Chancellor’s Affirmative Action Award Given to Pitt-Bradford Admissions Office

Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg has selected the Pitt-Bradford Office of Admissions to receive the 2010 Chancellor’s Affirmative Action Award. The award is presented annually to an “outstanding University program area or individual that has made a significant contribution in affirmative action.”

The Chancellor will present the $2,500 award to the Pitt-Bradford admissions office at the University Senate Council meeting on Wednesday, June 9.

The Award Selection Committee “was deeply impressed by the team effort the Office of Admissions employed to develop a program that would create a culturally diverse and inclusive campus and community,” according to his May 27 letter to Alexander N. Nazemetz, director of the Pitt-Bradford Office of Admissions, informing him of the award.

“I am well aware of the efforts of the Office of Admissions at Pitt-Bradford to increase enrollment, and I am very pleased to be able to recognize the efforts the department has made in achieving its goals,” Nordenberg added.

The University of Pittsburgh is 18th in the nation among “Tech’s 29 Most Powerful Colleges” in a new ranking produced by The Daily Beast, which is published by former Vanity Fair and New Yorker editor Tina Brown. Among the 29 tech powerhouses is Pitt-Bradford, which is featured in the article, according to a new ranking of that title by the American news reporting and opinion Web site The Daily Beast, which is published by former Vanity Fair and New Yorker editor Tina Brown. Among the other universities in the top 18 are Dartmouth, Stanford, Princeton, Harvard, MIT, Duke, Northwestern, Yale, Johns Hopkins, Cornell, UCLA, and Illinois; among other institutions in the top 29 are Berkeley, Wisconsin, and Purdue.

For the ranking, The Daily Beast researched the leadership of more than 100 tech companies—including all those among the Fortune 500 plus start-ups in the TechCrunch 50 list and the tech category of Technology Review’s Most Innovative Companies list—and then “analyzed the biographies of the companies’ CEOs and other top executives…to tabulate their undergraduate alma maters.…Schools that produced multiple executives in our universe of companies…were first cut out of our analysis,” according to The Daily Beast’s explanatory article on the ranking by New York City-based writer-editor Thomas E. Weber, a former bureau chief and editor at The Wall Street Journal.

Weber’s article continues:

“Weber’s article quotes a leading executive-search firm CEO on how "some schools excel at inculcating a crucial skill for techland: dealing with uncertainty and making the right decision without taking too long to size up a situation." These are the schools selected as the top colleges in the ranking.

Two majors, according to the explanatory article, “rulled the list”—engineering and computer science, which accounted for nearly one quarter of the undergraduate degrees earned by the tech executives examined in the ranking. Other popular majors among the executives during their undergraduate years were economics, business, and mechanical engineering.

The full article and ranking details are at www.dailybeast.com/blogs-and-stories/2010-05-03/techs-29-most-powerful-colleges/full/

Pitt Is 18th in Nation Among “Tech’s 29 Most Powerful Colleges” in New Ranking By The Daily Beast

By John Harvitt

The University of Pittsburgh is 18th in the nation among “Tech’s 29 Most Powerful Colleges,” according to a new ranking of that title by the American news reporting and opinion Web site The Daily Beast, which is published by former Vanity Fair and New Yorker editor Tina Brown. Among the other universities in the top 18 are Dartmouth, Stanford, Princeton, Harvard, MIT, Duke, Northwestern, Yale, Johns Hopkins, Cornell, UCLA, and Illinois; among other institutions in the top 29 are Berkeley, Wisconsin, and Purdue.

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Continued on page 3
Local VA Gets $3.6 Million to Partner With Pitt on New Veterans Engineering Resource Center

The VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System (VAPHS) received a three-year, $3.6 million federal award to work with University of Pittsburgh researchers on a new center to streamline the delivery of health care services to local veterans by applying engineering and systems-improvement principles. The new center, the Veterans Engineering Resource Center (VERC), was one of only four such centers nationwide supported by a grant from the U.S. Veterans Health Administration. VERC director Robert Monte will lead the initiative at VAPHS alongside VAPHS chief of staff Rajiv Jain and VAPHS associate director Bonnie Graham.

Pitt’s VERC team includes principal investigator Andrew Schafer and coprincipal investigator Jay Rajgopal, both professors in the Department of Industrial Engineering in Pitt’s Swanson School of Engineering, joined by researchers in Pitt’s Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business, Graduate School of Public Health (GSHP), and School of Medicine.

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Clarification

As the Pitt Chronicle reported in its May 17, 2010, issue, the University of Pittsburgh was ranked in the very top cluster of the nation’s public research universities in the recently released 2009 edition of The Top American Research Universities. The Center for Measuring University Performance, which produces the annual Top American Research Universities publication, has just confirmed that, because of a reporting error by another university for the 2008 ranking, Pitt was mistakenly ranked in the second tier of institutions of higher education in the 2008 edition of The Top American Research Universities when it should have been ranked in the top tier. Given this updated information, the Pitt Chronicle can now report that Pitt was in the top tier of The American Research Universities in 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009. The 2009 annual ranking therefore marks the fourth consecutive year that Pitt has ranked in the top cluster.

A recipient of the Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Award, Husted has been a member of the Pitt faculty since 1980, teaching in the area of international economics. His current research investigates the rise of Chinese exports and the determinants of purchasing power parity in exchange rates.

Husted has served as a senior staff economist for the President’s Council of Economic Advisers in Washington, D.C., and has held visiting fellow positions at Australian National University, the University of Strathclyde, and the University of Glasgow. He earned a BA in political science and an MA and PhD in economics—all at Michigan State University.

Husted’s appointment as interim dean follows the April 7, 2010, death of G. Alec Stewart, who had been the dean of the University of Pittsburgh’s School of Arts and Sciences since its inception.
Keeping Alive a Legacy

Lars Johnson maintains a disciplined schedule that includes 5:30 a.m. wake-ups for Pitt Crew team practices. Named Pitt Crew team captain his freshman year, he now serves as the team’s business manager. These leadership roles, coupled with his dual major in applied mathematics and economics, have made Johnson a perfect candidate for the Allan McLeod Bryson Merit Scholarship.

The scholarship is named in honor of longtime Pitt math faculty member, the late Allan McLeod Bryson, and created by Bryson’s son, Michael (A&S ’68) and daughter-in-law Kathryn (EDUC ’68), both of whom have strong ties to the University. Michael Bryson is a member of the Pitt Board of Trustees and a director emeritus of the University’s Alumni Association. He retired executive vice president of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation and CFO of Mellon Financial Corporation, which he served prior to its merger with The Bank of New York. Kathryn Bryson is a director-at-large of Pitt’s Alumni Association. The Brysons also support the Panther Club Athletic Scholarship Fund, the Heinz Chapel Angels, and the Chancellor’s Club.

The Allan McLeod Bryson Merit Scholarship is awarded to students in the University Honors College who major in mathematics or the physical sciences.

“The Allan McLeod Bryson Merit Scholarship was created to support School of Arts and Sciences students in the University Honors College who major in mathematics or the physical sciences.

“My father gave up a career as a chemical engineer and also the opportunity to play professional baseball to return to the University and pursue his graduate degree in mathematics and a career in teaching,” Michael Bryson explained.

“Students were a very important part of his life, and he spent many years as the advisor to all Pitt’s mathematics majors. He was quoted in the 1967 Owl as saying, ‘It has always been one of the rewards of college teaching that you meet the nicest young people.’ It seemed only fitting to establish a scholarship in his name to support young students such as Lars.’

During the summers, John- son runs a landscaping business to help with college expenses. He had initially intended to con- tinue working at least part-time during the school year, but the Bryson Scholarship has allowed him to concentrate full-time on academics and the activities he loves.

A native of New Free- dom, Pa., Johnson will begin his junior year in the fall. He wasted no time getting involved on campus. He joined Pitt’s math club and recently started a knitting club with other Pitt Crew team members. Math has always fascinated him, and he said he enjoys the academic rigor and detail of his college courses.

McGowan Institute Gets $12 Million for Human Studies of Treatments for Battlefield Injuries, Scars

School of Engineering and a professor in the Departments of Bioengineering, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science; and Charles Sfeir, a professor in the School of Dental Medicine’s Department of Oral Medicine and Pathology; and Petroleum Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science; and Petroleum Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science.

The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center (PittSC) will host a specialized supercomputer for biomolecular simulation. The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), has awarded a two-year, $2.7 million grant to the National Resource for Biomedical Supercomputing at the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center to host a specialized supercomputer for biomolecular simulation.

The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center is a joint venture between Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh together with Westinghouse Electric Company. Established in 1986, the center receives support from several federal agencies, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and private industry.

The supercomputer, named Anton, and its novel algorithms were designed by a team of researchers led by David E. Shaw, chief scientist of New York-based D. E. Shaw Research. The supercomputer will be available without cost for noncommercial research use by universities and other non-profit institutions. Anton was designed to dramatically increase the speed of molecular dynamics simulations so biomedical researchers can better understand the motions and inter-
Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center Will Host Specialized Machine for Biomolecular Research

Continued from page 3

actions of proteins and other biologically important molecules.

The National Resource for Biomedical Supercomputing will soon invite U.S. biomedical researchers to submit proposals for time allocations on Anton. A peer review committee will be convened by the National Research Council to review proposals. Although the NIH has supported individual scientists’ molecular dynamics research for many years, it has not provided funds to make a supercomputing system for molecular dynamics simulations available as a national resource. Additional information about proposal submission is available at www.nbirp.org/anton_rfp.

“This is an incredibly exciting project in many ways,” said Joel Stiles, director of the National Resource for Biomedical Supercomputing, which is housed at the University of California. “This is a truly unprecedented opportunity to explore the mechanisms of biological processes at the molecular level. Anton will enable researchers to address questions that have been beyond the reach of traditional computational methods.”

As part of the NIGMS award, the National Resource for Biomedical Supercomputing also will install a new data storage and analysis sub-system, including nearly half a petabyte of online disk capacity (one petabyte is one million gigabytes).

The award is one of 14 made by NIGMS using funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for projects that the NIH views as “grand opportunities” for major scientific progress. “The Grand Opportunities grants fund projects that promise to have a significant impact on a field of biomedical science,” said NIGMS Director Jeremy M. Berg. “By closing specific knowledge gaps, creating new technologies, or building community-wide resources, these awards will dramatically propel progress in key scientific fields.”

Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg met May 11 in the William Pitt Union with the winners of the 2010 Chancellor’s Awards for Staff Excellence in Service to the Community and to the University. From left, Chancellor Nordenberg; Allan P. Quick (GSIPA ’03), executive director of principal gifts, Office of Institutional Advancement; Patricia M. Colaisone, assistant director of the arts program at Pitt-Bradford; Beverly Bölden, director of student services and diversity recruiter, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business; Blaine R. Walker, manager of University Media Projects, Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education; Deborah L. Whitfield (CES ’04), a financial counselor in the School of Dental Medicine; Collie M. Henderson, administrative assistant in the School of Arts and Sciences; Department of Philosophy; and Emre Dörtge Jr. (EDUC ’96), STS/THS Technical Assistance Consultant, Office of Child Development. Dörtge, Quick, and Whitfield won the Awards for Staff Excellence in Service to the Community; Bölden, Colaisone, Henderson, and Walker received the Chancellor’s Award for Staff Excellence in Service to the University.

Kirk Savage Honored for His Book on National Mall and Transformation of Memorial Spaces

The Smithsonian American Art Museum has awarded the 2010 Charles E. Eldredge Prize to Kirk Savage, a professor and chair in the Department of the History of Art and Architecture at the University of Pittsburgh, for his book Monument Wars: Washington D.C., the National Mall, and the Transformation of the Memorial Landscape (University of California Press, 2009).

The $3,000 annual prize, given in honor of a former director of the museum, recognizes original and comprehensive research and excellence in writing in the field of American art history.

In his book, Calian outlines elements he feels are critical to effective leadership: curiosity, competence, commitment, character, collegiality, compassion, and courage. Filled with striking anecdotes, Calian’s book asks readers to look not only within themselves but to reach out to others to inspire hope and build stronger communities in trying times.


—Amanda Jeff Ritchie

Bookshelf

Elizabeth Brown, the Margaret and Terry Stent Professor of the History of Art and Architecture at the University of California, Berkeley. His book Monument Wars, written for molecular dynamics research for biomedical researchers nationally. We hope and expect that this project will help us to significantly advance our understanding of biomolecular structure and function.

As part of the NIGMS award, the National Resource for Biomedical Supercomputing also will install a new data storage and analysis sub-system, including nearly half a petabyte of online disk capacity (one petabyte is one million gigabytes).

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Director of the art museum, calls Savage’s book “compelling” and says it combines an important perspective to the ongoing discussion of the role of the National Mall.

By Morgan Kelly

Efforts within the University of Pitts-
burgh’s Department of Biological Sciences to encourage aspiring scientists at the precollege and undergraduate levels have been rewarded with two prestigious grants totaling $2 million from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), as well as the renewed appointment of department chair and Eberly Family Professor Graham Hatfull as one of 13 HHMI Professors nationwide and the only one in Pennsylvania.

HHMI recently announced the 2010 recipients of its Precollege and Undergraduate Science Education and HHMI Professors Program grants. The first award supports programs that seek to improve science education; the second supports the programs of individual research scientists taking innovative approaches to science education. Institutions and faculty members must be invited to apply for each grant.

Pitt was among only seven institutions to be selected for both awards, along with Harvard, Louisiana State, MIT, UCLA, Washington University in St. Louis, and Yale.

The four-year grants Pitt received will support academic initiatives that cultivate high school and undergraduate students’ interest in science and biology by involving them in active research. The $1.2 million Precollege and Undergraduate Science Education grant will support the biological sciences department’s summer undergraduate research program. During the summer, undergraduate students undertake a research project at Pitt that expands their scientific knowledge and their professional demeanors. Through mentoring and peer-to-peer sessions, students discuss their work to seek and provide feedback, help one another with difficult techniques, and resolve conflicts.

The 2010 grant is the department’s fourth since 1992 and brings the combined total to $6.8 million.

Hatfull’s selection for the HHMI Profes-
sors Program includes $800,000 to support his nationally implemented Phage Hunter program. Established in 2002, the Phage Hunter program takes students into the field to collect and study the genetics of bacterio-
phages, tiny viruses that infect bacteria and show promise in treating such human dis-
cases as tuberculosis. In 2008, HHMI took the program nationwide as part of its Science Education Alliance initiative, and more than 800 freshmen at 44 universities have been introduced to the yearlong course. Hatfull was previously named an HHMI Professor in 2002 as well as an HHMI “Million-Dollar Professor,” receiving a $1 million grant to support the Phage Hunter project.

More information on the Phage Hunter project is available on the department’s Web site at www.phagehunter.org.

More information on the HHMI awards is available on the institute’s Web site at www.hhmi.org.

By Morgan Kelly

Institute renews Graham Hatfull’s appointment as HHMI Professor

Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center Will Host Specialized Machine for Biomolecular Research

$2M in HHMI Grants for Pitt’s Biological Sciences Undergrad, Precollege Research Programs

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Last Call: Final Book in Haines’ Rosie Winter Series Is A Somber Tale of WWII America, Death, and Suspicion

By Morgan Kelly

"After being abroad and seeing with my own peepers what war means, I found it hard to believe that we thought we could change the outcome by collecting some tin and having faith that if you were right you would be victorious. It just didn't work that way."

—Rosie Winter, When Winter Returns

In her fourth and final romp through the back alleys and safe houses of World War II America, Pitt staffer and MFA alumnus Kathryn Miller Haines (A&S '98), associate director of Pitt's Center for American Music, plunges the heroine of her Rosie Winter mystery series into a world far darker than the realm of gangland murders and black-market slaughterhouses Rosie knows so well—her own country, tense, afraid, and war- weary.

PUBLISHED last month, When Winter Returns (Harper Paperbacks) opens in September 1943 with natural-born citizens hiding their heritages out of fear, political allegiances violently dividing once-cohesive neighborhoods, and the pressures of war igniting race riots in Harlem, Detroit, and Los Angeles. Rosie is back in New York City after her disastrous stint entertaining troops in the South Pacific that was the setting of last year’s Winter in June (Harper).

Haines takes a more somber and reflective turn in her latest book, departing from the usual string of misadventures Rosie has experienced since she stumbled into sleuthing in the first book, The War Against Miss Winter (Harper, 2007). Haines approaches When Winter Returns as a reckoning of the effect that constant death and uncertainty have on Rosie and the people around her, a book that earned a starred review from Publishers Weekly and a review in the American Library Association’s Booklist noted, “Haines captures the spirit of the home front in a story that includes murder and sabotage.

“This book is darker, more personal,” Haines said. “I wanted to explore Rosie as a real person and how she’s changed since the first book. I wondered how much the South Pacific would change an actual person—seeing war upfront, drinking beer with people who are later killed and no longer on this Earth. Rosie experiences this and then comes back home, and people can’t really relate to that. She’s stuck dealing with it on her own, and it’s changed how she sees everything. As I wrote it, it felt more like a novel than a typical mystery.”

Haines begins with omitting a crucial mystery plot element—a murder. The book instead opens with Rosie discovering that a soldier she met in the South Pacific and who was killed in Winter in June fighting the Japanese—and who was engaged to her best friend-cum-sidekick Jayne Hamilton—was not who he claimed to be. Rosie and Jayne set off to learn his true identity and uncover a culture of fear, suspicion, and tested loyalty in New York’s ethnic enclaves.

Haines was reluctant to thrust Rosie into another murder case, she said, fearing that constantly exposing her character to a new crime would become artificial. Rosie’s no-stone-faced detective.

“The series is based on Rosie being a regular girl, and a real person undergoing war upfront, drinking beer with people who are later killed and no longer on this Earth. …”

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Haines will host two book signings: The first at 7 p.m., June 11 at Mystery Lovers Bookshop, 514 Allegheny River Blvd., Oakmont, and June 27 at Joseph-Beth Book-sellers in the Southside Works, 2705 E. Carson St., South Side. More information on Haines and the Rosie Winter series—including book reviews—is available on Haines’ Web site at www.kathrynmillerhaines.com

Last Call: Final Book in Haines’ Rosie Winter Series Is A Somber Tale of WWII America, Death, and Suspicion

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2010 ELIZABETH BARANGER AWARDS

Seven Pitt graduate students received the 2010 Elizabeth Baranger Excellence in Teaching Award, given annually to acknowledge and promote outstanding teaching by Pitt graduate students. It was named in honor of former Pitt vice provost for graduate studies and emeritus professor of physics Elizabeth Baranger. Chosen from more than 50 nominees were (front row, from left) Jessica Yockey, a fourth-year doctoral student in psychology; James Welz, a fifth-year doctoral student in clinical and health psychology; Madalina Veres, first-year doctoral student in history; Baranger; and (back row, from left) Thomas Posa, who graduated May 2 with an MBA degree in performance pedagogy, Theatre arts, Gabrielle “Bri” Owens, a fourth-year doctoral student in English; James Pearson, a seventh-year doctoral candidate in philosophy; and Michael Barr, a first-year doctoral student in philosophy who received an honorable mention. The award, sponsored by Pitt’s School of Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Organization, carries a cash prize of $250 and helps graduate students prepare professionally for teaching careers. The group was honored April 23 during a reception at Oakland’s Lucca Ristorante. Not pictured is Suset Loboy Perez, a third-year doctoral student in history.
**Awards & More**

*Amanda Meighan* was awarded the 2010 Dick Thornburgh Prize for Public Service during the University of Pittsburgh School of Law’s 14th graduation ceremony. The prize, which includes a $4,000 award, was established on the 50th anniversary of Dick Thornburgh’s 1957 graduation from Pitt’s law school. It is given annually to a graduating Pitt law student who has chosen to enter public service and to emulate Thornburgh’s own public career, which includes service as the governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (1979-87), attorney general of the United States (1988-91), and under-secretary-general at the United Nations (1992-93). Meighan will work as a contract specialist with the Veterans Health Administration in Pittsburgh. An emeritus member of the University’s Board of Trustees, Thornburgh received the LLB degree from Pitt’s School of Law, where he served as an editor of the *University of Pittsburgh Law Review*.

The National Science Foundation awarded research grants to the following four Pitt faculty.

*Mohammed Atefi,* a professor in the Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering and the William Kepler Whiteford Professor in the Department of Bioengineering, received a three-year, $348,426 grant for his project, “Collaborative Research: Maximizing Therapeutic DNA Process Productivity.” The research is to help advance the field of metabolic engineering.

*Daniel Bain,* an assistant professor in the Department of Geology and Planetary Science, received a two-year, $166,606 grant for his project, “Early Career: Acquisition of an Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometer (ICP-MS) for Research in Geochemical, Environmental, and Paleoenvironmental Geoscience.” The funds will support a spectrometer that will facilitate geoscience investigations by multiple faculty.

*Graham Hatfield,* the chair and Eberly Family Professor of Biological Sciences in Pitt’s School of Arts and Sciences, received a $449,900 grant for his project, “The Population Dynamics of Forest Understory Invasion: Mechanistic Experiments With Generalist Herbivores, Natives, and Invaders.” The research will continue Hatfield’s research into the direct, indirect, and synergistic interactions of deer and the garlic mustard plant on the sustainability of forest native plant populations and the forest plant community as a whole.

*Lise Vesterlund,* the Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Economics in the College of Arts and Sciences, received $276,640 grant for her project, “Charitable Giving and Cooperation.” The grant will support three research projects aimed at improving the understanding of why people give and how they can be encouraged to give more.

*Joan C. Rogers,* a professor and chair in the Department of Occupational Therapy in Pitt’s School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, received the AOTA-AOTF Presidents’ Commendation Award, the highest award given by the American Occupational Therapy Association and the American Occupational Therapy Foundation. It honors a respected leader within the profession who has made significant contributions to occupational therapy over a lifetime of service. The award has been given only 12 other times since its inception in 1990.

*Mark Gladwin,* chief of the Division of Pulmonary, Allergy, and Critical Care Medicine and director of the Vascular Medicine Institute in Pitt’s School of Medicine, was elected to serve on the council of the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI). He is one of six council members who, together with ASCI’s top office holders, manages the organization and considers all nominations for membership. The ASCI elects a maximum of 80 new members annually for their research accomplishments.

*Robert Stein,* assistant director of the Small Business Development Center in the Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business’ Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence (IEE), was named a 2010 Most Valuable Professional for the seventh consecutive year. The MVP award is given to technical community leaders who share their expertise and provide feedback to help people enhance their use of technology. A nationally renowned innovator and advisor in the technology industry, Stein is also the manager of the Information Technology Program at IEE.

*Sally Wenzel,* a professor of medicine in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and director of the University of Pittsburgh Asthma Institute, received the 2010 Recognition Award for Scientific Accomplishments at the American Thoracic Society’s International Conference in New Orleans. Wenzel has a long-standing interest in asthma and is one of four National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute-funded investigators in the NIH-sponsored Severe Asthma Research Program.

*Amir H. Faraji,* who is pursuing a medical degree in Pitt’s School of Medicine and a PhD in chemistry through the joint Pitt-Carnegie Mellon University Medical Scientist Training Program, was selected to attend the June 27-7 July 2010, Lindau Nobel Laureates Meeting in Lindau, Germany. The annual gathering is an interdisciplinary meeting of up-and-coming researchers from around the globe and Nobel Laureates from the fields of physiology or medicine, physics, and chemistry.

The following Pitt Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH) faculty and staff members have been recognized recently for their accomplishments.

*Bernard Goldstein,* a professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health and former dean of GSPH, testified before the U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security about an Institute of Medicine committee’s report, Biowatch: Evaluating System for the Early Detection of Biological Threats. Goldstein also was invited to serve on the National Academies Roundtable on Science and Technology for Sustainability, which provides a forum for sharing views, information, and analyses related to sustainability.

*Meryl H. Karol,* a professor emeritus in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, received the 2010 Ambassador of Toxicology Award from the American Public Health Association Center, Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute, and a professor of surgery at Pitt’s School of Medicine, was named president-elect of the Intestinal Transplant Association. He will serve a two-year term, followed by a two-year term as president.

The *Global Studies and African Studies Programs* within Pitt’s University Center for International Studies received grants from the U.S. Department of Education’s Fulbright-Hays Group Program Abroad program. The Global Studies Program’s “Understanding Islam, Through the Egyptian Lens” will provide the opportunity for secondary school teachers from Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia to travel to Egypt to develop curricula related to the study of African, Middle Eastern, and Islamic studies. The African Studies Program’s “Summer Curricular Development Project in Ghana” is part of the program’s agenda for outreach to K-12 schools in Pittsburgh and surrounding areas to promote more inclusive content in the curriculum. Fourteen teachers and administrators from South Hills school districts will be selected to participate in the June 30-July 28 trip to Ghana.

*Faculty and staff in Pitt’s schools of the health sciences have been recognized for the following accomplishments.*

*Marilyn McLaughlin,* chief nursing officer and vice president of patient care services at Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC, was elected to a three-year term on the governing council of the American Hospital Association’s (AHA) Section for Maternal and Child Health. The council is a 15-member body comprising CEOs and senior executives from women’s and children’s providers throughout the United States who advise the AHA on member service strategies, public policy issues, advocacy positions, and emerging issues.

*John Pacella,* an assistant professor of medicine in Pitt’s School of Medicine, received an American Heart Association Claude R. Joyner, M.D., Research Scholarship in 2010 for his research on coronary collateral blood vessels, the body’s natural bypasses to blocked arteries.

*Kareem Abu-Elmagd,* director of the Intestinal Rehabilitation and Transplantation Center, Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute, and a professor of surgery at Pitt’s School of Medicine, was named president-elect of the Intestinal Transplant Association. He will serve a two-year term, followed by a two-year term as president.
Concerts

Patrick Arena, jazz vocalist, 7 p.m.

Patrick Fink, jazz pianist, 5 p.m.

Vibe, Bass, Drum, featuring multi-instrumentalist Jeff Berman, 5 p.m.

Celebration Concert: John P. Kee & the New Life Community Choir, musical performance, 7 p.m.


Lavender Jazz with Patrick Arena & Mark Lewis, musical performance, 7 p.m.

Gone Ludwig, jazz organist, 5 p.m.


Carlos Menjía, stand-up comedian, 6 p.m.

Miscellaneous

“Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System (PCNIS) Users Conference,” featuring PCNIS users and national neighborhood experts discussing methods to reduce blight and revitalize Pittsburgh communities, 1 p.m.
June 11, University Club, 412-624-9177.

No Reservations: An Evening With Anthony Bourdain, internationally acclaimed chef and author known as “the bad boy of cuisine” for his blunt observations about world of restaurants, 7:30 p.m.

Untenth Night of Comedy, evening of stand-up comedy and skits to support mission of House of Manna Faith Community, 6 p.m.

Pittsburgh Jazz Music Festival: Yiddish Songsfest, featuring the concerts Hidden Yiddish Treasures: the Art Songs of Lea Zeitlin, 7:30 p.m.
June 7, Levy Hall, Rudol Shalom Congregation, 4005 Fifth Ave., Oakland, 100 Years of Jewish Theater, 7:30 p.m.
June 16, Katz Theater, Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh, 5738 Forbes Ave., Squirrel Hill, Yiddish Meets Klezmer, 7:30 p.m.
June 13, Temple Emanuel of South Hills, 1250 Bower Hill Road, Mt. Lebanon, and also June 14, Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh, www.pjmjnf.net.

Opera/Theater/Dance


Lectures/Seminars/Readings

“Conscience-Sensitive Medical Ethics Education,” Meg Gaffney, associate clinical professor in Department of Medicine, University of Pittsburgh, noon June 11, Room 307 Eberly Hall.

Molecular Devices,” 1 p.m.
June 17, Lecture Room 3, Fourth Floor, Sc allot Hall, Pitt School of Medicine’s Office of the Vice Dean, Medical Education Grand Rounds, www.mecg.pitt.edu.

“Investment Responsibility: Why You Should Care,” Rich Lynch, COO of February365, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business, Pittsburgh Executive Series, 7:30 p.m.
June 18, Alumni Hall, 614-688-1608.

Exhibitions

Carnegie Museum of Art, Gods, Love, and War, 7 p.m.

Bower Hill Road, Mt. Lebanon, and also June 14, Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh, www.pjmjnf.net.

Pitt/PhD Dissertations

Jen Bois, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, 2 p.m.

Katheryn Davis, School of Arts and Sciences, Department of Chemistry, “Charge Transfer in Immobilized Biocatalysts: Small Steps Toward Molecular Devices,” 1 p.m.
June 17, Room 307 Eberly Hall.
University of Pittsburgh doctoral student Kakenya Ntaiya has been named a 2010 National Geographic Emerging Explorer for her dedication to bettering the lives of young girls in her small Maasai village of Enoosaen, Kenya. Ntaiya is among 14 “visionary young trailblazers” to be chosen for the honor.

National Geographic’s Emerging Explorers Program recognizes and supports “uniquely gifted and inspiring adventurers, scientists, photographers, and storytellers making a significant contribution to world knowledge through exploration while still early in their careers.” Each Emerging Explorer receives a $10,000 award to assist with research and to aid further exploration. Ntaiya, an educator and activist, founded the Kakenya Center for Excellence, the first and only school for girls in her home region. She is the first girl from her village to pursue an education, earning a scholarship to pursue an undergraduate degree at Randolph-Macon Women’s College in Virginia. She is working on her dissertation in The Pitt School of Education’s PhD program in social and comparative analysis in education and expects to finish this year.

Ntaiya believes that education will empower and motivate young girls to become agents of change in their communities. She spent her time in the United States promoting awareness of the issues affecting Kenyan girls. She was the first youth advisor to the United Nations Population Fund and traveled around the world to speak on the importance of educating girls, particularly as a means to fight the practices of female genital mutilation and child marriage.

Ntaiya, who had been promised in marriage at the age of 5, negotiated with her father and agreed to be circumcised if he would allow her to finish high school. She then convinced the village elders to permit her to leave her village in southern Kenya to attend college in the United States. The entire village collected money to pay for her journey. Her promise was that she would use her education to benefit Enoosaen.

Since 2006, Ntaiya has been working to build the Kakenya Center. Now in its second year, her academy has 60 girls and four teachers, with a fifth to be hired soon. The school plans to accept 30 new girls each year.

PNY Technologies is a presenting sponsor of the Emerging Explorers Program and a National Geographic Mission Partner for Exploration & Adventure. Emerging Explorers is made possible in part by the Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation, which has supported the program since its inception in 2004.

By Patricia Lomando White

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of Pitt Chronicle will be published June 21. 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 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.