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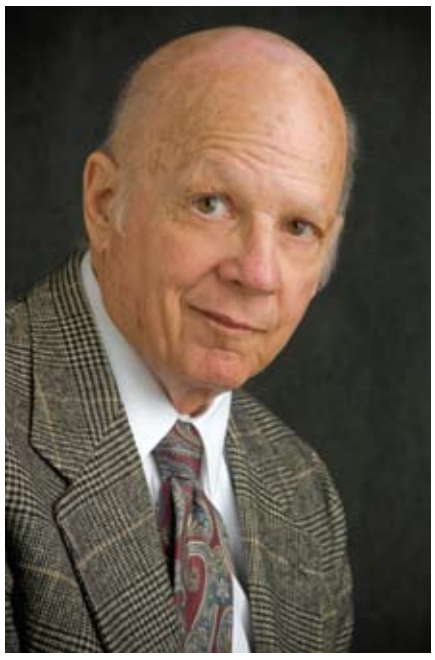
Philosophy Prof Belnap, Katz Alum Smith Elected American Academy of Arts and Sciences Fellows

This is the third consecutive year a Pitt philosophy professor has received this honor



Nuel D. Belnap Jr. (left) and Raymond W. Smith

Patricia Lomando White

Nuel D. Belnap Jr., Pitt's Alan Ross Anderson Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, and former Pitt trustee and business school alumnus Raymond W. Smith have been elected 2008 Fellows of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (AAAS). This is the third consecutive year a Pitt philosophy professor has received this honor.

Belnap also is a professor of the history and philosophy of science and a fellow of Pitt's Center for Philosophy of Science. Smith is chair of Rothschild North America in New York City and chair of the executive committee of Arlington Capital Partners in Washington, D.C.

Belnap and Smith are among 212 scholars, scientists, artists, and civic, corporate, and philanthropic leaders from 20 states and 15 countries to be elected this year. The honorees range in age from 37 to 86.

Among the 190 new fellows and 22 new foreign honorary members in addition to Belnap and Smith are such renowned figures as U.S. Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice John Paul Stevens, mathematician and philanthropist James H. Simons, soprano Dawn Upshaw, Nobel Prize winners Linda Buck and Craig Mello, computer company founders Michael Dell of Dell Inc. and Charles M. Geschke and John E. Warnock of Adobe Systems, former U.S. Secretary of State and former White House Chief of Staff James A. Baker III, astronomer Adam Riess, father of X-ray lithography Henry Smith, Academy Award-winning filmmakers Ethan and Joel Coen and Milos Forman, Emory University provost and historian Earl Lewis, Darwin biographer Janet Browne, Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Edward P. Jones, and blues guitarist B.B. King.

Prior to joining the Pitt faculty in 1963, Belnap was a professor at Yale University. He was a visiting professor of philosophy at the University of California at Irvine in 1973; the Visiting Oscar R. Ewing Professor of Philosophy at Indiana University in the fall semesters of 1977, '78, and '79; and the Visiting Leibniz-Professor, Zentrum für Höhere Studien, at Leipzig University in the summer of 1996.

Belnap is author of *Facing the Future: Agents and Choices in Our Indeterminist World*, with Michael Perloff and Ming Xu (Oxford University Press, 2001); *The Logic of Questions and Answers*, with Thomas B. Steel (Yale University Press, 1976); *Entailment: The Logic of Relevance and Necessity*, Vol. 1, with Alan Ross Anderson, and Vol. 2, with Anderson and J. Michael Dunn (Princeton University Press, 1976, 1992); and *The Revision Theory of Truth*, with Anil Gupta (The MIT Press, 1993).

Belnap has served on the editorial boards of *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *The Journal of Philosophical Logic*, *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, *Philosophy of Science*, *Studia Logica*, and *Philosophical Research Archives*.

In observance of his 60th birthday, a Festschrift titled *Truth or Consequences: Essays in Honor of Nuel Belnap*, edited by Dunn and Gupta (Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1990) was published.

Belnap's other honors include a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1975-76; a fellowship at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences in 1982-83; a 1993 Chancellor's Distinguished Research Award, Senior Category; and a Doctor of Philosophy Honoris Causa from Leipzig University in 2000.

Belnap is a member of the American Philosophical Association and the American Association for the Advancement of Science and has served as an officer of the Association for Symbolic Logic, the Society for Exact Philosophy, and the Mind Association. His present interests lie principally in philosophical logic as well as in metaphysics, the philosophy of the social sciences, and computer science.

Belnap received a BA degree from the University of Illinois in 1952 and MA and PhD degrees from Yale University in 1957 and 1960, respectively.

Smith began his career as an engineering trainee at Bell of Pennsylvania in 1959. During his tenure, Smith held various positions in the company, earning the title of president and CEO in 1983. When the company merged to become Bell Atlantic in 1985, he was named vice chair and CFO, rising to chair, president, and CEO in 1989, positions he held until 1998. At Bell Atlantic, he oversaw the acquisitions of NYNEX and GTE, two of the largest transactions in business history. In 1999, Smith became chair of Verizon Ventures.

In 2005, Smith was named a Pitt Legacy Laureate; he was formerly recognized with the University's Bicentennial Medallion of Distinction. He served on the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities, the National Forum on Education and Technology, and advisory boards of the U.S. House of Representatives and the Library of Congress.

A longtime supporter of civil rights, Smith launched a campaign at Bell Atlantic to help major civil rights and social justice organizations create a presence on the World Wide Web, as well as to raise awareness of racist activity on the Web. Smith is the first recipient of the Mickey Leland Award for Diversity in Telecommunications from the National Association of Black Telecommunications Professionals. The NAACP honored him for his continuing service to equal opportunity, and *Harvard Business Review* recognized him as a pioneer in the transformation of corporate cultures.

Among Smith's other honors are being named CEO of the Year by CNBC, Top Manager of the Year by *Business Week*, and Outstanding Corporate Leader and CEO of the Year by *Financial World*. He also received the Spirit of Achievement Award from the National Center for Learning Disabilities in 2005.

An actor in high school and college, Smith has written a dozen plays. He is writing his autobiography and in 2005 published a history of Dormont, Pa., where he was born and raised.

In addition to earning an MBA degree at Pitt's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business in 1969, Smith received a BS degree in industrial engineering in 1959 and a BS degree in electrical engineering in 1960, both from Carnegie Mellon University (then Carnegie Tech), as well as a BA degree in English literature in 1962 from Duquesne University.

Represented among the newly elected AAAS members are more than 50 universities and more than a dozen corporations, as well as museums, national laboratories and private research institutes, media outlets, and foundations.

Pitt has eight other faculty members among the academy's approximately 4,000 American Fellows and 600 foreign honorary members. They are Thomas B. Starzl, transplant pioneer and Distinguished Service Professor of Surgery, elected to the academy in 1971; Adolf Grünbaum, Andrew Mellon Professor of Philosophy and cochair of the Center for Philosophy of Science, 1976; John Henry McDowell, University Professor of Philosophy, 1992; John S. Earman, University Professor of the History and Philosophy of Science, 1993;

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Provost Awards Funding To 8 Projects Promoting Innovation in Education

The Office of the Provost's Advisory Council on Instructional Excellence (ACIE) has selected eight teaching proposals to fund under the 2008 Innovation in Education Awards Program.

This year's projects range from expanding teaching opportunities for doctoral students to integrating nanoscience across the natural sciences curricula at the University of Pittsburgh-Titusville.

The awards, begun in 2000 by University of Pittsburgh Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor James V. Maher, encourage instructional innovation and teaching excellence. The ACIE seeks to identify high-quality proposals that show promise for introducing innovative, creative approaches to teaching that can be adapted for use in other courses.

"The council continues to be impressed with the quality and creativity of the proposals submitted each year," said ACIE Chair and Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Andrew Blair. "Those recommended for funding this year represented the best of a fine set of submissions from academic units across the entire University. While Pitt is a comprehensive research institution, it is clear that this awards program supporting innovative teaching strikes a responsive chord among our faculty."

Funding for this year's awards totaled $127,000.

Winners of this year's awards and summaries of their proposals follow.

Heiko Spallek, an assistant professor in the Center for Dental Informatics in Pitt's School of Dental Medicine, and professor **Mark P. Mooney,** who holds joint appointments in the Departments of Oral Medicine and Pathology, Anthropology, Surgery-Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, and Othodontics in Pitt's Schools of Dental Medicine and Medicine, "Quantitative Image Analysis Using Adobe Photoshop CS3 Extended."

This project will develop two Web-based modules to instruct researchers on how to use the new Adobe Photoshop CS3 Extended software (Photoshop). The goal is to give biomedical researchers the ability to analyze quantitatively an array of images, such as histological samples, radiological images, and other imaging artifacts derived from diverse lab equipment. The two courses, Quantitative Image Analysis Using Photoshop and Best Practices Using Photoshop in Image Analysis, will be interactive and cut across various disciplines and cater to different learning levels.

Amy Seybert, a professor of pharmacy and therapeutics, "Simulation-Based Learning and Online Learning to Enhance Problem Solving Skills in Acute Care Pharmacotherapy."

The project's goal is to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills in Doctor of Pharmacy candidates by utilizing human patient simulation. The Acute Care Pharmacotherapy course will allow students to apply clinical knowledge and skills gained in previous courses to

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Woodruff Highlighted in Exhibition at Holocaust Museum

John Woodruff crossing the finish line at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin

Sharon S. Blake

The dramatic 1936 Olympic victory of late Pitt alumnus and track star John Woodruff —as well as the actual Olympic gold medal he received for winning the 800-meter-race in the 1936 games—are highlighted in a new special exhibition, *The Nazi Olympics: Berlin 1936*, at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial and Museum in Washington, D.C. The 1936 gold medal has been at the Pitt library since 1990, when Woodruff donated it to the University.

The show runs through Aug. 17 in the Kimmel-Rowan Gallery at the museum, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, S.W., in Washington.

The exhibition recounts the history of the 1936 Olympic Games, which Adolf Hitler's Nazi dictatorship exploited by downplaying the Third Reich's racist, militaristic character and attempting to project the illusion of a peace-loving, tolerant Germany. There was talk of an Olympic boycott, but some Black newspapers of the era opposed the idea; Journalists at those papers felt it was hypocritical to boycott the Berlin Olympics without first addressing the problem of discrimination in the United States against Black athletes. Ultimately, 18 Black athletes competed, 16 men and two women, triple the number that had competed in the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. The 1936 group included Jesse Owens, who ended up winning four gold medals, a record at that time.

A lanky 21-year-old who lacked international running experience, Woodruff got boxed in by veteran runners after the 1936 800-meter race's first 300 meters. Realizing he would be disqualified if he fouled another runner, he did the unthinkable—he stopped running, moved over to the track's third lane, let the other runners pass him by, and then began again. As he took off from the back of the pack, his nine-foot stride lengthened, and he passed one rival after another. He was leading the pack when the finish line came into view, and he sprinted forward, breaking the tape at 1:52.9. The *New York Herald Tribune* called Woodruff's stop-and-restart technique the "most daring move ever seen on a track."

Woodruff died on Oct. 30, 2007, at age 92. According to *The New York Times*, he was the last survivor of the 12 U.S. men who won track and field gold medals at the 1936 Olympics.

Woodruff received the Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology from Pitt in 1939. In October 2006, he visited his alma mater for the last time to be honored during Homecoming events for the 70th anniversary of his storied Olympic victory.

The Nazi Olympics: Berlin 1936 originally opened at the Holocaust Museum to mark the 60th anniversary of the Berlin Games and to coincide with the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. It reopened last month with some new additions, including Woodruff's gold medal, which will be returned to Pitt when the exhibition closes; the medal will be housed in a new exhibition display at Pitt's Hillman Library this fall. This summer's D.C. exhibition also features a videotaped interview with Woodruff, in which he described the discrimination he faced after returning to America as an Olympic champion.

"After the Olympics, we had a track meet to run at Annapolis, at the Naval Academy. Now here I am, an Olympic champion, and they told the coach that I couldn't run. I couldn't come. So I had to stay home, because of discrimination. That let me know just what the situation was. Things hadn't changed," Woodruff explained in the interview.

During Woodruff's final visit to the University, at the Oct. 20, 2006, Varsity Letter Club Annual Dinner, Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg delivered remarks honoring Woodruff and then addressed him personally, saying, "John, you and I now have known each other for a number of years, and you never have mentioned that [Naval Academy] incident to me. In fact, I do not know if I ever would have learned about it, if I had not been preparing for your homecoming. But speaking, both personally and for the University of Pittsburgh, I want to apologize to you—and I feel certain that, if those responsible for leading our University 70 years ago were here today, they would stand with me and join me in this expression of regret."

To tour an online version of this exhibition, visit www. ushmm.org/naziolympics.

THE NEWSHOUR WITH JIM LEHRER COMES TO OAKLAND CAMPUS

Ray Suarez, senior correspondent for *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer,* spoke during a luncheon on Pitt's Oakland campus prior to Pennsylvania's April 22 presidential primary. His April 9 talk, "Religion and the Election," was sponsored by WQED Pittsburgh and the University of Pittsburgh Intercultural Dialogue Group.

Paul Solman, business and economics correspondent for *The NewsHour,* participated in an April 11 panel discussion in Pitt's Frick Fine Arts Auditorium. The title of the event was "The Global Economic Slowdown." Among the panelists were Kenneth M. Lehn, the Samuel A. McCullough Professor of Science in Pitt's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business.

Refugees Are Best Protected by Peacekeepers, Pitt Study Suggests

By Amanda Leff

Populations within camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and for refugees would be best served if protected by international peacekeepers rather than relying on government forces, suggests a new report from the University of Pittsburgh's Ford Institute for Human Security.

TOM ALTANY

Simon Reich

The study—led by Simon Reich, Pitt professor of international affairs and director of the Ford Institute—aims to further the understanding of factors that determine the security of populations in IDP and refugee camps. Ford Institute researchers determined that the abduction of children from these camps could help explain the variations in the rates of child soldiers in African conflicts. The study examined what makes IDP or refugee camps safe or unsafe for the communities they serve and what the international community can do to make camps safer from external attack.

Reich will present his recommendations, based on the results of the study, to the United Nations Office of Children and Armed Conflict May 1 in New York City; attendees will include representatives from other U.N. agencies, various national governments, and nongovernmental organizations.

The study is one of the first initiatives to generate a database of IDP and refugee camp attacks for analysis and policymaking purposes. The researchers also used geographic information systems (GIS) software to produce a series of maps that chart migration trends, camp attacks, and the abduction of children. A major advantage of GIS mapping is the ability to track the movement of IDP and refugee populations over time; this will allow Pitt researchers to continue to track population movements to determine whether migratory populations are at greater risk than those in permanent, stationary camps.

Findings strongly support the need for a policy promoting greater security forces within IDP and refugee camps, according to the researchers. Having a symbolic protective force does not ensure a camp's protection, according to the researchers. Instead, the size of a protection force and its composition, mandate, and war-fighting capability are crucially important factors in a force's ability to protect camps. Researchers also found that government forces are attacked most often, despite their size, and in some cases commit crimes against the camp populations they are charged with protecting. Reich suggests, based on the study's findings, that international peacekeeping forces should be deployed to protect IDP and refugee populations.

The full report is available online at www.fordinstitute.pitt.edu.

Philosophy Professor Nuel Belnap, Katz Alumnus Raymond Smith Elected AAAS Fellows

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Robert Brandom, Distinguished Service Professor of Philosophy, 2000; Peter L. Strick, professor of neurobiology and psychiatry and codirector of the Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition, 2004; Anil K. Gupta, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, professor of history and philosophy of science, and a fellow of Pitt's Center for Philosophy of Science, 2006; and Mark L. Wilson, professor of philosophy, director of graduate studies, and a fellow of Pitt's Center for Philosophy of Science, 2007.

Founded in 1780 by John Adams, James Bowdoin, John Hancock, and other scholar-patriots, the academy has elected as fellows and foreign honorary members the finest minds and most influential leaders from each generation, including George Washington and Benjamin Franklin in the 18th century, Daniel Webster and Ralph Waldo Emerson in the 19th century, and Albert Einstein and Winston Churchill in the 20th century. The current membership includes more than 170 Nobel laureates and 50 Pulitzer Prize winners. An independent policy research center, the academy undertakes studies of complex and emerging problems. Current academy research focuses on science and global security, social policy, the humanities and culture, and education.

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Dan Marino

Marino Tells Graduates to "Go After Your Passion," "Nurture Your Relationships," "Touch Someone's Life in a Positive Way"

This is the printed version of the April 27, 2008, commencement address delivered by Pitt alumnus and football Hall of Famer Dan Marino at the University of Pittsburgh on the occasion of his receiving an honorary Pitt doctorate in broadcast journalism

Chancellor Nordenberg, Board of Trustees, faculty, the University community, and, especially, the graduates of the 2008 class: It's my honor to speak to you today. I graduated in '83. Do the math. Twenty-five years later. Wow!

When I came to Pitt as a freshman, I had two goals. One was to be the starting quarterback. The other, I made a promise to my mother that I would graduate just like all of you today. I accomplished both goals. I was very proud of that, and all of you should be very proud to be Pitt graduates.

But *never in my wildest dreams* did I imagine receiving a doctorate in broadcast journalism. Now that I have one, I'll be sure to let my colleagues at the CBS *NFL Today* show—Shannon, Boomer, James Brown, and Coach Cowher—know that I will demand that they now call me "Dr. Dan."

Chancellor, thank you for the honor. I think I'm going to ask CBS for a raise!

How many of you watch the show? It's on Sundays in the fall at noon. Please do me a favor. Please watch. Keep the ratings as high as possible, so this Pitt grad can keep his job.

I'm an Oaklander, so this is truly a homecoming for me. As some of you might know, I grew up with the Cathedral of Learning—only a short walk from my family's home. As a kid, I played football and baseball in Schenley Park and also on the grass of the Cathedral of Learning. To be honest, there wasn't much grass on my street, Parkview Avenue in south Oakland.

I always thought Parkview was a funny name—there was no park and definitely no view. My entire family, going back to my great-grandfather, lived in Oakland. He was a street cleaner. My grandmother worked for a dentist on Atwood Street. My grandfather worked at J&L Steel, which is now the UPMC Sports Complex. My dad worked as a truck driver for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.

I grew up eating hot dogs at the Dirty O and Primanti Brothers sandwiches. So, I'm a city boy and yes, I am a true Oaklander.

> "It's easy to live in a world behind computer screens. Working with people is a reality in whatever you do. ...So don't lose the personal touch in life. Nurture your relationships, and they will come back to you 1,000 times over. The personal relationships you make will carry you through life."
>
> –Dan Marino

We're here today at the Petersen Center, on the site of the old Pitt Stadium. As a teenager, I never had tickets to games but knew some guys from my neighborhood, family friends, that worked on the grounds crew. They'd sneak me into games. I remember watching Tony Dorsett and the '76 team that won the national championship. I can still see Tony walking on campus with his Pitt letterman jacket. That's when I really became a huge Pitt fan. I have so many great memories as a student athlete…going to four Bowl Games and especially the '82 Sugar Bowl.

Coming from behind against Georgia was one of our biggest wins. I'll never forget standing here, as a freshman, when this was the old football field—my first game against Kansas.

My first pass was intercepted. That wasn't a good memory. But my second pass was a touchdown. So no matter how you look at it, I was two-for-two with a touchdown. Pretty good start!

But my fondest memories were not only the games I played here in front of my family and friends, but my dad actually sitting in the stands watching me practice almost every day.

Now, today, 25 years after graduating, I'm standing here before you graduates. And I'm supposed to offer some thoughts as you go into what

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Marino Tells Graduates to "Go After Your Passion," "Nurture Your Relationships"

Dan Marino (left) with Mark A. Nordenberg

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my dad used to call (finger quotes) "the real world...."

My dad never graduated from college, but he knew what the real world was all about. It was about family, hard work, and passion for what you do. He'd always say, "You only get out of life what you put into it." Little did he or I know, the real world today would be a technology-driven society full of computers, text messaging, e-mails, video games, multitasking, and my personal favorite, YouTube.

But as much as the environment and the atmosphere of this campus have changed, the core values of life and success remain the same: *Hard Work/Passion/Integrity. And, most important, family.*

Family is especially appropriate today. All of you have someone in your life that has instilled these values and helped you get to this moment right now sitting here in your caps and gowns.

In fact, before this day is over, before all the fun and the celebrating, make sure you thank your parents, your brothers and sisters, and whoever helped you get to this day—whoever helped with this achievement of graduating and moving on in life.

Of course, the best way to thank them is to make use of the degree that you've worked so hard for. And, to me, one of the most important things as you enter the real world is to find what you love to do.

When I think back, I was lucky. I found my love for sports at a young age. And whether it was baseball or football, I found my true talent. I could throw it. All the hours on the practice field, all the days studying film, and all the years of working on my game—it didn't seem like work to me. Because it was fun. It's what I loved to do.

It may take some of you longer, but it's worth the search to find your passion.

There will be obstacles. There always are to anything important. If you find a path with no obstacles, it probably doesn't lead anywhere. So whether it's education, the arts, business, medicine, or politics, I encourage all of you find what you love.

So go after your passion—not simply a paycheck. It doesn't have to be about the money. I guarantee you this: If you love your life's work, the financial reward will take care of itself.

Just last week there was a report from careerbuilder.com that 84 percent of people are unhappy at work. I look at that and think it's pretty sad. So find what you love to do and have a passion for what you choose to do. Also, I want you to keep the personal touch in life. As I said before, you've grown up in the Internet age with text messaging and e-mails, and how you learn today is incredibly different from how people learned 10 or 20 years ago.

> "So 25 years from now when you look in the mirror, don't look back and say, 'I wish I had ... I wish I had worked harder. I wish I had followed my passion and dreams. I wish I made a difference in my community.' You want to look back and say, 'I was the best I could be. ... I made a difference in people's lives.'"
>
> –Dan Marino

But the real world's about relationships and life skills. Looking people in the eye when you shake hands. Treating people as you want to be treated. It's about dealing with people and finding people you can trust. Know those you work with—who they are, what their interests are. Learn about their families.

It's easy to live in a world behind computer screens. Working with people is a reality in whatever you do. Looking back at my career here at Pitt and with the Miami Dolphins, football is the perfect example. It's the ultimate team game. There were dozens of players and coaches with different personalities and different backgrounds in different roles on the team. But working together every day on every play for a common goal was the key to our success.

So don't lose the personal touch in life. Nurture your relationships, and they will come back to you 1,000 times over. The personal relationships you make will carry you through life.

And I also urge you today to make a difference in your community. Wherever life takes you, give something back. It doesn't have to be money.

Give your time. Give your expertise. Give something of yourself.

For me, this hit home in 1992 when my son Michael was diagnosed with autism. Seeing what he had to go through opened my eyes to the needs of families and children with developmental disabilities. That led my wife, Claire, and I to start a children's hospital in Florida and a developmental center, which today sees over 6,000 kids a month.

I played 17 years in the NFL and set every passing record possible. But you know what? A lot of them have been broken. But when you touch someone's life in a positive way, it lasts forever. Believe me, nothing feels better than having parents come up to me and say, "You're making a difference in my child's life."

It was once said, "A great use of life is to spend it for something that outlasts it." Giving back to your community will last forever.

Today we talked about finding what you love to do and having a passion for whatever you do. We talked about how important family and relationships are. And having an impact on your community in a positive way. How the core values of life and success never change.

It's been 25 years since I left Pitt, and the time has gone fast. You only come this way once. When you look back, only you will know what your potential was, because only you will know in your mind and heart whether you got the maximum out of your potential. Only you will know if you cut corners along the way or if you did just enough to get by in life.

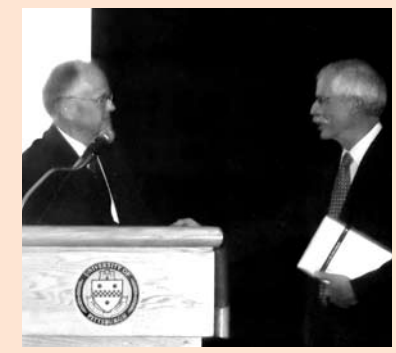
So 25 years from now when you look in the mirror, don't look back and say, "I wish I had … I wish I had worked harder. I wish I had followed my passion and dreams. I wish I made a difference in my community." You want to look back and say, "I was the best I could be." That, "I worked hard and followed my dreams." That, "I made a difference in people's lives."

If you can do that, then you will have peace of mind no matter what you achieve in life.

You may even be surprised by where your dreams take you. I'm a perfect example.

As I said, when I came to Pitt I just wanted to be the quarterback and get my degree. Now look at me. I'm Dr. Dan. Good luck, Class of 2008.

GRADUATION CELEBRATION



G. Reynolds Clark (left), Pitt vice chancellor for community initiatives and chief of staff in the Office of the Chancellor; David Shapira (right), president and CEO of Giant Eagle Corporation; Kathy Humphrey, Pitt vice chancellor for student affairs; and Patricia Beeson, Pitt vice provost for graduate and undergraduate studies, spoke at an April 27 nighttime graduation celebration that was held for students who were unable to attend Pitt Commencement because it fell on the final day of Passover. Clark introduced Shapira, a friend and benefactor of the University who delivered the keynote address to the approximately 150 participating in the celebration, including some 25 graduating seniors; Shapira's sister, Edith Laura Shapira, had earned her MD degree at Pitt's School of Medicine in 1980. Also speaking at the celebration were two graduating Pitt seniors—Cara Baldari and one of the event organizers, Sharone Pasternak—as well as Hillel Jewish University Center of Pittsburgh executive director Aaron Weil and Rabbi Aaron Bisno of Temple Rodef Shalom. The event took place in the Lower Lounge of the William Pitt Union and was sponsored by Pitt's Office of Student Affairs and the Hillel JUC.

Eclampsia During Pregnancy May Flag Women at Heightened Risk of Heart Problems, Pitt Study Shows

By Michele D. Baum

C-reactive protein (CRP), an inflammatory marker associated with a higher risk of cardiovascular disease, was found to be elevated even 30 years after a pregnancy distinguished by eclampsia, according to a study by the University of Pittsburgh-affiliated Magee-Womens Research Institute (MWRI). The finding indicates that pregnancy outcome can be viewed as 'a natural early stress test' for future risk of cardiovascular disease, the leading cause of death for women.

The study was published in *Hypertension,* a journal of the American Heart Association.

Carl Hubel

"We found that levels of CRP were doubled in postmenopausal women who had a prior episode of eclampsia compared to those who had a history of normal pregnancies," said Carl Hubel, lead author, assistant professor of obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and an MWRI assistant investigator. "The finding is even more striking because this difference remained after adjusting for other, potentially confounding risk factors such as age, weight, smoking, and use of hormone-replacement therapy."

A life-threatening complication of pregnancy, eclampsia occasionally succeeds preeclampsia and can involve coma, convulsions, and organ failure. About two women in 100 will develop preeclampsia during pregnancy. A smaller number, about seven in 10,000, will develop eclampsia. Although intravenous infusion of magnesium sulfate can decrease the likelihood that a woman with preeclampsia will develop eclamptic seizures, the only effective treatment for the syndrome is immediate delivery, which can be dangerous for the baby if it is too early in the pregnancy.

"We propose that prior preeclampsia, particularly severe preeclampsia, be considered as a red flag to identify women of reproductive age who stand to benefit from cardiovascular risk factor modification," Hubel said. "If we can identify these differences during a woman's reproductive years and intervene with lifestyle changes early and aggressively, we may be able to impact her future risk. Early screening here is vital."

For the study, Hubel and his colleagues compared data on 25 Icelandic women with prior eclampsia and 28 Icelandic women with normal pregnancies.

"In particular, elevated CRP during the first trimester of pregnancy has also been associated with a 2.5-fold increased risk of developing preeclampsia in leaner women, indicating that pathways of chronic, low-grade systemic inflammation may be involved in the development of the disease, perhaps persisting decades after childbirth," said Hubel. "Fasting insulin levels and systolic blood pressures also were significantly higher in women with previous eclampsia compared to controls."

Among women testing for elevated CRP, who had a history of eclampsia, 69 percent had systolic blood pressure greater than 140, and 62 percent were taking antihypertensive medications, the researchers found. "These women appear especially prone to developing insulin resistance syndrome later in life and are at increased risk to develop high blood pressure, heart disease, or stroke," Hubel said.

Science&Technology

New UPCI Program Targets Genetic Mutations That Increase Cancer Risks

By Courtney McCrimmon

The University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI) has announced the establishment of the Frieda G. and Saul F. Shapira BRCA Cancer Research Program. BRCA 1 and 2 are two genes that, when mutated, dramatically increase the risk of breast, prostate, ovarian, and pancreatic cancers.

"I am excited about the addition of this research program to UPCI," said Ronald Herberman, director of UPCI and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Cancer Centers. "The more we learn about these mutations, the better chance we have to target high-risk patients and to find innovative ways to reduce their cancer risk."

Ronald Herberman

Women who possess either mutation have a 50 to 80 percent lifetime risk of developing breast cancer, and the disease progresses more quickly than in individuals without the mutations. Experts estimate that as many as one out of every 345 people in the United States carries a BRCA mutation, but for individuals of Ashkenazi (Eastern European) Jewish descent, the number is approximately one in 40.

These mutations have been linked primarily to an increased risk of breast cancer in women, but they also increase the risk for other cancers. Both men and women can carry the genetic mutations, which means they can be passed to children from either parent.

The Shapira Foundation committed an initial $1 million for the program, structuring the gift as a matching grant to raise an additional $1.5 million from individuals and foundations. UPMC is matching these gifts on a dollar-for-dollar basis, for an overall goal of $5 million.

"Currently, the burden of cancer costs each American approximately $936 a year," Herberman said. "The National Cancer Institute's budget supporting research amounts to only $21 per American annually. To fund promising cancer research, researchers need other means of support. A gift like the one we have received from the Shapira Foundation, complemented by funds from the community and UPMC, will go a long way in supporting this important program."

> "I am excited about the addition of this research program to UPCI. The more we learn about these mutations, the better chance we have to target high-risk patients and to find innovative ways to reduce their cancer risk."
> —*Ronald Herberman*

Already, community leaders and local foundations have contributed $850,000 toward the fundraising goal.

Founded in 1984, UPCI was designated as a Comprehensive Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute in 1990. UPCI is the only comprehensive cancer center in western Pennsylvania. The institute receives a total of $154 million in research grants and is ranked 10th in funding from the NCI.

Sudden Death of Parent Boosts Risk of Depression in Surviving Children

By Megan Grote Quatrini

The children of parents who die suddenly—whether by suicide, accident, or natural causes—are three times more likely to develop depression and are at higher risk for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) than children who don't face such a difficult life event, according to a University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine study published in the current issue of the *Archives of Pediatric Adolescent Medicine*, one of the *JAMA/Archives* journals.

In the first controlled, population-based study of its kind, the team of Pitt and University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) researchers also found that parents who died of suicide had higher rates of bipolar disorder, alcohol and substance abuse, and personality disorders. Higher rates of these disorders are expected in suicide victims; however, those who died accidentally or from sudden natural death also had higher rates of psychiatric disorders—specifically, alcohol and substance abuse—and personality disorders, and showed a trend toward higher rates of bipolar disorder.

David A. Brent

While the death of a parent is consistently rated as one of the most stressful events that a child can experience, little has been known about the psychiatric outcomes in bereaved children until now. "Our study shows that when premature parental death occurs, physicians should be alert to the increased risk for depression and post-traumatic stress disorder in bereaved offspring and in their surviving caregivers," said David A. Brent, academic chief of child and adolescent psychiatry at Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic and professor of psychiatry, pediatrics, and epidemiology in Pitt's School of Medicine.

"Not surprisingly, we found that bereaved offspring are at increased risk for adverse outcomes in part because of factors that may have contributed to the parent's death," Brent added.

The study involved 140 families in which one parent had died of either suicide, accidental death—such as drug overdoses and car accidents—or sudden natural death. A control group consisted of 99 families with two living biological parents who were matched to the deceased parents in the study group based on sex, age, and neighborhood. Ages of the children at their parents' deaths ranged from 7 to 25 years.

Other factors that affected outcomes included the nature of the last conversation with the deceased. Researchers found that a caregiver's recollection of a supportive conversation led to a higher risk of depression. "Understanding the effects of bereavement is essential to identifying those at highest risk who should be targeted for future prevention and intervention efforts," noted Nadine Melhem, first author and a professor of psychiatry in Pitt's School of Medicine.

These findings point out the importance of improving the detection and treatment of bipolar illness, substance and alcohol abuse, and personality disorders, as well as the significance of addressing the lifestyle associations of these illnesses that lead to premature deaths, according to Brent.

"The caregivers should be monitored for depression and PTSD, because restoring their normal mental functioning could lead to more positive outcomes for the children," Brent said. "However, given the increased risk of depression and PTSD, the bereaved children also should be monitored and, if necessary, referred and treated for their psychiatric disorders."

Coauthors of the study include researchers Monica Walker of Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic and the Department of Psychiatry in Pitt's School of Medicine and Grace Moritz from UPMC's Division of Collaborative Care Medicine.

Awards&More

Toi Derricotte

Toi Derricotte, a Pitt English professor and an award-winning poet, has received two prestigious awards recognizing her career-long contributions to letters and writers. Poets & Writers Inc., the nation's largest nonprofit literary organization serving poets, fiction writers, and creative nonfiction writers, honored Derricotte with the Barnes & Noble Writers for Writers Award. The honor is given annually to writers who volunteer time or money to writers' causes, have advocated on behalf of other writers, or have made an exceptional contribution affecting the lives of writers. On May 17, the New York University Graduate School of Arts and Science will honor Derricotte with the Alumni/Alumnae Achievement Award in recognition of her achievements and contributions to society. Previous winners of the award have included, among others, Nobel Laureate biochemist Julius Axelrod and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer George Perle.

Carolyn Ban, a professor in Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, has been selected as a Fulbright scholar to the European Union Affairs Research Program for 2009. She will spend spring semester in Belgium, researching the impact of administrative reform on management, morale, and motivation in the European Commission. She will work jointly with scholars at the Institute for European Studies at the Université Libre de Bruxelles and at the Public Management Institute at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven.

Steven R. Little, a professor of chemical engineering in Pitt's Swanson School of Engineering, received a 2008 Beckman Young Investigators award for developing synthetic cellular constructs that could allow for better understanding and even control of the immune system.

The award, which includes a three-year grant of $300,000, is given by the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation. The foundation supports innovative research and is named for renowned scientist Arnold Beckman, inventor of the pH meter and pioneer of Silicon Valley.

Little received the award for his ongoing effort to create particles that would behave as natural cells do to carry out specific tasks. His work currently focuses on dendritic cells, which direct the immune system's response to an invader by presenting antigens to the cells that carry out the body's attack. With the engineered particles, Little can control the signals presented to the immune system and, in turn, the body's response to a perceived malady. The particles communicate with the body in a similar way as natural cells, and Little simply tailors the presence and extent of these natural interactions, he said.

Such control over the immune system would be particularly useful to organ transplant patients who risk having their immune system reject a new organ, Little said.

Current exploratory methods of regulating the body's immune response are similar to Little's method but employ cells from a person's blood. These cells are removed, altered, and then injected back into the body. But they are difficult to harvest in large quantities and can change to the point of losing the intended function. On the other hand, the engineered particles can be synthesized in bulk and their structure remains constant, Little said.

Little plans to extend his research beyond dendritic cells and produce a general template that can mimic any cell, he said. He began with the immune system because of its intricate communication system, he said.

Robert Palmer, a professor in the School of Medicine, was recently appointed director of clinical geriatrics at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC).

Palmer has gained national prominence for innovative efforts to improve the outcomes of hospitalization through geriatric assessment and interdisciplinary care.

Carolyn Ban

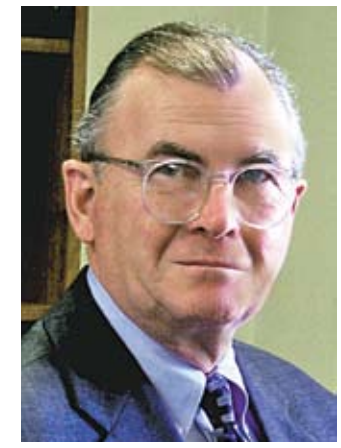
"Dr. Palmer is an internationally recognized face in the field of geriatric medicine and brings to UPMC his extensive expertise in caring for older adults. He will be a wonderful addition to our already accomplished team of geriatric specialists," said Neil M. Resnick, Pitt professor of medicine, chief of the Division of Geriatric Medicine, and director of the University of Pittsburgh Institute on Aging.

Palmer attended medical school at the University of Michigan and completed his residency training in internal medicine at the Los Angeles County/University of Southern California Medical Center. He obtained his master's degree in public health at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he later completed a fellowship in geriatric medicine. He is nationally and internationally recognized for his patient care, research, and publications. He is the author of numerous book chapters, scientific reviews, and geriatric textbooks, including *Age Well!* and *Acute Hospital Care*. Palmer comes to UPMC from the Cleveland Clinic, where he served as head of the section of geriatric medicine

Provost Awards Funding to 8 Projects Promoting Innovation in Education

Continued from page 1

care for patients with acute illness. It will be the first immersive dual technology course within pharmacy education at Pitt. Combining online and simulation-based assessments, the course will provide an objective assessment of a student's knowledge and performance.



Andrew Blair

Ronald Zboray, a communication professor, **Joseph Grabowski,** a chemistry professor, and **Barbara Kucinski,** a lecturer in the Department of Psychology, all in the School of Arts and Sciences, "Improving Undergraduate Education: Instructional Resources for Teaching Assistants (A Multimedia Web site and DVD)."

In 2006-07, there were approximately 1,000 graduate students employed as teaching assistants or teaching fellows at the University of Pittsburgh. This project will develop several short instructional videos of two to five minutes each that model the fundamental strategies and elements of classroom teaching. The videos could be accessed individually on a centralized Web site as a resource for improving teaching skills. Pitt's Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education will provide instructional design, graphics, and video production services.

> "The council continues to be impressed with the quality and creativity of the proposals submitted each year. Those recommended for funding this year represented the best of a fine set of submissions from academic units across the entire University. While Pitt is a comprehensive research institution, it is clear that this awards program supporting innovative teaching strikes a responsive chord among our faculty."
>
> *–Andrew Blair*

Nuno Themudo, a professor of international affairs in Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA), "Community Teaching Lab."

The Community Teaching Lab will seek to address the lack of teaching opportunities for many Pitt doctoral students, a situation that can inhibit competitiveness in the job market. The lab will allow PhD students to develop teaching skills by creating and delivering community outreach courses. In addition to being taught in Pitt's classrooms, the courses will be available online and free to the public, modeling the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's OpenCourseware program. Themudo will offer the teaching lab as a three-credit-hours doctoral course.

Bonnie A. Falcione, a professor in the Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, "Development and Systematic Evaluation of Rubrics to Assess Value of Student Wiki Contributions in Collaborative Case-Based Learning."

This project seeks to develop a method to identify the value of individual student contributions when using Wiki technology for collaborative patient-care-based activities. A Wiki is a computer server program that allows users to collaborate in forming the content of a Web site. With a Wiki, any user can edit the site's content, including other users' contributions. The technology will be introduced in the second year of the Doctor of Pharmacy professional program in a two-semester course sequence, Pharmacotherapy of Infectious Diseases 1 and 2.

Christian Shunn, a psychology professor, "A Case Library of Authentic, Effective Writing Assignments for Peer-Based Learning."

This project seeks to broaden the diversity of writing skills learned by undergraduate students in Pitt's Department of Psychology. An assessment of writing activities required by the department's curriculum revealed an overemphasis on report writing at the expense of other writing skills required in the workplace. This project will build on the success of Shunn's SWoRD project, a Web-based system that allows faculty to integrate significant writing-with-revision assignments into courses without a large number of significant instructors or teaching-assistant grading resources. The project will build a case library of complete materials required for easy but high-quality implementation of a writing task into a course.

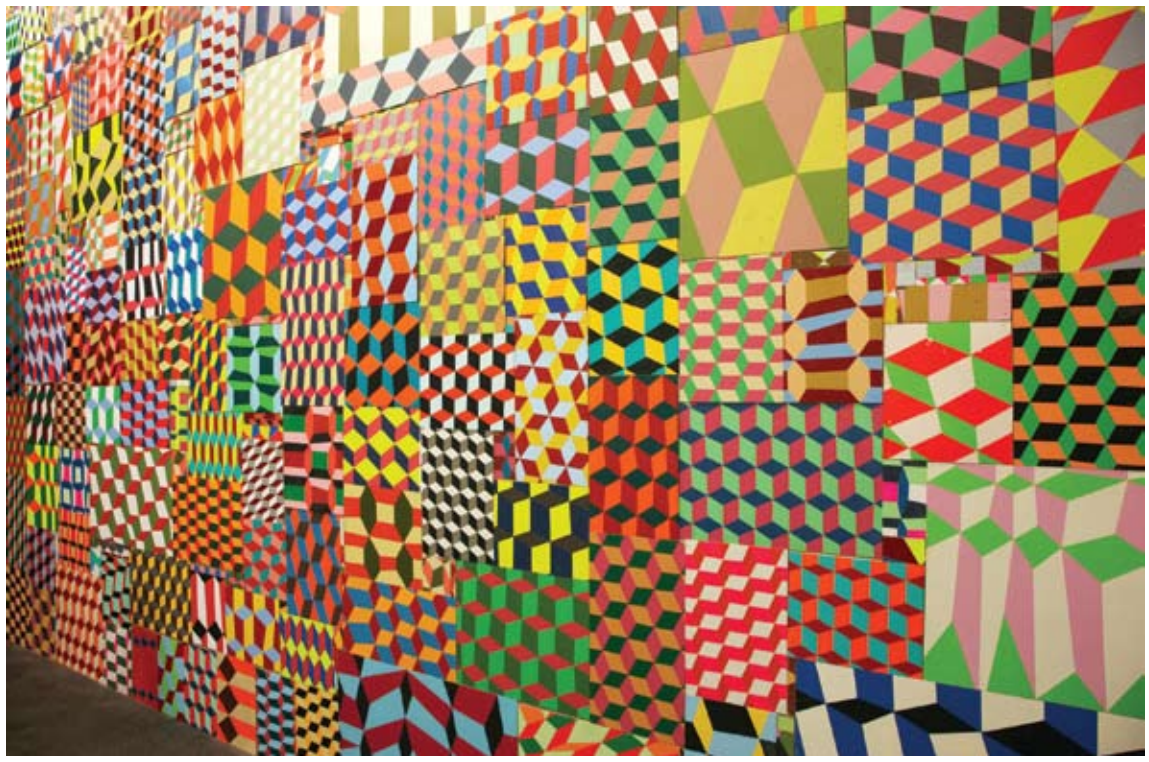
George W. Dougherty, a professor of public and urban affairs in GSPIA, "The Student Philanthropy Project."

A significant number of undergraduate and graduate students at Pitt in general and in GSPIA in particular want to make a difference in society through careers in the private nonprofit sector. This project aims to transform the way students learn about philanthropy by adding a real-life experiential learning component to the curriculum. During the pilot phase, certain GSPIA graduate and undergraduate courses will make multiple grants of at least $2,500 to participating nonprofits during the semester. It is believed that providing experience with grant-making processes and techniques will help students seeking careers in both the not-for-profit and for-profit sectors.

Ping Y. Furlan, a chemistry professor at Pitt-Titusville, "Nanoscience and Technology Across the Natural Sciences Curricula."

Expanding the current nanoscience program at the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville will enhance the educational and professional advancement opportunities for students. This project seeks to implement nanothemed activities in different classrooms across the natural sciences curricula and to upgrade the EasyScan2 Scanning Tunneling Microscope to include an Atomic Force Microscope. Broadening the curriculum will impact Pitt-Titusville students majoring in the natural sciences, who comprise 20 percent of the student body. And because 28 percent of the student body come from underrepresented groups, the project is expected to benefit a large number of these students and greatly enhance their scientific capabilities.

Happenings



Untitled, 2008, Barry McGee, Carnegie Museum of Art, through January 11, 2009

Concerts

Viva Las Vegas with Jack Everly, **May 15-18,** Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown; 8 p.m. **May 19**, Scottish Rite Cathedral, 110 E. Lincoln Ave., New Castle, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

A Musical Kaleidoscope, Andres Cardenes, conductor and violinist, 8 p.m. **May 15,** Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Downtown; 8 p.m. **May 17,** Upper St. Clair High School Theater, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Coro Latinoamericano Spring Concert, Canto Latino, 7:30 p.m. **May 17,** Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Pitt's Center for Latin American Studies, 412-648-7392, elcorlatino@hotmail.com.

Mozart Favorites, Pinchas Zukerman conducts and performs, 8 p.m. **May 30-31,** 2:30 p.m. **June 1,** Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Exhibitions

Space 101 Gallery, *Bare IV,* **through May 31**, The Brew House, 2100 Mary St., South Side, 412-381-7767, www.brewhouse.org.

Andy Warhol Museum, *Neke Carson: Eyeball Portraits and Beyond + Neke Paints Andy '72*, **through June 1,** 117 Sandusky St., North Side, 412-237-8300, www.warhol.org.

Carnegie Museum of Art, *Great British Art: 200 Years of Watercolors, Drawings, and Prints From the Bank of New York Mellon Collection*, **through May 18**; *55th Carnegie International*, **through Jan. 11, 2009,** 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3131, www.cmoa.org.

Trinity Gallery, *High Speed Infrared Film,* **through May 31,** 4747 Hatfield St., Lawrenceville, 412-687-2458.

SPACE, *Pittsburgh NOW,* **through June 13**, 812 Liberty Ave., Downtown, www.SpacePittsburgh.org, 412-325-7723.

Lectures/ Seminars/Readings

"So You Want to Write a Book," 12:15 p.m. **May 15,** 612 Smithfield St., Downtown, Business Program Series, 412-281-7141.

"Investing in the Global Marketplace: Discover a World of Opportunity," 12:15 p.m. **May 22,** 612 Smithfield St., Downtown, Business Program Series, 412-281-7141.

"What Is Your FICO Score and How Is It Affecting Your Credit?" 12:15 p.m. **May 29,** 612 Smithfield St., Downtown, Business Program Series, 412-281-7141.

Eighth Annual Summer Reading Extravaganza, noon **June 8,** Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3114, www.carnegielibrary.org.

Miscellaneous

Discover Pittsburgh, 8th annual event to encourage socialization and networking among young professionals and local cultural, educational and recreational organizations, sponsored by Pittsburgh Urban Magnet Project, 5:30-8:30 p.m. **May 15,** Duquesne University, 5th-floor Power Center Ballroom, 1015 Forbes Ave., Uptown, 412-338-2133, www.pump.org.

Opera/ Theater/ Dance

Rabbit Hole, by David Lindsay-Abaire, **through May 18;** *The Odd Couple* by Neil Simon**, May 29-June 29;** Pittsburgh Public Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, 412-316-1600, www.ppt.org.

A Marriage Minuet, by David Wiltse, **through May 25,** City Theatre, 1300 Bingham St., South Side, 412-431-4400, www.citytheatrecompany.org.

Ain't Misbehavin': The Fats Waller Musical Show, by Thomas Waller, Murray Horwitz, and Richard Maltby Jr., **through May 31**, Kuntu Repertory Theatre, 7th-floor Auditorium, Alumni Hall, 412-624-7298, www.kuntu.org.

An Ideal Husband, by Oscar Wilde, **through May 31,** Henry Heymann Theatre, Stephen Foster Memorial, Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre, 412-561-6000, www.picttheatre.org.

The Feral, 2007, Matthew Monahan, Carnegie Museum of Art, through January 11, 2009

Pitt Oral Thesis Defenses

Ashley Conley, Graduate School of Public Health, "Molecular Characterization of IS1301 in an Emergent Clone of Serogroup C Neisseria Meningitides," 1 p.m. **May 27,** Room A215 Crabtree Hall.

Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

Dan Debrah, Center for Biotechnology, "Relaxin Regulates Systematic Hemodynamics and Arterial Mechanical Properties," 9 a.m. **May 12,** 2nd-floor Multipurpose Room, Center for Biotechnology, 300 Technology Dr.

Monica Tomaszewski-Flick, Graduate School of Public Health, "Functional Analysis and Characterization of Epstein Barr Virus Latent Membrane Protein 2b," 10 a.m. **May 12,** Room A115 Crabtree Hall.

Matthew J. Gallek, School of Nursing, "Endothelin-1 Polymorphisms and Endothelin-1 Cerebrospinal Fluid Protein Expression and Their Relationships to Cerebral Vasospasm and Long-Term Outcomes in Individuals Following Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage," 9 a.m. **May 16,** Room 219 Victoria Building (CICL Multipurpose Room).

Sherrianne Gleason, Graduate School of Public Health, "Characterization of Dendritic Cell Handling of Cell-associated Membrane and Cytoplasmic Protein From Live and Apoptotic Cells," 3 p.m. **May 19,** Room A115 Crabtree Hall.

Sana Abu-Dahab, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, "Sensorimotor and Executive Functioning Differences Between Individuals With High-Functioning Autism and Typically Developing Individuals," 1 p.m. **May 22,** Room 4065 Forbes Tower.

Vincent B. McGinty, School of Medicine, "Amygdala Regulation of Prefrontal-to-Accumbens Information Flow: Implications for Motivation and Action," 10 a.m. **May 29,** 2nd-floor Auditorium, Learning Research & Development Center.

Jill Montgomery, Graduate School of Public Health, "Characterization of the Role of Human Herpes Virus 8 in Prostate Cancer," noon **May 29,** Room A115 Crabtree Hall.

Pei-Ying Chuang, School of Nursing, "Neuroglobin Genetic Polymorphisms and Their Relationships to Functional Outcome Following Traumatic Brain Injury," 10 a.m. **May 30,** Room 331 Victoria Building.

Jaime Berlin Talkowski, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, "Quantifying Physical Activity in Community Dwelling Older Adults Using Accelerometry," 3 p.m. **June 2,** Room 4060 Forbes Tower.

Dean Wheeler, Department of Anthropology, The Organization of Agricultural Production on the Southwest Periphery of the Maya Lowlands," 2 p.m. **June 6**, 3106 Posvar Hall.

Megan L. Kavanaugh, Graduate School of Public Health, "Moving Beyond the Individual in Reproductive Health: Exploring the Social Determinants of Unintended Pregnancy," 2:30 p.m. **June 18,** Room 226 Parran Hall.

Kuntu Concludes Season With *Ain't Misbehavin'* May 15-31

Anthony M. Moore

Pitt's Kuntu Repertory Theatre presents *Ain't Misbehavin': The Fats Waller Musical Show* from May 15 to 31 in the 7th-floor Auditorium of Alumni Hall. Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 4 p.m. There also will be an 11 a.m. matinee on May 22 and a 1 p.m. performance May 24.

Ain't Misbehavin' pays tribute to the Black musicians of the 1920s and '30s who were part of the Harlem Renaissance. Five performers present an evening of rowdy, raunchy, and humorous songs that encapsulate the moods of the era and reflect pianist Thomas Wright "Fats" Waller's view of life as a journey meant for pleasure and play. The score includes such classics as "'T Ain't Nobody's Bizness If I Do," "The Joint Is Jumpin'," "When the Nylons Bloom Again," "Your Feet's Too Big," "I'm Gonna Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter," and "I Can't Give You Anything But Love."

Debuting in the Manhattan Theatre Club's East 73rd Street Cabaret in 1978, *Ain't Misbehavin'* went on to receive Tony awards for Best Musical, Best Featured Actress in a Musical, and Best Direction of a Musical. Its 1979 London production won the Laurence Olivier Award for Musical of the Year, and a 1982 NBC broadcast version won an Emmy Award for Outstanding Individual Achievement for Nell Carter and André DeShields' performances.

The production will be directed and choreographed by Timothy Ware, who directed *Jelly's Last Jam* in a 2005 Kuntu production. He also has performed in the national tour of Broadway's *Jesus Christ Superstar*; his directing credits include *A Taste of Chocolate*, *Shockwave*, *Dutchman*, and *Shout: And the Word Was Made Flesh*. In 2002, Ware cofounded the Eclectic Dance Company at Alabama State University. The cast of *Ain't Misbehavin'* includes Tasha Michelle, Les Howard, Stevie Akers, Delana Flowers, and Tony Dixon.

The revue will mark the end of the 33rd season for Kuntu Repertory Theatre, the oldest and largest continuing African American performing arts organization in Pittsburgh and the second-oldest theater company affiliated with a major research university.

General admission tickets are $20, with discounts available for students, seniors, and groups. For more information, contact Kuntu Repertory Theatre at 412-624-7298 or visit www.kuntu.org/aint.php.

University of Pittsburgh

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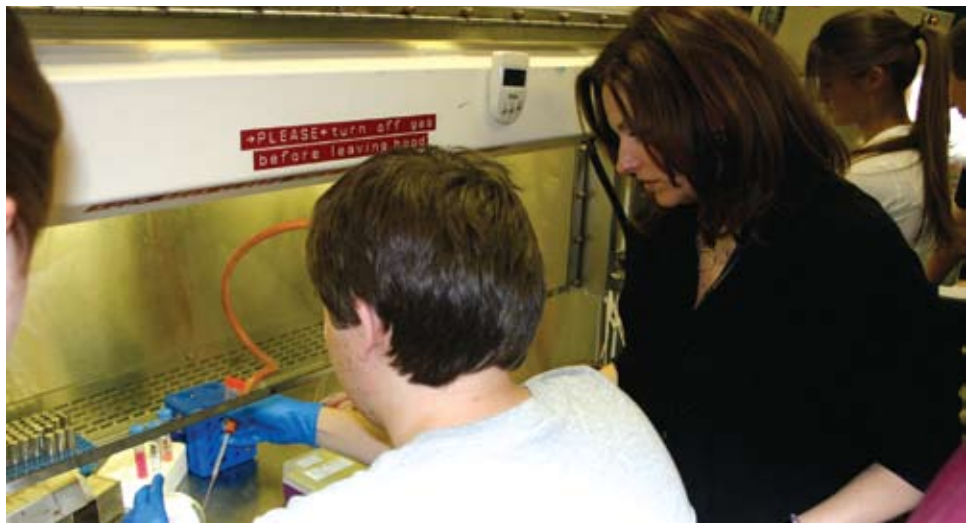
Outbreak! Pitt Program Helps High School Students Save City From Deadly Virus



MORGAN KELLY/PC

Pitt's Alison Slinskey Legg (right) guides a Knoch High School student preparing cell samples for observation under a hemocytometer. At right, the dark purple blots indicate uneven cell growth, a symptom of the virus students hunt in *Outbreak*.

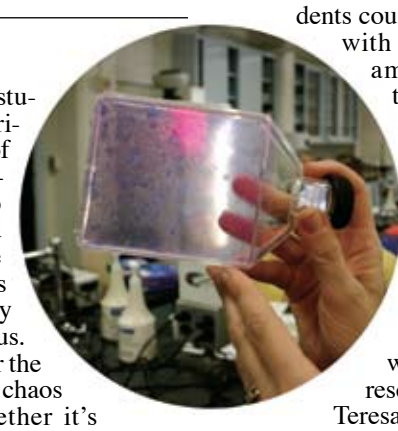
By Morgan Kelly

May 5, 09:00: Last month, Panther Hospital in Pittsburgh admitted three patients with low-grade fever and flu-like symptoms. They soon developed a high fever, bone and joint pain, shortness of breath, and swollen glands. All three died within 16 days. As of this morning, 58 people have died under like circumstances and another 136 show symptoms.

And with that information, students from Butler County, Pa., Knoch High School's advanced biology class are starting their morning with saving Pittsburgh from a possible epidemic.

This is the scenario behind *Outbreak*, one of several educational outreach programs in the Department of Biological Sciences in Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences that go beyond dissecting frogs to expose middle and high school students to biological labs and equipment they typically would have seen only on educational videos.

Acting as scientists from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Knoch High students are investigating a serious and mysterious wave of illness at the fictive Panther Hospital (Pitt's Clapp Hall) using techniques and equipment similar to those that CDC investigators would employ to identify and contain a rampant virus. The students must uncover the germ responsible for the chaos and then determine whether it's contagious.



Like CDC scientists, explains biological sciences' outreach director Alison Slinskey Legg, the students know nothing about the scenario except for the few details provided when they arrive—they have to figure out the rest.

"This program emphasizes asking the right questions and thinking independently," she says. "They form their own conclusions based on their knowledge and the data. We don't tell them anything, and if they pursue the wrong theory, we don't stop them."

Patient A is in the advanced stages. Patient B was exposed to Patient A, but exhibits no symptoms. Patient C is a healthy individual never exposed to infected people.

Kendra Schira, a senior at Knoch, peers into a hemocytometer, a device for counting cells. Her thumb clicks a handheld counter as she records the number of cells in a sample from Patient A. She finds 70—this patient is very ill.

Schira and her classmates receive cell samples (prepared rat cells) from the three "patients" and analyze the samples for virus particles, cell morphology, and cell growth over a certain number of days. The students need to figure out that the infected cells—ravaged by a contagious tumor virus—grow in clumps and multiply quickly.

This information emerges as the students count cells and spot pathogens with an electron microscope, among other lab work. By trolling for answers, the students learn about basic biological equipment and research processes through application rather than disquisition, says David Hornack, a biological sciences senior lab specialist who helped design the program along with biological sciences research assistant professor M. Teresa Sáenz-Robles, microscopy facility manager Thomas Harper, and Slinskey Legg.

"We wanted to tie biological concepts and methods into a task and into one another," he says. "The students learn that these techniques are not islands, that they all produce results that help solve a problem. This is the core of science."

The students' teacher, Ray Greco, says *Outbreak* and the other outreach programs not only spark his students' interest, but also reinvigorate his enjoyment of his own curriculum. Greco has taken part in several programs, including Pitt's biological sciences' Gene Team program, wherein selected high school biology teachers and students conduct actual research into gene-based health problems.

Greco translates those experiments into fresh lessons for his classes.

"We don't just do lab procedures, we apply this science as it's actually used," he says. "I can't tell you how important these programs have been for them and for me. At a certain point, for teachers and students, school can just feel like a job, but with these workshops, you get the excitement of trying to accomplish something."

Back in the main lab, Knoch senior Ford Stepp and junior Travis Tasker graph their hemocytometer cell counts for all three patients.

"That's weird," Stepp says, reviewing the data.

"Yeah, Patient B's count leveled off," Tasker interjects, turning his eyes to his paper to figure out why. …

For more information, visit the Biological Sciences Outreach Programs Web site at www.pitt.edu/~biohome/Dept/Frame/outreach.htm.

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published May 26. **Items for publication in the newspaper's *Happenings* calendar** (see page 7) **should be received six working days prior to the desired publication 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.