

Pitt Chronicle

Newspaper of the University of Pittsburgh

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Back to School Jumping in Feet First

PittMAP Program Makes the World Its Campus
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ALANA LEVINE

Pitt Board's Property Committee Approves \$37 Million in Construction, Renovation



Architectural rendering of Bouquet Gardens expansion

The University will add 155 beds in 48 apartment-style units through an expansion of its Bouquet Gardens housing complex. In addition to providing extra beds, the project will create a campus police substation, laundry and mail facilities, an indoor bicycle storage area, and a fitness room for Bouquet Gardens residents' use. The project is budgeted at \$17.63 million and is expected to be completed in time for Fall Term 2011 occupancy.

RENDERINGS PROVIDED BY FERKINS EASTMAN

By John Fedele

The Property and Facilities Committee of the University of Pittsburgh's Board of Trustees approved seven construction and renovation projects totaling \$37.2 million and one lease renewal at its Aug. 6 meeting. The construction and renovation projects are expected to create 202 construction and 81 construction-support jobs. The University will pay building permit taxes of approximately \$34,000, as well as \$66,402 annually in real estate taxes on the lease.

The University will add 155 beds in 48 apartment-style units through an expansion of its Bouquet Gardens housing complex. In addition to providing extra beds, the project will create a campus police substation, laundry and mail facilities, an indoor bicycle storage area, and a fitness room for Bouquet Gardens residents' use. The project is budgeted at \$17.63 million and is expected to be completed in time for Fall Term 2011

occupancy.

"Current demand for on-campus undergraduate student housing remains strong," said Jerome Cochran, executive vice chancellor and general counsel at Pitt. "This project increases the capacity of the most popular on-campus housing option among our upper-class students. This addition is critical to meeting our demand for on-campus housing."

Pitt's on-campus housing capacity will increase to 7,396 beds upon completion of the project.

The Property and Facilities Committee also approved \$5.8 million to upgrade and renovate the Concordia Club to house several academic programs, including a math laboratory, the Freshman Studies Program, and the Writing Center, in addition to providing Student Affairs with more office and meeting space for student organizations. The

improvements to the Concordia Club include upgrades to the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems as well as the creation of Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant entrances, restrooms, and elevator. The project is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2011.

Among the other projects approved are:

- Renovations to the fifth floor of the Chevron Science Center to house wet labs for chemistry research, at \$4.85 million;
- Renovations to the Eberly Hall Nanoscience Laboratory to create new synthetic and spectroscopy laboratory suites as well as renovations to the Chemistry Electronics

Shop, at \$3.4 million;

- Installation of a backup electrical feed for Posvar Hall, at \$2.5 million;
- Student Lounge renovations in the Barco Law Building, at \$1.84 million; and
- Phase IV of the sprinkler installation project at the Cathedral of Learning, at \$1.2 million.

The committee also approved renewal of a lease between the University and Cityview Properties, LLC, to continue renting space in the Parkview Building to house programs of the Clinical Research Education Institute and Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic. The lease renewal is for five years beginning Sept. 1, 2010, at a fixed annual cost of \$797,472.



Architectural rendering of Barco Law Building lounge renovations

Student Orientation Offers Information Sessions, Tours—and Guinness World Record Attempt

By Patricia Lomando White

The University of Pittsburgh New Student Orientation 2010 "Your Journey Begins Here," to be held Aug. 24-29, will welcome 4,500 freshmen and transfer students and will include informational sessions, campus and city tours, social gatherings, and ceremonies to educate, entertain, and orient members of the class of 2014 and their families to college life.

Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg and distinguished members of the University community will officially welcome Pitt's newest students at the Freshman Convoca-

tion Ceremony in the Petersen Events Center, from 3 to 4 p.m. Aug. 25. The Chancellor's Welcome Picnic follows the ceremony from 4 to 5 p.m., giving students and their families the opportunity to mingle with University faculty, staff, and students.

The traditional Lantern Night Ceremony will be held in Heinz Memorial Chapel, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Aug. 29. The Student Activities Fair, from 2 to 5 p.m. that day, introduces the newest members of Pitt's community to the campus' more than 300 student organizations. The fair is held

in David Lawrence Hall and in Posvar Hall Galleria and Plaza.

Presentations, seminars, and open houses will be held on numerous aspects of campus life, including student organizations, health services, and campus safety. The University Counseling Center Open House will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 24. Several informational activities will take place Aug. 25: "Student Health Service: When, Where, and How to Get Help," from 9 to 10 a.m.; "Student Life: The Importance of Getting Involved," from 11 a.m. to noon; and "Get Culturally Crunk! A Block Party Presented by the Office of Cross-Cultural and Leadership Development," from noon to 1 p.m. All events will be held in the William Pitt Union.

"Pathway to Your Success at Pitt: A Pitt Tradition," held Aug. 26 in the Petersen Events Center, will have a different twist this year. At 9:15 a.m., accompanied by Pitt's Pep Band, cheer squad, and dance team, more than 3,000 incoming freshmen will march to the Petersen. The new students will spell out P-I-T-T at 10 a.m. while holding a flashlight for 10 minutes in an effort to break the Guinness World Record for the "World's Largest Torchlight (Flashlight) Logo/Image Formed by People." After the attempt to break the record, Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor Patricia E. Beeson will provide an overview of the opportunities for a successful academic journey at Pitt. The program will culminate with students singing Panther fight songs and the Alma Mater.

Among the activities designed exclusively for parents and guardians will be "Campus Safety: What Parents Need to Know," from 3 to 4 p.m. Aug. 24, and "The

Art of College Parenting," a lighthearted educational program, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Aug. 25, both in the WPU; and "Educating the Whole Student: What Every Parent

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HAPPENINGS EDITOR
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On the front cover: PittMAP students in Cape Town, South Africa. Photo by Alana Levine.

A New State of Mind

Journey across three continents shakes up students' visions, notions about the world

By Jane-Ellen Robinet

The daily scenes in Cape Town, South Africa, were jarringly different from what Elly Schmitmeyer had envisioned. The city presented disparate sights: intensely dark blue skies, even bluer ocean water, rugged mountains, swatches of painful poverty in the townships. It spurred a range of emotions: from utter awe of the country's diversity of language, race, and economic status to uncertainty about how this young White woman from Mars, Pa., would fit into the Rainbow Nation.

"You think of South Africa as part of the Third World. What I didn't realize was that, yes, that is an aspect of South Africa, but it is only *one* of so *many* aspects," said Schmitmeyer, a Pitt senior majoring in health and rehabilitative sciences and minoring in art.

"You have the huge tourist industry in Cape Town, the university, the beautiful outdoors, the wine country ... You see that you once defined the country by one aspect, and then you begin to understand that that is completely unfair and inaccurate."

From January to April, Schmitmeyer traveled thousands of miles to three continents, observing new countries and cultures up close, assessing her own country from afar. Her travel mates were 13 other Pitt students participating in the University's inaugural Multi-region Academic Program (PittMAP). The semester-long, for-credit program took the students and Nancy Condee, faculty director for this year's trip and a professor and film scholar in Pitt's Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, to Buenos Aires, Argentina; Cape Town, South Africa; and Beijing, China. Also participating in the program were Barbara Kucinski, a lecturer in Pitt's Department of Psychology; Whitney Grespin, PittMAP onsite coordinator; and, present in each of the countries, a faculty member from each of the three cities' partner universities.

The group spent five weeks in each city, taking courses at the universities as well as fulfilling requirements for a course outlined by Condee. The titled theme of study, "State Memory/Private Lives," guided coursework on the three continents. "What is state memory? How does the state regulate what we remember, and how does that differ from what we think privately?" Condee said, explaining the course theme.

In each city, students explored how cultures create and sustain memory systems. They also looked at the tensions between state-created memory systems, such as museums or war memorials, and individual memory systems, such as holiday rituals and civic activism. By the end of the students' trip, the world would seem so much more familiar because of all that they learned—yet so much bigger because they realized how much they did not know.

State-Sponsored Terrorism, Memory

Amid Buenos Aires' beautiful architecture, stands with refreshing gelato, and modernized waterfront, the PittMAP students visited a number of sites related to Argentina's period of state-sponsored terrorism, known as the Dirty War. The Memorial Park, *Parque de la Memoria*, for example, commemorates the victims of that 1976-1983 war in which 10,000 to 30,000 people disappeared. The park is Argentina's first state-funded monument dedicated to the *desaparecidos* (or the "disappeared"). Students also toured a nearby military training school that was used as a torture facility for prisoners taken during the Dirty War. Equally gut-wrenching was seeing the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, elderly women who had lost their children during the war, engage in their weekly protest in Buenos Aires' central square. Every Thursday evening, the women wearing headscarves



Scenes from afar: 1. The PittMAP group, with Cape Town's District Six in background. 2. Sam Kramer, Beijing, China. 3. Pitt senior Tess Sanders (left) with Elly Schmitmeyer in Beijing.

gather and hold picket signs with photos of their *desaparecidos* children.

For Sam Kramer, a Chancellor's Scholar and Pitt senior majoring in math and minoring in computer science and English literature, the program's Argentinean component was fascinating. Buenos Aires is incredibly cosmopolitan, said Kramer, a Philadelphia native, and learning about the history of Argentina's Dirty War "makes you realize that we take for granted what we have here" in America.

District Six

For Schmitmeyer, one of the most interesting examples of private vs. state memory systems was Cape Town's District Six, a once lively and cosmopolitan community inhabited by Black and mixed-race South Africans. In 1966, the South African government declared the district for Whites only and forcibly removed the residents, bulldozing their homes.

As part of the PittMAP course in Cape Town, students looked "at how the government defines people (racially), how it writes laws, and how those things played out in people's lives through apartheid," Schmitmeyer said.

In 1994, a District Six Museum opened as a remembrance to the district's culture prior to the forced removals. A huge street map of the district, with handwritten notes from former residents marking where their homes had been, covers the museum's

first floor. Original street signs and other artifacts, as well as explanations of the district's history and residents' recorded remembrances, serve as private reminders of apartheid's policies.

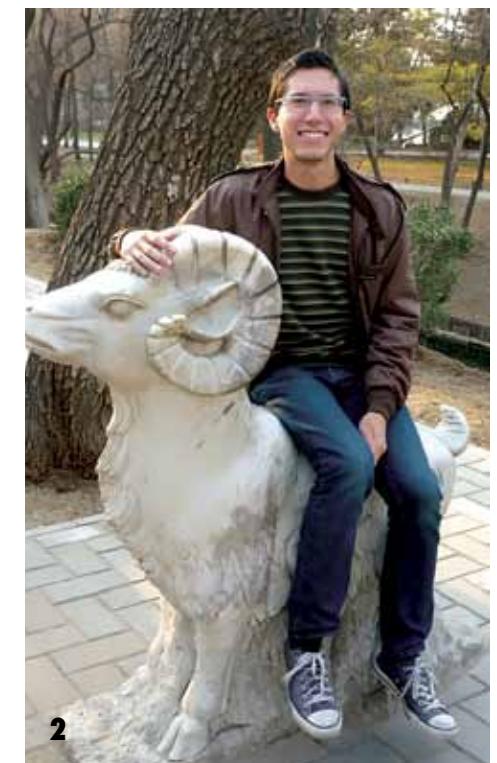
"Just to witness people coming together to maintain their identity and home—and their memories of it—was so moving. The museum was definitely created to preserve what was destroyed and could have potentially been forgotten," Schmitmeyer said.

Becoming Global Citizens

The PittMAP program is unique in its comparative approach.

"Unlike almost any other study-abroad program, PittMAP is designed to be explicitly comparative. It is the embodiment of the concepts that drive Pitt's Global Studies Program: It examines specific critical global themes and how they differ across countries or world regions," said Lawrence Feick, senior director of International Programs, director of Pitt's University Center for International Studies, and interim director of the Global Studies Program.

Feick added that Global Studies was recently notified that it has received for the first time a competitive four-year federal grant of more than \$1.4 million and has won designation as a National Resource Center. (See story on Page 4.) "PittMAP, as a unique and Pitt-developed product, made us very



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COURTESY OF SAM KRAMER

much more effective in winning this difficult competition," Feick said.

Feick also praised Condee, saying that Pitt was fortunate to have her "in place to launch the program and personally travel on the first trip. She brings intellectual rigor, energy and enthusiasm, and a can-do attitude to the program. The program couldn't have been in better hands, and I look forward to the upcoming years as the program examines different themes in global studies."

On this inaugural trip, the PittMAP entourage comprised students from a wide range of majors and travel experience. For some, the trip marked their first time in an airport, let alone stepping onto a plane. But for almost all, the journey was the first experience of prolonged, independent travel where they had to learn and function in three very different cultures.

"I was not a specialist in any of the three countries," said Condee, who has lived and studied in both the former Soviet Union and East Germany. But her specialty on this trip, in part, was teaching the students "how to become proficient in Plan B." Whether it was figuring out how to order from a foreign-language menu, to make a phone call, to do

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Provost Office's "Cool Pittsburgh" Web Site Highlights City's Hot Spots, High Rankings

By Sharon S. Blake

A colorful Web site called Cool Pittsburgh (www.coolpgh.pitt.edu) shouts a friendly "Hello!" to students settling in Pittsburgh to live, work, and study.

Launched in Fall 2007 by the University of Pittsburgh's Office of the Provost, Cool Pittsburgh provides a thorough resource for questions ranging from where to buy vegan food to what is the best spot for a \$1 draft.

While the site was created with Pitt graduate and professional students in mind, its content could be helpful to any student—or new faculty or staff member, for that matter. The tabs across the top of the page—Live, Eat, Play, Shop, and Go—offer complete guides to 13 Pittsburgh neighborhoods, including their best features, coolest restaurants, cultural activities, shopping areas, green spaces, and public transportation options.

In addition, Cool Pittsburgh offers links to all regional utility companies, as well as international grocery stores, farmers markets, bike trails, theater possibilities, and much more.

The city's diverse range of activities and amenities—as well as its visible international heritage—have put Pittsburgh at the top of several recent livability surveys. In May 2010, Forbes.com ranked Pittsburgh as the Most Livable City—based on its affordability, safety, arts and leisure scene,



and job prospects. One month later, Forbes.com again included the city in its rankings—No. 7 on the list of Best Places to Raise a Family. And last year, *The Economist*

magazine named the Pittsburgh metropolitan region as the United States' Most Livable City. Also in 2009, Pittsburgh hosted the international G20 Summit.

For the Office of the Provost, the site is a valuable recruiting tool as it presents a picture of city life—and graduate-student academic life. The Grad Life section features perspectives on the city from several graduate students. Viewers can follow them through a typical "Day in the Life" of a Pitt grad student . . . from where they grab reasonably priced Indian food (food

trucks on Bigelow Boulevard) to where they drop their little ones off for reliable child care (University Child Care Center).

"We want to show applicants to gradu-

"We want to show applicants to graduate and professional programs that choosing Pitt will give them an opportunity to live in a vibrant city with abundant cultural opportunities, green living, and diverse ethnic neighborhoods."

—Patricia E. Beeson

ate and professional programs that choosing Pitt will give them an opportunity to live in a vibrant city with abundant cultural opportunities, green living, and diverse ethnic neighborhoods," said Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor Patricia E. Beeson.

The Cool Pittsburgh Web site received two awards in 2008—the Circle of Excellence Silver Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and the Interactive Media Design Award of Excellence from the Pittsburgh chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators.



Pitt's Global Studies Program Receives First-Time Designation as a National Resource Center by The United States Department of Education

By Amanda Leff Ritchie

Pitt's Global Studies Program (GSP) within the University Center for International Studies recently received its first-time designation as a National Resource Center by the U.S. Department of Education. The Title VI grant totals \$1.482 million and will be applied throughout the next four years. GSP, established in 2001, fosters interdisciplinary, comparative, and cross-cultural learning and research on critical global issues within the areas of the economy, health, security, and society. GSP currently grants undergraduate and graduate certificates and, in cooperation with the University Honors College, offers the Bachelor of Philosophy in International and Area Studies degree.

The federal funding supports such GSP initiatives as:

- Increasing opportunities for scholarship through research and conference support for 40 global studies scholars and cosponsorship of four major conferences on global issues;

- Expanding interdisciplinary course offerings in global health and the addition of global content to at least 20 courses, including 12 in Pitt's professional schools;

- Opportunities for the advanced study of less commonly taught languages, specifically Turkish, Swahili, and Persian (Farsi);

- Developing a new global-studies-themed historical library collection at Pitt that's accessible to the public;

- Offering both graduate and undergraduate Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships in Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Hindi, Persian, Portuguese, Swahili, Turkish, and Urdu;

- Global studies and language pedagogy training via professional development opportunities for K-12 teachers and postsecondary faculty; and

- Increasing global content in two targeted school districts serving a combined K-12 student population of approximately 27,000.

University of Pittsburgh Issues Traffic Alert for Aug. 24-27

The expected influx of University of Pittsburgh students returning to the Pittsburgh campus residence halls from Tuesday, Aug. 24, through Friday, Aug. 27, has prompted Pitt's Department of Parking and Transportation to issue the following traffic advisory.

The Schenley Quadrangle will be closed to all vehicular traffic through Sunday, Aug. 29.

Forbes and Fifth Avenues will experience heavy traffic Aug. 24-27.

Bigelow Boulevard will be closed between Forbes and Fifth avenues from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Aug. 24 and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 25-26. Port Authority Bus Route 54C will not service the Carnegie Museum/Forbes Avenue stop during these times.

Lothrop Street will be closed between Fifth Avenue and Victoria Way from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Aug. 24-26 and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 27.

University Place will be closed between Fifth Avenue and O'Hara Street from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Aug. 24 and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 25-27. Vehicles using the University Place exit from Soldiers and Sailors parking garage will be required to turn right onto University Place toward O'Hara Street.

University Drive B will be closed between Aliquippa Street and University Drive A from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Aug. 24-27.

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

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

—John Fedele





At Two Years Old, Pitt's Outside the Classroom Curriculum Remains Vibrant, Becomes Ingrained in Students' Lives



PHOTOS BY JIM BURKE/KODAK

Pitt freshmen are introduced to the Outside the Classroom curriculum during orientation. Pictured are scenes from the University's 2009 Orientation Week, including the annual Ice Cream Social (left) and Arrival Survival.

By Patricia Lomando White

The University of Pittsburgh's Outside the Classroom (OCC) Curriculum is becoming an integral part of student life on the Pittsburgh campus, with program administrators working to keep OCC relevant and easy for students to use.

In fact, the program has gained enough momentum that students have been known to pass up free pizza in favor of activities that offer OCC credit.

As unbelievable as that sounds, "we've seen it," says Shawn Brooks, OCC senior project manager, associate dean of students, and director of residence life. "Students will walk by as organizers say, 'Free pizza!' and the students keep walking. Then the organizers say, 'You can also get OCC credit,' and students turn around and come back."

OCC began at Pitt in 2008 as an initiative to give students a competitive edge in their college careers and postgraduation job searches. The voluntary Universitywide program encourages students to participate in extracurricular programs and experiences, such as joining a student club, serving as a facilitator in peer-mentor programs, writing a résumé, or assisting with fundraising for the arts. A wide range of activities earns OCC credits, and students' participation in the program is documented on their academic transcripts.

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The brainchild of Kathy W. Humphrey, Pitt vice provost and dean of students, OCC focuses on nine key areas: leadership development, career preparation, communication skills, healthy lifestyle, understanding diversity, a sense of self, community participation, appreciation for the arts, and service to others.

"OCC has exceeded our expectations," Brooks says. "In some ways, OCC became a part of our vernacular more quickly than we'd expected."

During OCC's first year, when the program was presented only to freshmen, the participation rate was about 75 percent of incoming freshmen. In the second year, approximately 95 percent of freshman students took part.

Incoming students learn about OCC through the Pathway to Your Success at Pitt program, which is held during Pitt's orientation activities in August. Humphrey presents the OCC program, impressing upon students the importance of participation. In fact, OCC-credit sessions and activities make up a large part of the orientation program.

"Students can earn a quarter of their OCC credits for the year just by participating in select programs at orientation,"

Brooks explains.

The new *Outside the Classroom Magazine* is another tool the group is using to reach out to incoming freshmen.

"We know the parents will read the magazine, and the hope is that they'll talk to their kids about it and interest them in taking a look at it," Brooks says. "We market to parents specifically for that reason. We know the OCC program will give students a competitive edge, which is important to parents."

Brooks notes that when he speaks to student audiences, he emphasizes the importance of being deliberate about selecting events to meet OCC goals. The aim is to get students to be intentional about completion.

"Our current strategy is to keep sophomores involved," says Brooks. "By their junior and senior years, students realize the importance of having the extra curriculum and how it helps them to be better prepared for the job market or grad school."

As OCC has matured, the program's tracking technology has been updated to allow students to more easily track their OCC progress.

"We learned from students that OCC's software needed to be more responsive and interactive. Based on that feedback, we developed a new design," Brooks explains. The OCC software includes a master calendar of all OCC-related events so students can easily see where and when they can earn credits. Also on the OCC Web site, students can access their own OCC dashboards, which give a snapshot of programs they've completed within each of OCC's nine goal areas.

Students receive OCC credits by swiping their Pitt ID cards at on-campus activities or by completing sign-up sheets at events where an OCC swiper isn't present. They can also receive credit by completing an "involvement request" with the OCC software.

Brooks says the improved technology has made the program easier for students—and has helped OCC administrators better

The brainchild of Kathy W. Humphrey, Pitt vice provost and dean of students, OCC focuses on nine key areas: leadership development, career preparation, communication skills, healthy lifestyle, understanding diversity, a sense of self, community participation, appreciation for the arts, and service to others.

track how the program is being used and where improvements are needed.

So what's ahead for OCC? Brooks said there are several initiatives and partnerships under way. One involves a pilot project involving about 20 academic advisors who will be asked to discuss the OCC program with 20 of their advisees.

"It's not at all antithetical to what they (advisors) currently do to engage students," says Brooks, noting that advisors already talk with students about their cocurricular activities. But this pilot project will assess how advisors talk specifically about OCC to their students as well as its impact on those students.

Another pilot involves about 750 students—400 pharmacy students and 350 undergraduates—who will participate in OCC and create an electronic portfolio.

"This will bring OCC to life using artifacts, including written documents, video, art, journal reflections, all within the portfolio," Brooks says. "We want participation in OCC to encompass attitude, thinking, and behavior about goal areas. We want to see how the overall OCC experience has impacted students."

Allegheny County Marcellus Shale Activity Jumps 322% in 2009, Pitt Database Shows



By Morgan Kelly

As Marcellus Shale activity sweeps Western Pennsylvania, a new University of Pittsburgh database reveals that approximately 7 percent of Allegheny County's land has been leased for drilling and extraction since 2003. In addition, the number of properties in the county leased for oil and gas exploration increased by 322 percent between 2008 and 2009.

Researchers in Pitt's University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR) used leases filed with the Allegheny County Department of Real Estate to create an interactive map of the more than 2,000 parcels in Allegheny County leased for oil and gas exploration between 2003 and May 2010. The map also indicates the people or companies that bought the leases. The map is available on UCSUR's Web site at www.ucsur.pitt.edu/thePub.php through the Pittsburgh Urban Blog, aka the PUB, a new service established by UCSUR to make research on regional statistics and trends readily available. It was created by the Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System (PNCIS), Pitt's online database of statistical maps.

Sabina Deitrick, codirector of UCSUR's urban analysis program, said the oil and gas leases reveal a rapidly expanding pursuit of drilling and exploration rights in the county. New oil and gas leases taken out by parcel increased steadily from 29 in 2003 to 217 in 2008. In 2009, the number of leases rocketed to 1,102, one-and-a-half times more than the previous six years combined. The number of 2010 leases filed by this past May was 475, on pace with last year.

Huntley and Huntley Inc. can claim the most land area under lease, with 10,990 of the 35,393 acres leased in the county since 2003.

Figures showing the increase in filed leases since 2003 as well as the leading companies in terms of leases and acreage held are

Sabina Deitrick, codirector of UCSUR's urban analysis program, said the oil and gas leases reveal a rapidly expanding pursuit of drilling and exploration rights in the county. New oil and gas leases taken out by parcel increased steadily from 30 in 2003 to 273 in 2008. In 2009, the number of leases rocketed to 1,153, one-and-a-half times more than the previous six years combined. The number of 2010 leases filed by this past May was 475, on pace with last year.

Only a few companies dominate in terms of the number of leases held and the amount of acreage claimed. For instance, the company Dale Property Services/DPS Penn holds a lease on 1,654 parcels in the county, nearly half of all properties leased for oil and gas since 2003; the company, an affiliate of the Dale family companies of Dallas, is a leasing agent whose Web site cites a "strategic alliance" with Oklahoma City-based Chesapeake Energy. At the same time, Monroeville-based

available on Pitt's Web site at www.news.pitt.edu/news/UCSUR_MarcellusMap.

Bob Gradeck, research project manager for PNCIS, said that as companies lease such parcels as cemeteries—Calvary Cemetery in Hazelwood and St. Mary's in Lawrenceville are both held by Huntley and Huntley—municipalities should consider how to manage the infrastructure a drilling operation needs. Those infrastructure needs include approximately 5 acres of land for a drill pad and refuse pond, emergency response management, and road capacity to accommodate heavy trucks, as well as such considerations as water use and treatment and the effect of pumping water into the ground—a process called hydrofracking—to extract the natural gas.

"These operations are not just someone drilling a hole. When the scale of this activity is considered, it becomes clear that at the local level there needs to be effective planning," Gradeck said. "There's not a lot of history or experience with planning in many of the municipalities where the industry is operating,

but these operations are here, and people need to be ready."

Pitt's Center for Healthy Environments to Hold Aug. 27 Panel Discussion On Marcellus Shale Drilling

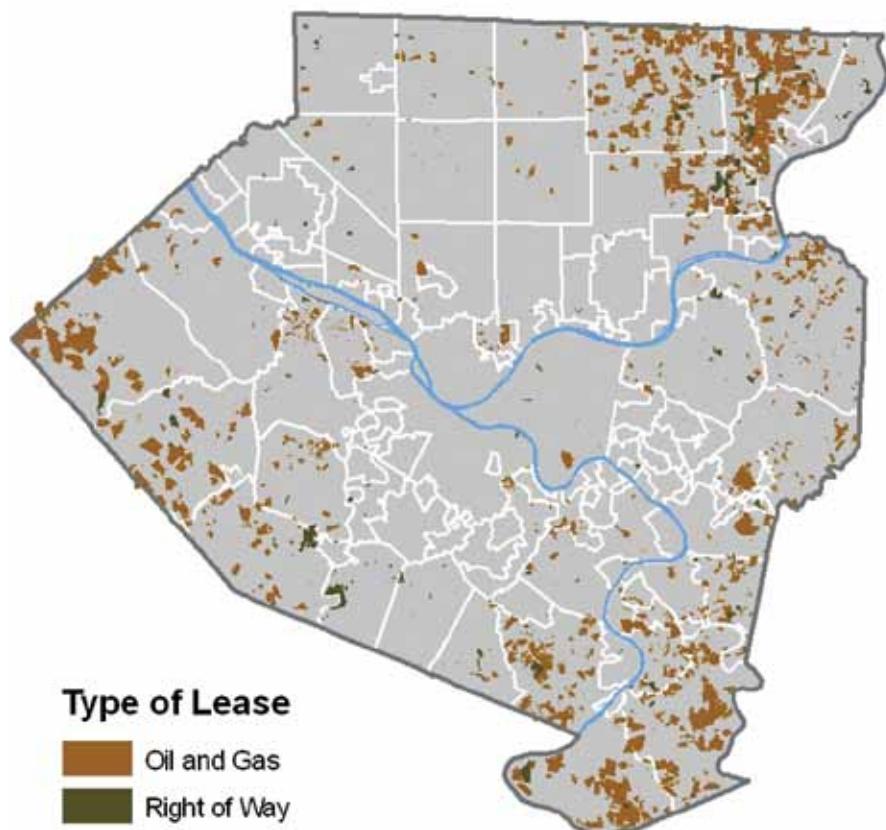
The Center for Healthy Environments and Communities (CHEC), part of the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH), will hold a free Aug. 27 panel discussion to address the public health impact of Marcellus Shale gas drilling.

The public discussion will be held from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in Room G23 of Parran Hall. Panelists are Dan Volz, an assistant professor of environmental and occupational health in GSPH and CHEC director; Charles Christian, CHEC director of operations; and Samantha Malone, CHEC communications specialist.

Serious economic, environmental, and public health concerns have been raised concerning the gas extraction processes at the Marcellus Shale, a sedimentary rock formation that may contain trillions of cubic feet of methane gas as well as other explosive gases and vapors. Panelists will discuss potential human exposure to water and air contaminants and behavioral and community health concerns.

More information is available at www.chec.pitt.edu.

Energy-Related Leasing Activity by Parcel Allegheny County 2003-2010*



* January-May 2010

Source: Allegheny County Department of Real Estate, University Center for Social and Urban Research
University of Pittsburgh

Pitt-Led Researchers to Build Foundation for Quantum Supercomputers With \$7.5 Million Federal Grant

By Morgan Kelly

A research team based at the University of Pittsburgh has received a five-year, \$7.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Defense to tackle some of the most significant challenges preventing the development of quantum computers, powerful devices that could solve problems too complex for all of the world's computers working together over the age of the Universe to crack. The project was one of 32 nationwide selected from 152 proposals to receive a grant from the Multi-University Research Initiative (MURI) program; a total of \$227 million was distributed to institutions that include Harvard University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the University of Pennsylvania.

Jeremy Levy, a professor of physics and astronomy in Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences, will lead a team of researchers from Cornell University, Stanford University, the University of California at Santa Barbara, the University of Michigan, and the University of Wisconsin in combining the properties of semiconductors—such as those used to make computer processors—and superconductors, which allow for the perfect flow of electricity, into a single material suitable for the development of quantum computers. The team will use these superconducting semiconductors to develop new types of quantum memory, perform quantum simulation, and create new methods for transferring quantum information from one medium to another.

These functions are essential to realizing quantum computers—which are yet to exist in any practical form—but require a



Jeremy Levy

precise control of the laws of quantum physics that has so far been difficult to achieve, Levy explained.

One of the most significant challenges with any approach to quantum computation is the inevitable loss of information. Group member Chetan Nayak, a physics professor at UC-Santa Barbara, has theorized that very thin sheets of certain types of superconductors have topological quantum excitations that can be used to make quantum memories highly immune to errors. The development of materials that can support these excitations will be undertaken by Chang-Beom Eom, a professor of

materials science and engineering at Wisconsin; Harold Hwang, a professor of applied physics at Stanford; and Darrell Schlom, an engineering professor at Cornell. Xiaoqing Pan, a University of Michigan professor of materials science and engineering, will perform atomic-scale characterization of these structures.

A second research goal involves using superconducting semiconductors to perform quantum simulations of physical systems. To do this, the team will use a technique Levy developed that allows for atomic-scale devices such as transistors and computer processors to be created and erased on a single platform that functions like a microscopic Etch A Sketch™, the drawing toy that inspired Levy's idea; Levy reported on the platform in the Feb. 20, 2009, edition of *Science*. For the MURI project, Levy will create a new near-atomic scale lattice that will be used to experiment with new materials and search for superconducting

Jeremy Levy, a professor of physics and astronomy in Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences, will lead a team of researchers from Cornell University, Stanford University, the University of California at Santa Barbara, the University of Michigan, and the University of Wisconsin in combining the properties of semiconductors—such as those used to make computer processors—and superconductors, which allow for the perfect flow of electricity, into a single material suitable for the development of quantum computers.

Web site at www.defense.gov/releases/release.aspx?releaseid=13717.

phenomena.

The project's third thrust involves the transfer of quantum information from one physical system to another. Quantum bits are efficiently stored in nanoscale defects found in diamonds. David Awschalom, a professor of physics and electrical engineering at UC-Santa Barbara, will develop ways of transferring quantum information between these diamond defects and superconducting microwave resonators.

The MURI program is overseen by the U.S. Army Research Office, the U.S. Office of Naval Research, and the U.S. Air Force Office of Scientific Research. It is intended to support research across multiple academic institutions and departments in order to accelerate research and the transition of research results to application. More information on the 2010 MURI grants is available on the Department of Defense

Student Orientation Offers Information Sessions, Tours—and Guinness World Record Attempt

Continued from page 2

Should Know," from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Aug. 25 in the University Club. Presentations will seek to answer questions and concerns of students' parents and guardians as well as to provide information on University programs. In addition, parents will have an opportunity to socialize with one other at the Panther Parents Association Information Session from 4 to 5 p.m. Aug. 24 and the Continental Breakfast for Parents from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Aug. 26, both in the William Pitt Union.

Scheduled entertainment and social activities will include an ice cream social, a tropical luau, and "Theatre-oke!" an evening of improvisation, skits, and reenactments of famous film and theater scenes. "Discover Pittsburgh!" from 7 to 9 p.m. Aug. 24 will include a sampling of food from local restaurants and music by local entertainers. "Game and Carnival Night: A Night in the Union," from 10 p.m. Aug. 25 to 1 a.m. Aug. 26, will feature Monte Carlo games, crafts, and an opportunity to mix and mingle on the WPU's main floor and in Nordy's Place, on the lower level. Other

events beginning on Aug. 27 and ending on Aug. 28 include "Open Mic Night," from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. in Nordy's Place, and "Oakland Teahouse," from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the WPU Commuter Student Lounge. Pitt's "Music Extravaganza," beginning at 10 p.m. Aug. 28, will feature karaoke, a dance party, and late-night snacks.

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

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Student Orientation.

For more information or a complete schedule of events, call 412-648-1074 or visit www.fye.pitt.edu/orientation/.

Pitt Physicist Dutt, Harvard-Led Team Report in *Nature* a Major Step Toward Quantum Networks

So peculiar is quantum physics that when an experiment by Pitt physics and astronomy professor Gurudev Dutt and colleagues from Harvard University turned weird, it got them published in the Aug. 5, 2010, edition of *Nature*.

The team reported the first linkage of a diamond-encased electron with a packet of light waves to achieve quantum entanglement, or "quantum weirdness"—the indivisible connection between atoms that is fundamental to developing practical quantum networks and quantum computers. Dutt served as one of the main designers of the experiment and coauthored the *Nature* paper with principal investigator and Harvard physics professor Mikhail Lukin, lead author Emre Togan, a graduate student in physics at Harvard, and researchers from various institutions, including the California Institute of Technology, Texas A&M, and the University of Copenhagen.

The electron and the photon cluster represent, respectively, a solid-state qubit and a flying qubit, with a qubit being the basic unit of quantum information, Dutt said. Where it gets "weird" is that by coupling these two qubits, the researchers took a major step toward creating networks capable of transferring vast amounts of quantum information over long distances via a continuous stream of photons without the solid-state components ever having physical contact. Quantum computers are of particular interest to the U.S. government for the theoretical ability of the highly efficient devices to crack any code, particularly those protecting electronic communication.

"Einstein called this capability 'spooky,' and fundamentally it is very, very weird that two objects never connect but can still talk to each other through quantum entanglement," Dutt said. "But we've shown that quantum networks can happen and that photons can be entangled with a solid-state qubit. Taking these results to the next step will require a lot of technical improvement, but we've addressed the fundamental challenges."

The team's success with the electron is itself a notable accomplishment, Dutt said. Past demonstrations of quantum entanglement connected photons to single atoms that were trapped to create qubits. Atom-based qubits not only require a significant amount of equipment and energy to create, but they also die off rather quickly. The Harvard team used a single electron stored in the nanoscale defects of a diamond—a hardy qubit ready for repeated entanglement.

"The beauty of this experiment," Dutt said, "is that we now have two qubits in a robust environment that are open to all types of quantum experiments again and again and again."

The work was supported by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the Harvard-MIT Center for Ultracold Atoms, the National Science Foundation, the National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship, and the Packard Foundation. — By Morgan Kelly

Science & Technology

Medicare Part D Drug Coverage Leads to Increased Use of Antibiotics Among Seniors, GSPH Study Says



By Clare Collins

Improved drug coverage under Medicare Part D has led to an increase in the use of antibiotics by seniors, particularly of brand-name and more expensive drugs, according to a University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH) study. Published in the Aug. 23 issue of *Archives of Internal Medicine*, the study suggests recent changes in drug coverage improved the use of antibiotics for pneumonia but could lead to unnecessary spending on expensive broad-spectrum antibiotics and the overuse of inappropriate antibiotics. The study is the first to explore spending on antibiotics under Medicare Part D.

"Overuse of antibiotics is a common and important problem that can lead to medical complications and drug resistance," said lead author Yuting Zhang, a GSPH assistant professor of health economics.

The study included more than 35,000 Medicare beneficiaries and compared their use of antibiotics two years before and after the implementation of Medicare Part D, which reduced out-of-pocket drug spending by between 13 and 23 percent. The study's authors found that antibiotic use increased most among beneficiaries who lacked drug coverage prior to enrolling in Medicare Part D.



Yuting Zhang

had limited drug coverage also were more likely to fill prescriptions for antibiotics after enrolling in Part D. The largest increases were found in the use of broad-spectrum, newer, and more expensive antibiotics. Researchers also noted that the use of antibiotic treatment for pneumonia tripled among those who previously lacked drug coverage, which they say is encouraging, given the high mortality associated with community-acquired pneumonia among the elderly. However, they also found increases in antibiotic use for other acute respiratory tract infections (sinusitis, pharyngitis, bronchitis, and non-specific upper respiratory tract infection) for which antibiotics are generally not indicated.

"When drug coverage is generous, people are more likely to request and fill prescriptions for antibiotics, which may lead to misuse," Zhang said. "Although many interventions have helped curb antibiotic prescribing for acute respiratory tract infections and other conditions, our study indicates there may still be substantial room for improvement through education and changes in reimbursement practices to reduce inappropriate use of these drugs."

The study was funded by the National Institutes of Health and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Coauthors include Bruce Y. Lee, an assistant professor of medicine and biomedical informatics in Pitt's School of Medicine, and Julie M. Donohue, an assistant professor in GSPH's Department of Health Policy and Management.

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Many Pa. Children on Medicaid Lack Adequate Dental Care, Says Report By GSPH Medicaid Policy Center

By Clare Collins

Despite program improvements, a significant number of children in Pennsylvania covered by Medicaid do not receive basic dental health services that could help prevent serious medical problems, according to a report published online by the Pennsylvania Medicaid Policy Center (PMPC) at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH).

The report found that the majority of children on Medical Assistance are enrolled in managed care, but only 42.8 percent of these children had an annual dental visit in 2009. These services included periodic oral exams and diagnostic and preventive care, such as fillings and fluoride treatment. One main obstacle to low-income children receiving adequate dental health services is a shortage of dentists who will accept Medical Assistance, the report's authors said.

Medical Assistance covered more than one million, or 35.5 percent, of all children in Pennsylvania in 2009. In 2008, Medical Assistance spent about \$124.9 million on dental services, or \$109 per enrolled child.

According to the report, Pennsylvania dentists may be reluctant to participate in Medical Assistance because of reimbursement rates, which are low compared to other Medicaid programs nationally and are set at about 53.2 percent of regular dental service fees. However, Pennsylvania recently implemented a number of initiatives to improve dental provider participation in Medical Assistance and recipient access to services, among them the creation of the ACCESS Plus Dental Care/Disease Management Program.

"We found that only 26 percent of practicing dentists in Pennsylvania were reimbursed by Medical Assistance in 2009," said Judith R. Lave, PMPC director and a professor of health economics in GSPH. "Medical Assistance may need to reexamine reimbursement practices to ensure services are being appropriately covered. This could help encourage

more dentists to participate in the program and improve access to care for low-income children. We recognize the state's financial problems and are concerned that the current budget crisis may lead to pressure to reverse the program improvements."

The report presents data from the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare concerning Medical Assistance enrollment, dental expenditures, managed care performance, and active dentists.

The Pennsylvania Department of Public Health and Department of State survey results were used for the number of dentists providing direct patient care and insurance acceptance in Pennsylvania.

Monica R. Costlow, a PMPC senior policy analyst, coauthored the report, which can be viewed at www.pamedicaid.pitt.edu/documents/Dental_rp_10_8.pdf.



Judith Lave

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PittinBrief

Kosovo U. Opens Telecom Lab, Part Of 3-Year Pitt-Led Effort

The University of Pristina in Kosovo recently unveiled a state-of-the-art telecommunications laboratory that marks a significant step in a three-year, \$450,000 project led by Pitt to help the small Balkan nation's main university recover from years of unrest.

In 2008, Pitt's School of Information Sciences (SIS) and Center for Russian and Eastern European Studies (REES) won a contract from the U.S. Agency for International Development to link Kosovar students to the digitized world through a graduate-level telecommunications program and help obtain the technology that goes with it. SIS researchers and electrical and computer engineering professors at Pristina designed the curriculum for the two-year graduate program while regional experts in REES helped SIS navigate the complex cultural, linguistic, and political channels in Kosovo, a breakaway Yugoslav nation whose 2008 declaration of independence from Serbia remains disputed.

The two-year graduate program was launched in 2009 with an inaugural class of 19 students; the new laboratory will now provide those students with the hands-on computer networking experience they need. Students in the lab can experiment within a range of telecom scenarios, from basic connections between two PCs to building and maintaining advanced networks. The lab comprises five workbenches containing three PCs, one laptop, and a networking equipment rack that links the computers; an additional network rack connects all the computers in the classroom. This connectivity acclimates the aspiring networkers to the collaborative world of telecom. The lab design is based on SIS' Telecommunications Networking Laboratory on the Pittsburgh campus.

Pristina's telecommunications program is intended to provide Kosovo with the technology and professionals it needs for economic independence, said Martin Weiss, a professor and associate dean for academic affairs in SIS. Since Kosovo's ethnic-Albanian majority first pushed for independence from Serbia in the 1990s, the nation and the University of Pristina have lacked the time and funds to invest in the technology essential to a modern economy.

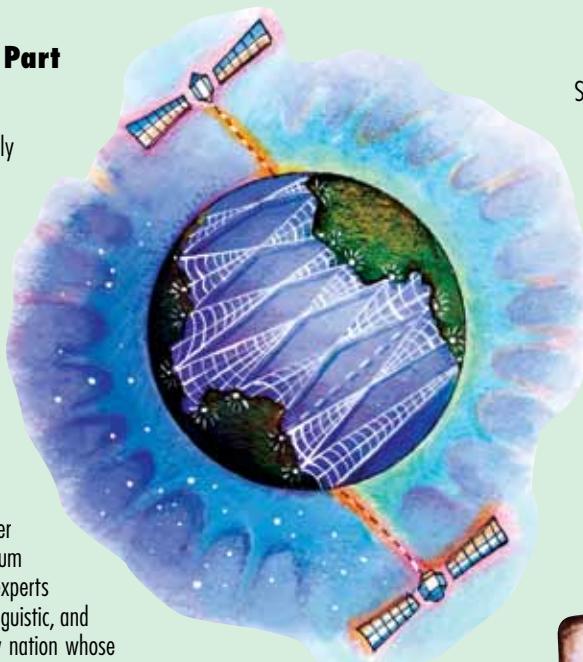
"The graduates of this program will be more skilled due to having the training and expertise provided in the new lab and can help to close the technology gap that exists in this amazing nation," Weiss said. "These graduates will provide an enormous service to both the people and businesses who call Kosovo home."

—Morgan Kelly

Pitt Researchers to Explore Key Component of U.S. "Smart Grid" Under Westinghouse Grant

Researchers in Pitt's Swanson School of Engineering have received a \$200,000 grant as part of the Westinghouse Electric Company's Revolutionary Research and Technology Program to begin work on an essential component of the "smart grid"—a project widely regarded as an important step toward improving the efficiency, control, and management of the United States' electric power infrastructure.

A team led by Gregory Reed, a professor of electrical and computer engineering and director of the Swanson

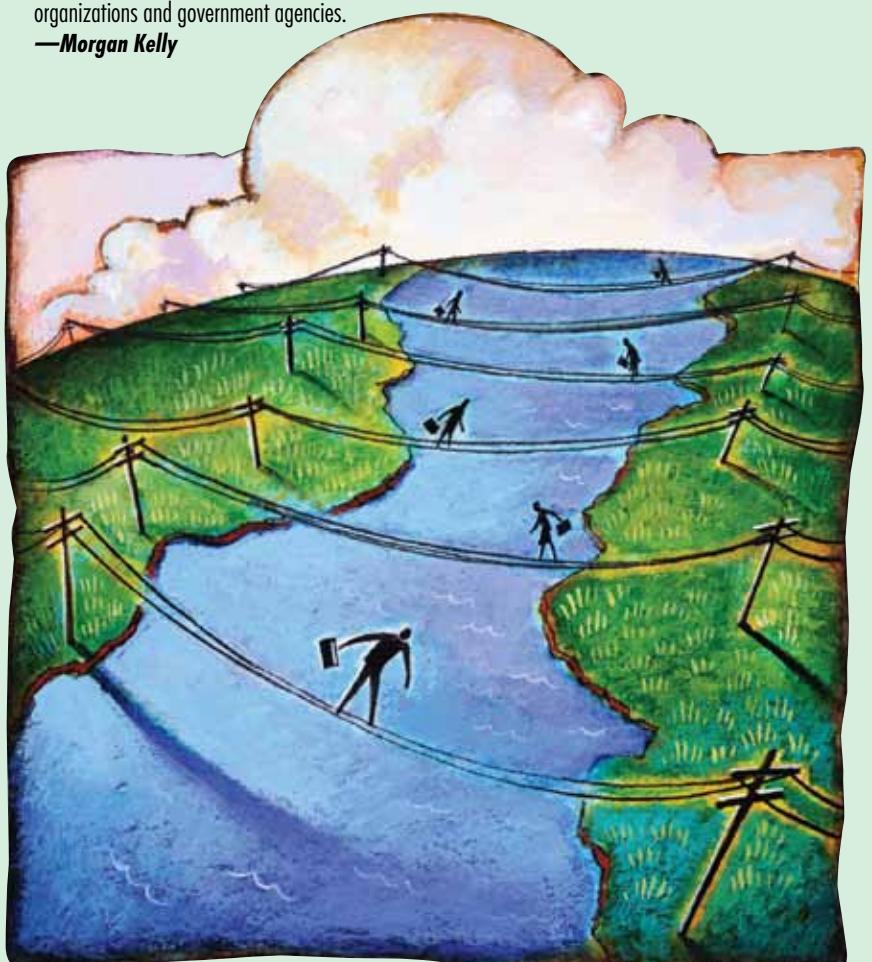


School's Power and Energy Initiative, will design an interface to more efficiently integrate nuclear power and other low-emissions energy resources into the nation's larger power grid. The smart grid refers to a rapidly developing digital network that can monitor power generation and delivery and respond to customer demand in real time. A key feature of the smart grid is the integration and automated flow of electricity from a variety of energy resources, including nuclear, wind, solar, and fossil-fuel power, Reed said.

The interface to be developed at Pitt will let consumers directly access information from an energy supplier and allow them to control and manage how much electricity is flowing in and out of a facility. The intent is to improve overall energy management, which would save energy and reduce costs. As it applies to nuclear power, the new interface would more efficiently balance nuclear power with renewable energy resources and could eventually influence future nuclear reactor designs by managing electrical output more efficiently.

The project builds on the Pitt Power and Energy Initiative's work in the areas of energy production, delivery, and end-use aspects, which include various collaborations with private energy industry organizations and government agencies.

—Morgan Kelly



A New State of Mind

Continued from page 3

laundry, or to navigate the city, the students became versed in finding creative ways to make their daily lives work.

Kramer, for example, found an innovative way to give cab drivers the names of restaurants or sites, written in Chinese. He would find his desired location on the Internet and place a piece of paper on the laptop screen. He would then trace the Chinese characters onto the paper and give it to a cab driver.



Iguazu Falls in Argentina

"At first, Beijing seemed cold, grey, dirty, and I had no language," Kramer said. "So my friends and I kind of quickly developed a strategy to deal with it all. It took me some time, but by the time I left Beijing, I liked it."

Kramer had traveled on his own and with family to parts of Europe and Israel during high school and college. Part of his desire to do the PittMAP program was that it would take him to Cape Town—as well as to



"Over time, the students became a lot less high maintenance. I would tell them, 'You're not a tourist, it's not a luxury situation. You're in a university setting, and you have to take a breath and figure out how to make sense of it.' Eventually, the students accepted that they couldn't be experts, they couldn't speak Chinese, but they could navigate in a rudimentary way. They were functioning as global citizens. That's a change that took place in all of us."

—Nancy Condee

Beijing, where he thought a more structured visit would be helpful.

Condee said a number of students had similar transformations over various issues in the three cities they visited. "Over time, the students became a lot less high maintenance," she recalled. "I would tell them, 'You're not a tourist, it's not a luxury situation. You're in a university setting, and you have to take a breath and figure out how to make sense of it.' Eventually, the students accepted that they couldn't be experts, they couldn't speak Chinese, but they could

navigate in a rudimentary way. They were functioning as global citizens. That's a change that took place in all of us."

The spring 2011 PittMAP program will again take students to Buenos Aires, Cape Town, and Beijing. Next year's theme will focus on global health and the various factors required to create, develop, and maintain health and health care in the global context, and how that effort interfaces with local traditions and other sociocultural issues. The faculty director will be Pitt English professor David Bartholomae.

Pitt's Hesselbein Global Academy: Student Leaders, Academy Mentors



The second annual Student Leadership Summit of the University of Pittsburgh Hesselbein Global Academy for Student Leadership and Civic Engagement was held July 10-13 on the University's Pittsburgh campus. Launched in 2009, the Hesselbein Global Academy is named in honor of Pitt alumnus Frances Hesselbein, recipient of the 1998 Presidential Medal of Freedom and chair of the board of governors of the Leader to Leader Institute (formerly the Peter F. Drucker Foundation for Nonprofit Management). The academy's mission is to inspire and develop accomplished student leaders. Fifty college students from the United States and 14 other nations participated in the 2010 academy, including five Pitt students. **1.** From left, Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg; Kathy W. Humphrey, Pitt vice provost and dean of students; Mrs. Hesselbein; and Patrick Moon-Rhoades, a junior at Pitt-Johnstown, Hesselbein's alma mater. **2.** Pitt trustee Eva Tansky Blum (seated at left with black-and-white jacket) served as a professional mentor for summit participants. Cochair of Pitt's \$2 billion capital campaign and a past president of the Pitt Alumni Association, Blum (A&S '70, LAW '73) is senior vice president and director of community affairs at PNC Bank and chair of the PNC Foundation. **3.** Also serving as a professional mentor was Pitt trustee and former Pitt Alumni Association president Keith Schaefer (A&S '71), right, president and CEO of BPL Global, Ltd. He is speaking with Lesley "Yemi" Adewunmi (A&S '10), a summit attendee and former president of Pitt's Black Action Society. **4.** Riding the Gateway Clipper were (from left) Elaine Lewis, a Pitt senior majoring in history and political science; and Waqas Khatri of Karachi, Pakistan, and Krithika Sundar of Tamil Nadu, India, both of whom are Penn State graduate students.

PHOTOS BY SHAWN HEARN

NIGHT OF THE LIVING LIBRARIANS



Students from Pitt's School of Information Sciences (SIS) summoned a spirited performance set to the music of Camille Saint-Saëns' *Danse Macabre* and departed the 6th Book Cart Drill Team World Championships with the coveted first-place prize, the Golden Book Cart. The event was staged June 27 during the American Library Association's 2010 conference in Washington, D.C. The skeleton crew of 13 students presented *Night of the Living Librarians*, a book-cart ballet arranged by team captain and SIS graduate student Sherri Griscavage that complemented Saint-Saëns' ghoulish musical score with visual themes and recorded excerpts from English author Neil Gaiman's novel *The Graveyard Book*. The performance can be viewed on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NUIVQmOWhc4>.

New Treatment Method Safe, Effective for Advanced Melanoma Patients, Pingpank-Led Study Finds

By Courtney McCrimmon

Patients undergoing treatment for melanoma that has spread to the liver may respond well to chemotherapy delivered directly into the liver's blood vessels, according to a study led by James F. Pingpank, a professor of surgery in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and a surgical oncologist with UPMC Cancer Centers.

"Once melanoma spreads to the liver, a patient's life expectancy typically ranges from six to nine months," Pingpank said. "We hoped this study would show not only an increase in progression-free survival rates for these patients, but also lead to a standard of care for the disease."

The study was sponsored by the National Cancer Institute and Delcath Systems Inc. Its results were disclosed on June 5 in Chicago during the 46th annual meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

The phase III trial enrolled 93 patients from 10 different sites across the country between February 2006 and October 2009. Its primary goal was to double the length of

hepatic progression-free survival for patients with melanoma that had spread to the liver. Patients received either percutaneous hepatic perfusion (PHP) with the drug melphalan, meaning the chemotherapy was delivered directly into the blood vessels of the liver, or the treatment considered the best alternative regimen by their treating physician. If a patient not receiving PHP had disease progression, he or she could cross over to the PHP arm of the trial.

"Not only did we achieve our goal, we surpassed it. This is particularly exciting because so far oncologists haven't been able to recommend a standard of care for patients with melanoma that has spread to the liver."

—James F. Pingpank

melanoma that has spread to the liver. PHP appears to control tumors in the liver and extend life expectancy for these patients, whether their melanoma began as skin cancer or as ocular melanoma, a less common form of the disease that starts in the eye. Fifty percent of ocular melanoma patients will experience liver metastasis, so these findings are crucial for them."

Happenings



Tetrad I, 1981, by Marilyn Chaffee
Rooted in Tradition: Art Quilts From the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum,
Westmoreland Museum of American Art,
through September 19

Exhibitions

Frick Art and Historical Center, Small But Sublime: Intimate 19th-Century American Landscapes, **through Sept. 5**, 7227 Reynolds St., Point Breeze, 412-371-0606, www.frickart.org.

Andy Warhol Museum, Twisted Pair: Marcel Duchamp/Andy Warhol, **through Sept. 6**, 117 Sandusky St., North Side, 412-237-8300, www.warhol.org.

Carnegie Museum of Art, Associated Artists of Pittsburgh 100th Annual Exhibition, **through Sept. 19**; Past Meets Present: Decorative Arts and Design, **ongoing**; Caricature, Satire, and Comedy of Manners: Works on Paper From the 18th Through 20th Centuries, **ongoing**; 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3131, www.cmoa.org.

Westmoreland Museum of American Art, Rooted in Tradition: Art Quilts From the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum, chronicles the history of the art quilt movement from 1980 through the present; Cutting Our Own Paths: Contemporary Works by Paper Artists, **both through Sept. 19**, 221 N. Main St., Greensburg, 724-837-1500, www.wmmuseumaa.org.

Senator John Heinz History Center, Ben Franklin: In Search of a Better World, **ongoing**; 1212 Smallman St., Strip District, 412-454-6000, www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

Frick Fine Arts Gallery, The Lives They Left Behind: Suitcases From a State Hospital Attic, **Sept. 1-25**, exhibition of items and photos from suitcases that were filled with personal belongings of former patients who resided in Willard Psychiatric Center, New York, University of Pittsburgh, Mental Health America/Allegheny County, www.suitcaseexhibit.org. (Story on Page 12.)

Lectures/Seminars/Readings

"Understanding the Public Health Impact of Marcellus Shale Drilling," panel discussion featuring Dan Volz, assistant professor in Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health and director of its Center for Healthy Environments and Communities, and others, 1:30 p.m. **Aug. 27**, G23 Parran Hall, Pitt Gradu-

ate School of Public Health, Center for Healthy Environments and Communities, www.chec.pitt.edu. (Story on Page 6.)

Opera/Theater/Dance

'S Wonderful: The New Gershwin Musical, celebration of music and lyrics of George and Ira Gershwin, **through Sept. 5**, Theater Square Cabaret, 655 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh CLO Cabaret, 412-456-6666, www.pgarts.org, Pitt ARTS Cheap Seats, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

The Phantom of the Opera, musical theater, **Aug. 25-Sept. 15**, Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, PNC Broadway Across America, 412-456-2697, www.broadwayacrossamerica.com, Pitt ARTS Cheap Seats, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

Pitt Orientation

Freshman Convocation: A Pitt Tradition, Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg and other distinguished members of the University welcome new students, 3 p.m. **Aug. 25**, required program for new students, Petersen Events Center, www.fye.pitt.edu.

Chancellor's Welcome Picnic, opportunity to mingle with University faculty, students, and staff, 4 p.m. **Aug. 25**, Petersen Events Center, www.fye.pitt.edu.

Pathway to Your Success at Pitt: A Pitt Tradition, Provost Patricia E. Beeson provides an overview of student opportunities at Pitt, 10 a.m. to noon **Aug. 26**, required program for new students, Petersen Events Center, www.fye.pitt.edu.

Lantern Night Ceremony, symbolic "light of learning" bestowed on more than 400 incoming freshman and first-year transfer women, 7:30 p.m. **Aug. 29**, Heinz Memorial Chapel, 412-624-8215.

Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

Michele Kennerly, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Communication, "Editorial Bodies in Ancient Roman Rhetorical Culture," 1 p.m. **Aug. 27**, 1128 Cathedral of Learning.

Jihyun An, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Chemistry, "Porous Metal-Adeninate Crystalline Materials: Syntheses, Structures, and Emerging Properties," 10 a.m. **Aug. 31**, 307 Eberly Hall.

MinJae Lee, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Biostatistics, "Multiple Imputation and Quantile Regression Methods for Biomarker Data Subject to Detection Limits," 2 p.m. **Aug. 31**, 109 Parran Hall.

Korporn Panyim, School of Information Sciences' Telecommunications and Networking Program, "Secure Connectivity Through Key Predistribution Under Jamming Attacks in Ad Hoc and Sensor Networks," 10 a.m. **Sept. 2**, 522 School of Information Sciences.

Michael Ferenczy, School of Medicine's Molecular Virology and Microbiology Graduate Program, "Epigenetic Regulation of Quiescent Herpes Simplex Virus Type 1 Gene Expression," 1 p.m. **Sept. 3**, S120 Biomedical Science Tower.

Behsat Ekici, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, "Is Turkey Realigning? A Three-Dimensional Investigation of Turkish-Iranian Security Rapprochement During the Erdogan Administration," 10 a.m. **Sept. 6**, Matthew B. Ridgway Center, 3930 Posvar Hall.



Pitt's Ridgway Center Cosponsors Conference on Violent Armed Groups

Pitt's Matthew B. Ridgway Center for International Security Studies in conjunction with the U.S. Army War College will host a conference Sept. 16-17 titled "Violent Armed Groups: A Global Challenge." This conference, which is being held in the University Club, will explore the threats posed to security and stability in many parts of the world by violent armed groups.

The conference seeks to accomplish the following:

- Examine the rise of a wide variety of armed groups operating in key parts of the world;
- Identify key characteristics of these groups, including their ability to mobilize support and raise funds;
- Assess the challenges posed by these groups to national security of various states, including the United States and its key allies; and
- Examine the implications these groups and their activities have for U.S. strategy.

To register or for more information, visit the registration Web site at <http://www.ridgway.pitt.edu/ContactRidgway/ConferenceRegistration/tabid/700/Default.aspx>. The Ridgway Center is an affiliate center of Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs.

—By Amanda Leff Ritchie



University of Pittsburgh

Pitt Chronicle

University News and Magazines
University of Pittsburgh
400 Craig Hall
200 South Craig Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

12 • Pitt Chronicle • August 24, 2010

Exhibition at Pitt: *The Lives They Left Behind*

Forgotten Suitcases in Hospital Attic Reveal Richness of Psychiatric Patients' Lives Before Hospitalization



By Sharon S. Blake

A cracked teacup . . . yellowed photographs . . . a beautifully embroidered baby gown.

These items and many others were found inside hundreds of vintage trunks and suitcases that were discovered by staff members in the pigeon-infested attic of the Willard Psychiatric Facility when the New York asylum closed in 1995.

Realizing they had stumbled upon documents and artifacts dating from the late-19th to mid-20th centuries, two of the staff members and a New York State Museum curator worked to preserve what they had found. The artifacts were eventually moved

to the state museum's warehouse and, in 1999, two individuals—psychiatrist Peter Stastny and Darby Penney, a mental health professional and advocate—immersed themselves for years in the suitcases' contents. They learned about the patients, went to their former homes, visited their graves, talked with their caretakers, and examined hundreds of Willard Facility-related documents and photos at the New York State Archives.

Award-winning cinematographer Liza Rinsler photographed the project, and the result is an exhibition titled *The Lives They Left Behind: Suitcases From a State Hospital Attic*, on display Sept. 1-25 in Pitt's Frick

Fine Arts Building. The exhibition and accompanying lectures and films (see box) are free and open to the public.

Cosponsored by the University of Pittsburgh, the exhibition memorializes those patients who spent on average 30 years of their lives at Willard. Most were sent there under court order or under involuntary measures; the only criterion for commitment prior to 1950 was a certificate signed by a doctor stating that the person was mentally ill and needed institutionalization.

Each patient memorialized in the exhibition had a fascinating and often heartbreaking personal story. Some were artists, soldiers, musicians, or teachers; many had families, careers, and aspirations; some had college degrees. And while there was custodial care at Willard, with the exception of hydrotherapy (submerging patients in cold water for long periods) and electroshock therapy, there was no mental health treatment. The patients' records rarely mentioned the exact nature of their mental or emotional distress. Those people found to be violent were placed in locked wards; those willing to work did so for free as cooks, janitors, and asylum grounds keepers. More than half of the 54,000 individuals who entered the sprawling facility over its lifetime died there.

The Frick Fine Arts show is the traveling version of a larger 2004 exhibition that was curated by Stastny and Penney, *Lost Cases, Recovered Lives: Suitcases From a State Hospital Attic*. The public response to the New York State Museum exhibition was overwhelming. It was viewed by more than 600,000 people over nine months. Some wept openly; conversations ensued; a play was written; a book, *The Lives They Left Behind: Suitcases From A State Hospital Attic* (Bellevue Literary Press, 2008), was published, highlighting the lives of 10 patients.

Additional information is available at www.suitcaseexhibit.org.

The Lives They Left Behind

Schedule of Lectures and Films

All lectures and films will begin at 7 p.m. in the Frick Fine Arts Building Auditorium.

Lectures

Thursday, Sept. 2

Darby Penney, exhibition curator and author of *The Lives They Left Behind: Suitcases From a State Hospital Attic*

Thursday, Sept. 9

Matthew Murray, photographer of the abandonedamerica.org collection

Thursday, Sept. 16

Robert Whitaker, author of *Mad in America* (Basic Books, 2001)

Wednesday, Sept. 22

Carla Yanni, author of *The Architecture of Madness* (University of Minnesota Press, 2007)

Films

Tuesday, Sept. 7

King of Hearts (1967, Philippe De Broca)

Tuesday, Sept. 14

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (1975, Milos Forman)

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published Sept. 7. Items for publication in the newspaper's *Happenings* calendar (see page 11) 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.