

BLUE & GOLD

New Major Announced, Healthcare Management



The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg welcomed students back to campus with a new major, Healthcare Management. This recently approved major, following closely on the announcement of the campus' new four-year Nursing program, brings our total number of majors to 29.

The Healthcare Management major will build upon the foundation of the existing General Management program, including seven required management courses coupled with five new healthcare core courses and five new healthcare elective courses. Students will gain basic knowledge to plan, direct, and coordinate medical and healthcare services. They will graduate prepared for entry-level positions in the medical and healthcare service areas or for entry into graduate programs in a related area.

“This new program provides another alternative for our students interested in careers on the business side of the healthcare professions,” said Jacqueline Horrall, PhD, vice president of Academic Affairs.

“It also adds another dimension to our medical/health-related programs already in place. The major was developed in response to student interests and the growing healthcare needs of the region.”

Employment opportunities for students completing this course of study include managing medical practices, medical departments, or entire medical facilities. Other employment opportunities include dental practices, public health organizations, rehabilitation centers, medical device/pharmaceutical companies, or assisted/senior living facilities.

National and regional job growth forecasts for the medical and service manager positions predict a much higher than average growth rate than that of other industries. For instance, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) forecasts a 17 percent national growth rate in this sector with a median pay of \$94,500 per year. This data, coupled with Pennsylvania's aging population, suggests a growing need for healthcare managers in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

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Pitt
Greensburg

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Message from the President

Exciting changes are coming to Pitt-Greensburg as we start our 55th year as a college. We continue on our journey to create the liberal arts college for the 21st century, carefully adding signature programs that leverage our campus strengths and interests in addition to realizing emerging opportunities. These provide a bridge from past traditions to future prospects. In keeping with that commitment, we are launching new academic programs that respond to student interests and anticipate community needs. At this writing, our four-year Nursing degree and our Healthcare Management major have been approved. We await approval for our Health Science major. With the addition of these new majors, we are also contributing to the transformation that is ongoing in this region.



Over the next decade, the greater Pittsburgh area will experience a wave of retirements, as more than 250,000 baby boomers are expected to retire. Indeed some 22 percent of the region's workers are 55 or older, as compared with 19 percent nationally. Two thirds of all current job postings in the region are at the baccalaureate level or higher and this proportion is likely to rise over the next decade, as well. At the same time, the workforce in the region is only expected to grow by about 4.2 percent. With this aging population, it is not surprising that nine of the 15 fastest growing occupations are in healthcare. This means that the demand for those who can deliver healthcare services directly and for those who can manage the delivery of those healthcare services is increasing. Our new programs directly address these needs and opportunities: our graduates can fill the vacancies left by the retiring baby boomers. These new graduates can help provide the extra care needed for an aging population and help manage the associated facilities and processes for delivery of those care services. At present, only 33 percent of the graduates of local universities stay in this region. Nearly 70 percent of our students come from this area. Good jobs will then enable our graduates to remain in the region and their presence, in turn, will help fuel growth in other sectors of the economy.

The future is coming very quickly to Pitt-Greensburg. It has been said that "meds and eds" facilitated the rebirth of the greater Pittsburgh area from a dying rust belt region to a model of the modern economy. With our new focus, Pitt-Greensburg can help spark an analogous rebirth for Westmoreland County. And this is one of the most important roles of a state-assisted university: to make where it is located a better place because the school is here.

Hail to Pitt!

Sharon P. Smith, PhD
President

University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

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

pgnews@pitt.edu

www.greensburg.pitt.edu

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The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg
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Pawprints

Pitt-Greensburg a College of Distinction for second straight year



For the second consecutive year, Pitt-Greensburg was named a College of Distinction for its innovative application of high impact educational practices. In addition to receiving accolades as a 2017-2018 College of Distinction, Public College of Distinction, and Pennsylvania College of Distinction, Pitt-Greensburg also received recognition for its Education program

Army ROTC returning to campus



ARMY ROTC

Army Reserve Officers' Training Corp (ROTC) returns to campus after an absence of one year. The program attracts high-quality, well-rounded students who want to serve their country in a leadership position. The program also offers a nursing program, open to students who are pursuing an undergraduate Nursing degree. In addition to providing a range of training, Army ROTC offers scholarship money to the students enrolled. Army ROTC is an elective curriculum taken along with required college classes. Students participate their freshman and sophomore years with no obligation to join the Army. Students continuing in the program through their junior and senior years and those who receive Army ROTC scholarships must agree to complete a period of service with the Army or, if they qualify, with the Army National Guard or Army Reserve. Students completing the program are commissioned officers.

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Nursing degree. In addition to providing

Annual Emergency Table Top Exercise held



specific emergency situation. It also allows Westmoreland County Emergency Management personnel and other responders to become familiar with campus and the staff, creating a smoother response to emergencies. This year's exercise dealt with extreme weather and flooding, how it might affect campus, and the response.

Pitt-Greensburg held its annual Emergency Table Top Exercise this summer. This activity brings together personnel who have been assigned responsibilities should an emergency affect the campus. The exercise allows personnel to practice their decision-making processes and actions in a

Center for Applied Research doing economic impact study



University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

The Center For Applied Research (CFAR) partnered with Commonwealth Alternative Medicinal Option (CAMO) to conduct an economic impact study

on the viability of industrial hemp production in Westmoreland County. The study is the result of CAMO receiving one of 15 state-issued industrial hemp research certificates. State Rep. Eric Nelson, R-Hempfield, spearheaded a coalition of business, education, and agricultural institutions to help win this approval. CFAR assisted with details on legislation and public policy, potential usage of hemp products, and the likelihood of sustainable production in the county. The project was completed in August.

Summer Science and Math Experience in its ninth year



For the ninth consecutive year, Pitt-Greensburg hosted its Summer Science and Math Experience (SSME) for eighth graders. Thirty-seven students from nine school districts and four counties participated in the week-long camp that provides hands-on experiences while making

math and science fun. The program is supported through funding from the Chevron Community Fund—part of the Community Foundation of Fayette County, the Eberly Foundation, the Grable Foundation, McCutcheon Enterprises, Inc., and the McFeely-Rogers Foundation through The Greater Latrobe Partners in Education.

Digital Coding School/Workshop brings scholars and archivists to campus



The fifth annual Digital Mitford Coding School and Editors' Workshop brought 21 scholars to campus this June. Elisa Beshero-Bondar, PhD, associate professor of English, along with Green Scholars Brooke Stewart and Jon Horanic, both English majors, facilitated the program that immersed attendees in learning how to use digital coding and data mining to enhance their scholarly research via archival materials. Also helping was Rebecca J. Parker '16, assistant at Pitt-Greensburg's Center for the Digital Text who began work on a Master's of Arts degree in Digital Humanities at Loyola University Chicago this fall.

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TECHNOLOGY for the FUTURE CHALLENGE

\$25,000

\$29,736.55

raised to date through donations

GOAL: \$50,000

This dollar-to-dollar match is part of the Title III Strengthening Institutions grant.

The Power of
One Donor

The Power of One says that **YOU** can make a difference, **YOUR** participation, **YOUR** donation matters.



Your gift will help us meet the ever-changing technology needs of our campus.

Every gift counts. To make your gift, visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/tech-challenge.

Pawprints *continued*

The workshop continues to earn praise as evidenced by this email from Tamara Stasik, assistant professor of English and specialist in English for Academic Purposes at DePauw University. Stasik, who is working on the Thomas Park Project at DePauw University, wrote: “Thank you so much for organizing and holding the Mitford Workshop again this summer. There is so much I gained, from considering project management, XML, TEI pointers, functions of Oxygen, XSLT, Regex, XPath, Schemas and ODD. The two best parts of this workshop, though, were your project and the people . . . The generosity of the workshop leaders and members, in sharing ideas, examples, projects, and even mistakes, made this an invaluable experience—we learned so much in and out of the classroom.”

Students intern at Montana museum

Dr. Anthony Boldurian, professor of Anthropology, shared that Delanie Wilson '16 and Jonah Janovik, both archaeology majors, spent the summer as interns at the Glacier County Historical Museum in Cut Bank, Montana. Pitt-Greensburg alumnus Sara Strain '09 is the museum's Collection Coordinator who made this opportunity available to the students.

Graduate and Professional School Fair planned

Pitt-Greensburg will host its 14th annual Graduate and Professional School Fair on Thursday, October 12, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Chambers Hall. Free and open to the public, this event is a great resource for anyone interested in pursuing an advanced degree. More than 35 schools and programs are expected to participate. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/gradfair for additional information and a list of participating schools. This event is organized by the Offices of Academic Affairs and Career Services.



New research project to explore interdisciplinary approach to diversity and inclusion

Olivia Long, PhD, Lori Jakiela, MFA, Melissa Marks, EdD, and Geoffrey Wood, PhD, were selected to attend a faculty diversity research retreat in early May. Their participation was significant since only 25 faculty members from across the University of Pittsburgh system participated in this retreat designed to advance diversity across disciplines. The David Berg Center for Ethics and Leadership, as part of the Year of Diversity, awarded a grant to Long, Marks, and Wood for their project “Developing Research in the Area of Diversity and Inclusion: An Interdisciplinary Collaboration Effort at Pitt-Greensburg to Discover Curriculum and Enhance Teaching Practices.”

Grant funding update

Lori Jakiela, MFA, professor of English and Creative Writing, received a Diversity in Research Grant from the University Research Council as well as support from the David Berg Center for Ethics and Leadership (as part of the Year of Diversity) to offer free writing workshops to help veterans produce literary works they can share with others through readings and a bi-annual magazine; as well as to help build a community of veterans on campus.

The FirstEnergy Foundation is again providing support for the Green Scholar program during the 2017-18 academic year.

Southwest Regional Key approved the STARS Professional Development Program grant that will allow Wendy Hardy EdD, assistant professor of Early Childhood Education, to conduct 20 hours of non-credit Early Childhood Education professional development.

The Addison Gibson Education Foundation approved nine scholarships.

Admissions events



Deciding where to go to college is one of the biggest decisions that one makes in his or her life. An important part of that decision-making process is visiting campuses. We encourage you to share the great things that are happening here at Pitt-Greensburg, as well as to

invite prospective students and their families to visit campus during one of our Admissions events:

- Discovery Day – Saturday, October 28
- Nursing & Science Event – Monday, November 6
- Evening Information Session – Wednesday, November 8
- Transfer Decision Day – Wednesday, November 15
- Individual campus visits are offered, too. Campus tours are given daily at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday and are guided by a current student. A typical individual campus visit that includes a meeting with an admissions counselor and the tour will take approximately two hours.

Details are available at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/admissions/visit-campus. Registration is required for these activities and may be completed online or by calling 724-836-9880.

New major announced, Healthcare Management *Continued from cover*



Pitt-Greensburg is partnering with regional healthcare providers who assisted in defining the skill sets to be addressed through this major as well as to develop internship and research opportunities that will benefit both

Pitt-Greensburg students and the healthcare facilities. Michael D. Busch, executive vice president and chief operating officer at Excela Health, was among the healthcare professionals who worked with Pitt-Greensburg professors in developing the major.

“We are excited that the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg is embarking on a Healthcare Management major, as we map the future of healthcare leadership,” said Busch. “The healthcare industry is ever changing and evolving, requiring a unique skill set of leaders to continuously improve care, motivate the care team to create positive patient experiences, and build care systems for future generations. Providing students an opportunity to choose a career in healthcare leadership is vital to the future of our health system and our community.”

The Power of *One Community*

Peer Leaders: building community one person at a time

Junior Adali Deiss and her fellow Peer Leaders understand the Power of One Community. This group of upper class students are most visible during the Summer Orientation and Academic Registration (SOAR), the New Student Information Fair, and Welcome Week activities, but their influence and responsibilities continue throughout the academic year.

Once classes start, the Peer Leaders serve as mentors to first-year students and participate in the fall Freshman Seminar classes. Throughout the fall semester—and often throughout that first year—the Peer Leaders interact regularly with first-year students, serving as role models, both academically and behaviorally.

For Deiss, a Management major, applying to become a Peer Leader was a natural decision.

“I’ve always liked the leadership role and guiding people,” she explained. “You’re the first person that freshmen meet on campus.”

Deiss describes the campus as a place where “everyone knows everybody. You can always ask for help.”

More often than not, Deiss is the person helping another student to figure out where to go on campus, who to talk to about a financial aid issue, or where the best place is to go off-campus for dinner on a college student’s budget.

Peer Leaders are often asked to do the unglamorous things, like distributing linens to residence hall rooms for SOAR participants and waiting in bus stations, train stations, and airports for incoming freshman students to arrive. When circumstances conspire to delay the arrival time, the Peer Leaders wait for as long as it takes until the bus, train, or plane arrives with Pitt-Greensburg freshmen.

This past summer, Deiss was called upon to host an incoming freshman who had arrived two days early for SOAR. The student, coming from South Carolina, had never been to campus. She arrived at the Arnold Palmer Airport (Latrobe, PA) where Deiss and Andre Richet, graduate assistant for Orientation, Activities, and Residence Life, were waiting. Their first stop was Walmart so that the student could pick up a few items. They then drove through Greensburg to show her the city and surrounding area.



Once the student was settled into a residence hall room, Deiss took her out to dinner at the local Texas Roadhouse. Next, a quick trip to the Mall.

Over the course of the next couple of days, the incoming student was included in the Peer Leader activities, helping with name badges and tagging along when the Peer Leaders delivered linens to the residence halls. But instead of feeling like work, the task allowed the student to become part of the community.

“The student stopped by to see us before she left,” said Deiss. “She hugged all of us and cried because she didn’t want to leave Pitt-Greensburg and her new friends.”

Leigh Hoffman, assistant dean of Student Services, oversees the Peer Leaders and SOAR. The success of SOAR is dependent on the contributions of the Pitt-Greensburg orientation staff who make sure students arrive on campus safely by transporting them to and from airports, bus stations, and the train station or providing accurate directions to campus if they are traveling by car.

“Students who are coming from a distance are put up overnight a day early so that they can make the trip. We also take them to dinner with us,” said Hoffman. “Anything to make them feel welcome!”

That’s the Power of One Community here at Pitt-Greensburg. That’s Pitt to the Power of *One*.



Honor Roll of Donors

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Thank you for your generous support of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg during the past fiscal year (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017).

Contributions from alumni and friends are paramount in Pitt-Greensburg’s ability to support the funding needs of the University. Our number one priority is scholarships, followed by enriching the academic experience, enhancing the student experience, and building a beautiful campus.

Our Honor Roll of Donors can be found at <http://bit.ly/1617donors>

Again, we extend our deepest gratitude to each of you for helping Pitt-Greensburg continue on its mission of building a liberal arts college for the 21st century.

— Hail to Pitt

Pitt-Greensburg makes every effort to ensure accuracy in the Honor Roll of Donors. If an inaccuracy is noted, please call (724) 836-9942 or email gifts2pg@pitt.edu.

The Power of *One Donor*

DIGITAL ARCHIVING



Serena Pape examines a plaque from the West Overton Village Archives.

Practical Experience while Preserving History

Students from the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg are gaining valuable hands-on experience working with faculty and alumni to digitize the archival holdings of the West Overton Village and Museum. It's an opportunity that grew out of the synergistic collaboration of three organizations: Pitt-Greensburg, West Overton Village, and the Mount Pleasant Free Public Library. The three are working together on several projects that will have multiple benefits for the organizations and the community.

As Pilar Herr, PhD, assistant professor of History and a member of the West Overton Village Board, learned more about the museum's needs, she saw a way to provide Pitt-Greensburg students with an experiential learning opportunity while helping the museum to achieve its goal of making its archival collection available to the public through digitalization. Working with the Center for Applied Research (CFAR) and the Center for the Digital Text, Herr was able to identify students to work on the project and access funds to pay them for their work.

"Projects like this are a win-win for everyone involved. They provide hands-on learning opportunities for our students, which look great on a resume and provide talking points for job interviews.

"Because the students are being paid for their work, it helps to ease some of their financial burden and gives a more professional feel to the situation," said Herr. "On the other side of the equation, the organizations receive much needed assistance in setting up a system and actually having the work done—all in an economical manner."

Logan Holmes '15 is West Overton Village's liaison for the project. A former student of Herr's, Holmes is using his double major in history and



Logan Holmes '15 (left) and Dr. Pilar Herr review materials to be scanned.

political science in his roles as Museum Coordinator, Lead Docent, Managing Editor of the West Overton Village Newsletter, and Acting Registrar for the museum's collection.

"As a historical society, we have a responsibility to make our collection accessible to the public," said Holmes. "Digitizing the collection ensures that it will be available to a wider audience. Working with Pitt-Greensburg has been a great benefit to a small institution like ours by providing much needed seasonal staff. It is allowing us to accomplish things that would not otherwise be completed without this support."

Alex Fell, a junior History and Public Policy major, and Serena Pape, a senior History major, along with Ashley Branthoover, a junior graphic design major at Westmoreland County Community College, are doing the actual scanning and digital photography of the museum's archival collection.

"The West Overton project is an initiation to Digital Studies and provides a better understanding of how to do it and the benefits it offers," said Fell, who is working toward Pitt-Greensburg's Certificate in Digital Studies in addition to his double major in History and Public Policy. Fell receives payment for his work on the project as an intern through CFAR. He works five hours a week digitizing materials. He also is a docent for West Overton. "It is directly related to my role as a historian."

"You need experience, and this will help me to get my foot in the door for a job," said Pape, who hopes to work for a museum after graduation.

"It is fulfilling to be a part of this and see the museum expand and grow," said Branthoover, who volunteers in the archives, cataloging and converting the written record to digital records. She has volunteered at West Overton for four years and is now a paid staff member using her graphic design expertise.

Setting up the infrastructure for the project is Rebecca Parker '16. In a temporary position as the team's project manager, Parker created the OMEKA database being used to organize the materials. They are able to use OMEKA because, as a faculty member in the University of Pittsburgh system, Herr obtained free server space from the Pittsburgh Super Computing Center in Oakland. OMEKA is a free, open-source content management system for online digital collections. Users can build a searchable repository of archival or artifact records that can then be assembled into virtual exhibits. An item, once it is entered, can be re-used in multiple exhibits over time. Parker, who started work on her MA in Digital Humanities at Loyola University Chicago in August, also developed learning materials for the current interns and future interns to use in order to maintain a consistent process for the project over time.

Mary Kaufman, the director of the Mount Pleasant Free Public Library, is a volunteer and former employee of West Overton. As part of the Westmoreland County Federated Library System (WCFLS), the Mount Pleasant Free Public Library had access to the latest scanning equipment and software that had been obtained through a ScanPA state grant. ScanPA's goals are to promote libraries as trusted repositories for local history and culture, remove financial barriers to digitizing local information, increase the number of collections in Pennsylvania photos and documents, and extend digitizing services to material owned by the public. Kaufman saw the benefit in using the WCFLS equipment for scanning the West Overton Village materials as a pilot project.



Alex Fell (left) and Ashley Branthoover use a digital camera to photograph whiskey bottles that will be part of the digital archive.

"The library sees a role for itself in preserving rare local historical archives, either held by organizations or individuals," said Kaufman. "Our ultimate goal is to hold a Digital Roadshow type of event where the public can bring in documents and photos that have historical significance for scanning and display in a PA Photos and Documents Collection and the Digital Public Library of America. The only thing left was finding the manpower to actually begin the digitization process, now being fulfilled by the Pitt-Greensburg students."

Kaufman continued, "This project is significant for its collaboration between the Westmoreland County Library Federated Library System, West Overton, and Pitt-Greensburg. It is the first time the equipment that WCFLS received through a grant will be used in the county."

Plans are in place for the digitalization of the Mount Pleasant Library archival materials, as well as an event allowing County residents to have historical items digitally archived. These two activities will provide another opportunity for Pitt-Greensburg students interested in the Digital Humanities to gain hands-on experience scanning and building digital archives for public use. The implementation of these plans is dependent on the approval of an Interdisciplinary Humanities grant from the University of Pittsburgh that would be used to pay Pitt-Greensburg students to do this work.



PGAA Holiday Wine Tasting Reception

December 1, 7 p.m., Millstein Library



Start the holiday season with some cheer at the popular PGAA Holiday Wine Tasting reception. Mingle with friends, enjoy a delicious selection of hot hors d'oeuvres, and taste a sampling of a variety of wines.

Pre-registration is required. Visit the Alumni Events page for details on registration costs and early bird deadlines: www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/events.

Resume Contest Reviewers Needed

The Offices of Alumni Relations and of Career Services are looking for alumni to offer their time and talents by giving current students valuable and constructive feedback regarding their resumes. This opportunity is open to all alumni no matter the location. Packets to be mailed October 24 and to be returned by November 10 for determination of the student winners. Register at <http://bit.ly/ResumeContestJudge>



Mock Interview Night February 6, 2018, 6-9 p.m., Chambers Hall

Sponsored by the Offices of Alumni Relations and of Career Services, this annual event assists our students in preparing for job interviews. Alumni who live a distance from campus can participate in phone and Skype interviews.

Alumni volunteers are asked to pre-register for this event by contacting the Alumni Engagement Officer at pgaa@pitt.edu.



GREENSBURG
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Upcoming Alumni Events at a Glance

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

Oct. 10 – Oct. 21	Blue & Gold Week
Oct. 13, 2017	Pitt (Oakland) Homecoming: Welcome Back Reception (Cathedral of Learning)
Oct. 24, 2017	Resume Contest Begins (Alumni Volunteers needed)
Oct. 28, 2017	Admissions Discovery Day (Alumni Volunteers needed)
Dec. 1, 2017	PGAA Holiday Wine Tasting (7 p.m.)
Jan. 9, 2018	PGAA Board Meeting (7 p.m.)
Feb. 6, 2018	Mock Interview Night (6-9 p.m.)

Get Involved with the PGAA

Want to stay connected to Pitt-Greensburg?
The PGAA offers many ways to become engaged.

Attend...any and all events.
It's the easiest way to get involved.
Participate and have fun.

Volunteer...at an event.
There's a variety of events to match
a variety of interests.
Give the gift of your time and talents.

Join...a PGAA Board Committee.
Non-Board members are welcome to join
the 3 committees. Help plan and develop
events/activities.

Serve...as a Board Member.
Run for a 3-year term on the Board.
Become a voice in alumni matters.

To learn more about the PGAA
and the PGAA Board of Directors,
visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni.

Terri Christensen: RA to Vice President at AHN

“Great things in business are never done by one person. They are done by a team of people.” — Steve Jobs

This simple quote is the summation of Terri Christensen’s career. Christensen’s journey from Pitt-Greensburg to her current role as Vice President of Learning Innovation at Allegheny Health Network (AHN) highlights the importance of relationships. From helping students toward success in higher education to assisting physicians in the evolving landscape of healthcare, her education and career have emphasized creating and fostering relationships.

Family ties brought Christensen ’98 to the University of Pittsburgh as an undergraduate, and she instantly fell in love with the staff and sense of community at Pitt-Greensburg.

The campus’ smaller environment paved the way to life-long success.

“Every person on the campus—from the staff in the cafeteria, student affairs department, and health services—knew me, and was there any time I needed anything,” said Christensen.

The faculty and staff at Pitt-Greensburg were dedicated and inspiring—all while instilling confidence and believing in her abilities. Christensen majored in Social Science Concentration and took on the additional role as a resident assistant (RA), which she now credits for setting her future course.

She went on to pursue a Master’s of Arts degree in College Student Counseling and Personnel Services at Bowling Green University. She then worked for and attended Kent State University, where she earned her PhD in Curriculum and Instruction (emphasis in higher education). While at Kent State, she served in various roles, with a focus on programs supporting student success.

After 13 years in higher education, she transitioned into healthcare. Christensen was employed at the Cleveland Clinic

for five years, which opened up many doors during her time there. Again serving in various roles, she focused on physician leadership and development, as well as running the learning academy.

Last year, she accepted the position of Vice President of Learning Innovation at AHN.

Christensen also attributes her success to her husband, Jim, and two children, eight-year-old Alex and five-year-old Kendall. Their love and devotion have allowed her to pay forward her passion to cultivate learning.

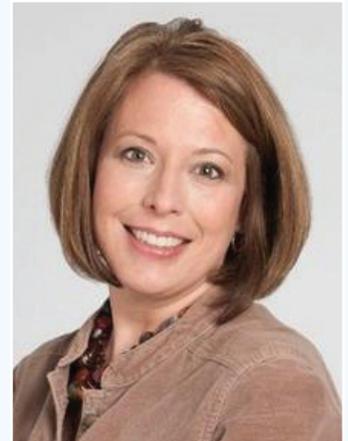
As Christensen looks to the future, she reflects on how her current role has helped her to realize her passion for building the workforce of the future through shaping the student experience, and creating a center for health science at AHN.

“I can’t tell with certainty where the future will lead me. But I know that I look forward to paying forward the legacy of knowledge, time, and mentorship provided at Pitt-Greensburg,” says Christensen.

Christensen, a ’98 class agent, is looking forward to reconnecting with Pitt-Greensburg and giving back in any way that she can.

When asked for advice for current students, Christensen encouraged them, saying, “Follow your passion, seek out experiences, and participate in your community.”

Of course, she recommends they build networks and learn to work well with others. After all, that’s what teamwork is all about.



Please join us to Celebrate Excellence

Join us in celebrating the accomplishments and contributions of our PGAA Alumni Award winners.

As part of Blue & Gold Week: Homecoming 2017, The Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association will present its awards on Saturday, October 21, at the Alumni Celebration Dinner in the Hempfield Room (Chambers Hall). The event begins at 5:30 p.m. Registration is available at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/BlueAndGoldWeek.



Larry Helkowski '74
PGAA Alumnus of Distinction



Scott Szypulski '14
PGAA Volunteer Excellence Award



Chad Eric Smith '08
Young Alumni Leadership Award

Hayley Schaeztle Named Head Women's Basketball Coach

Hayley Schaeztle, new Head Women's Basketball coach, comes to Pitt-Greensburg from the University at Buffalo (UB), the largest campus in the State University of New York's (SUNY) system, where she served as the Director of Basketball Operations.

"We are very fortunate to bring Hayley to the University to lead our women's basketball program. She comes to us from the NCAA Division I level, but her roots are DIII," said Tony Berich, director of Athletics. "She played at the DIII level at Manchester University and was on the staff at fellow AMCC member Penn State Behrend. This familiarity with the conference and her outstanding knowledge of the game, along with her work ethic and desire to lead, will serve her well in the pursuit of an AMCC Championship."

As Director of Basketball Operations, Schaeztle planned and directed all aspects of team travel, practice time, hotels, transportation, and meals. She also served as the academic liaison with the women's basketball academic advisor to ensure that the players achieved at least a 3.0 GPA each semester.

Schaeztle is familiar with the Pitt-Greensburg Bobcats and the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) after two seasons as a Graduate Assistant Coach at Penn State Behrend. Schaeztle coached the Lions' guards and helped to recruit players and scout opponents—all while working with Roz Fornari, the winningest coach in the Penn State Behrend program's history.

When Fornari retired in the 2014 spring semester, Schaeztle was named the Lions' Interim Women's Basketball Head Coach.

Schaeztle played collegiately at Manchester University (formerly Manchester College) in Indiana where she was a varsity letter-winner as a freshman. She stayed involved with the team after a career-ending injury her sophomore season.

As a student-athlete, Schaeztle participated in the Nike Championship Basketball Clinch. She also attended the NCAA Career in Sports Forum where she was one of 303 student-athletes chosen to attend out of 1,100 nominations.

A native of Chico, CA, Schaeztle graduated *magna cum laude* from Manchester University with a Bachelor of Arts in Exercise Science and Fitness with minors in Coaching and Spanish. She earned a master's degree in business administration from Penn State Behrend.

Visit www.bit.ly.com/HayleySchaeztle to read more.



Brody Jackson to coach Men's Basketball



After six seasons as an assistant coach at the University of Mount Union, Brody Jackson will lead the Pitt-Greensburg Men's Basketball program.

"We are excited to have Brody join our staff," said Anthony Berich, director of Athletics at Pitt-Greensburg. "He comes to us from an outstanding program at Mount Union where he excelled under the tutelage of Coach Mike Fuline. We look forward to Brody bringing the same energy and passion to Pitt-Greensburg basketball. His past success as a student-athlete has served him well as a coach, and we are excited to have him lead our program."

At Mount Union, Jackson contributed to the basketball team's accomplishments that include an NCAA Division III Championship Tournament appearance, an Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) regular season title, and an OAC Championship Tournament title.

Jackson got an early taste of that success in his first season when the Purple Raiders upset second-seeded Capital University and advanced to the 2014 OAC Championship for the third time in the school's history and its first appearance since 2004.

An experienced recruiter, Jackson saw his efforts come to fruition through the team's achievements during the 2014-15 season: Mount Union captured its first OAC tournament title since 1997 and advanced to the Sweet 16 round of the NCAA Division III men's basketball tournament.

Jackson's guidance contributed to the Purple Raiders compiling a 90-49 overall record and having eight players earn All-OAC honors. As a member of the coaching staff, Jackson also contributed to Mount Union posting the most wins ever in a five-year period and back-to-back 20-win campaigns for the first time in program history.

A native of Akron, OH, Jackson was a three-year starter at Bethany College (WV) where he led the Bison to three Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) titles. He continues to be ranked among the top-10 basketball players in Bison history in assists, three-pointers, three-point percentage, free-throw percentage, and games played.

Jackson graduated from Bethany College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education and holds a master's degree in Coaching and Athletic Administration from Concordia University Irvine.

Visit www.bit.ly.com/BrodyJackson to read more.



Women's Basketball Team places third in nation on WBCA DIII Academic Honor Roll

The Pitt-Greensburg Women's Basketball Team placed third in the nation among NCAA Division III women's basketball teams earning places on the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) Academic Top 25 Team Honor Roll for the 2016-2017 academic year. The Bobcats posted a 3.647 team GPA, only 0.0026 points out of first place. The WBCA Academic Top 25 recognizes NCAA Division I, II, and III; NAIA; and junior/community college women's basketball teams across the nation that carry the highest combined GPAs inclusive of all student-athletes on their rosters for the entire season. This ranking comes on the heels of receiving the 2016-2017 AMCC Team Peak Performer Award for having the highest cumulative team grade point average in the sport of Women's Basketball in the conference.



Get all of you Bobcat athletic news at PittGreensburgAthletics.com

“Invisible Forces” highlight Pitt-Greensburg Theater Productions: *Harvey* and Shakespeare’s *The Tempest*

The Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company will explore the theme of “Invisible Forces” through their 2017-2018 productions of *Harvey* and *The Tempest*.

“We are touched by invisible forces on a daily basis: sunshine and moonlight; cosmic rays; ghostly emanations; and supernatural and metaphysical vibrations,” explained Stephen A. Schrum, PhD, director of the campus theatre program and associate professor of Theatre. “The two plays selected deal with supernatural creatures who affect the world around them in mysterious ways.”



The fall production, *Harvey* by Mary Chase, is a classic work of the American stage. While sometimes an invisible rabbit is just an invisible rabbit, in this case he is real: a Pookah or shapeshifter from the Old Irish tradition that usually takes the form of a rabbit or other creature that has the power of human speech.

In this play, only Harvey’s friend, Elwood P. Dowd, can see him—at first. How the unseen Harvey affects Elwood and the others he comes into contact with will delight and amuse the audience. The three-act play will be performed November 16 through 18 at 7:30 p.m. and November 19 at 2 p.m. All performances will be held in Ferguson Theater. Tickets are available at the door.

For their spring production, the Theatre Company will present “*The Tempest*” by William Shakespeare. Schrum’s favorite Shakespearean play, it was chosen to accommodate Kari Womack, a senior Visual and Performing Arts major who will design the set. The spring performances will occur March 22 through March 24 at 7:30 p.m. and March 25 at 2 p.m. in Ferguson Theater. Tickets are available at the door.

The 2017-2018 season opens on September 12 with a reading of a play written by Schrum in 1985. Entitled *2020: The Year of Perfect Vision*, the short play depicts a reunion of old college friends at the celebration of one’s retirement. Schrum attempted to imagine what it would be like 35 years in the future. The reading will feature Pitt-Greensburg faculty, staff, and students presenting the work, unearthed just a few years before the date of the title. The reading will begin at 7 p.m. in Ferguson Theater.

From Baroque to Romantic: Fall music at Pitt-Greensburg will entertain

The annual Broadway Battles Breast Cancer concert will be held in October. This event, organized by students and performed by students, raises money for Breast Cancer Research and Awareness through donations and basket raffles. Check the Pitt-Greensburg event calendar for the date of this concert that will be finalized once school is back in session.

The fall performance of the Joan Chambers Concert Series will feature the acclaimed Chatham Baroque on November 9. Described as “One of Pittsburgh’s greatest treasures” by the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, the group features dazzling technique and lively interpretations of 17th- and 18th-century music played on instruments of the period.



Pitt-Greensburg Chorale & Chamber Singers

The Pitt-Greensburg Chorale and Chamber singers will perform selections from Joseph Haydn’s *The Seasons* and Felix Mendelssohn’s *Elijah* (oratorio) during their Fall concert scheduled for Thursday, November 2, and Friday, November 3.

The group is planning its next spring tour, the second trip for the group in the past five years. In 2013, the group visited eastern Pennsylvania and northern New Jersey, performing in churches in Sparta, NJ, and Newtown, PA.

“Any time that our students have an opportunity to travel outside of the campus and the state, it creates a new learning opportunity for them,” said Christopher Bartley, director of the Chorale and Chamber Singers. “When you add the opportunity to perform in front of different, and sometimes larger audiences, that learning experience is compounded in multiple ways. We hope that we can rely on our local audience and community to support us as we raise money to cover our expenses for the tour. We will accept donations at our concert in November, and will hold several fundraising events throughout the fall.”

Fall music events, which are free and open to the public, begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

Fall Events *continued*

Events are free and open to the public unless indicated.

November 16-19

The Pitt-Greensburg Theater Company will present the American stage classic *Harvey* by Mary Chase. Curtain time in Ferguson Theater is 7:30 p.m. November 16-18 and 2 p.m. November 19. Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 (regular) and \$5 (students/seniors/Pitt ID).

November 22

Thanksgiving Recess begins for students (no classes; offices are open).

November 23-25

Campus closed in observance of **Thanksgiving** holiday.

December 1

The Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association (PGAA) **Holiday Wine Tasting** event will be held in the Millstein Library at 7 p.m. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni for details and to register.

December 6

Pitt-Greensburg’s **Evening Information Sessions** begin at 5 p.m. and last approximately two hours—and are perfect for busy high school students and their working families. Join us for an information session with an admissions counselor and a campus tour led by a current student. Call 724-836-9880 for details and to register.

December 17

Winter Recess for students begins and runs through January 2, 2018.

December 20

Students interested in transferring to Pitt-Greensburg may take part in an accelerated application process on **Transfer Decision Day**. Bring the necessary documents and your application is reviewed that day. After paying the tuition deposit, admitted students schedule courses for the upcoming semester. A \$45 application fee waiver to Pitt-Greensburg is offered for students who attend and bring all official transcripts and test scores needed for the application review. Please call 724-836-9880 to register.

December 22:

Winter Recess for faculty and staff begins and runs through January 1, 2018.

Continued from back cover

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



Fall Events

Events are free and open to the public unless indicated.

September 28

Pitt-Greensburg, in collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, will host a **reception for all alumni of the Pitt School of Nursing** in Smith Hall Lounge. The event will celebrate the inaugural class of nursing students admitted to Pitt-Greensburg's new nursing program.

September 30

Annual JDRF Walk will be held on campus.

October 9

Fall break for students (no classes; University offices remain open).

October 10-21

The Art Show @Pitt-Greensburg opens **Blue & Gold Week: Homecoming 2017**.

October 12

The 14th Annual Pitt-Greensburg Graduate and Professional School Fair will be held Thursday, October 12, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Chambers Hall Gymnasium.

October 13

The Pitt-Greensburg Golf Outing will be held at the Westmoreland Country Club. Shotgun Start at 9 a.m. Proceeds benefit the Technology for the Future Challenge, PGAA, and Pitt-Greensburg Athletics. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/BlueAndGoldWeek/golf-outing for details and to register.

October 16

The World Prog Project will present a performance by progressive rock bands **Valdez** and **Aisles** in Ferguson Theater. A reception for ticket holders will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the performances at 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., respectively. Tickets are \$30 and available at <http://www.worldproproject.com/tickets>.

October 20

Registration for The UV Splash—A Pitt-Greensburg Night Color Run opens at 5:30 p.m., followed by the race at 7 p.m. and UV Splash Color Explosion Finale at 8 p.m. Early bird pricing available for registration prior to 10/5. Special pricing for students, families, and alumni, too. Special gifts to teams of six or more. Visit www.PittNightColorRun.com or email URIA@pitt.edu for details.

October 21

Join in the fun at **Blue & Gold Week: Homecoming 2017** during a full day of activities, including the Blue & Gold Festival, alumni reunions, Welcome Back Alumni Picnic, Mini-Golf, and Alumni Celebration Dinner. Complete details, including the schedule, are available at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/BlueAndGoldWeek.

October 28

Admissions **Discovery Day** provides an in-depth look at Pitt-Greensburg, including admissions, financial aid, housing, and residence life. The program includes a meeting with a professor in the academic division of your choice, a financial aid session, campus tours, and lunch in the dining hall. A \$45 application fee waiver to Pitt-Greensburg is offered to students who have not yet applied. Call 724-836-9880 to register.

November 2 & 3

The Pitt-Greensburg Chorale & Chamber Singers will present Haydn's *The Seasons* and Mendelssohn's *Elijah* at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

November 6

Newly added to our Admissions calendar is a **Nursing and Science event**. Watch for details to share with any student you know who might be interested in these degrees.

November 8

Pitt-Greensburg's **Evening Information Sessions** begin at 5 p.m. and last approximately two hours—and are perfect for busy high school students and their working families. Join us for an information session with an admissions counselor and a campus tour led by a current student. Call 724-836-9880 for details and to register.

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 Oct. 21	 Oct. 21	 Oct. 21	

Plus reunions and gatherings for alumni associated with
 VAPA ♦ Accounting ♦ Peer Leaders ♦ Men's Tennis
 ♦ Women's Tennis ♦ Men's Basketball

www.greensburg.pitt.edu/BlueAndGoldWeek

New events are added each week! Check the Event section at www.greensburg.pitt.edu for details.

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

Share your photos and memories with us at

<http://greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/share-your-pitt-greensburg-memory>.