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 PGA, 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 online 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 8:30 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/carcruise. Additional funding from other sources to assist with the completion of the Campus Re-Imagination project.

Cheer on the Pitt-Greensburg Bobcat baseball team when they challenge the WCCC Wolf Pack at 11 a.m. (Ridilla Field), then visit the Blue & Gold Fest 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/Alumni/Summer/Registration) 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 Student 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 S45 application for 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.

continued on page 11

Discover Yourself . . . Discover Your World
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

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 infrastructure 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 efficiently and effectively 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 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 infrastructure upgrade 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 programs 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.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE
2 Message from the President
3 Green Scholar Program
5 New Certificate Program and New Major
6 Alumni Spotlight
7 Bermuda Trip
8 Fall Theater Production
9 St. Clair Lecture
11 Classnotes
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 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 team to win an NCAA division II championship!

Dr. Donald Gibson

William Schiethroma ‘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 Reaganesque of the 80’s and the craziness of Laissez-Faire capitalism. I would compare Dr. Gibson to Mike Harrington, accepting the Reaganomics of the 80’s and the crisis of Laissez-Faire capitalism. I often agree with this perspective, especially with examples such as West Germany and Japan of the ‘80s or Lyndon B. Johnson. 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 former Pennsylvania Parole Director to Democratic policy. It is an eye opener but that’s the 80’s 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.

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

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 RUP’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 Merion, 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.”

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

Go to http://www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni and click on the link “Share Your Pitt-Greensburg Memory.”
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. Bouton focuses on the connections between economic and political events 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 “unitary avers,” 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 Campaus Chapel and Lecture Center unless otherwise noted.

October 18 – The Performing Arts Society presents its annual Broadway Ballrooms Breast Cancer Concert. 

November 7 – The Joan Chambers Concert Series opens with Pablo Amoros, piano.

December 1 – Zach Rohwbig’s students perform a voice and piano recital.

December 5 – The Pitt-Greensburg Chorale and Chamber Singers perform the choral soundtrack to the film “Crown of Garmas”, by Elliott Shesedy ‘12 and the world premiere of “Shine” by Dr. Peter Fischer. Pre-concert talk at 7 p.m.

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


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. ▲

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

Making a difference in the lives of students

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 related to their resumés 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 low-paying jobs 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 at Pitt-Greensburg. To support the Green Scholar program, you may allow more students and faculty to partner on projects.

To discuss how you can help, contact Jordi Krausinger, director of University Relations and Institutional Advancement at gift2pg@pitt.edu or 724-836-9942.

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 Pittsburgh College, and Artaud develop his skills as a filmmaker, director, and musician. He is currently at work on “Crown of Garmas, 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 Beethoven-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 degree 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 Beethoven-Bondar. ▲

When she chose to support the Green Scholar program, you may allow more students and faculty to partner on projects. To discuss how you can help, contact Jordi Krausinger, director of University Relations and Institutional Advancement at gift2pg@pitt.edu or 724-836-9942.

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
- Antinor Artaud and virtual reality
- Simulation of rigid body dynamics
- Environmentally friendly organic (chemistry) methods
- Mary Russell Mitford and digital databases
- The Charlestown Watershed
- Nonviolent resistance in political activists
- Sentencing reform
- European politics
- Analytical chemistry of archeological sites
- Religious coping in the Gay-Lesbian Bisexual-Transgender population
- Gene effects on human response to films
- Environmental and health benefits of biosolids
- Technology and human transformation
- Fluorescence quenching of organic chemists
- Trace metal concentrations in lake trout
- Green urban poetics
- Lead concentrations in soil
- Antiyzin (AT) deficiency

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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, 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 Theatre.

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.

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, 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, directed 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 Beccas 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.”

Rabbit Hole, which won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for drama, is a 2006 Tony Award winner for Best Play. Directed by John Cameron Mitchell and starring Nicole Kidman, it has been produced by regional theatres in Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh. The 2007 film version stars Nicole Kidman and首演于2008年，由Keri Russell主演。

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

A movie adaptation of the play, directed by John Cameron Mitchell, and starring Nicole Kidman as Becca, was released in 2010.

Campus Renovations

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 (FOR). Carpentry was replaced in the bathroom foyers of 15 rooms in College Hall, requiring new carpeting, painting, lighting upgrades, and the installation of large monitors to be used for real-time interaction. Carpentry also was replaced in Village Hall Chambers Gymnasium.

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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.

Orsatti to receive PSMLA Educator of the Year award

The Executive Council of the Pennsylvania State Modern Languages Association (PSMLA) selected Silvana 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 Modern Languages and Cultures. She will receive the award on October 17 during the PSMLA Full Conference.

Orsatti, who teaches three sessions of Elementary Spanish at Pitt-Greensburg, is a candidate for a Doctorate in Education with a concentration in Language, Literacy, and Culture from The George Washington University. In addition to Pitt-Greensburg, she holds a degree in Engineering (electronics with an emphasis in control systems) from the Universidad Nacional de San Juan. During his six years here at Pitt-Greensburg, he has played critical roles in the construction of the Ronnie Andrews Fitness Center, baseball field, and the softball field.

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

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 standalone 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 mzidek@pitt.edu.

"The reality is that a 21st century energy [sector] workforce will not only require post-secondary education, but will need to remain in a continuous learning mode," said Sharon F. Smith, PhD, president of Pitt-Greensburg. "We believe we can play an integral part in the success of this region by working closely with 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 who 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 of Science degree in Public Policy at Pitt-Greensburg. This new degree 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 specific courses in economics, management, statistics, political science, criminal justice, sociology, and communications (rhetoric).

This major fulfills a number of needs,” explained Jacqueline Horvath, 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
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 a four-year degree, 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 me 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 supposed 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 local gas company. He then became a contract manager with Public Service Electric and Gas.

When he started with WCBA, Helkowski signed a one-year contract. “It’s an altogether different feeling.” He said. “When I leave work, I just want to get away from work. I used to enjoy it. Now it makes you think a lot about our culture and behavior.”

During his time at People’s, Helkowski served as account executive for People’s Gas. He had worked with builders and developers to deliver gas economically on residential lot plans, winning salesman of the year for three consecutive years.

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