

# PittChronicle

**INSIDE**

Q & A with Honors College  
Dean Edward Stricker..... 3

Scholars & Stewards:  
George Davidson..... 7

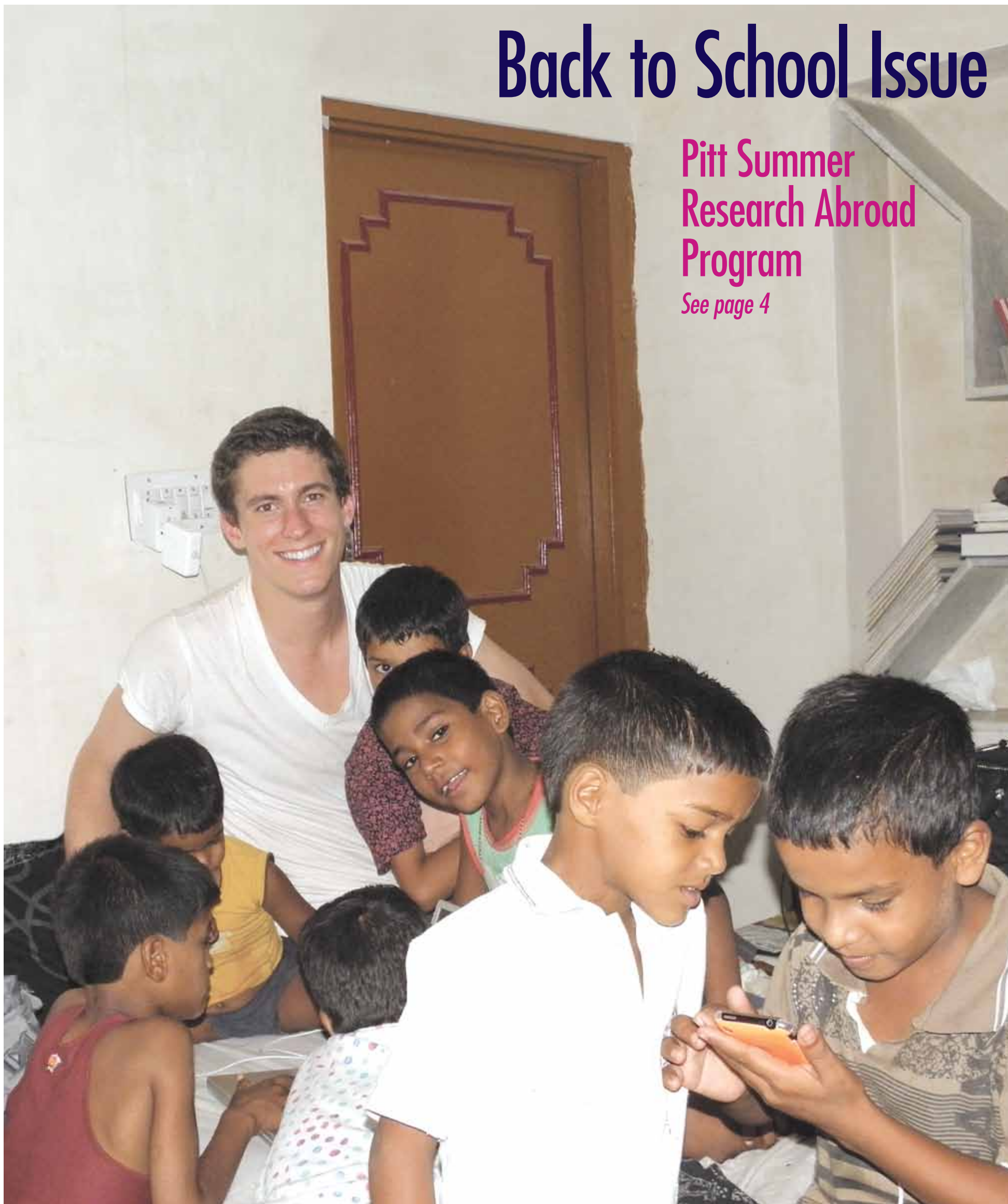
Newspaper of the University of Pittsburgh

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## Back to School Issue

Pitt Summer  
Research Abroad  
Program

*See page 4*





Pitt freshmen enjoy an ice cream social during Orientation 2010.

## Pitt to Hold New Student Orientation on Aug. 23-28

By Patricia Lomando White

The University of Pittsburgh New Student Orientation 2011 is welcoming 4,500 freshmen and transfer students Aug. 23-28 with informational sessions, campus and city tours, social gatherings, and ceremonies in an effort to educate, entertain, and orient members of the class of 2015 and their families to college life.

Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg and distinguished members of the University community will officially welcome Pitt's newest students at the Freshman Convocation Ceremony in the Petersen Events Center from 3 to 4 p.m. Aug. 24.

The traditional Lantern Night Ceremony will be held in Heinz Memorial Chapel from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Aug. 28. The Student Activities Fair, from 2 to 5 p.m. that day, introduces the newest members of Pitt's community to the campus' more than 300 student organizations. The fair is held in the Petersen Events Center.

Presentations, seminars, and open houses will be held on numerous aspects of campus life, including student organizations, health services, and campus safety.

The University Counseling Center Open House will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 23. Several informational activities will take place Aug. 24: "Student Health Service: When, Where, and How to Get Help," from 9 to 10 a.m. in the William Pitt Union (WPU); "A Healthier U Starts at Student Health Service," from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Medical Arts Building; "Student Life: The Importance of Getting Involved," from 11 a.m. to noon in the WPU; and "Get Culturally Crunk! A Block Party Presented by the Office of Cross-Cultural and Leadership Development," from noon to 1 p.m. in the WPU.

"Pathway to Your Success at Pitt: A Pitt Tradition," held Aug. 25 in the Petersen Events Center, will have a different twist this year. At 9:15 a.m., accompanied by Pitt's Pep Band, cheer squad, and dance team, more than 3,000 incoming freshmen will march to the Petersen. The new students will form the image of the Cathedral of Learning while holding a glow stick for four minutes in an effort to break the Guinness World Record for the "World's Largest Glow Stick Design." After the attempt to break the record, Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor Patricia E. Beeson will provide an overview of the opportunities for a successful academic journey at Pitt. The program will culminate with students singing Panther fight songs and the Alma Mater.

Among the activities designed exclusively for parents and guardians will be

"Campus Safety: What Parents Need to Know," from 3 to 4 p.m. Aug. 23, and "The Art of College Parenting," a light-hearted educational program, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Aug. 24, both in the WPU; and "Educating the Whole Student: What Every Parent Should Know," from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Aug. 24 in the O'Hara Student Center. Presentations will seek to answer questions and concerns of students' parents and guardians as well as to provide information on University programs. In addition, parents will have an opportunity to socialize with one another at the Panther Parents Association Information Session from 4 to 5 p.m. Aug. 23 and from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Aug. 24, and at the Continental Breakfast for Parents from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Aug. 25, all in the WPU.

**University staff will be available to answer questions and provide information at "Orientation Station," open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Aug. 23-25 and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 26 in the WPU's Lower Lounge.**

Scheduled entertainment and social activities will include an ice cream social and Monte Carlo Night. "Discover Pittsburgh!" from 7 to 9 p.m. Aug. 23 will include a sampling of food from local restaurants and music by local entertainers. "The Union Carnival," from 10 p.m. Aug. 24 to 1 a.m. Aug. 25, will feature carnival games, crafts, and an opportunity to mix and mingle on the WPU's main floor and Fifth Avenue lawn. A "Global Carnivale" from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Aug. 25 on the WPU lawn and patio will feature international cuisines, performances, music, and crafts. Other events beginning on Aug. 26 and ending on Aug. 27 include "Open Mic Night," from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. in WPU Nordy's Place, and "Oakland Teahouse," from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the WPU Commuter Student Lounge. Pitt Program Council will present hypnotist Erick Känd from 8 to 10 p.m. Aug. 27 in the WPU Assembly Room.

Multiple guided tours of the University and the city of Pittsburgh, including Pitt's Nationality Rooms, Heinz Memorial Chapel, Phipps Conservatory, and the Carnegie Museums of Art and Natural History, also will be available.

University staff will be available to answer questions and provide information at "Orientation Station," open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Aug. 23-25 and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 26 in the WPU's Lower Lounge. Students will be able to sign up for social activities and find out about programs offered through the New Student Orientation.

For more information or a complete schedule of events visit <http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/89a28fef#/89a28fef/1>.

## Pitt's Lantern Night to Be Held Aug. 28

By Patricia Lomando White

A University of Pittsburgh tradition continues as "flame-bearers" bestow the symbolic "light of learning" on more than 400 incoming freshman and first-year transfer women during the 91st annual Lantern Night Ceremony at 7:35 p.m. Aug. 28 in Heinz Memorial Chapel.

The student participants will gather at 7 p.m. in the Cathedral of Learning Commons Room to receive a lantern and prepare for the 7:25 p.m. procession to the chapel.

With unlit lanterns, the women will process on the parallel sidewalks located between the cathedral's Bellefield Avenue entrance and the chapel to the 7:35 p.m. ceremony. During the event, Pitt alumni "flame-bearers," including several mothers and grandmothers of incoming students, will light the lanterns, which will remain lit for the remainder of the program. Carrying the burning lanterns, the new students will process back to the Commons Room for a reception.

Susan M. Dunmire (MED '85), a professor of emergency medicine in Pitt's School of Medicine and a member of the UPMC Presbyterian Emergency Department staff, will deliver the Lantern Night Address. Other program participants will include Juliana Shayne (NURS '73), Lantern Night chair, who will offer a greeting and history of Lantern Night, and Pitt students Lauren Jentleson, president of Pitt's Panhellenic Association, and Crystal Orr, treasurer of the National Panhellenic Association, who will provide the student welcome. Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor Patricia E. Beeson will deliver the University welcome. Following the

remarks, Shayne will lead "flame-bearers" in lighting the lanterns.

A Pittsburgh native, Dunmire attended Winchester Thurston High School. She received a BA in drama from Chatham University and entered Pitt's School of Medicine in 1981, graduating in 1985. While at Pitt, Dunmire was an Alpha Omega Alpha Honors Society member. She completed a residency in Pitt's Department of Emergency Medicine in 1988 and was the only woman for the first seven years in Pitt's Affiliated Residency in Emergency Medicine program.

Among her numerous teaching awards are the Golden Apple Award in 2001 and 2008, the Faculty Recognition Award from 2004 to 2011, and The Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award in 2007. She also has received the Charles G. Watson Award for excellence in teaching and the Pitt Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award.

Dunmire serves as executive director of Pitt's Medical Alumni Association and is a member of Pitt School of Medicine's Admissions Committee.

Lantern Night is one of the University's oldest traditions. The Alumnae Council of the Pitt Alumni Association and Pitt's Division of Student Affairs cosponsor the ceremony; Student Affairs sponsors the reception.

For more information on Lantern Night, call 412-624-8215 or visit [www.alumni.pitt.edu/traditions/lanternnight.php](http://www.alumni.pitt.edu/traditions/lanternnight.php). An online donation to the Lantern Night Endowed Fund also can be made at that site by clicking on Pitt Giving.



## Traffic Changes for Pitt Move-In Days



The influx of University of Pittsburgh students returning to the Pittsburgh campus residence halls from Tuesday, Aug. 23, through Friday, Aug. 26, has prompted Pitt's Department of Parking and Transportation to issue the following traffic advisory.

The **Schenley Quadrangle** is closed to all vehicular traffic through Sunday, Aug. 28. **Forbes and Fifth avenues** will experience heavy traffic Aug. 23-26.

**Bigelow Boulevard** will be closed between Forbes and Fifth avenues from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Aug. 23 and 24, and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 25. Port Authority Bus Route 54C will not service the Carnegie Museum/Forbes Avenue stop during these times.

**Lothrop Street** will be closed between Fifth Avenue and Victoria Way from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Aug. 23-25 and from 8 a.m.

to 4 p.m. Aug. 26.

**University Drive B** will be closed between Allequippa Street and University Drive A from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Aug. 23-26.

Parking meters on **Ruskin Avenue** will be restricted to individuals moving into Ruskin Hall.

University of Pittsburgh Police will be stationed at Allequippa Street and University Drive B to assist with traffic control.

## PittChronicle

Newspaper of the University of Pittsburgh

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**On the cover:** Children in an Indian orphanage play with the computer and cell phone of Pitt senior Michael Gowen—the first time any of the children had seen such technology. Gowen and other Pitt students share stories about their summer research abroad experiences, page 4.

# The Art of Education: Molding “Good Citizens, Good Adults”

Edward M. Stricker became dean of Pitt’s University Honors College (UHC) on July 1. A Distinguished University Professor of Neuroscience and a renowned neuroscience scholar, Stricker has been instrumental in developing the University’s nationally recognized neuroscience program. His friendly manner, thoughtful approach to teaching, and scholarly commitment to research are hallmarks of his success.

Stricker holds BS and MS degrees in chemistry from the University of Chicago and a PhD in psychology from Yale University. He also held postdoctoral fellowships at the University of Colorado and the University of Pennsylvania.

Stricker’s 40-year career at Pitt began in 1971 when he joined the University as an associate professor of psychology and biological sciences.

He was promoted to full professor in 1976 and was named University Professor of Neuroscience in 1986. During his tenure, he served as director of the Behavioral Neuroscience Program and led efforts to establish the Department of Neuroscience in the School of Arts and Sciences, serving as its founding chair for 16 years. He also served as founding director of the Center for Neuroscience and Schizophrenia (now the Conti Center for Neuroscience of Mental Disorders) and was codirector of the University’s Center for Neuroscience.

Stricker’s commitment to education—particularly undergraduate education, both inside and outside the classroom—is apparent. He has challenged students to aspire to excellence and has provided the encouragement and tools necessary for achieving those aspirations.

A belief in promoting quality education for undergraduate students led to Stricker’s decision to apply for the UHC deanship. Stricker’s plans include interesting more students in the Honors College programs, providing more living and learning communities in which students can better share ideas, and offering more opportunities for students to conduct research, not just in the summer months, but throughout the academic year.

Now Stricker is bringing a thoughtful, deliberate approach to improving what he considers “an Honors College that is already first-rate.” In a recent conversation with the *Pitt Chronicle*’s Patricia Lomando White, Stricker talked about the many successful programs the Honors College offers, what the college does best, and his vision for where he would like to take it.

## Q. Why did you want to become the Honors College dean?

I had three reasons for my candidacy. First, I have always been very interested in promoting high-quality education for undergraduate students, and I thought that as dean I would have a stronger platform for influence than as a professor in the classroom. Second, the University of Pittsburgh has been very supportive of me during the 40 years I have been here, and, consequently, I have been productive and happy. I recognize that I have done some good things over the years, but I knew I would be inclined to contribute more, especially if I was selected for the position. And third, I thought being dean of the

Honors College would be interesting and fun. After two months in the position, I feel more strongly about all three reasons.

## Q. What are your early impressions of being dean?

As mentioned, I am pleased by the opportunities to influence undergraduate education, and I am pleased by the opportunity to make this contribution to the University. Thus far, my work has been continually interesting and often fun. And I am also very pleased to have met a group of interesting, good people with whom I now interact.

## Q. You are known for believing that undergraduate students bring unique benefits to research. Can you elaborate?

Undergraduate students usually bring an open mind to the laboratory, uncluttered by the local perspective and unfettered by the need to fit in. Graduate students quickly learn to adopt the perspective of the home laboratory, and to the extent that they succeed, they lose their ability to provide alternative viewpoints. Thus, undergraduate students may be freer to consider and offer alternative points of view.

## Q. Can you talk about your love of teaching—what is it that you find so rewarding?

To understand my answer, you have to know something about my background. All my grandparents were immigrants, and although my mother was born here, my father was not. They all believed in the democratic principles of this country, and they wanted to be good citizens. They believed that the way to be a good citizen was to work hard, be honest, and get a good education. My folks often quoted Thomas Jefferson, who said the foundation of the American democracy was an educated citizenry; thus, they valued education and educators. Not coincidentally, my mother taught high school math while my father, who was a civil servant by day, taught fourth-grade English to immigrants at night. No doubt for these reasons, I always wanted to be a teacher when I was growing up, and so did my brother and sister. And my goal as an academic has always been to educate, whether I was in the laboratory or in the chairman’s office, not just when I was in the classroom. I wanted to help students learn to analyze, to synthesize, to understand, and to make decisions based on evidence, so they could become good citizens and good adults. To the extent that I succeed, I am pleased to think that I am making a nice contribution to preserve our society.

## Q. Are there significant differences between the students you taught 30 years ago and the students you teach today?

The present students are much more sophisticated, generally, not just tech-savvy. More of them are interested in getting an education, and more of them have future plans. The most academically competent students today are not any more competent than the best of the former students, but now there are many more of them at Pitt.

## Q. Pitt’s Honors College has made a point of not being exclusive. Do you have plans to continue that inclusiveness, and



University Honors College Dean Edward M. Stricker

## how important do you think that quality is to an honors college or program?

Yes, I do intend to continue the policy of inclusiveness, and I do think that quality is very important. The UHC at Pitt caters to all students who come here to get an education. They are students who want to discover what they are interested in and what they are good at, and to learn how to think clearly and to develop good judgment, so they can use these insights and skills for the rest of their lives. They’re curious and inquisitive, and they like intellectual challenges. I recognize that all college students are not like that when they matriculate, but a good many students are, and even more of them become that way once they get here. They “turn the corner,” so to speak, and behave less like the high school students they were and more like the adult citizens they are becoming. The Honors College applauds and encourages that development in all

My folks often quoted Thomas Jefferson, who said the foundation of the American democracy was an educated citizenry; thus, they valued education and educators. Not coincidentally, my mother taught high school math while my father, who was a civil servant by day, taught fourth-grade English to immigrants at night. No doubt for these reasons, I always wanted to be a teacher when I was growing up, and so did my brother and sister.

undergraduate students, regardless of what stage of development they are in when they come to Pitt.

## Q. In your presentation to the selection committee for this job, you listed five successful aspects of the Honors College that should be maintained. Can you address those?

The five aspects I mentioned in my presentation last April were recruitment, advising, academic community, the Summer Brackenridge Research Program, and the B.Phil. degree. I also should have included honors courses, which was an obvious oversight. Briefly, throughout its 24-year history, the Honors College has successfully assisted the Office of Admissions in recruiting an increasingly large cadre of excellent students, has provided outstanding advising to those students once they arrive on campus, has promoted a strong sense of community through its residential

## New Comfort Zones

# Pitt Summer Research Abroad Program Helps Undergrad Scholars See Part of the World, Widen Their Aspirations

By Karen Hoffmann

For Michael Gowen, a Pitt neuroscience senior, the enormity of the poverty—and the challenges it presented—seemed simply overwhelming.

There he was in rural Jaipur, India, spending a week in an orphanage that was home to 22 children—all diagnosed with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), which leads to AIDS—who either had no known parents or whose parents were too sickened by AIDS to care for them. The orphanage did the best it could to provide for its young charges, noted Gowen, but many things fell short: broken ceiling fans, children's clothing that was literally falling apart, and shockingly poor diets.

During his stay, Gowen raised some money from friends and family and was able to buy some new clothes for the children. He also arranged for periodic fruit deliveries for the next few months, repaired the ceiling fans, and even had enough to pay advance school tuition for nine of the children.

"Before I left for India, I saw myself graduating from medical school, completing a residency in surgery or anesthesiology, living in a beautiful home, and enjoying the financial rewards of my work," Gowen wrote in an e-mail.

Then he thought about what he was able to do for the children in the orphanage with only a few thousand dollars and no medical training. "I thought about the important things I could do after I was medically trained and had more money to give. ... I thought to myself, 'Maybe this is what I was destined to do.'"

Gowen was one of 12 Pitt students who participated this past summer in the new Summer Research Abroad program, sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh's University Honors College (UHC).

"During the summer months, many students understandably leave campus and go home to places distant from Pittsburgh, while some students stay on campus and work in research laboratories or on scholarship projects," said UHC Dean Edward M. Stricker. "A small subset of students would like to pursue work that is unavailable on campus but is available

abroad. The UHC Summer Research Abroad Program provides support for the latter group of students."

The program was conceived in summer 2010—a year prior to Stricker's assuming his new position as UHC dean last month—by Steven Husted, UHC interim dean and professor of economics. Husted worked with David Hornyak, UHC director of advising, and the University Center for International Studies (UCIS) to get the initiative under way.

"The program's purpose," Husted said, "is to encourage undergraduates to conduct international research that they would have been unable to do otherwise."

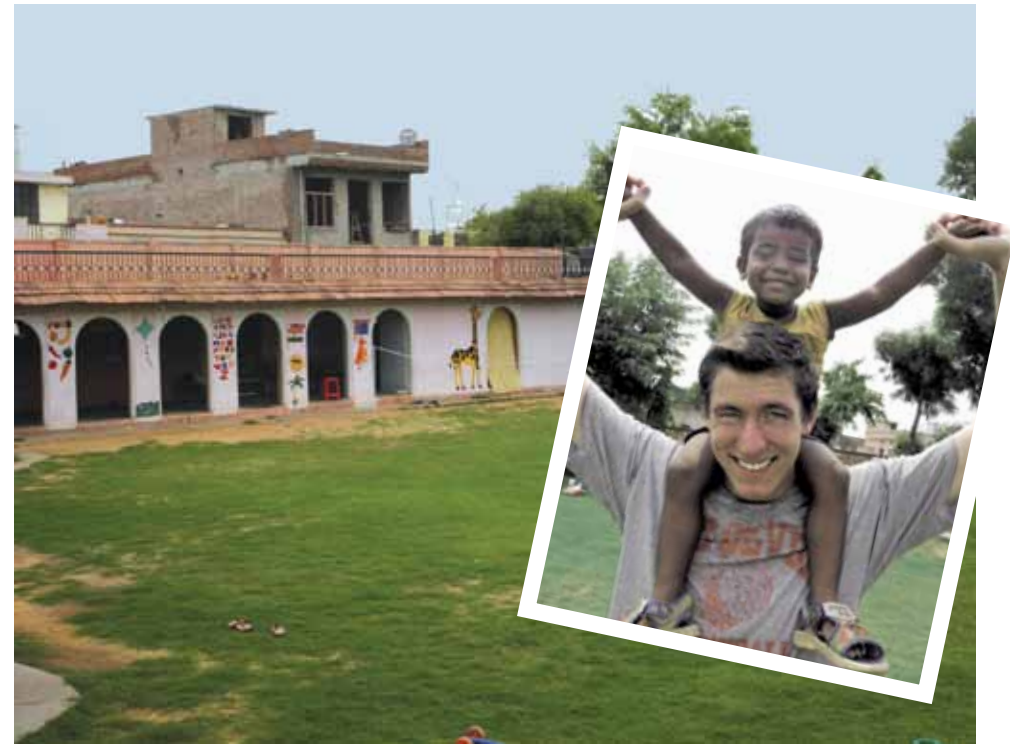
The UHC invited proposals from students, requiring that applicants have a faculty member write a letter of support explaining why the international component was crucial to the research. Students received a stipend of \$3,500, plus \$1,500 for expenses.

## Wide Range of Research

Gowen's research program was titled "HIV/AIDS in Rural India: An Epidemiological Study Comparing the Manifestation, Treatment, and Culture Factors of HIV/AIDS in Rural India, Compared to Urban India."

Other Pitt students also learned about making a difference this summer.

Margo Lynch, an Italian and history senior, spent her summer researching Sub-Saharan African immigration and assimilation in Sicily, Italy. "What this has actually translated to is combing the city and



The orphanage in Jaipur, India. Inset: Pitt senior Michael Gowen with one of the orphanages's children.

nearby coast for interview subjects, pleading with heads of the Immigration Office to speak with me, and doing various other volunteer work at two of the city's refugee centers," she said.

A typical day for Lynch consisted of a bike ride to the Stella Maris Center, which works with immigrants, followed by a trek to the tourist beaches to search for recently arrived Africans. Then, she said, she ended the evening with the "new arrivals," exchanging languages, general discussions, and kicking around a soccer ball.

Political science sophomore Zoe Samudzi worked in Andhra Pradesh,

India, on the MILES study—a longitudinal cohort study that Pitt is doing with MediCiti Hospital. Samudzi assisted the Pitt epidemiological students in Andhra Pradesh with their research, which aims to assess the manner in which Indian people 60 and older in that region are aging.

"We're looking to figure out the prevalence of age-related chronic diseases in the elderly, as well as the way that socioeconomic and environmental risk factors contribute to these age-related chronic diseases," wrote Samudzi.

*Continued on page 5*

**Gowen was one of 12 Pitt students who participated this past summer in the new Summer Research Abroad program, sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh's University Honors College.**



Michelle Everson, a global studies major with a concentration in conflict resolution, spent her summer in Northern Ireland.

## 2011 UHC Summer Research Abroad Program/ Participating Students and Their Research Projects

**James Baraldi**, Major: **Neuroscience**, Countries of Study: **Turkey and China**, Project Title: "A Heavy Stone is Not Easily Moved: Urban Turkish and Chinese Perspectives of Eastern Incorporation of Western Medical Practices." Cooperating Faculty Member: Edouard Machery, professor, Department of History and Philosophy of Science.

**Pinel Berhane**, Major: **Finance**, Country of Study: **Ghana**, Project Title: "How Microfinance Loans Are Benefiting the Beneficiaries of the Volunteer Partnerships for West Africa, as well as Contributing to the Improvement of Ghana's Economy." Cooperating Faculty Member: Macrina Lelei, adjunct assistant professor, School of Education.

**Peter Cahill**, Major: **Linguistics and International and Area Studies** (Latin American Studies), Countries of Study: **Nicaragua and Puerto Rico**, Project Title: "We Sign Spanish: The Sociolinguistics of Sign Language Contact and the Latin American Deaf Identity." Cooperating Faculty Member: Claude Mauk, professor, Department of Linguistics.

**Alexander Cornhill**, Major: **Architectural Studies**, Country of Study: **France**, Project Title: "The Development of the Romantics: A Study of the Development From Student to Professional." Cooperating Faculty Member: C. Drew Armstrong, director of architectural studies and assistant professor, Department of the History of Art and Architecture.

**Michelle Everson**, Majors: **French, Chinese, and International and Area Studies**, (Global Studies), Country of Study: **Northern Ireland, UK**, Project Title: "Mediation in Northern Ireland: What Went Right?" Cooperating Faculty Member: Anthony Novosel, lecturer, Department of History.

**Neal Godse**, Major: **Neuroscience**, Country of Study: **India**, Project Title: "A Comparative Look at Various Parkinson's Disease Treatments Between Rural and Urban India." Cooperating Faculty Member: J. Patrick Card, professor, Department of Neuroscience.

**Michael Gowen**, Major: **Neuroscience**, Country of Study: **India**, Project Title: "HIV/AIDS in Rural India: An Epidemiological Study Comparing the Manifestation, Treatment, and Culture Factors of HIV/AIDS in Rural India, Compared to Urban India." Cooperating Faculty Member: George Bandik, senior lecturer and director of undergraduate studies, Department of Chemistry.

**Chong Hu**, Major: **Architectural Studies**, Country of Study: **China**, Project Title: "The Return of Traditional Elements in Chinese and Japanese Architecture During the Economic Upspring of the Early 21st Century and the Later 20th Century." Cooperating Faculty Member: Kathryn Linduff, professor, Department of the History of Art and Architecture, Department of Anthropology.

**Margo Lynch**, Majors: **Italian and History**, Country of Study: **Italy**, Project Title: "Clandestini: A Look Into African Life in Eastern Sicily." Cooperating Faculty Member: Lina Insana, professor, Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures.

**Zoe Samudzi**, Major: **Political Science**, Country of Study: **India**, Project Title: "The LIFE (Longitudinal Indian Family Health) Study." Cooperating Faculty Member: Clareann Bunker, professor, Department of Epidemiology, Graduate School of Public Health.

**Sowmya Sanapala**, Majors: **Neuroscience and Anthropology**, Country of Study: **India**, Project Title: "New Standards for a Developing Nation." Cooperating Faculty Member: Clareann Bunker, professor, Department of Epidemiology, Graduate School of Public Health.

**Liam Sweeney**, Majors: **English Literature and English Writing**, Country of Study: **Ireland**, Project Title: "Purgatory Island: Ireland's Literary Reactions to Paying Off the Culture Industry." Cooperating Faculty Member: Jeff Aziz, lecturer, Department of English.

*NB: All cooperating faculty members are in the School of Arts and Sciences unless otherwise noted.*

## Research

Continued from page 4



Zoe Samudzi (left), a Pitt sophomore majoring in political science, stands in Chowmahalla Palace in Hyderabad, India, which was the seat of a Persian dynasty that once ruled in Andhra Pradesh. Samudzi was in India doing research on how Indian people in the Andhra Pradesh region age. She is standing with Niranjani Thuppal, a second-year Pitt medical student.

Michelle Everson, a global studies major with a concentration in conflict resolution, spent her summer in Northern Ireland studying the negotiations that resulted in the Good Friday Agreement, which marked the end to the Troubles—a period of ethno-political conflict in Northern Ireland.

“One theory in conflict studies is that conflict sometimes can’t be ended, just transformed,” she said. “That is certainly true in Northern Ireland. Its inspiring to learn about what was achieved in 1998, but even more amazing to see people—even former combatants—working every day to make sure that the peace holds, trying to transform the society so that there will never be a return to violence. That’s the kind of work I want to do.”

### Expanded Horizons

Like Gowen, some students said their experience has significantly influenced their thinking about future plans.

Samudzi, who worked on the aging study in India, said she plans to apply to Pitt’s Graduate School of Public Health to obtain the Master of Public Health degree. She also hopes to work for the World Health Organization.

“Since life expectancies all over the world are increasing, for the most part, the study is addressing a universally relevant issue,” she wrote.

Lynch said she is fluctuating between several future options. “To be honest, my time abroad is constantly affecting my future plans. It seems every two weeks I’m changing my mind about what I want to do, torn between going to grad school in Cairo, doing humanitarian work for zero pay in Africa, and coming back here to Sicily,” Lynch wrote in an e-mail. “Developing this project has inspired me to seriously consider applying for a Fulbright [Scholarship] to continue my work. Also, the Italian government has just recently opened up a new center on the outskirts of the city to help young African men fleeing the crisis in Libya. After graduating this year, I may have the opportunity to work there.”

Neal Godse, a neuroscience major, said he remains committed to going to medical school following his graduation from Pitt. He studied Parkinson’s disease treatments in rural and urban India. “Though working abroad has not changed this goal, what it has done is made me want to work internationally as a doctor regularly,” he said. “I want to learn what doctors around the world have to share, and I want to share my knowledge as well.”

Follow the adventures of the UHC Summer Research Abroad students at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/University-of-Pittsburgh-Honors-College/118106091568424>.

## A Very Special Spring

# PittMAP: Three Campuses/Three Continents



The 2011 PittMAP students visited James House, a nongovernmental organization in Hout Bay, South Africa, just south of Cape Town. James House is both a home for children whose parents can no longer take care of them and a center providing after-school and summer programs for children who live in Imizamo Yethu, a shantytown (or informal settlement). The PittMAP group, whose focus of study was global health issues, met with James House staff, and this photo was taken as the Pitt group was leaving.

*David Bartholomae, a professor of English and the Charles Crow Chair of Pitt’s Department of English, led the 2010-11 PittMAP program this past Spring semester. He reflects on his experiences and the program in this column.*

From 1981 to 2006, Pitt was the host educational institution for Semester at Sea, a study-abroad program housed on a cruise ship. Each semester, the ship went halfway around the world. At sea, students were taking courses. When the boat docked, they would be taken by bus for local excursions. And then? Back to the boat.

When the University of Pittsburgh severed its ties with Semester at Sea, then-Provost James V. Maher established a committee to develop an alternative. The Pitt Multi-region Academic Program, or PittMAP, was created as a result of those discussions. I led the second PittMAP this past Spring semester, and our group of 22 students spent five weeks each in Buenos Aires, Cape Town, and Beijing. (The Spring 2012 program will take students to Buenos Aires, Prague, and Beijing.)

Perhaps the most significant advantage of PittMAP was the time we spent on the ground. We travelled by plane, not ship, and with five weeks at each site, we became something other than tourists. We joined a campus community, and we became part of the neighborhoods where we lived.

As a result, the students could pursue their interests in politics, science, sports, and the arts from one local culture to the next. They had their favorite coffee shops and bookstores. They found pickup soccer games, fencing matches, running trails, museums, jazz clubs, and concert venues. They made friends—some of them likely to be lasting—and partied with students from every corner of the globe.

The other distinctive feature of PittMAP for me was its focused curriculum. The trip was a study trip; everyone in the group was working on a common topic. In our case, we were studying issues and practices relating to global health, with particular attention to HIV/AIDS. Although the 22 students came from a range of backgrounds, the majority were science or premed majors.

They were accompanied by three Pitt faculty members, including Peter Veldkamp, an assistant professor of medicine and director of education in the School of Medicine’s Division of Infectious Diseases; Svitlana Maksymenko, a lecturer in Pitt’s Department of Economics; and myself. Lauren Scott, a graduate student in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, came as resident adviser. Local faculty at each university we visited provided guest lectures, all focused on health-related issues.

So much of what we learned, however, we learned off campus, on the ground, through excursions enabled by our local providers. We visited hospitals, clinics, pharmaceutical laboratories, and biological research centers. We met with government agencies, physicians, nurses, and public health officials. And we hit some tourist stops along the way. We visited Iguazu Falls, climbed Table Mountain, and walked a piece of China’s Great Wall.

The highlights for me included a visit to the cattle market in Buenos Aires (the Mercado de Liniers), an afternoon eavesdropping on a meeting of regional public health officials at the *Ministerio de Salud*, and a visit with Malena Araneo, a young woman who works for the World Bank and who provided, I think, a way for our students to imagine themselves working one day in a global environment.

In South Africa we visited one of Cape Town’s historic Black townships, Langa. The poverty was staggering; the living conditions unforgettable. And later in the visit, we had a presentation from a young Black PhD student in economics, Cecil Mlathsheni, who grew up in a township and whose research considered poverty and unemployment in the very township we had visited. We had a presentation by Stavros Nicolaou, a senior executive from Aspen Pharmaceuticals, telling the remarkable story of his successful struggle to bring affordable antiretroviral drugs to South Africa. Our classrooms at the

University of Cape Town were located on the medical school campus, and our group attended lectures with second-year medical students.

In Beijing, we visited an organic farm on the outskirts of the city, toured studios and galleries of China’s contemporary art scene, met with the former director of the Chinese version of our Centers for Disease Control, and watched while one of our own student, Kerri Bell, received acupuncture as part of a presentation at Guanganmen, a hospital that features traditional Chinese medicine. None of us will forget the pharmacy in the hospital’s basement, where medicinal potions are concocted from herbs and roots and things that creep and crawl and fly. White-coated lab assistants worked at long wooden tables in a room with a thousand drawers. When we entered the production lab, with its steamers and pressure cookers, we ran into a wall of pungent smells. It was a scene out of Harry Potter.

I’ve been working with undergraduates since 1973. This was by far the most memorable and important and productive semester of my teaching career. I’m very grateful to have been a part of PittMAP. For faculty and for students, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. And you can find it through the Study Abroad Office at [www.abroad.pitt.edu](http://www.abroad.pitt.edu).



David Bartholomae

Over the course of 120 days, PittMAP participants were offered a rare and precious opportunity to enter into the life and rhythm of three of the world’s great cities. Readers can follow the trip from the students’ point of view via their blog (courtesy of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*) at <http://communityvoices.sites.post-gazette.com>

# Preserving the Old, Artfully Creating the New: Renovations Transform Former Concordia Club Into O'Hara Student Center



PHOTOS BY MARY JANE BENT/CODE

By Sharon S. Blake

Pitt students will have a new place to meet, study, and relax this academic year—in the former Concordia Club, built in 1913 and recently transformed into the O'Hara Student Center, 4024 O'Hara St.

The stately building has approximately 35,000 square feet of space and was purchased by Pitt two years ago. The renovations, which included tearing out walls, updating the heating and cooling systems, replacing the roof, and upgrading the lighting, were completed in April of this year. The result is a compatible blend of the old and new. The charm of the social club's Romanesque Revival architecture is still present, but the heavy salmon-colored drapes have been replaced with crisp white panels. What once were small dimly lit social rooms are now bright and spacious areas for group study, club activities, or student programming.

"It was becoming more difficult for the William Pitt Union to handle all the requests from student organizations for event space," explained Kenyon Bonner, associate dean of students and director of student life at Pitt. Bonner says not only has the number of Pitt student organizations mushroomed over the years, but the groups have become more active on campus. At the same time, the groups' storage needs have grown—an issue that the new center will resolve nicely with basement

storage areas.

The O'Hara Student Center provides two ample venues—a first-floor dining room that can double as a large meeting room and a second-floor ballroom with an open balcony, large arched windows, and a small stage. The ballroom, which can hold approximately 450 people, is equipped with a state-of-the-art sound system. Bonner says freshman orientation programming is being held in the newly refurbished center, as will lectures, presentations, and fairs. The building is also the new home of Pitt's Math Assistance Center and The Writing Center.

The Concordia Club, founded by members of the city's German Jewish community and originally located on the North Side, was for many years a place where prominent Jewish citizens of Pittsburgh gathered. At its peak, the club had close to 300 members. Membership declined in later years, when Jewish individuals were no longer barred from other clubs because of their religion. But in its heyday, the club hosted many parties, weddings, and balls, and its chefs produced memorable high-end cuisine.

Pitt architects were challenged with renovating the building without disturbing its original grandeur.

"We looked at what was there, and we tried not to intrude too much on it," says

University Architect Park Rankin. "But with modern-day lighting needs and mechanical system upgrades, we knew we had to get in there and change a few things around."

Immediately upon entering the new center, visitors see the dark-stained oak paneling. It once covered the lower level and bar of the Fort Pitt Hotel, considered one of Pittsburgh's most elegant hotels when it was constructed at Penn Avenue and Tenth Street, Downtown, in 1905. When the hotel was demolished in 1967, Concordia Club members purchased the paneling and reinstalled it in their building.

Rankin's team of architects beautified the ballroom by applying gold leaf trim to the large wall panels. A formerly blocked-off stairway is now revealed, providing access to a balcony where music ensembles once played for weddings and bar mitzvahs. The ballroom's large ornate crystal chandelier, as well as two smaller ones, and a number of wall sconces all stem from an earlier renovation. Rankin says his team was able to track down the Strip District lighting fabricator who had made them more than 50 years ago.

"He came back, removed the chandeliers, and refurbished them," Rankin explains. "The light bulbs were replaced with an LED light source, so they are energy efficient and much brighter."

Throughout the building are spacious areas with comfortable chairs for students who want to study or socialize. This is a growing trend he noticed when he visited other universities—pleasant spaces for students to congregate, Rankin says: "They want a place to study other than in their residence halls."



**1.** First-floor study area showcases the oak paneling from the former Fort Pitt Hotel. **2.** Staircase leading to second floor has original railings. **3.** One of several ballroom chandeliers refurbished by the original fabricator.

Bonner states that a restored building from the early 1900s adds character to campus: "It shows that we preserve and respect the architecture of Pittsburgh. And it's something for which the students gain an appreciation."

An official grand opening for the center is planned for early in the Fall Term.

# Scholars & Stewards

## George Davidson: The Gifts of Time and Financial Support

By Lynn Shea

George Davidson (ENGR '61) was determined to earn a University of Pittsburgh degree in petroleum engineering, something his father said would guarantee him a job for life. So when rising tuition costs threatened his educational pursuits, Davidson joined the Pitt grounds crew. He worked every weekday afternoon and all day Saturdays. During an earlier summer, Davidson worked 12-hour days, seven days a week, with an oil drilling crew in New Mexico and Colorado.

Davidson's fine-tuned work ethic has served him well throughout his career. He joined Consolidated Natural Gas (CNG), a large energy holding company, in 1966 and rose through the ranks, becoming chair and CEO in 1987. In January 2000, CNG merged with Dominion Resources, creating one of the largest electric and gas utilities in the United States. Davidson served as Dominion chair until he retired in August 2000.

Davidson attributes much of his success in the energy industry to the guidance he received from a Pitt advisor during his final semester at the University. The advisor recommended that instead of accepting an entry-level job in the struggling energy industry, Davidson should consider a position with the Federal Power Commission. The commission, originally organized to coordinate federal hydroelectric projects in the 1920s, eventually became the Federal Energy Regulatory

Commission. The advisor even persuaded the commission's head of personnel to travel to Pitt for the Pitt-Army game and meet Davidson ... who was soon on his way to Washington, D.C.

"It was a tremendous experience," said Davidson of his five years at the Federal Power Commission. Not only did he gain a broad overview of the energy industry, he also met his wife of nearly 50 years, Ada, in the nation's capitol.

"I owe the University a lot," said Davidson, who has repaid that sense of debt with both dedicated service and generous gifts to the University.

Davidson has been a member of Pitt's Board of Trustees for 24 years and was named an emeritus trustee in June. He has chaired the board's Academic Affairs and Libraries committees, served on the Executive, Affirmative Action, and Compensation committees, and advised three University chancellors since 1987.

"I still remember when I was asked to join the board," Davidson recalled. "I was thrilled to become a trustee of the school that I had worked my way through."

Other Pitt commitments include serving as chair of the Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business Board of Visitors and vice chair of the Swanson School of Engineering Board of Visitors. Davidson is a Golden Life Member of the Pitt Alumni Association and the recipient of the Swanson School of Engineering Distinguished Alumni Award in 1988 and the Bicentennial Medallion of Distinction in 1993. He was named a Pitt Legacy Laureate in 2000.

He is one of the University's most generous donors. His many gifts to Pitt

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During its June 24 meeting, Pitt's Board of Trustees recognized George Davidson (center) for his board service, which began in 1987, and named Davidson an emeritus trustee. Standing with him are Stephen Tritch (left), board chair, and Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg.

include contributions to the Swanson School, the Katz School, the School of Medicine, and the Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg University Chair.

His gifts to the Swanson School include the George A. Davidson Unit Operations Laboratory in Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, the George Davidson Chemical Engineering Graduate Fellowship Fund, and the establishment of two endowments to support engineering laboratories. He also established a scholarship in the Katz School, the George A. Davidson Jr. MBA Endowed Scholarship Fund.

Gerald D. Holder, Pitt's U.S. Steel Dean of Engineering, said he admires Davidson's exceptional commitment to the University and the Swanson School, including his 20 years on the Board of Visitors, his involvement with Benedum Hall's recent expansion, and his financial support for some of the school's most critical initiatives—

including graduate student support.

"Fellowships are one of the greater needs in the graduate school. They help support the quality of the programs," said Holder, adding that, "George realizes we can't get the best students if we can't provide great aid."

Davidson also voices his admiration for Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg: "He is such an honorable person who has great empathy for the students, faculty, and employees of the University, and has done an excellent job as a negotiator and representative before elected officials in Harrisburg."

Davidson said he looks forward to more years of continued service to and support of the University that has made record-breaking strides on a broad range of fronts in recent years, and that provided him with an education, which fueled a successful life and career.

## The Art of Education: Molding "Good Citizens, Good Adults"

Continued from page 3

living programs (we hope to have more such facilities by next year), has been running a unique summer research program in which participating students come from multiple and diverse disciplines on campus (a program that will be extended into the Fall and Spring terms beginning this academic year), has been giving a distinctive baccalaureate degree (the Bachelor of Philosophy, or B.Phil.) to students whose undergraduate education is characterized by unusual breadth and depth, and has sponsored a large and increasing number of

**I graduated from high school and entered college just after my 16th birthday. I graduated from college (University of Chicago) when I was 19, and I received my PhD (Yale) when I was 23.**

honors courses that provide increased in-depth treatment of standard course material. Collectively, these activities enrich the educational experience of all qualified Pitt students who want to take advantage of them.

**Q. What would students and peers be surprised to learn about you?**

I graduated from high school and entered college just after my 16th birthday. I graduated from college (University of Chicago) when I was 19, and I received my PhD (Yale) when I was 23. If that sounds wonderful, keep in mind that the guys I played ball with and against in college

were always bigger and stronger than I was, the girls were always older than I was, and I never could legally drink alcohol while I was an undergraduate student. It was apparent to me then, and still is, that success in the classroom is only one dimension of a successful college experience. Thankfully, I received considerable support and encouragement from my fraternity brothers, from whom I learned the values of a nurturing community.

**Q. Can you name your three favorite books of all time?**

My answer now, for two of them, is *Middlemarch* (George Eliot) and *A Mass for the Dead* (William Gibson). It is interesting to me that I got much more out of those books when I reread them recently than when I first read them years ago. I have found many other books very enjoyable, though not as

meaningful to me as the two mentioned. Perhaps my favorite book for pure enjoyment (actually, the first two of three trilogies) is *The Forsyte Chronicles* by John Galsworthy, who won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1932. That is, the books weren't just the literary source for the best production ever on PBS.

**Q. Do you find time to take vacations? What is your dream vacation?**

I remember vacations. I once took them but certainly not this summer. In recent years, my wife and I have gone to Sanibel Island in Florida for a restful week during spring break, and I'm sure we will do the same next year. But next summer we hope to have what we think of as a "dream vacation": We will go to Europe, and I'll have a chance to show her around a few cities like Venice that I have visited and enjoyed in the past.



# Surplus Property: A Silent Side of Sustainability



By Adam Reger

Some important sustainability practices at the University of Pittsburgh are often drowned out by the cacophony of sounds from drills, jackhammers, and large trucks at University's construction sites.

In fact, by the time scaffolding and dumpsters appear outside a construction site, a major component of Pitt's program of salvaging construction waste has already occurred. The University's Surplus Property unit has inspected the space, transporting all reusable items—lamps, furniture, and electronics, as well as surplus building materials and fixtures—to its warehouse in Point Breeze.

"Surplus Property does a really good job of reclaiming a lot of material before it hits the landfill," said William Mitchell, senior manager of custodial services for Pitt's Office of Facilities Management. Once a construction project begins, Facilities Management closely supervises its progress, marking a number of materials for recycling.

"Concrete blocks, asphalt, mixed metals, iron, and steel are all sorted and taken to a recycler," Mitchell said. "You name it—if it can be recycled, we try to recycle it."

Created in 1980, Surplus Property embodies the "reuse" component of the environmentalist mantra "reduce, reuse, recycle." After removing salvageable items from the construction site, the department redistributes them in several ways. One is through a departmental "wish list"—a form that faculty and staff submit via the Web site ([www.surplus.pitt.edu/wishlist.php](http://www.surplus.pitt.edu/wishlist.php)) to request particular items obtained by Surplus Property. "We are constantly reviewing the requests from the Web site wish list," said Thomas Heidkamp, manager of surplus property. "We have a high rate of success in finding items to fill those requests."

The Surplus Property warehouse is open to Pitt students, staff, and faculty. Visitors can shop long aisles of tall metal filing cabinets, library desks, and office chairs, all taken from University classrooms and offices. A number of specialty items also are available, including laboratory

equipment and computers—which the Surplus Property department tests before making available.

Surplus Property also plays an important role in Pitt's "e-waste" recycling program, which began in 2002 and collects from 72,000 to 132,000 pounds of discarded technology each year, Heidkamp said. A walk around the Point Breeze facility reveals the "waste in waiting." Four giant bins of printer cartridges await shipment to a recycler. A tower of nonfunctioning computer monitors rests on a wooden shipping pallet, awaiting shipment to a contractor to be dismantled. Nearby, an enormous bin holds wires stripped from computer units. Another bin contains several dozen circuit boards. All of these complex materials are to be dismantled and their

components—metal, glass, plastic, and wires—recycled, Heidkamp said. In many cases, parts from nonworking computers are salvaged for sale or to be used for repairing

other units.

While the percentage of construction waste recycled varies with each project, minimum recycling percentages are specified for many larger projects, especially those seeking Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. Mitchell noted that on the Benedum Hall renovation project—which is targeted to attain the elite LEED Gold certification—more than 75 percent of construction waste has been recycled—3,200 tons to date. Similarly, the new addition to the Chevron Science Center, which is seeking LEED Silver certification, has recycled more than 97 percent of its construction waste.

Another key component of Pitt's program of recycling construction waste is to hold hired subcontractors accountable.

"We expect detailed reports of the [waste] weights that have been recycled and the actual amount of landfill waste that's been generated as part of any project," Mitchell explained.

Facilities Management does not set minimum requirements for contractors to recycle on all projects, but "we expect that they try to be as sustainable as possible and to minimize how much material goes into the waste stream," Mitchell added.

Mitchell said he is optimistic about Pitt's continued progress in recycling its construction waste. "But the overall

goal is waste minimization," he said. "If we can get to that point, our recycling stats won't look as good because we'll have less waste overall. But it also means we're not sending as much waste to the landfills, so it's worth it."

**Surplus Property also plays an important role in Pitt's "e-waste" recycling program, which began in 2002 and collects from 72,000 to 132,000 pounds of discarded technology each year.**

## PITT GREEN TEAM ON PATROL FOR SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION

By Viveka Mandava

Be on the lookout during Orientation Week for 105 green-clad members of Pitt's new Green Team, a pilot project initiated by Pitt's Office of Residence Life, Office of First Year Experience, and Department of Housing and Food Services.

The initiative aims to provide students with a greater understanding of the University's emphasis on sustainability—and to provide first-year students with an immediate leadership opportunity on campus.

The Green Team members—all incoming freshmen—moved onto campus a day early to be trained by Residence Life staff on how to help their freshmen peers make the moving-in process

"more green."

Green Team members will be stationed at specific points on campus where students and their families can drop off their empty cardboard moving boxes to be recycled rather than thrown away: at the Quad, in the Towers lobby, on Lothrop Hall's patio, on Sutherland Hall's patio, and in the area behind Forbes Hall. Donated boxes earn fun giveaway prizes as well as coupons to various places on and around campus.

This is also an educational initiative: Green Team members will walk around campus and visit residence halls to talk with students—and distribute postcards with sustainability facts.

"We're trying to show that being environmentally

responsible is not just the latest trend, but something the University really values," says Amy Reed, a resident director in the Office of Residence Life. "We're hoping that by starting off freshman orientation and campus move-in days with this emphasis on going green, we'll be able to set the tone of awareness for the rest of the year."





# Newsmakers

## PITT'S PEOPLE FOR PETS



Pitt's People for Pets campaign, held on the Pittsburgh campus during June and July, generated 4,000 pounds of donated pet food and nearly \$2,000 in online cash donations—one of the largest and most successful such drives for Animal Friends' Chow Wagon program. Animal Friends operates the program to provide donated pet food to the region's food banks. "The Chow Wagon program keeps pets in the home and tells the pet owners that people care about them," said Ann Cadman, health and wellness coordinator for Animal Friends. Above, from left, Matt Sloan, Joe Healey, Dave Rahuba, and Dave Huey—all from Pitt's Department of Parking, Transportation, and Services' Central Receiving Office—load a pallet of donations for delivery to the Animal Friends shelter in Ohio Township. Inset: Officer David Nanz of the Pitt Police K-9 Unit, with his four-legged supervisor, Officer Riggs, who served as the Pitt campaign's honorary chair and spokesdog. Sponsors of Pitt's campaign were the Office of the Chancellor, the Office of Community Relations, the Department of Public Safety, and the University Library System.



## USING MUSIC AS A TEACHING TOOL



What's the best way to teach an 11-year-old about important events in U. S. history without his eyes glazing over? Mix American music into the curriculum, according to Deane Root (center), codirector of Pitt's Voices Across Time institute that was held on the Pittsburgh campus June 27-July 29. Root is a professor of music and director and Fletcher Hodges Jr. Curator of the Center for American Music at Pitt. Twenty-three teachers from across the country gathered with music historians and musicians to learn how to weave songs into classroom material. "Music is a medium kids relate to," said Norm Cohen (left), a Portland, Oregon-based author and historian with expertise in railroad folk songs. "They don't think of it as an educational tool." Institute administrator Kathryn Miller Haines is seated on the right.

## INFORMATION SCIENCES INSTITUTE

Farai Chideya, author, journalist, and political pundit, delivered the keynote address on June 7 in the William Pitt Union Kurtzman Room for the opening ceremony of the iSchool Inclusion Institute (i3). Supported by a \$700,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, i3 aims to encourage and prepare undergraduate students from underrepresented groups to enroll in graduate studies in the information sciences. The i3 works with three separate cohorts of undergrads from around the country. Students attend a summer introductory session in Oakland, return to their campuses to conduct a yearlong team project overseen by a faculty mentor, and come back to Pitt the following summer for a two-week session. The first group was on Pitt's campus June 6-30. More information on i3 is available on the institute Web site, [www.ischool-inclusion.org](http://www.ischool-inclusion.org).



## MOBILE LAB FIELD TRIP



Youth from the Pitt School of Education's five-week P.A.C.K. Camp (Physical Activity Camp for Kids) participated in hands-on activities about fitness during a July 6 visit to The Mobile Lab—a self-contained, traveling laboratory that allows students to use current, high-end equipment to perform laboratory investigations. Left, Nathan Rockcastle explains to Zoe Vongtau how to locate her radial pulse so she could obtain a resting (before exercise) reading and an active (after exercise) reading. Rockcastle is an administrative supervisor in the lab of Judy Cameron, a Pitt professor of psychiatry and a senior scientist in the Oregon National Primate Research Center at Oregon Health and Science University. The Mobile Lab is a project of the Pitt Department of Biological Sciences, the University of Pittsburgh Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, The Pittsburgh Life Sciences Greenhouse, The Lyceum Group, Thermo Fisher, and the Pittsburgh Tissue Engineering Initiative.

## CELEBRATING WITH THADDEUS MOSLEY



Friends and families celebrated Thaddeus Mosley's (A&S '50) "near 85 years of energetic life" during a June 11 outdoor party at the Highland Park home of Terry Seya (KGSB '93). Mosley (far right) is a prominent and nationally known sculptor, based in Pittsburgh, who works primarily in wood. He is talking with Davis Lewis (center, front), an architect, writer, painter, and longtime friend, and Robert Hill (far left), Pitt's vice chancellor for public affairs. Lewis is the author of *Thaddeus Mosley: African-American Sculptor* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 1997).

## SAC OFFICERS INSTALLED

The new officers of Pitt's Staff Association Council (SAC) were installed July 13 during a ceremony in the William Pitt Union's Lower Lounge. From left, Jon-Paul "J.P." Matychak (EDUC '05), SAC vice president for steering, who is director of career services in the College of Business Administration; Monica Costlow (LAW '05), SAC treasurer, who is program coordinator of the evaluation and research unit in the School of Pharmacy; Monika Losagio (A&S '87), SAC vice president for marketing and communications, who is departmental administrator in the Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures; and Deborah Walker (CGS '01, GSPIA '03), SAC president, who is student conduct officer in the Division of Student Affairs.



# Third Annual Hesselbein Global Academy Brings the World to Pitt



J. Roger Glunt (center), an emeritus trustee on Pitt's Board of Trustees, works with a group of students during the Hesselbein Academy Summit. Glunt was one of nine professional mentors who delivered presentations on various leadership topics and worked personally with students during the four-day summit.

By Shawn Ahearn

The third annual Student Leadership Summit of the Pitt Hesselbein Global Academy for Student Leadership and Civic Engagement attracted an impressively diverse group of student leaders and professional mentors from around the world to the University of Pittsburgh campus July 23-26.

During four days of leadership training, 46 students from countries ranging from Australia and Romania to Ghana and the United States participated in workshops and personalized training sessions—and interacted with mentors and Pittsburgh-area civic leaders.

The Hesselbein Global Academy was created in 2009 to honor the ongoing legacy of University of Pittsburgh alumnus 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).

Five Pitt students attended the summit, and Pitt emeritus trustee J. Roger Glunt served as one of the program's nine professional mentors. Pitt Vice Provost and Dean of Students Kathy Humphrey facilitated the summit, along with Hesselbein, who delivered several talks and presentations.

"I have a tablet full of notes and quotes,"

said Glunt, who chairs the Chancellor's Circle, the stewardship society for annual donors of \$1,000 or more to the University. "I came here to serve as a mentor, and I think I ended up learning as much as the students. The caliber of leadership training at this summit was absolutely outstanding. Some of the brightest, most ambitious students in the world were here, and our Pitt students matched up with them very well."

Matthew Riehle, a senior from Mars, Pa., who is majoring in political science, legal studies, and chemistry, serves on the Pitt Student Government Board. When his plans to study abroad fell through this past summer, he applied to the Hesselbein Academy and was thrilled to be accepted.

"I couldn't have had a better international experience if I had travelled to another country," said Riehle.

Riehle added that he was grateful to visit Leadership Pittsburgh during the summit and work with the nonprofit organization as part of his summit group's civic engagement project.

Andrew Taglianetti, a senior marketing and finance major from Bridgeville, Pa., is used to competition on the football field as a defensive back for the Pitt Panthers. Taglianetti said he was attracted to the academy

because he wanted to see how his leadership skills off the field stacked up against those of student leaders from around the world.

"I really enjoy making plays on the football field, not for personal gain or glory, but for my teammates," Taglianetti said. "The same is true when you're in a job in a position of leadership: You have to have the confidence to make decisions and the ability to be a leader. I thought this would be a great opportunity to be around like-minded people. The best of the best were here, and I know I can be a leader of leaders. This was an opportunity to learn more about how to do that."

One highlight of this year's summit was the "Dinner Dialogs," which were dinners hosted by nine civic leaders in their homes. Hosts included Eva Tansky Blum (A&S

During four days of leadership training, 46 students from countries ranging from Australia and Romania to Ghana and the United States participated in workshops and personalized training sessions—and interacted with mentors and Pittsburgh-area civic leaders.

'70, LAW '73), Pitt trustee and senior vice president and director of community affairs, PNC Bank; Robert Hill, Pitt vice chancellor for public affairs; Kathy Humphrey, Pitt vice provost and dean of students; Valerie McDonald-Roberts, Allegheny County Recorder of Deeds; Sheila Rathke (CGS '76), Pitt assistant provost for strategic and program development; Art Stroyd (LAW '72), a partner at Del Sole Cavanaugh Stroyd, LLC; Fred Thieman (LAW '97), president, Buhl Foundation; and Patricia Waldinger (A&S '72), CEO, American Red Cross, Southwest Pennsylvania Chapter.

"At each of the three summits we have had several students tell us that attending the Hesselbein Academy was a life-changing experience," Humphrey said. "We're thrilled that it has been so well received and that we are able to provide such a quality, global experience right here on our campus."



Frances Hesselbein confers with Pitt senior Andrew Taglianetti.



Pitt Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs Robert Hill, second from the right in the photograph above, hosted a Dinner Dialogs evening with several Hesselbein Global Academy participants at his Mount Washington home. The others seen in the photograph are, from left, Larry Olson, a program mentor and vice president/director of marketing for John Wiley & Sons, Inc.; and students Cecilia Vargas, University of Monterrey, Mexico; Kingsley Essegbey, Central University, Accra, Ghana; Amarette Edmonson, St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas; Laura Glaub, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Ind.; and Gentry Tran, Beloit College, Beloit, Wis.



From left, Frances Hesselbein and Pitt Vice Provost and Dean of Students Kathy Humphrey

# Happenings



**Pittsburgh Biennial,  
Carnegie Museum of Art,  
through September 18**

**Preview Party at The Public,** happy hour with entertainment and entertaining sneak peak at The Public's 2011-12 lineup of plays and special events, 6 to 8:30 p.m. **Aug. 25**, \$10 fee, O'Reilly Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Cultural District, Downtown, 412-316-1600, [www.ppt.org](http://www.ppt.org).

**Pittsburgh Improv Jam,** evening of spontaneous, comedic scenes by experienced improvisational performers, 10 p.m. **Aug. 25**, Cabaret at Theater Square, 655 Penn Ave., Downtown, 412-281-3973, [www.pgharts.org](http://www.pgharts.org).

**The Marvelous Wonderettes** by Roger Bean, a return to the 1950s and '60s, **through Oct. 2**, Cabaret at Theater Square, 655 Penn Ave., Downtown, 412-281-3973, [www.pittsburghclo.org](http://www.pittsburghclo.org), PITT ARTS Cheap Seats, 412-624-4498, [www.pittarts.pitt.edu](http://www.pittarts.pitt.edu).

**Wicked**, story of Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good before they came to Oz, **Sept. 7-Oct. 2**, Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, PNC Broadway Across America-Pittsburgh, 412-456-6666, [www.pgharts.org](http://www.pgharts.org), PITT ARTS Cheap Seats, 412-624-4498, [www.pittarts.pitt.edu](http://www.pittarts.pitt.edu).

## Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

**James Pearson**, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Philosophy, 10 a.m. **Aug. 24**, "Logic and Intelligibility," 1001B Cathedral of Learning.

**Angela Malek**, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Epidemiology, 2 p.m. **Aug. 25**, "Environmental, Occupational, and Personal Lifestyle Risk Factors for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: A Case-Control Study," A522 Crabtree Hall.

**Vanessa Wills**, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Philosophy, 1 p.m. **Aug. 26**, "Marx and Morality," 1001B Cathedral of Learning.

**Sung-Young Jung**, School of Arts and Sciences' Intelligent Systems Program, 1 p.m. **Aug. 29**, "Using Natural Language as Knowledge Representation in an Intelligent Tutoring System," 5317 Sennott Square.

**Yan Liu**, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, 9 a.m. **Sept. 2**, "Estimating the Global Burden of Aflatoxin-Attributable Liver Cancer Risk," 5th-Floor Conference Room, Bridgeside Point Building, 100 Technology Drive, Hazelwood.

**Wood Street Galleries, Cell Phone Disco**, ongoing, Tito Way, Downtown, 412-456-6666, [www.pgharts.org](http://www.pgharts.org).

## Lectures/Seminars/ Readings

**"Leibniz as Mechanist and Mechanician,"** Nicholas Rescher, Distinguished University Professor of Philosophy and cochair of Pitt's Center for Philosophy of Science, 12:05 p.m. **Sept. 6**, 817 Cathedral of Learning, 412-624-1052, [www.pitt.edu/~pittentr](http://www.pitt.edu/~pittentr).

## Miscellaneous

**The 5th Annual Shyne Awards**, ceremony celebrating positive achievements made by young adults ages 13-19, 7 p.m. **Aug. 27**, August Wilson Center, 980 Liberty Ave., Downtown, August Wilson Center and WAMO 100, 412-456-6666, [www.pgharts.org](http://www.pgharts.org).

## Opera/ Theater/ Dance

**The Importance of Being Earnest** by Oscar Wilde, **Aug. 23-27**, Charity Randall Theatre within the Stephen Foster Memorial, Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre, 412-394-3353, [www.pitttheatre.org](http://www.pitttheatre.org), Pitt Arts Cheap Seats Program, 412-624-4498, [www.pittarts.pitt.edu](http://www.pittarts.pitt.edu).

**Hand Made: Contemporary Craft in Ceramic, Glass, and Wood**, Carnegie Museum of Art, ongoing

## PITT ARTS Programs Continue to Gain Popularity With Students, Faculty, and Staff

By Sharon S. Blake

PITT ARTS continues to flourish, with a continually increasing number of Pitt students, faculty, and staff using the program to taste Pittsburgh's many cultural offerings.

The demand for PITT ARTS' successful Cheap Seats program grew by 20 percent during the 2010-11 academic year. About 18,350 tickets were sold for seats at organizations ranging from the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra to Quantum Theatre. Participants reserve and pay for as many as four tickets at the PITT ARTS office (907 William Pitt Union), and the tickets may be picked up at the event venue's Will Call window one hour before curtain time.

PITT ARTS' Arts Encounters program also saw a jump in traffic in 2010-11, with 8,677 students participating—a 13 percent increase from the previous year. This program treats undergraduate students on the Pittsburgh campus to free tickets, free transportation, a meal, and a chance to meet the stars of the art world, including encounters with such artists as violinist Joshua Bell and filmmaker Spike Lee.



The most successful PITT ARTS offering continues to be the Free Museum Visits program for students on the Pittsburgh campus. Pitt students with a valid Pitt ID can gain free admission to the Carnegie Museums of Art and Natural History, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, The Andy Warhol Museum, The Mattress Factory, Senator John Heinz History Center, and the newest partner, added just last year—Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum. The Free Museum Visits program racked up a total of 21,959 in 2010-11, with visits to Phipps alone up by 14 percent.

There is one notable add-on this year at PITT ARTS: The bluegrass/folk music ensemble Calliope is now among the art organizations participating in the Cheap Seats program.

Funded by the Office of the Provost, PITT ARTS has been connecting Pitt students, faculty, and staff to the city's exciting cultural life since 1997.

## Exhibitions

**Carnegie Museum of Art, Audrey Avinoff: In Pursuit of Beauty**, through **Aug. 28**; **Pittsburgh Biennial**, through **Sept. 18**; **Ragnar Kjartansson: Song**, through **Sept. 24**; **Hand Made: Contemporary Craft in Ceramic, Glass, and Wood**, ongoing; **Past Meets Present: Decorative Arts and Design at Carnegie Museum of Art**, ongoing, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3131, [www.cmoa.org](http://www.cmoa.org).

**The Warhol, The Word of God(ess): Chitra Ganesh's Tales of Amnesia**, through **Sept. 4**; **I Just Want to Watch: Warhol's Film, Video, and Television**, ongoing, 117 Sandusky St., North Side, 412-237-8300, [www.warhol.org](http://www.warhol.org).

**The Frick Art & Historical Center, Fin de Siècle Prints: Art Nouveau on Paper**, through **Sept. 11**, docent tours of exhibition available at 2 p.m. Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays, free and open to the public, 7227 Reynolds St., Point Breeze, 412-371-0600, [www.thefrickpittsburgh.org](http://www.thefrickpittsburgh.org).

**Heinz History Center, America's Best Weekly: A Century of The Pittsburgh Courier**, through **Oct. 2**; 1212 Smallman St., Strip District, 412-454-6000, [www.heinzhistorycenter.org](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org).



**The 5th Annual Shyne Awards,  
August Wilson Center,  
August 27**



## Pitt Sets Sept. 30 Open House For Allegheny Observatory

Explore the heavens and a historic scientific landmark during a Sept. 30 open house at the University of Pittsburgh's Allegheny Observatory, 159 Riverview Ave., Riverview Park, Observatory Hill. Visitors can freely roam the observatory and peer into the night sky through the 30-inch Thaw Refractor telescope—a 47-foot telescope normally reserved for research. In addition, members of the Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh will set up telescopes on the observatory lawn for the public. If the night is clear, guests can catch a close-up of Jupiter and the Moon.

As one of the world's major centers for astronomical research, the observatory houses collections of photographic plates of star fields that are among the largest and oldest collections anywhere; the collections began in 1914 and now boast more than 110,000 images. Unlike regular observatory tours, the open house event allows people to browse through these plates and take self-guided tours of the observatory's different research rooms.

The open house, which is free to the public, will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. Ticket reservations may be made by calling the observatory weekdays between 1 and 5 p.m. at 412-321-2400. For more information, visit the observatory's Web site at [www.pitt.edu/~aobsrvtry](http://www.pitt.edu/~aobsrvtry).

—John Fedele



# Pitt Senior Micah Toll a Contestant for *Entrepreneur Magazine's* College Entrepreneur of the Year

By Karen Hoffmann

With the click of a mouse, the University of Pittsburgh community can support one of its own: Micah Toll, a senior mechanical engineering major in Pitt's Swanson School of Engineering, who is one of five finalists for *Entrepreneur Magazine's* College Entrepreneur of the Year.

Voting in the College Entrepreneur of the Year contest is open until Sept. 12, and anyone may participate. Visit [www.entrepreneur.com/e2011/vote/college](http://www.entrepreneur.com/e2011/vote/college), enter a valid e-mail address, and cast a vote.

The contest winner will be the focus of a feature article in the January issue of *Entrepreneur Magazine*.

The mission of Toll's company, Pulse Motors, is to revolutionize personal urban transportation by building completely electric two-wheeled Personal Electronic Vehicles. The vehicles resemble bicycles but do not require pedaling.

"Our vehicles are designed to be the ideal solution for millions of commuters driving in and around urban centers," says Toll in his contest video entry on the *Entrepreneur Magazine* Web site. "Instead of a single person commuting in a two-ton gas guzzler, our vehicles allow drivers to zip effortlessly along using minimal energy and no fossil fuels while producing absolutely zero tailpipe emissions."

A panel of judges selected the five finalists from among thousands of entries across the country. The selection of the ultimate winner of the College Entrepreneur of the Year now comes down to two



Micah Toll

components: the online voting process and voting by the panel of judges. The online voting points and panel voting points will be combined for each of the five finalists, and the winner will be the student who receives the highest total.

Toll is no stranger to competition. Among his numerous awards is a first place in Pitt's 2009 Randall Family Big Idea Competition for a construction beam he invented for quick construction in such locations as refugee camps, disaster areas, and war zones. Big Ideas is funded by University of Pittsburgh Trustee Bob Randall's family and coordinated by the Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence (IEE) in Pitt's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business.

"In fact, it was his Randall Family Big Idea win that prompted us here at IEE to connect Micah with the opportunity at *Entrepreneur Magazine*," says Michael Lehman, IEE director of marketing and student entrepreneurship.

In 2010, Toll won another first-place Big Idea award for developing a kit to test for toxins in imported Chinese drywall.

In 2009, Toll was part of a team winning a \$5,000 first-place prize in the Energy Efficient Building Technologies Challenge hosted by Pitt's Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation. Toll's team constructed a lightweight plastic wind

The mission of Toll's company, Pulse Motors, is to revolutionize personal urban transportation by building completely electric two-wheeled Personal Electronic Vehicles. The vehicles resemble bicycles but do not require pedaling.

turbine consisting of a plastic rotor and tower that homeowners could install themselves.

**PUBLICATION NOTICE** The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published Sept. 6. Items for publication in the newspaper's *Happenings* calendar (See page 11) should be received at least two weeks prior to 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](mailto:chron@pitt.edu), or sent by campus mail to 422 Craig Hall. For more information, call 412-624-1033 or e-mail [robinet@pitt.edu](mailto:robinet@pitt.edu).