

Fall Events

Events are free and open to the public unless indicated.

October 3-5

Blue & Gold Weekend: Homecoming 2014 will feature the annual golf outing, 5K Run/Fun Walk, Blue & Gold Festival, an outdoor movie, and car cruise. Alumni are invited to participate in baseball and softball games against the students. An alumni reception and alumni dinner are also planned.

October 3

Pitt-Greensburg Golf Outing at the Ligonier Country Club supports Scholarships, the PGAA, and Pitt-Greensburg Athletics. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/golfouting for details and registration.

Earth to Echo (PG) will be shown under the stars at dusk on Chambers Lawn. Bring your blankets and enjoy s'mores at the firepit during this family-friendly event that is open to the public.

October 4

Runners and walkers are invited to participate in the **Pitt-Greensburg 5K Run/Fun Walk**. Details and on-line registration available at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/5k. Day-of-the-event registration begins at 7 a.m. followed by the opening ceremony and start at 8:15 a.m. Children under the age of six participate at no cost, but registration is still required. Proceeds benefit the Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association.

Stop by between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and catch your breakfast from the **Pancake Man**.

The **Pitt-Greensburg Car Cruise** welcomes all makes and models of cars, trucks, and motorcycles. This event runs from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Smith Hall Parking Lot). Participating vehicle owners may register (\$5) at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/carcrui.

Cheer on the **Bobcat baseball team** when they challenge the WCCC Wolf Pack at 11 a.m. (Ridilla Field), then visit the **Blue & Gold Festival** for family-friendly fun at booths sponsored by campus organizations from noon through 3 p.m. Catch up with fellow alumni at the **Welcome Back Alumni Reception** in Fireside Lounge from noon through 2 p.m.

Be sure to register (<http://bit.ly/AlumniDinnerRegistration>) for the **Alumni Cocktail Reception and Dinner** to be held in the Hempfield Room at 5:30 p.m. Registration is \$20 per person and \$40 per couple.

October 5

Blue & Gold Weekend: Homecoming 2014 wraps up with a **Baseball Alumni Game** at noon (Ridilla Field) and a **Students vs. Alumni Softball game** and cookout at 1 p.m. at the campus softball field.

October 11

The **Admissions Discovery Day**, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., offers a \$45 application fee waiver to students who have not yet applied. Call 724-836-9880 to register.

October 13

No classes will be held during **Fall Break**, but University offices remain open. Classes resume October 14.



University of Pittsburgh
Greensburg

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Join us **OCTOBER 3, 4, & 5**
Blue & Gold Weekend:
HOMECOMING 2014

- Golf Outing
- 5K Run/Fun Walk
- Car Cruise
- Family Friendly Events
- Outdoor Movie
- Alumni Reception
- Alumni Dinner
- . . . and more!

www.greensburg.pitt.edu/blueandgoldweekend

Blue & Gold

Campus receives 2nd Richard King Mellon Grant

The Richard King Mellon Foundation awarded the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg a \$700,000 grant that provides a significant contribution towards the campus Network Re-imagination Project to upgrade critical technology infra-structure across campus and enhance the main distribution frame (MDF) with an improved design for the modern needs for the campus.

These components are two of three initial objectives related to infrastructure, identified by a recent campus technology strategic review, that would provide the most significant impact on all Pitt-Greensburg's future technology-related endeavors. Completing these projects will create major service improvements for students, faculty, and the community, while building a foundation for expansion of current projects. Pitt-Greensburg is pursuing additional funding from other sources to assist with the completion of the Campus Re-Imagination project.

"Pitt-Greensburg is well on its way to achieving its goal of creating the liberal arts college for the 21st century," said Sharon P. Smith, PhD, president of the campus. "This newly received funding is a giant step in building the technological capabilities that we need to reach our goal. We are grateful that the Richard King Mellon Foundation shares our vision and is supporting our efforts."

The critical improvements to the technology infrastructure will not only permit the continuation of current activities, but will allow Pitt-Greensburg to create a network upon which it can build exciting, innovative, and workplace-relevant educational resources and programs. It will also enable faculty and staff to work more effectively and efficiently while simultaneously preparing the campus for easier future digital expansion.

The infrastructure upgrade is a three-phase project. The first phase, upgrading the wired and wireless network in all campus residence halls, was completed this summer. Phase two will upgrade the academic and administrative network hardware and allow the completion of phase three: expanding the campus wireless network towards covering 100 percent of the campus



Wireless Internet access throughout 100 percent of the campus building footprint will enhance the educational experience of the campus community.

building footprint. Other components include assessing for and upgrading the campus fiber-optic network to 10 Gigabits per second data transmission speeds, and rewiring copper network cabling within buildings.

"The Network Re-imagination Project is crucial to most every aspect of the campus and will enable us

to provide a first-class living and learning environment to our students as well as support and push ahead faculty research," said Dave Robinson, PhD, director of Computing and Telecommunications. "From an IT perspective, this project is particularly exciting because it means that my team can offer more innovative technologies to our constituents and provide avenues of discovery for everyone that simply have not been possible before."

The upgrade will standardize equipment, facilities, and processes across the campus and build a network sustainability model to Allow for improved maintenance, control, and audit. It will also increase network security in a variety of ways.

The second component is the enhancement of the campus MDF. This component, and the equipment it comprises, is fundamental to the interconnection of all IT equipment across the campus. A part of the vision is the option to create a campus-based "data center" to provide more agile and cutting-edge technologies, especially to classes, centers, and projects performing digital skills-based research and learning. The updated MDF and associated components would also lay the groundwork for new ways to provide additional computing services to the entire campus, leveraging on-site virtualized computing, efficient high-capacity storage, and backup and disaster recovery. ▲

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Pitt
Greensburg

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Message from the President

As usual, this past spring and summer have been busy for those of us here at Pitt-Greensburg—as you will see from this issue of Blue & Gold.

Students returned to campus in late August with the ability to access wireless Internet throughout our residence halls. The newly awarded Richard King Mellon grant allows us to move forward with significant improvements to our technology infrastructure. You can read about our vision for campus technology in the story on page one. While other improvements remain to be completed and additional funding sources are being sought, we are pleased and grateful to be able to make these initial upgrades and be able to move ahead with the assistance of this foundation.

The previous Richard King Mellon Foundation grant, received in 2011, allowed us to expand the Green Scholar program, building on the success made possible through the Jack Buncher Foundation's ongoing support. An overview of the program and short success stories of a few of our Scholars is found on page three. Over the coming months, please check our website for additional profiles of alumni from the program who are building on their Green Scholar experience to achieve their dreams.

I am also pleased to announce that Pitt's Office of the Provost has approved our Manufacturing Management Program as a certificate program and our newly designed public policy major. Both of these offerings fulfill an element of our strategic plan—the development of programs to enrich the lives of nontraditional students in our region and the development of signature undergraduate programs, respectively. Details about both programs may be found on page five.

Congratulations to our women's basketball team who became the first Pitt-Greensburg and first regional team to make a foreign tour. Their hard work on and off the court allowed them to travel to Bermuda, play against the Bermuda National Team, and offer a basketball clinic for youth. Like all of our students who take (or make) the opportunity to travel, the members of the team have added a different kind of knowledge to their educational experience.

As usual, we have a full line-up of activities set for this academic year, many of which are open to the public at no charge. I invite you to attend our theater and music events, as well as the St. Clair Lecture. Blue & Gold Weekend provides a great opportunity for alumni and the community to visit our campus, too!

Hail to Pitt!

Sharon P. Smith

Sharon P. Smith, PhD
President



**University of Pittsburgh
at Greensburg**
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Fall 2014

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The *Blue & Gold* is published for alumni and friends of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. Questions and comments should be directed to the Office of University Relations and Institutional Advancement.

The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution.

Class Notes

Megan Dluhos '06 of Bethel Park PA, joined Susan G. Komen Pittsburgh as Development Director. She is responsible for developing diverse revenue streams and expanding and nurturing relationships with individual donors, corporations, and foundations. Prior to joining Komen Pittsburgh, Dluhos earned a Master's of Science degree in Nonprofit Management from Robert Morris University and worked with Healthy Home Resources and YouthPlaces.

Michael McGraw '11 wrote: "Since graduating in May 2011, I got married, enrolled in IUP's MA in Criminology program, was hired by the PA Board of Probation & Parole in January 2012, and graduated from the Criminology program in Spring 2013 with a 4.0. In November 2012, my wife, Amber, and I relocated from Lower Burrell, PA, to New Castle, PA, to be closer to my work. In January 2013, Amber and I welcomed our second child, daughter Quinn. (Our son, Sean, was born in 2008 while I was a sophomore at Pitt-Greensburg.) For the past two and a half plus years I've been working as a parole agent at the State Correctional Institution Mercer, and I was recently selected for a transfer to work as a parole agent at the Mercer District Parole Office. I will start the new position in October after I complete the firearms training." ▲

Share your news! Go to <http://bit.ly/Classnote> to update your information and tell us about the great things that are happening in your life.

Share a Pitt-Greensburg Memory . . . Dr. Donald Gibson

William Schietroma '85, a social science major, writes:

"Dr. Donald Gibson had a very interesting class on how we are controlled by the power and military elite through attitudes accepting the Reaganomics of the 80s and the crisis of Laissez-Faire capitalism. I would compare Dr. Gibson to Mike Harrington, whose books were well-noticed by the Kennedy and Johnson administrations and [considered] America being more of a Social Democracy. I often agree with this perspective, especially with examples such as West Germany and Japan of the '80s or Lyndon LaRouche, who considers himself a Democratic conservative. I bought the *Kennedy Battling Wall Street* book . . . and it is 'pure' Gibson. [Pitt-Greensburg] had a great social science department from foreign policy to domestic policy. It is an eye opener but that's the '80s and the beat goes on." ▲

Do you have a special memory about your time spent here at Pitt-Greensburg? Then please take a few minutes to share that memory with us.

Go to <http://www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni> and click on the link "Share Your Pitt-Greensburg Memory."

Stay up-to-date with what is happening at Pitt-Greensburg, reconnect with friends, and share your news!



Fall Events

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Events are free and open to the public unless indicated.

November 5

Evening Information Sessions begin at 5 p.m. Transfer students may schedule individual appointments every 30 minutes from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. To register, call 724-836-9880.

November 13

Transfer Decision Day offers an accelerated application process. Admitted students, after paying the tuition deposit, can schedule their courses for the upcoming semester. A \$45 application fee waiver to Pitt-Greensburg is offered to students who attend and bring all official transcripts and test scores necessary for the application review. This program is for transfer students only. Register by calling 724-836-9880.

November 7

The Joan Chambers Concert Series presents Pablo Amorós, piano, at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

November 26-November 30

No classes because of Thanksgiving Recess. University offices remain open November 26, but are closed November 27 through November 30.

December 3

Evening Information Sessions begin at 5 p.m. Transfer students may schedule individual appointments every 30 minutes from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. To register, call 724-836-9880.

December 5

The Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association will host their annual Holiday Wine Tasting event at 7 p.m. on the first floor of Millstein Library. Registration, which can be completed on line at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/alumni-events, is \$30 per person and \$50 per couple.

December 5

The Pitt-Greensburg Chorale and Chamber Singers present "Crown of Gamma" a live performance of the choral soundtrack for a new film by Elliot Sheedy '12 and the world premiere of a new choral work by Dr. Peter Fischer. This event, which is free and open to the public, begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

December 14

Winter Recess begins for students and continues through January 4, 2015.

December 24

The University of Pittsburgh is closed through January 1, 2015, for Winter Recess. Classes begin January 5, 2015. ▲

New events are added each week!

Check the Event section at www.greensburg.pitt.edu for more details.

A complete schedule of athletic events is available at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/athletics.

2014 St. Clair Lecture: Post-Revolutionary Years in southwestern Pennsylvania

Terry Bouton, PhD, author of "Taming Democracy: 'The People,' the Founders, and the Troubled Ending of the American Revolution" (Oxford, 2007), will present this year's St. Clair Lecture. He will focus on the post-Revolutionary years in southwestern Pennsylvania, with particular emphasis on Westmoreland County and the surrounding areas in his talk entitled "Was the 'Whiskey Rebellion' really about Whiskey?"



The event, which is open to the public without charge, will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 16, in the Ferguson Theater. To ensure a seat, please call 724-836-9911 no later than October 9. Now in its 15th year, the St. Clair Lecture is sponsored by the Westmoreland County Historical Society and the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.

Bouton is an associate professor of History at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, where he is a Presidential Teaching Professor and an Organization of American Historians Distinguished Lecturer. He teaches courses on the American Revolution, the Early National Period, and the Atlantic Revolutions of the late-18th to mid-19th centuries (the American, French, Haitian, and Latin American revolutions), and his research examines the meaning and practice of democracy during the era of the American Revolution. In particular, he looks at the connections between economics and politics in the American Revolution.

His book, "Taming Democracy: 'The People,' the Founders, and the Troubled Ending of the American Revolution" (Oxford, 2007), won the 2008 Philip S. Klein Book Prize and was an Honorable Mention for the Fraunces Tavern Museum Book Award.

Described by one reviewer as a book that breaks new ground, Bouton centers on Pennsylvania, the symbolic and logistical center of the American Revolution. He points out that the Revolutionary elite seemed as determined to squash democracy after the war as they were to support it before the war by using their political power to pass laws to enrich their own estates and hinder political organization by their opponents. Re-enacting many of the same laws they had gone to war to abolish, the elite returned Pennsylvania to a state of economic depression and political hegemony that led directly to the Whiskey and Fries rebellions, popular uprisings both put down by federal armies.

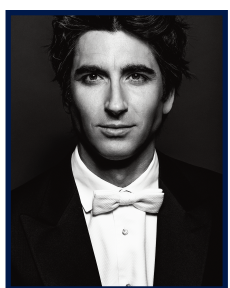
Bouton brings forth the unsung heroes of the time, farmers, weavers, and tailors, who fought to save democracy from the forces of "united avarice," while providing a stark, new look at Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, and George Washington. Bouton shows these historic characters as real, flawed people, blinded by their own sense of entitlement.

He is working on a new book, "Foreign Founders: How European Financiers Helped Write the Constitution," that explores the influence of foreign investors in shaping the nation's founding moment. ▲

"Music at Pitt-Greensburg" 2014-2015 concert schedule

Music at Pitt-Greensburg will present a variety of performances during the academic year. The performances are free and open to the public. They begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center unless otherwise noted.

October 18 -- The Performing Arts Society presents its annual **Broadway Battles Breast Cancer Concert**.



Pablo Amorós

November 7 -- The **Joan Chambers Concert Series** opens with **Pablo Amorós, piano**.

December 1 -- **Zach Rohlwing's students** perform in a voice and piano recital.

December 5 -- The **Pitt-Greensburg Chorale and Chamber Singers**

perform the choral soundtrack to the film "Crown of Gamma," by Elliott Sheedy '12 and the world premiere of "Shine" by Dr. Peter Fischer. Pre-concert talk at 7 p.m.

Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/musicseries to see the full schedule of events for the year.



Pittsburgh Trombone Project

January 16, 2015 -- The **Joan Chambers Concert Series** presents the **Pittsburgh Trombone Project**.

February 20, 2015 -- The **Joan Chambers Concert Series** presents **Leah Bartell, violin, and Eric Hung, piano**.

The Joan Chambers Concert Series is named in honor of Joan Chambers, late wife of President Emeritus George F. Chambers. She was an ardent supporter and representative of Pitt-Greensburg in the community for many years. The Children's Literature Collection in Millstein Library, another of her passions, was developed and named in her honor. ▲

Making a difference in the lives of students Green Scholar experience opening doors

Since its inception in 2009, the Green Scholar program has provided the opportunity for 26 Pitt-Greensburg students and 16 faculty members to partner on projects that have enhanced the students' educational experience and advanced the research of the professors. The selection of students for the Green Scholar program reflects both their academic accomplishments and the confidence shown by the faculty member in the student.

Often, students are part of a chain of research partners who each work on a component of a larger, ongoing project, building on the work of those who came before them. The end results are usually compiled into a journal article or book that document the analyses, further adding to the world's knowledge base.

For students, it is an opportunity to apply what they have learned in the classroom as they assist the professors in performing hands-on research using a variety of methods ranging from on-site sample gathering and laboratory work to literature reviews and academic writing about their topics. It is also an opportunity for students to earn their first publication credits as they are included as study practitioners or co-authors of articles, chapters, and books. The research opens doors for students who now have practical experience to add to their resumes as well as job and graduate school applications.

Students spend 10 hours a week on their projects and are paid for their work through the Green Scholar fund. Substantial but not extravagant, the pay helps students who might otherwise have to take an off-campus job to help cover their college expenses.

The Green Scholar program has been supported by foundations and individual donors. Major support has come from the Jack Buncher Foundation, which provided funding to help start the program and has continued to support it. Money from the 2011 Richard King Mellon grant was used to expand the program, allowing more faculty and students to participate. Examples of how the Green Scholar program has benefited the participating students include the following.

Deidre Stuffer '11 partnered with Sayre Greenfield, PhD, professor of English, doing research on Shakespearean quotation using digital databases. Her skill developed to the point that she discovered mistakes that other more experienced researchers had missed.

Now at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW-M), one of the top-ranking English graduate programs in the country, Stuffer has completed her MA and is working toward a PhD. She is the first English graduate student to be the Digital Humanities teaching assistant for Digital Studies. She focuses on the intersections between composition and coding. Because of her involvement in Digital Studies, she has had the opportunity to work on the "Visualizing English Print, 1470-1800" project. Recently, she won the UW-M award for Outstanding Digital Media Project by an English Graduate Student and taught a section of Freshman Composition that had the theme: "Composition, Computation, and New Media."

"Deidre has gone way beyond me in her ability to code," said Greenfield. "but she assures me she still uses what she learned from me."

Research projects developed by faculty and their Green Scholars have included:

- Workplace discrimination and women lawyers
- Shakespearean quotation explored through digital databases
- A mobile field laboratory
- State formation in 19th century Chile
- Antonin Artaud and virtual reality
- Simulation of rigid body dynamics
- Environmentally friendly organic (chemistry) methods
- Mary Russell Mitford and digital humanities
- The Chartiers Creek Watershed
- Nonviolent resistance in political activists
- Sentencing reform
- European politics
- Chemical analysis of archeological sites
- Religious coping in the Gay-Lesbian-Bisexual-Transgender population
- Genre effects on audience response to films
- Environmental and health benefits of biosolids
- Technology and human transformation
- Fluorescence quenching of organic chelates
- Trace metal concentrations in lake trout
- Green urban poetics
- Lead concentrations in soil
- Antitrypsin (AT) deficiency

Elliot Sheedy '12 partnered with Stephen Schrum, PhD, associate professor of Theatre Arts, doing research on Antonin Artaud and Virtual Reality. Sheedy enrolled in the MFA Program at Emerson College to further develop his skills as a filmmaker, director, and musician. He is currently at work on "Crown of Gamma, that will include a choral soundtrack and live performance by the Pitt-Greensburg Chorale. It is a feature-length film in five chapters that explores the motions of identity through a tale of three characters immersed in a love triangle.

Megan Hughes '14 partnered with Elisa Beshero-Bondar, PhD, associate professor English, as the Digital Mitford Project launched. This fall, Hughes entered Loyola Marymount University's MFA program in Writing and Producing for Television, fulfilling her initial goal to combine an English literature and English writing double major with a Theatre minor to become a screenwriter.

"The Green Scholar work Megan did with me involved computer coding and archive production on topics related to theatre history, and while it wasn't directly related to her goals, the skills she learned and applied as a Green Scholar help to give her a tech-savvy edge among her peers, as well as a distinctive literary-historical perspective on narrative and drama that may serve her in unpredictable ways as a professional screen writer," said Beshero-Bondar. ▲

When you choose to support the Green Scholar program, you allow more students and faculty to partner on projects. To discuss how you can help, contact Jodi Kraisinger, director of University Relations and Institutional Advancement at gifts2pg@pitt.edu or 724-836-9942.

Faculty and Staff News



Dean Nelson, PhD



Sayre Greenfield, PhD



Paul Adams, PhD

Three new Division Chairs were appointed at Pitt-Greensburg. **Dean Nelson**, PhD, associate professor of Statistics, will serve as the chair of the Natural Sciences Division. **Sayre Greenfield**, PhD, professor of English, will serve as chair of the Humanities Division. **Paul Adams**, PhD, associate professor of Political Science, will serve as chair of the Behavioral Sciences Division.



Jacqueline Horrall



Matthew Blair



Thomas Crowley

Jacqueline “Jackie” Horrall, PhD, has been named assistant vice president for Academic Affairs. She is transitioning into her new role this fall.

Matthew Blair was promoted to Technology Support Manager in the Computing Services and Telecommunications department.

Thomas Crowley ’14 was hired as a visiting instructor of Theater.



Glenson France



Hadara Katarski



Daniel Keefe

Glenson France was hired as a visiting professor of Economics.

Hadara Katarski joined the Athletic Department as the assistant cross country coach.

Daniel Keefe joined the Athletic Department as the assistant men’s soccer coach.



Sheila Kudrick



Bradley Miner



Jennifer Paul

Sheila Kudrick joined the University Relations and Institutional Advancement Office as its Coordinator of Alumni Affairs.

Bradley Miner joined the Pitt-Greensburg staff as its new Study Abroad Coordinator.

Jennifer Paul was hired as a Biology laboratory instructor.



Stephenie Przepiora



Pam Reed



Geoffrey Wood

Stephenie Przepiora joined the Housing & Residence Life Office as the Graduate Resident Director of College Hall. She also will serve as co-advisor of the Outdoor Adventure and Community Service (OACS) Living Community. This is a two-year appointment.

Pam Reed joined the Office of Student Services as the Health Center director.

Geoffrey Wood, PhD, was hired as an assistant professor of Sociology.



Sharon P. Smith, PhD

Sharon P. Smith, PhD, president of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, was named a Lead Fellow in the area of governance, leadership, and risk management by the TIAA-CREF Research Institute. She is one of only three persons to have received this honor. ▲

Did you know?

More than 18 percent of Pitt-Greensburg’s faculty have received the prestigious Chancellor’s Award for Distinguished Teaching. This is more than any other campus in the Pitt system.

Theatre Company to perform *Rabbit Hole*

The Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company invites audiences to “go down the rabbit hole” with them when they perform *Rabbit Hole*, by David Lindsey-Abaire.

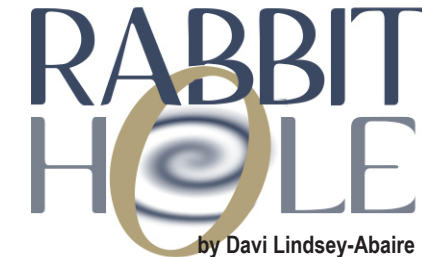
Stephen Schrum, PhD, associate professor of Theatre, will direct the production that will be performed in Ferguson Theater at 7:30 p.m. November 20 through November 22. A matinee will be performed November 23 at 2 p.m.

Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 and \$5 (students/seniors/Pitt ID).

Rabbit Hole, the 2007 Pulitzer Prize winner for drama, is the story of how a family survives a major loss.

Chasing his dog, four-year old Danny runs out into the street where he is accidentally hit and killed by 17-year-old Jason Willette. Parents Becca and Howie must come to terms with their son’s death and how this changes their lives and relationship. Izzy, Becca’s sister, and Nat, Izzy and Becca’s mother, round out the five-person cast. The play includes both comedy and drama.

Jordan Fessler (Irwin, PA), a double major in Communication and Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) was cast in the lead role of “Becca.”



by David Lindsey-Abaire

In his first role with the Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company, Alex Knapp (Coopersburg, PA) will portray “Howie,” Becca’s husband in “Rabbit Hole.” Knapp is a double major in Psychology and VAPA.

Kaitlyn Schmidt (Pittsburgh, PA), a sophomore VAPA major, will portray “Izzy,” Becca’s sister.

Junior Rachel Painter (Greensburg, PA), a double major in Communication and VAPA, will portray “Nat,” Becca and Izzy’s mother.

Brian Donehue (Pittsburgh, PA), a junior double-majoring in Management and VAPA, will portray the “Jason,” the 17-year-old boy.

Performed in New York in 2006, *Rabbit Hole* has been produced by regional theatres in Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh. Cynthia Nixon, of *Sex in the City* fame, won the 2006 Tony Award for Best Performance by a Leading Actress in a Play for her performance as Becca. A movie adaptation of the play, directed by John Cameron Mitchell, and starring Nicole Kidman as Becca, was released in 2010. ▲

Campus Renovations



Ferguson Theater

Pitt-Greensburg uses the summer months to perform routine maintenance and repairs throughout campus. Receiving attention this summer were Ferguson Theater and Chambers Gymnasium.

Renovations totaling approximately \$100,000 were completed in Ferguson Theater, including new flooring and new fixed seating. The ceiling, walls, handrails, and stage apron were painted. Safety railings were installed behind the spaces for handicapped seating (wheelchair-friendly spaces), and new stackable seats were purchased for extra seating in front of the stage, when needed. Acoustic panels were replaced and the annual safety check for the curtain rigging was completed.

The Chambers Gymnasium floor underwent approximately \$20,000 worth of work. After the floor was sanded, game lines and an updated logo of the Pitt-Greensburg Athletics paw print were painted, followed by a new clear finish to protect the work.

Other work included a new HVAC system and the installation of energy-efficient lighting in the Faculty Office Building (FOB). Carpeting was replaced in the bathroom foyers of 15 rooms in College Hall, two new boilers with energy-efficient controls were installed at Rossetti House, and repair work was done on parts of the campus roadway. Distance-learning classrooms were completed in McKenna Hall, requiring new carpeting, painting, lighting upgrades, and the installation of large monitors to be used for real-time interaction. Carpeting also was replaced in Village Hall 118/101. ▲



Chambers Gym

Berich elected Div. III Golf Committee Chair



This past spring, Pitt-Greensburg Athletic Director Anthony "Tony" Berich was elected chair of the NCAA Division III Golf Committee. Berich, who also coaches Pitt-Greensburg's golf team, has served on the national committee for the past three years.

The committee oversees the rules of competition for Division III golf, makes the selections for the NCAA Division III Golf Championship, and oversees the Championship, a four-day event to be held in May 2015 at Grandover Resort, NC. Each NCAA Division III region is represented on the committee.

Berich previously had served on the NCAA Division II Golf Committee while working at Philadelphia University as the assistant director of Athletics and head golf coach.

A native of Lewistown, PA, he is a 1993 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh. He worked as a disc jockey and newspaper reporter before entering intercollegiate athletics in 1997 as the assistant director of Athletic Media Relations at the University of Massachusetts-Lowell.

During his six years here at Pitt-Greensburg, he has played critical roles in the construction of the Ronnie Andrews Fitness Center, the baseball field, and the softball field.

Berich and his wife, Kristin, are the parents of four sons and a daughter. ▲

Orsatti to receive PSMLA Educator of the Year award

The Executive Council of the Pennsylvania State Modern Languages Association (PSMLA) selected Silvina Orsatti, part-time instructor of Spanish at Pitt-Greensburg, to receive its 2014 PSMLA Educator of the Year Award. The award recognizes individuals for their distinguished teaching and professional contributions in World Languages and Cultures. She will receive the award on October 17 during the PSMLA Fall Conference.



incorporating technology into their world language classrooms. Most recently, she has focused on digital storytelling, presenting at the Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (NECTFL), the PSMLA, and the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) conferences. She also presented sessions on the use of the iPad and mobile apps for interactive activities and digital storytelling for Pitt-Greensburg's Community for the Advancement of Teaching (CAT).

Orsatti's past experience includes teaching various levels of Spanish classes at The Kiski School and English as a Foreign Language at public and private schools in Argentina. In the corporate world, she worked for Middlebury Interactive Languages and Pearson School as a world languages curriculum specialist.

In addition to the PSMLA, she is a member of the ACTFL, the NECTFL, where she serves on the Executive Board of Directors, and the Pennsylvania Association for Educational Communications and Technology.

Orsatti was awarded the 2011-2012 NECTFL Sans Inc./Mead Leadership Fellows Award in 2011 and won the "We Collaborate for Good" prize for her project "Closing the Technology Gap in World Language Teaching" in 2011.

She and her husband Mark have one son, Lucas. ▲

Manufacturing Management Program approved to offer certificates

Pitt-Greensburg's Manufacturing Management Program (MMP) received approval from the University of Pittsburgh Provost's Office to offer a certificate upon completion of the requirements. It is the first stand-alone undergraduate certificate program (that is, a certificate program not embedded in a baccalaureate program) in the Pitt system.

"I would recommend Pitt-Greensburg's Manufacturing Management Certificate Program for new and rising leaders, as well as for existing leadership, in just about any manufacturing industry," said Brian Prenovitz, a member of the 2014 Cohort. "I was able to apply numerous concepts learned through the program to my existing management role with positive results."

Students completing the MMP were issued a certificate along with the 24 credits they earned and can list this educational component on their resumes and job applications as being a certificate program. The program also is designed so that the credits earned could be applied toward a bachelor's degree in business management.

Recruitment is underway for the program's second cohort. Employers interested in having employees enter the program should contact Matthew Zidek, assistant director of Admissions for Transfer and Continuing Education, at 724-836-9880 or mdz6@pitt.edu.

"The reality is that a 21st century energy [sector] work force will not only require post-secondary education, but will need to remain in a continuous learning mode," said Sharon P. Smith, PhD, president of Pitt-Greensburg. "We believe we can play an integral part in the success of this region by working closely with



Student members of the first cohort and Pitt-Greensburg faculty: (Front from left) Ewa Rudnicka, PhD, assistant professor of Management; Bret Lynch; Sharon Turchick, assistant professor of Accounting; Gretchen Underwood, PhD, assistant professor of Communication; (Back from left) Brian Prenovitz; Chris Baradeziej; Chris Monks, adjunct instructor in Quality Control; Dean Nelson, PhD, associate professor of Statistics.

our industrial partners to provide training and skills that are most relevant to those emerging needs and in our signature personalized framework."

Pitt-Greensburg's program is designed for working learners with technical training in manufacturing whom employers have identified as candidates for future leadership roles. A component of the program requires participants who receive tuition reimbursement to agree to stay with their employer for a designated period of time or become responsible for repayment of their educational costs.

Others who would benefit from this program include military veterans who would like to enhance their skills as well as displaced workers who would like to enter this sector of the workforce. ▲

Visit <http://bit.ly/ManufacturingMgtCertificate> to learn more.

New Public Policy major approved

The University of Pittsburgh's Provost's Office approved a new Bachelor's of Science degree in Public Policy at Pitt-Greensburg. This new major brings the total number of majors available at Pitt-Greensburg to 25. Students may begin choosing this major, which will be offered through the Behavioral Sciences Division, this fall.

The inter-disciplinary major provides instruction on key topics of policy formation, policy advocacy, policy implementation, and policy evaluation. Following an introductory course, students will take a series of classes, including analytic basis of formulating policy, concepts of advocacy, developing or implementing policy, research methods or policy evaluation. Electives for the program may be selected from specified courses in economics, management, statistics, political science, criminal justice, sociology, and communications (rhetoric).

"This major fulfills a number of needs," explained Jacqueline Horrall, PhD, associate professor of Economics who is transitioning from her position as chair of the Behavioral Sciences Division to her new role as assistant vice president of Academic Affairs. "First, we wanted to design a major that combines a broad

learning experience with practical, experiential learning that will make our students more marketable to both employers and graduate schools. Second, we have identified a significant number of students—particularly in the behavioral sciences area—who sample a lot of different courses because they are trying to figure out what fits them best. The Public Policy major provides a structured approach for students who are undecided and want to sample courses from various disciplines but still earn a degree in a timely manner. Third, we know that employers and graduate schools are looking for candidates who have a well-rounded, diverse perspective—candidates who have been exposed to a variety of experiences."

Public Policy inherently is an interdisciplinary major that draws upon philosophy and political science. It deals with value conflicts; econometrics for assessing risks, costs, and benefits; research methods and statistics for evaluating programs; and communication for understanding public relations and advocacy. Pitt-Greensburg's major will offer students three areas of specialization: economics and business policy, social and political policy, and advocacy (communication).

Visit <http://bit.ly/Pitt-Gbg-PublicPolicyMajor> to learn more.

LOOKING FOR RESUME CONTEST REVIEWERS



The Offices of Alumni Affairs and Career Services are looking for alumni to offer their time and talent by giving current students valuable and constructive feedback regarding their resumes. This opportunity is open to all alumni—far or near. Packets to be mailed mid-October and returned by mid-November for determination of winners. Apply here to volunteer: <http://bit.ly/ResumeContestJudge>.

WINE TASTING

Friday, December 5 ♦ 7 p.m.

Lower level of Millstein Library

Cost: \$30/person
\$50/couple

Register online at:

www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/alumni-events



Alumni Spotlight: Larry Helkowski '74

A nontraditional student—married and just out of the military—Lawrence J. (Larry) Helkowski '74 returned to western Pennsylvania to go to Pitt. “I was down in Georgia and just couldn't wait to get here.”

He had grown up in Scottsdale, PA, and always wanted to go to Pitt. “Just always been a fan—a believer in the Pitt system.” Helkowski returned to Westmoreland County in 1969 and began classes at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.

Pitt-Greensburg was not yet granting four-year degrees, so after three years of study, Helkowski relocated to the Oakland campus to complete his education, earning a bachelor's of science degree in Management.

Helkowski remembers the beautiful setting of Lynch Hall and fondly recalls his professors at Pitt-Greensburg. Norman McWhinney, PhD, was one of the instructors who stands out to him. “He was one of the best teachers I ever had,” Helkowski said. “He made you so relaxed. We were night students, and he realized that. . . He understood that we worked. He made it a pleasure to come to class.”

Another member of the campus community who made a lasting impression on Helkowski was Guy Rossetti, PhD, saying, “Dr. Rossetti and I were good friends. It was an honor to know him. His passion, enthusiasm, devotion, and vision for Pitt-Greensburg, the students, the faculty, staff, and the community was a great source of inspiration for me. I learned a lot about leadership and life just from being around him.”

While pursuing his degree, Helkowski worked for People's Gas. He started as a clerk, moved into credit collection, and after graduation, worked in sales and marketing while running the credit union. Ultimately, he worked with builders and developers to deliver gas economically on residential lot plans, winning salesman of the year for three consecutive years.

During his time at People's, Helkowski served as account executive for the United Way. Getting connected with nonprofit organizations through United Way led him to serve as chairman of the board at Westmoreland County Community College and, after 33 years with the gas company, to a new career path. Due to his experience with contracts, he was approached about applying for the president/CEO position at the Westmoreland County Blind Association (WCBA). “It is an amazing business. It is a complicated business,” Helkowski said in reference to the manufacturing process he had to learn with the new position.

When he started with WCBA, Helkowski signed a one-year contract to see if he could turn things around at the nearly bankrupt organization. Twelve years later, WCBA is not only providing meaningful job opportunities for those who may otherwise not be employed, but is also serving the community.

Seventy-five percent of the WCBA workforce is visually impaired or multi-challenged. WCBA contracts with the federal government to sew essential items for the men and women of the United States Armed Services. WCBA also provides 150 to 200 customers a month with shredding service. In



2013, 77 workers shredded over one million pounds of paper. “We are probably going to do 1.2 or 1.3 million this year,” Helkowski said enthusiastically. “And that is stuff that is not going into the landfills. It is being recycled to make toilet paper, paper napkins, tissues. . . It is a win-win-win-win.”

WCBA employs a case worker and low-vision doctor, and supports a blindness prevention program. “When I leave work, I [know] did something. I helped somebody today,” Helkowski said of his second career. “It's an altogether different feeling.”

A second generation of the family also graduated from Pitt. His son, L. Scott Helkowski, earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh's School of Arts & Sciences in 1992 and now works as an assistant attorney general, specializing in environmental law, in the Columbus, OH, office of the Attorney General.

“We've been a part of Pitt, for 40 years,” said Helkowski, who resides in Irwin with his wife Jacqueline. They have one grandson.

Helkowski, whose cellphone ringtone is the Pitt Fight Song, has been a Pitt season ticket holder in football and basketball since the 1970s. When he was a clerk in the gas company, he couldn't afford seats, and he met some Pitt alumni who helped him get tickets. When talking about Pitt alumni, he said, “It is meeting people who care.” He encourages young alumni to get involved in the programs: “If you don't get involved, you're never going to have that allegiance. You gotta have spirit.”

Reflecting on the care of the faculty and the value of the small classroom experience at Pitt-Greensburg, plus his “love affair” with Pitt athletics, Helkowski said, “It has been a wonderful part of my life.” ▲

-- written by Sheila Kudrick

WIN TWO TICKETS TO THE PITT VS SYRACUSE GAME

We want to stay connected with you!

Between now and October 31, take a moment to update your contact information at <http://bit.ly/PGAA-AlumniUpdate> for a chance for two Pitt Club-level football tickets for the November 22nd game versus Syracuse!

Share your latest news, in addition to updating your contact information, for a second chance in the drawing.



Women's Basketball Team travels to Bermuda



Clockwise from left: Bermuda's Horseshoe Bay; sightseeing trip on the ferry; a cricket lesson; the team leading the basketball clinic with Bermudian youth.

Four years ago, six freshmen basketball players approached Head Women's Basketball Coach Erin Eaton and asked if the team could take a foreign tour.

Eaton tossed the idea back to the students, and explained that if the team wanted to do this, they would have to develop a plan, meet fund-raising goals, and help select the location.

Over the course of the past three years, the Lady Bobcats raised \$33,000 to cover the cost of the trip, as well as the cost of the students living on campus for four days before their departure, meals on campus, and transportation to the airport. Working with the Office of University Relations and Institutional Advancement, the team participated in the annual letter-writing campaign to friends and family as one way of securing funds for the trip.

“We were very fortunate to have several generous donors who helped to make this trip a reality,” noted Eaton.

Along with the letters, the team then added a variety of campus-focused, fund-raising activities to the mix: selling Pitt-Greensburg gear; sponsoring three raffles for prizes that included Steelers tickets and Penguins tickets; and serving as judges at the Westmoreland Croquet Club's annual tournament held on campus.

Through it all, Eaton was seeing the positive effects she hoped would be a result of taking on the project.

The group, which included Eaton and Assistant Coach Dee Waters, Athletic Trainers Ricky Wheeler and Sam Powell, 13 team members, and 12 parents, landed in Bermuda on June 24 and made Grotto Bay Resort their home base. The six-day trip provided an opportunity to explore the 22-mile-long island, immersing themselves in its culture and customs. It also gave the Pitt-Greensburg Women's Basketball program bragging rights to being the first Pitt-Greensburg athletic team and regional campus team to make a foreign tour.

“Most of my kids had never traveled internationally,” noted Eaton. “I thought it was important to learn about the country, and since we saw nearly every inch of it, we learned a lot. A big thing [on the island] was that everybody is on ‘island time.’

Everything—even the games—is so much more laid back than it would be in America.”

She continued, “The basketball experience is invaluable but being together as a team for six days in a different country was a really big deal for our chemistry, our communication, our togetherness. “Plus, any time you leave your own country, it makes you think a lot about our culture and behavior.”

The Lady Bobcats played three games against the Bermuda Select (National) Team. While Pitt-Greensburg's record is 1-2 against a team that includes two former Division I players, one of whom is a former Olympian, the benefits of the experience are evident.

“We're at a place right now [as a team] that we don't usually hit until maybe late October,” said Eaton. Noting that the group was tight-knit before the trip, she believes that the interpersonal relationships and communication among the group further increased as a result of the experience.

Eaton specifically orchestrated the trip so that it had a community-service component, already an important part of the Women's Basketball program, which regularly volunteers here in Westmoreland County. They booked the trip with Zag Sports, a company that includes community service in all of its trips. In Bermuda, the team hosted a basketball clinic for Bermudian youth, taking them through shooting, passing, and ball handling drills.

“Basketball is still a growing sport in Bermuda,” explained Eaton. “Before each of our games, the Bermuda Select team would host a youth game at the same venue, and most of those kids stayed to watch our games. I think we had an opportunity we didn't even realize, because at the clinic, they were just so impressed with our students and asked a lot of questions about college in America.” The last game of the trip ended in the Lady Bobcats losing on a “buzzer beater,” but the team still found the moment powerful as the fans stormed the court to congratulate the teams. ▲

Visit the team blog to read players' comments and see more photos: <http://upgwomensbasketball.blogspot.com/>.