Freddie H. Fu, Maria Kovacs Honored As Pitt Distinguished Professors

Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg made the appointments, which became effective July 1, based on the recommendation of Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor James V. Maher.

The University of Pittsburgh has honored two faculty members in the School of Medicine, one as a Distinguished Service Professor and the other as a Distinguished Professor. Freddie H. Fu has been named as Distinguished Service Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and Maria Kovacs has been named Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry.

The rank of Distinguished Service Professor recognizes distinctive contributions and outstanding service to the University community in support of its multifaceted teaching/research/service mission; the rank of Distinguished Professor recognizes extraordinary, internationally recognized scholarly attainment in an individual discipline or field.

Biographical information on the faculty honorees follows.

Freddie H. Fu is the David Silver Professor and Chair of Pitt's Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. He holds secondary appointments as a professor of physical therapy in Pitt’s School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, professor of health and physical activity in the Pitt School of Education, and professor of mechanical engineering in Pitt’s Swanson School of Engineering. In addition, he has been the head team physician for Pitt’s Department of Athletics for more than 20 years. Known internationally as a pioneer in anatomic double-bundle ACL (anterior cruciate ligament) reconstruction surgery, Fu and his research team recently were awarded a $3.2 million National Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases grant to compare anatomic double-bundle and anatomic single-bundle ACL reconstruction surgeries. He is the founding medical director of the UPMC Center for Sports Medicine and has trained more than 500 surgeons and physicians worldwide and approximately 60 surgeons through Pitt’s Department of Orthopaedic Surgery Fellowship Program.

In 2008, Fu and his wife, Hilda Pang Fu, made a $1 million commitment to the OREF/AOSSM: Dr. Freddie H. and Mrs. Hilda Pang Fu Research Award. The award, which was created in cooperation with the Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation and the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine, will support research directed by either a female orthopaedic surgeon or an orthopaedic surgeon researcher of either gender on a topic of interest to female athletes.

Currently serving as president of the International Society of Arthroscopy, Knee Surgery and Orthopaedic Sports Medicine, Fu has held offices in numerous professional and academic organizations, including the recent term as president of AOSSM. His research efforts have led to more than 160 professional awards and honors, nearly 860 national and international presentations, more than 350 peer-reviewed articles, and editorship of 28 major orthopaedic textbooks.

The Hong Kong native received his undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College and his MD from Pitt.

During her 40-year career, Maria Kovacs, a professor of psychiatry in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, has earned a reputation as one of the most highly respected researchers in child and adolescent depression. Kovacs’ research focuses on depression spanning from late childhood to adulthood, and she has examined the presentation, outcome, and public health implications of early-onset affective mood disorders.

During the past decade, Kovacs has led a multidisciplinary international team of investigators in a project on risk factors for juvenile-onset depression that combined molecular genetic, brain physiology, behavioral observation, and clinical perspectives. She also has developed a novel psychotherapy for depression based on principles of emotion regulation that is being tested with children.

Kovacs is a member of numerous professional organizations, including the American Association of the Advancement of Science, the American Psychological Society, and the American Psychological Society, which elected her as a Fellow in 1998.

In 2003, the Institute for Scientific Information recognized Kovacs as one of the most-cited researchers (in the top 1.5 percent) in psychology and psychiatry for the 19-year period spanning 1981 to 1999. She has served on the advisory committees for both DSM-III and DSM-IV—the third and fourth editions of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, which provides the standard criteria for the classification of mental disorders for the American Psychiatric Association.

Kovacs earned her BA in psychology from Queens College of the City University of New York, her MEd in psychology from Columbia University Teachers College, and her PhD in psychology from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine’s Department of Psychology.

What does it take to be an engaged, informed, innovative leader? College students from around the world are getting more than a glimpse of the requirements at the second annual Student Leadership Summit of the University of Pittsburgh Hesselbein Global Academy for Student Leadership and Civic Engagement, which runs until July 13 on the University’s Pittsburgh campus.


Launched in 2009, the Hesselbein Global Academy is named in honor of Pitt alumni Frances Hesselbein, recipient of the 1998 Presidential Medal of Freedom and chair of the board of governors of the Leader to Leader Institute (formerly the Peter F. Drucker Foundation for Nonprofit Management). The academy’s mission is to inspire, develop, and reward accomplished student leaders as they meet the challenges of tomorrow.

“We are absolutely thrilled to be hosting the second annual Hesselbein Summit,” said Pitt Vice Provost and Dean of Students Kathy W. Humphrey. “We anticipate that this year’s summit will be fantastic, with greater representation from students attending colleges and universities in other countries and another incredible pool of mentors. Our special guest Marshall Goldsmith is truly one of the top experts in the world in the field of leadership, along with Frances, so it’s exciting to conduct this wonderful event on our campus once again.”

Fifty college students—from the United States, Argentina, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Georgia, India, Ire-
Supporting Future Health Care Leaders

By Lori Spisak

David P. Hunter (GSPH ’70) has always understood the value of scholarship, for he was a student at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH), he benefitted from a University scholarship that helped him pay for his tuition and books. Now, after years as a successful hospital executive and health care consultant, he watches as his own philanthropy—and the philanthropy of those close to him—impacts future health care leaders at GSPH.

Both of Hunter’s parents worked as nurses; his father was an associate administrator. “Growing up, I spent a lot of time in hospitals with them,” he remembers. After Hunter completed his undergraduate degree at Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pa., his father encouraged him to continue his education.

“I was fortunate enough to have offered a position in what was then GSPH’s hospital executive track,” Hunter says. One reason he selected Pitt for graduate work was the financial assistance that the University offered. Hunter went on to hold executive-level positions at several organizations—ranging from a rural hospital in Rochester, N.Y., to VHA, a national nonprofit hospital network—before cofounding The Hunter Group, a nationally recognized health care consulting and management company. In 2005, Hunter and his wife, Mary Roberts Hunter, endowed a scholarship at GSPH. “The quality of educational programs and students at Pitt is absolutely remarkable,” he explains. “We are so impressed with the academic achievement and research at the University.”

This year, the Hunter Group Health Policy and Management Student Scholarship was awarded to Keili Mistovich, a second-year student in GSPH’s Department of Health Policy and Management. A Springfield, Ohio, native, Mistovich came to Pitt to attend the School of Medicine. While in med school, she became interested in how policy-making shapes the practice of medicine. “I believe that understanding the picture of medicine is critical to providing the best care to my patients,” she explains.

Mistovich says she feels honored to be a scholarship recipient, adding that it’s “encouraging to know that others believe in me as I pursue my professional goals.” Mistovich says she is impressed by Hunter’s professional achievements. “He’s a very accomplished individual. And I think it’s great that he believes in giving back to the community that helped him to reach his own goals.”

“Rather than give me gifts for my birthday or other holidays, I would prefer that people build on the scholarship and make it as big as we can!” Thanks to the kindness of the Hunter family and friends, other promising GSPH students—like Mistovich—will be able to make an impact on public health as well.
Pitt CGS Offers New Certificate In National Preparedness And Homeland Security

In the wake of terrorist attacks, hurricanes, oil spills, crippling snowstorms, and pandemic scares, the University of Pittsburgh is offering a new certificate program designed to teach students and professionals core concepts and procedures central to preparedness, homeland security, and emergency management.

The Certificate in National Preparedness and Homeland Security (NPHS) is a one-of-a-kind 19-credit program that features dynamic modeling tools developed in Pitt’s Center for National Preparedness—a multidisciplinary collaboration of Pitt scientists, engineers, and policy experts with backgrounds in biomedical research, public health, medicine, national security, and information technology.

The course content, which will cover fundamentals, also will be continuously adapted to a changing preparedness environment, embracing new scenarios and knowledge derived from the most recent crisis-response efforts.

“Consistent with our mission, Pitt CGS associate dean, as well as currently enrolled students,” says Kelly Otter, CGS associate dean. “This certificate program responds to an emerging need in the regional workforce and is aimed at nontraditional students and professionals, as well as currently enrolled students,” says Kelly Otter, CGS associate dean.

The program’s courses cover international, federal, state, and local frameworks for response; a capstone course requires students to plan, simulate, and report on a complete disaster scenario in which all critical infrastructures (e.g., energy, government, transportation, health, and telecommunications) are compromised.

“The program is unique in that it is evidence-based and analytical,” says Ken Sochats, codirector of Pitt’s Center for National Preparedness. “It incorporates a multiple response systems approach and exciting visual tools.”

The program’s courses cover international, federal, state, and local frameworks for response; a capstone course requires students to plan, simulate, and report on a complete disaster scenario in which all critical infrastructures (e.g., energy, government, transportation, health, and telecommunications) are compromised.

Applicants must have completed at least 60 college credits, from Pitt or other institutions. For more information, admission guidelines, and an application, visit http://www cmp.pitt.edu/ certificat e.

Concerts

Exhibitions


Lectures/Seminars/Readings


Miscellaneous

Pianist to Perform Free Concert at Pitt July 16

Pianist Steven Mayer, credited with “piano playing at its most awesome,” will perform at the New York Times, will perform a free public concert at 8 p.m. July 16, in the auditorium of Pittsburgh’s Belfield Hall. The concert is being sponsored by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra (PSO).

Having long been associated with the music of legendary jazz pianist Art Tatum, Mayer will perform selections by Tatum and other exemplars of the Black Virtuoso Tradition—a term used to describe the American solo piano repertoire inspired by African American song and dance.

The Mayer concert is being presented during a three-week teacher-training institute that opens today on the Pitt campus and continues through July 30. Sponsored by the PSO, with support from Pitt’s Center for American Music and Planetary Science and Environmental Studies, “A Recollection History of the Myriadusian in Northern Gore,” 5 p.m. July 17, 4400 Forbes Tower.

Malcolm X, Swanson School of Engineering’s Department of Biomedical Engineering, School of Information Sciences’ Telecommunications and Networking Program, “Consistent with our mission, Pitt CGS associate dean, as well as currently enrolled students,” says Kelly Otter, CGS associate dean.

The program’s courses cover international, federal, state, and local frameworks for response; a capstone course requires students to plan, simulate, and report on a complete disaster scenario in which all critical infrastructures (e.g., energy, government, transportation, health, and telecommunications) are compromised.

The program’s courses cover international, federal, state, and local frameworks for response; a capstone course requires students to plan, simulate, and report on a complete disaster scenario in which all critical infrastructures (e.g., energy, government, transportation, health, and telecommunications) are compromised.

Applicants must have completed at least 60 college credits, from Pitt or other institutions. For more information, admission guidelines, and an application, visit http://www cmp.pitt.edu/ certificat e.

Concerts

Exhibitions


Lectures/Seminars/Readings


Miscellaneous
**AN EVENING WITH CAVE CANEM**

Sapphire (left) and Pitt English professor Toi Derricotte, both award-winning poets and authors, were among the guests at a June 24 private reception on the North Side prior to a free public reading by Cave Canem poets. The public reading was held beneath a tent on Monterey Street and presenters included Cave Canem faculty members as well as Sapphire, author of the best-selling novel *Push*, which was made into the Academy Award-winning movie *Precious*. The event was hosted by the City of Asylum/Pittsburgh, an organization that provides refuge to exiled foreign writers. Cave Canem, a nationwide fellowship that cultivates the artistic and professional growth of African American poets, was established in 1996 by Derricotte and poet Cornelius Eady.

**JAZZIN’ IT**

Three Pitt jazz students—the first to be seeking degrees in Pitt’s new PhD curriculum in jazz studies—made presentations April 26 in their Advanced Jazz Composition course in Pitt’s William R. Robinson Recording Studio in Bellefield Hall. Seated is Nathan Davis, Pitt’s director of Jazz Studies, and students (from left) James Moore, Alton Memell, and Nathan Frink. Each student presented a fully completed score of an extended concert jazz work, a jazz ballet, a jazz musical theatre piece or a mini opera, and a score for a film chosen by the composer. Davis developed the new jazz PhD program, which combines musicology, ethnomusicology, composition, and performance.

**A SPECIAL HANDSHAKE**

British Prince Harry (left) shakes hands with U.S. Marine Corporal Joshua Maloney (right), while W.P. Andrew Lee looks on. Lee, a professor of surgery and orthopedic surgery as well as chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, performed the 2009 transplant that gave Maloney a new right hand. Maloney’s own hand had been destroyed during a 2007 military training exercise. The three men met in New York City during a June 25 reception that Prince Harry hosted on the aircraft carrier USS *Intrepid* to honor British and American veterans. The prince, who is training to become a pilot with the British Army Air Corps, is interested in Pitt and UPMC’s hand-transplantation program. He spoke with Lee and Maloney about the medical procedure and its potential to help other wounded warriors.

**PUBLICATION NOTICE** The next edition of the *Pitt Chronicle* will be published July 26. Items for publication in the newspaper’s *Happenings* calendar (see page 3) should be received at least two weeks before the event date. *Happenings* items should include the following information: title of the event, name and title of speaker(s), date, time, location, sponsor(s), and a phone number and Web site for additional information. Items may be e-mailed to chron@pitt.edu, faxed to 412-624-4895, or sent by campus mail to 422 Craig Hall. For more information, call 412-624-1033 or e-mail robinet@pitt.edu.