

Spring Events

Events are free and open to the public unless indicated.

February 28-29

Sleepover Sunday gives high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to experience Pitt-Greensburg's classes and activities. Space is limited. Please call 724-836-9880 to register.

March 6-13

Spring Recess for students. University offices and buildings remain open through March 10 and are closed March 11 for Spring Holiday.

March 17 & 18

The Pitt-Greensburg Chorale and Chamber Singers will perform their spring concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

April 2

Pitt-Greensburg's Discovery Day provides an in-depth look at the campus, including admission, financial aid, housing, and residence life. Meet with a professor of your choice, tour the campus, and have lunch in the dining hall. Register for this event which runs from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Register by calling 724-836-9880.

April 7-10

The Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company will present *Man of La Mancha*, a musical by Dale Wasserman in Ferguson Theater. Performance begin at 7:30 p.m. on April 7-9 and at 2 p.m. on April 10. Tickets, available at the door are \$10 (regular) and \$5 (students, seniors, Pitt ID).

April 13

The Cobetto Lecture Series presents Joanne Katz, JD, who will discuss "Restorative Justice: Exploring Ethics in Criminal Justice in the Age of Mass Incarceration" at 7 p.m. in Ferguson Theater. Call 724-836-7980 to reserve a seat at this free event.

April 20

The voice and piano students of Zach Rohlwing will perform in a recital at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Hall.

April 22

The Joan Chambers Concert Series presents the Heinz Chapel Choir at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Hall.

April 30

Pitt-Greensburg will hold its annual Commencement on Ridilla Field (inclement weather: Chambers Gymnasium) at 11 a.m. Tickets are required for this event and are distributed to the graduates. Alumni may participate by contacting pgaa@pitt.edu.

May 6

The 20th Annual Children's Literature Conference will feature author Jack Gantos, a Norvelt native, and author/illustrator Paul O. Zelinsky. Details and registration are available at www.library.pitt.edu/annual-childrens-literature-conference.

Continued on page 11



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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Tell your Pitt story and influence our state lawmakers.

This free opportunity includes transportation, continental breakfast, and lunch.

Register at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/pittdayharrisburg

Pitt-Greensburg Habitat for Humanity Spring Break Trip



Since 2005, Pitt-Greensburg students have participated in Habitat for Humanity's Alternative Spring Break. This year, they will travel to Birmingham, AL, to build a home for a family in need.

Support our students' efforts by contributing to their campaign to raise \$3,000 to cover their expenses.

The last day to donate online is February 23.

Visit <https://engage.pitt.edu/upghfh> to donate!

Blue & Gold

Pitt Board of Trustees meet at Pitt-Greensburg

Right: At the Pitt Board of Trustees meeting, Dr. Sharon P. Smith shares details about projects and programs that are in place to give Pitt-Greensburg students experiential learning opportunities.



Describing the University of Pittsburgh as one university with five campuses, each with its own strengths, Chancellor Patrick Gallagher welcomed attendees to the October 23, 2015, public meeting of the University of Pittsburgh Board of Trustees.

The meeting was historic in that it was one of the few times that the Pitt Board of Trustees have held one of their meetings at a location other than the University of Pittsburgh's Oakland campus.

Pitt-Greensburg welcomed 45 Trustees, as well as numerous Pitt administrators and supporting staff, to the Hempfield Township campus for the fall 2015 retreat, private informational meeting, and public meeting held October 22 and October 23.

The Trustees and Pitt Administrative staff were able to enjoy the beautiful fall vistas of the campus from the second floor of Millstein Library and as they walked across campus to the Smith Hall Lounge during their visit. A live-feed of the meeting was broadcast in Ferguson Theater for the overflow crowd that attended Friday's public meeting. A highlight of the event was the opportunity for the Trustees and Pitt-Oakland administrators to meet and chat with Pitt-Greensburg students, faculty, and staff at lunch Thursday.

"This unprecedented visit to the Pitt-Greensburg campus was a special honor and an exciting opportunity to show the Trustees and the administrative leadership of the University of Pittsburgh system just how special Pitt-Greensburg is," noted Sharon P. Smith, PhD, president of Pitt-Greensburg. Smith, Livingston Alexander, EdD, president of Pitt-Bradford and Pitt-Titusville, and Jem Spectar, PhD, president of Pitt-Johnstown, provided overviews of their campus' achievements and programs during the public meeting.

Pitt-Greensburg's conferencing, technology, facilities, security, and library staff played key roles in making the visit possible, as did Chartwells Dining Service. ▲

Middle: Smith Hall Lounge was converted into a meeting space for the public portion of the Pitt Board of Trustees meeting. Live-streaming of the meeting allowed visitors seated in Ferguson Theater to view it in real time.

Bottom: Chancellor Patrick Gallagher (right) with regional Campus Presidents Dr. Livingston Alexander (Pitt-Bradford/Pitt-Titusville) and Dr. Sharon P. Smith.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Message from the President
- 3 Pawprints
- 5 Estrada Mentoring & Leadership Award

- 6 Alumni Awards
- 7 Alumni News
- 9 Faculty Senate Update
- 10 Fall Sports



Pitt
Greensburg

Message from the President

The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg continues to move forward in its drive to further secure its position as a liberal arts college for the 21st century. Our efforts are not going unnoticed.

The recent meeting of the University of Pittsburgh Board of Trustees here on our campus is evidence of this. To the best of our knowledge, after checking the Millstein Library Archives and the Pitt University Library System Archives, we believe that this is one of the few times in the recent history of the Pitt Board of Trustees that they have held their meetings at a location other than the Oakland campus.

The meetings provided an opportunity for Pitt-Greensburg to show off its beautiful campus and facilities, as well as allowing our students, faculty, and staff to share their stories with the Trustees and Pitt Administrators. This is something that usually does not happen as part of the Trustee experience. I am proud to say that our students shone. It also was an opportunity to showcase what we do well and an opportunity to talk about what we would like to achieve in the future.

Soon after that visit, Pitt-Greensburg received notification that it was named a *Money* Magazine Best College Value for the second consecutive year. This ranking is valuable because it means that we are providing a quality education at an affordable cost. Our graduates are leaving the campus with a lower amount of debt than other college graduates, and they are able to find jobs.

Pitt-Greensburg was also named a Military Friendly School for the fifth consecutive year. This recognition honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities, and trade schools that are doing the most to embrace America's military service members, veterans, and spouses as students, as well as ensuring their success on campus. Pitt-Greensburg is proud to be counted among these schools and proud to be able to offer a supportive learning environment for our returning service men and women.

In our efforts to share the great things that are happening at Pitt-Greensburg that enrich the affordable, quality education that students receive here, we recently invited Elliance, a digital marketing firm, to our campus to help us in re-defining and articulating our brand. We look forward to hearing what they have learned through their many conversations with alumni, students, faculty, staff, employers of Pitt-Greensburg alumni, and others.

Hail to Pitt!

Sharon P. Smith

Sharon P. Smith, PhD
President



**University of Pittsburgh
at Greensburg**
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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

Debbie Kritikos '98 writes that after graduating from Pitt-Greensburg, she earned her teaching certification in Mathematics from Seton Hill University. "I was hired by the Woodland Hills School District in 2000 and worked as a junior high Mathematics teacher for 10 years. During that time, I obtained my Master's of Education in Technology Enhanced Learning as well as my Instructional Technology Specialist certification from Seton Hill University. I have been working for the past 5 years as an Elementary Technology Coach between Woodland Hills Academy and Fairless Elementary in the Woodland Hills School District."

Sherry Magretti Hamilton, Esq. '99 recently was elected Westmoreland County Register of Wills & Clerk of the Orphan's Court and took office in January. Prior to this election, she had served as a Hempfield Township Supervisor.

Kristen Davis '08 relocated to South Park, PA. For the past six years, Kristen has been the Public Relations and Communications Specialist and Homeless Liaison for a school district in the Pittsburgh area.

Laura (Sisko) Galmoff '10 shared that her daughter, Adalyn Anne Galmoff, was born July 28, 2013.

JP Hilzendeger '12 and his wife, Julie, announce the birth of their son, Michael Anthony Hilzendeger. Born May 13, 2015, Michael was 20 inches long and weighed 8.4 lbs. ▲

Share your news! Update your information and tell us what is happening at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/update-my-information



Michael Anthony Hilzendeger

Spring 2016 Production

Man of La Mancha, the musical

The Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company presents the musical *Man of La Mancha* as its spring 2016 production.

In this well-known musical, Miguel de Cervantes, a poet of the theatre, is brought to prison to await the Inquisition. While there, he is put on trial by his fellow prisoners— but ever the actor and playwright, Cervantes mounts his defense by enlisting the aid of those prisoners as characters in the story of the fearless knight Don Quixote de la Mancha. This show demonstrates that the human imagination cannot be contained within a prison's walls.

Stephen Schrum, PhD, associate professor of theatre and director of the show, is looking forward to the production, not only because the song, "The Impossible Dream," has such meaning and power, but also because the show celebrates the transformative power of the theatre. The show also marks the end of the college acting careers of several members of the cast who will graduate in April 2016. ▲



Man of La Mancha

♦ April 7-9 at 7:30 p.m.

♦ April 10 at 2 p.m.

♦ Ferguson Theater

♦ Tickets (available at door):

\$12 regular/\$6 students/seniors/PittID

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



Spring Events

Continued from page 12

Events are free and open to the public unless indicated.

May 7

Pitt-Greensburg Humanities Day 2016 brings high school students and their teachers and parents to campus for competition, professional development, and college informational sessions. To find out how your child could attend, visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/humanitiesday.

May 18

Our Admissions Evening Information Session is designed for busy people. Visit with an admissions counselor and tour the campus with a current student. Call 724-836-9880 to register or visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/admissions/visit-campus.

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.

Music at Pitt-Greensburg presents Spring programs

Music at Pitt-Greensburg will offer a variety of performances during the spring 2016 semester. All shows begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

The Pitt-Greensburg Chorale and Chamber Singers, under the direction of Christopher Bartley, will feature the world premiere of new work by international award-winning composer Tyler Stampe in their Spring Concert to be performed March 17 and March 18.

Stampe's choral work, *Asperges Me, Domine*, recently was awarded first prize at the Busan Choral Festival and Competition's composition segment. He has written for many mediums, including film, opera, choir, orchestra, chamber, solo instruments, and electronics.

Students studying voice and piano with Zach Rohlwing, instructor of Music, will perform a recital on April 20.

The Joan Chambers Concert Series presents the Heinz Chapel Choir in their annual appearance at Pitt-Greensburg on April 22.

The Friday Evening Music Club will showcase local performers throughout the semester, including on March 11 and April 29. ▲

Fall athletic season successful

Men's & Women's Cross Country

In the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) Cross Country Championship meet, the men's team placed third, their highest finish since 2007, while the women came in seventh out of 10 teams. Both teams are under the direction of first-year Head Coach Dee Waters. Senior Garret Urban earned All-AMCC First Team honors for the fourth consecutive year, becoming the second Bobcat runner to achieve this honor. Freshman Daniel Spanner became the fourth men's runner in campus history to earn All-AMCC honors. Sophomore Kelsey Oddis earned All-AMCC honors for the women, becoming the second women's runner in campus history to do so.



Urban, Oddis, and Spanner



Hickman



Schwegler



Welsh

Brianna Burgunder was named to the All-AMCC Third Team. Head Coach Chuck Wgle was named the AMCC Women's Soccer Co-Coach of the Year for coaching the team to one of their most successful seasons in a decade, where they made it to the first round of the AMCC tournament.



Claherty



Geary



Jepsen



Landman

Women's Tennis

Senior Shayla Landman earned the Pitt-Greensburg Student-Athlete Advisory Council Women's Player of the Year honor for the second consecutive year after posting an undefeated season in the number-one-singles spot for the Bobcats. Head Coach Maria Iovino was named the AMCC Women's Tennis

Coach of the Year after the women's tennis team finished their season undefeated (8-0) in the AMCC, winning their first-ever regular season title. A 5-4 loss to Penn State-Behrend ended their run for an AMCC Tournament Championship. Landman, junior Sydney Geary, sophomore Alexandra Claherty, and sophomore Amanda Jepsen were named to the All-AMCC team.



Ault



Misawic



Tassone

Volleyball

Juniors Lauren Tassone, Renee Ault, and Paige Misawic were among the statistical leaders for the Pitt-Greensburg volleyball team. Tassone and Ault

led the team in scoring and in kills. Ault also recorded the most spikes for the season and most digs. First-year Head Coach Kylynn Smith '10, will lose only one player to graduation this year, allowing an experienced team to step onto the court next season. ▲

Golf

Freshman Javon Trout owned the 2015 AMCC golf season. After winning the overall individual title at the AMCC Championships with a 151 over two days, he was named the Pitt-Greensburg Student-Athlete Advisory Council Men's Player of Year and AMCC Newcomer of the Year.



Trout

Senior Marty Sholtis earned third team All-AMCC honors and Tony Berich was named AMCC Golf Coach of the Year. The Bobcats finished third in the AMCC championship tournament.

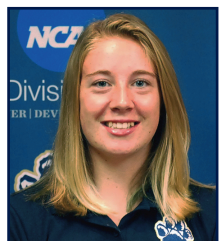


Koerber and Lauderbaugh

Men's Soccer

Juniors Jake Lauderbaugh and Brian Koerber earned All-AMCC Second and Third Team honors, respectively.

Lauderbaugh finished third in the AMCC among goal-scorers and second in the league. Head Coach Dan Keefe and staff see the 2016 season as bright since the team will lose only three seniors to graduation.



Burgunder



Edwards

Women's Soccer

The Pitt-Greensburg women's soccer team finished 6-1-2 in conference play for third place in AMCC regular season play.

Freshman Kayleen Schwegler earned All-AMCC First Team honors and was named Newcomer of the Year. Earning All-AMCC Second Team honors were senior Courtney Carroll, sophomore Shannon Edwards, senior Caitlin Welsh, and sophomore Camille Hickman. Freshman

Pawprints: News of note from Pitt-Greensburg



complete newbies to teaching to be demonstrating new methods to people who have 20 and 30 years of experience," said Marks.



civilian life. The designation honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities, and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace America's military service members, veterans, and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus.



Elisa Beshero-Bondar, PhD

the community. The TEI Technical Council is responsible for the development and maintenance of the TEI Guidelines and other TEI systems and resources. It recommends, evaluates, and implements new features and modifications of existing features, and supervises the overall development of each new version of the Guidelines. Beshero-Bondar and Sayre Greenfield, PhD, professor of English, were instrumental in developing the new Digital Studies Certificate now available from Pitt-Greensburg.



Melissa Marks, EdD

teaching methods. "It is so cool for these students who are

Pitt-Greensburg named a Money Magazine "Best College Value"

For the second consecutive year, Pitt-Greensburg has been named one of the best college values in the nation by Money Magazine. The magazine's ranking system uses three weighted categories—educational quality, affordability, and career outcomes—to make its picks. The list identifies colleges and universities that "turn out graduates with the most manageable debt."

Pitt-Greensburg designated a Military Friendly School

For the fifth consecutive year, Pitt-Greensburg has been designated a "Military Friendly School" by Victory Media, the premier media entity for military personnel transitioning into

Beshero-Bondar elected to TEI Technical Council

Elisa Beshero-Bondar, PhD, associate professor of English, recently was elected to the TEI Technical Council. She was one of 17 candidates competing for six seats. TEI stands for Text Encoding Initiative. The Council makes decisions about TEI encoding, as well as looking after the TEI technical processing and technical support of

the community. The TEI Technical Council is responsible for the development and maintenance of the TEI Guidelines and other TEI systems and resources. It recommends, evaluates, and implements new features and modifications of existing features, and supervises the overall development of each new version of the Guidelines. Beshero-Bondar and Sayre Greenfield, PhD, professor of English, were instrumental in developing the new Digital Studies Certificate now available from Pitt-Greensburg.

Education faculty and students present at national conference

Melissa Marks, EdD, associate professor of Education, and three students traveled to New Orleans in November to the National Council for Social Studies conference. Secondary Education majors Ashley Muscarella, James Gabonay, and Jack Hunter joined Marks in presenting a poster on new teaching methods. "It is so cool for these students who are

complete newbies to teaching to be demonstrating new methods to people who have 20 and 30 years of experience," said Marks.



Ashley Muscarella on the Alpine Tower during team building exercises.

Muscarella leading SPSEA at state level

Ashley Muscarella, a senior double majoring in secondary education and history with a political science minor, has been elected to the state-level office of president of the Student Pennsylvania State Education Association (SPSEA). She is leading the regional SPSEA officers in planning the annual spring conference, as well as working to increase the group's membership from approximately 5,000 registered members to 8,000 by the end of the academic year. Muscarella attended the National Education Association's (NEA) Student Leadership Conference and Representative Assembly this past summer. "It was 10 days spent with representatives of the National Education Association talking about education politics. As a student member, I actually had a voting voice in what my organization was deciding. That's powerful," she said.

Two Chartwells employees bring Compass Group's Iron Chef silver medal title to Greensburg

Lisa Bierer and Timothy Skodak, chefs with the Chartwells staff at Pitt-Greensburg, competed in the Iron Chef competition held as part of the Compass Group's Mid-Atlantic Culinary Marketing Meeting held at Montclair State University. Compass Group is composed of several dining service providers, of which Chartwells is the educational component.



Chefs Timothy Skodak and Lisa Bierer (both in middle) with other members of their Silver Medal Iron Chef team.

Bierer and Skodak were part of a four-member team that finished second for the silver medal. Under specific time constraints, the four teams (16 total chefs representing all Compass Group divisions) designed their menus, began the preparation/cooking process, and then were alerted to the secret ingredient, peppers, which had to be incorporated into each dish. Bierer, manager of the Coffeehouse in the Academic Village, prepared quinoa with apple-smoked pineapple. Skodak, who also is the primary technician for the Chartwells corporate digital cookbook, prepared mashed parsnips that featured two sauces, glacé and cream. The two have a combined 20 years of service at Pitt-Greensburg.

"We have the ability to impact how students see and taste food every day," said Richard McMahon, director of food service for Chartwells dining service at Pitt-Greensburg. "Lisa and Tim are just two examples of how seriously we take our responsibility to provide delicious food that is healthy, too."

Four Education majors will travel to New Zealand in February to complete the second half of their student teaching experience by spending seven weeks working in schools there. Chris Shtur

Mike Kane, CEO and co-founder of Cellhelmet, was the keynote speaker and EQT

Criminal Justice Day brings experts to campus

11th Annual Dr. Bernard Cobetto Lecture Series
on contemporary ethical issues

presented by Joanne Katz, JD

Please call 724-836-7980 to reserve a seat at this free event.

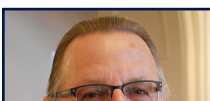
A group of seven men are seated behind a long table covered with a white cloth on a raised platform. They are facing an audience seated in rows of chairs. A large white projection screen is positioned behind the speakers. The room has wood-paneled walls. The audience is seen from the back, filling the foreground.

CFAR's Community Arts & Reintegration Project

As part of its Community Arts & Reintegration Project for Westmoreland County, Pitt-Greensburg's Center for Applied Research (CFAR) hosted Will Cooper-Balis, MSW, LSW, Restorative Justice Program Manager, and Dawan Williams, Guild Coordinator, from the City of Philadelphia Mural Arts

Stephen Schrum, Lori Jakiela, and Silvina Orsetti, all Humanities Division faculty, are working to re-establish Humanities Day as an annual event to bring high school students to the campus. The event, planned for May 7, will allow students

Pitt-Greensburg currently holds the honor of being the only regional campus in the University of Pittsburgh system to have a member of its faculty, Franklin “Frank” Wilson, PhD, elected to and serving as president of the University of Pittsburgh Faculty Senate. Here, we share the activities of both the Pitt Faculty Senate and our own Pitt-Greensburg Faculty Senate, which is led by Anne M. Czerwinski, PhD.

A portrait of David A. Collier, a man with a white beard and glasses, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored striped shirt. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

A year ago I had no desire to, or expectation that, I would serve as the President of Pitt's University Senate. A case, perhaps, of being the right person, in the right place, at the right time, resulted in my taking office July 1, 2015. This is especially exciting for a sociologist like me, as I've been interested in understanding organizations from my undergraduate days at the University of California at San Diego.

As Senate President I preside over both the Faculty Assembly and the Senate Council. My term is one year, with the possibility of being re-elected twice. Then I will serve on the Executive Committee up to three more years as Immediate Past \President. The Senate is the structure wherein Pitt's practice of shared governance takes place. My goal is to make sure that practice is authentic, and that it continues to expand and deepen—the trajectory charted by my predecessors. I have an opportunity to set or affect several University agendas, to serve on important committees, and to act as the University Marshall at various convocations at the Pittsburgh campus.

Being able to interact with the students, staff, administrators, and faculty of the University has already been interesting, stimulating, and a high point of my professional development and career. As a Pitt graduate (PhD-1999), I have always been proud of my continuing connection with the University, and I have gained a new appreciation of its size, complexity, diversity, and impact.

While I am the first President of the University Senate to come from a regional campus, I am also mindful that I represent the entire University. My hope is that the fact that I'm from Pitt-Greensburg has brought increased awareness of our campus and the other undergraduate-only schools in Johnstown, Bradford, and Titusville, which are important parts of the University of Pittsburgh. While I claim no credit, I do hope my role as President helped the Chancellor and his Chief of Staff decide to attend our annual Circle Dinner last September, and for the Board of Trustees to hold their October retreat and meeting in Greensburg, where many experienced a regional campus for the first time. These things have been symbolically important, my hope is that more substantive recognition and assistance will come our way.

The biggest challenge for me has been trying to find the balance between my responsibilities here and those in Oakland. There are not enough days, or hours within them, to do all the interesting and important things I enjoy doing in both places. It would be overwhelming were it not for my new colleagues and friends on the Oakland campus, and more importantly, my long-time colleagues and friends at Pitt-Greensburg. ▲



Dr. Susan M. Branson is a woman with shoulder-length brown hair, smiling. She is wearing a light-colored, patterned top and a necklace with a colorful pendant. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green foliage.

The Faculty Senate is the official instrument for shared governance at Pitt-Greensburg. It encourages open discussion, communication, and cooperation among faculty, staff, administration, students, the Advisory Board, and other members of the University. Policies and issues pertaining to faculty welfare, academic programs, curriculum, and other

topics relating to the welfare of the campus are addressed. The group works to create harmony and clearer channels of communication with other bodies of the University and recommends policy changes.

“Pitt-Greensburg’s faculty care a great deal about the educational experience of their students and work closely with individual students and groups to ensure their success. The collective goal is to expand student learning beyond the classroom and to help students to find greater opportunities and success in their lives,” said Anne M. Czerwinski, PhD, president of the Faculty Senate at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.

Czerwinski, an associate professor of Communication, noted that one of the group's major accomplishments for the fall 2015 term was the endorsement of a revised tenure and promotion document, "Policies and Procedures for Faculty Appointment, Reappointment, Promotion, and Conferral of Tenure," which is awaiting approval from the Provost's Office.

The Faculty Welfare Committee, chaired by Elisa Beshero-Bondar, PhD, with the leadership of Frank Wilson, PhD, “led an exciting, enlightening, and informative discussion in Faculty Senate that produced a document that is easier to read and reduces ambiguity,” said Czerwinski. “I believe the revision process increased collaboration, transparency, and effective communication among faculty, as well as between faculty and the administration.”

The Faculty Senate addresses critical issues that benefit students' education experiences, including the development, revision, and implementation of new and existing academic programs and curricula. They also discuss changes in general education requirements, academic standards, placement tests, the use of technology in the classroom, graduation requirements, and other issues that have a direct impact on the student learning experience and the achievement of their academic goals.

During the spring term, the Education Planning and Policies Committee will work with the foreign language department to review the campus' foreign language requirement and possible use of a placement test; the two ad hoc committees on mentoring and on international studies will also be offering recommendations. ▲

—Anne M. Czerwinski, PhD, contributed to this article.

Alumni:

you are invited to participate in Commencement activities

April 29: PGAA New Alumni Reception (4:30 p.m.)
April 29: Parent Appreciation Dinner (7 p.m.)
April 30: Commencement Procession (11 a.m.)



Is your child, spouse, parent, brother, sister, or grandparent a 2016 graduate? Register to participate in the Legacy Diploma presentation at Commencement.

Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni or contact the Alumni Coordinator at pgaa@pitt.edu for details about these and other activities.

Watch for details . . .



PGAA Tailgate and Pirate Baseball outing is planned for Sunday, June 12

Watch the monthly PGAA E-Newsletter or www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/events for details when they are finalized!

Details and registration at: www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/events

A sampling of the activities that took place during Blue & Gold Weekend: Homecoming 2015.

Visit our photo galleries at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/photo-galleries to see photos from these events and more!



Mark your calendar for Blue & Gold Weekend: Homecoming 2016
Friday, Sept. 30 ♦ Saturday, Oct. 1 ♦ Sunday, Oct. 2

www.greensburg.pitt.edu/blueandgoldweekend



GREENSBURG
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

Upcoming Alumni Events at a Glance

Details: www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/events

February

17 Professional Development Committee Meeting
20 Admitted Student Day (Alumni volunteers needed)

March

16 Professional Development Committee Meeting
19 Admitted Student Day (Alumni volunteers needed)

April

2 Admissions Discovery Day (Alumni volunteers needed)
9 Pitt-Greensburg Dinner Theater featuring the musical *Man of La Mancha*
10 Senior Send-Off (Alumni hosts needed)
16 Admitted Student Day (Alumni volunteers needed)
29 New Alumni Reception (Alumni hosts needed)
Parent Appreciation Dinner (Alumni hosts needed)
30 Alumni Leadership Meeting
Commencement Breakfast
Commencement

Nancy Estrada Mentoring and Leadership Award established



Nancy Florez-Estrada, PhD

With the support of alumni, family, and friends, the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg has established the Nancy Florez-Estrada Mentoring and Leadership Award for Students.

This award enables the example set by the late Nancy Florez-Estrada, PhD, A&S '95 to endure long into the future. A committee of faculty and staff developed the award in honor of Dr. Estrada, a revered campus mentor and leader who was deeply dedicated to providing students the opportunities to develop their own skills as mentors and leaders.

This award will ensure that her legacy continues by funding a program whereby students can work with faculty and staff in and out of the classroom to develop their mentoring and leadership skills. The students in this program would advise, mentor, and teach students in a variety of academic, cultural, and service projects.

- When fully funded, the award will provide \$3,000 per year (\$1,500 per semester) for a student to work up to 10 hours per week fulfilling the requirements of the award. Examples of those activities include:
- Advising students in the planning and coordination of Academic Village arts and cultural programs;
 - Leading students in planning campus service projects;
 - Advising student organizations about fundraising strategies, budgets, marketing, meeting management, supervising and motivating volunteers, and program planning and evaluation;
 - Teaching students valuable leadership skills through organization officer training workshops;
 - Presenting sessions at the Fall Leadership Conference.



Left: Joseluis Florez-Estrada, Nancy's husband, with the tree that was planted this fall in memory of his wife. The tree, donated by Joseluis, is located outside of Powers Hall.



In 2014, Estrada retired from Pitt-Greensburg as an associate professor of Spanish. She dedicated her 32-year career to her students and the broadening of their horizons. From 1999 through 2009, she served as director of the International Academic Village, collaborating with students to develop international programming. She also served as advisor to the campus Spanish Club where, under her mentorship, students regularly brought the Spanish and Latin American cultures to campus by hosting dinners, workshops, films, performances, and speakers.

At this writing, the award is nearing its goal of \$10,000. Anyone who would like to contribute to this award in memory of Estrada should use the enclosed envelope or call 724-836-7497 to donate using a credit card. ▲

Questions about this fund or donations may be directed to Jodi Kraisinger, director of University Relations and Institutional Advancement at 724-836-9942 or gifts2pg@pitt.edu.



Become a member of the 1787 Society of the University of Pittsburgh and create a lasting legacy

Your planned or deferred gifts, regardless of the size, through a bequest, annuity, trust, life insurance policy, or other planned or deferred gift opportunity to the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg and/or the University of Pittsburgh can change lives.

Your commitment may be made to any area of the University and can provide professorships, research funds, student scholarships, unrestricted funds, and a higher quality of education for all of our students.

To learn more about the benefits of becoming a member of the 1787 Society, visit pitt.planyourlegacy.org/society or contact Jodi Kraisinger, director of University Relations and Institutional Advancement at gifts2pg@pitt.edu or 724-836-9942 to discuss this opportunity.

Alumni Awards:

Bengel and Root recognized by PGAA

The Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association (PGAA) presented awards to alumni during the Alumni Celebration dinner held as part of Blue & Gold Weekend: Homecoming 2015.

Renowned stained-glass artist Terry Bengel '80 received the PGAA Alumnus of Distinction Award, and Brian Root '04, assistant director of Housing and Residence Life at Pitt-Greensburg, received the PGAA Volunteer Excellence Award.

PGAA Alumnus of Distinction Award

The PGAA Alumnus of Distinction Award acknowledges excellence among alumni of Pitt-Greensburg. It is the highest honor given by the PGAA to an individual alumnus/alumna annually.

Terry Bengel '80, of Greensburg, is a *summa cum laude* graduate of the University of Pittsburgh who attended classes at Pitt-Greensburg for his degree in Humanities/Fine Arts.

His connection to Pitt-Greensburg goes deeper than just attending classes, though. Five pieces of his stained-glass artwork are installed on campus. Most visible are "Upward to the Light," installed on the tower of Millstein Library, and "Fountain of Life," installed at the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center. His other pieces are "Neujahr 1989," displayed on the second floor of Millstein Library, that depicts the breakdown of the Berlin Wall; the University of Pittsburgh seal that is part of the Chambers Hall Hempfield Room; and a rendering of the University of Pittsburgh coat of arms in the front door of Lynch Hall.

"There is a great deal of talk in the media these days about the value of a college education. We at Pitt-Greensburg know the true worth of a liberal arts education is that it not only prepares you for a succession of career opportunities through lifelong learning but it also enriches your life," said Sharon P. Smith, PhD, president of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. "Terry's education at Pitt-Greensburg enabled him to live his passion while enhancing the lives of others. His compositions are visual poetry in the life of the campus."

For nearly 50 years, Bengel has been studying, creating, and restoring stained-glass masterpieces. The list of public commissions and major restorations of his work reads like a who's who of churches, synagogues, non-profit organizations, and businesses that pepper the southwestern Pennsylvania region.

In 1983, Bengel became the first American stained-glass craftsman to be accepted as a professional observer with the Research Laboratory of the National Historic Monuments Commission at Chateau Champs sur Marne, France. There, he was involved in the restoration of windows at the Cathedral of Troyes, the Bourges Cathedral, and the Sainte Chapelle in Paris.

He and his work were featured in a July 2008 WQED *On Q* episode and the 2010 WQED documentary on stained glass.



Terry Bengel (left) and Brian Root

Described as a friend and advisor to church communities of the region, Bengel is a frequent lecturer to civic organizations.

PGAA Volunteer of Excellence Award:

The PGAA Volunteer of Excellence Award was established to recognize alumni who have dedicated a significant amount of personal time to attending alumni meetings and events, working on special projects, and contributing to the overall success of both the

alumni association and the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.

Brian Root has been active with the PGAA since graduating from Pitt-Greensburg in 2004 with a BA in English Writing. One of the 2004 Class Agents, he has served as PGAA Secretary and Vice President. Currently, he serves as chair of the PGAA Events committee.

This past spring, Root received the Chancellor's Award for Staff Excellence in Service to the University and to the Community. He also received the 2014 President's Distinguished Service Award for Staff at Pitt-Greensburg.

"Brian attends every PGAA event, and he's always willing to help," said Sheila Kudrick, alumni coordinator at Pitt-Greensburg. "He's reliable, resourceful, and energetic. He has a great passion for Pitt-Greensburg and all that it is, and he desires to see it continue to grow."

"This is certainly 'Brian Root Year' for he received the Chancellor's Award for Service by Staff and is now being acknowledged for his extraordinary contributions to the PGAA," said Dr. Smith. "One of the most important roles of a state-assisted university is to provide service to the community. Brian personifies that role: he makes this area a better place through his service to others."

Root earned a master's degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and returned to Pitt-Greensburg to serve as Resident Director (2006-2009). After a year away from the campus, he returned in 2010 as the assistant director of Housing and Residence Life.

In addition to his responsibilities in Housing & Residence Life, Root serves as the director of the Outdoor Adventure & Community Service (OACS) living community, as well as the advisor to the Circle K Club and the campus chapter of Habitat for Humanity. He also is Pitt-Greensburg's United Way Employee Campaign Coordinator.

Space limitations prevent the publishing of full biographies of both award winners. Please visit <http://bit.ly/PGAAawards15> to read more. ▲

Recognizing Excellence: PGAA Award Nominations

The Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association (PGAA) is currently accepting nominations for its 2016 Alumni awards until July 1. Award recipients will be honored at the Alumni Celebration Dinner on October 1, as part of Blue & Gold Weekend: Homecoming 2016.

- The Alumnus of Distinction Award acknowledges excellence among alumni of Pitt-Greensburg. It is the highest honor given by the PGAA to an individual alumnus(a) annually.
- The Volunteer of Excellence Award honors alumni who have dedicated a significant amount of personal time attending alumni meetings and events, working on special projects, and contributing to the overall success of both the PGAA and the University.
- The Young Alumni Leadership Award, a new award initiated in 2015, recognizes established and future leaders among Pitt-Greensburg's young alumni.

Visit <http://bit.ly/PGAAAwardNom> for details. ▲

Pitt-Greensburg SAA active on campus and in Oakland



SAA Members: Marina Shenouda, Daniel Laughlin, Emma Rockwell (on top of statue), Mackenzie Lovelace, Stephanie Costabile (behind statue)

The Pitt-Greensburg Student Alumni Association (SAA) officers recently participated in an overnight retreat with Oakland and Bradford SAA leadership. Sessions focused on campus leadership, networking, collaboration, and philanthropy—in addition to a campus tour and trip to the Oakland Zoo, the well-known student-cheering section for the Pitt men's and women's basketball teams at Pitt's Peterson Events Center.

A couple weekends later, the SAA enjoyed a holiday tour of the Cathedral of Learning Nationality Rooms. In October, the Pitt-Greensburg Campus Store held SAA Day and offered students a 15 percent discount on Pitt spirit gear with an SAA membership card. Other activities included visiting a local corn maze with a hayride and campfire. Members also participated in a Professional Development Workshop on Presentation Tips hosted by the PGAA. ▲



Have you recently . . . been married, received a promotion, or relocated?

Share your birth announcements and the PGAA will send you a FREE Future Bobcat bib!

Keep us posted on your happenings at

www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/update-my-information.

PGAA Board Nominations An opportunity to make a difference

The Pitt-Greensburg Board of Directors is seeking nominations for Board members.

You are invited to nominate candidates—self-nominations are encouraged—to serve one term of three years beginning July 1, with the option of being elected to serve a second term. Nominations will be accepted through April 1.

Members of the Board serve in an advisory capacity to the Office of Alumni Relations and work closely with the staff who are responsible for the day-to-day operations. The PGAA Board of Directors serves a critical role by providing strategic direction, resources, and professional expertise to help carry out the PGAA mission.

Responsibilities and duties, along with the nomination form, may be found at <http://bit.ly/PGAABrdNominate>. ▲

Are you planning a wedding?

Reserve the Mary Lou Campana Chapel Lecture Center for your wedding ceremony.



Contact:
Pitt-Greensburg
Alumni Office
724-836-7496
pgaa@pitt.edu

Visit <http://www.greensburg.pitt.edu/community/weddings>

Notice of Proposed PGAA Bylaws Amendments

This is to provide official notice that amendments to the PGAA Bylaws have been proposed. The amendment proposals will be voted upon at the annual PGAA Leadership Meeting held Commencement weekend on Saturday, April 30, at 8 a.m. in the Lynch Hall Conference Room on campus.

Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/board-directors to view the proposed bylaws. An online ballot is available through April 29. ▲