

Dixon Named Naismith Coach of the Year

Pitt men's basketball coach Jamie Dixon received a top national honor when, on April 7, the Atlanta Tipoff Club named him the 2009 Naismith Men's College Basketball Coach of the Year.

Dixon was chosen by the club's board of selectors, a group of leading basketball journalists, coaches, and administrators from around the country. The Naismith Award, presented annually to the men's and women's top college coaches, is the most prestigious national award in college basketball.

"Pittsburgh had a tremendous season, and much of that success goes to Jamie and the wonderful coaching job he did with this team," said Gary Stokan, Atlanta Tipoff Club president. "During his six seasons, he has built a solid program that continues to produce wonderful results, both on and off the court."

Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg said, "In terms of what our team accomplished, this past season probably was the most memorable in the long history of the Pitt men's basketball program. Even more remarkable, though, is the sustained record of excellence that Coach Dixon has built—breaking a 57-year-old record by claiming the most wins by a major college coach in his first six years as a head coach in the history of college basketball. And, as the Atlanta Tipoff Club noted in announcing his selection, Coach Dixon's teams have been great representatives of our University, on and off the court. He is a caring, compassionate individual who has made

the integrity of the program and the total growth of his student-athletes his highest priorities."

With his 163 career wins, Dixon set an NCAA Division I record for most victories after six seasons as a head coach. Dixon also concluded the 2008-09 season as the Big East Conference's all-time leader in the percentage of overall league games won (.698).

During the 2008-09 season, Dixon guided Pitt to a 31-5 record (15-3 Big East), earned the school's first-ever No. 1 seed upon entering the NCAA Tournament, and led the Panthers to the NCAA East Regional final. Pitt also achieved the consensus No. 1 national ranking for the first time in school history, set or tied school records for victories (31) and league wins (15), and finished the year with a perfect 19-0 home record.

Dixon has now guided the Panthers to NCAA Tournament appearances in each of his first six seasons as head coach, becoming the first coach in school history to achieve that honor. He has amassed a career record of 163-45, which places him third on Pitt's all-time coaching wins list after just six seasons.

Dixon began his coaching career in 1989 as the head coach at TeAute College in New Zealand. He spent 17 years coaching major NCAA Division I schools, including assignments at Pitt, Northern Arizona University, University of Hawaii, and the University of California-Santa Barbara.

Dixon is very active in the Pittsburgh



Jamie Dixon

COURTESY OF PITT ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

community, and his many charitable affiliations include the Caring Place, HOPE Network Hoops Classic, St. Anthony's Holy Name Father-Child Breakfast, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, and Boy Scouts of America.

Later this week, Dixon will receive the Bob Prince Award at the annual Art Rooney Award Dinner supporting the Catholic Youth Association. In 2004, he was honored as the Pittsburgh YMCA's Person of the Year.

Provost Funds 11 Projects Promoting Innovation in Education

By Jane-Ellen Robinet

The Office of the Provost's Advisory Council on Instructional Excellence (ACIE) has selected 11 teaching proposals to fund under the 2009 Innovation in Education Awards Program.

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. Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Andrew Blair, who chairs the advisory council, observed, "There was a significant increase this year in the number of proposals submitted while the overall quality was sustained. This attests to the continuing vitality of this awards program, which has now completed its 10th annual round of funding."

Funding for this year's awards totaled \$182,113.

Winners of the 2009 awards along with titles and summaries of their proposals follow.

Amy E. Aggelou, instructor and clinical coordinator in Pitt's undergraduate Athletic Training Education Program,

and **Kevin Conley**, program director for the Athletic Training Education Program in the Department of Sports Medicine and Nutrition and assistant dean for undergraduate studies in Pitt's School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, "Creating Clinical Competence Through Interactive Technology."



Andrew Blair

Developing and assessing clinical competence in athletic trainers can be time-consuming and difficult. Working with real patients is ideal but not always feasible. This project's goal is the creation of a computer program to help train athletic trainers and assess their competence.

The idea was prompted, in part, by the national certification test for athletic trainers, which has a multiple-choice section comprising an interactive looping of questions and information. Each student begins with the same question, but the remainder of the question sequence depends on how the student answers each subsequent question. The hybrid questions are visual in nature and require students to use critical thinking by applying their knowledge in real-life clinical situations. Aggelou said such a program could be helpful in teaching students about athletic injuries that might not occur very often, for example. Also, the format could be beneficial to an array of medical

disciplines taught at Pitt.

Kevin D. Ashley, professor of law and intelligent systems and senior scientist in Pitt's Learning Research and Development Center, "A Peer-reviewed-based Student Model for Ill-defined Problem-solving."

Instructors are increasingly using student peer review as a teaching aid. This project seeks to fine-tune and strengthen the peer-review process so that professors can better gauge how well students are understanding the course material. Specifically, the goal is to develop and evaluate methods to solicit peer-reviewer feedback in a structured way on assignments and to provide instructors with an in-depth report, prepared by a computational model, of how well students understood the assignments' issues. Ashley, who will be working with graduate student assistant Ilya M. Goldin, said this approach should be especially useful in any University course in which students learn to analyze ill-defined problems—problems for which there is no one right answer but competing reasonable answers. The model will be available on the Internet and will be field-tested this fall in a law course's peer-reviewed legal writing exercise.

Jean Ferguson Carr, director of Pitt's Women's Studies Program and a professor of English and women's studies, and **Frayda Cohen**, a visiting assistant professor of women's studies with a joint appointment in Pitt's Department of Anthropology, "Theory and Practice: An Interactive Web Site."

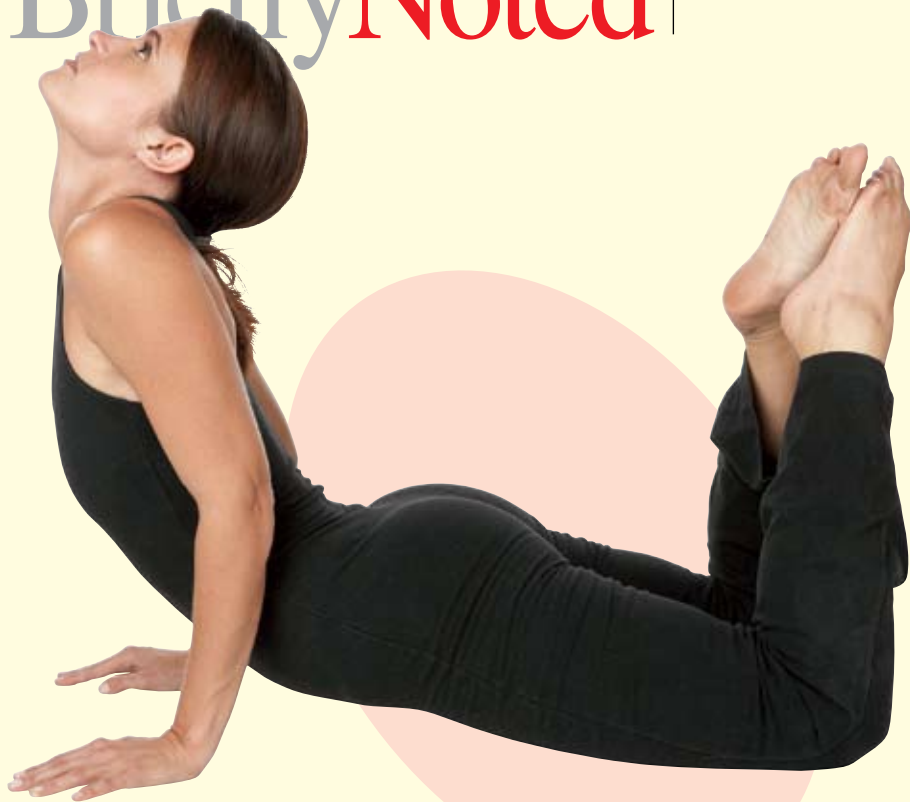
The Women's Studies Program comprises a wide variety of students who are engaged in research projects and internships related to the study of women, gender, and sexuality. The program draws students and faculty from the disciplines of political science, sociology, anthropology, communication, English literature/writing, psychology, social work, education, nursing, and the physical sciences. This project will create a Web site to provide an interdisciplinary space where faculty and students can collaborate on Webliographies (online bibliographies), personal and group blogs, and wikis, which are server programs that allow users to collaborate in forming a Web site's content. This collaboration will lead to the creation of a reference data base and links to key research sites. It also will serve as a way for students and faculty to better share their research and experiences within the women's studies community. Also working with Carr and Cohen is Carly Woods, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Communication and a teaching fellow in the Women's Studies Program.

Berrylin Ferguson, a professor and director of the Division of Sino-nasal Disorders and Allergy in the School of Medicine's Department of Otolaryngology, "NASAL Project: Nasal Anatomy, Simulation, and Learning."

This project focuses on the development of a sino-nasal simulator device, NASAL, that will be used to train nurses, nurse

Continued on page 5

Briefly Noted



Wellness Fair Set for April 14

The University of Pittsburgh Staff Association Council will host the physical fitness forum "Spring Into a Healthy Lifestyle" from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 14 in the Assembly Room of the William Pitt Union.

The event will include more than 10 vendors promoting health and wellness activities, including a yoga demonstration at 12:20 p.m. Participating organizations will include Pitt's benefits department, Student Health Service, and University Child Development Center, as well as the Greater Pittsburgh Federal Credit Union and the Central Blood Bank. For more information, contact the Staff Association Council Office at 412-624-4236 or sac@pitt.edu.

—Anthony M. Moore

Heinz Chapel Choir Celebrates 70th Anniversary Reunion

The University of Pittsburgh's Heinz Chapel Choir is holding a 70th Anniversary Reunion celebration from April 17 to 19.

The event kicks off with a sing-along at 7:30 p.m. April 17 in Heinz Memorial Chapel, with a reception to follow at the Holiday Inn Select, University Center, 100 Lytton Ave., Oakland.

At 1 p.m. April 18, the choir will host a campus walking tour. A dinner will be held at 6 p.m. in Pitt Alumni Hall's Connolly Ballroom. From 1:30 to 2:30

p.m. on April 19, participants will gather for group pictures in the Connolly Ballroom. The event ends with the Annual Spring Concert, which will be held at 3 p.m. April 19 in the Heinz Memorial Chapel.

The campus walking tour and spring concert are free. The cost of the reunion dinner is \$80, and the cost of Friday's sing-along is \$10.

The Heinz Chapel Choir is an a cappella choir comprising many talented Pitt students. The group performs numerous concerts in the Heinz Memorial Chapel, including fall, holiday, and spring concerts.

This May, the Heinz Chapel Choir is heading to Asia for a four-city Chinese tour. The members will perform a cappella repertoire from around the world at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, the Xian Conservatory of Music in Xian, Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, and at the He Lu Ting Music Hall of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music in Shanghai. It is the eighth time the choir has toured internationally and the first time the group is visiting Asia.

For more information, contact John Goldsmith at jgold1@pitt.edu or 412-624-4508.

—Meredith Johnson

Pitt Volunteer Pool Seeks After-school Program Items, Children's Books

The Pitt Volunteer Pool is calling for donations of items to help after-school programs in the Oakland/Pittsburgh area. Some of the needed items, aimed at helping children both educationally and recreationally, include

board games (Scrabble, Monopoly, Connect 4, Pictionary Jr., and others), Legos, lacing cards and beads, and math games (Base Ten Blocks, pattern blocks, and others). Donations may be brought to the Volunteer Pool Office, 710 Alumni Hall. Deadline for donations is May 1.

The Volunteer Pool is also sponsoring the 2009 Book Drive to collect 2,009 reading and coloring books as well as crayons for needy children. New or used books (English and Spanish) and crayons may be sent via campus mail to Gwen Watkins, 710 Alumni Hall. The collected items will be given to Children Incorporated (www.children-inc.org), which delivers all types of school supplies to children in need in the United States and in South and Central America.

The deadline for contributions is Friday, May 29.

Pitt to Present McKinsey Cup Competition April 17

The University of Pittsburgh's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business will once again host the McKinsey Cup Playoffs and Competition, to be held April 17 in Oakland. The competition is the culmination of a course that seeks to equip students with the ability to achieve success in an increasingly complex business world. The class merges traditional and experienced-based learning by placing students with client organizations to work on real-world issues.

During the spring 2009 term, 17 such projects were undertaken with the following clients: American Eagle Outfitters, Bayer BMS, Dlubak Corporation, 84 Lumber Company, Ellis School, HM Insurance Company, Kennametal Inc., Massaro Corporation, Nemocolin Woodlands, McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine (Pitt-UPMC), Philips (Respironics) Inc., Precision Therapeutics Inc., Red Oak Café, Respironics Foundation, Samaritan Counseling Service, and the Westinghouse Electric Company.

At the playoffs and competition, students will square off and be judged by faculty, alumni, and business executives from participating organizations. The playoffs, which are open to the media, will narrow the competition to four teams in closed-door sessions. The top four teams will then participate in the McKinsey Cup Competition, which is scheduled from 2 to 5 p.m. in the Carnegie Art Museum Theater, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland.

Prior to the competition, Glen T. Meakem will present a free public lecture on the Employee Free Choice Act at 12:30 p.m. in the Steiner Atrium in Pitt's Mervis Hall. Meakem has earned a national reputation as a new economy innovator and leader—first as cofounder, chair, and CEO of FreeMarkets, Inc.,

and more recently as cofounder and managing director of Meakem Becker Venture Capital.

—Amanda Leff

Library System Offers Improved Online Catalog

Searching for a historic photo of 19th-century downtown Pittsburgh? While looking for a book, would you like to see an image of the cover and its table of contents as well as the full text? Do you want to be notified by Pitt libraries when selections of interest come in? All of this is possible for the Pitt community and people worldwide with the University Library System's new online catalog, called PITTCat+ (<http://pittcatplus.pitt.edu>).

This new tool allows instantaneous access to millions of print and e-books, articles from tens of thousands of e-journals, and Pitt's digital collections, including the Historic Pittsburgh Collection; the Archive of European Integration; and PhilSci, on which scholars in the philosophy of science can post their research for review by colleagues. PITTCat+ also provides access to the e-journals, CDs, DVDs, and maps currently available on PITTCat Classic.

PITTCat+ offers an enhanced approach to searching. When a user conducts a search, a visual "cloud" of words appears on the left side of the screen, displaying variant spellings of each search term, associated words, and the same word in other languages to ensure that a user doesn't miss relevant items. For example, using the search term "global warming" will cause such related words as "greenhouse," "ozone," and "climate" to appear. These are clickable and will provide the user with additional results.

Images of book covers also appear, accompanied by book reviews and tables of contents, as well as links to the full text.

PITTCat+ allows users to refine their searches by author, topic, dates of publication, volumes on the shelf that are not checked out, or volumes available only online.

A user can save any search as an RSS feed and be notified when new material relevant to a search is added to the library. And a personal bookshelf called My Discoveries allows users to save, tag, rate, and create shareable lists of items.

—Sharon S. Blake



Heinz Chapel Choir



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PittScholars&Stewards

Shooting for the Stars

The Keith E. Schaefer Undergraduate Scholarship



Keith E. Schaefer

By Breanna Presken and Brittney Gillison

In the world of academia, Natalie Bobek's individuality stands out. Sporting bright red hair and spinning the latest hits on WPTS, Pitt's student-run FM radio station, she is not your typical

sophomore.

Bobek is majoring in physics and astronomy in the School of Arts and Sciences. She has earned a spot on the Dean's List and hopes to pursue a career teaching

either high school astronomy, math, or physics—or possibly working for NASA. Bobek is the recipient of the Keith E. Schaefer Undergraduate Scholarship. Established in 2000, the scholarship is given to a student from Allegheny County enrolled in the School of Arts and Sciences and has outstanding academic achievement.

“The scholarship literally enables me to be a student here. I definitely experience less stress,” Bobek explains. “I am learning so much here at Pitt, both academically and outside of the classroom, and the scholarship has a great deal to do with that. I love spending time in the neighborhoods around Oakland, especially Shadyside, Squirrel Hill, and Downtown.”

When she's not on air, Bobek is busy

conducting experiments with electrons and light waves in her physics classes—or learning about celestial spheres and their evolution. Her other passions include the theater and enjoying city life.

Schaefer is a member of Pitt's Board of Trustees and has previously served as the Pitt Alumni Association president. He is currently the president and CEO of BPL Global, Ltd. an Internet communications company. Schaefer received his bachelor's degree from Pitt's College of Arts and Sciences in 1971.

While Bobek is well grounded in her studies at Pitt, she continues to set her sights high.

“All of my dreams are now set into motion to become reality thanks to Mr. Schaefer's generosity,” Bobek says.

One Step at a Time

Pitt, Carnegie Mellon, Duquesne Students Present Ideas for Local Sustainability at April 16 Symposium

By Morgan Kelly

A truly sustainable society transcends fluorescent bulbs and recycling—it requires fresh ideas and local action. In that vein, students from the University of Pittsburgh, Duquesne University, and Carnegie Mellon University will present at an April 16 symposium the results of a cooperative project to develop practical city- and campuswide policies and habits to reduce Pittsburgh's environmental footprint.

The *One Step at a Time* Student Sustainability Symposium features ideas ranging from establishing city green-building standards to calculating the energy universities could conserve by powering down their computer systems during off-peak hours. Hosted by Sustainable Pittsburgh and coordinated by the Environmental Studies Program in Pitt's Department of Geology and Planetary Science in the School of Arts and Sciences, the symposium will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 16 in the 31st-floor conference room of the Regional Enterprise Tower, 425 Sixth Ave., Downtown. Registration for the free public event is available on the Rachel Carson Homestead Web site at www.rachelcarsonhomestead.org/Events/tabid/62/Default.aspx.

Students and professors from Pitt, Carnegie Mellon, and Duquesne initiated the *One Step at a Time* project in Fall 2007 in response to the 2007 Rachel Carson Legacy Challenge, issued by the Rachel Carson Homestead Association. The grant encouraged all three universities to create student-designed solutions to environmental issues on campus and around the city. The Heinz Endowments also supported the initiative.

The April 16 symposium begins with an introduction by Sustainable Pittsburgh at 9 a.m. and comments by Lindsay Baxter, sustainability coordinator for the City of Pittsburgh. Brief descriptions of the student presentations follow. All presentations include a question-and-answer session.

At 9:25 a.m., Duquesne students will present their research on climate-change initiatives among international businesses;



a municipal-level application of MARKAL, a computer model designed by the International Energy Agency for monitoring and implementing energy efficiency; a study of Duquesne's greenhouse gas emission; and ideas from *One Step at a Time* that have been realized on campus. The students represent Duquesne's Center for Environmental

Research and Education, Environmental Science and Management Program, School of Law, and Sustainable MBA Program.

At 10:30 a.m., Carnegie Mellon students will report on their evaluation of the energy usage of the university's computer clusters and the clusters' contribution to Carnegie Mellon's footprint. The students

aimed to conserve money and energy by figuring out the best times to power down the computers.

At 11:30 a.m., Pitt students will present ideas to streamline the City of Pittsburgh's sustainability efforts, a report on a project to install a “green roof” on campus, and a description of a Pitt outreach campaign to increase awareness of environmental issues and of ongoing Universitywide sustainability efforts. Among other student group reports is an analysis of the participation and influence of nongovernmental organizations in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

A 12:30 p.m. poster session will include displays of additional student projects, including renewable energy as a catalyst for U.S. job creation; a comparison of greenhouse gas emissions from the United States, China, India, and Brazil; the influence of the international market for carbon credits on controlling greenhouse gas emissions; and a look at federal, state, and local climate change policies.

Science & Technology

Mollusk Memories

Pitt, Berkeley Researchers Reconstruct Seashells to Model Nervous System Function

By Morgan Kelly

The enchantingly colored seashells that lend beaches their charm could also provide information about how the brain converts memories and sensory information into action, according to research from the University of California at Berkeley and the University of Pittsburgh published online April 7 in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*.

G. Bard Ermentrout, a University Professor of Mathematics at Pitt, worked with the paper's lead author, Berkeley graduate student Alistair Boettiger, and Berkeley biophysicist George Oster to model the neural network of mollusks and design a computer program that can generate the complex patterns and shapes of most mollusk shells. The researchers traced the trail of brain activity that begins with a mollusk's tongue-like organ called a mantle and leads to the cells that produce the shell and pigmentation. They supposed that as mollusks build their shells, they retrace their previous work with the mantle and use those "memories" to continue the pattern. At the same time, the new pigment and shell growth are influenced by external factors resulting in the varied patterns and shell structure seen in nature.

Boettiger, Ermentrout, and Oster simulated the neural network with integral equations that, like the mollusk, retrace the previous pattern, but can be manipulated to accurately predict how a shell will form under specific conditions. The resulting models help illustrate how neural networks—including mammalian cortices—function in response to a combination of sensory information and past experience, the team reported in *PNAS*. The project was supported by the National Science Foundation.

"These models demonstrate the combined influence of sensory input and memories on brain activity," Ermentrout said. "Brains convert sensory information into action. If a ball is thrown at you, you duck or catch it because you know that the ball could hit you. That knowledge and the sight of the ball coming at you dictate your action. A mollusk collects sensory information from its previous pigmentation and converts it into motor action by producing more pigmentation and continuing the pattern."



To construct its model, the team studied electron microscope images of mollusk mantles to understand the neurons connecting the sensing cells in the mantle with the secretory cells that produce calcium carbonate and pigmented proteins.

To construct its model, the team studied electron microscope images of mollusk mantles to understand the neurons connecting the sensing cells in the mantle with the secretory cells that produce calcium carbonate and pigmented proteins. The team found that the excitatory and inhibitory synapses—which promote or diminish cell activity—surrounding the secretory cells and the cells' firing thresholds act as a neural network that determines how much calcium and pigment the mollusk secretes. Different rates of calcium carbonate secretion determine the shape of the shell, while different amounts of pigment result in a pattern unique to each species.

For instance, shell ridges result from one cell increasing calcium carbonate secretion while depressing secretion from surrounding cells. The researchers also found three basic patterns of shell pigmentation determined by excitatory and inhibitory activity: stripes perpendicular to the growing edge, bands parallel to the growing edge, and more complex "traveling wave" patterns such as zigzags and chevrons.

With striped shells, a pigment-secreting cell inhibits secretion of pigment by neighboring cells but not itself, so that the same pattern is repeated day after day, yielding a stripe. Bands parallel to the growing edge form when pigment secreted on one day inhibit secreting cells for a few days, resulting in an on/off pattern. "Traveling wave" patterns of diamonds, zigzags, arrowheads, and other shapes come about when a pigment inhibits future secretion at that site but excites secretion in surrounding cells, so that pigment moves laterally on successive days like a wave.

"Our real contribution was not reproducing the patterns, but showing that the nervous system can do it with one equation," said Oster, a professor of environmental science, policy and management, and molecular and cell biology. "The pattern on a seashell is the mollusk's memories. The shell is laid down in layers, so the mantle is sensing the history of the mollusk's 'thoughts' and extrapolating to the next layer, just like our brains project into the future."

The full paper can be found on the *PNAS* Web site at www.pnas.org/content/early/2009/04/07/0810311106.abstract.



G. Bard Ermentrout

Stem Cell Therapy Makes Cloudy Corneas Clear, Pitt Researchers Find



By Anita Srikameswaran

Stem cells collected from human corneas restore transparency and don't trigger a rejection response when injected into eyes that are scarred and hazy, according to experiments conducted in mice by researchers at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Their study was published in the journal *Stem Cells* and appeared online April 9.

The findings suggest that cell-based therapies might be an effective way to treat human corneal blindness and vision impairment caused by scarring that occurs after infection, trauma, and other common eye problems, said senior investigator James L. Funderburgh, a professor in the Department of Ophthalmology. The Pitt corneal stem cells were able to remodel scar-like tissue back to normal.

"Our experiments indicate that after stem cell treatment, mouse eyes that initially had corneal defects looked no different than mouse eyes that had never been damaged," Funderburgh said.

The ability to grow millions of the cells in the lab could make it possible to create an off-the-shelf product, which would be especially useful in countries that have limited medical and surgical resources but a great burden of eye disease owing to infections and trauma.

"Corneal scars are permanent, so the best available solution is corneal transplant," Funderburgh said. "Transplants have a high success rate, but they don't last forever. The current popularity of LASIK corrective eye surgery is expected to substantially reduce the availability of donor tissue because the procedure alters the cornea in a way that makes it unsuitable for transplantation."

A few years ago, Funderburgh and other University of Pittsburgh researchers identified stem cells in a layer of the cornea called the stroma, and they recently showed that even after many rounds of expansion in the lab, these cells continued to produce the biochemical components, or matrix, of the cornea. One such protein is called lumican, which plays a critical role in giving the cornea the correct structure to make it transparent.

Mice that lack the ability to produce lumican develop opaque areas of their corneas comparable to the scar tissue that human eyes form in response to trauma and

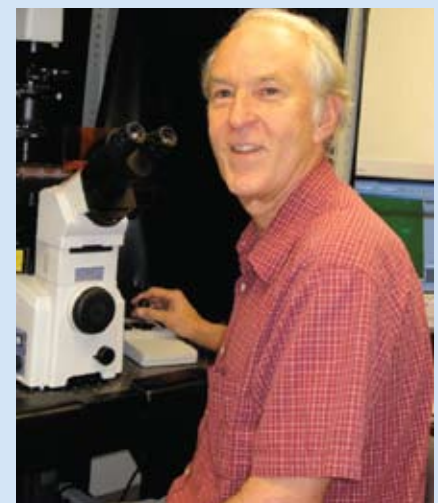
inflammation, Funderburgh said. But three months after the lumican-deficient mouse eyes were injected with human adult corneal stem cells, transparency was restored.

The cornea and its stromal stem cells themselves appear to be "immune privileged," meaning they don't trigger a significant immune response even when transplanted across species, as in the Pitt experiments.

"Several kinds of experiments indicated that the human cells were alive and making lumican, and that the tissue had rebuilt properly," Funderburgh noted.

In the next steps, the researchers intend to use the stem cells to treat lab animals that have corneal scars to see if they, too, can be repaired with stem cells. Under the auspices of UPMC Eye Center's recently established Center for Vision Restoration, they also plan to develop the necessary protocols to enable clinical testing of the cells.

The research was supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health, the Eye and Ear Foundation (Pittsburgh), and an unrestricted grant from Research to Prevent Blindness, N.Y. Funderburgh holds the Jules and Doris Stein Professorship from Research to Prevent Blindness.



James L. Funderburgh

Provost Funds 11 Projects Promoting Innovation in Education

Continued from page 1

anesthetists, and medical students on how to place feeding tubes and nose-to-stomach tubes in patients. These procedures can be painful if performed incorrectly and difficult if a patient has anatomic abnormalities, such as a separated septum. The NASAL simulator has sensors in areas that could cause pressure, pain, or injury in a conscious patient. A laptop interface will allow for direct measurement of how the procedure was performed on the simulator and how well the students scored. It is anticipated that less than 10 minutes of practice will be required for a student to master “painless” nasal intubation. Ferguson estimates that the NASAL system will help train about 400 Pitt medical and nursing students a year. Other project members include co-director Joshua Dunkleberger, a third-year resident at UPMC in otolaryngology; Carl Snyderman, a professor of otolaryngology in Pitt’s School of Medicine and codirector of the Center for Skull Base Surgery; Susan Dunmire, a professor of emergency medicine in the School of Medicine; Sam Tisherman, a professor in the Departments of Critical Care Medicine and Surgery, School of Medicine; Alice Jane Haines, an instructor in Pitt’s School of Nursing; and John O’Donnell, director of the Pitt School of Nursing’s Nurse Anesthesia Program.

Margo B. Holm, a professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, “How Reliable Am I?”

The goal of this project is to develop online interobserver training modules for students who need to establish reliability in scoring and interpreting patient observational assessment tools. Interobserver reliability is one of four types of reliability estimates, and it is used to assess the degree to which different raters give consistent estimates of the same phenomenon. (An example would be assessing the degree to which two nurses give consistent estimates of a patient’s mental alertness on a scale of 1 to 5.) The project idea stemmed from the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services’ 2007 directive that hospitals and health care providers, to be reimbursed for Medicare outpatient services, must evaluate patients using valid and reliable tools and be reliable in scoring and interpreting them. “How Reliable Am I?” will use online clinical video cases to teach students to reliably score and interpret observational screening and assessment tools. This approach allows individualized pacing and repeated practice and enables students to “pre-establish” screening/assessment tool reliability prior to clinical internships. In actual clinical settings, there is no opportunity for “replay” or practice, because patients with fragile conditions do not have the endurance to repeatedly perform tasks until a student can reliably assess their performance. Although designed for Pitt’s Master of Occupational Therapy students, the training modules will also be appropriate for students in the Department of Physical Therapy and the School of Nursing.

Amy E. Landis, **Melissa M. Bilec**, and **Piervincenzo Rizzo**, assistant professors in the Swanson School of Engineering’s Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, “Enhancing Crosscutting Sustainability Education in Civil Engineering.”

Citing the need to actively infuse sustainability concepts into the Swanson School’s civil engineering courses, Landis, Bilec, and Rizzo said the project will use three active, team-based learning activities to link three classes: Design for the Environment, Introduction to Nondestructive

Evaluation and Structural Health Monitoring, and Green Buildings: Design and Construction. As concerns about global climate change and energy independence increase, sustainability concepts are critical components of civil engineers’ education because these engineers will play significant roles in designing, constructing, and maintaining new energy infrastructure systems. The courses will be linked through three activities that have students from the different courses working together on mapping energy losses in buildings around Pittsburgh and then proposing energy-efficient solutions, creating a case study to calculate a building’s energy using an infrared camera and comparing indoor environmental quality between green and regular buildings.

Karen T. Lee and **Bruce W. Robart**, professors of biology in the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown (UPJ), and **Frances M. Zauhar**, a professor of English and chair of UPJ’s Humanities Division, “Developing a Multidisciplinary Student-faculty Learning Community at UPJ.”

Beginning in Spring 2010, UPJ will enroll its first students in a course on natural resources that will be team-taught by faculty from the natural sciences, education, humanities, and social sciences departments. Students will engage in independent research, as well as scholarly and creative projects, and will have the opportunity to attend films, field trips, social activities, and guest lectures. Students from the President’s Scholars program will be recruited for the pilot class in Spring 2010, but UPJ hopes to ultimately use the model for at-risk and undecided students and perhaps as part of students’ freshman-year curriculum. The project’s goal is to create a multidisciplinary learning community comprising students and faculty and to introduce students to undergraduate research, scholarly, or creative collaborative experiences. UPJ faculty mentors for the project include Matthew Burstein, assistant professor of philosophy; Michael Cox, assistant professor of English writing; Carrie Davis Todd, assistant professor of geology; Catherine Kloss, a professor of English; Nina Girard, a professor of mathematics education; Mary Lavine, a professor of geography and director of Environmental Studies; Daniel Santoro, a professor of sociology; and Xanzhi Song, assistant professor of chemistry.

Elisabeta G. Marai, assistant professor in the Department of Computer Science and founder and director of the Pitt Interdisciplinary Visualization Research Lab, “Immersive Software Engineering.”

This project will develop a new software engineering course that—along with teaching the techniques of project management, design, coding, and other requirements—will offer a significant communications component. The class will require students to tackle large, team-based, real-world problems. It also will introduce project management skills, usability testing, customer interviewing, and specification of formal requirements—so-called soft skills aimed at making Pitt graduates more competitive in the global marketplace. Finally, the new class will establish a repository of software engineering code that will be reused and expanded in following editions of the course. It is hoped that the repository will accelerate the learning process for software design. Geeta Kothari, director of the Pitt Writing Center and founder of the Pitt Peer-Tutoring Program, will assist in developing the communication component of this course.

Marlin H. Mickle, the Nickolas A. DeCecco Professor in Electrical and Computer Engineering and director of the RFID Center of Excellence, “Remote Experiments

for Wireless Computer Networks.”

This project involves the creation of a virtual laboratory to give students in the Introduction to Computer Networks course a concrete understanding of wireless computer networks. One of the course’s main topics is how data signals, or information, are actually transmitted between computers over the air via wireless networks. There are many methods of over-the-air data transmission, and each one has pros and cons. Unfortunately, the equipment necessary for students to actually be able to observe and manipulate data-transmission parameters is expensive, costing more than \$100,000 per set. Mickle, working with Peter J. Hawrylak, a research associate with the RFID Center of Excellence, will create a remote laboratory, which students can access via the Internet. The lab will enable a single set of equipment—provided by the RFID Center—to be shared by an entire class. The remote lab could also be extended to other courses.

Susan M. Meyer, associate dean for education in the School of Pharmacy; **Helen K. Burns**, associate dean for clinical education, School of Nursing; **Hollis D. Day**, director of the Advanced Clinical Education Center, Pitt School of Medicine; “We Need to Talk: Facilitating Improved Interprofessional Communication Through the Use of Standardized Colleagues.”

The Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Nursing are working together on this project, which is aimed at improving interprofessional communication between pharmacists, nurses, and physicians. Their approach will be based upon the schools’ current use of a standardized-patient teaching strategy where health-professions students learn patient-assessment and communication skills by working with an individual who is trained to act as a patient with specific symptoms. Meyer, Burns, and Day will adapt that strategy to create what

is known as standardized-colleague methodology. This process trains health professionals to portray a particular professional role, attitude, and communication style in a teaching situation with a student—and to give continual feedback to the student. The project will develop new course materials consisting of three scenarios depicting colleague-with-colleague communication challenges.

Sarah E. Scott and **Linda Kucan**, assistant professors of reading education in the School of Education, “Using Innovative Video Technology to Transform the Preparation of Literacy Teachers.”

Scott and Kucan will redesign the Reading and Language Arts in the Intermediate Grades course, seeking to optimize students’ opportunities to learn effective literacy teaching practices in the intermediate grades. Their redesign will situate the monthlong course in the Pittsburgh Public Schools’ summer school programs, where Pitt students will have daily opportunities to work with struggling readers. The project will video-record the Pitt students’ classroom sessions with their young elementary students and will also employ Video Traces, a software program that will allow the Pitt students and their professors to better critique the classroom sessions. The project marks the first step of a larger research and schoolwide endeavor to use technology to transform the nature of supervision in teacher education. Scott and Kucan will also work with Kim Gomez, a professor of reading education in Pitt’s Learning Sciences and Policy Center and the Learning Research and Development Center; Michelle Rimbey and Virginia Jackson, reading education doctoral students; and software and technology consultant Reed Stevens, a professor of cognitive studies in education at the University of Washington, Seattle.

A DAY OF MOURNING



Pittsburgh Police motorcades escorted the hearses of three fallen comrades April 9 down Fifth Avenue to the Petersen Events Center, where a memorial service was held. Thousands of police from across the United States and Canada attended the service for officers Paul J. Sciallo II, 36; Eric Kelly, 41; and Stephen J. Mayhle, 29, who were killed April 4 while responding to a domestic disturbance call in Stanton Heights.



PHOTOS BY MARY JANE BENT/CODE

Awards & More

Beatriz Luna Appointed to NIH Advisory Committee

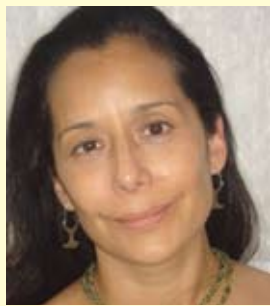
Beatriz Luna, a professor of psychiatry and psychology in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, has been selected by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to serve as a member of the Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD). Since 1966, the ACD has advised the NIH director on policy and planning issues important to the NIH mission of conducting and supporting biomedical and behavioral research and research training and translating research results for the public.

As a member of this prestigious committee, and the first from the University of Pittsburgh, Luna will join six other new advisors as they support and counsel the NIH director on matters of planning, managing, and coordinating the programs and activities of all 27 NIH components.

"Dr. Luna's selection for this position is well-deserved recognition for her extensive research in the field of psychiatry," said Arthur S. Levine, senior vice chancellor for the health sciences and dean of the School of Medicine. "Her commitment to adolescent brain research makes her ideal for this important role as a highly capable steward of the NIH's vision."

"We are most pleased that Dr. Luna is the occupant of this significant position,

which provides support to the NIH as it leads the way toward important medical discoveries that improve people's health and save lives," said David J. Kupfer, Thomas Detre Professor and chair, Department of Psychiatry.



Beatriz Luna

Luna's primary research focuses on using innovative brain imaging technologies, such as functional magnetic resonance imaging and diffusion tensor imaging, to characterize how the brain mechanisms underlying cognitive skills mature during adolescence. Her work provides insight into how vulnerabilities inherent to adolescence lead to

psychopathology and risk-taking behavior and is central to the recent view that brain function continues to be immature during adolescence.

Luna is the founding director of the Laboratory for Neurocognitive Development at the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Born in Santiago, Chile, she received her Ph.D. from Pitt. In 2005, she received the Presidential Early Career Award in Science and Engineering for her pioneering work investigating the neural basis of developmental changes in behavior through adolescence.

—By Megan Grote Quatrini

Pitt School-specific Graduation Recognition Events



JIM BURKE/CORBIS

The University of Pittsburgh's annual Commencement Convocation will be held at 1 p.m. April 26 in the Petersen Events Center. National Medal of Science honoree Bert W. O'Malley, a pioneering researcher in the field of biological sciences who earned his Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Medicine degrees at the University of Pittsburgh, will be the featured speaker. Numerous school-hosted graduation recognition events also will take place.

College of Business Administration will host a graduate recognition ceremony on Saturday, April 25, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown. Contact LeeAnn Falcon, 412-383-7409, lfalcon@katz.pitt.edu.

College of General Studies will host a graduate recognition ceremony and reception on Friday, April 24, at 5:30 p.m. at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association, 4215 Fifth Ave., Oakland. Contact Jennifer Bates, 412-624-6608, jem39@pitt.edu.

School of Arts and Sciences graduation receptions will be held during commencement weekend to honor graduates. Please contact individual departments within the School of Arts and Sciences to determine their graduation reception plans.

Graduate School of Public and International Affairs will host a graduation ceremony on Saturday, April 25, at 10 a.m. at Soldiers and Sailors Military Museum and Memorial, 4141 Fifth Ave., Oakland. Contact Barbara Porter, 412-648-7632, porter@gspia.pitt.edu. RSVP will be on zoomerang.com.

Graduate School of Public Health will host a convocation ceremony and alumni dinner. The convocation will be held Saturday, April 25, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Twentieth Century Club, 4201 Bigelow Blvd., Oakland. Reception follows ceremony at the same location. The alumni dinner will be held Saturday, April 25, at 6 p.m. at the Twentieth Century Club. There will be a cash bar from 5 to 6 p.m. at the same location. Contact Mary Derkach, 412-624-3004, derkach@pitt.edu.

School of Dental Medicine will host a dental medicine diploma ceremony on Saturday, May 16, at 1 p.m. at Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown. Contact Rhonda Matthews, 412-648-8422, rlm33@pitt.edu.

School of Education will host a graduation ceremony on Sunday, April 26, at 9 a.m. at Soldiers and Sailors Military Museum and Memorial, 4141 Fifth Ave., Oakland. Contact Jere Gallagher, 412-648-1774, gal@pitt.edu.

Swanson School of Engineering will host a senior recognition night on Saturday, April 25, at 7 p.m. in the David Lawrence Auditorium, followed by a reception in the David Lawrence Auditorium Lobby. Contact Marcia Lasky, 412-624-9815, mlasky@pitt.edu.

School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences will host a recognition ceremony and reception on Friday, April 24, at 6 p.m. at Soldiers and Sailors Military Museum and Memorial, 4141 Fifth Ave., Oakland, that will be immediately followed by a reception in the Cathedral of Learning Commons Room. Contact Mindy L. Columbus, 412-383-6554, mlc34@pitt.edu.

School of Information Sciences will host a recognition ceremony and breakfast reception. The ceremony is on Sunday, April 26, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Alumni Hall 7th-floor Auditorium. A breakfast reception will be held immediately following the completion of the morning ceremony in the Cathedral of Learning Commons Room. Contact Wes Lipschultz, 412-624-9749, wpl4@pitt.edu.

School of Law commencement ceremony will be held on Friday, May 15, at 3 p.m. at Soldiers and Sailors Military Museum and Memorial, 4141 Fifth Ave., Oakland. Contact Susan McGregor, 412-648-1373, mcgregor@law.pitt.edu.

School of Medicine will host a diploma day ceremony on Monday, May 18, at 10 a.m. at Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland. Contact Joanne K. Colligan, 412-648-8935, joanne@medschool.pitt.edu.

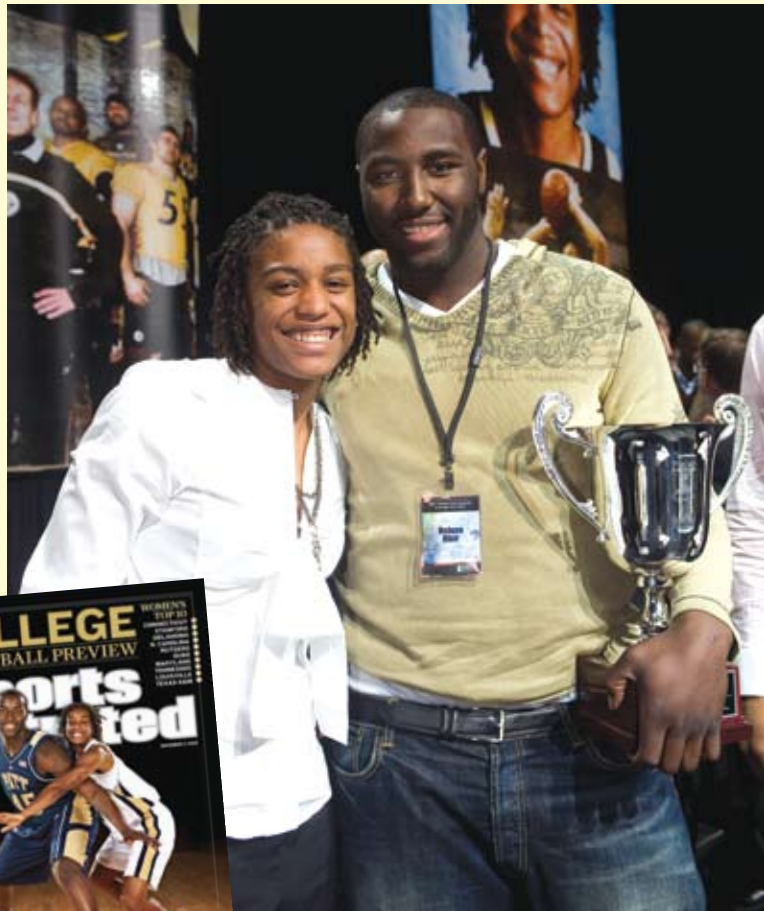
School of Nursing will host a pinning ceremony for BSN graduates and a graduate student dinner. The pinning ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 25, at 6 p.m. at Soldiers and Sailors Military Museum and Memorial, 4141 Fifth Ave., Oakland. There will be a reception immediately following in the Cathedral of Learning Commons Room. The dinner will be held on Sunday, April 26, at 4 p.m. at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association, 4215 Fifth Ave., Oakland. Contact Joan Nock, 412-624-2404, jno100@pitt.edu.

School of Pharmacy will host a reception and graduation dinner on Sunday, April 26. The reception will start at 4:30 p.m. and the dinner at 5 p.m. at Hilton Pittsburgh, 600 Commonwealth Place, Downtown. Contact Lori Schmotzer, 412-648-1014, schmotze@pitt.edu.

School of Social Work will host an evening of recognition on Sunday, April 26, at 4 p.m. at Soldiers and Sailors Military Museum and Memorial, 4141 Fifth Ave., Oakland, with a reception immediately following in Soldiers and Sailors Ballroom. Contact Colleen Scholl, 412-624-6327, scholl@pitt.edu.

Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business will host a graduation ceremony on Friday, April 24, at 1 p.m. in the Alumni Hall 7th-floor Auditorium with a reception immediately following in the Alumni Hall Connolly Ballroom. Contact Bev Bolden, 412-648-1668, bevb@katz.pitt.edu or Gee Chin, 412-648-1569, geechin@katz.pitt.edu.

SEASON STARS



MIKE DRAZDZINSKI/CORBIS

Celebrating during the April 2 Dapper Dan Dinner & Sports Auction at Pitt's Petersen Events Center are Shavonte Zellous (left), the Pitt women's basketball guard who was named the Dapper Dan 2008 Sportswoman of the Year, and DeJuan Blair, the former sophomore center for the Pitt men's basketball team. Zellous was drafted April 9 by the Detroit Shock in the first round of the

WNBA draft—the first player from Pitt ever to be drafted by the WNBA. DeJuan Blair, meanwhile, announced April 8 that he would enter the NBA draft and skip his junior and senior seasons of college eligibility. Inset: Zellous and Blair appeared together on the Nov. 18, 2008, regional cover of *Sports Illustrated*. While sports lore says that being pictured on the magazine's cover jinxes an athlete, it seems to have had the opposite effect on Zellous and Blair.



GETTY IMAGES/SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

Happenings



Pitt 2009 Studio Arts Exhibition, Frick Fine Arts Building, through April 25

Concerts

Frick Art and Historical Center, French Impressionism Meets American Jazz, The Jazz Fauré Project in conjunction with *The Road to Impressionism—Barbizon Landscapes From the Walters Art Museum*, galleries open 6:30 p.m., concert begins 7:30 p.m. **April 14,** 7227 Reynolds St., Point Breeze, 2009 *Music for Exhibitions* series, 412-371-0600, www.frickart.org.

Emily Pinkerton and Friends, North and South American-inspired music on the guitar, fiddle, and banjo, 12:30 p.m. **April 16,** The Cup & Chaucer Café, Hillman Library, The Emerging Legends Series, University of Pittsburgh's Library System, Calliope: The Pittsburgh Folk Music Society, www.emilypinkerton.com.

Rachmaninoff Festival Finale, featuring *Vocalise, Symphonic Dances, Piano Concerto No. 3*; Leonard Slatkin, conductor; Denis Matsuev, pianist; **April 17-19,** Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, BNY Mellon Grand Classics, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Piffaro: Piffaro Potpourri, featuring pieces by Josquin, Obrecht, and Lassus, 8 p.m. **April 18,** Synod Hall, Fifth Avenue and North Craig Street, Oakland, Renaissance and Baroque Society of Pittsburgh, 412-361-2048, www.rbsp.org.

Piano Magic With Jon Kimura Parker, featuring Chausson's *Concerto for Violin, Piano and String Quartet* and Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 1 in C Major, Op. 15*; Andrés Cárdenas, conductor and violinist; 7:30 p.m. **April 23,** Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Pittsburgh Symphony Chamber Orchestra, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Gotta Dance! A Film Salute to Gene Kelly, music performed in sync with Pitt alumnus Kelly's films, featuring *Brigadoon, Singin' in the Rain, An American in Paris*; Constantine Kitsopoulos, conductor; **April 23-26,** Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, PNC Pittsburgh Symphony POPS! 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Organ recital, featuring Bruce Neswick, director of music at New York City's Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, 4 p.m. **April 26,** Calvary Episcopal Church, Shadyside, Organ Artists Series of Pittsburgh, 412-242-2787, www.oas-series.com.

Exhibitions

Pitt 2009 Studio Arts Student Exhibition, featuring paintings, drawings, sculptures, prints, and digital images, **through April 25;** student artists will discuss their work and answer questions, noon **April 15,** University Art Gallery, Frick Fine Arts Building, Oakland, Pitt Studio

Arts Department, 412-648-2430, www.studioarts.pitt.edu.

Frick Art and Historical Center, The Road to Impressionism: Barbizon Landscapes From the Walters Art Museum, through 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.*

Carnegie Museum of Art, Laboratory of Architecture, with works by Mexican architect Fernando Romero, **through May 31; Matsubara: A Celebration in Pittsburgh,** woodblock prints by Matsubara Naoko, **through June 7;** 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3131, www.cmoa.org.

Film

Frida, Naturaleza Viva (1984), directed by Fernando Solanas, 7:30 p.m. **April 15,** Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Pitt's Center for Latin American Studies, Amigos del Cine Latino Americano Spring 2009 Series, amigosdelcinelatinoamericano.blogspot.com.

The World According to Monsanto (2008), directed by Marie-Monique Robin, 7 p.m. **April 16,** Center for Museum Education, Classroom A, Carnegie Library, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Real to Reel Documentary Film Series, 412-622-3105, www.carnegieliibrary.org.

Youtube Poop, a collection presented by Chris Miller, Pitt doctoral candidate in poetry; followed by *Nowhere (1997),* directed by Gregg Araki, presented by John Trenz, Pitt doctoral candidate in film, 6:30 p.m. **April 17,** 1501 Posvar Hall, free pizza, Extreme Cinema: The Many Faces of Shock Cinematheque Series, Pitt Film Studies Program, 412-624-6565, www.filmstudies.pitt.edu.

Lectures/Seminars/Readings

"Boris Mikhailov's Soviet Portraits," Lilianna Milkova, graduate curatorial intern at National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., noon **April 13,** 4217 Posvar Hall, Pitt's Center for Russian and East European Studies, 412-648-7407, www.ucis.pitt.edu/crees.

"The Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA): A Panel Discussion," panelists include James H. Cassing, Pitt professor of economics; Henry Posner III, Railroad Development Corporation chairman, noon **April 14,** Latin American Lecture Room, First Floor Hillman Library, Center for Latin American Studies, 412-648-7392, www.ucis.pitt.edu/clas.

"Valentino/Mussolini: The Italian Masculinities of the Divo and the Duce in 1920s America," Giorgio Bertellini, University of Michigan assistant professor of screen arts and cultures, Romance languages and literatures, noon **April 14,** 501 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt's Film Studies Program, 412-624-6564, www.filmstudies.pitt.edu.

"Protein Dynamics and Allostery," Ivet Bahar, Pitt's School of Medicine John K. Vries Chair in Computational Biology, 4 p.m. **April 14,** 2500 Posvar Hall, Provost's Inaugural Lecture series, 412-624-4222, www.provost.pitt.edu.

"Biofueling Our Future: Balancing Food and Fuel in a Global Economy," Victor Mosotti, special legal advisor in the cabinet of the director-general of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, 7 p.m. **April 14,** Teplitz Memorial Courtroom, Barco Law Building, McLean Lecture on World Law, Pitt's Center for International Legal Education, Global Solutions Education Fund-Pittsburgh, 412-648-7023, www.law.pitt.edu/academics/cile.

"Microfinance Institutions and World Poverty," Jen Lee, Pitt doctoral candidate in international development, noon **April 15,** 4217 Posvar Hall, Global Studies Graduate Brown Bag lecture series, Pitt Global Studies Program, 412-624-2918, www.ucis.pitt.edu.

"Perspectives on International Social Work: The Case of South Africa," Mandla Tshabalala, noon **April 15,** lunch provided, 2017 Cathedral of Learning, World Social Work Day Lecture, Pitt's School of Social Work Conference Center, 2017 Cathedral of Learning, www.socialwork.pitt.edu.

"New Directions in Research on Illuminated Manuscripts Containing Nicholas of Lyra's Postilla super totam bibliam," Sarah Bromberg, Pitt doctoral candidate in history of art and architecture, noon **April 15,** Room 203 Frick Fine Arts Building, History of Art and Architecture Colloquium, Pitt's History of Art and Architecture Department, 412-648-2400, www.haa.pitt.edu.

"Chasing a Roman Soldier," James Russell, University of British Columbia professor of classical, Near Eastern, and religious studies, 4:30 p.m. **April 15,** 208A Cathedral of Learning, Pitt's Department of Classics, 412-624-4493, www.classics.pitt.edu/events.

"Image of War in Chechnya," Zarema Mukusheva, H.J. Heinz Company Foundation Fellow at Pitt, noon **April 16,** 4217 Posvar Hall, Pitt's Global Issues Lecture Series, Pitt's Global Studies Program, Center for Russian and East European Studies, 412-624-2918, www.ucis.pitt.edu/crees.

"Developing Productive Writing Habits," Amy J. Markowitz, editor and scientific writing specialist in San Francisco, 8:30-10:30 a.m., also 3-5 p.m. **April 16,** S120 Thomas E. Starzl Biomedical Science Tower, Health Sciences Faculty Professional Development Series, Postdoctoral Professionalism Series, Spring 2009 Workshop, Office of Academic Career Development, Magee-Womens Research Institute, Institute for Clinical Research Education, to register visit www.oacd.health.pitt.edu.

"Texts and Rites for the Pre-baptismal Period: The Mother, Child, Midwife, and the Priest," Margaret Dimitrova, Sofia University in Bulgaria assistant professor of old Bulgarian language and history of Bulgarian language, 3 p.m. **April 16,** 1401 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt's Center for Russian and East European Studies, 412-624-2918, www.ucis.pitt.edu/crees.

Cinderella, Benedum Center, April 24-26



"CO2 Sequestration Potential of the North Michigan Silurian Reef Trend," Brian Toelle, Schlumberger DCS principal geophysicist, 4 p.m. **April 16,** 11 Thaw Hall, Spring 2009 Colloquium, Pitt's Department of Geology and Planetary Science, 412-624-8780, www.geology.pitt.edu/colloquium.html.

"Mixed Marriage Prohibitions in Nazi Germany and Their Rule of Law Implications for Past and Future," Vivian Curran, Pitt professor of law, 6 p.m. **April 16,** Alcoa Room, Barco Law Building, Pitt's Center for International Legal Education, 412-648-7023, www.law.pitt.edu/academics/cile.

"The Women in the Middle: Inka Concepts Manifested in Farfan's Burials," Carol J. Mackey, California State University of Northridge professor emerita of anthropology, 1 p.m. **April 17,** 3106 Posvar Hall, Center for Latin American Studies, Anthropology Department, 412-648-7392, www.ucis.pitt.edu/clas.

"Early Human Populations in the New World: A Biased Perspective," James Adovasio, Mercyhurst University provost and Archaeological Institute director, 3 p.m. **April 17,** Bayer Learning Center, Pappert Lecture Hall, Duquesne University, 600 Forbes Ave., Uptown; also 1 p.m. **April 17,** 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.

Gotta Dance! A Film Salute to Gene Kelly, Heinz Hall, April 23-26



"Human Societies as Ecosystems: Culture and the Evolution of Social Differentiation," Rob Boyd, University of California at Los Angeles professor of anthropology, 3:30 p.m. **April 17,** Room 817 Cathedral of Learning, Annual Lecture Series, Center for Philosophy of Science, 412-624-1052, www.pitt.edu/~pittcntr.

Philosophy of Gauge Theory Workshop, speakers will discuss gauge fields, gauge metaphysics, quantum gauging, 8:45 a.m.-6 p.m. **April 18,** also 9:30 a.m.-noon **April 19,** Room 817 Cathedral of Learning, Center for Philosophy of Science, 412-624-1052, www.pitt.edu/~pittcntr.

"Marriage, Men, and Money: African American Women's Continued Investment in the Romantic Ideal," M. Belinda Tucker, University of California at Los Angeles professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, noon **April 22,** lunch provided, 2017 Cathedral of Learning, Reed Smith Spring 2009 Speaker Series, Center on Race and Social Problems, 412-624-7382, www.crsp.pitt.edu.

"Grant Writing," 10 a.m.-3 p.m. **April 25,** Lecture Room 2, 4th Floor, Scaife Hall, Survival Skills and Ethics Workshop, to register call 412-578-3716, www.survival.pitt.edu.

Fourth Annual Springboard 2009: A Monthlong Celebration of Undergraduate Research and Creativity, event encompassing undergraduate research fairs, poster sessions, mini-conferences, art exhibitions, and creative performances occurring across the University during April, www.pitt.edu/~provost/undergrad_research.html.

Miscellaneous

"Spring Into a Healthy Lifestyle," vendors include Venture Outdoors, University Benefits Department, Davis Vision, Central Blood Bank, and more, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. **April 14,** Assembly Room, William Pitt Union, Pitt's Staff Association Council, 412-624-4236, sac@pitt.edu.

2009 Nellie Leadership Awards Gala, Andrew Stockey, WTAE-TV, will host this black-tie, red-carpet event celebrating community leaders; proceeds benefit the Rising Star Scholarship Fund, 5:30-9 p.m. **April 30,** Twentieth Century Club, 4201 Bigelow Blvd., Oakland, Three Rivers Youth, 412-441-5020, www.threeriversyouth.org.

Opera/Theater/Dance

Angels in America, Part Two: Perestroika, second part of Pulitzer Prize-winning drama by Tony Kushner; directed by Robert C.T. Steele, **through April 11,** Charity Randall Theatre, Stephen Foster Memorial, Pitt Repertory Theatre, 412-624-7529, www.play.pitt.edu.

Rent, musical by Jonathan Larson, **April 14-19,** Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, PNC Broadway Across America, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

Godspell, musical, **April 16-26,** Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Pittsburgh Musical Theater, 412-539-0900, www.pittsburghmusicals.com.

A Moon for the Misbegotten, by Eugene O'Neill, **April 16-May 17,** O'Reilly Theatre, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, 412-316-1600, www.ppt.org.

Continued on page 8



Happenings



Mitsubara: A Celebration in Pittsburgh, Carnegie Museum of Art, through June 7

Pain in My Heart and Reachings, two one-act dramas by Rob Penny, directed by Mark Clayton Southers, **through April 18**, 7th-floor Auditorium, Alumni Hall, Pitt's Kuntu Repertory Theatre, 412-624-7298, www.kuntu.org.

Cinderella, ballet, music by Prokofiev, **April 24-26**, Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, 412-456-6666, www.pbt.org.

Gianni Schicchi, operatic comedy by Giacomo Puccini, **April 24-25**, Buon Sapore Art Gallery, 326 Main St., West End, Opera Theater of Pittsburgh's Salon Series, 412-621-1499, www.operatheater-pittsburgh.org.

Yerma, by Federico Garcia Lorca; directed by Melanie Dreyer, **through April 26**, Quantum Theatre, 6000 Penn Ave., Downtown, 412-394-3353, www.quantumtheatre.com.

Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

Katherine Sorrels, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of History, "Austrian Jews and the Idea of Europe: Reformulating Multinationalism as a Response to the Disintegration of the Habsburg Empire, 1880-1939," 11 a.m. **April 14**, 3703 Posvar Hall.

Jolie E. DeForrest, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Chemistry, "The Allenic Carbocyclization Reaction of Allene-ynes: Progress Towards the Syntheses of Fumagillol and Ovalicin," 1 p.m. **April 14**, 706 Chevron Science Center.

Jason Squinobal, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Music, "The Implementation of West African Musical Traits and Techniques in the Music of Art Blakey, Yusef Lateef, and Randy Weston," 1 p.m. **April 14**, Room 114 Music Building.

Naveena Yanamala, School of Medicine's Program in Integrative Molecular Biology, "Allosteric Modulation of G protein-Coupled Receptors" 3 p.m. **April 14**, 1018 Biomedical Science Tower 3.

Li Zou, Swanson School of Engineering's Department of Bioengineering, "Role of Cell-cell Adhesion in Profilin-1-Dependent Modulation of Breast Cancer Cell Proliferation," 3:30 p.m. **April 14**, 2nd-floor Conference Room, 306 Center for Bioengineering, 300 Technology Drive.

Michael Mazza, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of English, "This Fierce Geometry: Uses of the Judeo-Christian Bible in the Anti-abolitionist and Anti-gay Rhetoric of the United States," 9 a.m. **April 15**, 527 Cathedral of Learning.

James Ogburn, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Music, "Conflicting Lines, Cohesive Structures: Multiple-directed Linearity in Witold Lutoslawski's Third Symphony," 1 p.m. **April 15**, Room 302 Music Building.

continued

Rosta Farzan, School of Arts and Sciences' Intelligent Systems Program, "A Comprehensive Study of Social Navigation Support," 2 p.m. **April 15**, Room 522 Information Sciences Building.

Fabio López de la Roche, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, "Conflicto, hegemonía y nacionalismo tutelado en Colombia 2002-2008: Entre la comunicación gubernamental y la ficción noticiosa de televisión," 10 a.m. **April 16**, 1528 Cathedral of Learning.

Liyng Ren, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Political Science, "Surveying Public Opinion in Transitional China: An Examination of Survey Response," 11 a.m. **April 16**, 4606 Posvar Hall.

Cornelie Piok-Zanon, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of History of Art and Architecture, "The Sanctuary of Demeter at Pergamon: Architecture and Dynasty in the Early Attalid Capital," 9 a.m. **April 17**, Room 104 Frick Fine Arts Building.

Kwame Appenteng, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Epidemiology, "Inflammatory Cytokines Interleukin-1A (IL-1A), IL-1B, IL-1RN, IL-6 and IL-6R Gene Polymorphisms and Prostate Cancer Risk in African American and Caucasian Men," 10 a.m. **April 17**, Room 109 Parran Hall.

Vanessa L. Short, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Epidemiology, "Mycoplasma Genitalium: Risk Factors, Clinical Characteristics, and Pregnancy Outcome," 9 a.m. **April 17**, A638 Crabtree Hall.

Darren Liu, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, "Health Information Technology and Nursing Homes," 9:30 a.m. **April 17**, 226 Parran Hall.

Pratibha Menon, School of Information Sciences' Telecommunications and Networking Program, "Overflow Channels for Optimal Core Optical Networks," 10 a.m. **April 17**, Room 502 Information Sciences Building.

Lihua Zhang, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Classics, "Medea and Its Chinese Audience," 1 p.m. **April 17**, 1518 Cathedral of Learning.

Robyn Cutright, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Anthropology, "Between the Kitchen and the State: Domestic Practice and Chimú Expansion in the Jequetepeque Valley, Peru," 3 p.m. **April 17**, 3307 Posvar Hall.

Tracey Jaffe, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of History, "In the Footsteps of Cristo Obrero: Chile's Young Catholic Workers Movement in the Shanty-town, Factory, and Family, 1946-1973," 11 a.m. **April 20**, 3703 Posvar Hall.

Taura L. Palfreyman-barr, School of Nursing, "Whole Genome Expression Profiling of Acute Ischemic Stroke in Humans," noon **April 20**, Room 138 Victoria Building.

Ekaterina Turkina, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, "EU-Russia Regional Cooperation and Energy Networks in the Russian Northwestern and Southern Regions: Implications for Democratic Governance," 3 p.m. **April 21**, 4217 Posvar Hall.

Maria Jose Alvarez, School of Arts and Sciences Department of Sociology, "Contentious Urbanization From Below: Land Squatting in Montevideo, Uruguay," 2:30 p.m. **April 21**, Conference Room 2431 Posvar Hall.

Mark Perry, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, "The Role of Information Among Policy Elites in the Federal Communications Commission: A Case Study," 12:30 p.m. **April 22**, 3200 Posvar Hall.

Athanasios Thanopoulos, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Economics, "Essays on Social Insurance," 9:30 a.m. **April 22**, 4900 Posvar Hall.

Sharika Crawford, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of History, "'Under the Colombian Flag.' Nation-building on San Andres and Providence Islands, 1887-1930," 10 a.m. **April 22**, 3703 Posvar Hall.

Ann Rudnicki, Graduate School of Public and

International Affairs, "Institutions, Values Conflict, and Values Hierarchies," noon **April 22**, 3412 Posvar Hall.

Morimitsu Kurino, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Economics, "Bayesian Modeling of Anomalies Due to Known and Unknown Causes," 1:30 p.m. **April 23**, 5317 Sennott Square.

Yanna Shen, School of Arts and Sciences' Intelligent Systems Program, "Bayesian Modeling of Anomalies Due to Known and Unknown Causes," 1:30 p.m. **April 23**, 5317 Sennott Square.

Yeonmin Cho, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, "U.S. Decision Making on Missile Defense," 10 a.m. **April 24**, Conference Room, Ridgway Center.

Blue, Gold, and Green Sustainability Festival Rescheduled for April 22

The University of Pittsburgh's Blue, Gold, and Green sustainability festival and exposition originally scheduled for April 9 have been postponed until April 22. The event was moved back to accommodate the memorial service for the slain Pittsburgh Police officers on April 9 in the Petersen Events Center. Information is available on the festival Web site at www.bluegoldandgreen.pitt.edu

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

