

Pitt to Receive \$125 Million Gift From Alumnus, Trustee, and Former Board Chair William S. Dietrich II

University to name its largest school the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences in honor of Mr. Dietrich's father

The University of Pittsburgh announced Sept. 22 that well-known and highly respected business leader, investor, author, and philanthropist William S. Dietrich II plans to make an historic gift of a \$125 million fund in support of the University. This is the largest individual gift to Pitt in its 225-year history and is one of the 10 largest gifts made by an individual to a public university in the United States. The fund will become operational upon Mr. Dietrich's passing.

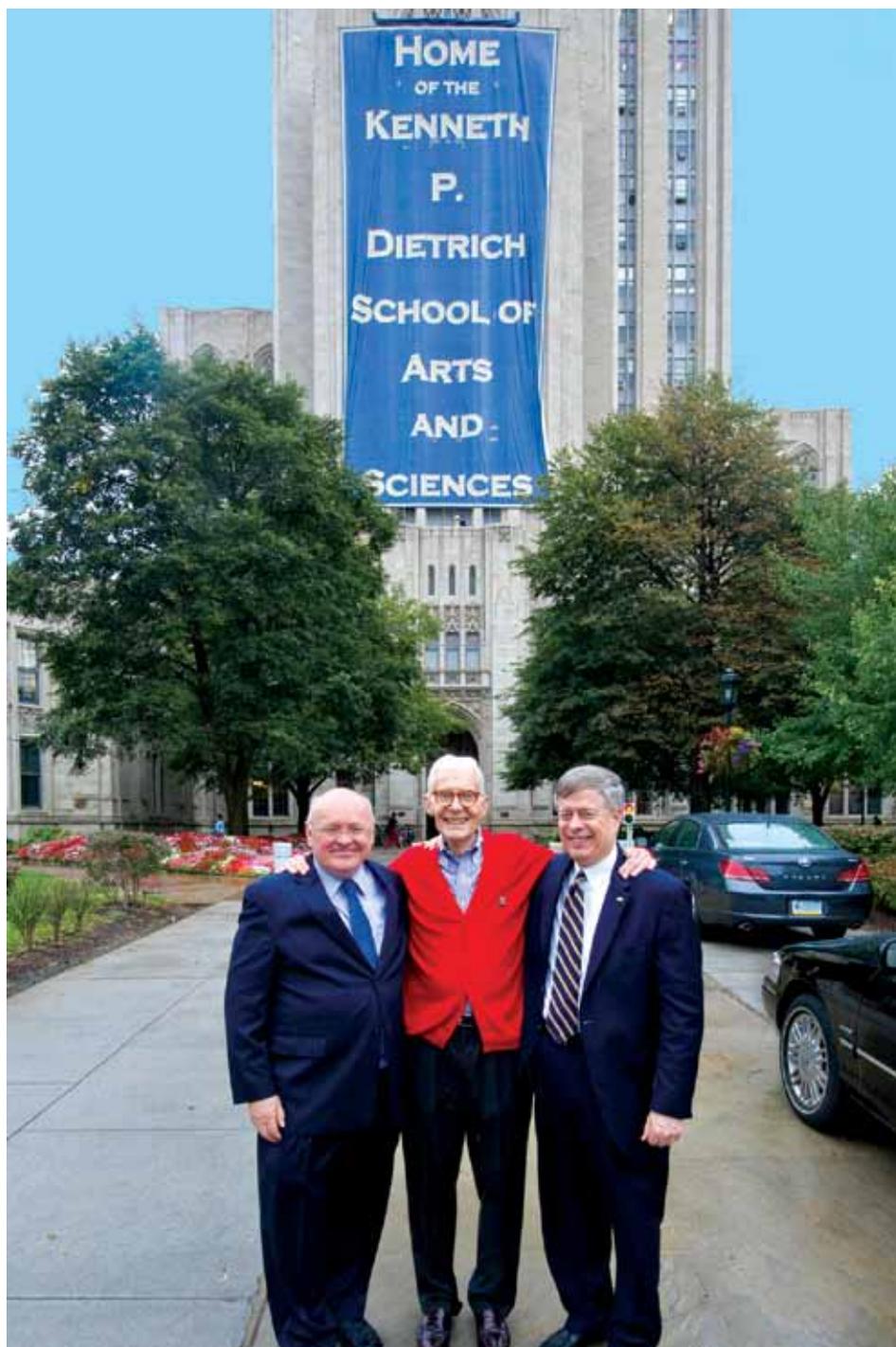
Mr. Dietrich earned both his M.A. and his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Pittsburgh. He has been a member of Pitt's Board of Trustees since 1991 and served as the Board's chairperson from 2001 to 2003. He also has served as the chair of the Board's Audit, Investment, and Conflict of Interest committees.

The first public recognition of his gift occurred Sept. 24 at Heinz Field during Pitt's football game against Notre Dame. The gift takes the University's \$2 billion "Building Our Future Together" capital campaign past the \$1.85 billion mark.

In announcing this historic gift, University Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg stated, "While this has been a rather closely held secret, those already aware of this gift have been overwhelmed by the magnitude of Bill Dietrich's generosity, and beginning today, the feelings of excitement and gratitude that his gift has triggered will spread far more broadly. There also is something special about receiving such an extraordinary gift from one of Pitt's favorite people. Speaking personally, Bill has been both a good friend and an inspiring role model to me. Within our Board he is known for his focused commitment to academic excellence, and within the broader community of business and civic leaders, he is known as a person who will tirelessly undertake virtually any assignment if it will contribute to the betterment of our home region."

In commenting on this gift, Mr. Dietrich said, "I am making this investment in the University of Pittsburgh for a number of reasons. As a graduate who personally benefitted from my own studies at Pitt, I want to ensure that the University can continue to provide educational opportunities of the highest quality to its undergraduate and graduate students. As a citizen of Southwestern Pennsylvania, I want to help secure the future of one of this region's most important institutions and hope that this gift will encourage others to join with me in supporting the University. And as someone who has seen Pitt's transformation into a national and international force in higher education from the special vantage point of a Trustee, I want to recognize the extraordinary progress that has been made by the University, particularly during Mark Nordenberg's 16-year tenure as Chancellor."

In recognition of this gift, a resolution will be introduced at the Oct. 28 meeting of Pitt's Board of Trustees to name the University's School of Arts and Sciences the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences in honor of Mr. Dietrich's father. The School of Arts and Sciences sits at the heart of the University's academic



From left, N. John Cooper, the Bettye J. and Ralph E. Bailey Dean of Arts and Sciences at Pitt; William S. Dietrich II, highly respected business leader, philanthropist, and Pitt alumnus, Trustee, and former Board chairperson; and Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. The 100-foot-by-48-foot banner behind them was unfurled Sept. 23 from the fifth to 16th floors of the Cathedral of Learning's Fifth Avenue elevation.

programs and provides instruction in the natural sciences, humanities, and social sciences for all students studying on the University's Pittsburgh campus. This includes more than 10,000 undergraduate students pursuing majors or certificates in the nearly 50 departments and programs of the School. The School also is home to the largest graduate program in Pittsburgh and to Pitt's College of General Studies, one of the region's leading providers of adult education programs.

The many distinguished graduates of the School include:

Herbert W. Boyer, who earned M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in the biological sciences from the School and went on to

receive numerous national and international awards for his pioneering work in genetic engineering, including both the 1989 National Medal of Technology and the 1990 National Medal of Science;

Michael W. Chabon, who earned his B.A. in English Writing from the School and, among many honors for his works, received the 2001 Pulitzer Prize in Fiction for his novel *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay*;

Paul C. Lauterbur, who earned his Ph.D. in chemistry from the School and received the 2003 Nobel Prize in Medicine for his contributions to the development of magnetic resonance imaging;

Wangari Muta Maathai, who earned

"... I want to ensure that the University can continue to provide educational opportunities of the highest quality to its undergraduate and graduate students. As a citizen of Southwestern Pennsylvania, I want to help secure the future of one of this region's most important institutions and hope that this gift will encourage others to join with me in supporting the University. And as someone who has seen Pitt's transformation into a national and international force in higher education from the special vantage point of a Trustee, I want to recognize the extraordinary progress that has been made by the University, particularly during Mark Nordenberg's 16-year tenure as Chancellor."

—William S. Dietrich II

her M.S. in the biological sciences from the School and was awarded the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize for her environmental and human rights work in her native Kenya; and **Bert W. O'Malley**, who earned his B.S. from the School, in addition to his M.D. from Pitt's School of Medicine, and received the 2007 National Medal of Science in recognition of his work as the "father" of molecular endocrinology.

The School is home to many departments and programs of distinction. Faculty of the School regularly receive the highest forms of national and international recognition, and its students regularly compete with the strongest students from the country's finest universities for the highest national honors.

In praising Mr. Dietrich for his support, N. John Cooper, the Bettye J. and Ralph E. Bailey Dean of Arts and Sciences at Pitt, said, "The arts and sciences are at the core of any great contemporary university. This transformative gift from Mr. Dietrich will let us advance our goal of being a world-recognized center for the generation of knowledge by our faculty, within and across disciplines, and for transmitting that knowledge to succeeding generations of undergraduates and graduate students."

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Pitt Gets \$3.54 Million Bioengineering Grant From the Coulter Foundation

By Lynn Shea

The Swanson School of Engineering at the University of Pittsburgh has received a \$3.54 million grant from the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation. Pitt is one of only five universities nationwide to receive the foundation's Coulter Translational Partnership II Award; the five-year grant to the Swanson School's Department of Bioengineering will fund research that employs engineering techniques to develop improvements in health care, with the ultimate goal of accelerating the introduction of new technologies into patient care.

The award from the Coulter Foundation will be supplemented by \$1.5 million in matching funds from the Pitt School of Medicine, the Swanson School, and the University's Office of Technology Management.

"We are thrilled to have been chosen to receive this award and participate in the Coulter Foundation program. Not only will it be of tremendous benefit to the individual researchers who receive funding, but it affirms both the growing prominence and future potential of Pitt's bioengineering program," said Gerald D. Holder, Pitt's U.S. Steel Dean of Engineering.

Harvey Borovetz, chair of the Department of Bioengineering, the Robert L. Hardisty Professor in the School of Medicine's Department of Surgery, and deputy director of the Artificial Organs and Medical Devices division of the Pitt-UPMC McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine, will be the principal investigator and one of three co-leaders for the Coulter program at Pitt.

The other members of the leadership team for the Coulter program at Pitt are Stephen Badylak, a professor in the School of Medicine's Department of Surgery and director of tissue engineering in the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine, and Marc Malandro, director of the Office of Technology Management and associate vice chancellor for technology management and commercialization at Pitt.

Pratap Khanwilkar will serve as the Coulter Program Director and Visiting Professor in the Swanson School's bioengineering department and as Executive-in-Residence in the University's Office of Technology Management.

Khanwilkar, who has studied, taught, and conducted research at the University of Utah for 28 years, most recently as an adjunct professor in its Department of Bioengineering, is the founder of six medical device product/service companies. In a uniquely fashioned, multifaceted position, Khanwilkar has been hired to guide the development of appropriate projects to be undertaken by Pitt researchers; ensure that they are properly vetted by a Coulter oversight committee; and facilitate the progress of securing additional funding, licensing intellectual property, and developing spin-off companies.

"We are especially pleased to have been chosen to receive this award because the University has demonstrated not only its ability to form partnerships between clinicians and engineers to develop ideas and products that will directly impact patients, but also the passion to see those ideas through to clinical application," Borovetz said.

Another significant determinant was the strength of the relationships the foundation has had with both individuals like Borovetz



Harvey Borovetz

and the Pitt researchers whom the foundation already supports through the Coulter Translational Research Awards program for individual investigators.

The \$3.54 million award was made to Pitt as part of a second phase of program development from the Coulter Foundation. Translational partnership awards through the first program development phase were made in 2005 to nine U.S. universities. The \$40 million awarded by Coulter in that first phase has resulted in an additional \$300 million in investments to further the development and market applications of the various projects initiated as a result of the nine Coulter-funded programs.

The Coulter Foundation and six universities in the first phase established \$20,000,000 funds at each school to continue the program. Half of the funds were contributed by the Coulter Foundation and each school raised the remainder.

The foundation used feedback it sought from universities that received funding in the first phase of the program to adopt a more formal procedure, dubbed the "Coulter Process," which they believe will yield even richer technology transfers of new products, applications, materials, and/or services to the medical community.

The Coulter Process allows for a one-year startup period during which the five-year program will be established on campus by the Pitt program's leadership team.

"Through the research funded by this generous award, the University's bioengineering faculty members are pleased to partner with the Coulter Foundation in working to fulfill the mission of Wallace Coulter expressed in his company's motto, 'Science Serving Humanity,'" Borovetz stated.

Bioengineering is the application of engineering principles to analyze, design, and manufacture tools, structures, and processes to solve problems in the life sciences. Successful patient-focused and commercialization-oriented collaborations between engineers and physicians who traditionally employ differing methodologies are critical to the burgeoning field and to regional economic development.

Pitt's Department of Bioengineering, which was established in 1998 as part of the

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Pitt Admissions and Financial Aid Director Betsy Porter To Retire June 30, 2012

By John Fedele

Betsy Porter, director of the University of Pittsburgh's Office of Admissions and Financial Aid, will retire June 30, 2012, Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor Patricia E. Beeson announced. At the helm of Pitt's student recruitment efforts since 1986, Porter is widely credited with elevating the University's status through her shaping of Pitt's undergraduate student population.

Among Porter's many accomplishments are a threefold increase in the number of applicants to the Pittsburgh campus, a 170-point surge in incoming freshmen's average SAT scores, the near tripling of freshmen enrolled who were in the top 10 percent of their high school classes, and enhancing the diversity of the student body.

"Demand for admission to Pitt's programs has grown dramatically during Dr. Porter's leadership as director of Admissions and Financial Aid, as has the academic strength displayed by newly enrolled students," said Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. "For two-and-a-half decades, Dr. Porter has consistently recruited outstanding Pitt freshman classes, and we always will be grateful for her substantial contribution to the University's unparalleled progress in recent years."

"It is difficult to think of a single individual who has done more than Betsy to shape the profile of the undergraduate student population on the Pittsburgh campus, thereby elevating the University's reputation across the state and the nation," said Beeson.

Porter joined the University in 1978 as senior associate director of the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid; prior to that, she served as associate director of admissions at Duquesne University, from 1970 to 1978.

Porter's many accomplishments at Pitt include successfully integrating admissions and financial aid into a single, efficient operation. When faced with a demographic decline in the number of high school graduates in Pennsylvania during the 1980s through the early 1990s and again beginning in 2004, she also successfully implemented a strategic recruiting plan that has resulted in increasingly diverse, strong, and well-prepared freshman classes. Under her stewardship, the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid has awarded and disbursed for the 2010-11 academic year more than \$290 million in financial aid—including federal, state, institutional, and private sources—while maintaining compliance with ever-changing federal, state, and institutional regulations and policies.

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Betsy Porter

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Pitt Faculty Member Elodie Ghedin, Alumnus Kevin Guskiewicz Named MacArthur Fellows



Elodie Ghedin



Kevin Guskiewicz

By Cindy Gill

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine faculty member Elodie Ghedin, a parasitologist and virologist, and Pitt alumnus Kevin Guskiewicz (EDUC '92G), a sports medicine scholar at the University of North Carolina, have each been named a 2011 MacArthur Fellow, a prestigious honor that carries an award of \$500,000 in unrestricted support for each recipient. The fellowships, given annually by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, are awarded for exceptional creativity and the promise for future accomplishments that will benefit human society. In 1996, University of Pittsburgh alumnus and trustee William E. Strickland Jr. (CAS '90) was named a MacArthur Fellow for his role as an arts educator and the head of two innovative Pittsburgh learning communities, the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild and the Bidwell Training Center.

Professors Ghedin and Guskiewicz are two of only 22 MacArthur fellowship recipients selected nationwide this year.

"The selection of Pitt faculty member Elodie Ghedin and alumnus Kevin Guskiewicz as prestigious MacArthur Fellows underscores these talented individuals' already-remarkable achievements, their dedication to their respective fields, and their potential to make ever-greater future advances," said Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. "We extend to each of them our most enthusiastic congratulations."

Ghedin is an assistant professor in the Pitt School of Medicine's Department of Computational and Systems Biology. She also is a member of the University's Center for Vaccine Research. She was a postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute of

Allergy and Infectious Diseases (1998-2000) and led the Viral Genomics group at the Institute for Genomic Research (2000-06) prior to her appointment to the faculty of the University of Pittsburgh. Her scientific articles have appeared in such publications as the *Journal of Virology*, *Science*, and *Nature*. She received a BS from McGill University in 1989, an MS from Université du Québec à Montréal in 1993, and a PhD from McGill University in 1998.

"I'm stunned and excited," Ghedin said. "With this award, I will expand on my parasitology work, specifically the organism that causes elephantiasis. I also hope to explore new avenues in the evolution of RNA viruses other than influenza."

School of Medicine Dean Arthur S. Levine, Pitt's senior vice chancellor for the health sciences, said, "Beyond this extraordinary recognition and honor for Dr. Ghedin, our medical school takes great pride in her 'Genius' award. Elodie has used and further developed the most powerful genetic and analytic tools available to explore the mechanisms which parasites employ to sicken and often kill large numbers of people afflicted with such dread infectious diseases as sleeping sickness, leishmaniasis, Chagas disease, and filariasis. Closer to home, Dr. Ghedin is applying similar methods to increase our understanding of the epidemiology of influenza and certain complications of AIDS. She is unique in having applied the most powerful molecular and computational tools to the study of infectious diseases, which wreak havoc in the lives of millions, and with the results of these studies, Elodie is pointing the way to likely targets for drug and vaccine development."

Guskiewicz is Kenan Distinguished Professor and chair of the Department of Exercise and Sport Science at the University of North Carolina, where he is also founding director of the Matthew Gfeller Sport-Related Traumatic Brain Injury Research Center and research director of the Center for the Study of Retired Athletes. He has been affiliated with the University of North Carolina since 1995. He received a BS from West Chester University in 1989, an MS from the University of Pittsburgh in 1992, and a PhD from the University of Virginia in 1995.

"Being selected a MacArthur Fellow is a tremendous honor for me, my family, and my colleagues," said Guskiewicz. "Our success has been a result of developing a strong research team, with common goals in mind. Concussion is a very complex injury. Managing this injury effectively is sort of like piecing together a puzzle. Piece by piece, we gain a clearer picture of concussion and its severity," he said. "As scientists, coaches, administrators, and doctors, we bear the responsibility of keeping our athletes safe."

Additional information on Ghedin and Guskiewicz provided by the MacArthur Foundation follows.

Elodie Ghedin is a biomedical researcher who is harnessing the power of genetic sequencing techniques into critical insights about human pathogens. Although the technology for obtaining nucleotide sequence data continues to accelerate, the labor-intensive task of analyzing and annotating the resulting data—for example, identifying genes, their functions, and their expression; determining the arrangement of genes within the genome; and performing phylogenetic and functional comparisons with other known species—often lags behind.

Ghedin has established herself as a leader of international projects that coordinate the efforts of scores of scientists to decode the function of some of the most virulent human pathogens. A major focus of her work has been parasites that cause diseases endemic to tropical climates, such as leishmaniasis, sleeping sickness, Chagas disease, elephantiasis, and river blindness. Through her direct research and mobilization of global scientific collaborations, Ghedin's work illuminates the similarities and differences in the molecular physiology of the various parasites, with important implications for targets for drug development.

Ghedin and her colleagues also are applying similar approaches to understanding viruses that infect humans. RNA viruses such as HIV and influenza mutate particularly rapidly, making vaccine development difficult. In a high-resolution study of complete genome sequences of influenza A from more than 200 isolates collected in the New York area, Ghedin and her colleagues showed that the virus evolves with surprising rapidity even in a circumscribed geographic region. Through her contributions to parasitology and virology, Ghedin demonstrates that molecular genetics not only is essential for exploring the basic biology of pathogens

but also represents a powerful tool in the hands of scientists working in coordination to improve public health across the globe.

Kevin Guskiewicz is a researcher and athletic trainer who has made major advances in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of sports-related concussions.

Each year, approximately 3.8 million athletes in the United States experience mild traumatic brain injuries, or concussions. Through a combination of laboratory and

on-the-field research, Guskiewicz has played an important role in raising awareness about the prevalence and dangers of sports-related brain injuries in both professional and youth athletics.

Guskiewicz was among the first to identify the long-term effects of multiple concussions, including cognitive impairment and depression in later life, through large-scale epidemiological studies of retired professional football players. Recognizing the inadequacy of traditional concussion screening tools—most rely solely on an athlete's self-report of symptoms—Guskiewicz demonstrated that postural control, or balance, serves especially well as an objective measure in the evaluation of concussive episodes. His portable and cost-effective Balance Error Scoring System is now widely used by athletic trainers at colleges and secondary schools to diagnose and manage injury more accurately and rapidly.

Guskiewicz's recent work focuses on the cumulative effects of repetitive, subthreshold brain impacts. Using accelerometers embedded in the helmets of college football and youth hockey players, he and colleagues are investigating the relationship between magnitude and number of head impacts and clinical symptoms of concussion. Taking this research a step further, he is working directly with collegiate football players and coaches to identify dangerous hits in real time and to correct improper tackling techniques associated with sustaining concussions.

While engaging clinicians, coaches, parents, and athletes in recognizing the immediate and long-term effects of concussions, Guskiewicz is contributing significantly to state and federal policy discussions concerning development of more stringent return-to-play guidelines and head-gear investigations that will improve the safety of athletes of all ages.

About the MacArthur Fellows Program

The MacArthur Fellows Program is intended to encourage people of outstanding talent to pursue their own creative, intellectual, and professional inclinations. In keeping with this purpose, the foundation awards fellowships directly to individuals rather than through institutions. Recipients may be writers, scientists, artists, social scientists,

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Pitt to Receive \$125 Million Gift From Dietrich

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Pitt Trustee Eva Tansky Blum, who earned her undergraduate degree in political science from what will be known as the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences and who later earned her law degree from Pitt, serves as cochair of the University's capital campaign. In commenting on this record-setting gift from her fellow Board member, she said, "Our capital campaign is helping to propel Pitt forward by providing the resources it needs to solidify its place among the world's most respected universities. We cannot even begin to imagine the extent of the good that will come from Bill's magnificent gift, but we know that it will enhance countless individual lives while also strengthening the fabric of our home community and the broader society."

A Legacy of Business Success, Community Impact, and Uncommon Generosity

After graduating from Princeton University in 1960, Mr. Dietrich served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves before joining Dietrich Industries, Inc., the company founded by his father. Mr. Dietrich assumed responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the company in the mid-1960's and in the process transformed Dietrich Industries from a small steel warehouse and distribution business into the nation's largest manufacturer of light metal framing for the construction industry. In 1996, Worthington

Industries bought Dietrich Industries and asked Mr. Dietrich to remain as a director, a position he held until his retirement in 2008.

It was while he was leading Dietrich Industries through a period of significant growth that Mr. Dietrich earned his graduate degrees from the University. A student of both history and international economics, he is a regular contributor to the *Pittsburgh Quarterly*. Mr. Dietrich also is the author of two books: *In the Shadow of the Rising Sun: The Political Roots of American Economic Decline*, published in 1991 by the Penn State University Press, and *Eminent Pittsburghers: Profiles of the City's Founding Industrialists*, a collection of biographical essays published in 2011 by Taylor Trade Publishing. He is in the process of writing a third book, *American Recessional: The U.S. Decline and the Rise of China*.

Mr. Dietrich is well known for his wide-ranging civic commitments. In addition to his service on the University of Pittsburgh Board of Trustees, he has served on the Boards of Carnegie Mellon University, the Carnegie

Museum of Art, the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, Chatham University, the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, the Pittsburgh Symphony Society, the Southwestern Pennsylvania Growth Alliance, the UPMC Health System, and

the Greater Pittsburgh Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Current Pitt Board Chair Stephen R. Tritch noted, "Bill is an Eagle Scout and has often stated that Scouting had a lasting impact on his life. Certainly, that is seen in his unflinching willingness to lend a helping hand to others, through his philanthropy and through the many community leadership responsibilities he has discharged so effectively."

A hallmark of Mr. Dietrich's life will be his exceptional, and exceptionally well-targeted, philanthropy. The source of the fund that will benefit the University of Pittsburgh is The Dietrich Charitable Trusts, which are charitable remainder trusts created by Mr. Dietrich that own assets principally generated by the 1996 sale of Dietrich Industries. It is anticipated that upon Mr. Dietrich's passing, the assets of these trusts will fund a new charitable organization, The Dietrich Foundation, which will administer the fund benefitting Pitt.

A Good Man

Born on June 17, 1907, Kenneth P. Dietrich married Marianna Brown in 1933. The two had met while enrolled as students at Thiel College in Greenville, Pa. The couple began their lives together in Pittsburgh and had two children, William and Linda.

Ken Dietrich started his career at Diamond Alkali Company. An outstanding salesman, he was rapidly promoted to merchandising manager, one of the top 10

positions in that company. In 1940, Ken became the president of Hood Chemical Company, moving that firm from New York to Pittsburgh. In 1947, he stepped down as president and moved his family to Conneaut Lake, Pa., where they briefly owned and operated the Iroquois Hotel. In 1959, he returned to industry, starting a small lumber business near Blairsville, Pa. That company would grow to become Dietrich Industries, Inc.

Mr. Dietrich remembers his father as a good golfer, a good card player, a good dancer, and, most important, as a good man. He recalls that his father had a great sense of humor, played the ukulele, and appeared in amateur theatricals. Describing his father, Mr. Dietrich has said "He was born to be a salesman, and he was a very good one." Kenneth P. Dietrich passed away on March 4, 1984, at the age of 77. He was preceded in death by Marianna, who died in 1983, shortly before the two would have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Earlier this month, Carnegie Mellon University announced that it would name its College of Humanities and Social Sciences the Marianna Brown Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Mr. Dietrich has said that he is moved by the thought of his father and mother eternally looking at each other lovingly across Panther Hollow from the Pitt and CMU schools that will bear their names.

"The arts and sciences are at the core of any great contemporary university. This transformative gift from Mr. Dietrich will let us advance our goal of being a world-recognized center for the generation of knowledge by our faculty, within and across disciplines, and for transmitting that knowledge to succeeding generations of undergraduates and graduate students."

—N. John Cooper

Pitt Admissions and Financial Aid Director Betsy Porter To Retire June 30, 2012

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Each year, Porter and her staff review and process more than 25,000 applications for undergraduate admission and more than 20,000 financial aid requests.

As a member of the University's Council of Deans and Enrollment Management Committee, Porter has helped shape policies that have improved Pitt's undergraduate educational offerings, programs, and services and have increased student satisfaction, retention, and graduation rates. Porter also has served as a member of the Senate Council on Admissions and Financial Aid Committee and the Universitywide Athletic Compliance Committee.

Porter's service to the University was recognized in 2000, when the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid received the Provost's Award for Service Excellence. In

Porter's service to the University was recognized in 2000, when the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid received the Provost's Award for Service Excellence. In 2008, she received the University of Pittsburgh African American Alumni Council Sankofa Award for outstanding student support.

2008, she received the University of Pittsburgh African American Alumni Council Sankofa Award for outstanding student support. Her other awards include the Gold Echo Award for Creativity from the Direct Mail Marketing Association and the National Association of College Admission Counselors Editor's Award.

Porter is a member of a dozen professional associations, including the College Board and ACT. She served on the Middle States Regional Council of the College Board and chaired the Pennsylvania ACT Council Executive Committee.

Porter earned her PhD in higher education administration from Pitt in 1984, her MEd in guidance counseling from Duquesne in 1970, and her BA in elementary education from the University of Charleston in 1969.

A search committee will be formed in the coming weeks to identify Porter's successor by Spring 2012.

Pitt Gets \$3.54 Million Coulter Grant

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Swanson School of Engineering, is ranked as one of the nation's top bioengineering programs and has received millions of dollars to fund research for such advances as the development of a tiny cardiac-assist device for infants, a blood-treatment tool that can free patients from ventilator dependence, and materials that help generate bone. The department is home to 23 full-time faculty and more than 100 faculty holding secondary appointments.

The Department of Bioengineering is currently developing a new Center for Medical Innovation (CMI), which will collaborate with the Coulter Translational Partnership Program to define early-stage, innovative medical technologies and to promote their commercialization. CMI also has an educational mission to develop the next generation of medical product innovators through the cooperative efforts of the Swanson School of Engineering and the Schools of the Health Sciences, Business, and Law.

Although the Coulter award will enable some of Pitt's most-accomplished scientists to conduct leading-edge research in some of the University's most-advanced and best-equipped laboratories, the awards were made possible in large part by a discovery that was made in far less sophisticated surroundings by a young inventor who was unable to complete his college education because of the hardships of the Great Depression. Wallace H. Coulter (1913-1998) may not be a name as widely recognized as those of Thomas Edison, Marie Curie, or Jonas Salk, but, like

these more famous innovators, Coulter and the Coulter® Principle he developed made wide-reaching contributions to modern medicine, science, and industry.

The Coulter Principle was discovered in the 1940's, when the supply of paint for an experiment Coulter was conducting in his garage laboratory had frozen, and Coulter was able to substitute his own blood for the paint because the two substances had similar viscosity. Coulter's experiment used electronic impedance to count and size microscopic particles suspended in fluid. This technique led to the development of the Coulter Counter. The latter device replaced the laborious practice of manually counting blood cells and was the first of many such instruments used in a wide range of applications, including the "complete blood count" or "CBC," which is the most commonly ordered diagnostic test in the world today.

Coulter's technique is also used for analyzing different blood components as well as determining the quality of many consumer items,

including paint, chocolate, and cosmetics, and assessing the purity of NASA's jet fuel. The invention, one of 82 Coulter would patent throughout his lifetime, was manufactured and sold by Coulter Electronics, an international company based in Miami, Fla., that provided the wealth Coulter would use to establish the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation before his death. The recipient of the John Scott Award for Scientific Achievement in 1960 and a 1998 inductee into the National Academy of Engineering, Coulter was posthumously inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 2004.

The Department of Bioengineering is currently developing a new Center for Medical Innovation (CMI), which will collaborate with the Coulter Translational Partnership Program to define early-stage, innovative medical technologies and to promote their commercialization.

Awards & More



The University of Pittsburgh's **Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business and College of Business Administration (CBA)** was named one of the most military-friendly schools in the nation by *G.I. Jobs*, a national magazine for military personnel transitioning into civilian life. This is the third year the Katz School and CBA have earned this honor.

Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl honored Pitt's **Audrey J. Murrell** with a Citizens Service Award and proclaimed



Audrey Murrell

Aug. 12 "Mayor Luke Ravenstahl's Citizens Service Recipient, Dr. Audrey Murrell Day."

Murrell is a professor of business administration, psychology, and public and international affairs at the University of Pittsburgh and the director of the David Berg Center for Ethics and Leadership in Pitt's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business and College of Business Administration.

The award recognizes "community leaders who have contributed exceptional levels of service toward the advancement of Pittsburgh communities,"

Ravenstahl wrote in an Aug. 12 letter to Murrell.

Kareem Abu-Elmagd, professor of surgery in Pitt's School of Medicine and director of the Intestinal Rehabilitation and Transplantation Center at the Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute, was named president of the Intestinal Transplant Association. Abu-Elmagd's two-year appointment as president was announced Sept. 17 during the International Small Bowel Transplant Symposium in Washington, D.C.



Kareem Abu-Elmagd

Mary Rodgers Schubert, director of continuing education, University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, was named president of the Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania (NAP), a nonprofit foundation that aims to improve recruitment and retention of nurses in the state. NAP also named three School of Nursing faculty as Nightingale Award finalists: **Michael Beach**, assistant professor; **Alice Blazeck**, assistant professor and vice chair for administration; and **Annette DeVito Dabbs**, a professor and vice chair for research, all in the Department of Acute/Tertiary Care. Finally, **Elizabeth Crago**, a postdoctoral student in the School of Nursing's Department of Acute/Tertiary Care, was awarded a Nightingale scholarship.

Benedum Hall, home to Pitt's Swanson School of Engineering, was named the 2011 Project of the Year during a March of Dimes Transportation, Building, and

Construction Awards luncheon on June 14. Opened in 1971, the 12-floor tower and accompanying auditorium have been under renovation since 2008, when Pitt launched its \$60 million

update of the engineering complex. The first phase was completed in 2010 and includes the new home of Pitt's Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation. The Mascaro addition is on track for LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification and features the University's first living green roof—a

plant and soil expanse that reduces water runoff and heat absorption—among other green features.



Benedum Hall, home to the Swanson School of Engineering

Call for Nominations for Pitt's Bellet Awards, Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize

The University of Pittsburgh School of Arts and Sciences will accept nominations from Oct. 1 to 31 for both the Tina and David Bellet Teaching Excellence Awards and the Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Advising.

David Bellet (CAS '67) and his wife, Tina, established the Bellet Teaching Excellence Awards in 1998 to recognize outstanding and innovative undergraduate teaching in the School of Arts and Sciences. Bellet award recipients receive a \$5,000 cash prize in appreciation of their contributions to the School of Arts and Sciences and the University.

To qualify for the award, nominees must be full-time undergraduate Arts and Sciences faculty who have taught for three years on Pitt's Pittsburgh campus. Applicants must receive at least three nominations to be considered for the award.

Students and faculty may submit nominations to Arts and Sciences Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies John A. Twyning, 140 Thackeray Hall, 139 University Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

Electronic submissions can be sent to Carol Lynch at clynch@pitt.edu, but must be followed by signed paper duplicates.

Additional information about the Bellet Awards can be found at www.as.pitt.edu/teaching/awards.html.

To qualify for the award, nominees must be full-time undergraduate Arts and Sciences faculty who have taught for three years on Pitt's Pittsburgh campus. Applicants must receive at least three nominations to be considered for the award.

Ampco-Pittsburgh Corporation established the Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Advising in 2006 to recognize outstanding academic advisors and their commitment to the success of Pitt's undergraduate students. Award recipients receive a one-time, \$4,000 cash prize.

Full-time undergraduate Arts and Sciences faculty members are eligible for the Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize. Nominees must have been a departmental advisor for at least three years on the Pittsburgh campus to be considered. Nominees must receive at least one nomination from their department chair or program director and at least two from undergraduate students whom they have advised.

Department chairs, program directors, and current and former undergraduate advisees may also submit nominations to Twyning. Electronic submissions should be sent to taylor@as.pitt.edu. Additional information is available at www.as.pitt.edu/teaching/awards.html#ampco.

UPMC Health Plan Offers Free Flu Shots to Pitt Faculty, Staff in Oakland



Pitt faculty and staff who subscribe to the UPMC Health Plan can receive free flu shots at select Pittsburgh campus locations through Nov. 1.

Shots are available from:

- 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **Sept. 26**, Rooms 540 & 542 William Pitt Union;
- 11 a.m.-2 p.m. **Sept. 29**, Student Health Service, Suite 500, Medical Arts Building;
- 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **Oct. 3**, 102 Benedum Hall;
- 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **Oct. 10**, Posvar Hall Galleria;
- 11 a.m.-2 p.m. **Oct. 12**, Student Health Service, Suite 500, Medical Arts Building;
- 11 a.m.-2 p.m. **Oct. 20**, Student Health Service, Suite 500, Medical Arts Building;
- 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **Oct. 24**, 5th-floor conference room, Bridgeside Point Building; and
- Noon-2 p.m. **Nov. 1**, 342 Craig Hall.

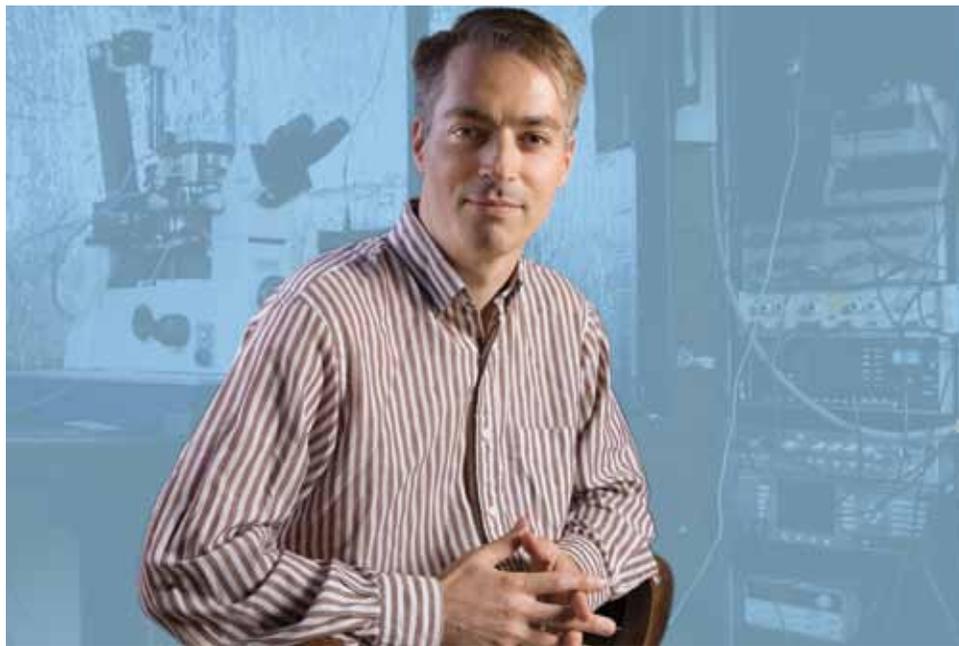
Additionally, Falk Pharmacy will offer the shots from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays **through Dec. 22** on the second floor of the Falk Medical Building. Regardless of the clinic location, Pitt faculty and staff are required to show valid University and UPMC Health Plan ID cards. UPMC Health Plan members can also receive the flu shot from a participating provider at no out-of-pocket cost.

Flu season can start as early as October and last until May, peaking in January and February, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine as an important step in protecting against flu viruses.

—By Kerry Byrnes

Pitt Is Lead University on \$1.8 Million Grant To Help Transform Computing

Levy-Led Lab's Tiny Etch-A-Sketch® Is Key to Research



Jeremy Levy

By Karen Hoffmann

Could Pittsburgh be the nation's next "Strontium Valley"? The University of Pittsburgh is the lead institution on a \$1.8 million grant from the National Science Foundation and the Nanoelectronics Research Initiative (NRI) of the Semiconductor Research Corporation (SRC) to bring a new kind of computer out of the lab and into the real world. The goal of the group, led by Jeremy Levy, a professor of physics and astronomy in Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences, is no less than transforming the way computing is done.

The four-year grant, titled "Scalable Sensing, Storage, and Computation With a Rewritable Oxide Nanoelectronics Platform," also involves researchers from the University of Wisconsin

and Northwestern University. The program aims to create new high-tech industries and jobs in the United States.

"The search for a new semiconductor device that will provide the United States with a leadership position in the global era of nanoelectronics relies on making discoveries at these kinds of advanced universities," said Jeff Welser, director of the NRI for SRC.

From Etch-A-Sketch® to Tiny Transistors

Levy and his team have invented a tiny Etch-A-Sketch® that draws infinitesimally small "wires" on a surface, then erases them. The device works by switching an oxide crystal between insulating and conducting states. The interface between these two materials can be switched between an insulating and metallic state using a sharp conducting probe. Electronic circuits can be "written" and "erased" at scales approaching the distance between atoms (two nanometers). The device, less than four nanometers wide, enables photonic interaction with objects as small as single molecules or quantum dots.

This research grant explicitly addresses key scientific and technological challenges that, if overcome, could lead turn the "Etch-A-Sketch®" into something real and useful—from being just a toy in a science lab to a possible replacement for conventional electronics made from silicon devices.

Beyond being just plain cool, this device could be the basis of an entirely new kind of transistor.

Transistors in a computer are the on/off switches that enable the efficient

implementation of complex computational systems. And for the last half century, they've been getting smaller and smaller, according to (Intel founder Gordon) "Moore's law": The number of transistors that can be placed inexpensively on an integrated circuit doubles approximately every two years. At some point, though, this trend has to stop. Materials start acting "weird" when they are made too small. The useful properties of silicon, for example, are believed to break down at distances smaller than 10 nanometers.

"The question is, once you've pushed silicon to its limit, is there going to be another system to do computation?" asks Levy. That's really what we've been granted funding to explore. We're trying to

break down the major barriers that are potential show-stoppers that would otherwise make it difficult to turn these new types of devices into real, useful things."

In 2008, Levy and colleagues reported in *Science* that they had made a transistor with elements that were five interatomic distances wide. "These are really, really small transistors," Levy emphasizes. "We believe that they behave in a fundamentally different way from normal transistors."

To develop useful electronics, it is imperative to develop a scheme capable of creating and manipulating large numbers of devices. If it takes a minute to make a transistor, it would take a year to make a billion of them. This scaling is achieved through the use of large probe arrays.

Levy uses an atomic force microscope, a specialized instrument that moves a probe and along a surface, to create the transistors. Another method, used by Chad Mirkin at Northwestern University, has developed ways of producing millions of such tips on a single wafer. "The idea is to do parallel writing—to have all of these



This research grant explicitly addresses key scientific and technological challenges that, if overcome, could lead turn the "Etch-A-Sketch®" into something real and useful—from being just a toy in a science lab to a possible replacement for conventional electronics made from silicon devices.

Ghedin, Guskiewicz: MacArthur Fellows

Continued from page 3

humanists, teachers, entrepreneurs, or those in other fields, with or without institutional affiliations. They may use their fellowship to advance their expertise, engage in bold new work, or, if they wish, to change fields or alter the direction of their careers.

Although nominees are reviewed for their achievements, the fellowship is not a reward for past accomplishment, but rather an investment in a person's originality, insight, and potential. Indeed, the purpose of the MacArthur Fellows Program is to enable recipients to exercise their own creative instincts for the benefit of human society.

The Foundation does not require or expect specific products or reports from MacArthur Fellows and does not evaluate recipients' creativity during the term of the fellowship. The MacArthur Fellowship is a "no strings attached" award in support of people, not projects. Each fellowship comes with a stipend of \$500,000 to the recipient, paid out in equal quarterly installments over five years.

How MacArthur Fellows Are Chosen

Each year, the MacArthur Fellows Program invites new nominators on the basis of their expertise, accomplishments, and breadth of experience. They are encouraged to nominate the most creative people they know within their field and beyond. Nomi-

different tips working in parallel," says Levy. That way, manufacturing takes a few minutes instead of a year.

New Materials, New Ways of Sensing

How today's computers process information depends on a fixed architecture of ones and zeros—digital logic. Levy envisions using new materials that might not follow that same architecture. "We want the material to tell us the best way it can do computation, rather than trying to impose an old architecture that was really designed for another type of material," he says. "We want to listen to the material and then map information processing onto what it's good at."

Professors Mark Rzchowski and Jack Ma at the University of Wisconsin will focus on this issue. The materials they will be working with are part of a family known as "complex oxides." This class of materials shares many of the semiconducting properties of silicon but has a wealth of other properties that make the material interesting for computing, storage and sensing applications.

All computers require storage, but they store this information using very different architectures than the computer parts. In addition, an important function of electronics is that semiconductors can be used for sensing—which in this case really means sensing of light.

"We want to try to integrate all of these things together and have a platform that allows us to 'write' or 'erase' components capable of all of these functions," Levy says.

The principal material the researchers wish to study is a sandwich of two such oxides: a thick layer of strontium titanate,

nominators are chosen from as broad a range of fields and areas of interest as possible. At any given time, there are usually more than one hundred active nominators.

Although nominees are reviewed for their achievements, the fellowship is not a reward for past accomplishment, but rather an investment in a person's originality, insight, and potential.

Nominations are evaluated by an independent Selection Committee composed of about a dozen leaders in the arts, sciences, humanities professions, and for-profit and nonprofit communities. Each nomination is considered with respect to the program's selection criteria, based on the nomination letter along with original works of the nominee and evaluations from other experts collected by the program staff.

After a thorough, multistep review, the Selection Committee makes its recommendations to the president and board of directors of the MacArthur Foundation. Announcement of the annual list is usually made in September. While there are no quotas or limits, typically 20 to 30 Fellows are selected each year. Between June of 1981 and September of 2010, 828 Fellows have been named.

Nominators, evaluators, and selectors all serve anonymously and their correspondence is kept confidential. This policy enables participants to provide their honest impressions independent of outside influence. The Fellows Program does not accept applications or unsolicited nominations.

with a thin (1.2 nanometer) layer of lanthanum aluminate. These materials will be grown in the laboratory of Professor Chang-Beom Eom at the University of Wisconsin.

Energy Efficiency

Another issue Levy is studying is the amount of power that is consumed by devices as they get smaller. With laptops, for example, clock speed—processor speed—used to be everything. But now, it's not touted as much. "Of course, that's because manufacturers can't make it go faster," Levy points out. "They could increase the clock speed, but it would melt the silicon."

Not only is making computing more energy efficient good for the environment, it's also practical. "What we're interested in doing is trying to see if we can create info processing much closer to the fundamental limits," Levy says. "We know we can make things small; the question is, 'can we make them small and not heat up to the temperature of the sun?'"

OnRamp to Success

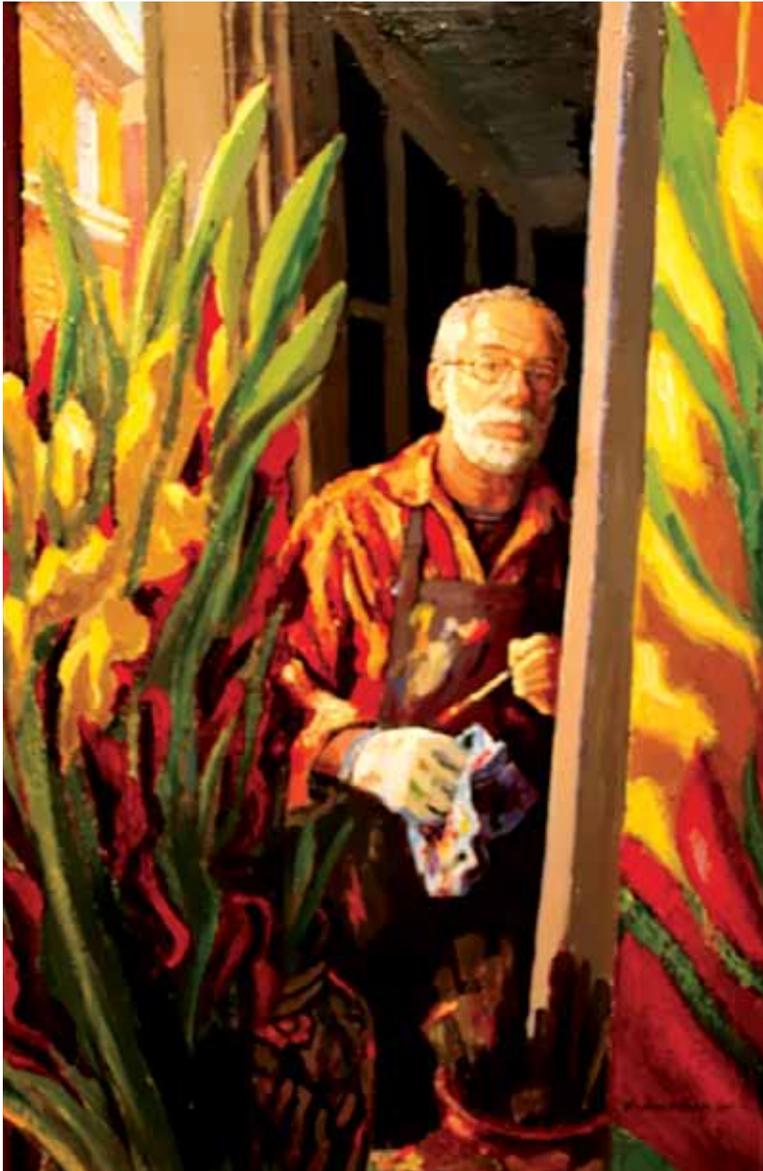
The grant also includes an outreach component. A new "OnRamp" education program targets specific difficulties that students have in their subdiscipline while beginning their research careers. OnRamp tutorials are developed by beginning graduate students as they "learn the ropes" of doing research. Graduate students help develop research-based learning modules, which are shared with a broader research community—"putting a ramp there to smooth out the bumps in the road so that people can get moving with research faster," says Pitt professor of physics and astronomy Chandralekha Singh, who is leading this OnRamp program.

Such tools have been shown to help students from underrepresented groups.

In addition, both Pitt and Wisconsin continue to expand their high school outreach programs aimed at increasing the numbers of underrepresented groups in science and engineering disciplines.

For more information on Levy's research, visit <http://www.levylab.org>.

Happenings



Self Portrait With Gladiolus by Stephen Hankin

University Art Gallery, On a Lucky Day a Surprising Balance of Forms and Spaces Will Appear, Frick Fine Arts Building, through October 21

Concerts

Tom Russell, American singer-songwriter specializing in folk and country music, 7:30 p.m. **Sept. 27**, Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, 6300 Fifth Ave., Shadyside, Calliope Center Stage Concerts, 412-316-1915, www.calliopehouse.org, PITT ARTS Cheap Seats Program, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

Salsamba Latin Jazz, virtuoso guitar performances and the beat of hand drumming, noon **Sept 28**, free, Nordy's Café, ground floor, William Pitt Union, Artful Wednesdays Concert Series Fall 2011, Pitt Arts, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

"The Americas—In Concert," Grammy-winning Latin pianist Octavio Brunetti and his band, the Octavio Brunetti Quintet, bring tango to Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m. **Oct. 1**, free public concert, Richard Rauh Theater in Hillman Center for Performing Arts, Shady Side Academy Senior School, 423 Fox Chapel Rd., Pitt's Center for Latin American Studies and University Center for International Studies, tickets should be reserved, visit www.proartstickets.org/events/buy/909/etid:2584, 412-648-7394.



"Japan's World War II in Asia: 70 Years On," University Club, September 30 and October 1

Juilliard Baroque Ensemble in *The Three Fiddlers*, mining the rich tradition of string music to deliver bravura violin gems, 8 p.m. **Oct 1**, Synod Hall, 125 N. Craig St., Oakland, Renaissance & Baroque Society of Pittsburgh, 412-361-2048, www.rbsp.org, PITT ARTS Cheap Seats Program, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

Beethoven Extravaganza, with Manfred Honeck conducting and, as concerto soloists, the Grammy-nominated Eroica Trio, **Sept. 30 through Oct. 2**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, BNY Mellon Grand Classics, www.pgharts.org; PITT ARTS Night is Sept. 30; 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

Exhibitions

University Art Gallery, On a Lucky Day a Surprising Balance of Forms and Spaces Will Appear, through Oct. 21, exhibition comprising work of 14 faculty members in Pitt's Department of Studio Arts, Frick Fine Arts Building, 412-648-2430.

Carnegie Museum of Art, Palladio and His Legacy: A Transatlantic Journey, through Dec. 31; Hand Made: Contemporary Craft in Ceramic, Glass, and Wood, ongoing; Past Meets Present: Decorative Arts and Design at Carnegie Museum of Art, ongoing, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3131, www.cmoa.org.

The Warhol, Fifteen Minutes: Homage to Andy Warhol, through Jan. 8; I Just Want to Watch: Warhol's Film, Video, and Television, ongoing, 117 Sandusky St., North Side, 412-237-8300, www.warhol.org.

Heinz History Center, America's Best Weekly: A Century of The Pittsburgh Courier, through Oct. 2; 1212 Smallman St., Strip District, 412-454-6000, www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, Botany and History Entwined: Rachel Hunt's Legacy, rare gems from the original collection of founder Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt (1882-1963), **through Dec. 15**, 5th Floor of Hunt Library, 4909 Frew St., Carnegie Mellon University, 412-268-2434, <http://huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu/>.

Wood Street Galleries, Cell Phone Disco, ongoing, 600 Wood St., Downtown, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

Lectures/Seminars/Readings

John D'Agata, author and editor, 8:30 p.m. **Sept 27**, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Pitt's Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series, www.english.pitt.edu.

"Aristotle and the Gilmore Girls—Today's TV Series in Light of The Poetics," Wolfgang Bernard, professor, Heinrich Schliemann-Institut, University of Rostock, 4:30 p.m. **Sept. 28**, 317 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Department of Classics, www.classics.pitt.edu.

"Critical Care: A New Nurse Faces Death, Life, and Everything in Between," book reading by author Theresa Brown, an oncology nurse at UPMC Shadyside Hospital, 8 a.m. **Sept. 30**, Scaife Hall, Auditorium 6, Fourth Floor, PFCC Partners @ The Innovation Center of UPMC, www.pfcc.org.

"Novel Strategies Against Mycobacterium Tuberculosis," Shabaana Khader, assistant professor of pediatrics and of immunology, Pitt School of Medicine, noon **Sept. 30**, Scaife Hall, Auditorium 6, Senior Vice Chancellor's Research Seminar Series, open to all Pitt and CMU faculty, students, and staff, www.svc-seminar.pitt.edu.

"'Becoming Good by Nature': Aristotle on the Heritability of Character," Mariska Leunissen, assistant professor of philosophy, University of North Carolina, 3:30 p.m. **Sept. 30**, 244B Cathedral of Learning, Pitt's Program in Classics, Philosophy, and Ancient Science, www.classics.pitt.edu.



John D'Agata, Contemporary Writers Series, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, September 27

"Japan's World War II in Asia: 70 Years On," two-day international conference convened by Pitt history professor Richard Smethurst, **Sept. 30 and Oct. 1**, University Club, Pitt's Asian Studies Center, University Center for International Studies, free and open to the public, but space is limited, RSVP to dakis@pitt.edu, www.ucis.pitt.edu.

"Death Comes for Seven Eminent Florentines and Harasses the Archaeologist Digging Them Up," Franklin Toker, Pitt History of Art and Architecture professor, discusses his excavations of graves below Cathedral of Florence, noon **Oct. 5**, 203 Frick Fine Arts, History of Art and Architecture Colloquium, www.haa.pitt.edu, 412-648-2400.

Miscellaneous

Walk to Cure Psoriasis, Pittsburgh, 1K and 5K walks beginning at 9 a.m. **Oct. 1** in Schenley Park, Oakland, 8 a.m. registration, National Psoriasis Foundation, walk.psoiriasis.org/Pittsburgh-walk.

TIES Informational Luncheon for Researchers and Research Assistants, talk on Text Information Extraction System (TIES), Rebecca Crowley, director, Department of Biomedical Informatics Graduate Training Program, Pitt School of Medicine, 11 a.m. **Oct. 5**, Magee-Womens Hospital, Conference Room CR2131, open to Pitt and UPMC faculty, staff, and students, registration required, <http://ties.upmc.com/register/index.html>, 412-623-4753.

Opera/Theater/Dance

Electra, Sophocles' drama that brings to life the myths of ancient Greece while telling the timeless tale of one family's tragedy, **Sept. 29 through Oct. 30**, O'Reilly Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theater, www.ppt.org.

Last of the Line by Samm-Art Williams, in which descendants of African American slaveholders and their ancestors take center stage, **Sept. 30 through Oct. 9**, August Wilson Center, 980 Liberty Ave., Downtown, The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, 412-471-6930, www.pgharts.org, PITT ARTS Cheap Seats Program, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

Race by David Mamet, incendiary story about perceptions and realities and subtle shades between being a victim and being victimized, **through Oct. 1**, Henry Heymann Theatre in Stephen Foster Memorial, Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre, 412-394-3353, www.pictheatre.org, PITT ARTS Cheap Seats Program, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

The Marvelous Wonderettes by Roger Bean, a return to the 1950s and '60s, **through Oct. 2**, Cabaret at Theater Square,

655 Penn Ave., Downtown, 412-281-3973, www.pittsburghclo.org, PITT ARTS Cheap Seats, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

Wicked, story of the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good before they came to Oz, **through Oct. 2**, Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, PNC Broadway Across America-Pittsburgh, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

Lin Liu, School of Medicine's Molecular Biophysics and Structural Biology Graduate Program, 9 a.m. **Sept. 26**, "Conformational Dynamics of Proteins: Insights From Structural and Computational Studies," 3073 Biomedical Science Tower 3.

Patrick Bartlow, Swanson School of Engineering, 10 a.m. **Sept. 26**, "Design of Escherichia Coli Host Strains for Improved Recombinant Protein Purification: An Approach That Bridges the Upstream and Downstream Realms of Bioprocessing," 303 Center for Bioengineering, 300 Technology Dr., Hazelwood.

Laura Elizabeth Tomedi, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Epidemiology, 8 a.m. **Sept. 27**, "Maternal Obesity, Nutritional Status, and Hyperglycemia," 110 Graduate School of Public Health.

Oren Berkowitz, Graduate School of Public Health's Department of Epidemiology, 1 p.m. **Sept. 27**, "Acoustic Neuroma: Epidemiology, Risk Factors, and Outcomes After Gamma Knife® Radiosurgery Treatment," A523 Crabtree Hall.

Kakenya Ntaiya, School of Education's Department of Administrative and Policy Studies, 2:30 p.m. **Sept. 27**, "The Warrior's Spirit: Narrative Stories of Four Women From Kenya's Enduring Tribe," 4321 Posvar Hall.

Matthew Kendrick, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of English, 9:30 a.m. **Sept. 29**, "Rude Mechanicals: Staging Labor in the Early Modern English Theater," 501 Cathedral of Learning.

Roberto Campbell, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Anthropology, 10 a.m. **Sept. 30**, "Socioeconomic Differentiation, Leadership, and Residential Patterning at an Araucanian Chiefly Center (Isla Mocha, C.E. 1000-1700)," 3307 Posvar Hall.



"The Americas—In Concert," Hillman Center for Performing Arts, Shady Side Academy, October 1



Newsmakers

RACE AND MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL



PHOTOS BY MIKE DRAZDZINSKI/CIIDE

Pitt's Department of History hosted a Sept. 15 symposium on Professor Rob Ruck's recent book, *Raceball: How the Major Leagues Colonized the Black and Latin Game* (Beacon Press, 2011). Addressing a standing-room-only audience in the William Pitt Union's Lower Lounge were (from left) Laurent Dubois, the Marcello Lotti Professor of Romance Studies and History at Duke University and author of *Soccer Empire: The World Cup and the Future of France*; Sean Gibson, the great-grandson of Baseball Hall of Fame legend Josh Gibson and executive director of the Josh Gibson Foundation, a Pittsburgh nonprofit organization; Lara Putnam, a Pitt history professor; and Ruck.

EDUCATION AND THE ECONOMY



GLENN BROOKS

Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor Patricia E. Beeson (left) and Charles Perfetti (right), Distinguished University Professor of Psychology and director of Pitt's Learning Research & Development Center, joined U.S. Undersecretary of Education Martha Kanter on Carnegie Mellon University's campus Sept. 7. Kanter spoke about education and the economy, and her remarks were followed by two panel discussions. Perfetti participated in the first panel on cognitive and learning sciences, while Beeson delivered the panels' closing remarks.

FORMER POLISH PM ADDRESSES KATZ GRADS



DANIEL ACKER

Former Polish Prime Minister Marek Belka addressed a July 30 graduation ceremony for Pitt's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business's MBA students. Sixty-two of the graduates earned their degrees from Katz's Executive MBA Worldwide program, which has centers in Prague, Czech Republic, and Sao Paulo, Brazil, in addition to Pittsburgh. Belka is currently president of the National Bank of Poland and a member of the Katz Executive MBA Worldwide's European Board of Advisors. He urged the graduates to remain flexible in the face of an uncertain global economy.

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published Oct. 3. Items for publication in the newspaper's *Happenings* calendar (See page 7) should be received at least two weeks prior to the event 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, or sent by campus mail to 422 Craig Hall. For more information, call 412-624-1033 or e-mail robinet@pitt.edu.