

Pitt to Host Working Class Studies Association Conference on Class Matters



By Patricia Lomando White

The 2009 conference of the Working Class Studies Association (WCSA) will be held June 3-6 in the University of Pittsburgh's William Pitt Union. The biennial gathering—four days of panels, workshops, and performances—draws hundreds of activists, artists, educators, scholars, and students from around the world.

The conference comes to Pittsburgh after stints in Youngstown, Ohio, and St. Paul, Minn. This year's conference theme is Class Matters.

"Pittsburgh is the right place for an event on the theme of Class Matters," said Nicholas Coles, conference organizer and a professor in Pitt's Department of English. "Aside from being attractive to visitors, the city has a deep tradition of industry, labor, and ethnic migrations, and now the turn to a greener economy. The time is right, too. Understanding how class affects us socially and economically may be more important now than any period since the 1930s."

Conference speakers include labor historian David Montgomery, the Farnam Professor of History Emeritus at Yale University, on class and empire; educator Ira Shor, a professor in the City University of New York's Graduate Center, on class in the classroom; Bill Fletcher Jr., director of Field Services and Education, American Federation of Government Employees, on the current economic crisis; and Fred Redmond, international vice-president, United Steelworkers, on labor and globalization.

There also will be evening performances, including music by Anne Feeney and Friends, Mike Stout and the Human

Union, and Nelson Harrison and the Pittsburgh Jazz Network All-Stars; a dramatic adaptation of Thomas Bell's "Out of This Furnace"; and "The Point of Pittsburgh," a history of the city told through readings, music, and visual art. In addition, tours have been arranged to historical sites in the valleys of the Monongahela, Ohio, and Allegheny rivers.

"The conference caps off the Pittsburgh 250 celebration by looking at the city's history of production and struggle, how time and again the aims of political and corporate elites collided with homegrown, organized resistance—how this class-based resistance often created improved conditions," said conference cochair Charles McColester, director of the Pennsylvania Center for Labor Relations and professor of industrial and labor relations at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP).

The conference is supported by WCSA, IUP's labor center, and Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences, as well as by programs and volunteers from Pitt's Departments of English, Anthropology, History, and Sociology and the Cultural Studies and Women's Studies programs; Carlow University Women's Studies Program;

Carnegie Mellon University Department of English; Chatham University; Duquesne University Women's and Gender Studies Center; Youngstown State University Center for Working-Class Studies; the United Steelworkers of America; and the Battle of Homestead Foundation. For more information, visit the conference Web site at www.workingclassstudies.pitt.edu.

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—Nicholas Coles

Cynthia Golden Named Director of Pitt's CIDDE

By John Fedele

Cynthia Golden, a vice president of the nonprofit professional association EDUCAUSE, has been named the new director of the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education (CIDDE), effective August 1, 2009, Pitt Provost James V. Maher has announced.

Based in Washington, D.C., and Boulder, Colo., EDUCAUSE serves higher education information technology professionals in the areas of instruction and learning, research and scholarship, and management and leadership. Golden, who works for EDUCAUSE out of its D.C. office, earned her Master of Science degree in information science at Pitt in 1983 and graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1980.

"Cynthia Golden is an experienced manager and leader, with a strong background in strategic planning, budgeting, and organizational development. I look forward to working with her as she and members of the CIDDE staff continue to strengthen the instructional development and support services available to faculty of the University," Maher commented in announcing Golden's appointment.

Golden's work at EDUCAUSE, espe-

cially with its Learning Initiative, has brought her into close contact with key leaders and practitioners in teaching and learning. She is responsible for the association's conference and professional development activities and leadership and management programs and institutes, as well as its content and knowledge management initiatives.

Prior to joining EDUCAUSE in 2001, Golden held senior management positions at Duquesne University, where she led the educational technology area and served as executive director of computing and technology services and codirector of the Center for Distance Learning. Her work at Duquesne included leading all aspects of instructional design, dis-

tance education, computer labs, media services, and other technology units, and working closely with the provost, deans, and faculty. Prior to her work at Duquesne, she was a manager in the Information Systems group at MIT. Golden's career began in 1984 at Carnegie Mellon University, where she held the position of associate director of administrative systems.

Golden has written extensively for professional publications and edited and contributed to the EDUCAUSE book *Cultivating Careers: Professional Development for Campus IT*.



Cynthia Golden

PITT ARTS Cheap Seat Sales Soar 20 Percent



By Sharon S. Blake

PITT ARTS, which connects Pitt students to the city's cultural hub, reached a new milestone during the 2008-09 academic year with more than 12,000 tickets sold in its Cheap Seats Program.

The program allows Pitt students, faculty, and staff to purchase deeply discounted tickets to the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Pittsburgh Opera, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Pittsburgh Public Theater, Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera, Pittsburgh CLO Cabaret Theater, Quantum Theatre, MCG Jazz, and other area arts presenters.

The ticket total—12,182—represents a 20 percent increase in Cheap Seats ticket sales compared to sales during the 2007-08 academic year.

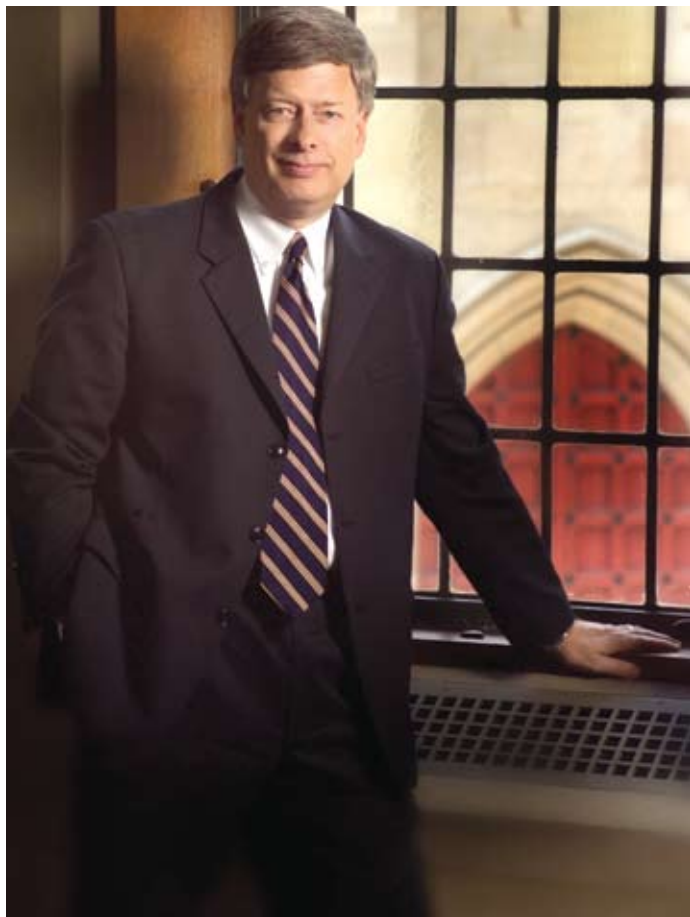
PITT ARTS director Annabelle Clipping says online ticket purchasing has

played a key role in the program's success. In 2006, Pittsburgh Opera was the first participating arts presenter to develop a Web site that allowed Pitt constituents to pay the same price for a Cheap Seats ticket purchased online that they would have paid at the PITT ARTS office. The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Pittsburgh Public Theater, Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera, MCG Jazz, and Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre followed suit. Patrons making purchases online or at the PITT ARTS office in the William Pitt Union pick up their tickets at the performance venue's Will Call window, where they show their Pitt IDs.

The total 2008-09 participation numbers for PITT ARTS programming was 42,843, 11.5 percent more than in 2007-08. The Free Visits program, which allows students to swipe Pitt IDs for free admission to five Pittsburgh museums and the Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, benefited 19,018 students in 2008-09, 250 more than in the previous year. Nearly 8,000 Pitt undergraduate students took advantage of Arts Encounters, which provide Pitt students with free transportation to performances, catered receptions, and opportunities to meet artistic directors or performers; that number was also higher than the previous year's figure.

PITT ARTS was founded in 1997 as a way for Pitt undergraduate students to experience arts and cultural programming at little or no cost. The PITT ARTS staff conducts regular surveys to observe and understand what young adults value in arts experiences.

University Update



To: Members of the University Community
From: Mark A. Nordenberg
Date: April 30, 2009
Re: Rebuilding Pittsburgh's Air Service

Fifteen years ago, Clark Kerr—who, during his distinguished career, had served as chancellor of the University of California at Berkeley, president of the University of California system, and chair of the Carnegie Council on Higher Education—wrote a book entitled *Troubled Times for American Higher Education: The 1990s and Beyond*. It is a volume that I have found to be a source of many useful insights

In a chapter entitled “The New Race to Be Harvard or Berkeley or Stanford,” Chancellor Kerr avoids specific predictions about rising institutions but identifies a number of factors, tied to location, that could aid particular universities in their quest to become comparatively stronger. Pittsburgh was identified as an advantageous location for three different reasons: as a “renovating center” of economic activity, because of its “aggressive industrial

leadership,” and as one of “the larger cities that are hubs for jet airlines so that faculty can come and go.”

Any comments that I might make about the first two of those factors will need to wait for another day. However, as now is painfully clear to all of us, Pittsburgh’s loss of its “hub status” has made it far less convenient for members of our administration, faculty, and staff to discharge responsibilities requiring either domestic or international air travel.

What may be less clear to many of us is that the consequences of the dramatic reduction in air service that this region has experienced in recent years extend well beyond whether our own people can easily “come and go.” This service reduction also represents a very real limitation on economic growth, and, in the end, the progress of our University is tied to the economic strength and general vitality of our home region.

I have been especially surprised by the level of priority that has been assigned to nonstop air service between Pittsburgh and Europe by firms—from manufacturers to professional service providers—that are headquartered here but that have a sizeable international component to their business. Nonstop flights to and from Europe itself

are very important to those organizations but so is the fact that direct connections can be made from most major European cities to important business destinations in other parts of the world. In private conversations, some major regional employers, with current leadership that is very loyal to Pittsburgh, have gone so far as to predict that without such nonstop air connections, their companies almost certainly will be forced to move their headquarters to some better-served region.

Having provided that brief sense of context, let me say that the acquisition of the new nonstop airline service to Europe—which starts June 3, when Delta Airlines begins flying nonstop between Pittsburgh and Paris—is a vital component of ongoing efforts to stimulate this region’s economy. Delta was convinced to invest in the implementation of this service through the determined work of political, civic, and corporate leaders, coordinated by the Allegheny Conference on Community Development. Pitt, as most of you know, is a member of the Allegheny Conference, and we were involved in the efforts to secure a nonstop airline connection between Pittsburgh and Europe.

Now, of course, it is most important that business and leisure travelers going from Pittsburgh to Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East take advantage of this service. Obviously, as we make travel plans, each of us will need to consider cost and convenience factors, as we always have. In making those determinations, though, it also is important to remember that developing a base of business that will sustain this service is vital to our home region and also, then, to our University. And in terms of convenience, of course, there are decided practical advantages to avoiding the need to make flight connections in other North American cities when flying back to Pittsburgh from abroad and to clearing customs here.

To provide a bit of additional information, Delta, which is the world’s largest airline, will provide nonstop service to and from Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris. Together with its partner, Air France, Delta

can provide connections to more than 100 destinations in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East from Paris. The initial flight schedule is as follows.

Flight 188: Departs Pittsburgh at 6:15 p.m. Arrives in Paris the next day at 8:20 a.m.

Flight 189: Departs Paris at 10:40 a.m. Arrives in Pittsburgh at 1:55 p.m.

Frequency of both flights: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday.

The aircraft to be utilized on this route will be a Boeing 757-200, with seating for up to 174 passengers, including 16 seats in Delta’s business class and 158 seats in its economy class.

As noted, this commitment by Delta could prove to be of enormous economic benefit to our community. Solid usage of these flights will help ensure that convenient nonstop service to Europe remains available to us for years to come. In fact, if this route proves to be successful, it may provide some incentive for others to enter the market. On the other hand, if this effort fails, it seems unlikely that any other carrier will consider Pittsburgh for nonstop international flights for many years to come.

In making travel plans for trips to Europe, Asia, Africa, or the Middle East, then, please consider whether this flight service, which has been specifically designed to serve the Pittsburgh region, can meet your needs. Please also spread the word. Our

home region stands to benefit from any help that you can provide.

“Now, of course, it is most important that business and leisure travelers going from Pittsburgh to Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East take advantage of this service. Obviously, as we make travel plans, each of us will need to consider cost and convenience factors, as we always have. In making those determinations, though, it also is important to remember that developing a base of business that will sustain this service is vital to our home region and also, then, to our University.”
 —Mark A. Nordenberg



PittChronicle

Newspaper of the University of Pittsburgh

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PittScholars&Stewards



Margaret E. and James Wilkes

A Dedication to Nursing

By Emily Martin

Bashira Charles wanted to leave a full-time nursing career to return to school and earn her doctorate. But there was one factor that was key to making that happen: “I knew that it would not be possible to accomplish my goal without scholarship support,” she recalled.

Thanks to the Margaret E. Wilkes Scholarship at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, Charles (NURS '03G, '08G) received exactly the kind of help she needed.

The scholarship was created and generously funded by James (A&S '59) and Margaret Wilkes, longtime Pitt supporters who met while Mrs. Wilkes was working as a nurse at the Western Psychiatric Institute & Clinic.

After graduating from nursing school, Mrs. Wilkes landed a job at Western Psych and met her husband James, who was a Pitt student working as an attendant in the hospital. “I didn’t work as a nurse for very long, maybe a year or so, but my time at the hospital had quite an impact on me. To this day, I have an affinity for nurses. I find myself reading newspaper articles and books about medicine or attending lectures about health care, so I’m still very interested in the field,” she said.

The Wilkes Scholarship was designed with these interests in mind. “I know that there’s a real scarcity of nursing educators today, so when my husband and I thought about creating this scholarship, we wanted to provide money specifically to support

a nursing student who was pursuing a PhD. Then that person could one day use the education to teach other nurses,” Mrs. Wilkes added.

Charles, the most recent recipient of the Wilkes Scholarship, seized the opportunity offered by the scholarship. Instead of working part-time to make ends meet, Charles was able to immerse herself in her studies and research in Pitt’s School of Nursing. “My research is focused on the genetic basis of complications of diabetes, particularly diabetic retinopathy,” she said. “And during a research conference following a presentation of my work, someone from the NIH [National Institutes of Health] invited me to talk with them about continuing my research at their facilities in Bethesda, Md., after graduation.”

Speaking from her new apartment in Washington, D.C., where she is a research fellow at the National Institute of Nursing Research, Charles reiterated her thanks to the Wilkeses for their generosity. “Without scholarship support, none of this would have been possible,” she said.

“We knew that we wanted to continue supporting Pitt,” Mrs. Wilkes said. “My husband is a proud alumnus, and we feel very connected to the University.” By creating the Margaret E. Wilkes Scholarship, the Wilkeses will enhance the lives of nursing students in perpetuity.

Alcohol Drinkers Zone Out and Are Unaware That They Do, Pitt Study Shows



By Sharon S. Blake

A new Pitt study suggests that a moderate dose of alcohol increases the likelihood of a person’s mind wandering, while at the same time reducing the likelihood of noticing that one’s mind has wandered. The

paper, titled “Lost in the Sauce: The Effects of Alcohol on Mind Wandering,” explores this phenomenon and is published in the May issue of *Psychological Science*.

The study provides the first evidence

that alcohol disrupts an individual’s ability to realize his or her mind has wandered, suggesting impairment of a psychological state called metacognition. These findings suggest that distinct processes are responsible for causing a thought to occur, as opposed to allowing its presence to be noticed.

Led by Pitt professor of psychology Michael Sayette, researchers Erik Reichle, a professor and chair of Pitt’s cognitive program in psychology, and Jonathan Schooler, professor of psychology at the University of California, Santa Barbara, studied a group of men, half of whom had consumed alcohol and half of whom had been given a placebo. After 30 minutes, the participants began reading a portion of Tolstoy’s *War and Peace* from a computer screen. If they caught themselves zoning out—having no idea what they had just read or thinking about something other than the text—they pressed a key on the keyboard. They also were prompted at intervals to see whether they could be “caught” mind wandering before they realized it themselves.

The results revealed that while the study participants were reading the text, those who had consumed alcohol were mind wandering without realizing it about 25 percent of the time—a percentage more than double that of those who had not consumed alcohol. But as far as “catching themselves” zoning out, those who had been drinking were no more

likely to do so than was the placebo group. Participants in the alcohol group would have had many more opportunities to catch themselves because they zoned out much more often—but they did not: They were impaired in their ability to notice their own mind-wandering episodes.

“Researchers have known for a while that alcohol consumption can interfere with our limited-capacity powers of concentration,” said Sayette. “But this ‘double-whammy,’ (i.e., more zone-outs that take longer to recognize) may explain why alcohol often disrupts efforts to exercise self-control—a process requiring the ability to become aware of one’s current state in order to regulate it.”

These findings have potentially important implications for understanding the disruptive effects of alcohol, according to Sayette. For example, the observation that alcohol increases mind wandering suggests another reason why alcohol makes driving dangerous: Drunk drivers may lose track of what they are doing.

Moreover, the finding that alcohol reduces metacognition may explain why people drive when they are drunk: By reducing their ability to assess their current state, intoxicated people may fail to realize how intoxicated they are and thus inadequately appraise the danger of driving.



Michael Sayette

Science & Technology



Pitt Researchers Identify Protein That Is Key to Pulmonary Emphysema

By Anita Srikameswaran

Scientists at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine are blazing a trail down a molecular pathway that could lead to new treatments, and perhaps even prevention strategies, for the lung disease emphysema.

Their study indicates that blocking the activity of a structural protein called caveolin-1 stops free radical-induced aging and damage of fibroblasts, a kind of lung cell, in an animal model after six weeks of exposure to cigarette smoke and developed pulmonary emphysema.

Emphysema typically occurs after long periods of cigarette smoking. Toxins in the smoke destroy the walls of the alveoli, the tiny air-filled sacs in lung tissue where oxygen exchange happens, impairing lung function and ultimately leading to death owing to respiratory failure.

"It was thought that smoking-induced lung inflammation was the main reason for destruction of alveoli," said senior investigator Ferruccio Galbiati, a professor of pharmacology and chemical biology in the School of Medicine. "Our findings indicate that the free radicals or oxidants produced by smoking accelerate the aging of lung fibroblasts, which



Ferruccio Galbiati

"Our findings indicate that the free radicals or oxidants produced by smoking accelerate the aging of lung fibroblasts, which may contribute to the pathogenesis of emphysema."

—Ferruccio Galbiati

may contribute to the pathogenesis of emphysema."

Cells cannot replicate forever, he explained. After a certain number of divisions, the cycle stops because of a cellular aging process called senescence. Oxidative stress, meaning increased production of free radicals, can induce that process prematurely.

In Galbiati's study, normal mice began to show signs of premature aging in lung fibroblasts after six months. But premature senescence and emphysema induced by smoke exposure were significantly prevented in mice that lacked the gene to make caveolin-1.

"For our next step, we would like to identify drugs that can reduce the amount of caveolin-1 to see if they affect emphysema development," Galbiati said. "That way, we might be able to slow down or perhaps prevent some of the lung damage that smoking causes."

The research was supported by a grant from the National Institutes of Health. The study appeared in the Feb. 27, 2009, issue of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

Changes in Gene May Stunt Lung Development in Children

By Clare Collins

Mutations in a gene may cause poor lung development in children, making them more vulnerable to diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) later in life, say researchers in the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health and the German Research Center for Environmental Health. Their study, published online in *Physiological Genomics*, measured expression levels of the gene and its variants in both mouse lungs and children ages nine to 11.



George Leikauf

The study was led by George Leikauf, a professor of occupational and environmental health in Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health, and Holger Schulz, a professor of medicine in the Institute of Lung Biology and Disease, German Research Center for Environmental Health, in Munich. It focused on a gene called superoxide dismutase 3 (SOD3), previously shown to protect the lungs from the effects of asbestos and oxidative stress.

"People lose lung function as they age, so it's important to identify possible genetic targets that control healthy development of the lungs during childhood," said Leikauf.

Leikauf, Schulz, and colleagues compared SOD3 expression levels in strains of mice with poor lung function to a strain with more efficient airways and lungs two times the size. As with people, the lungs of mice fully form as they mature to adulthood. The better-functioning strain maintained higher levels of SOD3—levels in these mice were four times higher than the lesser-functioning mice at the final stage of lung development. They also found the presence of single nucleotide polymorphisms, or SNPs, variations in DNA sequences, in SOD3 that were linked to lung function in mice.

The researchers went on to assess SOD3 mutations in children ages 9 to 11 by testing for SNPs linked to lung function. After analyzing DNA from 1,555 children in Munich and Dresden who were part of

the International Study of Asthma and Allergy in Children, they discovered two common SNPs associated with poorer lung function. One of these SNPs likely alters the expression levels of SOD3. Lung function was tested with spirometry, which measures the amount and speed of exhaled air.

Previously, genetic variants in SOD3 have been associated with loss of lung function in COPD, which is mainly caused by cigarette smoking.

"We know SOD3 protects the lung against injury caused by chemicals in cigarette smoke, and it could be a link between childhood exposure to environmental tobacco smoke and poor lung development," said Leikauf.

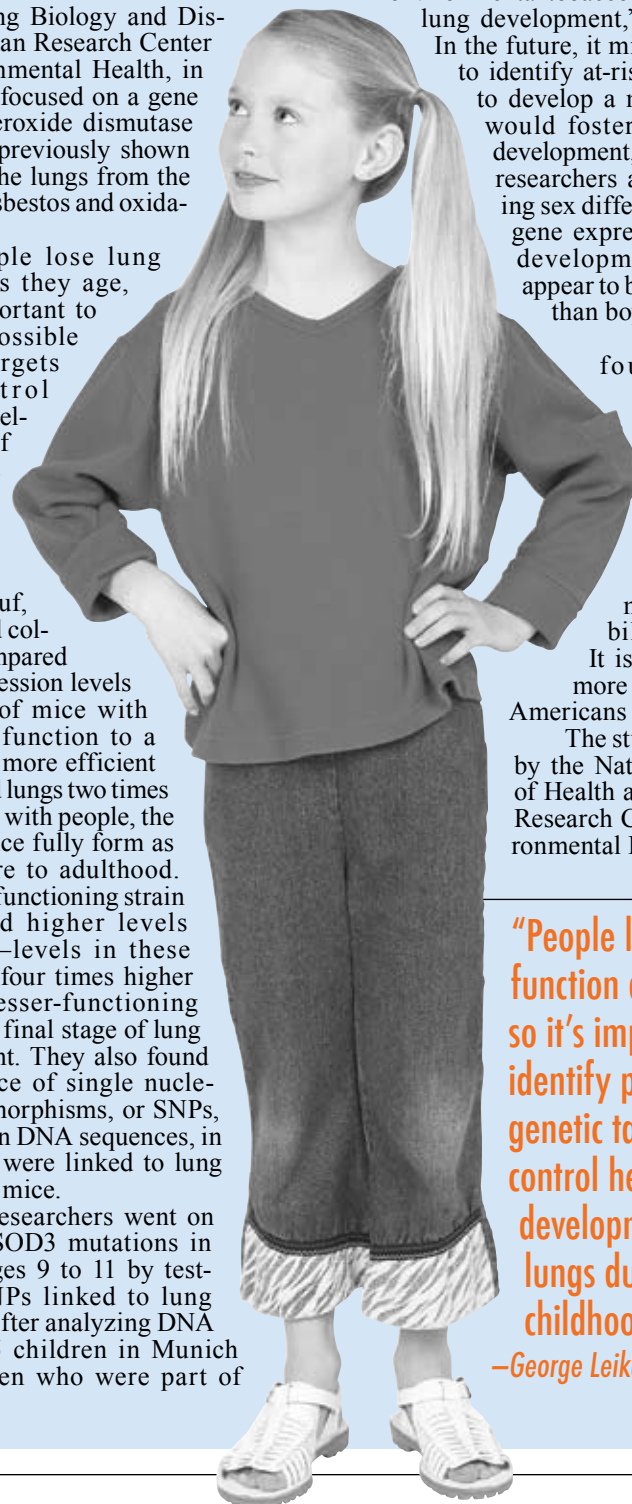
In the future, it might be possible to identify at-risk children and to develop a medication that would foster optimal lung development, he added. The researchers also are exploring sex differences in SOD3 gene expression and lung development, and girls appear to be at greater risk than boys.

COPD is the fourth-leading cause of death in the United States, accounting for more than 120,000 deaths annually and costing more than \$30 billion per year. It is estimated that more than 16 million Americans have COPD.

The study was funded by the National Institutes of Health and the German Research Center for Environmental Health.

"People lose lung function as they age, so it's important to identify possible genetic targets that control healthy development of the lungs during childhood."

—George Leikauf



News**makers**

EQUALITY UNDER THE LAW



JOE KAPLEWSKI/CIDE

Benjamin Todd Jealous, president and CEO of the NAACP, delivered the May 15 commencement address for the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. The University conferred 232 Juris Doctor degrees, 15 Master of Laws degrees, eight Master of Studies in Law degrees, and one Certificate in Disability Legal Studies. The ceremony was held in Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum.

MARRIAGE, MEN, AND MONEY



BRADEN WOLFE/CIDE

M. Belinda Tucker, a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences in the University of California at Los Angeles, was the keynote speaker during an April 22 luncheon sponsored by Pitt's Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP). Tucker's speech was titled "Marriage, Men, and Money: African American Women's Continued Investment in the Romantic Ideal." The talk in the Cathedral of Learning was part of the center's Reed Smith Spring 2009 Speaker Series.

FAREWELL WISHES FOR GOLDY



JIM BURKE/CIDE

The University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs held an April 14 retirement celebration for Professor Donald M. Goldstein in honor of his 35 years of service to the University. Goldstein, pictured above with his wife, Mariann, is an internationally renowned scholar with expertise in a wide range of subjects, including 20th-century military history, public administration, political science, arms control, national interest and national security, and the theory and practice of international affairs. The event, which featured "Goldy" bobbleheads, was held in the University Club. A separate celebration was held April 6 in Washington, D.C.



PITT JAZZ ENSEMBLE

About 20 Pitt jazz student musicians who make up the Pitt Jazz Ensemble performed April 9 in the William Pitt Union's Assembly Room. **1.** Mark Whitfield, critically acclaimed as one of the most dynamic guitarists on the New York jazz scene, joined the ensemble for the evening. **2.** Sean Polun (A&S '09) plays the double bass. **3.** Sophomore Michael Robinson (left) plays the tenor sax and Eric Bray, a junior, performs on the baritone sax. The group played under the direction of Leon Lee Dorsey, Pitt assistant professor of jazz studies and coordinator of the Jazz Studies Program.

PHOTOS BY MARY JANE BENT/CIDE



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Awards & More



JOE KAPREWSKI/CUDE

Pitt Office of Public Affairs' representatives attended the 26th Annual Robert L. Vann Awards and Reception, sponsored by the Pittsburgh Black Media Federation. From left, Sharon S. Blake, senior news representative; Amanda Leff, news representative; Ervin Dyer, *Pitt Magazine* senior editor; Anthony M. Moore, news and information specialist; and Cindy Gill, *Pitt Magazine* editor-in-chief. Blake, Leff, Dyer, and Gill won awards for their writing during the May 7 event held in the William Pitt Union.

The **University of Pittsburgh's Office of Public Affairs** received six awards during the Pittsburgh Black Media Federation's 26th Annual Robert L. Vann Awards and Reception on May 7 in the William Pitt Union.

Photographer Harry Giglio and **Gary Cravener**, art director for *Pitt Magazine*, were the sole winners in the "Magazine Illustration" category for "Flying Lessons" in the magazine's Winter 2008 issue.

In the "Magazine Features" category, *Pitt Magazine* won a first-place award with Senior Editor **Ervin Dyer's** "Charles Florence, the Great Debater" article in the Summer 2008 issue. *Pitt Med* took a third-place award with **Cassandra Zinchini's** article, "Twins: A Pitt Partnership Helps Train Mozambique's Newest Doctors" in the Spring 2008 issue.

Pitt Magazine won second place in the "Magazine Business Feature" category with Editor-in-Chief **Cindy Gill's** "The M Factor, Audrey Murrell and Mentoring" in the Spring 2008 issue.

The *Pitt Chronicle* placed second in the "Newspaper Series" category with its "Black History Month Series," written by **Sharon S. Blake, Amanda Leff, Morgan Kelly, and Jane-Ellen Robinet.**

Finally, **Robert Hill**, vice chancellor for public affairs, won first place in the "Magazine Public Affairs" category with his May 14, 2008, "Address to African American Chamber of Commerce," published in *Blue Gold & Black 2008*.

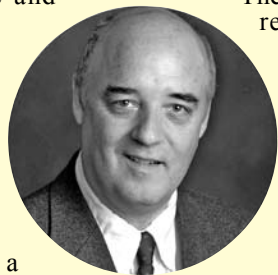
Three researchers, an associate dean, and a journalist from the University of Pittsburgh received **2009 Carnegie Science Awards**, which recognize and promote individuals and corporations in Western Pennsylvania who contribute to and support outstanding science and technology achievements.

This year's awardees included **Yuan Chang** and **Patrick Moore**, an internationally renowned husband-wife research team at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute and professors in Pitt's School of Medicine. Chang is a professor of pathology, and Moore is a professor in the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics as well as a professor in the Department of Infectious Disease and Microbiology in Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health. They received the Life Sciences award for their discovery of two different viruses that cause human cancers: Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpesvirus, the cause of a common malignancy occurring in AIDS patients, and Merkel cell carcinoma, an aggressive and deadly form of skin cancer.

John F. Mahoney is an associate dean for medical education and a professor of emergency medicine in Pitt's School of Medicine. He received the University/Post-Secondary Educator award for his success in developing and disseminating innovative curricula for the next generation of physicians, including a medical school curriculum on bioterrorism and public health preparedness.



Yuan Chang



Patrick Moore

Regenerative Medicine and *Rolling Stone*

Alan J. Russell, director of the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine, was named by *Rolling Stone* as one of "The 100 People Who Are Changing America" in the magazine's March 18, 2009, issue.

Rolling Stone said Russell is changing "how we heal. Russell is pioneering regenerative medicine—ways for damaged tissues and organs to repair and rebuild themselves. Current project: an artificial ovary so women with cancer could undergo radiation treatment and still be able to have children."

As for Russell's "signature move,"



Alan J. Russell

the magazine said it is "wowing lecture audiences with photos of gruesome wounds that are miraculously healed from his futuristic therapy."

In addition to being director of the McGowan Institute, which is a Pitt and UPMC venture, Russell serves as University Professor of Surgery and has secondary appointments in the Departments of Chemical Engineering, Bioengineering, and Rehabilitation Sciences and Technology. Russell also is the executive director of the Pittsburgh Tissue Engineering Initiative and director of the National Tissue Engineering Center.

presented March 23 in Baltimore, Md.

Joe Miksch, the associate editor of *Pitt Med* magazine, received the Journalism award for his coverage of research, clinical, and curricular advancements in the Pitt School of Medicine.

Donna J. Haworth, a Pitt doctoral student in bioengineering, received the Post-Secondary Student Award.

The awardees were honored May 8 during a celebration in Carnegie Music Hall, Oakland.

Public Affairs received a Gold award in the category "Special Events: Individual Events" for its Feb. 1, 2008, world-premiere screening of *Fly Boys: Western Pennsylvania's Tuskegee Airmen*, a WQED-produced video documentary about the Tuskegee Airmen. Funding for the documentary was provided by Pitt, the Alcoa Foundation, and the Pittsburgh Foundation.

The by-invitation premiere, which marked Pitt's inaugural event in the K. Leroy Irvis Black History Month Program, was held in Soldiers and Sailors Military Museum and Memorial in Oakland. The Tuskegee event also won a Silver award in the "Individual Special Public Relations Projects" category. The invitations to the world-premiere screening won a Silver award in the category "Visual Design and Print: Single Page Publication."

Finally, the world premiere also won a Bronze award in the category "Community Relations Programs, Projects, and Special Events."

Daniel Budny was elected a fellow in the American Society for Engineering Education. He is a professor of civil engineering and director of freshman engineering programs in Pitt's Swanson School of Engineering.

Paul Daniel Patterson, a research assistant professor in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine's Department of Emergency Medicine, received a grant from the ASHRM Foundation. The grant will help fund Patterson's research proposal, "The Effect of Communication Patterns in the Emergency Department on Quality and Performance." The foundation was established in 2004 by the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management.

Tia-Lynn Ashman, a professor of plant evolutionary ecology in the University of Pittsburgh School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Biological Sciences, received an international planning grant from the National Science Foundation. She will collaborate with two scientists from the Estación Biológica de Doñana in Seville, Spain, on a project to study the relationship between plant-pollinator interactions and biodiversity.

The **University of Pittsburgh's Office of Public Affairs** received 12 awards—including four Gold—in the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District II 2009 Accolades Awards Program. The awards were

Gold Accolades awards were won by both *Pitt Med* magazine and *Pitt Magazine* in the general "Staff Writing" category. In addition, *Pitt Med* Associate Editor **Joe Miksch's** article, "The Investigator's Path," in the magazine's Summer 2008 issue won a Gold award in the "Best Article" category. That same *Pitt Med* issue won a Silver award for its "Showtime" cover in the "Visual Design and Print: Covers" category.

The **PITT ARTS** Web site (www.pittarts.pitt.edu) received a Silver award in the "Website: Student Recruitment" category.

Bronze honors were awarded for the 2007 *Report of Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg* in the "Annual or Institu-



Happenings



The Analytical Eye: Photographs by Aaronel deRoy Gruber, Silver Eye Center for Photography, through June 27

Concerts

Our Majestic Pipes, organ recital featuring Stephen C. Price, organ scholar at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Norwalk, Conn., noon **May 28**; **The Blava Quartet of New York City**, part of the Music the Spirit Concert Series, 2 p.m. **May 31**, First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, 320 Sixth Ave., Downtown, 412-471-3436, www.fpcp.org.

Honeck: Mozart and Beethoven, featuring Manfred Honeck, conductor; Frank Peter Zimmerman, violin, 1:30 p.m. **June 4** and 8 p.m. **June 5-6**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Exhibitions

Gallerie Chiz, *Clay: The Cutting Edge*, featuring work of artist Tom Ladousa, through **May 30**, 5831 Ellsworth Ave., Shadyside, www.galleriechiz.com.

Carnegie Museum of Art, *Laboratory of Architecture*, exhibition about works of 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.

Pittsburgh Glass Center, *Neighborhood Mosaic Project*, featuring the work of Daviea Davis, through **June 14**, 5472 Penn Ave., Friendship, 412-365-2145, www.pittsburghglasscenter.org.

Wood Street Galleries, *Machine Improvisations*, through **June 20**, 601 Wood St., Downtown, 412-471-5605, www.woodstreetgalleries.org.

Silver Eye Center for Photography, *The Analytical Eye: Photographs by Aaronel deRoy Gruber*, retrospective exhibition featuring more than 50 prints, through **June 27**, 1015 E. Carson St., South Side, 412-431-1810, www.silver-eye.org.

Senator John Heinz History Center, *The Darkest Month: Coal Mining Disasters of December 1907*, exhibition commemorating 100th anniversary of regional mining disasters that took the lives of more than 600 miners, through **June 28**; *Portrait of the Allegheny*, a 25-photo exhibition documenting recreational and industrial uses of Allegheny River, through **July 31**; *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*, **May 30-Jan. 15, 2010**, 1212 Smallman St., Strip District, 412-454-6000, www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

Mattress Factory, *Thaddeus Mosley: Sculpture (Studio/Home)*, through **July 19**, 500 Sampsonia Way, North Side, 412-231-3169, www.mattress.org.

Society for Contemporary Craft, *Beyond Shared Language: Contemporary Art and the Latin American Experience*, through **Aug. 29**, 2100 Smallman St., Strip District, 412-261-7003, www.contemporarycraft.org.

709 Penn Gallery, *Threadline: Works by Lee Renninger*, **June 4-July 18**, 709 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, 412-471-6078, www.pgharts.org.

Lectures/Seminars/Readings

"Find a Job Fast in a Tough Economy," Chris Posti, executive coach and human resources consultant, 10 a.m. **May 27**, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Squirrel Hill Branch, 5801 Forbes Ave., Squirrel Hill, 412-442-9650, www.carnegieliibrary.org.

"Understanding Investing—Taking Care of Ourselves and Our Kids," Larry Garvin of Pennsylvania Treasury Department, 6 p.m. **May 27**, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Main Branch, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3151, www.carnegieliibrary.org.

Miscellaneous

2009 Working Class Studies Association Conference, featuring numerous economic experts and activists, June 3-6, William Pitt Union, 3959 Fifth Ave., Oakland, Working Class Studies Association, Pitt, 412-624-6506, www.working-classstudies.pitt.edu. (See page 1)

Steve Byrne, stand-up comedian, 8 p.m. **May 28-31**; **Lavell Crawford**, stand-up comedian, 8 p.m. **June 5-7**, Improv, 166 East Bridge St., Homestead, 412-462-5233, www.symfonee.com.

Opera/Theater/Dance

8-Track: The Sounds of the 70's, by Rick Seeber, through **September 27**, Theater Square Cabaret, 655 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh CLO, 412-456-6666, www.pittsburghclo.org.

Spring Awakening, musical by Michael Mayer, **May 26-31**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, PNC Broadway Across America, Pittsburgh 2008-09 Season, 412-392-4200, www.pgharts.org.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, **May 26-June 7**, Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh CLO, 412-456-6666, www.pittsburghclo.org.



Marc Bamuthi Joseph: the break/s, by Marc Bamuthi Joseph, **May 27-28**, August Wilson Center, 425 6th Ave., Downtown, August Wilson Center for African American Culture, 412-258-2700, www.pgharts.org.

Among the Best: The Pittsburgh Crawfords and the Homestead Grays, by Rob Penny, **May 28-June 13**, 7th-floor Auditorium, Alumni Hall, 4227 Fifth Ave., Oakland, Kuntu Repertory Theatre, 412-624-7298, www.kuntu.org.

Harry's Friendly Service, by Rob Zellers, **May 28-June 28**, O'Reilly Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theater, 412-434-7590, www.ppt.org.

Mojo, by Jez Butterworth, **May 29**, The Pittsburgh Playhouse, 222 Craft Ave., Oakland, The Performing Arts Center of Point Park University, 412-621-4445, www.pittsburghplayhouse.com.

Viva, by Anna Biller, **May 29**, The Andy Warhol Museum, 117 Sandusky St., North Side, The Warhol: Movies, 412-237-8300, www.warhol.org.

Rock 'n' Roll, by Tom Stoppard, through **May 30**, Henry Heymann Theatre in the Stephen Foster Memorial, 4301 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre, 412-561-6000, www.picttheatre.org.

Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

Sandrine Arons, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures, "Self-reconstruction Through Alternative Genres of Personal Writing," 10 a.m. **May 26**, 1218 Cathedral of Learning.

Harvey M. Morris, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Neuroscience, "Alterations in GABA-related Transcripts in the Dorsolateral Prefrontal Cortex of Subjects With Schizophrenia," 11 a.m. **May 27**, 2nd-floor Auditorium, Learning Research and Development Center.

Jerrold A. Poe, School of Medicine's Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics Graduate Program, "Bimolecular Fluorescence Complementation Reveals That HIV-1 NEF Oligomerization Is Essential for CD4 Downregulation and Viral Replication," 10 a.m. **May 29**, 1295 Starzl Biomedical Science Tower.

Kristi L. O'Neal, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Chemistry, "Non-covalent Interactions in Perfluorinated Media," 10 a.m. **June 2**, 307 Eberly Hall.

Michael W. Cole, School of Arts and Sciences' Center for Neurosciences, "The Biological Basis of Rapid Instructed Task Learning," 10 a.m. **June 3**, 2nd-floor Auditorium, Learning Research and Development Center.

Dana L. Tudorascu, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Biostatistics, "Partial Least Squares on Data With Missing Covariates; A Comparison Approach," 1:30 p.m. **June 4**, 109 Parran Hall.

Idella Johnson, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Music, "Development of the African American Gospel Piano Style (1926-1960): A Socio-Musical Analysis of Arizona Dranes and Thomas A. Dorsey," 1 p.m. **June 8**, 302 Music Building.

Among The Best: Pittsburgh Crawfords and the Homestead Grays

Directed by Talvin Wilks
May 28-June 13



Pitt's Kuntu Repertory Theatre Wraps Up Season

By Sharon S. Blake

The University of Pittsburgh's Kuntu Repertory Theatre brings to an end its season of plays by the late playwright Rob Penny with *Among the Best: The Pittsburgh Crawfords and the Homestead Grays*, based on two famous baseball teams in the Negro Leagues. The play runs May 28 through June 13 in the Seventh-floor Auditorium of Alumni Hall. Penny was Kuntu's playwright-in-residence for many years and a Pitt professor of Africana Studies.

Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 4 p.m. A matinee is scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday, June 6, and 11 a.m. Thursday, June 11.

The story tells the tale of some of the most talented baseball players in the Negro Leagues—Josh Gibson, Satchel Paige, Cool Papa Bell, Buck Leonard, and Ted "Double Duty" Radcliffe. When these legendary athletes return to Greenlee Field in Pittsburgh's Hill District, they contemplate the impact Jackie Robinson and the integration of the Major Leagues had on their careers. The stories of their struggle parallel the disappointment experienced by a young girl, Kemiya, who has been rejected by a local male baseball team.

Attendees at the May 30 performance will be treated to a 7 p.m. preshow reception in the lobby of the Seventh-floor Auditorium. Photos, uniforms, and other memorabilia from the Crawfords and the Grays

will be on display, and former Crawfords pitcher and outfielder Ted Toles will sign autographs. Some of the items will be for sale, with proceeds benefiting the Josh Gibson Foundation. Sean Gibson, the foundation's president and great-grandson of legendary catcher Josh Gibson, has helped coordinate the event. Sean Gibson will be in attendance May 30, and other former players' friends and families also are expected to attend.

Among the Best will be directed by Talvin Wilks, a New York City-based playwright, director, and dramaturg, whose works include *Tod, the Boy, Tod*; *The Trial of Uncle S/M*; *The Life In Between*; and *American Triptych*. He has been a guest director and lecturer at SUNY/Stony Brook, Antioch College, Princeton University, and Howard University. He was a professor of theater at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and served as the interim artistic director for New WORLD Theater.

Admission to *Among the Best* is \$20 for adults; \$14 for Pitt faculty and staff; \$13 for senior citizens, students, and children ages 4-18; and \$5 for all Pitt students with a valid ID. Groups of 10 or more receive a 25 percent discount. May 28 and 29 are Dollar Nights for Pitt students. For more information, call 412-624-7298 or visit www.kuntu.org. For more information on the Josh Gibson Foundation, call 412-771-6949 or visit www.joshgibson.org.

Honeck: Mozart and Beethoven, Heinz Hall, June 4-6



Pitt 'Green' Design Contest Winners Combine Household Wind Turbine With Tips for Low-cost Power Conservation



By Morgan Kelly

An affordable wind turbine coupled with a book of energy-saving tips is the winning idea in the sustainable-design contest hosted by the University of Pittsburgh's Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation.

Launched in August 2008, the Energy Efficient Building Technologies Challenge asked undergraduate students from universities in Southwestern Pennsylvania to create a technique for "greening" old buildings that would reduce electricity consumption and pay for itself within one year. Juniors Micah Toll, a mechanical engineering student in Pitt's Swanson School of Engineering, and Shaun Espenshade, a rhetoric and classics student in Duquesne University,

were selected from five finalist teams to receive the \$5,000 first-place prize. A \$2,500 second-place prize and a \$1,000 third-place prize also were awarded.

Twenty-nine proposals were received and judged for originality, possibility of successful implementation, and the degree to which they would allow people to maintain their quality of life. Toll and Espenshade constructed a lightweight plastic wind turbine and backed it up with a rundown of useful—and often obscure—tips for reducing home-power consumption. The turbine consists of a plastic rotor and tower—they built one six-foot and one 12-foot tower—that homeowners could install themselves.

The turbine could power either a battery bank that appliances could be plugged into directly, or it could connect directly to a household circuit breaker.

"We wanted to generate as much sustainable power as possible, but still make something the average family could use," said Toll, the turbine's primary designer. "Commercial turbines generate more power, but a nuclear family doesn't want to wait five or 10 years for it to pay for itself. This is a low-cost investment with a short payback period and a small sacrifice of power."

The accompanying booklet complements the turbine by encouraging less energy use, explained Espenshade, who compiled energy saving tips from various sources. The booklet includes such well-known advice as planting trees on the sunny side of the house to more creative pointers such as not keeping TVs, lamps, and other heat-producing appliances near the thermostat because they can distort the reading.

Toll and Espenshade are from Lebanon, Pa. Toll, 20, started the company Disaster Rebuilding Solutions, LLC, in 2007 to market a type of construction beam he invented for quick construction in such locations as refugee camps, disaster areas, and war zones. The beams are made of a corrugated plastic shell with a foam core, require no tools for construction, and are lightweight, weatherproof, and fire resistant. The product earned Toll induction into the National Gallery for America's Young Inventors in 2007. He is working on starting a second company for a separate invention.

For the second-place prize, Pitt mechanical engineering student Patrick Wetherill and industrial engineering student Stephen Palmer combined cooling and heating systems into a single device with a solar-assisted window fan/heating unit.

From Carnegie Mellon, chemistry student Jacob Mohin, architecture student

David Kennedy, and mechanical engineering student Benjamin Kwadwo Som-Pimpong netted the third-place prize for a device that would transmit home power-use data to a personalized Web site, reducing consumption by informing people of how much power they burn.

The Mascaro Center initiated the contest because buildings are one of the largest energy drains. Older buildings in particular commonly hemorrhage energy because of poor insulation, old wiring, and outdated lighting. To fix these shortcomings, property owners typically pay contractors large sums for solutions with a long payback time. The retrofitting of older buildings with energy-conserving features is a considerable issue in such areas as Pittsburgh, where many buildings and homes were built before 1940. The Mascaro Center, housed in Pitt's Swanson School of Engineering, specializes in sustainable-design research and innovation. Support for the design challenge also came from the Heinz Endowments.

More information on the contest and the Mascaro Center is available on its Web site, www.mascarocenter.pitt.edu.

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published June 8. 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.

