

Raymond W. Smith Is Pitt's Honors Convocation Speaker Feb. 27

Raymond W. Smith, an alumnus of Pitt's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business (KGSB) and a former University trustee, will be the keynote speaker at the University of Pittsburgh's 33rd annual Honors Convocation, to be held at 3 p.m. Feb. 27 in Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland. Smith's address is titled "Heisenberg's 'Certainty' Principle."

Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg will bestow an honorary doctoral degree on Smith during the convocation, which recognizes undergraduate, graduate, and professional student academic achievement; student leadership; and faculty accomplishments.

Smith, who in 2008 was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 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 chief executive officer in 1983. When the company merged to become Bell Atlantic in 1985, he was named vice chair and chief financial officer, 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. He also founded Arlington Capital Partners

and became chair of Rothschild, Inc., the oldest international investment banking firm in the world.

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 became a fellow of the American Academy of Excellence in 2000 and received the



Raymond W. Smith

Spirit of Achievement Award from the National Center for Learning Disabilities in 2005. He has served on scores of corporate and charitable boards, including the Rockefeller and Carnegie Foundations.

An actor in high school and college, Smith has written and produced a dozen plays. He also has written a family history; a series of short stories set in Dormont, Pa.,

where he was raised; and a scientific mystery novel set in the Sudan.

In addition to earning an MBA degree at KGSB in 1969, Smith received Bachelor of Science degrees in industrial engineering in 1959 and in electrical engineering in 1960, both from Carnegie Mellon University (then Carnegie Tech), and studied English literature in 1962-64 at Duquesne University.



Susan C. Heiss Robert W. Knipple James L. Baldwin Angela F. Ford William K. Young

Chancellor Names 2009 Staff Excellence Awardees

By Anthony M. Moore

Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg has named the winners of the 2009 Chancellor's Awards for Staff Excellence in Service to the Community and to the University.

Each awardee will receive a \$2,500 cash prize and will be recognized during Pitt's 33rd annual Honors Convocation on Friday, Feb. 27. The awardees' names also will be inscribed on plaques to be displayed in the William Pitt Union.

The two winners of the Awards for Staff Excellence in Service to the Community are:

Susan C. Heiss, executive assistant in Pitt's Institute of Politics; and

Robert W. Knipple, executive director of external relations at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown.

The three winners of the Chancellor's Award for Staff Excellence in Service to the University are:

James L. Baldwin, assistant dean of academic affairs, registrar, and director of Science in Motion at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford;

Angela F. Ford, associate director of Pitt's Center for Minority Health; and

William K. Young, senior director of publications and marketing in Pitt's Office

of Public Affairs.

Excellence in Service to the Community

Heiss is the first point of contact for Institute of Politics constituents, who include elected officials, foundation executives, and community and civic leaders.

A devoted parent, Heiss focused her early volunteer activities on her children and their interests. She has served as a Parent Teacher Association member, a Boy Scouts den mother, a Girl Scouts leader, and a volunteer for her children's soccer and football teams. Heiss also was instrumental in establishing the Institute of Politics' Hadija's Hope, a fundraising effort that helped a young Tanzanian woman escape an abusive living situation and attend a boarding school in Tanzania.

In a letter supporting Heiss' nomination, Laurel J. Petty, manager of planning and special events at Carlow University, wrote, "Susan is a genuinely caring person who is dedicated to her job, her school, and her community. She has the spirit of a volunteer and the dedication to make a real

Continued on page 5

Pitt Professor Roger Hendrix Wins Award From National Academy of Sciences

By Morgan Kelly

Bacteriophages, the microscopic viruses that attack bacteria, have earned University of Pittsburgh professor Roger Hendrix a notable honor from the National Academy of Sciences (NAS). Hendrix, a professor of biological sciences in Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences, received the 2009 NAS Award for Scientific Reviewing, a \$10,000 prize that has been presented for excellence in scientific reviewing during the past 10 years. The 2009 reviewing award was presented in the field of genetics.

Hendrix was among 18 researchers recognized by the NAS for extraordinary scientific achievements in the areas of biology, chemistry, geology, astronomy, social sciences, psychology, and the application of science for the public good. Fellow recipients include researchers from NASA, Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford University, the University of California at Berkeley, and the University of Chicago. The awardees will be honored April 26 during the academy's 146th annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

The academy's recognition of Hendrix stems from his extensive writing for academic journals and in books about bacteriophage research, both his own and in the field at large. Bacteriophages are viruses specific to bacteria and are thought to be the most numerous creatures on Earth. In addition, their simple composition—a few hundred

precisely arranged protein molecules surrounding a DNA molecule—makes them comparatively easy to study, and the resulting insights are applicable to more complex organisms. The viruses have been a focus of intensive research—in fields ranging from evolution to medicine—for approximately the last half-century.

In his research, Hendrix investigates the mechanisms through which bacteriophages assemble within an infected cell prior to traveling to the next cell. After assembly, the viruses are released from the infected cell, acting as little "spaceships" that protect the virus DNA until it can infect another cell.

The assembly of the protein structure capable of this process is complicated and specific, Hendrix said, and to understand it would provide insight into the assembly of biological structures in general.

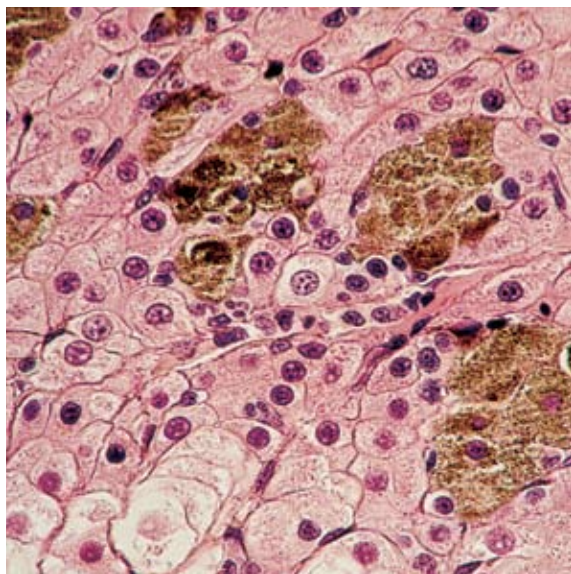
Hendrix also studies the evolution of viruses by looking at the evolution of bacteriophages. Viruses do not leave behind "fossils" or other physical evidence, but Hendrix finds evidence about the evolutionary histories of phages by comparing their DNA sequences. In reference to evolution in general, the bacteriophages illustrate on a manageable and faster-paced scale how select populations of similar organisms survive while others don't.



Roger Hendrix

Continued on page 5

NIH Gives Pitt \$11 Million to Coordinate Hepatitis B Research Network



A microscopic slice of liver cells

By Clare Collins

The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases has awarded a seven-year, \$11 million grant to the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH) to coordinate the Hepatitis B Clinical Research Network—a consortium of 15 clinical and research centers in the United States and Canada that will conduct translational research on hepatitis B.

The network will include a multisite treatment trial, create and maintain a large database of study results, and store tissue and serum samples to facilitate clinical and basic research.

Hepatitis B is an infection that affects the liver. About 1.5 million Americans and 350 million people worldwide have chronic hepatitis B infection, which can lead to more serious diseases, such as cirrhosis, liver failure, and liver cancer.

“Medical advances have led to many treatments for chronic hepatitis B infection and most patients respond to them,” said Steven Belle, principal investigator of the data coordinating center



Steven Belle

Hepatitis B is an infection that affects the liver. About 1.5 million Americans and 350 million people worldwide have chronic hepatitis B infection, which can lead to more serious diseases, such as cirrhosis, liver failure, and liver cancer.

and professor of epidemiology in GSPH. “However, these treatments do not cure the infection, but contain it by making it more difficult for the virus to reproduce.”

Many patients need to stay on therapy for a long time, he added. And when treatment is prolonged, the virus can become resistant, making further treatment ineffective.

“We don’t know why treatment works better for some patients than others, and we cannot accurately predict who may go on to develop liver abnormalities,” Belle said. “But with the interdisciplinary expertise within the network, we hope to learn more about the immune changes that occur with hepatitis B infection and make inroads to finding a lasting cure.”

Coinvestigators on the grant include Abdus Wahed, assistant professor in GSPH’s Department of Biostatistics; Michael Naleznik, a professor in the Division of Hepatic and Transplantation Pathology in the School of Medicine’s Department of Pathology; Obaid Shaikh, a professor of medicine and director of UPMC’s Center for Liver Diseases; and Robert Squires Jr., professor of pediatrics in Pitt’s medical school and clinical director of the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC.

The network also includes Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, Mayo Clinic, Saint Louis University, the University of California at Los Angeles, the University of California at San Francisco, the University of Michigan, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Texas Southwest, the University of Toronto, the University of Washington, Virginia Commonwealth University, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Institutes of Health.

Pitt Learning Policy Center Sets Feb. 12 Lecture by Michael Cohen

By Meredith Johnson

The University of Pittsburgh’s Learning Policy Center (LPC) will present a lecture by Michael Cohen, president of Achieve Inc., from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Feb. 12 in 5604 Posvar Hall. The lecture, “Improving Postsecondary Education: Lessons From the American Diploma Project Network,” is part of LPC’s 2008-09 colloquium series, Excellence and Equity in an Era of Accountability.

Since 2003, Cohen has served as president of Achieve, a nonprofit education reform organization. Under Cohen’s leadership, Achieve created the American Diploma Project (ADP) Network in 2005 to better prepare students for college and the working world. Cohen’s lecture will provide an overview of the ADP policy agenda and focus on the design and implementation challenges of those policies. In 2006, *Education Week*

ranked Achieve 7th among the most influential education policy organizations in the nation. *Education Week* also recognized Achieve’s report, “Ready or Not: Creating a High School Diploma That Counts,” among the most influential research studies of the past decade.

Prior to his work with Achieve, Cohen held several senior education positions in the Clinton Administration, among them assistant secretary for elementary and secondary education at the U.S. Department of Education, special assistant to the president for education policy at the White House, and senior advisor to U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley.

The lecture is free to the public, but an RSVP is required. To RSVP, visit www.learningpolicycenter.org or contact Julia Kaufman at ipc@pitt.edu.

Financial Times Ranks Katz School’s Full-time MBA Program 1st in “Best Value for the Money” in U.S.



Mervis Hall, home of Pitt’s Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business

By Amanda Leff

The *Financial Times* has ranked the University of Pittsburgh Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business’ full-time MBA program 1st in the United States for the third consecutive year in the “Best Value for the Money” category and 8th in the world in that category.

The Katz School’s program also was ranked 9th among public U.S. universities in overall rankings, up from 27th last year. In overall worldwide rankings, the Katz School’s program moved from 56th last year to 25th this year, tied with Rice University’s Jones Graduate School of Management.

The other U.S. public institutions ranked in the top nine were the University of Michigan, the University of Virginia, UCLA, the University of California at Berkeley, the University of Arizona, the University of Maryland, the University of North Carolina, and the University of Texas at Austin.

Among the other Pennsylvania institutions in the *Financial Times*’ overall worldwide rankings, the University of Pennsylvania was ranked 1st, Carnegie Mellon University was ranked 24th, and Pennsylvania State University was ranked 34th.

The compilation of the *Financial Times* 2009 ranking of full-time MBA programs began in July 2008. A total of 157 business schools that met the criteria for participation were included.

To be eligible to participate, a business school had to be internationally accredited by a body such as the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, the Association of MBAs, or the European Quality Improvement System; have a full-time MBA program that has been running for at least five years; and have graduated its first class at least three years ago. To aid in the accuracy of its ranking process, the *Financial Times*, through its independent auditor, conducted random audits of the data submitted by schools, including the Katz School’s data, which were audited in December 2008.

The London-based *Financial Times* is

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printed at 24 print sites across the globe, has a daily circulation of 435,319 (ABC figures, December 2008), and a print and online readership of 1.3 million people.

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BlackHistoryMonth

Laurence Glasco

Getting Out in the Community

Pitt professor Larry Glasco places local Black history against backdrop of the world



Laurence Glasco in front of the once-popular Granada Theater in the Hill District of Pittsburgh

By Sharon S. Blake

Laurence Glasco's love of history began when he was a high school student in Xenia, Ohio. His class had been learning about the three types of columns in ancient Greek architecture—Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian—and students were instructed to head out into the neighborhoods to find examples of the columns in local buildings.

Greek columns in Xenia?

Glasco, a Pitt history professor, remembers thinking he had never noticed any, but he set out, notebook in hand, to document his findings.

"I got so excited about that project I couldn't stop," he recalled. "I found so many houses that had these different styles, and it told me that larger developments in the world or country can be reflected in your own community and your own experience. It can be all around you. You just have to get out and look."

Indeed, throughout his career, Glasco has been looking at the life and history of the African American community. He has authored several books about the history of African Americans in Western Pennsylvania, including *Legacy in Bricks and Mortar: Historic Sites of Black Pittsburgh* (Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, 1995), which he cowrote with Frank E. Bolden and Eliza Smith Brown, and *The W.P.A. History of the Negro in Pittsburgh* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2004), which he edited. Two more books are under way: one about the late K. Leroy Irvis, the renowned Black Pitt Law alumnus and speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and a second, *August Wilson's Pittsburgh*. For the latter, Glasco is collaborating with Christopher Rawson, senior theater critic for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* and a longtime lecturer in Pitt's English department.

But a listing of some of Glasco's

academic accomplishments does not necessarily reveal his very human involvement in the community he studies and loves. He has worked diligently with the Hill District community to help save that neighborhood's historic sites. And when he teaches his popular History of Black Pittsburgh course, Glasco hopes his students learn the same lesson that he did all those years ago in Xenia: that local history helps people make a connection between their own life and larger things going on in their city, region, and world.

Every semester, Glasco takes his students on a walking tour of the Hill District, known as Pittsburgh's Harlem, and points out landmarks such as the now-shuttered Granada Theater and playwright August Wilson's boyhood home. They discuss what the Hill was like in its heyday, when it was a jazz mecca teeming with businesses, nightclubs, and street life. Inevitably, the group stops to chat with Hill residents who are out and about.

"The students love that," said Glasco, a tall, soft-spoken man with an easygoing smile.

Pitt history department chair Marcus Rediker said he recently saw firsthand Glasco's impact on the community. It was during last fall's opening of *Free at Last? Slavery in Pittsburgh in the 18th and 19th Centuries*, a Pitt-produced exhibition running at the Senator John Heinz History Center through April 5. As the exhibition's historical direc-

tor, Glasco had devoted many months to the research, and he meticulously read every

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word of the exhibition several times through the painstaking editing and verification process. He and Rediker attended the opening, as did many from the community. After the program, Rediker sat alongside Glasco as they signed copies of their books.

"I watched person after person come up and throw their arms around Larry and tell him what he means to the Black community," said Rediker, who came to Pitt in 1994 but says he knew Glasco by reputation before he arrived. "The gratitude people have for him is very great. He's tremendously rooted in that community, and that's important for our department and for the University. He gives us this grounding."

Glasco has had a significant impact on the University, its surrounding community, and a number of its students. Last year, he was awarded The Sankofa Award, given by Pitt's African American Alumni Council to members of the University community who have exhibited outstanding educational support and service to students of African descent.

History has always been an interest for Glasco. He holds undergraduate and master's degrees in Latin American history from Antioch College and the State University of New York at Buffalo, respectively.

He studied African American history for his PhD, which he also earned at SUNY Buffalo.

Glasco said one of his career highlights at Pitt occurred in the 1980s, when he chaired the design committee for the African Heritage Classroom, one of Pitt's 27 Nationality Classrooms.

"I can still remember the day I had the epiphany about how the room should look," said Glasco. The setting was the small Hill District branch of Carnegie Library, where Glasco was flipping through the pages of a book. He came upon an image of a rectangular closed courtyard in an Ashanti temple and was immediately inspired. Glasco immersed himself in the project—traveling to Ghana and Nigeria to research details and arranging for artists to present the design concept to the community. He worked with committee members to raise money for the room, seeking contributions everywhere from churches to taverns. The resulting classroom is an attractive and authentic environment that incorporates many African nations and cultures.

Glasco's research for his latest project—the book about Irvis, a man he has long admired and who was the first Black speaker of any state house since Reconstruction—includes several hundred hours of interviews with Irvis, whom the author said is similar in many ways to President Barack Obama.

"If you look at Irvis' career," Glasco said, "it showed that it is possible to underestimate the willingness of Whites to vote for a candidate who was good and happens to be Black."

Glasco explained that Irvis was not the "Golden Boy" of liberals and minorities. Rather, his closest friends and allies in the legislature were conservative Democrats from rural areas and Republicans from the suburbs.

"He really won the enthusiastic support and love of people you would not expect," said Glasco. "Like Obama, he was always able to frame legislation in a win-win way, so that it helped Blacks but also the poor Whites in central Pennsylvania." Glasco feels the two men are also comparable in their upbringing, philosophy, and cool, nonconfrontational approach.

Though he has traveled and taught all over the globe, Glasco currently makes his home just several blocks from the Pitt campus with his wife, Ingrid. Their grown daughter lives in Sacramento.

His breadth and depth of knowledge ensures that he will continue to be in much demand. He is often sought out by various directors of documentaries on Pittsburgh's Black history, as well as by museums. He is helping the Carnegie Museum, for example, plan a 2010 exhibition on the work of late African American photographer Teenie Harris.

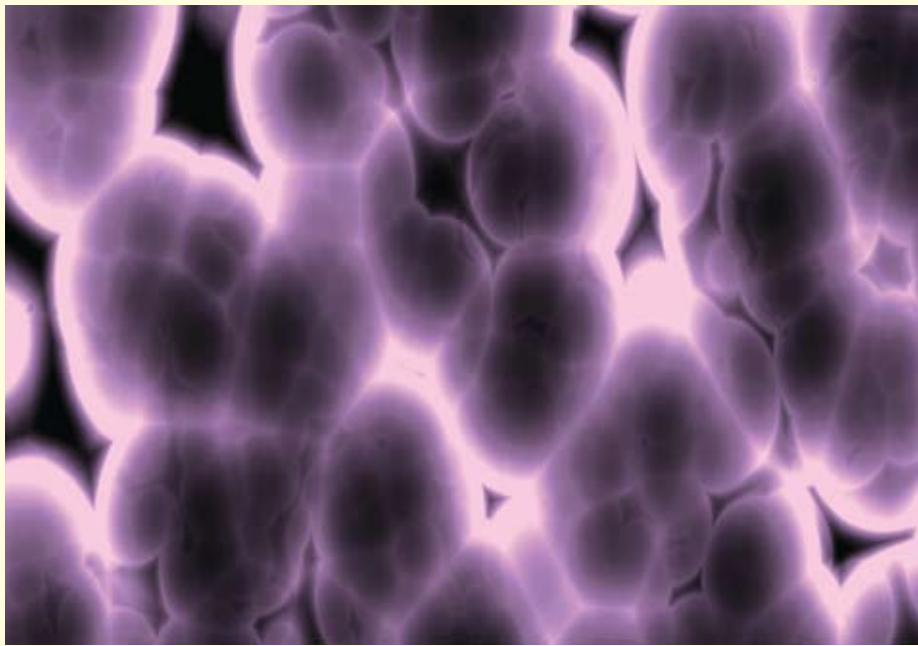
Rediker says Glasco's contributions to Pitt's history department are "immense," and that people are naturally drawn to his open and friendly manner.

"He's smart and relaxed and savvy and hip—all at once," said Rediker, adding that in his early years, Glasco was influenced by the beat poets.

"It shows up in his personal style," he said.

Science & Technology

Human Insulin-producing Cells Can Be Easily Induced to Replicate, Pitt Study Finds



By Anita Srikameswaran

Researchers in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine have successfully induced human insulin-producing cells, known as beta cells, to replicate robustly in a living animal, as well as in the lab. The discovery not only could improve models and methods for studying diabetes, but it also opens up new possibilities for treating the condition.

“Most scientists thought that these important pancreatic cells could not be induced to regenerate, or could only replicate very slowly,” explained senior author Andrew F. Stewart, professor of medicine and chief of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism in the medical school. “This work provides proof-of-principle that the production of human beta cells can be stimulated, and that the newly generated cells function effectively both in the lab and in a living animal.”

The findings were published in *Diabetes*, one of the journals of the American Diabetes Association.

Lead authors Nathalie Fiaschi-Taesch, assistant professor in Pitt’s endocrinology division, and Todd A. Bigatel, a graduate of the postdoctoral fellowship program, identified molecules that play key roles in human beta, or islet, cell replication. They were building on previous work conducted by coauthor Irene Cozar-Castellano, also a Pitt instructor of endocrinology, who performed similar studies using mouse cells.

They found that, unlike rodents, human beta cells contain a significant amount of a protein called cdk-6. When cdk-6 production was increased using a viral vector carrying the cdk-6 gene, the cells replicated. Stimulation was further enhanced by increasing production of another cell cycle molecule called cyclin D1. Untreated human islets did not replicate.

“After we transplanted some of these engineered human beta cells under the outer layer of a kidney in a diabetic mouse, we saw that replication continued and blood sugar levels normalized,” explained Fiaschi-Taesch. “When we took out the kidney that contained the insulin-producing cells, the mouse immediately developed diabetes again.”

The prospect of being able to study human beta cells and their replication in vivo, meaning in a living animal, could greatly improve diabetes study models and could lead to techniques that generate new beta cells in patients with diabetes. In the future, it also could allow more effective therapeutic transplants of insulin-producing cells—either by expanding the numbers of cells available from a single cadaveric donor or from a gene-enhanced version of the patient’s own cells, or by establishing permanent cell lines from existing beta cells or stem cells, Stewart pointed out.

He added that cell cycle replication molecules might also be targets for drugs that could transiently turn on beta cell replication to increase insulin production.

The team’s work was funded by grants from the National Institutes of Health, the American Diabetes Association, and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

“This work provides proof-of-principle that the production of human beta cells can be stimulated, and that the newly generated cells function effectively both in the lab and in a living animal.”

—Andrew F. Stewart



Andrew F. Stewart



Media-literate Teens May Be Less Likely to Smoke Cigarettes, Pitt Study Finds

By Amy Dugas Rose

Adolescents who are skilled in interpreting media messages about tobacco may be less likely to smoke and less likely to start smoking in the future, according to a study by University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine researchers. The report is online in the *American Journal of Health Behavior*.

In this study, researchers assessed the media literacy of more than 1,200 adolescents. Media literacy is defined as the ability to understand, analyze, and evaluate media messages in a wide variety of forms. Building on previous research, the study focused on determining associations between smoking outcomes and particular types of media literacy.

“Of the 442,000 people who die from smoking each year, the majority began smoking at age 18 or younger, and we know from our prior research that media exposure to smoking contributes strongly to the initiation of the habit in adolescents,” said Brian Primack, assistant professor of medicine and pediatrics in Pitt’s School of Medicine and lead author of the study. “In addition to attempting to change the way smoking is portrayed in the media, we can, as educators, develop innovative and effective ways to help young people analyze and interpret the smoking-related messages they see in the media. This research could help to focus those efforts.”

Researchers issued questionnaires to students at a Pittsburgh public high school to gauge their knowledge of and attitudes toward tobacco advertisements and movie placements. Of those who participated, 19 percent were current smokers, while 40 percent of the nonsmokers were identified as being likely to smoke in the future—figures that reflect national averages.

Students participating in the study were asked 18 questions related to three types of media literacy, including questions that focused on the portrayal of the tobacco industry as powerful and manipulative; the promotion of tobacco using appealing images and logos to evoke emotional responses; and the ironic difference between positive portrayal of tobacco in the media and the true effects of tobacco use on health.

The researchers linked students’ responses on a broad range of questions related to media literacy to their current smoking habits and likelihood of smoking in the future. Most notably, students who demonstrated an understanding of the sharp contrast between the actual effects of smoking and positive media portrayals of smoking were more likely to be nonsmokers. Likewise, students who believed that cigarette advertising leaves out important information also were less likely to smoke.

“These findings suggest that those with higher media literacy, especially with regard to certain facets of media literacy, may be less likely to smoke,” Primack said. “Hopefully, these and other results will help educators design antismoking programming that is appropriately tailored to its target audience.”

Coauthor of the study is Renee Hobbs, a professor of mass media and communications at Temple University. Primack was supported by funding from the National Cancer Institute, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the Maurice Falk Foundation.



Brian Primack

News**makers**

DRUE HEINZ AWARD WINNER



JOE KAPREWSKI/CDDC

Anthony Varallo won the 2008 Drue Heinz Literature Prize for his short fiction collection *Out Loud* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2008). The prize is one of the nation's most prestigious awards for books of short fiction and includes a cash award of \$15,000. Pictured, from left, are Varallo; Scott Turow, an award-winning author and final judge for the 2008 Drue Heinz competition; award-winning novelist and Pitt English professor Chuck Kinder, director of the Pitt Writing Program; and Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. The event was held Oct. 15 in the Frick Fine Arts Auditorium.

DENTAL SCHOOL'S CENTER FOR PATIENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS



SHELEEN FITZSIMMONS

Pitt's School of Dental Medicine held a dedication ceremony for its new Center for Patients with Special Needs (CPSN) in September. Among the attendees were, from left, Pennsylvania state Senator Robert J. Mellow of Lackawanna County; CPSN Director Erik Scheifele; Liz Braun; School of Dental Medicine Dean Thomas W. Braun; Abby Sniderman Milstein, one of the center's donors; Pitt Provost James V. Maher; and Merlene Young, who is Milstein's aunt. Milstein's donation to the center was in honor of her father, the late Marvin Sniderman, who dedicated much of his career to dentistry for special needs patients.

8th Annual Pittsburgh Business Ethics Awards To Honor Pittsburgh Companies Feb. 13

The David Berg Center for Ethics and Leadership in the University of Pittsburgh's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business, in partnership with the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Society of Financial Services Professionals (FSP), will host the 8th Annual Pittsburgh Business Ethics Awards.

The awards are designed to honor companies that demonstrate a firm commitment to ethical practices in their everyday operations, philosophies, and responses to crises and challenges. The Business Ethics Awards will be held at noon Feb. 13 at the Omni William Penn, 530 William Penn Place, Downtown. The ceremony will feature an address by Paul H. O'Neill, former Secretary of the U.S. Treasury and former Alcoa chair and CEO, who previously served as a member of the Pitt Board of Trustees and chair of the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs' Board of Visitors.

This year's finalists are:

Small Company Category (1-250 employees): Handee Marts, Lexus of North Hills, and TriLogic Corporation;

Medium Company Category (250-2,500 employees): Acusis, Marc USA, Massaro Corporation, and Smail Auto Group; and

Large Company Category (2,500+ employees): FedEx and Nova Chemicals.

Pitt's Berg Center and the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Society of FSP annually serve as hosts for the awards event. The Berg Center provides the judging—visiting the finalists' companies and assembling the final judging committee.

Finalists for the Pittsburgh Business Ethics Awards are chosen through nominations and overall reputation and are evaluated on such criteria as demonstration of executive commitment to business ethics, clear communication of ethical standards to employees, consistently high quality of products and services, and a commitment to community and charitable involvement. For more information on the event, visit the society's Web site at www.pittsburghfsp.org or call 412-655-4447.

—Amanda Leff

Chancellor Names 2009 Staff Excellence Awardees

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impact in everything she does.”

Knipple, an alumnus of Pitt-Johnstown, is a founding board member of The Learning Lamp, a nonprofit organization that provides students in 57 Pennsylvania school districts with one-on-one tutoring to improve their overall classroom performance. He also is the cofounder of Project Click Safe, a consortium of school and law enforcement officials that promotes Internet safety by educating parents on ways to protect their children from questionable Internet sites, cyber bullying, and online predators.

In a letter supporting Knipple's nomination, Pitt-Johnstown President Jem Spectar wrote, “Bob is respected and admired not only by his colleagues but by community leaders and members of our advisory board, who frequently commend him for his exceptional service.” Jeanne Gleason, chair of the Pitt-Johnstown Advisory Board and an emeritus member of Pitt's Board of Trustees, described Knipple as “a generous and giving person. ... He is as involved in the community as a person can be. He is as fine a representative of the type of UPJ staff person as we ever could hope to have in our community.”

Excellence in Service to the University

Baldwin has been recognized for his dedication to Pitt-Bradford and for his willingness to undertake and create such new initiatives as the College in High School program, which gives high school students in six rural Pennsylvania counties the opportunity to become familiar with college while earning college credit. In 2007, he also established the Women's Leadership Conference at UPB. More than 70 Pitt-Bradford faculty, staff, and students as well as students from four of the region's high schools attended the inaugural conference, titled “Women Building Community and Dreams.”

Baldwin also used his expertise in technology to create a database that allows potential transfer students to determine whether credits earned at other institutions are transferable to Pitt-Bradford.

Peter J. Buchheit, a winner of the 2008 Chancellor's Award for Staff Excellence in Service to the Community and a member of this year's selection committee, wrote, “James is out of the box. He has four computer screens on his desk. His normal work day is 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day. We have to tell him to go home.”

Ford (SOC WK'91G, '06G) joined the University's staff in 1996. She has acted as a mentor to faculty, staff, and students and has served on numerous University commit-

tees. Moreover, she has successfully used her community connections to advance the work of Pitt's Center for Minority Health by writing articles for the *New Pittsburgh Courier* that highlight health challenges for the African American community.

Ford also has volunteered for a number of community-based organizations as well as such government agencies as the Governor's Commission on Physical Activity and Fitness and the advisory board of the Allegheny County Area Agency on Aging. In addition, she is the founder of Black Women and Health Outreach for Longer Life and Empowerment, a health promotion network that connects Black women with health information and resources.

In a letter supporting her nomination, Donald Burke, dean of Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health, wrote, “Dr. Ford is a collaborator, a leader, a mentor, and a tireless advocate for the betterment of the Center for Minority Health, the Graduate School of Public Health, the University, and the wider Pittsburgh community.”

Young, who has been with the University for 20 years, manages a team of communications professionals that has received more than 200 awards for excellence in business communications, public relations, and University advancement.

The selection committee was impressed by the number of letters attesting to Young's dedication and his willingness to do “whatever it takes,” including, on one occasion, literally holding down the ropes of a tent so it wouldn't blow away during an event. In a letter supporting his nomination, Pitt Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs Robert Hill wrote of Young's distinguished record on a number of fronts, including “excellence in customer service, interpersonal skills in support of Pitt diversity, special projects, and contributions toward the work environment.”

Young and Hill won a 2004 Telly Award, the highest award in nonprofit television, for *K. Leroy Irvis: The Lion of Pennsylvania*, a documentary about the late Pitt law school graduate and Pennsylvania Speaker of the House.

Young has been involved in a number of projects that tell the story of Pitt, including the documentary *A New Way of Thinking*, which chronicles the Black-student experience at Pitt. It has been repeatedly screened at African American Alumni Council and Equipose events. Young also played a major role in the launch of the University's Legacy Gallery, an installation in Alumni Hall that uses a pair of interactive kiosks to tell the story of the University through the accomplishments of Pitt alumni and faculty.

Pitt Professor Roger Hendrix Wins Award From National Academy of Sciences

Continued from page 1

The NAS recognized this work as well as Hendrix's ability to synthesize existing ideas and research in review articles—such as a bacteriophage chapter in *Origin and Evolution of Viruses* (Academic Press, 2008)—and in journal commentaries highlighting the work of others in his field. Recent commentaries by Hendrix have appeared in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Current Biology*, and *Molecular Microbiology*.

Hendrix cofounded and codirects

Hendrix cofounded and codirects the Pitt-based Pittsburgh Bacteriophage Institute with Pitt biological sciences chair and Eberly Family Professor Graham Hatfull.

the Pitt-based Pittsburgh Bacteriophage Institute with Pitt biological sciences chair and Eberly Family Professor Graham Hatfull. The institute includes researchers and students from around the world in an effort to better understand bacteriophages and their practical applications. Hendrix joined Pitt's biological sciences department in 1973. He received his PhD degree in 1970 from Harvard, where he studied under James D. Watson, a corecipient of the 1962 Nobel

Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his work in uncovering the structure of DNA.

Awards & More



Marcus Rediker, University of Pittsburgh professor of history and chair of the Department of History in the School of Arts and Sciences, received the 2008 James A. Rawley Prize in Atlantic History for his award-winning book, *The Slave Ship: A Human History* (Viking Penguin, 2007). The award was presented at the American Historical Association's annual meeting in New



Marcus Rediker

York City in January.

Rediker has received other honors for *The Slave Ship*. Last March, he was selected the 2008 Merle Curti

Award winner by the Organization of American Historians. In May, he received the fourth annual \$50,000 George



Washington Book Prize at Mt. Vernon.

Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic

of UPMC (WPIC) has won a national award for its Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Intensive Outpatient Program for Children and Adolescents. The U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration selected the program for its 2008 Treatment of Mental Illness and Recovery Support Services Award, which recognizes exemplary interventions that have been shown to prevent and/or treat mental illnesses and substance abuse. WPIC launched the Intensive Outpatient Program for kids with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) in 2005, making it one of only a few intensive OCD outpatient programs in the country.



Mary K. Biagini



Ellen Gay Detlefsen



Bernadette Callery

Bernadette Callery were nominated for the 2008 awards in the category of Excellence in Online Teaching, Best Practices. The awards are given to faculty nominated by WISE students from institutions other than the faculty member's home institution. The awards were presented during the annual conference of the Association of Library and Information Science Education held in January in Denver.

Fiore Pugliano (A&S '70G, '77G), senior adviser and lecturer in the University of Pittsburgh's Department of English in the School of Arts and Sciences, has been awarded the 2009 Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Advising. The award, which carries a \$4,000 cash prize, recognizes Arts and Sciences undergraduate advisers for their outstanding achievements. Pugliano has advised writing, literature, and film studies students since 1974.

Three professors from Pitt's School of Information Sciences faculty were honored by the Web-based Information Science Education (WISE) consortium. The consortium, which includes students and faculty from 15 colleges and universities in the United States, England, and Canada, seeks to provide a collaborative distance education model that will increase the quality, access, and diversity of online education opportunities in library and information science. Pitt School of Information Sciences professors **Mary K. Biagini** and **Ellen Gay Detlefsen**, and assistant professor

Pitt Alumnus, Enka Singer "Jero" Named Best New Artist at Japan Record Awards



Jerome White Jr.

Pitt alumnus Jerome White Jr., Japan's pop sensation better known as "Jero," was named Best New Artist at the 50th Annual Japan Record Awards—the Japanese equivalent of the Grammy Awards.

White also was honored recently with two other Best New Artist awards, from the Best Hit Song Festival and the

pursue his dream of becoming a professional enka singer. While working as a computer engineer in Osaka, he was scouted by Victor Entertainment after winning multiple karaoke competitions. White trained for two years before releasing his first single and debut album, *Covers*.

—Meredith Johnson

Japan Cable Radio Awards. In addition, he received an exclusive invitation to perform in the New Year's Kohaku Uta Gassen television program.

White sings enka, a unique blend of hip-hop and Japanese ballads noted for its melancholic lyrics that romanticize Japanese culture. His first single, "Umiyuki" (Ocean Snow), debuted in February 2008, and his new single, "Eisa," will debut soon. White is the first Black enka singer in Japanese music history.

White received his Bachelor of Science degree in information sciences from Pitt in 2003. He also took Japanese language classes at Pitt and was enrolled in the Asian Studies Program.

After graduation,

White moved to Japan to

Pitt Hosts Microconference on African American Literature Feb. 6

By Anthony M. Moore

As part of the Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series 2008-09 season, the University of Pittsburgh will cohost the Microconference on African American Literature, beginning at noon Feb. 6, Room 501 Cathedral of Learning. The day's events will feature such notable literary figures as Arnold Rampersad, Carl Phillips, G.E. Patterson, and Mendi Obadike.

The conference will include a lecture on African American literature by Rampersad, a biographer, literary critic, and a professor emeritus at Stanford University. He is the author of *Ralph Ellison* (Knopf, 2007), *Jackie Robinson: A Biography* (Knopf, 1997), *Days of Grace: A Memoir* (Knopf, 1993), and *The Life of Langston Hughes* (Oxford University Press, 2 vols., 1986, 1988).

Rampersad was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in 1986 for *The Life of Langston Hughes*. From 1991 to 1996, he held a highly coveted MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. He also is a recipient of fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Rockefeller Foundation.

A panel discussion on contemporary African American poetry will convene at 2 p.m., featuring Rampersad; Phillips, a poet and professor of English and African and Afro-American studies at Washington University in St. Louis; Patterson, a poet and freelance writer and editor; and Obadike, a poet and interdisciplinary artist.

Phillips is the author of *Quiver of Arrows: Selected Poems 1986-2006* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007), *Riding Westward* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006), and *The Rest of Love* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2004). His poems also have been published

in such literary journals as the *Yale Review*, *Atlantic Monthly*, and the *Paris Review*.

Among Phillips' awards and honors are the 2006 Academy of American Poets Fellowship and an award in literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Patterson is the author of the poetry collection *To and From* (Ahsakta Press, 2008) and the book *Tug* (Graywolf Press, 1999), which won the Minnesota Book Award. His work has appeared in such publications as *Bum Rush the Page* and *Poetry 180*.

Patterson's awards include fellowships from the Bread Loaf Writers Conference and Cave Canem.

Obadike is the author of the poetry collection *Armor and Flesh* (Lotus Press, 2004), which won the Naomi Long Madgett Poetry Award. Her work also has appeared in such publications as the *Art Journal*, *Arthrob*, and *Meridians*.

The conference will conclude with a poetry reading by Phillips, Patterson, and Obadike at 7 p.m. in Carnegie Mellon University's Giant Eagle Auditorium, Baker Hall, 4825 Frew St., Oakland.

The 2008-09 Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series season is cosponsored by Pitt's Department of English, University Center for International Studies, Asian Studies Center, China Council Confucius Institute, Cultural Studies Program, Women's Studies Program, and Book Center and by the Carnegie Mellon University Creative Writing Program.

All events in the Writers Series are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Jeff Oaks at oaks@pitt.edu, or visit www.umc.pitt.edu/news/documents/morningreport/2008/08/wsschedule.pdf.

Happenings



Annual Orchid Show
Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens,
through March 8

Concerts

Bolero! featuring works by Beethoven, Lalo, and Ravel; Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, conductor; Andrés Cárdenes, violin; 8 p.m. **Feb. 6-8**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, BNY Mellon Grand Classics, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburgh-symphony.org.

Exhibitions

Carnegie Museum of Art, *Giovanni Battista Piranesi: Architecture and the Spaces of the Imagination*, prints from the series *Imaginary Prisons and Views of Rome*, through **Feb. 15**, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3131, www.cmoa.org.

KOA Art Gallery, *The People, Place, Things: Photography Exhibition*, by photographer Ward Roe, through **Feb. 27**, Blaisdell Hall, Pitt-Bradford, Spectrum Series, 814-362-5271, www.upb.pitt.edu.

Carnegie Museum of Natural History, *Time Machine*, watches from the H.J. Heinz Collection, through **Feb. 29**, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3131, www.carnegiemnh.org.

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, *Annual Orchid Show*, through **March 8**, One Schenley Park, Oakland, 412-622-6914, www.phipps-conservatory.org.

Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, *99*, **Feb. 7-March 15**; *Casey Reas/Marius Watz: New Generative Form*, curated by Golan Levin; *Zoo. Logic+*, exhibition by Pat Bellan-Gillen; *Transformations*, exhibition of local and national bead artists; all **Feb. 7-April 15** 6300 Fifth Ave., Shady-side, Associated Artists of Pittsburgh, 412-361-0873, www.pittsburgharts.org.

Mattress Factory, *Pre-drive: After Technology*, through **March 22**, 500 Sampsonia Way, North Side, 412-231-3169, www.mattress.org.

Free at Last? Slavery in Pittsburgh in the 18th and 19th Centuries, through **April 5**, exhibition by the University of Pittsburgh at the Senator John Heinz History Center, 1212 Smallman St., Strip District, 412-454-6000, www.pghhistory.org.

Frick Art and Historical Center, *The Road to Impressionism: Barbizon Landscapes From the Walters Art Museum*, **Feb. 7-May 3**; *A Revolution on Wheels: The Model T at 100*, through **May 3**, Car and Carriage Museum; *Meissonier: A Final Masterpiece, A Pittsburgh Home*, through **May 31**, Frick Art Museum, 7227 Reynolds St., Point Breeze, 412-371-0600, www.frickart.org.

Film

El Angel Exterminador (1967), directed by Luis Buñuel, 7:30 p.m. **Feb. 4**, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Center for Latin American Studies, Amigos del Cine Latino Americano Spring 2009 Series, www.amigosdelcinelatinoamericano.blogspot.com.

Lectures/Seminars/Readings

"Overwhelming Techne: Media Circulation and the Cultural Politics of Noise," David Novak, postdoctoral fellow in the Society of Fellows in the Humanities at Columbia University's Heyman Center, 10 a.m. **Feb. 2**, 309 Bellefield Hall, Asian Studies Center, Department of Music, www.ucis.pitt.edu.

"How Bad Is It and What Can You Do About It? An Overview of the Current Economic Crisis and What That Means for Your Job Search," Shawn Graham, Katz Graduate School of Business director of MBA career services, and Ronald Magnuson, Katz director of administration, 7 p.m. **Feb. 3**, Mary Lou Campana Chapel Lecture Center, Pitt-Greensburg, Career Services, 724-836-7182, www.upg.pitt.edu.

"The European Union's Security Strategy and the Human Security Agenda: Another Approach to the Concept of 'Smart Power'?" Eric Remacle, Pitt visiting professor of political science, noon **Feb. 4**, 4130 Posvar Hall, European Union Center of Excellence, www.ucis.pitt.edu.

"Coping With the Challenges of Cancer," Donna M. Posluszny, Pitt assistant professor of medicine, 6-8 p.m. **Feb. 4**, Carnegie Library, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, WPIC 2008-09 Mental Health and Wellness Lecture Series, to register call 412-383-2732, www.clinicalresearch.pitt.edu.

"Access to Unapproved Therapies: The Leading Edge of Law and Medicine," Peter D. Jacobson, University of Michigan professor of health law and policy, noon **Feb. 5**, Room 113, School of Law, Grand Rounds Spring 2009 Lecture Series, Pitt Center for Bioethics and Health Law, 412-647-5700, www.pitt.edu/~bioethic.

"What Advances Community-drive Development? A Cultural Perspective of Gender Mainstreaming and Self-organization Mechanism in the Rural Areas of China," Huiping Xie, Pitt doctoral candidate in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, noon **Feb. 5**, 4130 Posvar Hall, Asia Over Lunch Lecture Series, Pitt Asian Studies Center, 412-648-7370, www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc.

"Business Continuity," George Mathews, Three Rivers Contingency Planning Association president, 3-4 p.m. **Feb. 5**, Room 528 Alumni Hall, Spring 2009 Seminar Series, Pitt's Center for National Preparedness, www.cnp.pitt.edu.

"Context Effects in Language Production: Models of Syntactic Priming in Dialogue Corpora," David Reitter, Carnegie Mellon University psychology researcher, noon **Feb. 6**, 5317 Sennott Square, Pitt's Intelligent Systems AI Forum, 412-624-5755, www.isp.pitt.edu.

Microconference on African American Poetry, opening remarks at noon by Arnold Rampersad, biographer and literary critic, followed by 2 p.m. panel discussion and 7 p.m. poetry readings, **Feb. 6**, 501 Cathedral of Learning, free, Pitt's 2008-09 Contemporary Writers Series, 412-648-7390, nrw1@pitt.edu.

"Arab Media and U.S. Policy: A Public Diplomacy Reset," Marwan Kraidy, University of Pennsylvania professor of communications, 3 p.m. **Feb. 6**, 1500 Posvar Hall, Global Studies Program, 412-624-2918, www.ucis.pitt.edu.

"Darwinian Medicine: A New Approach to Health and Disease," Paul Sherman, Cornell University professor of neurobiology and behavior, 3 p.m. **Feb. 6**, Bayer Learning Center, Pappert Lecture Hall, Duquesne University, 600 Forbes Ave., Uptown; also 1 p.m. **Feb. 7**, Carnegie Museum of Art Theater, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Evidence for Evolution: A Celebration of Charles Darwin's 200th Birthday Lecture Series, Duquesne University, www.sepa.duq.edu/Darwin/talks.html.

"Toward a Solution to the Uncovered Interest Rate Parity Puzzle," Norm Miller, University of Miami professor of economics, and Ruxandra Prodan, University of Houston professor of economics, 3:30 p.m. **Feb. 6**, 4716 Posvar Hall, Pitt Department of Economics, 412-648-1793, www.econ.pitt.edu/seminar.php.

School of Information Sciences Information Session for prospective students, 6:30-8 p.m. **Feb. 9**, Room 522, Information Sciences Building, 412-624-3988, www.ischool.pitt.edu.

"Charles Darwin 200th Birthday Lecture," Janet Browne, author and Harvard's Aramont Professor of the History of Science, 7:30 p.m. **Feb. 9**, Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Drue Heinz Lecture Series, 412-622-8866, www.pittsburghlectures.org.



Mouth to Mouth, Quantum Theatre,
through February 22

Miscellaneous

Mardi Gras Dance, Cajun dance lesson, 7:30 p.m., music by live band Venez Au Bal, 8:30 p.m. **Feb. 7**, Bulgarian-Macedonian National Educational and Cultural Center Hall, 449 W. 8th Ave., West Homestead, Cajun Dancing in Western Pennsylvania, www.southwind-pa.com/pghcjapun.html.

Chinese New Year Celebration, includes lion dance, Chinese yo-yo demonstration, live skit, piano performance, fashion show, food, and prizes, 7:30 p.m. **Feb. 7**, William Pitt Union Ballroom, Pitt Chinese American Students Association, www.ucis.pitt.edu.

Thoth Trio, progressive jazz group, 2 p.m. **Feb. 8**, First-floor Quiet Reading Room, Carnegie Library, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Sunday Afternoon Music Series, 412-622-3114, www.clpgh.org.

Chinese New Year Celebration
William Pitt Union,
February 7



Opera/Theater/Dance

Three, choreographed by Ohad Naharin, 8 p.m. **Feb. 5**, program contains some nudity, Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Batsheva Dance Company, Pittsburgh Dance Council, PITT ARTS Cheap Seats, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

Clean Drums, biographical jazz bop play by Rob Penny, directed by Pitt professor Vernell A. Lillie, through **Feb. 7**, 7th-floor Auditorium, Alumni Hall, Kuntu Repertory Theatre, 412-624-7298, www.kuntu.org.

Don Pasquale, opera by Gaetano Donizetti, **Feb. 7, 10, 13, and 15**, CAPA Theater, 111 Ninth St., Downtown, Pittsburgh Opera, 412-281-0912, www.pittsburghopera.org.

Disney's High School Musical, through **Feb. 8**, Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Pittsburgh Musical Theater, 412-539-0900, www.pittsburghmusicals.com.

Metamorphoses, by Mary Zimmerman, through **Feb. 15**, O'Reilly Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theater, 412-316-1600, www.ppt.org.

The Seafarer, by Conor McPherson, through **Feb. 15**, City Theatre, 1300 Bingham St., South Side, 412-431-CITY, www.citytheatrecompany.org.

Mouth to Mouth, drama by Kevin Elyot, through **Feb. 22**, Quantum Theatre, 121 Seventh St., Downtown, 412-394-3353, www.quantumtheatre.com.



Pitt Hosts Italian Film Festival Feb. 6-21



By Patricia Lomando White

The University of Pittsburgh School of Arts and Sciences will host a Feb. 6-to-21 film festival titled New Italian Cinema 2000-08: History, Family, Violence, at Bellefield Auditorium.

The festival will focus on how contemporary Italian filmmakers address issues of national history and current political debates through the cinematic medium.

"The filmmakers draw upon rich cinematic traditions in several genres, including melodrama, comedy, and the political thriller," said Giuseppina Mecchia, a professor of French and Italian in Pitt's Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures and director of the Cultural Studies Program. "The filmmakers also are attuned to more recent esthetic forms,

such as ultraviolence. The idea is to assess whether and how these movies represent contemporary Italian culture and what shifts they signal in the cinematic form."

Prior to each film's showing, a Pitt cinema scholar will give a brief introduction. Each of the following will introduce one of the films: Scott Bishop, graduate student in the Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures; Lina Insana, assistant professor of Italian in French and Italian Languages and Literatures; Marcia Landy, Distinguished Professor of English and Film Studies; Mecchia; and Francesca Savoia, a professor of Italian in French and Italian Languages and Literatures.

One final festival offering will held in the early spring, on a date to be determined:

a screening of the 2008 film *Gomorrah*, directed by Matteo Garrone. This final festival presentation, at the Regent Square Theatre, will be cosponsored by Pittsburgh Filmmakers.

Admission is free, except for *Gomorra*. All movies begin at 7 p.m. and have English subtitles.

The festival schedule follows.

Feb. 6

Good Morning, Night (Buongiorno, Notte, 2003), directed by Marco Bellocchio. The 1978 kidnapping and murder of Aldo Moro, president of Democrazia Cristiana, the most important political party in Italy at the time.

Feb. 7

The Hundred Steps (I Cento Passi, 2000), directed by Marco Tullio Giordana. The title is the distance between the houses of young

left-wing activist Peppino Impastato, who denounced the Mafia, and Mafia boss Tano Badalamenti.

Feb. 13

Blood. Death Does Not Exist (Sangue. La morte non esiste, 2006), directed by Libero De Rienzo. The story involves a brother and a sister in modern Italy. The brother is estranged from the rest of the family, and the sister is the link that keeps him tied to his parents and the world.

Feb. 14

My Brother Is an Only Child (Mio fratello è figlio unico, 2007), directed by Daniele Luchetti. Two brothers come of age in a small Italian town in the 1960s and '70s.

Feb. 20

The Best of Youth (La Meglio Gioventù, 2003), Part I, directed by Marco Tullio Giordana. Spanning four decades, from the chaotic 1960s to the present, the film follows two Italian brothers through some of the most tumultuous events in recent Italian history.

Feb. 21

The Best of Youth, Part II.

Date to be determined, Regent Square Theatre, 1035 S. Braddock Ave., Swissvale. *Gomorra (Gomorra, 2008)*, directed by Matteo Garrone. An inside look at Italy's modern-day crime families.

The Italian film festival is sponsored by Pitt's Film Studies and Cultural Studies programs, Office of the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, European Union Center of Excellence, and Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures. For more information, visit www.filmstudies.pitt.edu/ events or contact Giuseppina Mecchia at 412-624-5222 or mecchia@pitt.edu.

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published Feb. 9. 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.

