC. Some 36,000 patients from across the nation and the world seek expert care each year at Hillman Cancer Center—UPCI's flagship treatment and research facility—along with a network of more than 40 locations in the region and abroad.

Today, as Davidson embraces her leadership role there, she recognizes the world-class legacy she has inherited from UPCI's first director, the acclaimed oncologist Ronald Her-

"I have come to one of the best cancer centers in the country," she says. "My overall goal is to take advantage of all the resources here to make a difference in how we take care of cancer, how we allow people to live beyond cancer, and how we prevent cancer."

Davidson also holds the titles of Hillman Professor of Oncology and associate vice chancellor for cancer research. Prior to joining Pitt, she served as director of the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center's Breast Cancer Program in Baltimore and as professor of oncology in the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, where she also held the Breast Cancer Research Chair in Oncology.

One of three children born of two geologists, Davidson spent her childhood years in Denver until high school, when

her father took a post in India searching for phosphates for the fertilizer industry. Davidson originally set out to be an archeologist but was drawn to oncology while working in a liver capacar labora. in a liver cancer laboratory as a Wellesley College undergraduate. One summer during her studies at Harvard Medical School, she accepted a job doing breast cancer research at the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

"It was a life-defining event for me," says Davidson, who earned a medical degree at Harvard in 1979. "I became captivated by the challenge of breast cancer—one of the first cancers where biology and cancer behavior were at the forefront of our thinking."

At the time, some early earch began to draw

connections between hormonal changes and breast cancer. About 70 percent of breast cancers produce a certain protein that grows in response to the hormone estrogen. This estrogen-receptor protein plays a role in the development of some forms of breast cancer. Drugs designed to disrupt these estrogenrelated molecular interactions were among the first cancer treatments to home in on a specific biological pathway in the quest to stop the disease.

the head of the Breast Cancer Program at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins, Davidson devoted much of her effort to studying how these targeted endocrine therapies worked as a way to refine and improve treatments, especially for pre-menopausal women with breast cancer. She published key findings on the role of hormones on the molecular and cell biology of breast cancer and the mechanisms that regulate the disease beyond the realm of pure genetics-for instance, how environmental factors can lead to cancer-causing changes in gene function without altering the DNA itself.

In her tenure as a medical staff fellow

at NCI and later as

Dedicated to translating these promising lab discoveries into new medical treatments, Davidson helped organize the Translational Breast Cancer Research Consortium, a collaborative network of scientists from 16 academic medical centers working together to improve understanding of the disease and

test new therapeutic strategies. She also guided major clinical trials for several first-line drugs, resulting in outcomes that now mean early breast cancer is no longer a death sentence for most women.

Davidson's expertise as a scientist also is brought to bear in the clinic, where she forms close, lasting bonds with her patients as she helps them navigate their cancer journeys. And she doesn't shy away from the tough challenges, either. In fact, she receives referrals from physicians nationwide for some of the most complicated and difficult cases. Her experience and her work have taught her that hope isn't a fantasy.

"I am a better doctor for ple who have problems

and there's no question that someone who has a diagnosis of cancer has a problem,' Davidson says. "But the common concept of oncology—that cancer equals death—is just not the case anymore. There are many, many people who develop cancer, get appropriate therapy, and then move on with the rest of

She recently ended a term as president of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), the world's largest organization

of cancer physicians. At ASCO, she worked to craft federal legislation to improve access to care for uninsured cancer patients and established a task force to devise ways to rein in the skyrocketing cost of cancer treatment, says the organization's CEO, Allen S.

"Nancy is a natural leader and people want to follow her," says Lichter. "She articulates her positions well and has a special way of being direct without being blunt. She's a good consensus builder and commands a well-deserved level of respect among her peers. These are the types of things that make her a significant leader and what will make her a tremendous suc-

Davidson is working to renew the center's NCI core grant, which will sustain key functions and prime future progress. Another goal is to help ensure that scientific discoveries move more quickly from bench to bedside, so patients throughout UPCI's affiliated hospital network—and ultimately cancer patients everywhere—benefit quickly from the University's innovative research. She seeks to cement Pitt's strengths in fields such as cancer immunology and virology, while enlisting departments such as computational and structural biology to figure out what makes cancer cells tick at the most fundamental level.

Moving forward, Davidsonwho has won numerous awards and honors throughout her career—also will begin to grapple with helping UPCI to fulfill its aspirations of being among the top five academic cancer centers in the country. "Of course, our most important ranking is how we do with our patients and against cancer,"

Davidson is aware of the profound impact her work has on the lives of women who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. This helps her stay focused on her ultimate mission at Pitt—to bring the world closer to a cure for all types of cancer. Although progress has been made in recent decades, cancer still is responsible for about 560,000 deaths annually and remains a leading killer of Ameri-

Cancer, which is actually a collection of more than 200 diseases, remains a complex and formidable foe. In her role with UPCI, Davidson will continue to build an impressive arsenal of experts, technologies, and scientific firsts to disrupt and dismantle malignant processes. And she'll rely on another strength, too: "I have learned from my patients that people are amazing in the way they operate under adversity of all types, that people are survivors.

(Aspects of this article were drawn from Jennifer Bails' feature story, "The Science of Caring," which appeared in the summer 2009 issue of Pitt Magazine.)

"A Decade of Distinction and Impact at Pitt"

This is a statement prepared by University of Pittsburgh Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg for his Feb. 23 appearance together with the leadership of the Commonwealth's other state-related universities— Penn State, Temple, and Lincoln—at the annual funding hearing of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives' Appropriations Committee in Harrisburg.

In referring to the decade just closed, one national columnist, reflecting what seems to be a common attitude, proposed that we "bid a not at all fond farewell to the Big Zero-the decade in which

we achieved nothing and learned nothing." In terms of progress in advancing its basic missions, such a description certainly would not apply to the University of Pittsburgh. Instead, the past 10 years were a decade of distinction and impact at Pitt. Consider just these few telling examples:

• Applications for admission to our programs have continued to soar, and so have the performances of enrolled students. Last year, for example, Pitt claimed its

third Rhodes Scholar in the past five years—a record that more typically might be associated with an elite Ivy League institution than with a public university. During the past decade, Pitt awarded nearly

76,000 degrees, each representing the determined use of the power of higher education to build the foundation for a life of achievement and impact, consistent with the American dream;

• In the last 10 years, University of Pittsburgh graduates received, among many other honors, the Nobel Peace Prize, the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, the National Medal of Science, the Fritz Medal in Engineering, the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, and the Shaw and Albany prizes in medicine. Tens of thousands of Pitt alumni whose accomplishments may never trigger such public recognition do lead productive lives that include regular contributions to their home communities. It is important to note that 83 percent

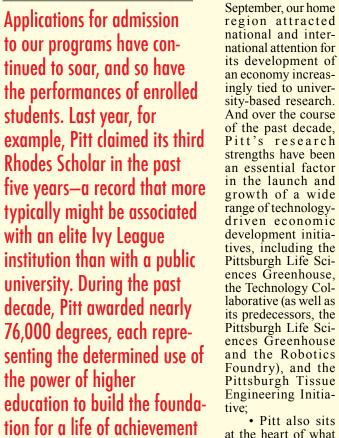
of Pitt's undergraduates and 76 percent of our entire student body come from Pennsylvania and that more than 61 percent of our graduates live and work here, a number that would be even higher if there

were more robust job growth;
• Over the course of the past decade, Pitt's research expenditures totaled an

astonishing \$5.33 billion. Those largely imported, but locally spent, funds are a sign of institutional stature, support pioneering research, and provide the financial foundation for tens of thousands of local jobs. Pitt now ranks among the top five universities nationally in funding its faculty attracts from the National Institutes of Health, joining Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Penn, and the University of Califor-

nia at San Francisco. Pitt also ranks among the nation's top 10 universities in total federal science and engineering research and development

• Both before and after Pittsburgh's G-20 Summit last



• Pitt also sits at the heart of what has been called the education and health services employment "supersector" by the U.S. Department of Labor. This is now

the largest employment sector in the Pittsburgh metropolitan area and the only sector that is delivering consistent and

substantial job growth. Between March of 2008 and March of 2009, for example, the Pittsburgh area lost 7,400 manufacturing jobs; lost 5,300 leisure and hospitality jobs; lost 5,200 trade, transportation and utility jobs; lost 2,600 proity jobs; lost 2,600 professional and business service jobs; lost 1,700 construction jobs; lost 1,100 information and financial services jobs; and lost 1,000 government jobs. In sharp contrast, the only industry to gain at least 1,000 jobs in that same period was education and health ser-vices, which added 5,400

• Of course, our University's regional contributions go far beyond job

generation. Our levels of community commitment and impact are evidenced by the fact that Pitt was the country's top-ranked public university in the 2009 edition of

In the last 10 years, **University of Pittsburgh** graduates received, among many other honors, the Nobel Peace Prize, the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, the National Medal of Science, the Fritz Medal in Engineering, the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, and the Shaw and Albany prizes in medicine.

Saviors of Our Cities: A Survey of Best College and University Civic Partnerships. That assessment reflects our long-standing efforts to strengthen the economy and enhance the overall quality of life in our home communities.

In terms of state funding, though, the past 10 years might more fairly be labeled a "lost decade" for Pitt and Pennsylvania's other state-related universities. To provide some sense of the longer-term patterns, trends from fiscal year 2001 through fiscal year 2009 are revealing. During that period, the state's general fund budget grew by nearly

40 percent; inflation increased by slightly more than 24 percent; state support for community colleges rose by some 33 percent; state support for the State System



Mark A. Nordenberg

Applications for admission

to our programs have con-

tinued to soar, and so have

Rhodes Scholar in the past

with an elite Ivy League

university. During the past

and impact, consistent with

the American dream.

the power of higher

students. Last year, for



STORY OF THE STORY

Pitt now ranks among the top five universities nationally in funding its faculty attracts from the National Institutes of Health, joining Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Penn, and the University of California at San Francisco. Pitt also ranks among the nation's top 10 universities in total federal science and engineering research and development support.

of Higher Education increased by nearly 6 percent; and state support for Pitt increased by less than 0.3 percent. Also telling is the fact that actual Commonwealth dollars invested in Pitt fell by more than 5 percent during this period, because some past state support was replaced by federal Medicaid matching funds

federal Medicaid matching funds.

The months of 2009, of course, presented their own special difficulties. By this time last year, for example, we were well into the process of doing everything that was required to absorb two midyear appropriation cuts. That responsibility was shouldered without complaint, given the fact that we all were moving through such economically challenging times. However, making the required adjustments—which included an institution-wide salary freeze—was not easy, either for the University or for its people.

If those midyear appropriation cuts were somewhat predictable once the recession had emerged, two other major challenges from the past year were not. In midsummer, we faced the startling attempt to label the state-related universities as "nonpublic." That designation would have resulted in tens of millions of dollars in additional losses, because all four schools would have been denied federal stimulus funding and would have been deprived of certain state-funding protections built into federal law. Fortunately, not only for the four involved institutions but for the cause of public higher education, that position was not accepted by the U.S. Department of Education.

by the U.S. Department of Education.

However, that was not the end of our special challenges. Because of ongoing disputes over gaming legislation, we were nearly halfway through the current fiscal year, into the second half of December, before our appropriation finally was approved, and our first appropriation payment was not received until earlier this month. Particularly because we had acted, in good faith, to hold tuition increases to very low levels, this delay created a high level of stressful uncertainty among our students and their families. It also resulted in financial strains and an inability to plan effectively within the institution.

In the budget that has been proposed for fiscal year 2011, funding for the Department of Education would increase by slightly more than 4 percent, with state support for basic education increasing by nearly 5 percent. In contrast, funding for the University of Pittsburgh and the other state-related universities would stay at the same level as that for the current fiscal year. This is the continuation of a clear and extended pattern. Compared to fiscal year 2003, for example, state support for basic education will have increased by 43 percent, while actual state dollars allocated to the University of Pittsburgh will have remained the same.

Obviously, flat funding is better than the cuts that were endured last year and in some other past periods. However, flat funding will not provide any support for the cost increases that are a virtual certainty. Even more troubling is the fact that federal stimulus funding, upon which two successive state budgets will have been built, is scheduled to disappear in fiscal year 2012. This "funding cliff" threatens to produce larger state budget deficits and likely will result in even greater pressures on funding for public higher education. Some protections have been built into the basic education funding line. Consideration should be given to similarly responsible planning for higher education.

During the past decade, the University of Pittsburgh has enhanced its position as the institution of choice for many of this state's most talented and hard-working students, has developed academic programs of acknowledged strength, has been recognized as an international center of pioneering research, and has emerged as increasingly critical to job creation and economic growth in its home region. As we emerge from the current economic crisis, the interests of the people of Pennsylvania clearly would be served if more adequate levels of funding were restored to this important Commonwealth asset.

Of course, our University's regional contributions go far beyond job generation. Our levels of community commitment and impact are evidenced by the fact that Pitt was the country's topranked public university in the 2009 edition of Saviors of Our Cities: A Survey of Best College and University Civic Partnerships. That assessment reflects our long-standing efforts to strengthen the economy and enhance the overall quality of life in our home communities.

Paul Gartside, Adam Leibovich Are Named 2010 Bellet Teaching Excellence Awardees

Continued from page 1

with Pitt math colleague Beverly Michael and with Ellen Ansell and Margaret S. Smith from Pitt's School of Education.

Gartside earned a BA degree, Class I, and a PhD degree in mathematics at the University of Oxford in 1990 and 1993, respectively.

Leibovich, director of graduate studies in the physics and astronomy department, began teaching at Pitt in 2003. Before that, he held postdoctoral research fellowships at Carnegie Mellon University from 1997 to 2000—with a visiting postdoctoral position at California Institute of Technology in October 1998—and at Fermilab in Batavia, Ill., from 2000 to 2002. While at Fermilab, Leibovich also had visiting postdoctoral positions at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Carnegie Mellon.

Leibovich's departmental committee service includes Recruitment; Student Support, as chair; Awards; Planning and Budget; and Web Content. He was a member of the Zaccheus Daniel Fellowship Selection Committee in 2009 and is on the Graduate Program Assessment Committee and, as chair, on the Graduate Curriculum

Committee.

The author of more than 40 refereed publications, Leibovich has given talks at conferences, workshops, and schools. He delivered a public lecture titled "Exploring the Standard Model of Particle Physics" at the Allegheny Observatory in 2006. Leibovich served as a judge for the Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair in 2009 and the Pittsburgh Public School District Science Fair in 2007.

Leibovich is the recipient of a \$411,083 NSF CAREER Grant for Theoretical Applications of Effective Field Theories for Current and Future Experiments, 2006-2011, and is coprincipal investigator with Pitt colleagues E.A Duncan and Ayres Freitas on Investigations in High-Energy Physics, funded for \$293,000, 2003-2006, and for \$379,930, 2009-2012. Leibovich also received a \$100,000 Research Corporation for Science Advancement Cottrell Scholar Award for 2006-2011.

Leibovich earned a BA degree in physics at Cornell University in 1992 and a PhD degree in theoretical physics at the California Institute of Technology in 1997

Newsmakers



Author and poet Sapphire addressed a Pitt crowd in the William Pitt Union Assembly Room on Feb. 15. She is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Push,* which was made into the highly acclaimed movie *Precious.* The evening was sponsored by the Pitt Program Council. Sapphire (right) is seen standing with Pitt student Stephanie Ravin, the lecture director for the Pitt Program Council.



Roland C. Barksdale-Hall (A&S '83, SIS '846), an educator, author, and storyteller, spoke at Pitt-Bradford on Feb. 15 as part of its Black History Month observance. Barksdale-Hall has researched the Black family for more than 20 years. He teaches public speaking, history, and critical thinking at Butler County Community College; he also is the founder of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society of Pittsburgh. Barksdale-Hall (left) is seen standing with Pitt-Bradford President Livingston Alexander.

Newsmakers

FACULTY AND STAFF ALUMNI LUNCHEON



Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg addressed more than 400 Pitt faculty and staff members who also are alumni of the University. The Feb. 4 luncheon in Alumni Hall has become an annual event.

University Art Historian Terry Smith Wins Prestigious Frank Jewett Mather Award



Terry Smith

By Sharon S. Blake

One of the most significant honors for art criticism has been awarded to Terry Smith, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Contemporary Art History and Theory at the University of Pittsburgh.

The College Art Association (CAA) is honoring Smith with the Frank Jewett Mather Award for Smith's recent book What Is Contemporary Art? (University of Chicago Press, 2009). In its award citation, the CAA called Smith "that rare art and social

historian who is able to write criticism at once alert to the forces that contextualize art and sensitive to the elements and qualities that inhere to the works of art themselves.'

Smith's book offers the most comprehensive mapping of contemporary art currently available. Within the bewildering variety of art, he distinguishes three prominent currents. Mainstream modernism continues in the work of leading U.S. and European artists such as Richard Serra and Gerhard Richter, while a diluted avant-gardism is evident in the retro-sensationalism of figures like Damien Hirst, Jeff Koons, and Takashi Murakami. At the same time, Smith reveals, artists involved in the decolonization of África, South America, and Asia have focused on questions of identity, history, and globalization. A younger generation embodies yet a third approach to contemporaneity by investigating time, place, mediation, and ethics through small-scale, interactive, media-savvy art making.

The Frank Jewett Mather Award, first presented in 1963, is named after a professor of art and archeology who taught at Princeton University from 1910 to 1933. It has been won by many distinguished critics, including Max Kozloff, Barbara Rose, Clement Greenberg, Lawrence Alloway, Rosalind Krauss, Lucy R. Lippard, Robert Hughes, Leo Steinberg, Douglas Crimp, Eleanor Heartney, and Arthur C. Danto.

Smith is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities and a visiting professor on the faculty of architecture at the University of Sydney. He was recently the GlaxoSmithKlein Senior Fellow at the National Humanities Research Centre in Raleigh-Durham, N.C. Smith's books include Making the Modern: Industry. Art and Design in America (University of Chicago Press, 1993), which won the inaugural Georgia O'Keeffe Museum Prize in 2009 for the best book on American modernist art published in the past 25 years.

Dick Thornburgh Forum for Law and Public **Policy Announces Inaugural Grant Winners**

Established in 2007, Pitt's

Dick Thornburgh Forum

for Law and Public Policy

provides a unique oppor-

education and civic action

tunity to foster public

on important public

policy issues, building

on Thornburgh's legacy

by creating a framework

for advancing his vision

of creating effective and

principled governance.

Continued from page 1

example of how case studies are structured

Aníbal Pérez-Liñán, associate professor in the School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Political Science, will incor-

porate research from the archives into the course Comparative Politics. Thornburgh's visit to the Soviet Union in 1989 will be used as the basis for class discussion on the contradiction between totalitarianism and the rule of law. Students will be required to write an essay using papers and video from the archives on the contradiction between totalitarianism and the rule of law in today's posttotalitarian China.

Collectively, these grants will allow approximately 300 additional students per year to utilize the Dick Thornburgh Papers.

Housed at the Pitt Archives Service Center, 7500 Thomas Blvd., Point

Breeze, the collection comprises 1,007 boxes of documents, thousands of photographs, and many hours of video and audio. It includes Thornburgh's personal scorecard from the 1960 World Series, the textbooks he used while a student in Pitt's School of Law, and his well-documented experience as governor during the historic nuclear accident at Three Mile Island. Pitt's Digital Research Library has encoded and scanned selected materials, which are available worldwide at www.

library.pitt.edu/thornburgh/index.html. Established in 2007, Pitt's Dick Thornburgh Forum for Law and Public Policy provides a unique opportunity to foster public education and civic action on important public

policy issues, building on Thornburgh's legacy by creating a framework for advancing his vision of creating effective and principled governance. The forum engages in a variety of activities that enhance the accountability and integrity of governmental institutions at the local, state, and national levels. Internationally, it seeks to advance those values as well as the commitment to rule of law for all levels of government.

A native of Pittsburgh, Thornburgh received the Bachelor of Engineering degree from Yale University and the LLB degree from Pitt's School of Law, where he served as an editor of

the University of Pittsburgh Law Review. An emeritus member of the University's Board of Trustees, he is of counsel to the international law firm of K&L Gates LLP, resident in its Washington, D.C., office.

For more information about the Thornburgh Academic Support Grant or the Thornburgh Papers, contact David Miller at 412-648-7655 or dymiller@pitt.edu or Jennifer Kush at 412-624-1514 or jak49@

Pitt Trustees' Properties and Facilities Committee Approves \$46 Million In Construction, Renovations

Continued from page 1

ects approved at the meeting were:

A \$1.925 million project to construct a new greenhouse on the sixth-level roof of Langley Hall for the Department of Biological Sciences, to accommodate an increase in the number of undergraduate and graduate students performing botany studies;

A \$2 million project to renovate approximately 9,000 square feet of space on the ninth floor of the William Pitt Union, to be used by the Office of Student Affairs, William Pitt Union staff, and student organizations. The renovation will provide a new student study area/lounge and offices for Residence Life, PITT ARTS, and a chaplain. Renovations also will include a 20-person conference room and a kitchen area;

A \$2 million project for Phase One of the Smith Hall infrastructure upgrade on the Greensburg campus. This project will feature installation of energy-efficient lighting, heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems for the auditorium, student reception area, and fover;

A \$5.9 million project to upgrade the chemistry and biology laboratories in Fisher Hall of the Bradford campus. The improvements include energy-efficient upgrades to the infrastructure, as well as improvements to maintain compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act;

A \$1.6 million project to replace the airhandling units serving Ashe Auditorium in the Chevron Science Center;

A \$1.56 million project to convert existing office space in Lothrop Hall into 47 new undergraduate beds, bringing Pitt's total on-campus undergraduate housing capacity

total to 7,241 beds; and

A \$2.8 million project for site preparation and utility extensions for the construc-tion of a 150- to 200-bed undergraduate apartment complex adjacent to Bouquet Gardens.

The three leases approved by the com-

An eight-year, 10-month lease with BPA II, Ltd., for 17,404 square feet of research and office space in Bridgeside Point II to house the Translational and Basic Neuroscience research programs in the Department of Psychiatry. The space will be used to accommodate the laboratories of six new faculty members in neurology and brain research. The annual rental cost will begin at \$817,988

and be adjusted annually;
A five-year lease for 29,153 square feet of space in the Sterling Plaza Building to house the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NŠABP), which is conducting research and large-scale clinical trials in cancer prevention and therapy. The National Cancer Institute provides primary support for the NSABP, and the funds for this year through 2011 include more than \$200.000 in ARRA funding annually. The lease, which runs through December 2015, will have an initial annual cost of \$816,284;

A 20-year lease for 143,742 square feet in the John G. Rangos Research Center located in Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, to house programs in the School of Medicine. The cost of the lease, when the space is fully occupied, will be \$12.36 million annually.

Happenings



Likeness, Mattress Factory, through March 21

Concerts

Artemis Quartet, performing works by Beethoven, 7:30 p.m. **March 1**, Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Pittsburgh Chamber Music Society, 412-624-4129, www.pittsburghchambermusic.

Joshua Bell, violinist, and Jeremy Denk, pianist, 7:30 p.m. March 2, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, BNY Mellon Grand Classics, 412-392-4900, www. pittsburghsymphony.org.

Tour de Force, Gianandrea Noseda, conductor, Jonathan Biss, pianist, 8 p.m. March 5 and 7, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony. org.

Cherish the Ludies, Irish musical performance, 8 p.m. **March 5**, Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Cohen & Grigsby Trust Presents Series, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

King David, by Arthur Honegger, musical performance, 8 p.m. **March 6**, Ingomar United Methodist Church, 1501 W. Ingomar Rd., Franklin Park; 4 p.m. **March 7**, Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church, 384 Fox Chapel Rd., Fox Chapel, Pittsburgh Concert Chorale, 412-635-7654, www.pghconcertchorale.org.

Appalachian Spring, musical performance by the River City Brass Band, 8 p.m. March 11, Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-322-7222, www. rcbb.com.

Classic Tales, Gianandrea Noseda, conductor, Benjamin Hochman, pianist, 8 p.m., March 11-13, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, BNY Mellon Grand Classics, 412-392-4900, www. pittsburghsymphony.org.

Portrait of an Artist, musical performance by the Pittsburgh Camerata, 3 p.m. March 14, Carnegie Museum of Art, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Pittsburgh Camerata, Carnegie Museum of Art, 412-421-5884, www.pittsburghcamerata.org.

Exhibitions

Pittsburgh Filmmakers Gallery, My Deviant Muse: Photographic Imagery in Glass, March 12 through April 18, 477 Melwood Ave., Oakland, 412-682-4111, www.pghfilmmakers.org.

Pittsburgh Glass Center, From the Earth to the Fire and Back, March 13 through June 13, Pittsburgh Glass Center, 5472 Penn Ave., Garfield, 412-365-2145, www.pittsburghglasscenter.org.

Mattress Factory, *Likeness*, art exhibition, through March 21, 500 Sampsonia

Portrait of an Artist

Nusic that reflects the inspiration

No vision of artists

Portrait of an Artist,
Pittsburgh Camerata,
Carnegie Museum of Art,

March 14

Way, North Side, 412-231-3169, www. mattress org

Frick Art & 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 Natural History, Whales/Tohora, through May 2, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3131, www.carnegiemnh.org.

The Westmoreland Museum of American Art, Concerning the 1930s in Art: Paintings from the Schoen Collection, through May 16, 221 North Main St., Greensburg, PA, 724-837-1500, www.wmuseumaa.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; Imagining Home: Selections From the Heinz Architectural Center, ongoing; Past Meets Present: Decorative Arts and Design, ongoing, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3131, www.cmoa.org.

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

Film

La Pasion Segun Berenice (Jaime Humberto Hermosillo, 1976), Spanish film screening, 6:30 p.m. March 5, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Amigos del Cine Latinoamericano Film Series: From Genre to Gender, Pitt Center for Latin American Studies, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, www.amigosdelcinelatinoamericano.blogspot.com.

That's Why I'm Working (Maarten Schmidt, Thomas Doebele, 1999), 2 p.m. **March** 7, Winchester Thurston School, 555 Morewood Ave., Shadyside, Asia Unreeled Documentary Film Series, Pitt Asian Studies Center, Confucius Institute, 412-578-7523, www.winchesterthurston. org.

Lectures/Seminars/ Readings

"A Critical Re-examination of the Electrostatic Aharonov-Bohn Effect," Allan Walstad, professor of physics, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, 12:05 p.m. March 2, 817R Cathedral of Learning, Lunchtime Talk Series, Pitt Center for Philosophy of Science, 412-624-1052, pittentr@pitt.edu.

Daniel Bozhkov, artist-in-residence, Queens Museum of Art, New York, and lecturer, Columbia University and Yale University, 2 p.m. **March 2**, McConomy Auditorium, University Center, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Ave., Squirrel Hill, Carnegie Mellon School of Art Lecture Series, 412-268-2409, artscool@andrew.cmu.edu.

"Medieval Hebrew-French Wedding Songs: Expressions of Identity," Kirsten Fudeman, professor, Pitt Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures, noon March 3, 2628 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Department of Religious Studies, www.religiousstudies.

"Talking With Fidel: The Secret History of U.S.-Cuba Relations,"
Peter Kornbluh, senior analyst, National Security Archive, noon March 3, 3703
Posvar Hall, Pitt Department of History sib3@pittedu

"South Koreans in the Debt Crisis: The Creation of a Neoliberal Welfare Society," Jesook Song, professor, University of Toronto's Department of East Asian Studies, noon March 4, 4130 Posvar Hall, Asia Over Lunch Lecture Series, Pitt Asian Studies Center, jennm@pitt.edu.

"Visual Democracy," Linda Gordon, professor, New York University's Department of History, 3 p.m. March 4, The Twentieth Century Club, Iris Marion Young Award Lecture, Pitt Graduate School of Public and Interna-

tional Affairs, Women's Studies Program, www.wstudies.pitt.edu.

"Layers of Healing, Layers of Hope," Alysa Stanton, United

Alysa Stanton, United States' first female African American rabbi, 7:30 p.m. March 3, William Pitt Union Ballroom, Pitt's Office of Cross Cultural and Leadership Development, Departments of Cultural Studies, History, and Religious Studies, 412-621-8875, carlya@hilleljuc.org.

"In the World of the Egg: Gilles Deleuze & The Logic of The Sensible,"

Marcia Landy, professor, Pitt Department of English, 4:30 p.m. March 4, 501 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Department of English, www.english.pitt.edu.

"Tuskegee Airmen: A Model for Excellence," Roscoe C. Brown, captain and pilot in U.S. Army Air Forces' Tuskegee Airmen fighter group during World War II, noon to 1:30 p.m. March 4, William Pitt Union's Kurtzman Room, Pitt's Swanson School of Engineering, School of Education, Office of Public Affairs, 412-624-9842 or eodadmin@pitt.edu.

"Connecting Source to Sink: Dynamics and Deposits of Plunging River Plumes," Michael Lamb, professor, California Institute of Technology's Division of Geological and Planetary Sciences, 4 p.m. March 5, Room11 Thaw Hall, Pitt Department of Geology and Planetary Science, www.geology.pitt.edu.

Miscellaneous

Preparing a Successful NRSA Application, workshop for postdoctoral professionals, 3 p.m. March 2, S120 Thomas E. Starzl Biomedical Science Tower, Postdoctural Professionalism Series, Pitt Office of Academic Career Development, www.oacd.health.pitt.edu.

Opera/Theater/ Dance

Once on This Island, by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty, musical theater, March 4-7, New Hazlett Theatre, 6 Allegheny Square East, North Side, Pittsburgh Musical Theater, 412-539-0999, www.pittsburghmusicals.com. Artemis Quartet, Carnegie Music Hall, March 1

The Price, by Arthur Miller, theatrical performance, **March 4 through April 4**, O'Reilly Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theater, 412-316-1600, www.ppt.org.

Grease, musical theater, 7:30 p.m. **March 9-14,** Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, PNC Broadway Across America: Pittsburgh, 412-456-2697, www.broadwayacrossamerica.com.

Time After Time, musical theater, **March 11-14**, Pittsburgh Playhouse, 222 Craft Ave., Oakland, Pittsburgh Playhouse, Point Park University, 412-621-4445, www.pittsburghplayhouse.com.

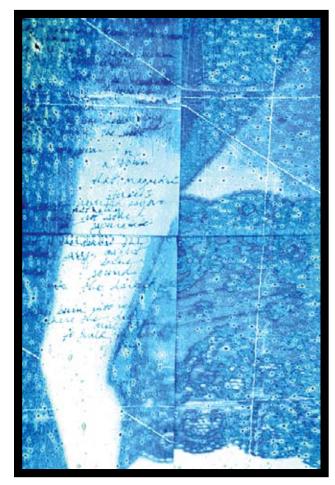
Golden Dragon Acrobats, 2 and 8 p.m. **March 13**, Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Cohen & Grigsby Trust Presents Series, 412-456-6666, www. pgharts.org.

Pitt/PhD Dissertation Defenses

Nicole R. Fowler, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 10 a.m. March 2, "Treatment Decision for People With Life-limiting Illnesses: An Analysis of Treatment Variation in Secondary Preventive Care for Cardiovascular Disease Among Medicare Beneficiaries With Dementia," 3200 Posvar Hall.

Gerald J. Nora, School of Medicine's Molecular Biophysics and Structural Biology Graduate Program, 10 a.m. March 4, "Processing of Alternative DNA Structures in the Human Telomere," 1018 Biomedical Science Tower 3.

Scott M. Langevin, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Epidemiology, 2:30 p.m. March 5, "MicroRNA-137 Promoter Methylation as a Biomarker for Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck," A622 Graduate School of Public Health.



My Deviant Muse: Photographic Imagery in Glass Pittsburgh Filmmakers Gallery March 12-April 18

PittChronicle

University News and Magazines University of Pittsburgh 400 Craig Hall 200 South Craig Street Pittsburgh, PA 15260

8 • Pitt Chronicle • March 1, 2010

Internal, Environmental Factors Trigger Brain Activity in Teens That Is Key to Understanding Teen Behavior, Study Finds

By Morgan Kelly

While the otherworldly behavior of teenagers is well documented, University of Pittsburgh researchers have taken a significant step toward finally unraveling the actual brain activity that can drive adolescents to engage in impulsive, self-indulgent, or self-destructive behavior. Published in the current edition of *Behavioral Neuroscience*, the Pitt study demonstrates that adolescent brains are more sensitive to internal and environmental factors than are adult brains and suggests that the teenage tendency to experiment with drugs and develop psychological disorders could stem from this susceptibility.

Lead researcher Bita Moghaddam, a professor in the Department of Neuroscience in Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences, said that although the exact mechanics of the adolescent brain's reaction need further investigation, the current study is a starting point in mapping the neural path from stim-

uli to behavior in the adolescent brain. Pitt neuroscience doctoral student David Sturman was the *Behavioral Neuroscience* report's lead author, conducting the study with Moghaddam and Pitt research assistant Daniel Mandell. The project was supported by the National Institute of Mental Health.

"Adolescence is a period of volatility and vulnerability with tendencies toward interpersonal conflict, emotional reactivity, and risky behavior, but we know very little about the brain mechanisms that promote this state," Moghaddam said. "We want to know how the adolescent brain interacts with the environment at the brain-cell level, when the neural signals are firing. Once we identify how certain factors trigger teenage behavior, we might better

understand—and possibly address—the origin of the risk taking and psychological disorders such as depression and schizophrenia that occur during this period."

The researchers trained adolescent and adult rats to respond to a visual light cue by rewarding them with sugar pellets. Previous research has shown that

The rats words of three high behind the rat poked center high was act a pellet right on nothing four center high containing fou

psychological problems, the authors wrote. The rats were placed in front of three holes with the light behind the middle hole. If a rat poked its nose into the center hole when the light was activated, it received a pellet; if it explored the

adolescent rats and mice exhibit behavioral

differences from adults similar to those of

adolescent humans, including greater impul-

siveness, impatience, and vulnerability to

right or left hole, it got nothing. The researchers found that the adolescents responded to the light cue at least

as readily as adult rats, suggesting a similar or slightly

better capacity for learning. After six days, the rats no longer received a reward for choosing the center hole. They were divided into four test groups, each with an equal number of adults and adolescents: rats that were given 20 percent less food between sessions and received the light cue; rats that received the light cue but could eat as much as they liked between sessions; a group that received less food and no light cue; and a group that could eat between sessions but was not shown the light cue during the experiments.

Moghaddam and her team found that adolescents tended to return to the center hole far more often than the adults did although they received no reward and continued going to the hole long after the adult rats stopped altogether. Such doggedness was even more prominent

in adolescents who received the light cue and

had a restricted diet before the experiment. This group nosed the center hole 30 times, twice as often as adults under the same circumstances and as adolescents with less food and no light cue. Adolescents that received

the cue and had free access to food made for the center hole only a third as often.

Thus, rats experiencing internal and external stimuli—hunger and the light cue—compulsively sought the earlier reward long after the other rats realized it no longer existed. These results suggest that human teenagers can similarly behave irrationally and compulsively when faced with certain feelings



Bita Moghaddam

and settings, Moghaddam said. "A scenario could range from the relatively mundane, such as hungry teenagers being more likely than adults to buy fast food immediately after seeing an advertisement, to despair and relationship problems eliciting thoughts of suicide," she said.

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of Pitt Chronicle will be published March 15. 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.