

## Pitt's Anthony Grace, Christian Schunn Named Fellows By American Association for the Advancement of Science

By B. Rose Huber

Two University of Pittsburgh professors in the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences—cognition scientists Anthony Grace and Christian Schunn—have been named Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for the contributions they have made toward the advancement of their respective fields.

The two Pitt faculty honorees are among 539 Fellows selected in 2011, joining faculty from such other elite institutions of higher education as Columbia University, Harvard University, and Johns Hopkins University. The Fellows will be honored Feb. 18 during the annual AAAS meeting in Washington, D.C.

Information on the new Fellows from Pitt follows.

Anthony Grace, Distinguished Professor of Neuroscience, was honored as a Fellow for his contributions to cellular and systems studies of the brain's dopamine system (a group of cells affecting happiness and personality) as it relates to understanding the mechanisms of schizophrenia. Grace also serves as professor of psychiatry and



Anthony Grace Christian Schunn

psychology and is a training faculty member in Pitt's Center for Neuroscience.

Grace's research lies at the interface of neurobiology and psychiatry. His experiments have focused on dopaminergic systems with the goal of determining how neurobiology relates to mental disorders—and how psychotherapeutic drugs tie in, as well. Grace's current studies into the neurobiology of schizophrenia involve the interaction of the prefrontal cortex—the region of the brain associated with personality and social behavior—with antipsychotic

drugs. He also is examining the impact of the developmental disruption this has on the function of the limbic system—a set of brain structures that support emotion, behavior, and memory—as a model for the pathophysiological changes underlying schizophrenia in humans.

Grace, who serves on Pitt's Center for Neuroscience's Executive and Faculty Admissions committees and on the MD and PhD Degree Supervisory Committee, serves as coprincipal investigator for five grant-related projects funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, and Lundbeck Pharmaceuticals. He has authored or coauthored 166 publications in academic journals such as *Science*, *Nature*, and *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. He has written book chapters and reviews for 76 publications, including *Dopamine and Schizophrenia* (2011) published by Blackwell Press and *Dopamine Modulation of Forebrain Pathways and the*

*Continued on page 7*

## Critical Care Medicine Society Confers High Honor on 7 Pitt Faculty

By Anita Srikameswaran

Four current and three former University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine faculty are among 20 world-renowned intensivists who are the first to be selected to receive the Society of Critical Care Medicine's highest honorific, Master in Critical Care Medicine, at its annual congress, Feb. 4-8, in Houston.

Pitt established the nation's first Department of Critical Care Medicine in 2002, building on a long history of achievement in the field, noted Arthur S. Levine, senior vice chancellor for the health sciences and dean of the School of Medicine at Pitt.

"The legacy of Peter Safar, who is being awarded this prestigious honorific posthumously, lives on in the exceptional physician-researchers who make up this inaugural class of inductees," Levine said. "Their contributions to medicine have saved countless lives, and they and those they mentor continue to break new ground in understanding and treating the most life-threatening conditions, including sepsis, brain injury, and organ dysfunction, as well as gaining insight into the long-term outcomes of critical illness."

Current Pitt faculty who will receive the Master of Critical Care Medicine title are: Derek C. Angus, professor and Mitchell P. Fink Endowed Chair in the Department of Critical Care Medicine; Patrick M. Kochanek, Department of Critical Care Medicine professor and vice chair and director of the Safar Center for Resuscitation Research; Michael R. Pinsky, professor and vice chair for academic affairs in the critical care medicine department; and Ann Thompson, professor and vice chair for faculty development in the critical care medicine department and associate dean for faculty affairs in the School of Medicine.

Mitchell Fink, the founding chair of the Department of Critical Care Medicine, and Professor Emeritus Ake Grenvik also will be honored.

Safar was a Pitt anesthesiologist and medical visionary who had developed a method of cardiopulmonary resuscitation. He became known worldwide as the "Father of CPR." Safar also was instrumental in the 1967 creation of Pittsburgh's first ambulance service, the Hill District-based Freedom House Ambulance Service. Prior to that, Pittsburghers who needed emergency medical care used to be transported to hospitals in the backs of police wagons. The Freedom House Ambulance Service's members made history as the first ambulatory unit in the country trained in advanced emergency medical care and saving lives.

According to the critical care medicine society, the honorific recognizes members who have been Fellows of Critical Care Medicine for at least five years and have achieved national and international professional prominence owing to personal character, leadership, eminence in clinical practice, and outstanding contributions to research and education in critical care medicine—or members who have years of exemplary service to the Society of Critical Care Medicine, the American College of Critical Care Medicine, and the field of critical care medicine in its broadest sense.

## Nicholas Rescher Receives Prestigious Honor From German Government

In recognition of his contributions to philosophy and to German-American cooperation in this field, Nicholas Rescher, University of Pittsburgh Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, was presented with the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit (*Bundesverdienstkreuz erster Klasse*) by Busso von Alvensleben, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany, during a Dec. 8 ceremony in Pitt's University Club. The event marked the Consul General's first visit to Pittsburgh.

Professor Rescher is the second Pitt philosophy professor to receive this prestigious form of recognition from the German government. The honor was previously accorded in 1997 to Rescher's friend and colleague, Gerald J. Massey, Pitt Emeritus Distinguished Service Professor of Philosophy and former director of the Center for Philosophy of Science at Pitt.

A statement from the German Consulate noted that Rescher is one of the most renowned and widely read philosophers in the world and that he received the award for his outstanding contribution to the dissemination and more profound understanding of German philosophy in America. The consulate also noted that Rescher's research on Leibniz, Kant, and German Idealism have become benchmarks in the field of philosophical studies.

"We have long been the direct beneficiaries of all that Professor Rescher—a giant in the world of philosophy and one of the most committed, respected, and beloved members of our faculty—has done to elevate the University through the excellence and impact of his work and through his remarkable generosity in donating to the University his invaluable personal collection of original and rare materials relating to some of the world's most renowned philosophers," said Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. "This notable recognition of his lifetime of contributions to the advancement of philosophy and the philosophy of science is a testament to his untiring devo-



From left, David Murdoch, the German Honorary Consul in Pittsburgh and a partner with law firm K&L Gates; Nicholas Rescher, Pitt Distinguished Professor of Philosophy; Busso von Alvensleben, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany; and Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg.

tion to furthering knowledge and fostering German-American scholarly pursuits."

"I am very honored to receive this award and find great satisfaction in knowing that almost 100 years after my father was awarded a decoration by the German state for services rendered in war—viz., the Iron Cross for Services on the Western Front

in 1916—I am awarded one for services rendered in peace," said Rescher.

Rescher is a renowned systematic philosopher and author of a system of pragmatic idealism that weaves together threads of thought from continental idealism and American pragmatism.  
 —By Patricia Lomando White

## Pitt Senior Wins \$7,500 Citizens Bank Scholarship

Pitt senior Noelle Newhams was named the recipient of a \$7,500 Citizens Bank TruFit Good Citizens Scholarship. Newhams is majoring in applied developmental psychology in the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences. The scholarship recognizes students whose volunteer work has made a difference in their communities. Newhams, who was one of 1,800 applicants for the scholarship, has volunteered at Three Rivers Youth for two semesters, working with homeless female adolescents. She also has volunteered for Children's Hospital and at a Pittsburgh program for children from low-income families. Daniel K. Fitzpatrick, president and CEO at Citizens Bank, honored Newhams



From left, Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg, Pitt senior Noelle Newhams, and Citizens Bank President and CEO Daniel K. Fitzpatrick.

when the two met Dec. 6 with Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg in his Cathedral of Learning office.



Paul Chryst at the December 22 news conference announcing his appointment as Pitt's head football coach

## Paul Chryst Named Pitt's New Head Football Coach

By E.J. Borghetti

Paul Chryst, the acclaimed offensive coordinator of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Badgers, has been named the new head football coach at the University of Pittsburgh by Pitt Athletic Director Steve Pederson.

The 46-year-old Chryst takes over at Pitt following an eight-year tenure at Wisconsin (2002, 2005-11) during which he won praise as one of college football's finest offensive teachers and strategists. The Badgers compiled a 60-18 record (.769) during his six seasons overseeing the offense, which annually ranks among the nation's most prolific and efficient units.

In 2011, Chryst helped Wisconsin earn an 11-2 record, its second consecutive Big Ten title, and a trip to the Rose Bowl.

Over the past three seasons, Wisconsin has boasted the Big Ten's best record (32-7, .821) fueled by an offense that averaged 39.3 points per game. During each of the past two seasons, Chryst, who also coaches quarterbacks, was a finalist for the prestigious Broyles Award, presented annually to college football's top assistant coach.

Chryst's 23-year coaching career includes 16 seasons on the collegiate level and seven years in the professional ranks.

"We are extremely pleased to welcome Coach Chryst and his family to Pittsburgh," Pederson said. "His remarkable success at

Wisconsin is well documented in the form of Big Ten championships and All-America performances. But beyond considering his achievements on the football field, we believed it was important to find a leader who gets the very best from his players while also developing the kind of culture that fits the University of Pittsburgh. Paul Chryst is

that leader, and we are anxious for our players and fans to get to know him in the coming days and years."

"My family and I greatly appreciate the opportunity to join the University of Pittsburgh," Chryst said. "Pitt and Pittsburgh are absolutely the right fit for us, and we're looking forward to getting immersed in our new hometown. We are committed to building a program on and off the field that will make people proud. The bar is set high in the 'City of Champions,' and that is incredibly exciting and inspiring. I can't wait to meet our players and get to work."

Chryst initially came to the University of Wisconsin in 2002 after a three-year stint (1999-2001) in the

NFL as tight ends coach with the San Diego Chargers.

Chryst was a three-year football letterman at Wisconsin, where he earned his undergraduate degree in political science in 1988. He added a master's degree in educational administration from West Virginia University in 1990.

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—Paul Chryst

## Herbert Shear Appointed Commonwealth Trustee on the Pitt Board of Trustees

By John Fedele

Herbert Shear, chair and CEO of GENCO ATC and operating partner at Cambridge Capital, has been appointed a Commonwealth Trustee on the University of Pittsburgh Board of Trustees by Pennsylvania Speaker of the House Samuel H. Smith.

"Through the remarkable successes of GENCO, Herb Shear has emerged as one of this region's truly accomplished business leaders and has earned an international reputation as a pioneer in the field of reverse logistics," said Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. "Clearly, Pitt will benefit from his expertise on our Board of Trustees, and we are grateful to Speaker Smith for making this appointment. Herb and Barbara Shear also have been committed advocates and loyal supporters of Pitt—creating, with their sons, the Shear Family Scholarship in the School of Pharmacy to honor Herb's father and also providing major support for the Petersen Sports Complex."

Since succeeding his father, Pitt alumnus Samuel T. Shear (PHARM '30), as president of GENCO in 1971, Shear has grown his Pittsburgh family business into North America's second-largest third-party logistics provider and one of the top 25 third-party logistics providers in the world. Started in 1898 by Shear's grandfather, Hyman, as the H. Shear Trucking Company, the business added warehousing and public distribution to its capabilities, and, in the 1980s, GENCO became a world leader in reverse logistics—helping clients maximize the value of returned products through recall management, testing and warranty, repair and refurbishment, and product liquidation. GENCO's clients include, in addition to the U.S. government, Fortune 500 companies in the health care, automotive, consumer goods, and consumer electronics industries.

Cambridge Capital is a private equity firm headquartered in Palm Beach, Fla.

Shear has been recognized with the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals' Distinguished Service Award, the Salzberg Medallion from Syracuse University's Whitman School of Management, and Ernst & Young's Western Pennsylvania Entrepreneur of the Year award. He was a member of the Defense Business Board and led its Supply Chain Task Group.

Shear and his wife, 1973 Pitt Master of Education degree recipient Barbara S. Shear, have generously supported the University of Pittsburgh for years through donations to the University's School of Pharmacy, School of Medicine, Cancer Institute, and Department of Athletics, as well as the general fund and other schools and programs.

An emeritus board member and past president of the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank, Shear and his wife were honored with the Individual Financial Donor Award during the food bank's 20th anniversary celebration in 2001, and they received the Philanthropist of the Year award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals in 2005. Shear's other civic affiliations have included MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger, as well as advisory positions with Northwestern University, the University of Nevada at Reno, and his alma mater, Southern Illinois University, where Shear earned his Bachelor of Science degree in marketing and finance in 1969.

Shear was a founding member of the Reverse Logistics Executive Council, and he has served such other professional organizations as the International Warehouse Logistics Association and the Warehousing Education and Research Council.



Herbert Shear

## New County Executive Becomes Pitt Trustee

With his inauguration on Jan. 3, Allegheny County's new chief executive, Rich Fitzgerald, became a member of the University of Pittsburgh Board of Trustees. Under the bylaws of the University, four governmental officials are ex officio members of the University's Board of Trustees; they are the governor, the secretary of education, the mayor of the City of Pittsburgh, and the county executive of Allegheny County.

Fitzgerald succeeds Dan Onorato, both as county executive and as a member of the Pitt Board. Jim Roddy, the first Allegheny County executive, had been an active Pitt Trustee for many years prior to his election to the county's highest post.

Born and raised in Pittsburgh's Bloomfield neighborhood, Fitzgerald attended St. Lawrence O'Toole Elementary School, Central Catholic High School, and Carnegie Mellon University, paying his college tuition by working for the Yellow Cab Company as a taxi driver. He graduated from Carnegie Mellon in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering and a business minor.

Fitzgerald began his career in Rockford, Ill., at NALCO Chemical Co. as a water treatment chemical sales associate. In the fall of 1982, he returned to Pittsburgh and started a small business, Aquenef (a verbal

representation of the company's mission, the combination of water and energy efficiency). Almost three decades later, the company is the leading provider of water treatment equipment and services in the Western Pennsylvania region, with more than 700 customers.

In 1998, Fitzgerald worked on the campaign to change the form of government in Allegheny County, and a year later he ran for one of the district council seats in the newly formed Allegheny County Council. He represented District 11 from 2000 to 2011, serving as County Council president from 2004 until 2011, when

he left office to seek the position of county executive.

In commenting on Fitzgerald's new roles, Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg, who recently was named to a six-person steering committee that will help oversee the work of the county executive's transition policy committees, said, "Rich and I have enjoyed a mutually respectful relationship for years. He understands the importance of higher education to the strength of this region, now and in the future, and since he first was elected to County Council, we have been in regular contact on wide-ranging matters. I not only welcome him to the Pitt Board, then, but look forward to working with him for the good of Allegheny County."



Rich Fitzgerald

# University Update



**To:** Members of the University Community  
**From:** Mark A. Nordenberg  
**Date:** January 6, 2012  
**Re:** Closing a Tough, but Triumphant, Year and Facing Continuing Challenges

The holiday season now has passed, and the earliest days of 2012 are behind us. This is an important year for us, because the end of next month will bring the 225th anniversary of our founding. Pitt was chartered on Feb. 28, 1787, and began a life that now spans two complete centuries and parts of two others as a log cabin academy situated at the edge of the American wilderness. Today, of course, we are a major public research university respected for the quality and impact of our work, close to home and in far more distant locations.

Each member of today's University community is helping to shape the current chapter in the long and proud history of Pitt. Our collective contributions over the course of recent years should be a source of special satisfaction, both because we have been able to fuel enviable levels of further progress and because we have done so in the face of historic challenges. Consider just some of the key successes of the past year.

- Looking at the undergraduate programs on the Pittsburgh campus, which are our largest programs and serve as a bellwether for the entire institution, we enrolled our strongest incoming class from our largest applicant pool ever. The academic credentials of students enrolled in these and other programs continued their dramatic rise, and the strength of our programs not only attracted students from across the country and around the world but, consistent with our public mission, retained many exceptional Pennsylvania students, increasing the likelihood that they will remain to live, work, and contribute here.

- Enrolled students continued to perform at levels that are a source of widely shared pride. To cite just a few examples, one Pitt undergraduate, from Somerset, was among only 32 Rhodes Scholars to be named nationally, and another Pitt undergraduate, from the North Hills of Pittsburgh, received a Goldwater Scholarship, the highest national honor available to undergraduates studying science, mathematics, or engineering. Pitt undergraduates also claimed six Boren Awards for International Study, a Pickering Undergraduate Fellowship for the Study of Foreign Affairs, and two Humanities in Action Fellowships, and Pitt was recognized as one of the nation's top producers of student Fulbright Scholars. Simply put, our students continue to compete against

the best students from the country's finest colleges and universities for the highest forms of national recognition.

- Alumni continued to earn recognition for their lives of distinction. Since the dawn of the new century, Pitt graduates have received the Nobel Peace Prize, the Nobel Prize in Medicine, the National Medal of Science, the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, the Fritz Medal in Engineering, and the Shaw and Albany Prizes in Medicine, among many other awards of note. During this past year, one graduate claimed the National Book Award for Poetry, another was one of just 22 MacArthur ("Genius Award") Fellows named nationally, and two were elected to the Institute of Medicine—all extraordinary honors. Of course, hundreds of thousands of other Pitt graduates are leading lives of impact and making meaningful, though less public, contributions to their communities.

- During the last year, we shattered past records with annual research expenditures

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that exceeded \$800 million. These funds are a widely accepted measure of institutional stature, fuel pioneering work, and support, directly and indirectly, some 28,000 local jobs. Principal credit for attracting those grants belongs to the talented and committed faculty members who successfully competed for them—faculty members whose professional responsibilities include not only teaching, but also extending the boundaries of existing knowledge. Other signs of faculty strength include the fact that one faculty member was named a MacArthur Fellow, two were elected to the Institute of Medicine, and two were elected to the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Countless others earned high forms of recognition within their own disciplines.

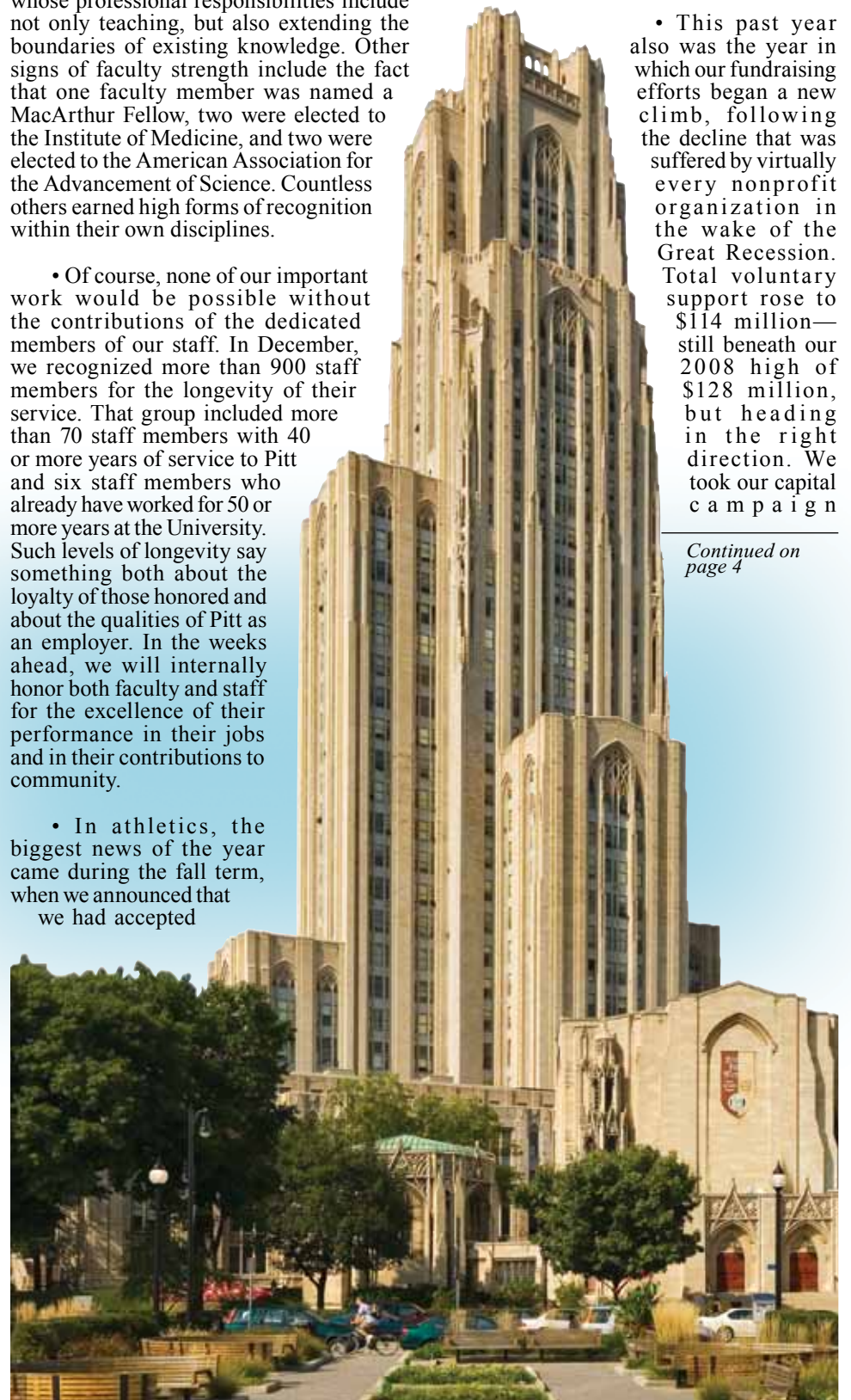
- Of course, none of our important work would be possible without the contributions of the dedicated members of our staff. In December, we recognized more than 900 staff members for the longevity of their service. That group included more than 70 staff members with 40 or more years of service to Pitt and six staff members who already have worked for 50 or more years at the University. Such levels of longevity say something both about the loyalty of those honored and about the qualities of Pitt as an employer. In the weeks ahead, we will internally honor both faculty and staff for the excellence of their performance in their jobs and in their contributions to community.

- In athletics, the biggest news of the year came during the fall term, when we announced that we had accepted

an invitation to join the Atlantic Coast Conference. Our years in the Big East Conference have been good years that produced many wonderful memories, but we needed a more stable home for our athletics programs. The ACC provides that. It also provides an especially good academic and geographic fit for Pitt.

- This past year also was the year in which our fundraising efforts began a new climb, following the decline that was suffered by virtually every nonprofit organization in the wake of the Great Recession. Total voluntary support rose to \$114 million—still beneath our 2008 high of \$128 million, but heading in the right direction. We took our capital campaign

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# University Update



Continued from page 3

total past \$1.85 billion, putting us within striking distance of our \$2 billion goal. We look forward, with deep gratitude, to the many benefits that will flow from the extraordinary generosity of alumnus, trustee, and former board chair Bill Dietrich, whose commitments to higher education not only prompted local celebrations but attracted well-deserved national attention. We also benefitted from investment returns in excess of 22 percent, which took our endowment from \$1.997 billion to \$2.462 billion, the largest single-year gain in our history.

**B**oth further fundraising successes and favorable investment performance have become even more important in light of dramatic reductions in support from the Commonwealth—for public higher education generally and for Pitt in particular. To be clear, endowment returns, which most often are donor-directed to specific purposes, are not a complete substitute for state support, but they can make a huge difference in the pursuit of high institutional aspirations.

As I am sure you will recall (because I suspect that few of us will ever forget), the first state budget proposal for the current fiscal year would have reduced Pitt's appropriation by more than \$100 million. After months of advocacy, that cut was trimmed to slightly more than \$40 million. That obviously was a far better result in the comparative sense, but it still left us with a large gap to fill as we worked to build an operating budget for the current fiscal year. It also was a disproportionate reduction when compared to general cuts in state spending. Overall, state funding was reduced by 4 percent, but our appropriation was slashed by 22 percent.

Unfortunately, such challenges cannot be viewed simply as "problems of the past." Late in the fall term, we were notified that the Commonwealth's annual support for capital projects at Pitt was being cut in half—from \$40 million to \$20 million. Last week, the administration reported that state revenue collections were down even more than had been anticipated, raising the specter of midyear reductions. At the same time, Congressional budget negotiations have been unproductive, triggering concerns about future federal support for research and student aid.

Late Wednesday, the state's "budget ax" fell again when it was announced that the Governor had directed his budget office to

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freeze nearly \$160 million in state funding. Most of the affected state agencies were directed to reduce their spending in the current fiscal year by 3 percent. However, the state-related universities were subjected to a larger 5 percent reduction. This means that the state-related universities, whose appropriations represent less than 2 percent of the state's budget, have been assigned 16 percent of the near-\$160 million reduction.

The midyear reduction imposed upon Pitt is slightly less than \$7 million. This is on top of the 22 percent, or \$40 million, cut that came at the beginning of the current fiscal year. This most recent reduction will be assigned proportionately to our five "super responsibility centers" (the Offices of the Chancellor, Chief Financial Officer, Executive Vice Chancellor, Provost, and Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences). Consistent with past practices, the University officer in charge of each of these units will decide how to meet assigned budget reduction responsibilities.

To this point, as noted above, we have been able to continue moving forward, even in the face of such daunting challenges. To a considerable extent, our current successes are built on past efforts to enhance both financial and market strength. We have been unwavering in our commitments to build a stronger asset base and to develop levels of programmatic strength that would set us apart in either good or bad times. The products of those latter efforts can be seen in the ongoing marketplace demand for both of our main "lines of service"—education and research—where we clearly have become one of the country's preferred providers.

Our successes also are the product of a culture that is disciplined, forward-looking, and selflessly committed to the greater good. Pitt always seems to have been expected to do more with less, but we never have been as good at it as we are today. Our upcoming birthday reminds us that if our University is to continue doing its important

work for another 225 years, those of us in positions of responsibility today must be attentive stewards of Pitt's tomorrows. And if we are truly committed to all of the wonderful work that is done here and understand that our progress is the product of work that takes many forms and that is done by countless individuals, then our march through challenging times has got to be driven by a spirit of shared sacrifice.

We have seen that spirit amongst our employees—who, looking at the realities of a stalled economy worldwide, have embraced the belief that our preferred path should be one that

places a high priority on preserving jobs, as opposed to providing higher levels of compensation to a reduced employment base. That approach not only has been preferable in human terms but, as a business matter, has positioned us to continue delivering the high levels of quality that have fueled the still-rising demand for our services in education and research. It also has been one of the many ways in which we have helped protect this region from the worst of the economic downturn. Whether we will be able to maintain this position, if economic woes are prolonged and we suffer further reductions to our state support, remains to be seen.

Levels of state support also play a critical role in establishing tuition rates. From the late-1780's until the mid-1960's, Pitt was a private university with private-university tuition rates. At that point, a new relationship with the state provided increased levels of public support so that Pitt's tuition rates could be reduced to levels

more typical of public universities. Levels of state support, which had been eroding for years, now are being more visibly and dramatically slashed. Put most simply, it is not possible for any university to sustain public university tuition rates if it is not supported like a public university. As our public funding decreases and Pitt becomes measurably less public, then, tuition comparisons to private universities of comparable quality become increasingly relevant. And there is, of course, no comparison. Pitt's tuition is a fraction of the tuition typically charged by comparable private universities.

Even when compared to other public universities, Pitt fares well. Last week, in fact, Kiplinger's ranked Pitt as one of the country's best values in public higher education. *The Kiplinger 100: Best Values in Public Colleges, 2011-2012*, called its top 100 values "four-year institutions that deliver a stellar education at an affordable price." The magazine's senior editor further stated, "This year's top 100 public schools deliver strong academics at reasonable prices. We applaud these institutions for tightening their belts without compromising quality." Within the 100, Pitt was ranked as the top value in Pennsylvania. Nationally, we were ranked the country's 15th best value for out-of-state students and the 29th best value for in-state students.

Delivering uncompromised levels of quality is central to our aspirations but will become even more challenging if

the effects of a troubled economy linger much longer and if public support for public higher education continues to decline. We can take some comfort from the successes crafted by our predecessors as they met their own challenges—which included wars, floods, fires, and the Great Depression. We probably can take even greater comfort from our own more recent successes. Working together, we have been able to handle—effectively, if not always easily—everything that has come our way and have maintained Pitt's momentum. Hopefully, such continuing progress, as well as an appropriate acknowledgment of 225 years of rich history, will be a hallmark of 2012. Certainly, I look forward to advancing that goal with you.

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# Newsmakers

## SUNLIGHT, SAFETY, AND SUSTAINABILITY



JOE KAPLEWSKY/C/DIDE

The recently completed Chevron Science Center Annex offers a bright, modern, and Gold LEED-certified research space for undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral chemistry students. Pitt Distinguished University Professor of Chemistry Peter Wipf assisted with the design of the lab—which was built with the help of state funding—keeping in mind the work of his collaborative research team. Among the priorities for the project was the creation of a functional environment for the safe coexistence of researchers and thousands of chemical reagents. In the new space, these materials are housed in separate rooms entirely—away from the student work areas. Large windows on a slanted wall replaced bricks and mortar, providing a bright, transparent workspace. Glass walls and doors allow researchers to see most of their laboratory and study space from their desks and benches. A lounge, kitchen, and conference areas provide students and staff with other opportunities to study, have discussions, and exchange ideas.

## PARTNERS IN EDUCATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



JIM BURKE/C/DIDE

Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg, right, makes a point during a Pittsburgh Technology Council breakfast briefing held Dec. 6 in the Rivers Club, Downtown. Nordenberg and Jared Cohon, left, president of Carnegie Mellon University, discussed their schools' cooperative relationship as well as the importance of Pennsylvania maintaining its funding levels for higher education. Nordenberg said that continued access to education for all is essential to the region and the nation.

## THE UNDERTAKER'S DAUGHTER

Pitt professor of English Toi Derricotte, a nationally acclaimed poet, launched her newest book, *The Undertaker's Daughter* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2011), during a Dec. 7 book signing and reading in Pitt's University Club. Derricotte has authored four other books of poetry and has had more than a thousand of her poems published in anthologies, journals, and magazines. She is the cofounder of the Cave Canem Foundation, an organization that has been offering workshops and retreats for African American poets since 1996.



JOHN MONROE BUTLER II

## OMEGA PSI PHI AWARDS

The Iota Phi Foundation, an affiliate of the Pittsburgh-based Iota Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, honored three Pitt alumni with the service fraternity's annual Exemplary Service Awards during a Nov. 19 awards ceremony at the Syria Shrine in Cheswick. Honored in the business, medicine, and education categories, respectively, were: Curtis Aiken ('87 CGS), left, president, CEO, and founder of Pro Tech Compliance Inc.; Margaret Larkins-Pettigrew (NURS '76, MED '94, GSPIA '10), an assistant professor and program director for global health and reproductive science at Case Western Reserve University and a former program director in Pitt's School of Medicine; and Aaron R. Mann ('71G, '81G SOC WK), a professor in Pitt's School of Social Work. The Iota Phi Foundation is operated by professional African American men who volunteer to improve the quality of life of people in the greater Pittsburgh community.



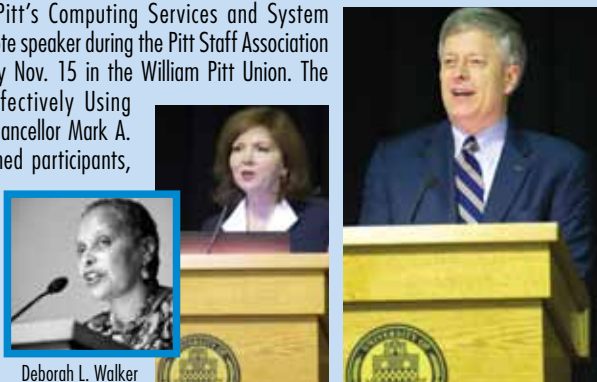
MARY JANE BENT/C/DIDE

## STAFF ASSOCIATION COUNCIL



JOE KAPLEWSKY/C/DIDE

Jinx Walton, director of Pitt's Computing Services and System Development, was the keynote speaker during the Pitt Staff Association Council (SAC) Fall Assembly Nov. 15 in the William Pitt Union. The Assembly's title was "Effectively Using Technology in Your Job." Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg (right) welcomed participants, and SAC President Deborah L. Walker (below left), who also is Pitt's student conduct officer, delivered opening remarks.



Deborah L. Walker

Jinx Walton

Mark A. Nordenberg

## LARRY DAVIS ACCEPTS COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

Larry E. Davis (below right), dean of the School of Social Work, Donald M. Henderson Professor, and director of the Center on Race and Social Problems at Pitt, received the Community Leadership Award during the Ronald H. Brown Leadership Gala hosted by the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh. The Dec. 2 event was held in the Westin Convention Center Hotel, Downtown. Also honored that evening were Bev Smith (below left), the only nationally syndicated Black female talk show host until Pittsburgh-based American Urban Radio Networks cancelled her show in October, and Sister Marie Immaculee, who accepted the Special Lifetime Achievement Award on behalf of the Pittsburgh Sisters of Mercy. The Ronald H. Brown awards are presented annually to individuals or organizations that display superior leadership in improving the quality of life of African Americans. Event co-chairs were Pitt alumni Greg Spencer (CGS '80) and Alan Trivilino (KGSB '88).



JIM JUDYIS

# Awards & more



Pitt researcher **Michael Wood-Vasey**, assistant professor of physics and astronomy, was elected spokesperson for the latest generation of the Sloan Digital Sky Survey III (SDSS-III). An international collaboration of 600 astronomers, the SDSS-III is mapping the Milky Way Galaxy, searching for extrasolar planets, and unearthing the mystery behind the dark matter and dark energy that determine the structure and expansion of the Universe. The SDSS-III project's first data release used information from two previous SDSS surveys to provide the largest color image of the sky ever made, as well as a catalog of the 500 million galaxies and stars visible in that image. Wood-Vasey is responsible for promoting the project's scientific success and serves as the point person for the public and for other scientists.

**Jonathan Lucks**, a Pitt freshman who has played the saxophone since age 8, won the 2011 Pitt-BNY Mellon Jazz Scholarship, awarded annually to a Pitt music student. Lucks, an 18-year-old bioengineering major, won the \$5,000 tuition prize in December. His selection was based upon a submitted tape of jazz standards that was judged by a panel of nationally recognized jazz musicians. The award marks the 25th year that Pitt and BNY Mellon have funded the scholarship.

In an effort to help advance the use of solar power, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) awarded \$315,697 to a coalition of private and public organizations—including the Congress of Neighboring Communities (CONNECT) program of the Center for Metropolitan Studies in **Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs**. Specifically, the funds are to be used to help standardize and streamline ordinances and processes for the installation of solar power in Southwestern Pennsylvania. The grant is part of the DOE's Rooftop Solar Challenge, which awarded a total of \$12 million to 22 teams across the country to help

increase the installation of solar power in homes and businesses and to reduce the administrative costs associated with solar power installation.

**Steven R. Little**, assistant professor of biochemical engineering at Pitt, received the 2012 Young Investigator Award from the Society for Biomaterials. This annual award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated outstanding achievements in the field of biomaterials research within 10 years of having achieved his or her terminal degree or formal training. Little will formally accept the award at the society's 2012 Fall Symposium in New Orleans, Oct. 4-6, 2012.



Jonathan Lucks

**Randall Brand**, a visiting professor of medicine at Pitt, director of UPMC's Gastroenterology Malignancy Early Detection, Diagnosis, and Prevention Program, and an internationally recognized authority on pancreatic cancer, was named the 2011 recipient

of the national Hirshberg Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research's First Annual Moore Memorial Award. The award was presented in Steubenville, Ohio, in November 2011 during the Second Annual Purple Palooza Gala, which raises money for pancreatic cancer research. The award is named in honor of Ken Moore, who was an active volunteer fundraiser for the Hirshberg Foundation. Moore had pancreatic cancer and passed away in 2010.



Pitt Distinguished University Professor Thomas Saaty accepts the *Doktor Honoris Causa* degree from Poland's Jagiellonian University during a special October 2011 ceremony.

## Poland's Oldest University Honors Pitt's Thomas Saaty, a Pioneer in Mathematical Decision Making

By Audrey M. Marks

Pitt Distinguished University Professor Thomas Saaty, the father of a mathematical system for decision making called the Analytic Hierarchy Process, was awarded an honorary doctorate by Jagiellonian University, Poland's oldest, for his groundbreaking research and the application of his mathematical process in matters of weapons disarmament and economic stability.

Saaty, who teaches in Pitt's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business and College of Business Administration, has consulted with the governments of the United States, France, Egypt, Sudan, Kuwait, and Tanzania, as well as with many international companies that use his mathematics-based processes to make important decisions. In addition to devising the Analytic Hierarchy Process, Saaty developed two other similar decision-making models, the Analytic Network Process and the Neural Network Process.

"Through a series of comparisons, the intensity of feelings can be translated into numbers and used to make a decision," Saaty says of the Analytic Hierarchy Process. "In conflict, the parties structure a hierarchy of their contentious factors, then each side provides comparison judgments to determine the concessions they are most willing to offer—and also the value of the concessions the other side offers—in the hope of reaching an equitable swap."

The complex mathematical theory behind the Analytic Hierarchy Process isolates subproblems within the decision and analyzes them independently, assigning them values or priorities. Most decisions are analyzed in four ways—in terms of their benefits, opportunities, costs, and risks. The outcomes are then synthesized to determine the best overall outcome.

In October, Saaty traveled to Kraków, Poland, to accept the *Doktor Honoris Causa* degree from Jagiellonian University in a special ceremony attended by high-ranking school officials and other notables from Poland and Europe. Established in 1364, Jagiellonian University counts among its notable alumni Nicolaus Copernicus and Pope John Paul II, who was also honored with this degree during his lifetime.

"It would be difficult to find another person as successful in combining academic work with practical implementation of the developed theories as Professor Saaty is. The methods developed by him have been applied in science and put into practice in almost every discipline," wrote Wiktor Adamus, a professor at Jagiellonian

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University and a member of the school's Management and Social Communication Faculty, which made the motion for Saaty's honorary degree.

Adamus used the Analytic Network Process in 2007 to advise the Polish prime minister against rushing into joining the Euro currency—advice which Poland heeded and which shielded the Eastern European nation from the current Euro crisis.

Born in Mosul, Iraq, in 1926, Saaty says his interest in mathematics began when he was young, and it persisted throughout his education. He obtained his bachelor's degree from Columbia Union College, a master's degree in physics from Catholic University of America, and master's and doctoral degrees in mathematics from Yale University; he completed his postgraduate study at the University of Paris.

Saaty says that his work stems from his love of humanity and that his inspiration is the desire to contribute knowledge that will make the human race more peaceful. "The human race is too beautiful and intelligent not to survive," Saaty adds.

# Happenings



Come Together, 2008 by Kenneth Neely

**Carnegie Museum of Art,**  
*Picturing the City: Downtown Pittsburgh, 2007-2010,*  
through March 2

## Concerts

**Rachmaninoff's Symphonic Dances,** Juraj Valcuha, conductor; Dame Evelyn Glennie, percussion, **Jan. 13-15,** Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, BNY Mellon Grand Classics, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, 412-392-4900, www.pittsburghsymphony.org, Pitt Arts Cheap Seats, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

**Tribute: A Symphonic Celebration of African American Culture,** sixth annual collaboration between Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and August Wilson Center for African

American Culture, Lawrence Loh, conductor; Mark Huggins, violin; August Wilson Center Dance Ensemble, 7:30 p.m. **Jan. 20,** August Wilson Center, 980 Liberty Ave., Downtown, 412-392-4900, http://pso.culturaldistrict.org.

**Christine Lavin,** singer-songwriter whose one-of-a-kind concerts have become a fixture in folk/pop culture, 7:30 p.m. **Jan. 21,** Carnegie Lecture Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Calliope Concerts 2011-12 Season, Calliope: Pittsburgh Folk Music Society, 412-361-1915, www.calliopehouse.org, Pitt Arts Cheap Seats, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

**Suite Bill,** R&B soul singer William Harrison "Bill" Withers, 8 p.m. **Jan. 21,** August Wilson Center for African American Culture, 980 Liberty Ave., Downtown, 412-392-4900, http://pso.culturaldistrict.org, Pitt Arts Cheap Seats, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

## Exhibitions

**University Art Gallery,** exhibition of work produced by Pitt Department of Studio Arts and Honors College students during Pitt's third annual Wyoming Field Study at the University's dinosaur bone-rich Cook Ranch, **Jan. 11-Feb. 3,** opening reception 4-6 p.m. Jan. 11, Frick Fine Arts Building, 412-648-2400.

**The Frick Art & Historical Center,** *Fabergé: The Hodges Family Collection,* more than 100 objects made by Russian artist-jeweler Peter Carl Fabergé, goldsmith and jeweler to the Russian court, **through Jan. 15,** 7227 Reynolds St., Point Breeze, 412-371-0600, www.thefrickpittsburgh.org.

**Carnegie Museum of Art,** *Picturing the City: Downtown Pittsburgh, 2007-2010,* **through March 2;** *Teenie Harris, Photographer: An American Story,* **through April 7;** 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3131, www.cmoa.org.

**The Warhol, I Just Want to Watch: Warhol's Film, Video, and Television,** **ongoing,** 117 Sandusky St., North Side, 412-237-8300, www.warhol.org.

**Wood Street Galleries, Cell Phone Disco,** **ongoing,** Tito Way, Downtown, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

## Lectures/Seminars/Readings

**"Problems of Decision Under Conditions of Certainty,"** Nicholas Rescher, Pitt Distinguished University Professor of Philosophy, 12:05 p.m. **Jan. 10,** 817R Cathedral of Learning, Lunchtime Talks Series, Pitt Center for Philosophy of Science, 412-624-1052, pittctr@pitt.edu.

**State of the University Honors College Address,** Ed Stricker, Honors College dean, 1:30 p.m. **Jan. 11,** Frick Fine Art Auditorium, www.honorscollege.pitt.edu.

**"Cancer Immunity and Immunotherapy: Living the Renaissance,"** Olivera Finn, Distinguished Professor of Immunology, Pitt School of Medicine, 4 p.m. **Jan. 12,** LR6 Scaife Hall, Pitt Provost's Inaugural Lecture Series Spring Term 2012, 412-624-5750, www.provost.pitt.edu.

**"Simplifying Choice,"** Paul Weirich, Visiting Fellow and Curator's Professor,



Conductor Juraj Valcuha

**Rachmaninoff's Symphonic Dances,** **Heinz Hall,** **January 13-15**

Department of Philosophy, University of Missouri, **Jan. 17,** 817R Cathedral of Learning, Lunchtime Talks Series, Pitt Center for Philosophy of Science, 412-624-1052, pittctr@pitt.edu.

**"Functional Brain Mapping with MRI,"** Seong-Gi Kim, Paul C. Lauterbur Professor in Imaging Research, Pitt School of Medicine, 4 p.m. **Jan. 17,** LR6 Scaife Hall, Pitt Provost's Inaugural Lecture Series Spring Term 2012, 412-624-5750, www.provost.pitt.edu.

**Michael Pollan,** renowned sustainable food activist featured in documentary *Food, Inc.*, 8 p.m. **Jan. 18,** Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, Robert Morris University's Pittsburgh Speakers Series 2011-12, 412-392-4900, www.PittsburghSpeakersSeries.org.

**"Security and Disorder in a Complex World,"** Philip Williams, Wesley W. Posvar Chair in International Security Studies, Pitt Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 4:30 p.m. **Jan. 19,** 2500 Posvar Hall, Pitt Provost's Inaugural Lecture Series Spring Term 2012, 412-624-5750, www.provost.pitt.edu.

**"Temporary and Permanent Anatomy Theaters: The Stakes of Transition,"** Cynthia Klestinec, assistant professor of English, Miami University, Ohio, 3 p.m. **Jan. 20,** Pitt Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Pitt Center for Philosophy of Science, 208B Cathedral of Learning, 412-624-5896, www.hps.pitt.edu.

## Opera/Theater/Dance

**Defending the Caveman** by Rob Becker, a comedy focusing on the battle of the sexes, **through Jan. 15,** CLO Cabaret at Theater Square, 655 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Civic Light

Opera, 412-456-6666, www.clocabaret.com, Pitt Arts Cheap Seats, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

**Through the Night** by Daniel Beaty, six intersecting stories about what it means to be a Black man in America today, **Jan. 14-Feb. 5,** Pittsburgh City Theatre, 1300 Bingham St., South Side, 412-431-2489.

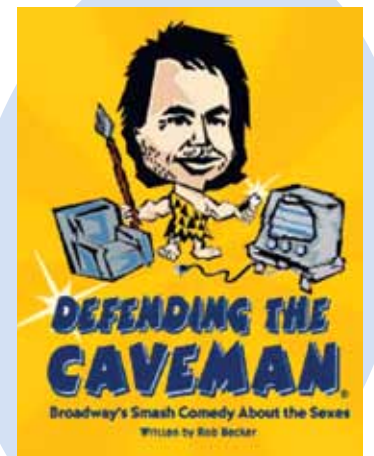
**As You Like It** by William Shakespeare, **Jan. 19-Feb. 19,** Pittsburgh Public Theater at the O'Reilly Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, 412-316-8219, www.ppt.org, Pitt Arts Cheap Seats, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

**The Agony and the Ecstasy of Steve Jobs,** author and actor Mike Daisey illuminates how the Apple CEO shaped our lives, 8 p.m. **Jan. 21,** Byham Theater, 101 Sixth Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org, Pitt Arts Cheap Seats, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

## Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

**Jared Coopersmith,** Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Sociology, "Scientific Controversies, Boundary Disputes, and Mobilization: The Intelligent Design Movement Network," 1 p.m. **Jan. 17,** 2431 Posvar Hall.

**Amrita Balachandran,** Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Biological Sciences, "Characterization of Gene Expression During Biofilm Development in Mycobacterium Smegmatis, and Genetic Analysis of a Surface Translocation-Defective Transposon Mutant," 12:30 p.m. **Jan. 19,** A219B Langley Hall.



**Defending the Caveman,** CLO Cabaret at Theater Square, **through January 15**

# Pitt's Anthony Grace, Christian Schunn Named Fellows by AAAS

Continued from page 1

*Pathophysiology of Psychiatric Disorders* (2009) published by Oxford University Press. Additionally, he has been invited to and presented at more than 100 conferences.

Grace received the CINP-Lilly Neuroscience Basic Research Award (2008), a Merit Award (2007) from the National Institute of Mental Health, the Dr. Paul Janssen Schizophrenia Research Award (2000) from the International Congress of Neuropsychopharmacology, the Daniel H. Efron Award (1999) from the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, and a Distinguished Investigator Award (1998) from the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression.

Grace earned his undergraduate degree in psychology and biology from Allegheny College and his PhD degree in pharmacology from Yale University. He joined the University of Pittsburgh in 1985 and was named Distinguished Professor of Neuroscience in 2010.

Christian Schunn, professor in the Department of Psychology, was honored as a Fellow for his distinguished contributions in bridging cognitive science research on

reasoning and learning in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Schunn holds secondary appointments as professor of learning sciences and policy in Pitt's School of Education and professor of intelligent systems in the Dietrich School, as well as serving as senior scientist in Pitt's Learning Research and Development Center.

More specifically, Schunn studies the processes of science and engineering teams, the Web-based peer-to-peer interactions that support learning, and the ways in which student engagement and reasoning processes interact in the science and technology arenas. In addition to pursuing research supported by several internal grants, Schunn serves as coprincipal investigator for 10 grant-related projects funded by organizations such as the National Science Foundation, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, and the Institute for Educational Sciences. In 2009, he was honored with a Society Fellowship from the American Psychology Association. This year he was named chair of the executive committee of the International Society for Design and Development in Education. He is an editorial board member of the *Jour-*

*nal of Educational Psychology, Cognitive Science,* and the *Journal of Psychology of Science and Technology.* He has served as an editor for books such as *Interdisciplinary Collaboration: An Emerging Cognitive Science* (2005) and *Designing for Science: Implications from Professional, Instructional, and Everyday Science* (2001), both published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates Publishing. With nearly 100 publications to his credit, he has had his work featured in such journals as *Computers & Education,* the *Journal of Mechanical Design,* and *NeuroImage,* and he currently has nine coauthored articles in press, two of them in forthcoming books. He has presented at more than 160 conferences and has been invited to deliver guest lectures at 25 colleges and universities.

Schunn received his undergraduate degree in psychology from McGill

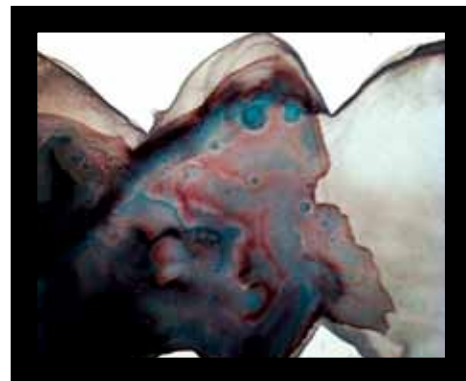
**The American Association for the Advancement of Science is the world's largest general scientific society and publisher of the journal *Science* as well as *Science Signaling.***

University in 1990 and his MS and PhD degrees in psychology from Carnegie Mellon University in 1993 and 1995, respectively. He completed postdoctoral work in psychology at Carnegie Mellon from 1995 to 1998.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) is the world's largest general scientific society and publisher of the journal *Science* (www.sciencemag.org) as well as *Science Translational Medicine* (www.sciencetranslationalmedicine.org) and *Science Signaling* (www.sciencesignaling.org). AAAS was founded in 1848 and includes 262 affiliated societies and academies of science serving 10 million individuals. The mission of the nonprofit AAAS (www.aaas.org) is to "advance science and serve society" through initiatives in science policy, international programs, and science education, among other areas.



### Pitt Presents Studio Arts Wyoming Field Study Exhibition Jan. 11-Feb. 3



Clockwise from top left: Untitled by Tyler Shine, a photograph documenting a performance at Killpecker Dunes in Wyoming; "I Live in a Bubble," a painting using glue, copper leaf, and color pigments on wood, by Josephine Norton; and, "Ink Drawing Detail," by Ashley Michele Bowen.

By Sharon S. Blake

An exhibition featuring the work of University of Pittsburgh art students inspired by the High Plains near Rock River, Wyo., will take place from Jan. 11 to Feb. 3 in Pitt's University Art Gallery, Frick Fine Arts Building. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays except for Monday, Jan. 16, when the gallery will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

An opening reception for the exhibition will take place in the Frick Fine Arts Building from 4 to 6 p.m. Jan. 11; the student artists will be present in the exhibition area to discuss their work at noon Jan. 25. All events are free and open to the public.

The summer of 2011 marked the third year that Pitt art students enrolled in an

intensive three-credit, 16-day studio arts field study on the Cook Ranch—4,700 acres of land rich with dinosaur fossils that was donated to Pitt in 2006 by Wyoming rancher Allen Cook. The art course overlapped with a six-week Pitt paleoecology course that in 2011 included a one-week study of Western literature. All the courses were offered through Pitt's University Honors College as part of an ongoing commitment by the University to use the land for education and research. The four student artists represented in the exhibition, all enrolled in Pitt's Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, include:

• **Ashley Michele Bowen**, a senior from Penfield, N.Y., who is a double major in studio arts and anthropology;

• **Nicole Hall**, a senior from Lewiston, N.Y., who is a double major in studio arts and English writing;

• **Josephine Norton**, a senior from Pittsburgh who is a double major in studio arts and Japanese; and

• **Tyler Shine**, a junior from McKeesport, Pa., who is a history of art and architecture major.

The exhibition will include paintings, drawings, prints, installation art, photography, and video.

## PittChronicle

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**PUBLICATION NOTICE** The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published Jan. 23. 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](mailto: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](mailto:robinet@pitt.edu).