The Dr. Bernard Cobetto Lecture Series will feature Kenneth M. Duberstein, former chief of staff to President Ronald Reagan in 1988-89, on Thursday, April 14, at 7 p.m. in Pitt-Greensburg’s Ferguson Theater. This event is free and open to the public who may register by calling 724-836-7497.

During President Reagan’s two terms in office, Duberstein also served in the White House as Deputy Chief of Staff (1987), as well as both the Assistant and the Deputy Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs. In January 1989, President Reagan awarded him the President’s Citizens Medal.

Today, Duberstein is chairman and CEO of The Duberstein Group, an independent strategic planning and consulting company.

Prior to joining the Reagan Administration, Duberstein was vice president and director of Business-Government Relations of the Committee for Economic Development. He returned to the private sector between his various White House assignments as vice president of Timmons & Company Inc., a government relations firm.

His earlier government service included serving as Deputy Under Secretary of Labor during the Ford Administration and director of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs at the US General Services Administration. He began his service on Capitol Hill as an assistant to Senator Jacob K. Javits.

From 2003 to 2006, Duberstein was a consultant for storyline and accuracy for the Emmy award-winning TV series West Wing. He also regularly appears as a commentator on network and cable news programs, including Meet the Press, Nightline, This Week, Inside Politics, The News Hour, Nightly News, and The Charlie Rose Show.

A lifetime trustee of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Duberstein serves on a variety of boards of directors, including The Boeing Company (lead director), ConocoPhillips, Inc. (former presiding director), The Travelers Companies, Inc., and Mack-Cali Realty Corp.

He also serves on a wide range of commissions, task forces, and cultural, educational, and volunteer boards, including the boards of directors of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Brookings Institution, Harvard University/Kennedy School’s Institute of Politics Senior Advisory Committee, the National Endowment for Democracy, the American Security Project, the Ronald Reagan Institute of Emergency Medicine, and the National Alliance to End Homelessness.


The Cobetto Lecture Series focuses on contemporary ethical issues. Established in 2005, it is made possible by the support of Dr. Bernard Cobetto and his wife, Ellen. Dr. Cobetto is a 1945 graduate of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh and a 1947 graduate of the University’s Schools of Medicine.
As the snow melts from the campus grounds, we eagerly await the flowering of new trees and shrubs planted this fall under the direction of the Campus Beautification Circle. Key areas of campus, including the entry area to the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center, were targeted this past fall for new plantings and the installation of teak benches that will make Pitt-Greensburg even more appealing to students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

Spring also brings with it a flurry of activities and events. I invite you to join us for the events highlighted in this issue of Blue & Gold, as well as to join us for other events you will find detailed at www.greensburg.pitt.edu. Please watch for information about the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new women’s softball field and the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Sustainable Office and Classroom (SOC) building, both planned for later this spring.

In particular, I’d like to extend an invitation to you to join us for the annual Pitt Day in Harrisburg. This is one way we can reach out to our state legislators and discuss the challenges that every campus in the University of Pittsburgh system is facing. I encourage alumni and students to take advantage of the arrangements being made by our Office of Alumni Affairs and the Oakland Government Relations Office to travel to Harrisburg so you can share how Pitt-Greensburg has been instrumental in your success. It is important that we convey those stories to not only our legislators but also to our family, friends, and associates.

I also encourage you to attend the Dr. Bernard Cobetto Lecture Series on April 14, when Kenneth Duberstein, former chief of staff for President Reagan, will speak. His insights on the challenges facing our state and federal government should prove to be quite enlightening.

We are pleased to have two alumni share their stories with us in this issue of Blue & Gold, too. Congratulations to Jerry Fedele ’75, who was named the 2011 PGAA Alumnus of Distinction, and thank you to Teresa “Terri” Petrick ’79, who graciously has shared her tribute to Dr. Guy Rossetti with our readers in this issue.

Sharon P. Smith, PhD
President
PGAA Alumnus of Distinction: Jerry Fedele

The Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association (PGAA) has named Jerry J. Fedele its 2011 Alumnus of Distinction. Fedele will receive a certificate of recognition at the 2011 Commencement ceremony, set for Saturday, April 30.

The PGAA Alumnus of Distinction award recognizes excellence among alumni at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg based on an outstanding level of professional achievements, service to the community, service to the University of Pittsburgh, special recognition or honors, and other special efforts or success.

“We are pleased to be able to recognize Jerry with the PGAA Award of Distinction,” said Mary Lynn Yothers, DC, president of the PGAA. “His accomplishments are an illustration of the level of success graduates of Pitt-Greensburg have attained.”

Fedele is a 1975 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with a BS in mathematics and minors in English and philosophy. While pursuing his bachelor’s degree, he was a student at Pitt-Greensburg during his freshman and sophomore years (1971 to 1973).

Fedele went on to graduate magna cum laude and as the class valedictorian with a juris doctorate from the Duquesne University School of Law in 1980. He then earned an MBA from the University of Pittsburgh’s Joseph M. Katz School of Business in 1986, where he was inducted into the Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society.

Fedele, a native of Greensburg, PA, resides in Boca Raton, FL, where he has served as president and chief executive officer of the Boca Raton Regional Hospital since 2008. At Boca Regional, he led a restructuring initiative that generated operating improvements of $60 million over 18 months resulting in the first operating profit in six years for the 400-bed hospital.

The hospital currently generates $360 million in annual revenue and has been ranked by HealthGrades among the top 5 percent of all hospitals in the United States for seven consecutive years. Several clinical programs including cardiac surgery, cardiology, and stroke care are all ranked by HealthGrades as number one in the state of Florida, and gastrointestinal care as number two in the state of Florida. Additionally, Boca Regional maintains tertiary level programs in oncology and women’s care that are nationally recognized.

Prior to his move to Florida in 2008, Fedele served in various capacities with West Penn Allegheny Health System. He served as president and chief executive officer (2003 to 2007) and implemented a five-year plan to recover from a $90 million loss incurred by Allegheny General Hospital and achieved the first system profit in 2003. Under his leadership, Allegheny General attained nationally recognized quality performance for eliminating central-line-associated-blood infections and materially reducing ventilator-associated pneumonia in cardiac ICU. Fedele also implemented a process known as the “Extreme Hospital Makeover” to achieve rapid cycle improvements in operations, quality, and satisfaction utilizing the Toyota Production System and Six Sigma strategies.

Active in his community, Fedele is a member of the boards of directors of VHA Southeast, the Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce, and the Professional Golf Association’s annual Allianz Tour Event. He was a dancer in the 2010 George Snow Scholarship Fund Boca Ballroom Battle and is co-chair of the 2011 event. Recently, Fedele was recognized by the Boca Raton Rotary as a recipient of the OPAL Award for outstanding achievement in Health and Medicine.

He and his wife, Terry, have three children. Katie is an investment banker with Citibank in New York City, Jeff is an auditor with Deloitte and Touche in Pittsburgh, and Andy is an auditor with KPMG in Chicago.

To read more about Fedele’s accomplishments, please visit the News section at www.greensburg.pitt.edu.

Pitt Day in Harrisburg planned

Members of the University of Pittsburgh community will visit with state legislators on Tuesday, April 5, during the annual “Pitt Day in Harrisburg.” While there, the Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association will host a special reception for Pitt-Greensburg alumni and constituents.

For more than 15 years, “Pitt Day in Harrisburg” has given members of the General Assembly an opportunity to talk with alumni, faculty, and students about their work and to gain a first-hand perspective of the challenges and changes facing public higher education. Members of the Alumni Legislative Network (ALN) have annually traveled to Harrisburg in order to meet with elected officials and to be the voice of Pitt.

To learn more about how you can participate in “Pitt Day in Harrisburg,” contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 724-836-7496 or upgalum@pitt.edu.

Legislative Breakfast: Dr. Smith hosted a breakfast for regional legislators in December 2010. Attending the event were (from left) Lou Lazzaro, deputy chief of staff, Congressman Tim Murphy’s Westmoreland District Office; Dr. Mary Lynn Yothers, president, PGAA; Dr. Smith; Representative Tim Krieger, Pennsylvania House of Representatives; Paul A. Supowitz, vice chancellor for Governmental Relations, University of Pittsburgh; and Charles McGlaughlin, director for Commonwealth Relations, University of Pittsburgh.
Nearly 150 guests attended the 2011 La Cultura Winter Gala at Pitt-Greensburg on January 15. This year’s theme was “Sparkling Reflections: the 10th Anniversary.” Proceeds from this event benefit the President’s Scholarship Fund.

A retrospective display of the past La Cultura Winter Galas greeted guests in the lower level of Millstein Library during the cocktail hour. Tall, silver candle holders graced the area, adding elegance to the space. A faceted ice sculpture, designed by Mark Henry, executive chef at the Tree Top Restaurant in Polymath Park Resort, specifically for the event, was showcased on Millstein Library’s new patio.

Guests moved upstairs for dinner amid the reflective sparkle of a rotating glitter ball suspended from the Millstein Library ceiling—just for the Gala. Executive Chef Richard McMahon and his staff presented a classic menu, courtesy of Chartwells.

Jennifer Miele, WTAE Westmoreland County Bureau Chief and member of the Pitt-Greensburg Advisory Board, served as mistress of ceremonies. David Tilstone, chair of the Advisory Board, gave the toast.

Dr. Sharon P. Smith, president of Pitt-Greensburg, offered brief comments that included recognition of Advisory Board members in attendance: Laura Wagner Aftosmis, David Assard, Barbara Christner, David Hanna, Michael Lordi, Paul Nickoloff, Robert Rogalski, Bud Smail, Michael Stewart, and David Tilstone. She also thanked table sponsors ADT International Consulting; David Assard; Elliott Group; Excela Health; First Commonwealth Bank; the Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association; Revest Properties; Stewart, McArdle, Sorice, Whalen, Farrell, Finoli, and Cavanaugh; the Tribune Review; and Dr. Thad Zaleskiewicz, professor emeritus.

Highlighting the evening’s activities was a special elimination drawing for a two-strand, briolette-cut, gemstone necklace featuring black spinel, topaz, freshwater pearls, and sterling silver that was donated by Beeghly and Company Jewelers, owned by Amy and Brian Beeghly.

Recognized for having attend all 10 La Cultura Winter Galas were Clara Vana, Linda and David Assard, Linda and George Austin, and Amy and Rick Fogle.
sparkling reflections for the 10th anniversary

6: THE EXCELA HEALTH TABLE -- seated Becky Raneri, Sam Raneri, Debbie Busch, Mike Busch and standing Robert Rogalski, Kirk Miller, Ron Ott

7: THE DAVID ASSARD TABLE -- seated Nancy Anderson, Chuck Anderson, JoAnn Lightcap, Bob Lightcap and standing George Austin, Linda Austin, David Assard, Linda Assard, Sheila Caramella, Art Caramella

8: THE REVEST PROPERTY TABLE -- seated Bob Maldonado, Terri Maldonado, Laura Wagner Aftomis, Charles Aftomis and standing Kathleen Graham, Cheryl Kubas, Eric Kubas

9: THE ELLIOTT GROUP TABLE -- seated Denise Lordi, Michael Lordi, Gary Davis, Shelly Davis, and standing Denny Bierbower, Cathy Bierbower

10: Representing the PGAA were seated Brian Root '04, Frank Spoto '99, Mary Lynn Yothers, DC, '80 and standing David Schimizzi '78 DEN, Sandy Schimizzi '76 MEd, Jessica Dick '09.

11: David Tilstone (left), Nicole Singer, Dick Singer, and Bud Smail

12: Michael Stewart (left) and Barbara Christner

13: Clara Vana (left), a La Cultura Gala committee member who has attended all 10 galas, visits with Joyce Bucchi '09 and Carl Bucchi.
Alumna Teresa Petrick ’79 shares her memories of influential faculty member Dr. Guy Rossetti

Teresa “Terri” (Glenn) Petrick ’79, president of UPMC St. Margaret in Pittsburgh, has been working in healthcare administration for nearly 30 years. Petrick is responsible for the operations of a 250-bed acute care hospital. A native of White Oak, PA, she resides in North Huntingdon, PA, with her husband, Dr. David Petrick, an oral surgeon who graduated from the University of Pittsburgh Dental School. Her daughter Anne also is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh Dental School.

Petrick was the recipient of the UPMC Executive Partnership Award in July 2010 and a finalist for the Greater Pittsburgh Athena Award in 2009. A member of the board of directors at La Roche College, Petrick enjoys working with local businesses and is a co-chair of the American Diabetes Association’s Step Out to Walk to Fight Diabetes held at the Pittsburgh Zoo.

In a recent interview, she shared how Guy Rossetti, PhD and professor of Spanish, influenced her decision to pursue a career in healthcare administration.

“Dr. Guy Rossetti was a much-loved professor at Pitt-Greensburg,” says Petrick. “He invested his time and efforts in me—and I’m sure many others—to help synthesize my interests into a vision for my future.”

Petrick matriculated to Pitt-Greensburg with an interest in health sciences, language arts, and business administration. She chose business as her major, but also graduated with minors in biology and Spanish.

She notes, “I was able to minor in Spanish despite the fact that the campus was small and still growing. Dr. Rossetti was very creative in terms of allowing me to continue my interests, and that was just the kind of person he was. He would do anything for a student.”

She credits Dr. Rossetti with encouraging her to continue her education by going to an interview at the Graduate School of Public Health.

“I wasn’t sure that was what I wanted to do. I put it off, but he persisted in talking to me about the Graduate School of Public Health, telling me it would be a perfect merger of my interests. Out of respect for him, I eventually agreed to the interview,” explains Petrick.

Three interviews later that included the dean of the school, a professor in the program, and an alumnus of the program, Petrick received an offer from the alumnus to work part-time at Children’s Hospital while attending graduate school. She accepted the position and assisted in writing a certificate of need for the hospital.

“All of this happened because Dr. Rossetti took the time and interest to guide me. What I learned is that it is important to invest in young people, and it is important as you grow professionally to give back, to be willing to be a mentor and help young professionals grow,” she notes.

Petrick describes Pitt-Greensburg as the perfect environment for her because she skipped her senior year of high school and started college at the age of 17. “It was an environment with a lot of personalized academic attention. I thought I would stay here for a year and then transfer. I really enjoyed the environment, and I stayed.”

She would recommend the campus to others, and adds, “Every student has different needs and interests. Pitt-Greensburg provides an opportunity to get an individualized education and to be a standout student.”

If a particular professor played a major influence in your college or professional career, please share your story with us by emailing upgalum@pitt.edu or calling 724-836-7496.

Who was Dr. Guy Rossetti?

Guy Rossetti, PhD, joined the faculty at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg in 1969, six years after the campus was founded, as an assistant professor of Hispanic Languages and Literature.

In 1981, he was named director of Student Affairs followed by Dean of Administration in 1982. In 1994, Rossetti took on the role of vice president of Administrative Affairs.

In addition to teaching and his duties as an administrator, he also served as the advisor for the Student Government Association and the Westmoreland Pitt Club, the precursor to the Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association.

Rossetti died in 1998 at the age of 55. In materials stored in the Millstein Library Archives, he is described as “a vital force on this campus since 1969 . . . responsible for the rapid development of the school’s facilities during the past 20 years” and is credited with guiding the construction of the Faculty Office Building, Ferguson Theater, several residence halls, and Millstein Library.

Respected by both colleagues and students, a quote from the Pitt-Greensburg student newspaper probably best describes him: “Rossetti was forever interested in his students.”
Summer Science and Math Experience receives funding

Two local foundations are again providing funds for this year’s Summer Science and Math Experience (SSME) that will allow 18 students from two area high schools to participate in the program.

A $10,000 grant was received from the McFeely-Rogers Foundation that will allow 12 students from Greater Latrobe School District to participate. A $5,000 grant from the Eberly Foundation will allow six students from the Connellsville School District to participate.

SSME 2011 is a week-long residency program designed to help students going into the ninth grade to experience the wonder of science using inquiry-based, hands-on learning techniques. Participants learn that careers in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields can be fun, exciting, and rewarding. In addition to participating in workshops presented by Pitt-Greensburg faculty, the students also go on a field trip to the nuclear reactor at Penn State University. Dr. Thad “Ted” Zaleskiewicz, PhD and emeritus professor of Physics, directs the program, marking its third year.

Students examine water samples from Slate Run Creek during SSME 2010.

Pitt-Greensburg basketball players ranked in Conference and Division III

Two Pitt-Greensburg basketball players have earned national and conference rankings for their performances this season, and a third player recently scored his 1,000th career point.

Sophomore center David Palmer, from Pittsburgh, is ranked ninth in the NCAA Division III in double-doubles and 29th in rebounding. He also is ranked first in the AMCC in rebounding (10.6 per game) and field goal percentage (.598), while being ranked second in scoring (18.9 points per game). Palmer earned AMCC Player of the Week honors twice this season for his efforts during the week ending November 22, 2010, and the week ending February 13.

Senior guard Josh Kucenic, from Lansdale, PA, became the sixth men’s basketball player in school history to record 1,000 career points. Kucenic leads the AMCC with his .884 free-throw percentage.

Senior forward Casey Stanton, from Mechanicsburg, PA, leads the Lady Bobcats in scoring with 462 points at this writing. She is ranked 44th in the NCAA Division III in scoring (19.3 points per game), ninth in rebounding, and 5th with 11 double-doubles for the season. Twice named an AMCC Player of the Week this season, she leads the conference in points per game (19.3) and rebounds per game (4.4), while ranking second in blocks (3.5 per game) and third in steals (2.7 per game). For the most up-to-date information about Pitt-Greensburg Athletics, visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/athletics.

Spring Events continued from page 8

March 31 & April 1-2
The Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company presents You Can’t Take It With You by Moss Hart & George Kaufman as its spring production. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. in Pitt-Greensburg’s Ferguson Theater. For ticket and dinner theater information, contact Dr. Stephen Schrum, director of Theatre, at 724-836-7483.

April 7
Dr. William P. Abbett, a research physicist at the Space Sciences Laboratory at the University of California at Berkeley will present “The Sun as an Astrophysics Rosetta Stone” at 7 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Hall. This program is open to the public at no charge.

April 9
The Pitt-Greensburg Chorale & Chamber Singers will team with choirs from Seton Hill University to perform selections from Carl Orff’s “Carmina Burana” in a concert at Seton Hill University’s Performing Arts Center. This program begins at 8 p.m. and is open to the public at no charge.

April 11
The 2011 La Cultura Lecture Series presents “Gods in the Bazaar: Images in Indian Vernacular Capitalism” by Kajri Jain, PhD and assistant professor of Art History at the University of Toronto, at 7 p.m. in Village Hall 118. This event is free and open to the public.

April 13
The Pitt-Greensburg Chorale & Chamber Singers will team with choirs from Seton Hill University to perform selections from Carl Orff’s “Carmina Burana” in a concert at Seton Hill University’s Ferguson Theater. This program begins at 7:30 p.m. and is open to the public at no charge.

April 14
Kenneth Duberstein, who served as U.S. President Ronald Reagan’s Chief of Staff from 1988 to 1989, will be the featured speaker for the 2011 Dr. Bernard Cobetto Lecture, which will be held in Ferguson Theater at 7 p.m. This event is free and open to the public, who may register by calling 724-836-7497.

April 18
Pitt-Greensburg’s Joan Chambers Concert Series presents Samuel Oram & Shou Ping Liu at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Hall. They will perform Rachmaninoff’s “Piano concerto in D minor, Op 30” and Debussy’s “Petite Suite for Four Hands.” This event is open to the public at no charge.

April 30
Pitt-Greensburg will hold its Commencement at 11 a.m. on Ridella Field (weather permitting). Additional details are available at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/graduation.
Class Notes . . .

Jillian (Scola) Crouch ’09 recently accepted a job working as a forensic scientist trainee in the Pennsylvania State Police Department’s DNA Laboratory in Greensburg. She was married June 18, 2010, and she and her husband just bought their first house near Donegal Lake. Prior to accepting the job with the Pennsylvania State Police, she had worked as a chemist with Mylan Pharmaceuticals in Morgantown, WV.

Joseph Nixon ’83 has served as a police officer for the City of Arnold for the past 26 years.

David Jensen ’97 is the proud father-of-four and employed as a senior biopharmaceutical sales professional with Amgen.

2nd Lt. Evan Randall ’10 was awarded the Army Achievement Medal for his work as a volunteer Gold Bar Recruiter for the Army ROTC Battalion at the University of Pittsburgh. Randall leaves Pitt for Fort Benning, GA, where he will begin serving as an infantry officer. His wife, 2nd Lt. Alyson (Kohler) Randall ’10, is currently stationed at Fort Sam Houston (TX) where she is training to become a medical service officer.

…Discover Yourself . . . Discover Your World

Spring Events

March 14-18
The Pitt-Greensburg Writers’ Festival features a variety of authors and publishers. Each day, a craft talk will occur at 4 p.m., followed by a reading and book signing reception at 7 p.m. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu for details.

March 17
Kathleen George, author of “The Odds,” will conduct a craft talk/reading session at the Pitt-Greensburg Writer’s Festival at 4 p.m. in Village Hall 118. This event is part of Pitt-Greensburg’s One Book, One Community event and is free and open to the public.

March 17
The Quad College Career Fair, sponsored by Pitt-Greensburg, Saint Vincent College, Seton Hill University, and Westmoreland Community College, will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Chambers Hall Gymnasium at Pitt-Greensburg. This event is for students only.

March 18
A discussion of “The Odds,” by Kathleen George, will be held at noon in Millstein Library (2nd floor) as part of Pitt-Greensburg’s One Book, One Community event. Participants must have read the book before attending this session. Although the event is free and open to public, please register by calling 724-836-9687.

March 19
Visit the Pitt-Greensburg campus during Discovery Day and meet faculty from all academic departments, staff from admissions, financial aid, housing, campus life, and other areas. Campus tours and lunch will be available. An application fee waiver is offered to any prospective student who attends this program. Call 724-836-9880 to register.

March 21
The La Cultura Lecture Series presents “Diversity, Continuity, and Change: Material Culture in India from the Palaeolithic to the Present” by Gwendolyn Kelly, doctoral candidate (Archaeology) at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, at 7 p.m. in Village Hall 118.

March 27-28
The Overnight Visit allows students to experience life at Pitt-Greensburg and includes the opportunity to stay in residence halls, attend a class session, and enjoy campus activities. A $45 application fee waiver is offered to students who attend. Program begins at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday and ends at 1:30 p.m. on Monday. Registration is required. Call 724-836-9880.

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PGAA Legacy Presentation: University of Pittsburgh alumni are invited to register for the PGAA Legacy Diploma Presentation if they are a parent, spouse, child, brother, sister, or grandparent of a 2011 graduate. To learn more about the program or to register, please visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu.