

BLUE & GOLD

New Endowed Fund Will Benefit Biological Science Students



Pitt-Greensburg's science faculty and President Sharon P. Smith congratulate Cheyeanne Perez on her award. From left: Dr. Mark Stauffer, Barbara Barnhart, Dr. Kerry Holzworth, Perez, Dr. Olivia Long, Dr. Smith.

The dedication of Pitt-Greensburg's faculty and staff is a large part of what creates the supportive and caring environment for which the campus is known. Many of those faculty and staff members take that dedication a step further—especially if they see ways to further assist students in achieving their dreams.

Endowed scholarship funds are one of the ways Pitt-Greensburg campus community members have helped students. Because the principal is invested and the interest is used to fund the actual award, an endowed scholarship fund can continue to support students long after the initial gift is made.

Pitt-Greensburg is fortunate to have had more than 50 percent of its endowed scholarship funds initiated by members of the campus community—that's faculty, staff, alumni, students, families, and Advisory Board members. All of the funds were initiated in response to a student need that wasn't being met in other ways. Many of those funds also commemorate, by name, family members, cherished campus associates, and friends.

The Kerry W. Holzworth Biology Endowment is the latest addition to this collection of scholarship funds. Cheyeanne Perez, a junior from McKeesport, PA, is the recipient of the first award, which totals \$600. A Science Learning Community (SLC) Scholar, she is a biology major who transferred to Pitt-Greensburg as a sophomore. Her ultimate goal is to attend medical school and specialize in the area of cardiology. After graduation, she plans to join the US Air Force, which will help her to pay for medical school and provide a broad medical experience.

Holzworth, who retired as an associate professor of biology from Pitt-Greensburg in January 2017, established the fund after serving as the chair of the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh for a year and receiving the organization's Chairman's Endowment Award in the amount of \$15,000. "We placed \$12,000 in the endowment and kept \$3,000 separate so that we could begin making awards immediately," said Holzworth.

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PittGreensburg

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Message from the President

The last decade has been a time of great challenge and change in higher education, especially for public universities like the University of Pittsburgh. Although nearly 70 percent of students in four-year colleges are in public universities, the popular pressure to turn higher education into a private good paid for by students continues to increase. In the 2007-2009 recession, state higher-education budgets were slashed by nearly 25 percent nationally and in most states have not been restored much less increased again. Instead, competing demands—healthcare, pensions, corrections—command a growing proportion of state budgets. Despite these declines in public support, we are still challenged to prepare our students to succeed in a complex and global 21st century world. A recent study on education from the Commission on the Future of Undergraduate Education of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences concluded:



What was once a challenge of quantity in American undergraduate education, of enrolling as many students as possible, is increasingly a challenge of educational quality—of making sure that all students receive the education they need to succeed, that they are able to complete the studies they begin, and they can do all of this affordably, without mortgaging the very future they seek to improve.

In order to meet this challenge, public universities must become more agile and entrepreneurial. And that is exactly the path we have taken at Pitt-Greensburg: carefully and discretely adding select programs that anticipate the needs of the region and the interests of the students and leverage the resources of our faculty and staff. We maintain a focus in all programs on the enduring “human” skills that cannot be transferred to robots: communication—both written and oral, negotiations and interpersonal relations, and interdisciplinary collaboration. These are the hallmarks of a liberal arts education and are of growing value in the 21st century. We draw strength from being a part of the larger University of Pittsburgh, but our small size and the absence of rigid silos between disciplines enables us to move quickly to anticipate the future and realize opportunities.

Our focus has always been and will continue to be on the undergraduate: to prepare these students for an unknown future of lifelong learning and enable them to live lives of meaning and impact. The most recent five-year-out graduate survey suggests we are succeeding in that mission, as nearly three quarters of the graduates felt that the campus contributed to their growth as a whole person, and 76 percent felt that attending Pitt-Greensburg had enhanced their quality of life.

These reports should act as a spur not just to continue this good work but to raise the bar to reach more students and advance the quality of their lives to a higher level. We invite you to join us in this endeavor.

Hail to Pitt!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sharon P. Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'S'.

Sharon P. Smith, PhD
President

University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

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The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution.

New Endowed Fund Will Benefit Biological Science Students

Students who are eligible for the Holzworth award must meet the following criteria:

- Be a full-time student majoring in biological sciences and be graduating from Pitt-Greensburg;
- Have earned between 60 and 90 credits;
- Have demonstrated steady academic progress or improvement in science coursework over two to three years with an overall current grade-point average ranging from 3.0 to 3.24;
- Have completed a minimum of three credits of upper-level biological science courses.

“We wanted to create an award that would benefit that ‘B’ student,” said Barbara J. Barnhart, instructor of biology, who assists in reviewing the nominations. “Our ideal candidate is someone who has a strong work ethic and shows steady or improved academic ability from their freshman to their junior year. We already have two awards that recognize our top academic performers, and this is a great way to encourage a student to continue working towards their goal.”

“We care about the students and want them to succeed,” continued Holzworth, whose vision for the award comes from the mentoring role professors often take with students. “Along with learning the subject matter, we want students to leave here able to think logically, interpret data, and use proper experimental techniques that will serve them well in their futures.”

“So many of our students have a need for financial support,” added Barnhart. “Many of them are working full-time while completing their degrees. Because this award can be used toward books, lab fees, travel, or other educational expenses, we know it will help to relieve some of the financial burden our students undertake.”

If you would like to find out more about the Pitt-Greensburg endowed gifts program, please contact Jodi Kraisinger, director of University Relations and Institutional Advancement, at 724-836-9942 or kraising@pitt.edu.

The Power of *One Donor*

Endowed gifts are an excellent way for benefactors to make a positive, lasting impact in the lives of our students. This type of gift also provides donors with a means by which they can communicate their personal values to future generations, while signaling their commitment to Pitt-Greensburg’s mission and ideals. This is a list of named scholarships, endowments, and student resource funds that were initiated by members of the Pitt-Greensburg campus community and designed to support students in their pursuit of their degrees. A complete list of our endowed funds and scholarships, along with their descriptions, may be found at <http://bit.ly/EndowedFunds>.

- Dr. and Mrs. Fred T. Campana Endowment (2001)
- Beth Cassell Fund for Student Professional Development (2007)
- Dr. Frank A. Cassell Scholarship (2007)
- Dr. George F. Chambers Scholarship (2000)
- Joan Chambers Children’s Literature Endowment (1998)
- Helen Connors Student Resource Fund (2002)
- Dale J. Cordial Endowed Scholarship (1992)
- Kevin M. DiVecchio Endowed Fund for Student Resources (2005)
- Jessica Drayer Chemistry Award (2010)
- Vincent A. Finoli Scholarship in Business (1990)
- Nancy Florez-Estrada Mentoring and Leadership Award (2016)
- Fogle Family Educational Scholarship (2011)
- Dr. Randi Koeske Endowed Fund for Student Resources (2009)
- Ruth L. M. Kuschmierz Endowed Fund in Support of German Language, Literature, and Culture (2014)
- McKamish Family Foundation Endowed Fund for Early Childhood Education (2015)
- Natural Science and Engineering Scholarship (2000)
- Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association Incoming Freshman Award (2002)
- Pitt-Greensburg Staff Association Endowed Student Resource Fund (2008)
- Carl F. Poke Endowed Fund for the Millstein Library (2009)
- Carl F. Poke Endowed Fund for Student Travel (2003)
- Prof. Robert J. A. Pratt Endowed Student Resource Fund (2003)
- Guy Rossetti International Study Endowment Fund (1999)
- Joel D. Sabadasz Striving for Excellence Endowed Fund (2014)
- Deborah Ann Smith Scholarship Fund (1991)
- Francis L. Tosatto Memorial Scholarship (1996)
- SGA Truex Study Abroad Scholarship (2002)
- Clara M. Vana Academic Excellence Endowed Fund (2014)
- Gladys S. Wagner Endowed Scholarship Fund (2007)
- Joan C. Zaleskiewicz Endowed Fund for Student Resources (2005)
- Thad Zaleskiewicz, PhD, Science Educators Student Award Fund (2013)

14th Annual Dr. Bernard Cobetto Lecture Series on contemporary ethical issues

Tuesday, April 16 ♦ 7 p.m. ♦ Ferguson Theater (Smith Hall)

Presenting a distinguished panel of experts who will discuss climate change and how it is affecting western Pennsylvania

PittGreensburg

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

Pawprints

President Search Progress

Academic Search, a national executive search firm, has been engaged to identify qualified candidates for the position of president of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. Representatives of Academic Search held open meetings here in November 2018 to allow the campus constituents to share their thoughts about the skills and experience the new president should have, as well as the strengths of the campus and its programs. Academic Search representatives emphasized that the search will be confidential, as that allows the best candidates to apply. The timeline is to conduct interviews during the spring semester with a list of viable candidates presented to the Provost and Chancellor. The goal is to announce the new president in late spring.

Joseph McCarthy, PhD, vice provost for Undergraduate Studies, is chairing the committee, which consists of 14 representatives. The faculty members, who were elected to the committee, are William H. Campbell, PhD, instructor of history and religious studies; Gary D. Hart, PhD, instructor of mathematics; Kayla Heffernan, PhD, assistant professor of mathematics; Pilar Herr, PhD, assistant professor of history; Lori Jakiela, MFA, professor of creative and professional writing; Ron Ott, director of healthcare management, Russell Phillips III, PhD, associate professor of psychology; Stacey Triplett, PhD, associate professor of Spanish and French; and Frank Wilson, PhD, assistant professor of sociology.

Kevin Kara, president of the Student Government Association, represents the students. Ronna Colland '87, director of Finance & Risk Management, and Troy Ross '99, director of Housing and Residence Life, are the staff/alumni representatives. Jack D. Smith, MD, A&S '69, MED '73, chairman of Orthopedics at Excelsa Health, a University of Pittsburgh Trustee and Pitt-Greensburg Advisory Board member, rounds out the committee. Visit <http://bit.ly/Pitt-GbgPresidentSearch> to view the position profile or share it with potential candidates.



Pitt-Greensburg receives seven-figure grant from the McKenna Foundation

The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg is the recipient of a seven-figure grant from the Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation. The grant was designated to provide support for the Pitt-Greensburg bachelor's of science in nursing (BSN) program, now in its second year.



"We are grateful for the continued support of the Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation," said Sharon P. Smith, PhD, president of Pitt-Greensburg. "It is exciting to receive this endorsement of our program—the first on-site BSN program to be established in Westmoreland County—as it grows and develops into a major resource for both students and regional healthcare employers. Pitt-Greensburg continues to be an innovator, an economic driver, and a community partner in Westmoreland County."

The Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation has supported a wide range of important initiatives at the Greensburg campus throughout the years, including the construction of Frank A. Cassell Hall and the expansion of McKenna Hall; upgrading and improving technology resources; and helping to address economic growth and revitalization through the Smart Growth Partnership.

Fioravanti is keynote speaker for Excelsa Health event

Marie Fioravanti, DNP, RN, gave the keynote speech for Excelsa Health's Fourth Annual Evidence-Based Practice and Research Forum at Westmoreland Hospital. She presented her scholarly work about the implementation of evidence-based practice at the unit level.



Students receive ROTC Scholarships

Two first-year students were the recipients of ROTC scholarships this past fall. William S. McHenry and Caleb Varney both received four-year scholarships, valued at \$75,800 each, that cover tuition and fees for the 2018 academic year through the students' graduation in 2021. Both men also are participating in the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) with the United States Army Reserve (USAR) and will receive an annual \$1,200 for books and labs and a \$420 monthly stipend from the United States Army Cadet Command (USACC). Upon graduation, they will be guaranteed jobs as second lieutenants in the USAR. The two students joined the Three Rivers Battalion Army ROTC program's Alpha Company that includes the University of Pittsburgh, Duquesne University, Carnegie Mellon University, Carlow University, Chatham University, La Roche College, St. Vincent College, and Seton Hill University.



Health and Rehab Science Club observes open heart surgery

In September, nine members of the Health and Rehab Science Club visited Allegheny General Hospital to observe an open heart surgery. Among the students participating were Grace Seanor (kneeling), Sierra Wagner and Sarah Gribbin, as well as Mike Meyer (standing), Vaughn Hunkele, Holly Pravlik, Nina Ngwe, Hannah Serret, and Francisco Garcia. "We really enjoyed the experience and definitely learned so much, as it related to several students' classes," said Holly Pravlik, club president. "We have already set a date to visit again in fall 2019."



Jakiela's essay featured on "Modern Love" podcast



Actress Kristen Bell selected an essay by Lori Jakiela, MFA, professor of English, for broadcast on the *New York Times*' "Modern Love" podcast. Jakiela's essay, "The Plain Unmarked Box Arrived," was first published in the "Modern Love" column, and a follow-up—"P.S. Clarifications and Corrections in Regards to the Essay Previously Titled The Plain Unmarked Box Arrived"—ran in *DIAGRAM* magazine. Both essays appear in Jakiela's most recent book, *Portrait of The Artist As A Bingo Worker*. Jakiela recorded her interview for the podcast at WQED in September 2018, and Bell's performance of the essay, along with Jakiela's interview, aired in October 2018.

Jakiela received an honorable mention in the international humor poetry competition, Wergle Flop, for her poem, "Former 90s Supermodel Cindy Crawford Says People Shouldn't Worry About Aging." She also received her second Golden Quill Award for entertainment writing from the Pennsylvania Press Club for her essay, "The Union Project," which first appeared in *Pittsburgh Quarterly* magazine.

In July 2018, Jakiela—along with artist/yogi Tonya Spritz Kapis and food writer Sylvia Catello—hosted an on-campus weekend retreat, "Be Here Now," which offered community writers three days of writing workshops, yoga sessions, music, and good food. She also gave several readings at Hemingway's, White Whale Bookstore, and the Creative Nonfiction Foundation. Jakiela, author of the award-winning adoption memoir *Belief Is Its Own Kind of Truth, Maybe*, also taught a one-day workshop on Writing the Adoption Experience at the Creative Nonfiction Foundation's headquarters this summer.

Veterans Write, a community outreach project providing writing workshops free to veterans and their families, recently expanded from the White Oak Veterans Center to additional workshops at the Pittsburgh Veterans Center and beyond. Jakiela serves as co-director and founder of the workshops.

Pawprints continued

SIP Supplemental Grant Awarded



The US Department of Education awarded Pitt-Greensburg a Supplemental Award to the \$2M Title III Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP) grant received in October 2016. The \$147,656 Supplemental Award will be used to expand Pitt-Greensburg's programming that focuses on two areas: 1) developing students' personal financial literacy and 2) developing their ability to use civil and respectful discourse and mutual understanding on contentious but important issues.

Specifically, the supplemental funding will be used to:

- institute improvements in and increase the number of sections of the Personal Financial Planning course,
- augment the financial literacy content offered in first-year seminars,
- develop a more extensive set of financial literacy models to be offered as part of an outside-the-classroom program,
- create and pilot a program of financial literacy seminars that could ultimately be delivered for continuing education credit,
- expand the efforts of our Financial Aid office by increasing the frequency and expanding the audience for our FAFSA completion and student loan workshops as well as develop and offer a workshop for upper-class students that focuses on post-graduation issues of managing student-loan debt and related financial problems,
- expand our program offerings to provide more instances of viewpoint diversity across a greater variety of topics,
- train faculty and staff on methods for promoting mutual understanding across differences, and
- provide guided practice opportunities for students to develop their skills for respectful engagement.

Orsatti elected to PSMLA executive council

Silvina Orsatti, EdD, instructor of Spanish, was elected to a three-year term on the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association (PSMLA) Executive Council. As part of her responsibilities, she will participate on committees and eventually chair one.



Schrum featured in SDC Journal's "Pre-Show/Post-Show" interview



The Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC) Journal featured Stephen Schrum, PhD, associate professor of theatre arts, in its "Pre-Show/Post-Show" column in the Summer 2018 issue. Each paragraph of the interview begins with a prompt that is answered by Schrum about his experience in theater and as a director and educator at Pitt-Greensburg.

Spring break study trip to Cuba planned

Pilar Herr, PhD, assistant professor of history, and Jacqueline Horrall, PhD, associate professor of economics and vice president for Academic Affairs, will lead a 2019 spring break trip to Cuba as part of their full-semester, three-credit course "History and Economics of Revolution: Cuba." This is the second educational trip to the island that the two professors have planned and taught. Students accepted into the course who have no previous study abroad experience will receive a \$1,000 scholarship towards the program cost. Students accepted who have previous study abroad experience will receive a \$300 scholarship towards the program cost.



Additional Funding Received for the Community Arts Reintegration Project



From left: Michael Diehl, Jack Brown (director of Community Service, WCA), Bernie Wilke (lead artist), Dr. Tim Holler, Tay Waltenbaugh (CEO of WCA)

The Communications Arts Reintegration Project (CARP), led by Dr. Tim Holler, PhD, assistant professor of criminal justice, dedicated its first mural in October 2018. Located in Mt. Pleasant on the Westmoreland Community Action's (WCA) American Architectural Salvage building, the 40-foot wide x 15-foot high mural depicts the rich history of the town. The mural faces the Coal & Coke Trail, adjacent to the building. WCA partnered with Pitt-Greensburg's Center for Applied Research (CFAR) and CARP to implement the mural project by providing the location for the community meetings and paint days, as well as the mural's permanent location. Four paint days were held this spring and summer where members of the community, as well as seven juvenile probationers, helped to paint the panels comprising the mural. WCA has also committed to continuing its partnership with CFAR and to provide funding to support the next community mural project in New Kensington. The PA Council on the Arts, through the PA Partners in the Arts re-granting program, also approved a small grant to support the Community Arts Reintegration Project's second mural in New Kensington.

Pitt-Greensburg Continues to Benefit from Internal University Funding



The Academic Village was awarded two separate Year of Pitt Global Grants for campus events. In November 2018, the campus community celebrated Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, with Indian entrees and desserts; Rangoli, an art form using colorful rice flour to create designs; and a presentation by Lipika Mazumda, PhD, assistant professor of anthropology. In January, a Seder meal to observe Shabbat was held, and Qurrant Ann Kadwani presented her one-woman show "They Call Me Q," portraying 13 different characters.

A Carnival Celebration, sponsored by the Spanish Club, will be held March 5 in Wagner Dining Hall. The event opens at 5 p.m. and features Hispanic food, music, and dancing. The Carnival event is free and open to the public.

The Pitt Global Committee awarded a matching grant to Student Services that brought Step Afrika! back to campus in September 2018. Step Afrika! is the first professional dance company in the world dedicated to the tradition of stepping.

Pitt-Greensburg Children's Literature Conference set for May 3

The 2019 Children's Literature Conference is set for May 3. Featured speakers are Ellen Oh, founder of We Need Diverse Books (www.diversebooks.org) and author of the *Prophecy* trilogy, and Jonathan Gottschall, a Distinguished Fellow (English) at Washington & Jefferson College, who is the author of *The Storytelling Animal*. Early bird registration opened in January. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/millstein/clc to learn more and to register.



Pawprints continued on page 9



Outstanding Alumni Honored

At the annual Alumni Celebration Dinner, held during Blue & Gold Week: Homecoming 2018, the Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association (PGAA) proudly recognized three alumni for their accomplishments.

Timothy C. Dugan '83 **PGAA Alumnus of Distinction Award**

The PGAA recognized Timothy C. Dugan '83, executive vice president and chief operating officer of CNX Resources Corporation (formerly the E&P segment of CONSOL Energy), as its Alumnus of Distinction, which acknowledges excellence among alumni of Pitt-Greensburg and is the highest honor given by the PGAA to an individual alumnus/alumna annually. Candidates are 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, and any other special efforts or success.

Dugan held the same position at CONSOL Energy Inc. prior to its separation into two separate companies. Before being appointed to his current position, Dugan was president and chief operating officer of CNX Gas Corporation from May 2014 to December 2014 when he became president and chief executive officer.

A native of Greensburg, PA, Dugan is one of nine children and graduated from Greensburg Central Catholic High School. He attended Pitt-Greensburg as a freshman (1979-1980), transferred to the Pittsburgh campus, and completed his degree in chemical engineering in 1983.

Dugan and his wife Mary Beth (Genard) '85 have been married 33 years. They have four children and three grandchildren, with a fourth grandchild due in February 2019. Dugan's children have all followed in his footsteps and chosen careers in the energy industry. Dugan resides in Peters Township (Washington County, PA).

His connection to Pitt-Greensburg continues through his participation as an interviewer for the campus' Mock Interview Night. This event helps students to prepare for the job search by allowing them to experience a variety of interview situations. Throughout Dugan's career he has mentored college students and recent graduates.

To read Dugan's complete biography, visit: <http://bit.ly/Dugan-PGAA>.

Carrie Bush '14 **PGAA Young Alumni Leadership Award**

The PGAA presented its Young Alumni Leadership Award to Carrie Bush '14. The Young Alumni Leadership Award recognizes established and future leaders among Pitt-Greensburg's young alumni who are age 35 and younger. The winners of this award have distinguished themselves as leaders among their peers and in their professions, communities, and/or at the University.

"Carrie was active as a student at Pitt-Greensburg, engaging in countless volunteer opportunities and leadership roles," said JP Hilzendege '12, vice president of the PGAA board of directors. "She has since made the natural transition to continue in service to our beloved alma mater as a member of the Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association board, and we are grateful for her continued contributions!"

A resident of Greensburg, Bush is employed by W.N. Tusciano Agency where she is a personal lines underwriter and licensed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in property and casualty, accident and health, and surplus lines. She recently earned her associate of sales from the United States Liability Insurance (USLI) University.

A graduate from Pitt-Greensburg with a BS in psychology and a minor in history, Bush also completed Pitt-Greensburg's certificate in children's literature. She was active as a Peer Leader, Commuter Mentor, research assistant, Judicial Board member, and secretary of Psi Chi, the psychology honor society.

Bush's commitment to community service is evident through her participation, as a student, in Big Brothers Big Sisters Lunch Buddies and After-School Tutoring program. That commitment continues as an alumna who is a member of the PGAA board of directors, serving on the Events committee, and actively participating in PGAA-sponsored activities like Homecoming, the annual Pitt Send Off (for incoming students), and the annual Merry Mingle. Plus, she volunteers as a judge for the PGAA resume contest. She also serves on her employer's Charity Committee.



**James “Jim” Smith ’75, Katz ’84
PGAA Volunteer Excellence Award**

James “Jim” Smith ’75 received the PGAA Volunteer of Excellence award, which recognizes alumni who have dedicated a significant amount of personal time, as volunteers, to attending alumni meetings and events, working on special projects, and contributing to the overall success of both the alumni association and the University it represents.

Smith graduated from Pitt-Greensburg with a BS in business and earned his MBA from Pitt’s Katz School of Business in 1984.

“You can say that Jim’s rediscovery of our campus was a sense of rebirth,” said Hilzendeger. “As a board member and ultimately president of the PGAA, Jim has been a great example of leadership and passion that has further advanced our alumni association. We are incredibly thankful for Jim!”

Smith joined the PGAA board of directors in 2014. Currently in his second term, he was elected president in 2015. His responsibilities include serving on the Pitt Alumni Association’s (PAA) Student, Colleges and Regional School Committee (SCR) and working to forge bonds among the campuses. He also sits on the Pitt-Greensburg Advisory Board as an *ex-officio* member. The board liaison for the PGAA Professional Development Committee, he volunteers at admissions events and is actively involved with all PGAA events.

Smith, now retired, has had a career that has taken him from Pittsburgh to Germany to New York to Ohio and to the Rocky Mountains. His career started as a staff accountant for D’Appolonia Consulting Engineers (Pittsburgh). He then moved to Vesuvius Crucible Company as an international accountant in Germany, followed by a 20-year career with Hewlett-Packard GmbH. More recently, Smith has served in financial/administrative positions for several non-profits as well as teaching nonprofit financial management for the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs School of Public Affairs.

A native of Ligonier, Smith and his wife, Kim, reside in Greensburg. He has three children.

PGAA Board seeking new directors

Join the PGAA Board of Directors, the official representative group of Pitt-Greensburg alumni!

Members serve in an advisory capacity to the Office of Alumni Relations and lead the alumni Professional Development, Engagement, and Events Committees. The Board of Directors serves a critical role by providing strategic direction, resources, and professional expertise to help carry out the PGAA mission.

You are invited to nominate candidates—self nominations are encouraged—to serve one term of three years, beginning July 1, with the option of being elected to serve a second term. Responsibilities and duties can be found on the website. **Nominations will be accepted through March 29, at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/board-directors.** Online election to be held in April.



Call for Alumni Award nominations



The PGAA is proud to recognize Pitt-Greensburg alumni for their professional accomplishments, their service to their communities, and their commitment to the University. **Nominations for the Alumnus of Distinction, Volunteer Excellence, and the Young Alumni Leadership awards are being accepted now through July 8, at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni-awards.** The award criteria, guidelines, and nomination forms are available online.

Alumni invited to meet with prospective students

Alumni volunteers play a vital role in the admissions process. Alumni, who are willing to share their experiences with prospective students, help to recruit the next class of bright and high-achieving Pitt-Greensburg students.



We’re looking for alumni to have discussions about their Pitt-Greensburg experience with prospective students and their families over lunch on the following dates: February 23, March 30, April 13, and May 4. **Register for any or all events online at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/events.**

Pitt Day in Harrisburg

Save the Date! Join in as Pitt alumni, students, faculty, and staff advocate for all things Pitt during Pitt Day in Harrisburg on Tuesday, March 26. More information to follow via Pitt-Greensburg social media, Alumni Connections E-Newsletter, emails, and www.greensburg.pitt.edu.



Bobcats Out and About

The PGAA Events committee hosted its second painting night for alumni and their guests at Painting with a Twist in Greensburg. The group painted a fall scene while enjoying wine and snacks.

Would you like to receive information about the PGAA and its activities throughout the year? **Please update your e-mail address at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/update-my-information and begin to receive the monthly alumni e-newsletter, PGAA e-Connections.**



Campus Store expands digital offerings



Alumni Corner, now part of the Campus Store website (<http://bit.ly/CampusStoreAlumniCorner>), features products for alumni while offering an exclusive alumni discount for on-line orders. Check out the latest in Pitt/Pitt-Greensburg spirit gear and items.

Upcoming Events



GREENSBURG
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

Alumni Events at a Glance

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

Feb. 23, 2019	"Commit to Pitt" Day (Alumni volunteers needed)
Mar. 26, 2019	Pitt Day in Harrisburg (Alumni invited to attend)
Mar. 30, 2019	"Commit to Pitt" Day (Alumni volunteers needed)
Apr. 13, 2019	"Commit to Pitt" Day (Alumni volunteers needed)
Apr. 21, 2019	Senior Send-Off (6 p.m.)
Apr. 26, 2019	New Alumni Reception
Apr. 26, 2019	Family Appreciation Dinner (7 p.m.)
Apr. 27, 2019	Alumni Leadership Meeting (8 a.m.)
Apr. 27, 2019	Commencement Breakfast (9:30 a.m.)
Apr. 27, 2019	Commencement (11 a.m.)
Jun. 1, 2019	Pirates Tailgate (PNC Park)
Jun. 22, 2019	PGAA Board Retreat



Blue & Gold
CELEBRATION 2019
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH GREENSBURG

Watch for details about our
October 2019 events
www.greensburg.pitt.edu/Blue-And-Gold

Alumni

You're
invited

to participate in Commencement activities

Sunday, April 21



Senior Sendoff

(6 p.m./TBD) Celebrate off-campus by meeting up with the graduating seniors for hors d'oeuvres and drinks prior to their final finals week.

Friday, April 26

PGAA New Alumni Reception

(4 p.m./Alumni Pavilion; inclement weather: Bobcat Station) Meet and congratulate the graduates prior to rehearsal.

Family Appreciation Dinner

(7 p.m./Wagner Dining Hall) Volunteer as a table host to the graduates and their families in celebration of this momentous occasion.



Saturday, April 27

PGAA Leadership Meeting

(8 a.m./Lynch Hall 102) Meet with PGAA Board members to hear about alumni happenings, announce PGAA award winners, and receive a campus update from President Smith.

Commencement Breakfast

(9:30 a.m./Wagner Dining Hall) Gather with President Smith, faculty, staff, students, Advisory Board members, and fellow alumni prior to robing for the ceremony.

Commencement Ceremony

(11 a.m./Ridilla Field; inclement weather: Chambers Gymnasium)

- If you're a parent, spouse, child, brother, sister, or grandparent of a Pitt-Greensburg graduate and Pitt alumni (of any campus), you are invited to participate in the Legacy Diploma Presentation. Pitt alumni escort their graduate onto the stage, present them with their diploma covers, and have a photo taken together during the ceremony.
- Process with this year's graduates! Led by the 2019 Alumni Marshall, Timothy C. Dugan '83, alumni will take their seats in a pre-designated area and enjoy the Commencement ceremony, then form a gauntlet to receive new alumni. Reception open to everyone following ceremony. Regalia must be worn to process and is available upon request.



All events are complimentary but online registration is required

(visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/events). Deadline for registering for the Commencement Breakfast and Ceremony is March 29.

Pawprints continued from page 5

Military & Veterans Services observes Veterans Week



Pitt-Greensburg's Military & Veterans Services planned a series of activities in observance of Veterans Week (November 5-9). The week opened with a wreath-laying ceremony in front of Chambers Hall (flagpoles) and ended with the campus wearing red for the RED OUT that remembered and supported deployed personnel.

Other highlights included:

- A Storytellers series that featured four veterans sharing stories of their experiences, including Nancy Anderson, a retired Marine Officer who authored and published a book detailing the history of women in the Marines; Daniel Rota, PhD, a retired Brig. General with nearly 40 years of active and Pennsylvania Air National Guard military service who serves as director of the Center for Veterans and Military Families and is professor *emeritus* of Computer and Information Systems at Robert Morris University; Sarah Treadway '18 who served in the US Air Force for seven years as an aircraft mechanic; and Lee Wagner, a combat veteran who is the Veterans Outreach program specialist for the White Oak Vet Center;
- A display of related books in Millstein Library;
- The screening of *Choctaw Talkers*, a documentary, and *Joyeaux Noel*, a movie about World War I;
- An opportunity to sign cards for deployed personnel and veterans at the Veterans Home in Pittsburgh and a campus-wide collection of necessary items for homeless veterans in the area.



Spoken-word poet leads discussions with more than 200 students during visit

Spoken-word poet Kyle "Guante" Tran Myrhe visited campus in September 2018 to perform and to facilitate discussions, both in and out of the classroom. A poet, activist, and

educator, "Guante" facilitates discussions about masculinity, consent, and activism. It was estimated that more than 200 individual students participated in his activities on campus during his visit sponsored by the Academic Village and the Committee for Gender Equity.

PICPA High School Accounting Career Day

In October 2018, Pitt-Greensburg hosted a high school accounting career day, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants



(PICPA) Foundation. This is the third year for Pitt-Greensburg to host the event that features speakers on public and corporate accounting careers, internal audit and governmental accounting opportunities, and discussion on the advantage of the CPA designation. Attracting approximately 100 students to campus, the event is coordinated by Pam Ondeck, assistant professor of management, and Ronna Colland, director of Finance and Risk Management, with cooperation from the Pitt-Greensburg Office of Admissions and the Accounting and Business Club.

Athletics

Men's and Women's Cross Country



Matthew Bashioum



Kyra Frant



Ethan Peters

The men's and women's cross country team finished their season competing in the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) Championship at Franciscan University of Steubenville. The men's squad placed sixth overall, with junior Ethan Peters leading the group of five Bobcat runners.

He finished 27th in the 8K race with a time of 34:34.26, followed by senior Matthew Bashioum, who finished 30th with a time of 35:40.90. Sophomores Naushin Siddiqui and Kyra Frant represented the women's team. While the women didn't field a full team of five runners and were ineligible to place, the women posted competitive times of 31:39.33 and 33:12.41, respectively, which placed them in the middle of the competitors. Julie Friend is the first-year coach of the Bobcats.



Naushin Siddiqui

Golf

Senior Javon Trout earned AMCC All-Conference First Team honors for the fourth time at the close of the fall 2018 season. At the AMCC Championship, he led the conference with a 77.14 scoring average and finished in a tie for seventh (157/74.83). Over his four-year collegiate career, he consistently placed among the top 10 at the AMCC Championship and won five individual medalist honors and placed among the top five in 16 tournaments.



Javon Trout



Zack Bernstein



Joe Doubt



Nic Leone

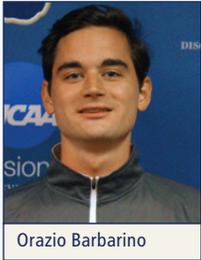
The men's golf team, under the direction of Head Coach Chuck Myers, finished fifth overall at the AMCC Championship. At the end of the first day, the team was in second place with a two-day total of 655. In the final round of play, Pitt-Greensburg finished behind Pitt-Bradford, Penn State-Behrend, La Roche, and Penn State-Altoona. For the Bobcats, sophomore Joe Doubt tied for 15th (163), sophomore Nic Leone tied for 23rd (167), and senior Zach Bernstein finished 25th (168).

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Athletics continued from page 9

Men's Soccer



Orazio Barbarino



Tyrell Cheeseboro



Carson Gilarno

The Pitt-Greensburg men's soccer team finished the season with a 3-12-1 overall record and a 1-8 mark in conference play. The team, under the direction of Head Coach Dan Keefe, opened the season with a 4-0 exhibition win over Penn State-Greater Allegheny. Their other wins came against Bluffton University (1-0), St. Vincent College (1-0), and AMCC-opponent Hilbert College (6-0).

Freshman Carson Gilarno led the team in goals (5) and points (11), as well as posting a 0.122 shot percentage. Junior Orazio Barbarino was second on the team with three goals and six points, followed by sophomore Tyrell Cheeseboro with two goals and four points.

Women's Soccer



Bri Burgunder



Tori Conroy



Tiffany Michalek

Senior Bri Burgunder was selected to the 2018 United Soccer Coaches NCAA Division III All-Great Lakes Region Team for the third consecutive season. The team scoring leader with nine goals and five assists for 23 points, she also is a three-time All-AMCC First Team selection and was ranked among the top 10 players in the conference. The 2018 AMCC Preseason Offensive Player of the Year, she ends her collegiate career as the program's all-time leader in game-winning goals (11), penalty kicks made (5), and penalty kicks attempted (6). She also ranks among the Bobcats' top 10 in points (2nd/105 pts.), goals (2nd/43), assists (3rd/19), goals per game (3rd/0.60), and assists per game (5th/0.26).

Junior Tori Conroy earned All-AMCC Second Team Honors for her defensive play. She anchored a defensive unit that recorded five shutouts in AMCC matches and set the school record by allowing only 15 goals for the season. Freshman Tiffany Michalek earned All-AMCC Third Team honors for her three goals and two assists for eight points in conference play.

The Bobcats (9-8-1 overall/5-4-0 AMCC) qualified for the AMCC Tournament for the fourth-consecutive season, but lost to fifth-seed Penn State-Altoona in the first round. Their season play included wins against Thiel College, St. Vincent College, Muskingum University, Hilbert College, Penn State-Altoona, Medaille College, La Roche College, and Franciscan University. The team is coached by Chuck Wigle with assistance from Chris Fabian and Steve Kukic.

Men's Tennis



The Bobcat tennis team finished the fall season 1-3 overall and 1-0 in conference play. They closed the season with an 8-1 win against AMCC-opponent Pitt-Bradford. Singles matches were won by freshman Turner Price, senior Michael Myer, junior Vaughn Hunkele, junior Terrence Madarish, sophomore Andrew Oden, and freshman Francisco Garcia. Price led the team with a 2-1 singles record and the team's doubles pairs also were victorious. The team's season will continue in the spring under the direction of Head Coach Doug Smeltzer.

Women's Tennis

The Pitt-Greensburg tennis team posted a 1-13 overall and 1-7 conference record for fall 2018 under the direction of Head Coach Doug Smeltzer. The team will continue their season in March. Sophomore Hannah Sterrett, the team's lone returning player, finished the fall season with a 10-3 singles record and 5-1 in the #6 position. She earned AMCC Women's Tennis Athlete of the Week honors for her performances October 8-14, 2018, against opponents from St. Vincent College and Pitt-Bradford.



Hannah Sterrett

Volleyball



Marissa Leonard



Alexis Ray



Mackenzie Schropp

Pitt-Greensburg's volleyball team finished their season 1-24 overall and 1-8 in the AMCC under the direction of Head Coach Erica Bosh and Assistant Coach Klynn Smith. Freshman Alexis Ray led the team in scoring (2.56 pps/179 pts) and in blocks (23). Freshman Mackenzie Schropp (2.05 pps/108.5 pts), sophomore Marissa Leonard (1.65 pps/112 pts), and sophomore Sabre Turner (1.50 pps/102.0 pts) also scored in triple digits for the season.



Sabre Turner

Scholar-Athletes recognized for academic achievement

Each February, Pitt-Greensburg recognizes its Scholar-Athletes who have compiled a 3.0 GPA or higher during the fall semester. Of the 134 student-athletes participating in our athletic program, 59 percent earned this recognition this year. Congratulations to these students for their success on and off the playing field.

Baseball

Nick Ackerman
Brody Bonadio
Chris Common
Ben Green
Tyler Holland
Evan Johnston
Cory Kerecz
Matt Mish
Andy Prentice

Basketball (Men's)

Jay Grubb
Brady Kingston
Jake Kitner
David Knox
Nick Kotecki
David Runco
Cam Seigfreid
Isaiah Zeise

Basketball (Women's)

Sam Ballow
Maddy Coddington
Nadege Durand
Cat Gollighugh
Alycia Lynch
Colleen Murphy
Maddie Sittler

Cross Country (Men's)

Matt Bashoum
Darius Eicher-Peebles
Ed Lawrence
Ethan Peters

Golf

Zach Bernstein
Nic Leone
Javon Trout

Soccer (Men's)

Josh Algarin
Nick Bono
Justin Campbell
Dylan DeRoss
Reese Laurell
Javin Melvin
Robert Reed
Eric Trexler

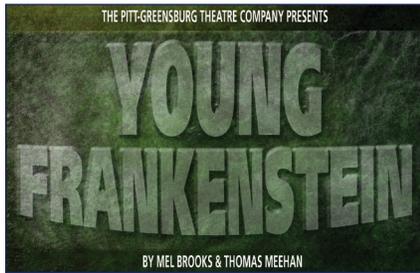
Tennis (Men's)

Francisco Garcia
Terrance
Madarish
Turner Price
Hayden Smith

The Arts

Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company to perform the musical *Young Frankenstein*

The Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company's spring production of the musical *Young Frankenstein* continues its theme of "Universal Monsters." The show, by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan (adapted from Brooks' 1974 film), features familiar songs, such as "The Happiest Town in Town," "Transylvania Mania," and of course, "Puttin' on the Ritz."



Several visual and performing arts majors will direct and choreograph the production for their senior capstone projects. Brandon Farneth, last seen at Pitt-Greensburg as Elwood P. Dowd in *Harvey*, selected the show and will direct it. Nicole Hill will serve as choreographer, and Taylor Oberle is the production manager. Stephen Schrum, PhD, associate professor of theatre, will produce the show, and Christopher Bartley, instructor of music, will be the musical director.

"The theme, Universal Monsters, refers to the monsters depicted in the main stage shows, and implies that those monsters exist among us in many forms," said Schrum. "These characters—the life-sucking vampire from the fall production of *Dracula*, the servile madman, the inquiring scientist, and the hapless creature cobbled together from various parts—are therefore well-known to us in the world even today."

Curtain times for *Young Frankenstein* are 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 4, through Saturday, April 6, and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 7, in the Ferguson Theater (Smith Hall). Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 (regular) and \$5 (students/Seniors/Pitt ID).



YOUR LEGACY IS OUR FUTURE

When you include Pitt-Greensburg in your **will** or **IRA**, your legacy enables students to change the world. The gift costs you nothing today and lets you be more generous than you ever thought possible.

And if you want:

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You should create a charitable gift annuity.

To learn more about planned gifts that enhance your legacy and strengthen the University, contact Jodi Kraisinger at 724-836-9942 or Kraisinger@pitt.edu.

Music at Pitt-Greensburg

Carmina Burana performance highlights spring 2019 concert schedule

Music at Pitt-Greensburg will offer a robust schedule this spring, culminating in a performance of *Carmina Burana* with the Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra on April 27 at The Palace Theatre. The Pitt-Greensburg Chorale and Chamber Singers will be one of five choral groups from the region performing with soloists from the Pittsburgh Opera in this iconic piece by Carl Orff. Tickets, ranging in price from \$15 to \$60, are available from The Palace Theatre at <http://bit.ly/Palace-CarminaBurana>.

Concert goers will be able to preview music from Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company's April *Young Frankenstein* musical production at the two performances of the Spectrum Concert, set for March 21 and March 22. Featured will be the Pitt-Greensburg Chorale and Chamber Singers, the newly formed Distinct Voices a cappella group, alumni singers, and more.

Voice and piano students working with instructors Cynthia Ortiz (soprano) and Matt Klumpp (piano) will perform their recital on April 16. The recital caps a semester of intensive work by the students that challenges them to hone their technical and musical skills using a variety of methods, repertoire, and experiences.

Unless noted, all of the events are free and open to the public and begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

Spring Events Continued from back cover

Events are free and open to the public unless indicated.

April 26

The Friday Evening Music Club will perform in Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center. The program, their season finale, begins at 7:30 p.m. The group does accept donations at the door.

April 27

Commencement at 11 a.m. on Ridilla Field (inclement weather: Chambers Gymnasium).

April 27

The **Pitt-Greensburg Chorale & Chamber Singers** will join other choirs in a performance of *Carmina Burana* with the Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra at The Palace Theatre. Ticket information is available from The Palace Theatre.

May 3

Jonathan Gottschall and Ellen Oh are the keynote speakers for the 23rd annual **Children's Literature Conference**. Gottschall's presentation will be based on his book, *The Storytelling Animal: How Stories Make Us Human*. Oh, a young adult and middle-grade author, is the co-founder and CEO of the We Need Diverse Books organization. In addition to her keynote, she will present a breakout session about her work with the We Need Diverse Books movement. Details will be available here: <http://www.greensburg.pitt.edu/millstein/clc>.

May 8

Prospective students are invited to visit our campus for an evening information session that includes a meeting with an admissions counselor and a tour of the campus with one of our PittPAL student tour guides. Register by visiting www.greensburg.pitt.edu/visit or calling 724-836-9880.

May 17

The Pitt-Greensburg Office of Admissions will hold a **Transfer Day** for students interested in completing their degrees at Pitt-Greensburg. Register by visiting www.greensburg.pitt.edu/visit or calling 724-836-9880.

June 13-14

Summer Orientation and Academic Registration.

June 27-28

Summer Orientation and Academic Registration.

New events are added each week!

Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu to view additional events.

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

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



Spring Events

Events are free and open to the public unless indicated.

February 22

The **Friday Evening Music Club** will perform at the First United Methodist Church (Greensburg). The program begins at 7:30 p.m. and will feature Organ Highlights. The group accepts donations at the door.

February 23

Students who have been admitted to Pitt can participate in an event to learn about housing, financial aid, academic advising, athletics, and safety and security during **Commit to Pitt Day**. Students can pay their tuition deposit and register in advance for the Summer Orientation and Academic Registration (SOAR) and receive advanced access to the housing application. Admitted students, please call 724-836-9880 to register.

February 28

Watch for details about our next **Pitt Day of Giving**.

March 5

Pitt-Greensburg Spanish Club is hosting a campus **Carnaval Celebration** as part of the Year of Pitt Global. The event begins at 5 p.m. in Wagner Dining Hall and will feature Hispanic food, music, and dancing. This event is free and open to the public.

March 10-17

Spring Recess for students (no classes). Campus will be closed for the **Spring Holiday** on March 15.

March 18

As part of the Year of Pitt Global, nationally-recognized writer and performer Melissa Lozado-Olivia will perform in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center. Lozado-Olivia will explore the intersections of Latina identity, feminism, hair removal, and what it means to belong by sharing her poems and other writings.

March 18

Prospective students can learn about the **Power of Healthcare** at this Admissions event that showcases our BS in nursing program. Register by visiting Greensburg.pitt.edu/visit or calling 724-836-9880.

March 21 & 22

The **Pitt-Greensburg Chorale and Chamber Singers** will present their "**Spectrum Concert**," featuring a *Young Frankenstein* Preview, *Distinct Voices* a cappella group, alumni singers, and more. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

March 26

Watch for details about this year's **Pitt Day in Harrisburg**. Information about travel arrangements, schedules, and other plans will be shared via emails, Alumni Connections E-Newsletter, and www.greensburg.pitt.edu.

March 29

The **Friday Evening Music Club** will perform in Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. The group accepts donations at the door.

March 30

Pitt-Greensburg's **Relay for Life** event will be held in Chambers Hall Gymnasium. Watch for details on how to volunteer or be part of a team.

March 30

Students who have been admitted to Pitt can participate in an event to learn about housing, financial aid, academic advising, athletics, and safety and security during **Commit to Pitt Day**. Students can pay their tuition deposit and register in advance for the Summer Orientation and Academic Registration (SOAR) and receive advanced access to the housing application. Admitted students, please call 724-836-9880 to register.

April 4-7

The **Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company** presents *Young Frankenstein*, a musical by Mel Brooks. Curtain time in Ferguson Theater is 7:30 p.m. April 4-6 and 2 p.m. April 7. Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 (regular) and \$5 (students/seniors/PittID).

April 6

Our **Preview Pitt** event is an open house that includes information about the admissions process, financial aid, housing, and residence life. The program includes a meeting with a professor in the academic division of your choice, financial aid, campus tours, and lunch in our dining hall. Register by visiting Greensburg.pitt.edu/visit or calling 724-836-9880.

April 13

Pitt-Greensburg will sponsor a team in the annual **Walk A Mile in Her Shoes** event hosted by Blackburn Center. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu to learn how you can be a part of the Pitt-Greensburg team.

April 13

Students who have been admitted to Pitt can participate in an event to learn about housing, financial aid, academic advising, athletics, and safety and security during **Commit to Pitt Day**. Students can pay their tuition deposit and register in advance for the Summer Orientation and Academic Registration (SOAR) and receive advanced access to the housing application. Admitted students, please call 724-836-9880 to register.

April 16

The Cobetto Lecture will feature a distinguished panel of **experts discussing climate change** and how it is affecting western Pennsylvania. Join the discussion at 7 p.m. in Ferguson Theater. Call 724-836-7980 to ensure a seat.



University of Pittsburgh Greensburg

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Your gift of \$5 will be doubled to become \$10 when you give to the **Technology for the Future Fund**.* We receive a **dollar-for-dollar match** through the Strengthening Institutions Program grant.

Your gift of \$25 can be designated for the **PGAA student emergency fund*** that provides money to students experiencing a personal emergency or who are in need of basic necessities.

Your gift of \$50 can be designated for one of our **endowed student resource funds*** that provide money to students meeting specific criteria.

Your gift of \$75 can be designated to one of our **endowed scholarship funds*** that provide much needed support to students by **helping them to pay tuition**. Over a third of our students receive scholarships funded by Pitt-Greensburg.

Your gift of \$105 can be designated to **support academic or athletic programs*** of your choice. These funds are used to **provide experiential learning opportunities or equipment for students**.

Plus, each donation will help a Pitt-Greensburg student!

*Or to any other fund you designate.

Visit PittDayOfGiving.com on 2/28 to make your gift count!