

# Blue & Gold

## Carl Poke Endowed Student Travel Award reaches \$1 million

*Several other funds fully endowed or established*

Scholarships and endowments support students at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg in a variety of ways and often make a difference in assisting a student in achieving his or her educational goals. Since 1991, 25 scholarship and eight endowment funds have been established.

A noteworthy way to support the University, these funds also are a way to build a lasting tribute to a loved one. Through the generosity of Pitt-Greensburg's benefactors, several funds have become fully endowed or have been recently established.



*Dr. Carl F. Poke*

**The Carl A. and Florence R. Poke Endowed Fund for Student Travel** became the largest endowed fund on campus when a bequest from the estate of Dr. Carl F. Poke, who died in February 2009, increased this fund to \$1 million. Dr. Poke, *emeritus* professor of political science, established this fund in honor of his parents. Since 2006, when awards

were first made, seven Pitt-Greensburg students have experienced international travel as a result.

Dr. Poke's estate also provided a bequest to create the **Carl F. Poke Endowed Fund for the Millstein Library**, now the third largest endowed fund on campus. Millstein Library will use this fund for the purchase of audio-visual devices, videos, and similar devices and equipment.

Also achieving the status of "fully endowed" this spring were the Helen Connors Student Resource Fund and the Beth Cassell Fund for Student Professional Development.

The Psi Chi National Honor Society in Psychology established the **Helen Connors Student Resource Fund** in 2002 to honor Helen Connors' 16 years of dedicated service to Pitt-Greensburg. It is awarded to a full-time student majoring in

psychology and may be used for the student's educational expenses other than tuition. The first award is expected to be made in spring 2010.

The **Beth Cassell Fund for Student Professional Development** was established in 2007 to honor Beth Cassell, wife of Dr. Frank A. Cassell, the third president of the University of



*Helen Connors*

Pittsburgh at Greensburg. The purpose of this fund is to provide small grants to aid students with professional development projects.

This spring, Dr. Gary Koeske established the **Dr. Randi Koeske Endowed Fund for Student Resources** in memory of his wife, who died this past January. Dr. Randi Koeske served as



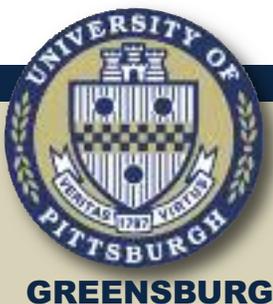
*Beth Cassell*

an associate professor of psychology at Pitt-Greensburg. This scholarship is open to any sophomore, junior, or senior at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg majoring in psychology. It is renewable, in accordance with the University's scholarship renewal policy. One scholarship will be awarded each year and can be used to offset the costs of books, tuition, lab fees, room, board, or other educational expenses. Awards from this fund are expected to be made for the 2010-2011 academic year.



*Dr. Randi Koeske*

*For information about establishing an endowed fund or scholarship, contact Jodi Kraisinger, director of University Relations and Institutional Advancement at 724-836-9942. ▲*



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**2 Message from the President**

**3 Community News**

Justin Merriman '00  
Congressman Tim Murphy

**4 PGAA Award**

**5 Alumni Association**

**6 Campus News**

**8 Events & Classnotes**

# Message from the President

A variety of emotions marks the start of each new academic year: excitement, anticipation—even a bit of apprehension. There is a subtle buzz on campus as faculty and staff prepare for students to return, and the hazy days of summer here in western Pennsylvania fade into the crisp days of autumn.

One of the traditions we observe at the start of each academic year is the First-Year Student Convocation. This candlelight celebration welcomes our newest students to the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg and provides the opportunity for us to encourage them in their new journey to acquire the knowledge and skills they will need to pursue their aspirations.

Exciting opportunities and challenges lie ahead for the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. During the 2009-2010 academic year, we expect to announce new academic majors and programs. Big changes are occurring in the world beyond the campus. The programs and services we provide to our students and the new options we will be presenting are designed to enable our students to embrace those changes and turn them into opportunities for success. This is the time for our talented and enthusiastic students to discover themselves and their world. It is our privilege to guide them on that journey.

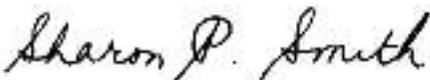
Popular events like Speed Interviewing and Mock Interviews for Graduate School and Medical School are planned for October and November. We invite alumni with corresponding experience to volunteer as “interviewers” at these events.

You are a valuable resource to Pitt-Greensburg, and we appreciate when you “give back” to the University through your time, your talent, and your financial support. The support of our alumni and friends is part of what makes Pitt-Greensburg the special place that it is—and will continue to be in the future.

We are pleased to announce that several of our scholarships and endowed funds have become fully endowed and new funds have been established. We are also pleased to share with you some of the accomplishments of our talented faculty and staff.

Congratulations to students Ashley Smith and Diedre Stuffer on their recent accomplishments, as well. Ashley, a junior psychology major, received the 2009 PGAA Community Service Award for her work in local schools. Diedre, a senior English literature major, will have an essay published in a journal of critical writing. These are just two examples of the great things Pitt-Greensburg students are doing. As the year goes on, we hope to share more of these stories with you.

Please plan to join us at our many events that are scheduled for the fall term. We look forward to seeing you at these events. ▲



Sharon P. Smith, PhD  
President



## University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

*Blue & Gold* is published by the Office of University Relations and Institutional Advancement.

150 Finoli Drive, Lynch Hall 203  
Greensburg, PA 15601  
724-836-7497

upgmedia@pitt.edu      www.upg.pitt.edu

### Advisory Board

*Fall 2009*

Laura Wagner Aftosmis	Anthony M. Perricelli
Gary A. Amelio	Hon. Debra A. Pezze
David G. Assard	Steve Ryan, Jr.
Barbara J. Christner, Esq.	Clarence B. Smail
Wayne W. Doyle	Jack D. Smith, MD
Hon. John J. Driscoll	Donald J. Spence
David M. Hanna	Louis T. Steiner
William F. Hoffman III	Michael J. Stewart, Esq.
Henry Phipps Hoffstot III	A. David Tilstone (Chair)
Jennifer A. Miele	Charles G. Urtin
Paul G. Nickoloff	

#### *Emeritus*

Robert H. Davis	William A. Roach
Jack H. Millstein, Jr.	John A. Robertshaw, Jr.
Joseph V. Morford, Jr.	Louis A. Steiner

#### *Ex-Officio*

Paul Adams, PhD	Beverly Gaddy, PhD
Sean Cercone	Mary Lynn Yothers, DC
Brandi Darr	

### President's Cabinet

Sharon P. Smith, PhD  
*President*

Joyce E. Bucchi  
*Director, Human Resources*

Rick A. Fogle  
*Dean of Student Services*

Susan M. Isola  
*Director, Media Relations*

J. Wesley Jamison, PhD  
*Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Jodi B. Kraisinger  
*Director, University Relations and Institutional Advancement*

William E. Martin  
*Director, Computing Services and Telecommunications*

Dean E. Nelson, PhD  
*Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Carl A. Rossman  
*Vice President for Administrative Affairs*

Photo credits: University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

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.

## 2009 Alumnus of Distinction:

# Justin Merriman is a visual storyteller

When Justin Merriman '00 was named the 2009 Alumnus of Distinction, it was just one of nearly 500 local and national awards he has received for his work since becoming a photojournalist in 1999.

Merriman graduated with a BA in English writing. His goal originally was to become a writer.

"Had I not gone to Pitt-Greensburg, I wouldn't be a photojournalist," he says. "My degree has been invaluable."

Merriman approaches photography differently than the typical photojournalism major, noting that they understand the mechanics of a camera. "If you ask me the specifics of what I'm doing, I can't explain it. I feel my way through it. That's the writing background, the storyline, the pacing of the story—making people feel the story instead of telling it.

"My professors took an avid interest in me, pushed me to tell stories, and do what I love."

As a junior, he joined the Pitt-Greensburg newspaper staff as the co-photo editor. At a photojournalism seminar in Reston, Virginia—where he was the only college newspaper representative—he met photo editors from the largest publications in the country. Merriman returned driven to be a photojournalist.



He credits Dr. Mary Beth Spore, then a member of the English faculty at Pitt-Greensburg, with coaching and encouraging him to pursue his dream. She advised Merriman to contact the *Tribune Review's* chief photographer, Barry Reeger—and then to keep bugging him. Reeger eventually agreed to use Merriman as a stringer, and his first assignment was to shoot a basketball game at the University. Today, Merriman is a staff photographer for the *Pittsburgh Tribune Review*.

Merriman chuckles when he admits that he didn't even know how to load the film into the camera. He got some frames that were pretty good, and started working for the *Tribune Review* as a stringer.

During the past 10 years, Merriman has covered stories across the United States and the world, including the events of 9/11 and the crash of United Flight 93, the Sago, West Virginia mine disaster, U.S. Presidential elections, the 2008 Parliamentary elections in Pakistan, and the war in Afghanistan. His work has appeared in publications, including the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Time Magazine*, *USA Today*, and *Sports Illustrated*. He strives to make images that reveal humanity and document the world around him. ▲



## Building Relationships: Congressman Tim Murphy

*This is the second in a series of articles highlighting local governmental officials and their connection to the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.*

One of only a handful of members of Congress with a background in healthcare, Congressman Tim Murphy is a leading proponent of the use of healthcare information technology to improve patient safety and reduce wasteful costs.

This summer, he participated in a series of standing-room-only town hall meetings throughout his district. Two of these meetings were held at Pitt-Greensburg. More than 300 people attended the August 3 public forum in Ferguson Theater and an estimated 165 people attended the July 11 forum in Campana Chapel and Lecture Hall.

"Democrats and Republicans, old and young, everyone getting involved by listening or asking questions—the healthcare debate has brought people out of their homes," noted Congressman Murphy. "Constituents are paying attention and sounding their voices. This is democracy in action."

In his fourth term in the United States House of Representatives, he represents the 18th District of Pennsylvania. He was first elected to Congress in 2002 and took office in January 2003.

From 1997 to 2003, he served as a Pennsylvania State Senator, chaired the Pennsylvania Committee on Aging and Youth, and wrote the Patient Bill of Rights.

Prior to seeking election, Congressman Murphy had practiced psychology for more than 25 years in private practice and at local hospitals. An alumnus of the University of Pittsburgh where he

earned a PhD in psychology, Congressman Murphy also was a member of the faculty of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine (Pediatrics) and the School of Public Health. He draws on this medical training and education to advocate for meaningful reforms in the U.S. healthcare system.

"During my decades of working with families, I often would meet with elected officials about the problems families faced with healthcare, education, and jobs," explained Congressman Murphy. "Rather than continue to work from the sidelines trying to affect policy, I decided to get into the arena myself to work daily toward those changes."

Congressman Murphy serves on the Energy and Commerce Committee, where he sits on two subcommittees: Health and Commerce and Trade and Consumer Protection. He also co-chairs the 21st Century Healthcare Caucus, Mental Health Caucus, and Men's Health Caucus, and serves as Vice Chair of the Congressional Steel Caucus. ▲



*Congressman Murphy (right) presents a copy of the proposed healthcare legislation to Dr. Sharon Smith to be added to the Millstein Library collection.*

## Ashley Smith recognized for community service



Ashley Smith (standing) volunteers with several programs that provide support to at-risk children at local elementary schools.

**A**shley Smith, a junior psychology major from Carnegie, PA, was the recipient of the 2009 Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association (PGAA) Community Service Award.

One of three awards presented by the Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association during the 2009 Commencement weekend, the Community

Service Award recognizes a Pitt-Greensburg student who best exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism through participation in a student organization in his or her community.

"I have been truly impressed with Ms. Smith," wrote Dr. Vickilyn Barnot in her letter of recommendation for Smith. "Her energy, enthusiasm, and unselfish desire to immediately become involved in volunteer programs at Pitt-Greensburg was a joy to behold."

Throughout her first three years of college, Smith has served as a tutor for a school-based tutoring program entitled "First Base" and as a volunteer mentor in the "Lunch Buddy" program, which matches a Pitt-Greensburg student with at-risk children at a local elementary school. Big Brothers/Big Sisters and Pitt-Greensburg jointly sponsored these programs. Her other volunteer activities include Bowl for Kids Sake, Into the Streets, and Reading is Fun Night.

"I think what motivates me is being able to give back," said Smith, who has been involved in some sort of community service activity since junior high. "Community service opens my eyes to the people who do need the help."

Smith also serves as a reading tutor for Pitt-Greensburg's Read for LIFElong Learning Program. President of the Student Pennsylvania State Education Association (SPSEA), she also served as elementary chairperson during her freshman and sophomore years, was a member of the House of Delegates, and served as the region's vice-president at the state level of SPSEA. She believes her activities on campus, especially her involvement with SPSEA, have helped her to determine that teaching is what she wants to do after graduation. ▲

### Alumnus of Distinction Nominations being accepted

Nominations are now being accepted for the PGAA Alumnus of Distinction. To make a nomination, visit <http://www.upg.pitt.edu/Alumni> and click on the link for the Alumnus of Distinction Nomination Form.

Established in 2001, this award acknowledges excellence among alumni at Pitt-Greensburg. All candidates must have graduated from or completed courses at Pitt-Greensburg.

Candidates will be evaluated on the basis of their:

- ◆ outstanding level of professional achievement;
- ◆ service to the community;
- ◆ service to the University of Pittsburgh;
- ◆ special recognition or honors;
- ◆ other special efforts or success.

The award winner will be asked to attend as many PGAA events as possible from October through April. He/she must be able to attend commencement activities on May 1, 2010. He/she will be required to attend the breakfast prior to commencement. While not required to speak at the commencement ceremony, the award winner will be recognized during the remarks of the PGAA president. ▲

### Annual Golf Outing Scheduled

Enjoy a round of golf with other friends of Pitt-Greensburg while supporting Alumni, Athletics, and the President's Scholarship by attending the Pitt-Greensburg Golf Outing on September 25 at the Greensburg Country Club.

The day begins with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. and ends with a delicious grilled lunch, prizes, and awards. Cost for an individual golfer is \$150 and a foursome is \$600.

Prizes include \$10,000 for a hole-in-one, courtesy of Smail Auto Group; Best Buy Gift Card for closest-to-the-pin, courtesy of Tedco Construction; and "A day with the Panthers" for the longest drive, courtesy of University of Pittsburgh Athletics.

Sponsorship opportunities also are available. Visit [www.upg.pitt.edu](http://www.upg.pitt.edu) for more information. Our thanks to the companies who have already committed to be sponsors for this year's outing:

- **Front Nine:** Elliott Company;
- **Back Nine:** Fotorecord Print Center and Westmoreland County Community College;
- **Putting Green:** Wal-Mart;
- **Cart Sponsors:** Natale Sporting Goods and South Greensburg Printing;
- **Refreshment Sponsors:** Hampton Inn of Greensburg and Westmoreland Bar Association.

## Pitt-Greensburg Honor Roll now available on-line

A very special thank you to the many faithful benefactors who supported the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg and its programs during the 2008-2009 fiscal year. Your support and belief in Pitt-Greensburg is appreciated by all those associated with the University. An honor roll of these benefactors has been prepared and is posted to our web site. To view this year's Honor Roll, please visit [www.upg.pitt.edu/honorroll](http://www.upg.pitt.edu/honorroll). ▲



## Annual Telefund Campaign in September

The annual University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg TeleFund Campaign is scheduled for September. Pitt-Greensburg alumni will be contacted September 20 through September 24 between the hours of 5 p.m. and 9 :30 p.m. When you are contacted please consider making a gift—no matter how large or small—and designate that your gift goes to Pitt-Greensburg. Thank you for your support! ▲

## Save these dates . . .

### Medical School Mock Interviews

Pitt-Greensburg invites any alumnus who has graduated from medical school to serve as an interviewer during the Medical School Mock Interviews on **October 15**. Contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 724-836-7496 or by email at [upgalum@pitt.edu](mailto:upgalum@pitt.edu) to volunteer or learn more about this event.

### University of Pittsburgh Homecoming

The University of Pittsburgh Homecoming celebration in Oakland will be held **October 23, 24, & 25**. Information is available at <http://www.alumni.pitt.edu/calendar/>.

### Mock Graduate School Interviews

Any alumnus who has graduated from graduate school is invited to serve as an interviewer during the Graduate School Mock Interviews scheduled for **October 29**. Contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 724-836-7496 or by email at [upgalum@pitt.edu](mailto:upgalum@pitt.edu) to volunteer or learn more about this event.

### Speed Interviewing

Pitt-Greensburg alumni are invited to serve as interviewers during this year's Speed Interviewing event on **November 18**. Contact the Office of Alumni Affairs by email at [pgalum@pitt.edu](mailto:pgalum@pitt.edu) or at 724-836-7496 to volunteer or learn more.

### LaCultura Gala Event

Watch for details about this year's *LaCultura* gala event, scheduled for **January 16, 2010**, as plans are finalized.

### Pitt-Greensburg Homecoming & Family Weekend

The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg will hold its Homecoming and Family Weekend on **February 5 & 6, 2010**. Watch for details here and at [www.upg.pitt.edu](http://www.upg.pitt.edu) and plan to join the fun. ▲

## Katz Immersion MBA program at Pitt-Greensburg

Pitt-Greensburg is partnering with Pitt's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business to offer the Katz Immersion MBA (KIMBA) program in Westmoreland County.

KIMBA will provide an intensive MBA education by immersing students in coursework three days a month over a two-year period. Admission requirements, total credits, and the curriculum design are consistent with the existing Katz School part-time MBA program.

Students will be enrolled in a six-term, cohort-based program and be required to complete 52.5 credits to earn the MBA degree. To be admitted to the program, students are required to have completed at least three years of post-undergraduate work experience.

To learn more about the program call 724-836-9893 or visit [www.pitt.edu/immersion.html](http://www.pitt.edu/immersion.html) or to register for an information session at Pitt-Greensburg's Lynch Hall 102: 10 a.m. - Saturday, September 26; 6 p.m. - Tuesday, October 6; and 6 p.m. - Tuesday, November 10. ▲

## Campana Chapel available for weddings

If you, or a family member, are planning a wedding, why not consider getting married in the new Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center located on the Pitt-Greensburg campus. Built in memory of Mary Lou Campana, this beautiful facility is only available to those people who have a direct affiliation (immediate family members, which include parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, brothers, and sisters) with the University. We are now accepting reservations for ceremonies.



Visit [www.upg.pitt.edu/Alumni/weddings.aspx](http://www.upg.pitt.edu/Alumni/weddings.aspx) for wedding photos and information. ▲

## Pitt-Greensburg student's work to be published in critical journal

Senior English literature major Deidre Stuffer whose essay, "Edna Pontellier's Strip Tease of Essentiality: An Examination of the Metaphorical Role of Clothing in Kate Chopin's *The Awakening*," was accepted for publication in the *Sigma Tau Delta Review*, the international English honor society's journal of critical writing.



Stuffer's article was one of 12 essays selected for publication in the *Sigma Tau Delta Review* (research journal in literature) and 48 pieces selected for the *Sigma Tau Delta Triangle* (creative writing journal) out of 1,000 entries—an acceptance rate akin to winning the lottery.

"Her accepted article reflects brilliantly on Pitt-Greensburg, especially considering her work is to appear in a journal that represents the very finest in undergraduate research in English," notes Dr. Elisa Beshero-Bondar, assistant professor of English. Stuffer originally wrote the essay in response to an assignment in Dr. Beshero-Bondar's Pre-Twentieth-Century American Literature course this spring.

A Ben Franklin and Green Scholar, Stuffer is an example of how effective these newly established programs can be in assisting outstanding Pitt-Greensburg students to achieve their full potential. ▲

## Faculty & Staff News Briefs

**Dr. Sharon P. Smith** was elected to the Board of Directors of Excelsa Health. Most recently, Excelsa Health has collaborated with the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg on two programs. They sponsored the Quest 2009 Health Day Camp on July 31 and joined Pitt-Greensburg and the Westmoreland Chamber of Commerce in hosting the August 3 public forum on healthcare reform with Congressman Tim Murphy.

**Sheila Confer**, Academic Village coordinator and part-time instructor in Theatre Arts, was named to the board of directors of the YWCA of Westmoreland County. Her three-year term begins in August.

**Dr. Jeffrey Everly** has joined the Pitt-Greensburg faculty as a Visiting Assistant Professor in psychology.

**Dr. Andrew Franz**, assistant professor of criminal justice, was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant to attend "Rule of Law: Legal Studies and the Liberal Arts—Summer Institute for College and University Professors." The program was held at the University of New England (Biddeford, ME) from June 13 to July 17. Dr. Franz incorporates the Rule of Law into most every course he teaches in the Criminal Justice curriculum, and this opportunity to dialogue with top scholars in the field, facilitators, and peers will enhance his discussion with Pitt-Greensburg students.

**Dr. Beverly Gaddy**, associate professor of political science, was selected to receive one of 19 summer study opportunities supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). She participated in a six-week seminar at Boston College entitled "Religious Diversity and the Common Good," which will augment her ability to teach religion and politics here at Pitt-Greensburg.

**Lori Jakiela**, associate professor of English, writes a regular column for *Westmoreland Magazine*, and the Summer 2009 issue featured, "Shining Gleaming Flaxen Waxen." Her article, "Always Connected, We Rarely Connect," was published in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's* July 26 issue. Jakiela's freelance work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Chicago Tribune*, and the *Pittsburgh Quarterly*.

**Jane Strittmatter**, assistant director of Financial Aid, was asked to serve as 2009 chairperson of the United Way workplace campaign for Pitt-Greensburg employees.

**Dr. Thad "Dr. Z" Zaleskiewicz**, professor emeritus of physics, has been selected to serve on the Carnegie Science Center's Local Arrangements Committee (LAC). This committee will work to secure the hosting rights to the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF). If Pittsburgh is chosen as a host site, the Intel ISEF will be held there during May 2013, May 2016, and May 2019. The world's premier science competition, the Intel ISEF allows 1,500 high students from more than 50 countries to showcase their independent research and compete for millions of dollars in scholarships and awards. As a member of the LAC, Dr. Z would be involved with hosting the ISEF Search Committee during their visit to Pittsburgh, as well as working to obtain sponsorships, recruit judges and volunteers, and coordinate other event details.

**Gretchen Underwood**, who is expected to complete her PhD in communication this August, has joined the Pitt-Greensburg faculty as a Visiting Assistant Professor in Communication. ▲

## Grants received by Pitt-Greensburg

Pitt-Greensburg received a grant for more than \$11,000 from the **Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board** to use in reducing underage and dangerous drinking on campus as part of the Pitt-Greensburg's Zero Tolerance alcohol policy. The University employs a comprehensive educational program designed to teach drug/alcohol awareness and responsible drinking, along with Special Duty Officers on campus during key times throughout the academic year.

The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg has received a \$2,825 year-end grant from the **Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh (SSP)** for the purchase of a sonic dismembrator. This equipment will support the biochemistry and cell biology courses and will be a great benefit to Pitt-Greensburg students completing individual research projects. It will also be an essential piece of equipment for biochemistry-related studies and for use in research efforts by chemistry faculty.



Dr. Sharon Smith (right) accepts a check from UPS representatives Jen Butler and Carrie Sandlers.

This past July, **UPS (United Parcel Service)** presented a check to the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg as part of its Earn & Learn program. Pitt-Greensburg has a long history with UPS, having signed a school partnership agreement nearly 10 years ago to participate in the Earn & Learn program. Prior to the formal agreement, UPS had a number of employees who received tuition reimbursement through our third-party payment plan, and Pitt-Greensburg has received several thousands of dollars in tuition reimbursement for UPS employees. Additionally, UPS has generously given more than \$17,000 towards our Presidential Scholarship fund. ▲

## St. Clair Lecture to feature noted scientist and author



The 2009 St. Clair Lecture will feature Dr. Devra Davis, author of *When Smoke Ran Like Water* and *The Secret History of the War on Cancer*. The event will be held October 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the Ferguson Theater.

Professor of epidemiology at the Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health and former director of the first center for Environmental Oncology at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Dr. Davis will present, "Tales of Donora: How what happened in a small steel town changed the nature of environmental policy around the world." Her lecture will include historic video footage from this seminal event and will focus on the October 1948 atmospheric inversion that plunged Donora, Pennsylvania, into a smog so dark and thick cars were unable to navigate the streets—even with headlights on during the daylight hours. A third of the town's residents fell ill within a few days and 20 people died.

*When Smoke Ran Like Water*, a 2002 National Book Award finalist, is recognized as one of the best books on the environment since Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*.

The 10th annual St. Clair Lecture, sponsored by Westmoreland Heritage, Pitt-Greensburg, and the Westmoreland County Historical Society, is open to the public without charge. Call 724-836-7497 for reservations. ▲

## Distinguished Professor of History to present fall *La Cultura* Lecture

Dr. Reid Andrews, University of Pittsburgh Distinguished Professor of History, will talk about the Afro-Brazilian civil rights movement as the fall *La Cultura* Lecturer. The event will be held September 24 at 7 p.m. in the Campana Chapel and Lecture Center. It is open to the public without charge.

Dr. Andrews is the author of six books that detail the history of Afro-Latin American history and are considered recommended reading for anyone wanting to learn about the dynamics of race in changing societies.

Dr. Andrews is credited with providing the first thoroughly documented history of Brazilian racial inequality from the abolition of slavery in 1888 up to the late 1980s, showing how economic, social, and political changes in Brazil during the last 100 years have shaped race relations. ▲

### Class Notes . . . continued from page 8

**Rev. Dr. Debra Rogosky '07** graduated from the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary with a Doctor of Ministry Degree in May 2008.

**Frank Spoto, Jr '99** has launched Spoto Management, LLC, a business consulting and management firm in southwestern Pennsylvania. Visit [www.spotomanagement.com](http://www.spotomanagement.com) to learn more about the company and its services.

Congratulations to **Kristen M. (Federovich) Van Orden '06** and her husband, Matthew Van Orden, on the birth of their fourth child, Tessa Mae, on July 1. The Van Ordens have three other children: Mark (age 5), Emma (age 3), and Paige (age 1). ▲

# Fall Events

## September 9

**National Pitt Networking Day:** Visit [www.upg.pitt.edu](http://www.upg.pitt.edu) for details. Students, alumni, and alumni volunteers will participate in this coast-to-coast event designed to facilitate introductions and build connections for career and job prospects.

## September 24

**La Cultura Lecture:** Dr. Reid Andrews, Distinguished Professor at the University of Pittsburgh, will discuss "Race in Brazil: Recent History and Current Debates" at 7 p.m. in the Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

## September 25

Register for the 2009 **Pitt-Greensburg Golf Outing** to be held at the Greensburg Country Club. Visit [www.upg.pitt.edu](http://www.upg.pitt.edu) for details and to register on-line.

## September 26

**Katz Immersion MBA information session** at 10 a.m. in 102 Lynch Hall. Call 724-836-9893 or email [upgkimba@pitt.edu](mailto:upgkimba@pitt.edu) to register.

Our **Admissions Open House** begins at 9:30 a.m. and allows prospective students and their families to explore the Pitt-Greensburg campus and talk to current students. To register, call 724-836-9880 or visit [www.upg.pitt.edu](http://www.upg.pitt.edu).

## October 1

**6th annual Graduate and Professional School Fair** will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Pitt-Greensburg's Chambers Hall. The fair is free and open to the public. Visit [www.upg.pitt.edu](http://www.upg.pitt.edu) for details.

## October 8

**Katz Immersion MBA information session** at 6 p.m. in 102 Lynch Hall. Call 724-836-9893 or email [upgkimba@pitt.edu](mailto:upgkimba@pitt.edu) to register.

## October 14

**10th annual St. Clair Lecture** at 7:30 p.m. in Ferguson Theater will feature Dr. Devra Davis, author of *When Smoke Ran Like Water*. Call 724-836-7497 for reservations.

## October 24

Prospective students can meet faculty and staff during the **Admissions Discovery Day**, as well as spend an hour with an academic division of their choice. To register, call 724-836-9880 or visit [www.upg.pitt.edu](http://www.upg.pitt.edu).

## November 15-16

Prospective students can get a real feel for campus during the **Admissions Overnight Program**. To register, call 724-836-9880 or visit [www.upg.pitt.edu](http://www.upg.pitt.edu).

## November 17

**Katz Immersion MBA information session** at 11:30 a.m. in 102 Lynch Hall. Call 724-836-9893 or email [upgkimba@pitt.edu](mailto:upgkimba@pitt.edu) to register.



University of Pittsburgh  
at Greensburg

Lynch Hall 209  
150 Finoli Drive  
Greensburg, PA 15601-5898

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 419  
GREENSBURG, PA

## Discover Yourself . . . Discover Your World

### Class Notes . . .

**Nicole R. (Gulasky) Castro, Esq. '99**, is the assistant attorney general in Pago Pago, American Samoa.

**Dorothy J. Coursey '87** recently retired after 30 years of federal service, 20 of which were with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) (Philadelphia Field Division) and as an instructor at the DEA Training Academy in Quantico, VA.



**Sgt. Jennifer Duck '07** was one of 25 men and women in uniform who participated in a photo shoot for *Whirl* magazine. The resulting photo was featured in the July 2009 issue. This is the second year *Whirl* has honored servicemen and women in this manner. Sgt. Duck, who works for the RAND Corp in Oakland, has been a reservist since 2001 and has served in Kuwait and Iraq.

**Kristin (Klocek) Guynn '06** recently joined the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg staff as the on-line communication and development specialist in the University Relations and Institutional Advancement Department. In her new position, she will maintain and create content for the Pitt-Greensburg website as well as act as a contributing writer for various publications. Prior to joining the Pitt-Greensburg team, she graduated with an MBA from Point Park University on May 2. She then married Brian Guynn on June 27 at Visitation Catholic Church in Mt. Pleasant followed by a reception at Lakeside Party Center in Uniontown. The two enjoyed a honeymoon in Jamaica following the wedding. Kristin earned a BA in Communication from Pitt-Greensburg in 2006. While there Kristin served two terms as President of Lambda Pi Eta, the Communication Honor Society. *(continued on page 7)*

