

New UPG, UPJ Presidents Named

By Linda K. Schmitmeyer

Sharon P. Smith
University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

Sharon P. Smith, vice chancellor for academic affairs, provost and vice president for academic affairs, and special projects advisor for National University and for the National University System, has been named president of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, effective July 1.

Prior to being named to her positions at National University and the National University System, Smith served from 2001 to 2006 as professor of management systems and dean of the Colleges of Business and the Faculty of Business at Fordham University. She also was dean of the College of Business Administration at Fordham from 1990 to 2001. Smith's professional experience includes service as an economist for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and as a district manager for American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

"Sharon Smith is an accomplished administrator, a distinguished researcher and educator, and an experienced member of the financial services industry who has the talent and ability to lead the Greensburg campus to even higher levels of attainment and impact," said Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. "We welcome Dr. Smith to the University of Pittsburgh community and have every confidence she will be successful in her new role."

"Dr. Smith has an established record of distinguished performance in strategic planning, reinvigorated academic programs, and administration," said Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor James V. Maher. "That background, combined with her strong interest in a team-oriented environment and her experience in working effectively with community leaders, will stand in



Sharon P. Smith

her good stead as she helps to shape an exciting future for our academic efforts in Greensburg."

Smith served as governor of the Security Traders Association from 1997 to 2005; a trustee of St. Barnabas Hospital, Bronx, N.Y., from 1997 to 2006; chair of the Partners in Health Board of Trustees in 2000-02; president of the NASDAQ Stock Market Educational Foundation, Inc., in 2000; and public governor of NASD, Inc., from 2000 to 2006.

She is the coauthor of *Finding the Best Business School for You: Looking Past the Rankings* (Praeger Publishers, 2006) and *Faculty Retirement in the Arts and Sciences* (Princeton University Press, 1991) and has published more than 40 professional articles and book reviews.

Smith was a Visiting Fellow with the New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University during the 2005-06 academic year and a Visiting Senior Research Economist for Princeton University in 1988-90.

She received her A.B. degree, summa cum laude, in 1970; M.A. degree in 1972; and Ph.D. degree in 1974, all in economics from Rutgers University.



Jem Spectar

Jem Spectar
University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown

Jem Spectar, provost and vice president for academic affairs at Western Oregon University, has been named president of the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, effective July 1.

Prior to becoming provost at Western Oregon University, Spectar was associate provost for academic affairs at the University of Scranton, director of studies at Princeton University, and assistant dean of students at the University of La Verne, in La Verne, California.

"Provost Maher and I look forward to working with Dr. Spectar and the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown community to ensure the continuing success of the campus under his capable leadership. Jem Spectar is a visionary leader and celebrated teacher," said Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. "He has the skills and experience necessary to build effectively upon the strengths of our Johnstown campus and to enrich the lives of students, faculty, staff, and administrators."

"As a senior administrator at several institutions of higher education, Dr. Spectar has established a leadership style marked by an emphasis on consultation, collaboration, and transparency," said Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor James V. Maher. "His outstanding academic and administrative leadership as well as his capacity for fundraising, friend-making, and fostering positive community relations make him the ideal president for our Johnstown campus."

Spectar also was an associate professor of law at the University of La Verne, a lecturer in political science at Princeton University, and a professor of political science at the University of Scranton. He was awarded the 1998 Professor of Distinction Award at La Verne College of Law and the 1995 Professor of the Year, Legal Studies, at the University of LaVerne.



EVAN CANTWELL, GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

Abul Hussam demonstrating his SONO arsenic filter.

Pitt Alumnus Receives \$1 Million Prize for Filter That Removes Arsenic From Drinking Water

By Morgan Kelly

A simple, inexpensive filter that removes arsenic from drinking water has won its inventor, Pitt alumnus Abul Hussam, the \$1 million Grainger Challenge Prize for Sustainability.

The device, called the SONO filter, is saving lives in Hussam's native Bangladesh.

Hussam said he never could have created the device—which purifies water through a series of sand, wood, brick, and iron-composite filters—without the knowledge of analytical chemistry he acquired as a doctoral student here.

"The University of Pittsburgh takes great pride in the news that alumnus Abul Hussam was selected as the first-place winner in the 2007 Grainger Challenge Prize for Sustainability," said Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. "His design and creation of a reliable, affordable, and sustainable method for treating arsenic-contaminated groundwater is helping to solve a massive public health problem—the poisoning of millions of people in Bangladesh and other developing countries."

Hussam, today an associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry at George Mason University, earned his Ph.D. in analytical chemistry at Pitt in 1982.

While at Pitt, Hussam became adept at trace analysis, or finding minute traces of substances in water. That skill would come in handy in the late 1990s, when Hussam's brother, a physician in their hometown of Kushtia, Bangladesh, shared with Hussam his suspicion that some of his patients were suffering from arsenic poisoning.

Bangladesh and other Southeast Asian countries have reported high rates of arsenic poisoning in recent years. The naturally occurring toxic substance enters well water at levels far above those considered safe. Arsenic poisoning can lead to organ failure, cancer, and death. Children and malnourished adults are particularly vulnerable.

The only way for Hussam to know

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Pitt's Male Peregrine Falcon Defends Nest From Intruder in Bloody Clash of Talons and Beaks

Web camera captures rare footage of mating season row, may provide clues to falcon behavior

By Morgan Kelly

A quiet Sunday morning for the peregrine falcons living atop Pitt's Cathedral of Learning erupted into a bloody struggle for territory when a third falcon attempted to overtake their nest.

Neither of the Pitt falcons appears to have been injured during the 20-minute melee on March 18, but a Web camera that monitors the falcons' nest recorded the battle, making for rare and informative footage, said Anthony Bledsoe, a lecturer of biological sciences in Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences who helps monitor the birds.

"Fights over nests and territory are pretty common, but nobody ever sees the fight," Bledsoe said. The footage could help people who study peregrine falcons better understand how a new male—or sometimes female—takes over a nest, Bledsoe said. Researchers often find a new parent in a monitored nest, but lack solid evidence suggesting how the interloper took charge, he said.

Images of the fight show a third falcon

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Erie, the Cathedral of Learning's male peregrine falcon

Briefly Noted

PITT ARTS Presenting Concert By Chilean Classical Guitarist

PITT ARTS, the Pitt program that introduces students to the city's cultural life, is presenting Chilean classical guitarist Carlos Pérez in a free public concert at 8 p.m. April 5 in the Frick Fine Arts Auditorium. Pérez will perform a program featuring the music of the late Antonio Lauro and other Latin American composers. For more information, call 412-624-4498. Prior to the concert, at 7:45 p.m., Alejandro Bruzual, a Pitt doctoral student in Hispanic Languages and Literatures and author of *The Guitar in Venezuela/A Concise History to the End of the 20th Century* (Doberman-Yppan, 2005), will conduct a discussion from the stage about Antonio Lauro, a Venezuelan guitarist considered to be one of the foremost South American composers of the 20th century. The Pérez concert commemorates the 90th anniversary of the late virtuoso's birth.

On April 4, Pérez will conduct a master class at 4:30 p.m. in Room 123 of Pitt's Music Building. For more information or to register, contact Phil Thompson at 412-624-4125.

Born in Chile, Pérez has garnered top prizes in six major international competitions in Europe and South America. He took first place in the 2006 Joaquín Rodrigo Competition in Madrid, one of the world's most prestigious guitar performance competitions.

PITT ARTS, founded in 1997, sponsors more than 110 free outings via its Arts Encounters programs and sells about 9,000 discounted tickets to Pitt students, faculty, and staff through its Cheap Seats program. Pitt students can use their IDs for free visits to the Carnegie Museums of Art and Natural History, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, the Andy Warhol Museum, and the Mattress Factory. Each year, PITT ARTS connects more than 40,000 Pitt students with the arts.

—Sharon S. Blake

European Experimental Film Subject of University Conference

Changes in the European political landscape have had a dramatic effect on film production in Europe. The Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures in Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences will host a conference titled "After the Avant-Garde: European Experiments With the Moving Image," March 30 and 31 in 232 Cathedral of Learning.

The goal of the conference is to address dramatic changes in policy, production, technology, and aesthetics in European film production and to explore how these changes shape the aesthetics and politics of the moving image in Europe today.

Titles of conference sessions will include "Post-Neo-Avant-Garde: The New Visual Artists," "The Post-Cinematic and the Avant-Garde," "Established Filmmakers and the Continuing Significance of the Avant-Garde," "Popular Culture and the Avant-Garde," and "After the Cold War: Avant-Garde and (Post) Socialism"; the conference will culminate with a session titled "Reflections on the Avant-Garde: A Conversation With Filmmaker Birgit Hein." Hein, one of Germany's most significant filmmakers, is University Professor in the Institute for Media Research at the Academy of Fine Arts Braunschweig.

For a complete schedule on the free public



conference visit www.pitt.edu/AFShome/r/h/rhalle/public/html/avantgarde/schedule.htm.

In addition to Hein, visiting conference participants will include Thomas Elsaesser, research professor at the University of Amsterdam and general editor of the series *Film Culture in Transition*, published by Amsterdam University Press (1994-2007); Rembert Hüser, author of a forthcoming book on Alfred Hitchcock and associate professor in the Department of German, Scandinavian, and Dutch at the University of Minnesota; Alice Kuzniar, professor of German and comparative literature at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Richard Langston, assistant professor in the Department of German at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and Reinhild Steingröver,

associate professor in the humanities department in the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester.

Pitt participating faculty will include Lucy Fischer, professor of film studies and English and director of the Film Studies Program; Randall Halle, the Klaus W. Jonas Professor of German and Film Studies; Marcia Landy, Distinguished Service Professor of English and Film Studies; Adam Lowenstein, associate professor of English and film studies; Vladimir Padunov, associate professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and associate director of the Film Studies Program; and Phillip Watts, assistant professor of French and Italian languages and literatures.

The event will be sponsored by a grant from Pitt's Faculty and Research Scholarship Program, European Union Center of Excellence, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, and Film Studies Program.

For more information, contact Randall Halle at 412-648-2614 or [rrhalle@pitt.edu](mailto:rhalle@pitt.edu), or visit www.pitt.edu/~rrhalle/avantgarde.

—Patricia Lomando White

Pitt Dance Ensemble to Present Spring Performance March 29-31

The University of Pittsburgh Dance Ensemble will present its spring performance, titled "Unhinged," featuring the premiere of guest choreographer Meredith Koloski's "Too Many People" and student choreography in jazz, hip hop, ballet, and modern styles of dance. Performances will be presented at 8:15 p.m. March 29-31 in the Trees Hall Dance Studio.

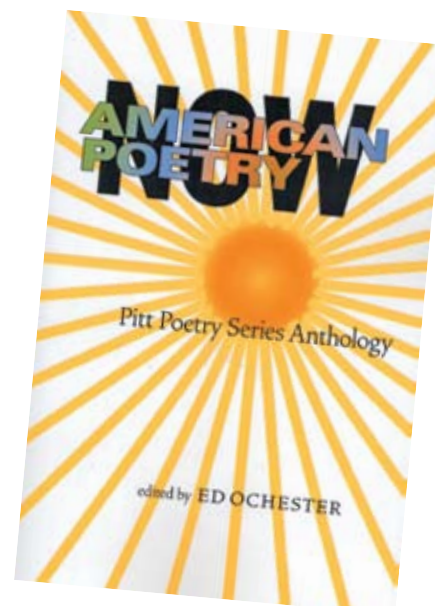
Koloski's "Too Many People" was choreographed while in residence with the Dance Ensemble in February and March 2007. It combines modern dance with hip hop styles and was inspired by a study done on human gesture. Since her arrival in Pittsburgh, Koloski has performed with Attack Theater and is a codirector/choreographer of Flux, an umbrella company of choreographers across the United States who explore collaboration and the creative process.

Pitt student choreographers include Stephanie Brenner, Alisha Ebling, Kristin Haughney, Sarah Kabatt, Mara Mandradjef, Dyana Murrell, Christa Robinson, Erik Roth, Michele Sabol, and Kathryn Yarnot.

The Pitt Dance Ensemble is a student dance group that performs theatrical dance and provides classes, workshops, and master classes for University students. The students choreograph, perform, and work behind the scenes to produce this and other concerts throughout the year.

Tickets are \$6 for general admission and \$3 for students with student ID. Tickets also may be purchased at the door. For more information, contact Susan Gillis-Kruman at 412-648-8262 or gillis@pitt.edu.

—Angelica Duggins



Anthology Celebrates 40 Years of Pitt Poetry Series

By Maria Sticco

The University of Pittsburgh Press is celebrating 40 years of publishing the Pitt Poetry Series with the release of *American Poetry Now: Pitt Poetry Series Anthology*.

Compiled by series editor Ed Ochester, *American Poetry Now* includes the work of 48 authors from diverse backgrounds, without allegiance to any particular school or style. The volume also includes an introduction by Ochester, author biographies, photos, and a suggested list for further reading.

Since its inception in 1967, the Pitt Poetry Series has featured the work of some of America's finest contemporary poets, including Poet Laureate Billy Collins, Poet Laureate and Pulitzer Prize-winner Ted Kooser, Denise Duhamel, Bob Hicok, and Pitt faculty members Toi Derricotte and Lynn Emanuel, among others.

Ochester, who has been editor of the series since 1978, told *Poets & Writers*, "I think one of the things that makes the Pitt Poetry Series different from just about every trade house now—and probably a number of university presses—is that we have open submissions. We do read everything that comes in over the transom."

Former director of Pitt's creative writing program, Ochester is a professor emeritus of English here. He is the author of more than 14 volumes of poetry and is founding editor of the literary magazine *5 A.M.*

Chronicling

An ongoing series highlighting University of Pittsburgh history



March 1924—The University of Pittsburgh opens its own educational radio station. During one of a series of five-minute talks broadcast by the station, Pitt Chancellor John Gabbert Bowman will speak of his dream of constructing what he calls a "Tower of Learning" on Pitt's campus. That talk, also broadcast by Pittsburgh's KDKA Radio on its powerful signal, will inspire a retired school teacher listening in Rutland, Vt., Elizabeth Watson, to mail a letter and a \$1 bill to Bowman to support the building of the University's Cathedral of Learning.



PittChronicle

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PUBLISHER	Robert Hill
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER	John Harvith
EXECUTIVE EDITOR	Linda K. Schmitmeyer
EDITOR	Bruce Steele
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STAFF WRITERS	Sharon S. Blake John Fedele Morgan Kelly Amanda Leff Patricia Lomando White
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS	Angelica Duggins Willona Sloan Maria Sticco
HAPPENINGS EDITOR	Audra Sorman

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Women's History Month Series

Norma B. Leftwich

PHOTOS BY RON CAESAR/HOWARD UNIVERSITY

Pitt alumna is the first woman in the 140-year history of Howard University to serve as HU's top legal officer

By Willona Sloan

As a Pitt undergraduate, Norma B. Leftwich (CAS '69) never imagined that she would become, in 1995, the first woman in the 140-year history of Howard University to serve as general counsel—the top legal officer—of that venerable Washington, D.C., institution.

"I think that my coming to Howard University actually happened by chance, but after being here I feel drawn to a university setting," says Leftwich. "Howard is the flagship HBCU [Historically Black College and University] in the nation. Its history and its mission are embedded in this country. It's been such an important place for many, many generations of African Americans. And, it has been important globally as well. Howard is a very international university."

Internationalism figured into Leftwich's decision to attend Pitt.

Born and raised in the Bronx in New York City, Leftwich first dreamed of working for the United Nations. As a high school student, she took courses in Mandarin Chinese at Columbia University. One of the reasons Leftwich enrolled at Pitt was that it offered courses in Mandarin, a rare thing for a U.S. university to do at that time. Fascinated by languages, Leftwich majored in French here, also taking courses in Mandarin and German. In addition, she earned a minor in political science.

"I received a solid education at Pitt," Leftwich declares. "That has served me very well as a foundation for my career and for many years later, when I attended Georgetown University Law Center."

Leftwich says Pitt also gave her the gift of lifelong friends, many of whom she met through the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, which she pledged here.

One of her favorite Pitt memories is of the view of campus ("among the most beautiful in the country," Leftwich says) from her room on the 16th

floor of the Tower C residence hall. She also fondly remembers Lantern Night, a rite-of-passage ceremony for Pitt freshman women that extended the 10 p.m. curfew for female freshmen by a couple of hours. (Male freshmen did not have a curfew in those days. By the time Leftwich graduated, Pitt had abolished curfews for female as well as male students.)

After graduating from Pitt, Leftwich set out on a career path that

did not draw on her earlier intense study of foreign languages. She worked as a personnel interviewer at a bank, then taught in a program that helped adult students earn their G.E.D.s and prepare for careers in banking. Eventually, Leftwich found herself in the field of work that she would pursue for nearly 20 years: developing initiatives to provide opportunities for small-business proprietors and business owners from underrepresented populations.

In the late 1970s, Leftwich worked with the Office of Minority Business Enterprise in Washington, D.C., where she helped to manage a \$58 million program to develop businesses owned by Blacks and members of other underrepresented groups. Subsequently, as special assistant to the director of the Interagency Council

for Minority Business Enterprise in the U.S. Department of Commerce, Leftwich developed innovative strategies to increase opportunities for minority-owned businesses seeking to contract with federal agencies.

Leftwich later directed the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization in the U.S. Department of Defense. There, she was primarily responsible for setting "goals and policies that would assist small, women-owned, and minority-owned firms in getting their fair chance to compete for defense contract dollars," she says. Leftwich also oversaw more than 750 employees nationwide, managed approximately \$50 billion in procurement dollars, and served as a



Norma B. Leftwich

consultant to the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition.

At age 40, Leftwich felt ready for a career change. She enrolled at the Georgetown University Law Center, earning her J.D. in 1992. Completing that degree fulfilled a family dream, Leftwich points out: Her father, Leon Bogues, a New York State senator, had dreamed of earning a J.D., but circumstances had ruled that out.

"I went to law school to fulfill a family pledge," Leftwich says. "My father had very much wanted to go to law school. He actually had started but wasn't able to finish because of his family responsibilities."

Leon Bogues died in 1985 at age 58 during his second term in the New York State Senate. "When I graduated from Georgetown, I made sure to include my maiden name on the diploma to honor my dad," Leftwich says. "That was very important to me. It gives me a great deal of pleasure to be the family's first lawyer."

Another of Leftwich's proudest professional achievements was her appointment to the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics, on which she served from 1989 to 1998. In this volunteer position, Leftwich helped to oversee the electoral process in the nation's capital.

Throughout her career, Leftwich has been honored with a number of awards, including the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service, the NAACP Roy Wilkins Meritorious Service Award, and the Pioneers of the Profession—Association of Minority In-House Counsel.

On a personal level, Leftwich is proud to have raised—together with her husband, Willie, a retired attorney who now is a full-time potter—a Pitt graduate: Their son, Curtis Leftwich, earned his B.A. in economics here in 2002.

As general counsel of Howard University, Leftwich manages the legal affairs of the university as well as its subsidiaries, including Howard University Hospital, the WHUR 96.3 FM radio station, and the public television station WHUT-TV. She oversees issues related to employment law, torts, contracts, estates, real property, federal procurements and grants, student and faculty issues, intellectual property, compliance investigations, health law, and corporate governance and litigation.

Leftwich provides counsel to Howard's president and its board of trustees. She serves as the university's chief compliance officer with overall responsibility for Code of Conduct compliance by university officials and board members. In addition, Leftwich manages nine attorneys, four paralegals, and 10 administrative clerical personnel.

All in a day's work.

"We [in the general counsel's office] are also advisers to Howard University Hospital, its doctors, and university scientists doing research. The office covers a variety of legal issues, and that's what makes it so exciting," Leftwich says. "You never see the same thing day after day."

Nor do Leftwich's colleagues at Howard often see such a multifaceted administrator.

"Norma Leftwich is a consummate professional. It has been a delight to work with her over the years," says Franklin Chambers, Howard's vice provost for student affairs. "She has always been a student advocate, and her advice is invaluable. We look to her for guidance in a myriad of situations, and not all of them are related to legal advice."

Willona Sloan is a writer/editor in Howard University's Office of University Communications.

One of her favorite Pitt memories is of the view of campus ("among the most beautiful in the country," Leftwich says) from her room in the Tower C residence hall.



Founders Library on the campus of Howard University

Women's History Month Series

Selected Highlights of Women's History at the University of Pittsburgh

1895 Sisters **Margaret and Stella Stein** are the first women to enter the Western University of Pennsylvania (now the University of Pittsburgh) as full-time sophomores, when the University was on Observatory Hill in Allegheny City (now Pittsburgh's North Side). The Stein sisters have an advantage over previous female applicants because Chancellor William Jacob Holland believes that two women could look after each other and keep each other company. The sisters take all the mathematics courses offered, plus astronomy, mathematical chemistry, and surveying.



Margaret Stein

1910 **Jean Hamilton Walls** receives the bachelor's degree at Pitt, the first Black woman to do so at the University. In 1938, she becomes the first Black woman to receive the Ph.D. degree here.



Jean Hamilton Walls

1919 **Virginia Proctor Powell Florence** is the first African American woman in the United States to complete a professional education program in librarianship. She graduates in 1923 from the Carnegie Library School, which later became part of Pitt's School of Information Sciences. (In 2004, a plaque honoring Florence is installed in the Information Sciences Building lobby.)



Virginia Proctor Powell Florence

The Women's Athletic Association forms to manage intramural sports.

Pitt's first Dean of Women, **Thyrsa Wealththeow Amos**, arrives from the psychology department at the University of Kansas.

1942 **Eighty-two percent of the students in the professional nursing program enlist in a unit of the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps organized by the University.** Because of a wartime shortage of nurses, the federal government mandates that nursing schools receiving federal money accept Black students. **Adena Johnson Davis** becomes the first African American admitted to the School of Nursing. She graduates in 1947.



Adena Johnson Davis

1898 **Stella and Margaret Stein** graduate, tied for first place in their class at Pitt. The sisters decide Stella should be the valedictorian.



Stella Stein

1901 **The Stein sisters** return to Pitt for their master's degrees, another first. Stella went on to teach modern languages and mathematics at South High School, and Margaret was principal at Avalon High School until she married.



Pi Theta Nu, 1909

1908 **Pi Theta Nu**, the first sorority, forms in 1908. Women's organizations are rare until after 1910.



First graduating class from the School of Education

1909 Shortly after the University moves to Oakland, **Pitt opens the School of Education.** Women flock to the new program, the number of women students at Pitt jumping from about 40 to more than 300 in the first year. Teacher training continues to be an academic haven for female students for more than 60 years.

1914-15 **Women's basketball** organizes, the first competitive sport for women at Pitt. (For an update on the Pitt women's basketball team, see p. 6.)



Pitt's 1924 women's basketball team

1918 Pitt hires its first woman faculty member, **Blossom Henry.**



Blossom Henry



1920 **Lantern Night**, a candlelight ceremony for freshman women, begins.

1924 **Girls' Varsity Basketball team** sweeps its home game opponents and loses only one game on the road.



Katherine Detre

1969 Chancellor Wesley Posvar creates the **Advisory Committee on Women's Opportunities** to address the agenda of the newly formed University Committee for Women's Rights.

1972 The **Pitt Women's Studies Program** is founded.

1983 The **Provost's Advisory Committee for Women's Concerns** is created.

2000 **Katherine Detre**, Distinguished Professor of Epidemiology in Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health, begins leading a national study—involving 2,368 patients at 40 sites across the United States—to determine the best way to treat people with both Type 2 diabetes and early coronary artery disease. The study attracts funding for the largest combined grant in Pitt history, \$65 million.

Margaret E. "Peg" Covert, a Pioneer For Women's Athletics at the University

Dec. 2, 1911 - Dec. 27, 2006

By M. Ferguson Tinsley

The following obituary originally appeared in the Jan. 1, 2007, edition of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

Margaret E. "Peg" Covert of Oakland brought women's sports at the University of Pittsburgh into the modern age, encouraged sports participation by disabled children, and introduced the elegance of modern dance to the University curriculum.

Covert, professor emerita at Pitt, died of pneumonia on Dec. 27, 2006. She was 95.

Covert rose from assistant professor in 1946, the year she joined the Pitt faculty, to full professor and director of intramural and recreational sports by 1953.

Along the way, she led Pitt's first female cheerleading squad, despite resistance from the dean of women students and the school's athletic director at the time.

According to a 1998 article by Peter Hart in the *University Times*, then-Chancellor Edward Litchfield decided it was time for young women to take up the pompons.

"Tom Hamilton [athletic director] was against it. Dean [Helen] Rush was against it. I don't know if she felt it lowered the university's prestige or if it wasn't appropriate for women's behavior. But Litchfield handled it beautifully," Covert said in the article.

"He said, 'Now Dean Rush, we're not here to decide if we're going to have cheer-



Margaret "Peg" Covert

leaders. We're going to have cheerleaders and I'm putting Miss Covert in charge for one year to start it off," Covert recalled. "Well, luckily we had 97 girls try out so we had the cream of the crop of the women athletes. And they always dressed well, and were well-behaved, and so there was no comeback."

Covert, who grew up in Hundred, W.Va., also had a vision for Trees Hall, the current home of Pitt's department of health and physical activity. She stressed the need for two swimming pools.

"We're building for the future here," said Covert. "Let's not skimp. Let's do it right. Let's not call the small gym and pool the women's gym and pool as it says on the plans."

Covert started a new program to teach physical education to children with cerebral palsy, along with teaching their parents.

In 1947, she introduced modern dance into the university curriculum.

She also loved to travel, and in 1957 was assigned to handle choreography for the University drama department. As part of her work in that area, Covert arranged to take a student production of Lerner and Loewe's *Brigadoon* to military bases in the Azores, Iceland, and Bermuda.

In 1959, she brought fencing to the University. She taught gymnastics, coached field hockey, and built women's gymnastics, volleyball, and swimming into competitive teams.

Traveling again on sabbatical in 1961, Covert went around the world collecting international folk dance resources and lecturing to physical education students in Australia.

In 1972, she was appointed head of women's athletics at Pitt.

Covert's diligence and determination upgraded women's athletics at Pitt six years before Title IX mandated that women's sports opportunities be comparable to men's.

Although she worked hard, said Goldie Edwards, a colleague and close friend for more than 40 years, Covert loved having fun.

"She laughed very easily," Edwards recalled. "These days there are many people who don't laugh at all. But she loved to laugh. She could [make puns] easily. You have to be quick to do that. I used to spend every Christmas with her and I remember a time when we laughed uncontrollably."

Covert is survived by a half-brother, Leland Covert of Shawnee, Colo.

More recently...

2004 Wangari Muta Maathai, who earned the Master of Science degree in biology at Pitt in 1965, is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her 30-year effort to reforest her native Kenya and improve the economic status of women there, while fighting for democracy and against corruption and tribalism. Pitt conferred on Maathai an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree during an Oct. 26, 2006, ceremony in Alumni Hall.



Wangari Muta Maathai

2005 The director of Pitt's European Union Center, **Alberta Sbragia**, is named Jean Monnet Chair ad personam by the European Commission, which also designates

Pitt's center a European Union Center of Excellence. Sbragia, a Pitt professor of political science and director of the University's Center for West European Studies, is one of only two academics to be named Jean Monnet Chair ad personam in 2005. In 2006, Sbragia is named the inaugural holder of the Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg University Chair.



Alberta Sbragia

2006 Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg tells the University's Board of Trustees that Pitt will honor

Helen S. Faison—Pitt alumna, emerita trustee, and trailblazing educator—by creating the Dr. Helen S. Faison Chair in Urban Education, the first fully endowed chair in the 96-year history of Pitt's School of Education, where Faison earned her B.S., M.Ed., and Ph.D. degrees in 1946, 1955, and 1975, respectively.



Helen S. Faison

Susan G. Amara delivers a Provost's Inaugural Lecture Nov. 21 to mark her formal installation as the Dr. Thomas Detre Endowed Professor in Pitt's School of Medicine.

Amara, who also chairs the school's Department of Neurobiology, was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2004.

2007 Anna Quider, a Pitt Honors

College student majoring in physics and astronomy, the history and philosophy of science, and religious studies, is named a Marshall Scholar for 2007. Quider is the ninth Pitt student to win a Marshall Scholarship, one of the most competitive and prestigious merit scholarships available to graduating American seniors. No other Pennsylvania college or university has won more Marshall and Rhodes Scholarships than Pitt in the last quarter century.



Anna Quider

Briefly Noted

William Pitt Debating Union Qualifies for National Debate Tournament for 10th Year

Pitt's William Pitt Debating Union (WPDU) will head to the 61st National Debate Tournament (NDT) in Dallas, Texas, from March 30 to April 2, qualifying for the national competition for the 10th consecutive year.

School of Arts and Science senior Melina Forte, majoring in history and philosophy, and first-year student Michael Mangus, majoring in computer science and linguistics, won the District VII qualifying tournament's final six consecutive ballots, defeating opponents from Clarion University and the United States Naval Academy to finish among the top eight teams in the region. At the District VII qualifying tournament, hosted by the University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, Va., Forte and Mangus argued that the U.S. Supreme Court should overrule its decision in *U.S. vs. Morrison*, which held that Congress lacked authority, under either the Commerce Clause or the 14th Amendment, to enact the Violence Against Women Act of 1994. Forte and Mangus won earlier elimination rounds hosted by Miami University in Ohio, The U.S. Naval Academy, and the University of Richmond in Virginia.

Each year, the NDT brings together the top 78 debate teams in the nation for five days of intense analysis on a common topic. This year's debates will focus on U.S. Supreme Court decisions.

The NDT began at the United States Military

Academy at West Point in 1947. For the first 20 years the tournament was organized and conducted by the academy. The tournament still holds many traditions, including the "big board", oral announcement of round pairings, cadet escorts for each team, teams for each debate meeting under the banner of the affirmative team, and team signs in the rooms.

—Angelica Duggins

Senate Meeting Will Explore Dangers of Outside Interests On Scientific Discovery

The dangers that outside interests may pose to scientific discovery will be the topic of the University Senate's spring 2007 plenary meeting, titled "Protecting Science from Bias by Private Interests," 2-5 p.m. March 28 in the William Pitt Union's Assembly Room.

Keynote speakers will include Pitt alumna and trustee Catherine DeAngelis, editor in chief of *The Journal of the American Medical Association* (JAMA), and Sheldon Krinsky, a Tufts University professor of urban and environmental policy and adjunct professor in public health and family medicine.

The session will be moderated by Herbert Needleman, a Pitt professor of psychiatry and pediatrics, and will feature comments by Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg; James V. Maher, Pitt provost and senior vice chancellor;

and Arthur S. Levine, senior vice chancellor for the health sciences and dean of Pitt's School of Medicine.

In addition to editing JAMA, DeAngelis is a professor of pediatrics in Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She received her M.D. from Pitt's medical school in 1969.

—John Fedele

Author of Leading Treatise on Patent Law to Speak at Pitt

Donald S. Chisum, a leading authority intellectual property rights in technology, will deliver the Pitt School of Law's second annual Distinguished Lecture in Intellectual Property Law at 3 p.m. March 28 in Room 113 of the University's Barco Law Building.

Titled "Heavy Hands on Hard Clay: The Supreme Court as an Instrument of Patent Law Reform," the free public lecture will be followed by a reception.

Chisum is author of the leading treatise on patent law, *Chisum on Patents* (Matthew Bender, 1978) and coauthor with Michael Jacobs of the textbook *Understanding Intellectual Property* (Lexis Nexis/Matthew Bender, 2004). Chisum continually supplements and revises the patents treatise, comprising 26 volumes, to include patent law developments.

His lecture has been approved by the Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Board for 1.5 hours of CLE credit. The cost for 1.5 hours of CLE credit is \$25, payable at the door by cash or check made out to the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. For more information about intellectual property law at Pitt, visit www.law.pitt.edu/academics/programs/ip/index.html or e-mail professor of law Janice Mueller at Muel-ler@law.pitt.edu.

—Patricia Lomando White



Catherine DeAngelis

Pitt Alumnus Receives \$1 Million Prize for Filter That Removes Arsenic From Drinking Water

Continued from Page 1

whether arsenic was causing the symptoms his brother was seeing in his patients—painful skin nodules, liver problems, and weakness—was to measure its concentration in water samples. That represented the first step in building the SONO filter. Once Hussam knew the level of arsenic in groundwater, he could design a filter powerful enough to eliminate the poisonous mineral. Drawing on his studies at Pitt, Hussam developed a device for measuring arsenic and found that many of the wells he tested—including two he had drunk from while growing up—contained three-to-40 times the maximum amount of arsenic considered safe.

“We found arsenic in almost the whole neighborhood. In the city [of Kushtia], almost 60 percent of the wells were contaminated,” Hussam said. “Measurement was the key to developing an effective filter.”

Hussam said the analytical chemistry he learned while studying at Pitt under his doctoral advisor, Johannes Coetzee, currently an emeritus professor of analytical chemistry here, and coadvisor Stephen Weber, a Pitt professor of bioanalytical chemistry, was “absolutely essential” to developing the SONO filter.

After leaving Pitt, Hussam had lost touch with his advisers. But soon after *The Washington Post* published a story about his award-winning invention last month, Hussam received a phone call from a man who asked him detailed questions about trace analysis. Hussam did not catch the caller’s name at first.

“He asked me, ‘What was the species of arsenic I had found in the water?’” Hussam recalled. “And I thought that this person really knew what he was talking about because very few people ask me that question.”

Asked to mail the caller copies of his research papers, Hussam began taking down the man’s name and address. As the caller spelled his name—Johannes Coetzee—Hussam realized he was speaking with his former adviser.

“It was a very pleasant surprise when I read the article about Abul,” said Coetzee, who retired in 1989 after 37 years at Pitt and who now lives near Washington, D.C. “When we talked, he said it was the best day of his life. I was delighted.”

Coetzee added, “I’m not shocked that Abul created the SONO filter, because he certainly had the ability. His filter is a major contribution to science and to the welfare of Bangladeshis. I think he can be a role model for young chemists. He applied the knowledge from his doctoral studies to a practical matter of great importance. You may have 1,000 people with Abul’s competence, but only one will make a great achievement.”

“It’s very rewarding for me as an advisor,” Coetzee said, adding with a laugh, “Obviously, I didn’t do too many things wrong” in advising Hussam.

For Hussam, reconnecting with Coetzee brought back happy memories of the U.S. city and campus he had come to love in the late 1970s and early 1980s.



Abul Hussam (center) receiving the Grainger Prize.

Pittsburgh was the first American city Hussam lived in—his “hometown America,” he calls it. His wife, Meherun Nahar, graduated from Pitt in 1983 with a master’s degree in chemistry; she also studied under Professor Weber, Hussam said. Their son was born in Pittsburgh.

Hussam even remembers fondly the smell of smoke in the air during the twilight era of Pittsburgh’s colossal steel mills. The smell reminded him of his parents’ home in India, he says.

“Those were very good times,” Hussam recalled. “The city’s sports teams were doing extremely well and we’d get together with our friends to watch football. I tell my best students to go to Pitt because the facilities and education are superb. What I learned at Pitt helped me tremendously. I was fortunate to work with the top scientists in analytical chemistry.”

The Grainger Challenge Prize was created in 2005 to spur the development of arsenic filters that would be simple and affordable (no electricity required, for example) and within the manufacturing capabilities of developing countries. The competition was sponsored and administered by the National Academy of Engineering and the Illinois-based Grainger Foundation, which supports efficient and globally beneficial innovations in engineering. Other Grainger challenges will be issued in the future.

Hussam said he has set aside 70 percent of his \$1 million prize to fund further development and distribution of the SONO filter. His goal is to produce 1,000 of the handmade devices each week. The cost of the filter’s plastic casing drives the price to about \$40. As of this year, 30,000 of the filters have been distributed in Bangladesh, 20,000 of those for free, he said. One SONO filter purifies enough water in two hours to serve the daily needs of a family of five, according to Hussam.

He said several American communities have contacted him about the SONO filter. Groundwater in parts of the United States, particularly in northern states such as Minnesota and the Dakotas, contain a significant amount of arsenic, he noted. But a new filter must be developed for American households to accommodate the stronger water flow produced by indoor plumbing, said Hussam, who is using some of his Grainger prize money to fund research at George Mason University on an arsenic filter for industrialized countries.

“I thought my work [on the SONO filter] was over,” Hussam said, “but it seems that it has just begun.”

March Madness Comes to a Close



Jania Sims (left) of the Pitt women’s basketball team and Ronald Ramon (below) of the men’s squad drive to the basket in recent action. The men’s team finished the season with a 29-8 record, advancing to the NCAA Sweet 16 for the fourth time in six years. (Pitt is one of only five schools nationally to appear in at least four Sweet 16s of the men’s NCAA Division I college basketball championship tournament since 2002.) The Pitt women’s team finished 24-9, the best record ever for a Pitt women’s basketball team, and won the first NCAA women’s tournament victory in school history, beating James Madison University on March 18. It also was the team’s first invitation to an NCAA women’s basketball tournament.



Relativity Continues

The Pitt Kuntu Repertory Theatre’s production of *Relativity* continues through April 7 in the 7th-Floor Auditorium of Alumni Hall.

Vanessa German (below, right) plays Kalima Davis, a young genetic researcher whose activist mother heads a foundation that maintains that darker-skinned people are more highly advanced than those with less melanin in their skin. Kalima rejects her mother’s theories and eventually sides with those of esteemed scientist Iris Preston, played by Stephanie Batiste (left).

Performances begin at 8 p.m. Thursdays

through Saturdays and 4 p.m. Sundays. Matinees are scheduled for 1 p.m. March 31 and 11 a.m. April 5. The March 29 performance will be preceded by a panel discussion. For ticket information, call 412-624-7298.

Kuntu will hold auditions for its final play of the 2006-07 season, the world premiere of *The Healthy Black Family: The Separation of Blood*, on April 1 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and April 2 from 6 to 8 p.m. in Alumni Hall’s 7th-Floor Auditorium. Men and women of all races are encouraged to apply. Those auditioning must bring a recent head shot and résumé and perform a two-minute monologue.

The Kuntu Rep’s current season is cosponsored by Pitt’s Center for Minority Health.



JOE KAPLEWSKI/CODE

Pitt to Feature Editorial Cartoonists Who Take Aim at Iraq War

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's Rob Rogers will moderate March 28 panel presentation



By Patricia Lomando White

Pitt and the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* will host an illustrated panel presentation titled "There's Nothing Funny About War: Editorial Cartoonists Take Aim," featuring national editorial cartoonists and moderated by *Post-Gazette* editorial cartoonist Rob Rogers at 7:30 p.m. March 28 in The Twentieth Century Club auditorium, 4201 Bigelow Blvd., Oakland.

Featured panelists will be David Axe, military editor for *Defense Technology International Magazine*; Ted Rall, columnist and cartoonist for Universal Press Syndicate; Scott Stantis, editorial cartoonist for *The Birmingham News*; and Signe Wilkinson, editorial cartoonist for the *Philadelphia Daily News*.

Those interested in attending this free public event must RSVP by telephone, 412-624-6880; fax, 412-624-6885; or e-mail, uhcevent@pitt.edu, by March 23, providing name, phone number, and requested number of tickets, which will be available at the door.

Axe was born in Arlington, Texas, and attended Furman University in Greenville, S.C., and the University of South Carolina, studying medieval history. After college, he built a freelance writing career while managing a movie theater, working at a dog spa, and impersonating *Star Wars* characters for children's birthday parties. He later joined the staff of the *Free Times*, a Columbia, S.C., weekly newspaper, convincing them to send him to Iraq in January 2005. In Iraq, he quit the paper and began a freelance career as a war correspondent, reporting for *The Village Voice*, *The Washington Times*, C-SPAN, BBC Radio, and *Popular Science*, *Fast Company*, and *Cosmo* magazines. Axe's graphic novel *WAR FIX*, (NBM ComicsLit, 2006), drawn by Steve Olexa, is based on his first month in Iraq. After seven trips to the war zone, Axe joined *Defense Technology International Magazine*, which sent him to Iraq, Lebanon, and Japan. After Lebanon, Axe launched a blog at www.wariboring.com, featuring a weekly comic drawn by Matt Bors. Axe's first nonfiction book, *ARMY 101: Inside ROTC in a Time of War* (University of South Carolina Press, 2007), was named one of 2006's top 10 nonfiction books for African Americans by Booklist.

Rall launched his editorial cartooning career in the late 1980s with a handful of small alternative weekly newspapers whose editors saw his photocopied work hanging from lampposts in New York City. In 1991, *San Francisco Chronicle* features launched Rall's three-times-a-week editorial cartoon syndication with a dozen clients, including the *Los Angeles Times* and *Philadelphia*

Daily News. With Universal Press Syndicate for 11 years, Rall—called "the most controversial cartoonist in America" by the editorial cartooning site *Cartoon.com*—appears in more than 140 newspapers throughout the United States, ranging from *The New York Times* and *Los Angeles Times* to such alternative weeklies as the *Village Voice* and *Los Angeles CityBeat*. Via his trademark "Generalissimo El Busho" caricature of President Bush, Rall has become a lightning rod for criticism from the right, being smeared as "treasonous" by *The Weekly Standard* and "anti-American" by *The Wall Street Journal* editorial page. The Right Wing News Web site named him 2003's "Most Annoying Liberal," and he was ranked No. 15 in Bernard Goldberg's book *100 People Who Are Screwing Up America* (Harper Collins, 2005). Rall has won numerous awards, including the 1995 and 2000 Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Awards for Outstanding Coverage of the Problems of the Disadvantaged. In 1996, he was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. He is the author of 14 books, including the three-volume *Attitude* anthologies that highlight the best up-and-coming alternative cartoonists and their work.

Stantis has been the editorial cartoonist for *The Birmingham News* since 1996 and produces an editorial cartoon weekly for *USA TODAY*. His work is syndicated in more than 400 newspapers and has been featured in *Newsweek*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *The Daily News* in New York City, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *Chicago Tribune* and on CNN, "CBS This Morning," and ABC-TV's "Nightline." He has been an editorial cartoonist for the *Orange County Register*, *The Commercial Appeal* in Memphis, Tenn., and *The Arizona Republic* in Phoenix. Stantis began the daily comic strip "Prickly City" in 2004. The character-driven conservative political and social commentary of "Prickly City" now appears in nearly 100 newspapers. Stantis is a past president of the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC), the largest organization of its kind in the world. He is on the board of the Editorial Cartooning Initiative, the foundation arm

of the AAEC, and is a member of the board of directors of the Epilepsy Foundation of Central and Northern Alabama. Stantis is a 2004 graduate of Leadership Birmingham.

Wilkinson began her career as a stringer for the *West Chester Daily Local News*, which published her first drawings. Finding that cartooning combined her interests in politics and art, Wilkinson moved to Philadelphia, where she took remedial drawing classes at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, worked at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, and began freelancing artwork at various local publications, including *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and the *Philadelphia Daily News*. In early 1982, she joined the *San Jose Mercury News* as editorial cartoonist. She was hired in fall 1985 in the same position for the *Philadelphia Daily News*. In addition to creating political art, Wilkinson has drawn mulch-based cartoons for *Organic Gardening* magazine; this resulted in her 1999 gardening calendar, "How to Draw the \$735 Tomato." Her work has appeared in many magazines and

books. Most recently, she has illustrated a guide to composting and a book by Kathleen Hall Jamieson and Brooks Jackson, *UnSpun: Finding Facts in a World of Disinformation*, to be published in April. Wilkinson has written articles on a variety of topics, including the Danish cartooning controversy for *Beliefnet.com*, The AIGA Design Forum, and an Arab Web site. In October 2006, she successfully helped defend the proposition "Freedom of speech includes the right to offend" at a public debate at the Asia Society in New York City. Wilkinson has won numerous awards for her cartoons and is a past president of the AAEC.

Rogers' work is nationally syndicated four times weekly by United Feature Syndicate. His cartoons regularly appear in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *USA Today*, *Newsweek*, and many other media outlets. In 1994, Rogers' depiction of "The Gingrich Who Stole Christmas" graced the cover of *Newsweek's* year-end issue. Born in Philadelphia, Rogers began copying his favorite characters out of the *Inquirer's* comics pages as soon as he was old enough to grasp a pencil. His interest in "political" cartooning was cultivated at Oklahoma State University, where he was asked to draw cartoons about student issues for the college paper. He continued to hone his craft for *The Vista* at Central State University (now University of Central Oklahoma) in Edmond, Okla., during which time he covered the 1980 Presidential election. After graduating in 1984 from Carnegie Mellon University with an M.F.A. degree in painting, Rogers was hired as staff cartoonist by *The Pittsburgh Press* and in January 1993 joined the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. Rogers received the 2000 Overseas Press Club Award, the 1995 National Headliner Award, and 10 Golden Quill Awards from the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania. He also was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 1999.

Rogers was hired as staff cartoonist in 1984 by *The Pittsburgh Press* and in 1993 joined the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. Rogers received the 2000 Overseas Press Club Award, the 1995 National Headliner Award, and 10 Golden Quill Awards from the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania. He also was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 1999.



Dorothy, the Cathedral of Learning's female peregrine falcon

Pitt's Peregrine Falcons Defend Nest From Intruder in Bloody Clash of Talons and Beaks

Continued from Page 1

invading the nest of Erie and Dorothy, who have nested on the Cathedral's 40th floor since 2002. Erie, the male, was wrestling with the intruder when Kate St. John, a volunteer for the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC) who monitors the Pitt falcons, happened to check the Web camera around 9 a.m. March 18; she took still images with the Web camera as the row raged.

St. John's photos show Dorothy looking on as Erie and the interloper lock talons and strike at one another's chests with their beaks. Erie eventually flipped the other bird over, stabbing his chest before the two rolled out of the nest in a flurry of feathers. The last shot is of Dorothy gazing skyward while, as St. John figures, Erie chases the intruder away. St. John could not tell from the images if the triumphant falcon was Erie, but assumed from the normal way in which the victor and Dorothy behaved—without the bowing and circling rituals of new courtship—that Erie had won.

"It was scary because if it got really bad one of them was going to die," St. John said. "They fight to the death. Erie has ruled the nest since 2002 and raised 18 fledglings. He can't afford to lose the site. How could he start over at his age? If a newcomer fights him, he would have to be killed. He has everything to lose. The fact that they fell off the nest probably saved a life."

Peregrine falcons often fight during their March nesting season: The females are fertile and young birds without nests cruise for older falcons to overthrow. At stake are a mate, a ready-made nest, a perch (what better than the Cathedral?), and feeding grounds, Bledsoe said. Falcons viciously defend or usurp a nest. A few years after Dorothy and Erie nested on the Cathedral, Bledsoe was summoned when they engaged two other birds in two hours of bloody, screeching combat outside Pitt's accounting office. The brawl had broken up by the time Bledsoe arrived.

"This isn't the first time Erie has fought off an intruder," Bledsoe said. "Another falcon tries to intrude every year."

Erie and Dorothy also spawned a scrapper. One of their offspring, which St. John named Louie, conquered the nest at downtown Pittsburgh's Gulf Tower in 2003 when he killed and decapitated the approximately 12-year-old patriarch Boris (an elder in peregrine falcon years). Louie still rules that nest.

Despite Erie's supposed victory Sunday, a young, strong falcon like Louie will someday control the Cathedral nest, Bledsoe said.

"The day will come when another male occupies the site, either after Erie's natural death or if he dies by accident or in a fight," he said. "It's tough out there."

To see a slide show of the March 18 fight, visit the WPC Web site at <http://www.paconserve.org/rc/peregrine-07-images/index.html>.



Happenings

March 26-April 2, 2007



March 26

Lecture, "Should We Disclose Harmful Medical Errors to Patients, and If So, How?" Thomas Gallagher, associate professor of medicine and medical history and ethics, University of Washington School of Medicine, 9 a.m., Scaife Hall's Auditorium 5, Pitt Center for Bioethics' 24th Annual Messer Lecture, 412-647-5700, www.pitt.edu/~bioethic.

Lecture, "PASSPORT to Academic Success," noon, William Pitt Union's Dining Room A, Pitt's Office of International Services, 412-624-7120, www.ois.pitt.edu.

Ph.D. Dissertation Defense by Judith A. Callan, Pitt School of Nursing, "Development of a Scale: Barriers to CBT Homework Completion Scale," 2 p.m., 340 Victoria Building.

Ph.D. Dissertation Defense by Gulshan Sharma, Pitt Department of Bioengineering, "Structural Analysis-Driven Shoulder Arthroplasty," 3:30 p.m., B63 Benedum Hall.

Musical Performance, "Music Monday," 8 p.m., Bellefield Hall Auditorium, Pitt Concert Series, 412-624-4125, www.music.pitt.edu.

Audubon Print Exhibition, *Hooded Warbler*, through April 2, Hillman Library ground floor, Pitt Department of Special Collections, 412-648-7715, www.library.pitt.edu/images/audubon.

March 27

Ph.D. Dissertation Defense by Anand Iyer, Pitt School of Medicine, "EGF-Like Repeats—Novel Matrikine Ligands for EGF Receptor," 10 a.m., 1104 Scaife Conference Center.

Ph.D. Dissertation Defense by Kathryn Carroll, Pitt Depart-

ment of Instruction and Learning, "Conversations With Coaches: Their Roles in Pennsylvania Reading First School," 10:30 a.m., 5140 Posvar Hall.

Lecture, "Chekhov and the Development of Vaudeville in Russia," Yuliya Basina, instructor, Pitt Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, noon, Stephen Foster Memorial's Charity Randall Theatre; Pitt's Center for Russian and East European Studies, Department of Theatre Arts, and Pitt Repertory Theatre; 412-648-7407, crees@pitt.edu.

Lecture, "New Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy Techniques for Studying Glutamatergic and GABAergic Function in the Brain," Jun Shen, chief, National Institute of Mental Health's Unit on Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy, Molecular Imaging Branch, 1 p.m., 3850-3851 Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, 3705 Fifth Ave., Oakland, Pitt Department of Radiology Research Seminar Series, 412-647-0449, sudars@upmc.edu.

Lecture, "Justice O'Connor and 'The Threat to Judicial Independence': The Cowgirl Who Cried Wolf?" Arthur D. Hellman, Sally Ann Semenko Endowed Chair and professor, Pitt's School of Law, 4 p.m., 2500 Posvar Hall, Pitt School of Law's Inaugural Lecture, 412-648-1400, www.law.pitt.edu/index.php.

Lecture, "Introducing Dante's *Paradiso*," Robert M. Durling, professor emeritus of English and Italian literature, University of California, Santa Cruz, 4 p.m., 501 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt's Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures, losagio@pitt.edu.

Film Screening, *Obečna Skola [The Elementary School]* (1991), 7 p.m., 4130 Posvar Hall, Pitt's Center for Russian and East European Studies, 412-648-7407, crees@pitt.edu.

Musical Performance, African Music and Dance Ensemble, directed by J.S. Kofi Gbolonyo, 8 p.m., Bellefield Hall Auditorium, Pitt Concert Series, 412-624-4125, www.music.pitt.edu.

March 28

Lectures, "Polish Accession to the EU and NATO: Its Impact on Poland's Relations With Its Neighbors," 10:30-11:30 a.m., 4209 Posvar Hall; "Poland's Membership in the EU: Pre- and Post-Accession Challenges," noon-1 p.m., 4130 Posvar Hall; both by Jaroslaw Ksiazek, Consul General of Poland in Brest; Pitt's Center for Russian and East European Studies, European Studies Center, and European Union Center of Excellence; 412-648-1110, mdeal@ucis.pitt.edu.

Lecture, "Architecture, Pedagogy, Memory: Making a Monument to a Hero of the Arts in Revolutionary Paris," Drew Armstrong, Pitt director of architectural studies and assistant professor of 18th- and 19th-century European and North American art and architecture, noon, 203 Frick Fine Arts Building, Pitt's Department of the History of Art and Architecture Colloquium Series, 412-648-2400, www.haa.pitt.edu.

Ph.D. Dissertation Defense by Martha Diamond, Pitt School of Education, "Vocational Students' Engagement and Career Objectives: Assessment of Processes in New Vocational Students," 1 p.m., 4307 Posvar Hall.

Lecture, "Heavy Hands on Hard Clay: The Supreme Court as an Instrument of Patent Law Reform," author Donald S. Chisum, 3 p.m., Barco Law Building. (For detail, see p. 5.)

Lecture, "The Manifest Behaviors of Suffering," Janice Morse, Barnes Presidential Endowed Chair, University of Utah's College of Nursing, 3 p.m., 129 Victoria Building, Pitt's Univer-

sity Center for Social and Urban Research, 412-624-5442, ucsur@pitt.edu.

Film Screenings, films by directors Matthias Müller, Bjorn Melhus, and Michael Brynntrup; 7:30 p.m., 205 David Lawrence Hall; Pitt Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures series, *Experimental, Underground, Revolutionary: Avant-garde Films From Germany, Austria, and Switzerland*, 412-648-2614, rhalle@pitt.edu.

Theatrical Performance, *The Proposal, The Wedding, and The Bear*, by Anton Chekhov, 8 p.m., continues through April 1, Stephen Foster Memorial's Charity Randall Theatre, Pitt Repertory Theatre, 412-624-7529, www.pitt.edu/~play.

Film Screening, *The Syrian Bride* (2004), directed by Eran Riklis, 8:30 p.m., 4130 Posvar Hall, Pitt's Global Studies Program, 412-624-2918, dristas@ucis.pitt.edu.

March 29

Workshop, "The Myths, the Markets, and the Money: Finding Funding for Your Innovative Research," 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Pittsburgh Athletic Association, Pitt's Small Business Development Center; registration required, 412-648-1542, ieeregistration@katz.pitt.edu.

Pitt Wellness Fair, featuring health screenings and demonstrations, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., William Pitt Union's Assembly Room, Pitt Wellness Program, www.pitt.edu/~wellpgm.

Ph.D. Dissertation Defense by Pei-an Betty Shih, "Evidence of Haplotype-based Association in SLE at the C-reactive Protein Locus: Population-based and Family-based Association Studies," 10 a.m., 109 Parran Hall.

Luncheon Discussion, "Religion, Power, and Vernacularization in Medieval India," Richard Cohen, associate director, Pitt's Asian Studies Center, noon, 4130 Posvar Hall, Pitt's Asian Studies Center, 412-648-7763, jordanb@ucis.pitt.edu.

Ph.D. Dissertation Defense by Teresa Mastromatteo Beigay, Pitt Graduate School of Public Health, "Examination of the Perceptions of an Elderly Population in Subsidized Housing and Their Utilization of Community-Based Health Care," 1 p.m., Parran Hall's 2nd-Floor Conference Room.

Lecture, "Desired and Denied, Elevated and Abused: Lady Rokujo in the Noh Drama," Paul Atkins, assistant profes-

or, University of Washington's Department of Asian Languages and Literature, 2:30 p.m., 3504 Cathedral of Learning; Pitt's Asian Studies Center and University Honors College; 412-648-7367, dakis@ucis.pitt.edu.

Lecture, "Naturalizing Aesthetics: The Wonderful Case of Wine," George Gale, professor of philosophy, University of Missouri, Kansas City, 3 p.m., 5130 Posvar Hall, Pitt's Center for Philosophy of Science, 412-624-1052, www.pitt.edu/~pittcentr.

Lecture, "Visualization of Interfacial Physicochemical Processes," Patrick Unwin, professor, University of Warwick's Department of Chemistry, U.K., 4 p.m.; 12 Chevron Science Center, Pitt Department of Chemistry, www.chem.pitt.edu.

Lecture, "Misquoting Jesus: Scribes Who Altered Scripture and Readers Who May Never Know," Bart Ehrman, James A. Gray Distinguished Professor, Department of Religious Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 4 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Pitt's European Studies Center and religious studies department, jwaldron@pitt.edu.

Theatrical Performance, *Relativity*, by Cassandra Medley, 8 p.m., continues through April 7, Alumni Hall's 7th-floor Auditorium, Pitt's Kuntu Repertory Theatre, 412-624-7298.

Dance Performance, "Unhinged," University of Pittsburgh Dance Ensemble, 8:15 p.m., through March 31, Trees Hall Dance Studio. (For details, see p. 2.)

March 30

Conference, "Fourth Biannual Early China Symposium," 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Building Auditorium; Pitt's Asian Studies Center, Global Studies Program, Center for Latin American Studies, Department of History, Department of Anthropology, and Department of the History of Art and Architecture; 412-648-7465, ablow@pitt.edu.

Ph.D. Dissertation Defense by Ivan Martinez, Pitt School of Medicine, "Identification of Differentially Expressed Genes and MicroRNAs in HPV-Associated Cancers Using Gene Expression, Tissue, and MicroRNA Microarrays," 10 a.m., S100 Biomedical Science Tower.

Ph.D. Dissertation Defense by Emily E. Stevens, Pitt School of Nursing, "Preterm Infant Feeding and Cardiorespiratory Stability," 2:30 p.m., 446 Victoria Building.

Conference, "After the Avant-garde: European Experiments with the Moving Image," 3:15 p.m., also March 31, 232 Cathedral of Learning. (For details, see p. 2.)

Lecture, "The Case of the Female Orgasm: Bias in Evolutionary Science," Elizabeth Lloyd, professor, Indiana University's Department of History and Philosophy of Science, 3:30 p.m., G-24 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt's Center for Philosophy of Science's 47th Annual Lecture Series, 412-624-1052, www.pitt.edu/~pittcentr.

Conference, "Parallels Across the Black Globe: Reshaping Pan-African Approaches to Human Development for the 21st Century," 6 p.m., also March 31, 1501 Posvar Hall, Pitt's Africana Studies Program, 412-648-2058, macrina@pitt.edu.

Film Screening, *Romance of Their Own* (2004), directed by Kim Tae-Gyun, 6:30 p.m., 4130 Posvar Hall; Pitt's Asian Studies Center and Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures; 412-624-5562, turker@pitt.edu.

March 31

Musical Performance, African Music and Dance Ensemble, 8 p.m., Bellefield Hall Auditorium, Pitt's Department of Music, 412-624-4125, www.music.pitt.edu.

April 2

Ph.D. Dissertation Defense by Amanda Boehm, Pitt School of Medicine, "Investigation of the Mechanism and Therapeutic Potential of a Transcription Factor Decoy Targeting Signal Transducer and Activator of Transcription-3 (STAT3) for Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck (SCCHN)," 10 a.m., 5th-Floor EEINS Boardroom.

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of the *Pitt Chronicle* will be published April 2. The deadline for submitting information is 5 p.m. March 28. Items for publication in the *Pitt Chronicle*, including information for *Happenings*, should be submitted to chron@pitt.edu. *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 also may be faxed to 412-624-4895 or sent by campus mail to 422 Craig Hall. For more information, call 412-624-1033.